CHAPTER 6

Epistemology

This Week's Learning Outcomes

Explain the theory and conditions for knowledge
Explain Rationalism and Empiricism
Elaborate the theories on Truth Discovery
(Correspondent, Coherent, Pragmatic)

Introduction to Epistemology

Epistemology: History &
Science

The Questions on Knowledge

Knowledge

Truth

Sources of Knowledge

Introduction to Epistemology

Activity I

Story Time

Listen to the story. Answer the following questions.



What happens in the story when each blind man "sees" the elephant?

Why were there six different ideas about the elephant?

Were any of the men right about the elephant? Were any of them completely wrong?

Do problems like this happen in your life? Describe what happened.

How does it feel when another person doesn't "see" something the way you do?

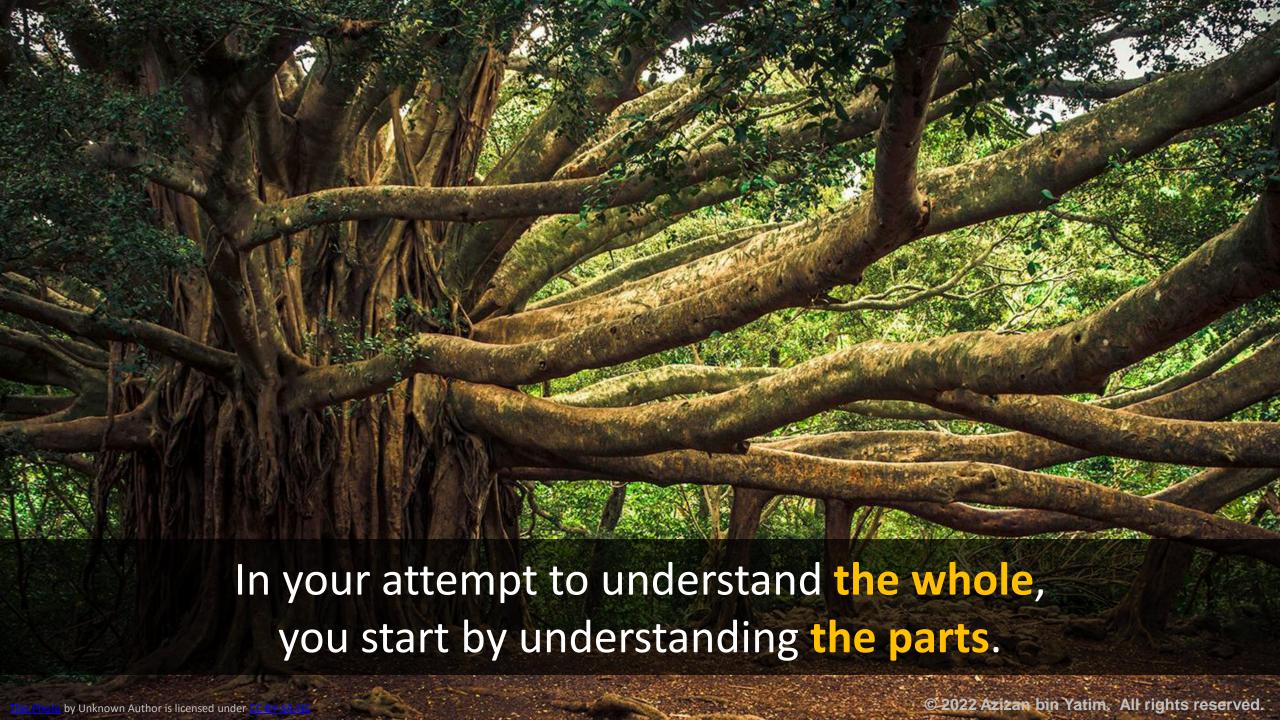
How can you address those differences in perceptions?

What if the men in this story were not blind?
Would they still have different perceptions about elephants?
Why or why not?

the same story but happening now... go to: OL-Lesson 8-Video to be Watched







knowledge is not just a tool, it is also a goal for humanity.

understand the reality of the world

discover the function, role, and justification for man's existence

episteme = knowledge

Epistemology logos = study

a branch of philosophy that investigates the origin, nature, methods, and limits of human knowledge

epistemology

study on knowledge theory of knowledge knowledge about knowledge

epistemology

What is the reality of knowledge?

