

the relationship of Spirit with Matter. *Akasha* means "that which gives accommodation to things." In short, it is the concept of pure Space. It is the subtlest of all gross elements, and since greater subtlety implies greater pervasiveness, Space pervades everything that is grosser than it. A subtler thing cannot be conditioned by a grosser factor --- the stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage, for the thoughts of the captive, being subtler than the stone walls and iron bars, can penetrate them, --- *Akasha* is the subtlest of all.

Space, being subtle, it allows everything to remain in it, yet, nothing that it contains can contaminate it. The Supreme Self, which is the very cause for the *Akasha* itself, and therefore, subtler than it, "IT PREVADES ALL: NOTHING PREVADES IT"... It cannot be contaminated by anything that exists or happens in the world-of-plurality.

Murders committed in the dream cannot soil the hands of the weaker! The bloody garb of the ghost cannot leave its marks on the post. The mirage waters cannot wet even a grain of sand in the desert. These are examples of hallucinations, or delusory super-impositions. The world of plurality being nothing but mis-apprehensions of Reality arising out of the non-apprehension of the Real, the realm-of-matter (*Prakriti*) and its activities cannot contaminate and soil the Perfect and the Eternal.