Epistemology's Main Questions (Zaki, 2018; Al-Karsawi, 2018)

What are the sources to acquire knowledge?

Can man have boundless knowledge about everything or is there a limit to it?



Epistemology: History & Science

 Science is theoretical and speculative and not based on experimentation

Ancient Greece

philosophy

science

Empirical Era

- Empirical evidence is needed for arguments (intellectual, rational, empirical)
- Led to advancement of Science & Technology

- Separation of Science and Religion
- Value-Free Concept/Neutral Stand
- Led to different views and perspectives on issues in knowledge

Christianity

religion



RATIONALISM

EMPIRICISM

- Separation of Science and Religion
- Value-Free Concept/Neutral Stand
- Led to different views and perspectives on issues in knowledge

Christianity

The Questions on Knowledge

Activity II

Big Questions, Big Answers

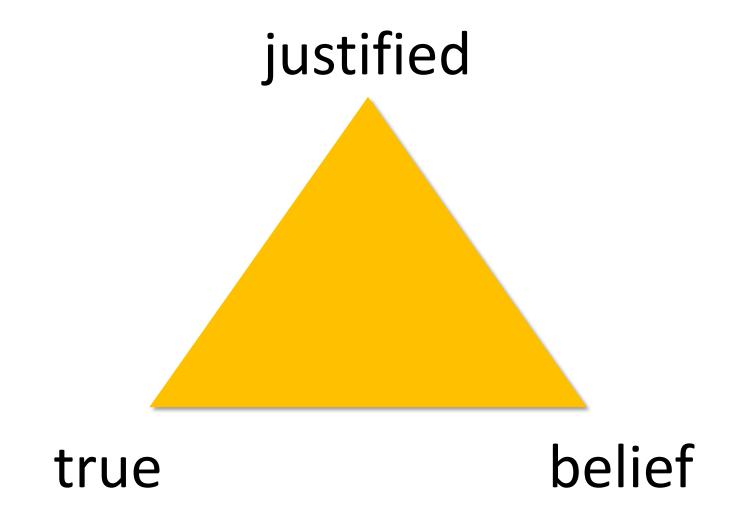
QUESTION NUMBER	THE QUESTION
1	What is Knowledge?
2	What is Truth?
3	What is/are the Sources of Knowledge?

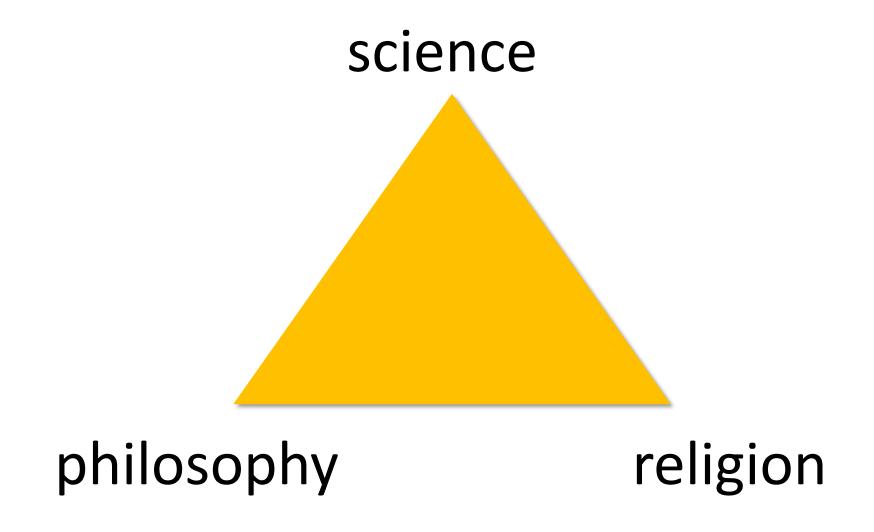
Knowledge

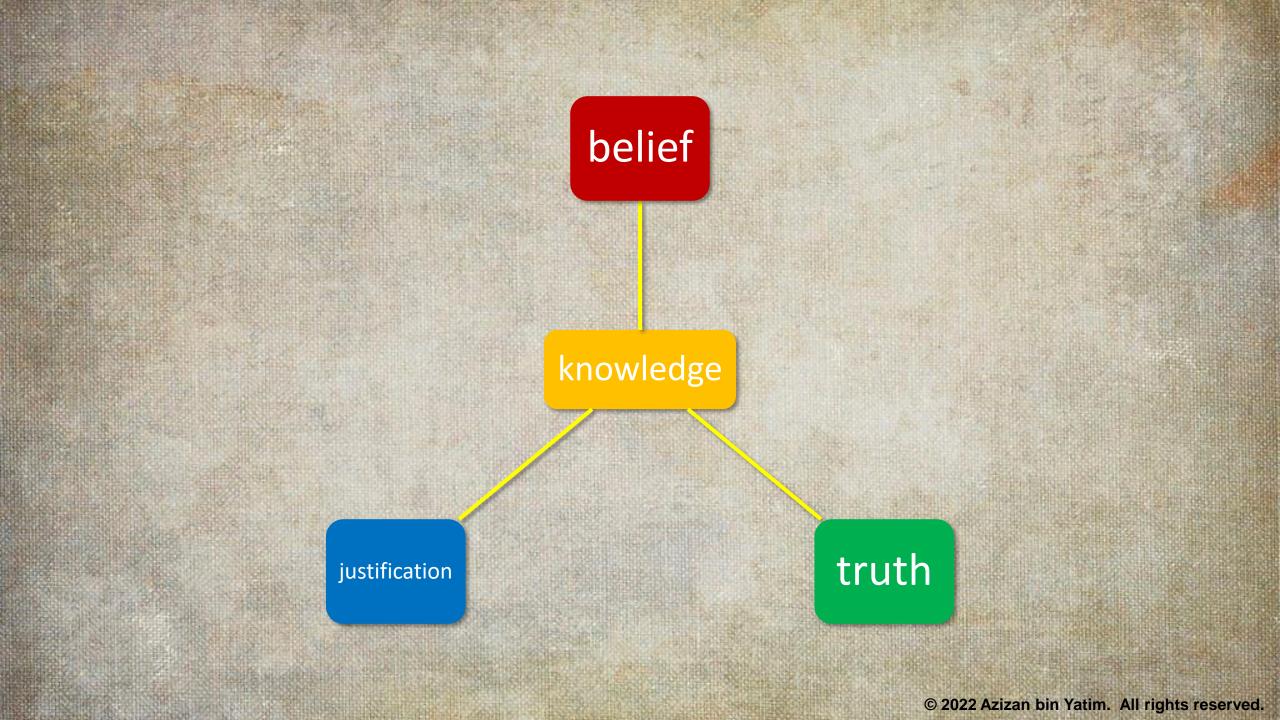


Knowledge is justified true belief.

(Al-Karsawi, 2018)



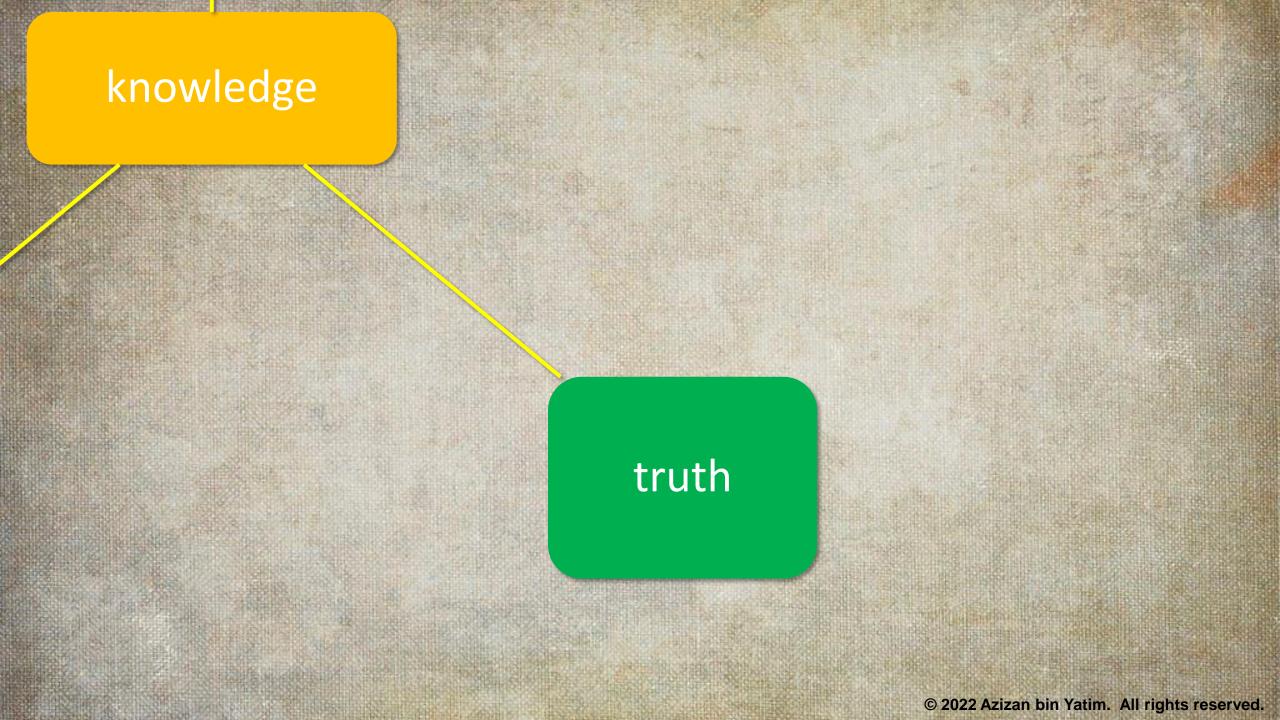




belief knowledge © 2022 Azizan bin Yatim. All rights reserved. belief

one who doesn't believe in something is seen as having no knowledge of that thing

knowledge



knowledge

truth

knowledge must be true* as lies cannot be accepted as knowledge

knowledge

justification

knowledge

knowledge must be justified. mere assumptions and guesses are bad justifications

justification

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knowledge

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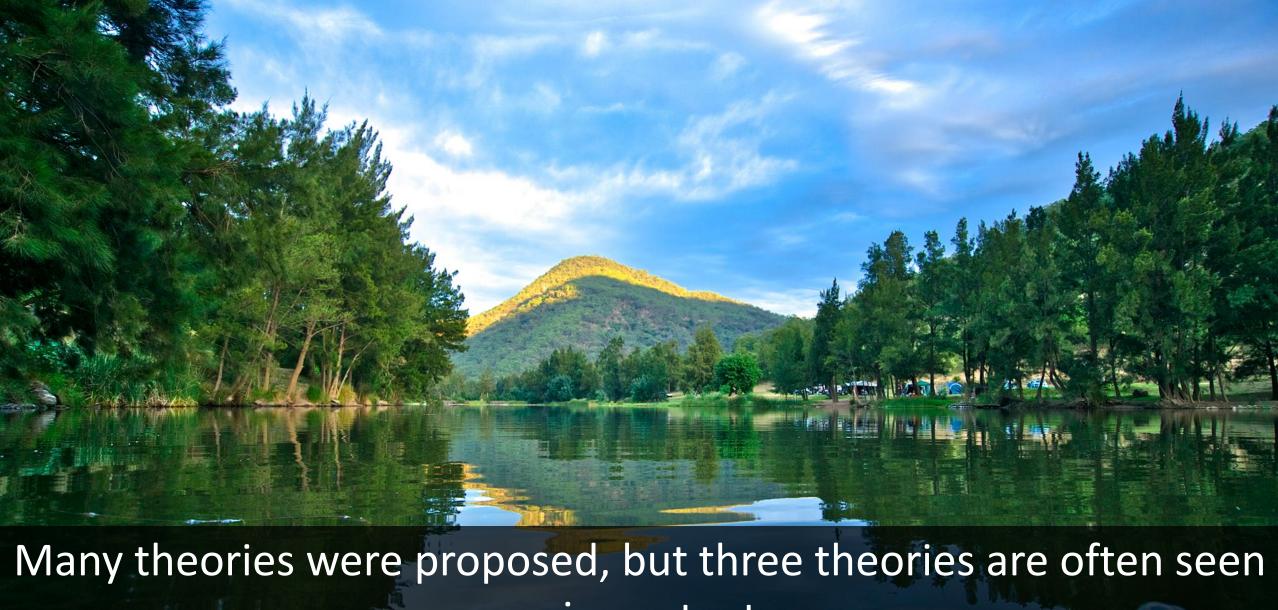
justification

truth

knowledge must be true* as lies cannot be accepted as knowledge

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Truth

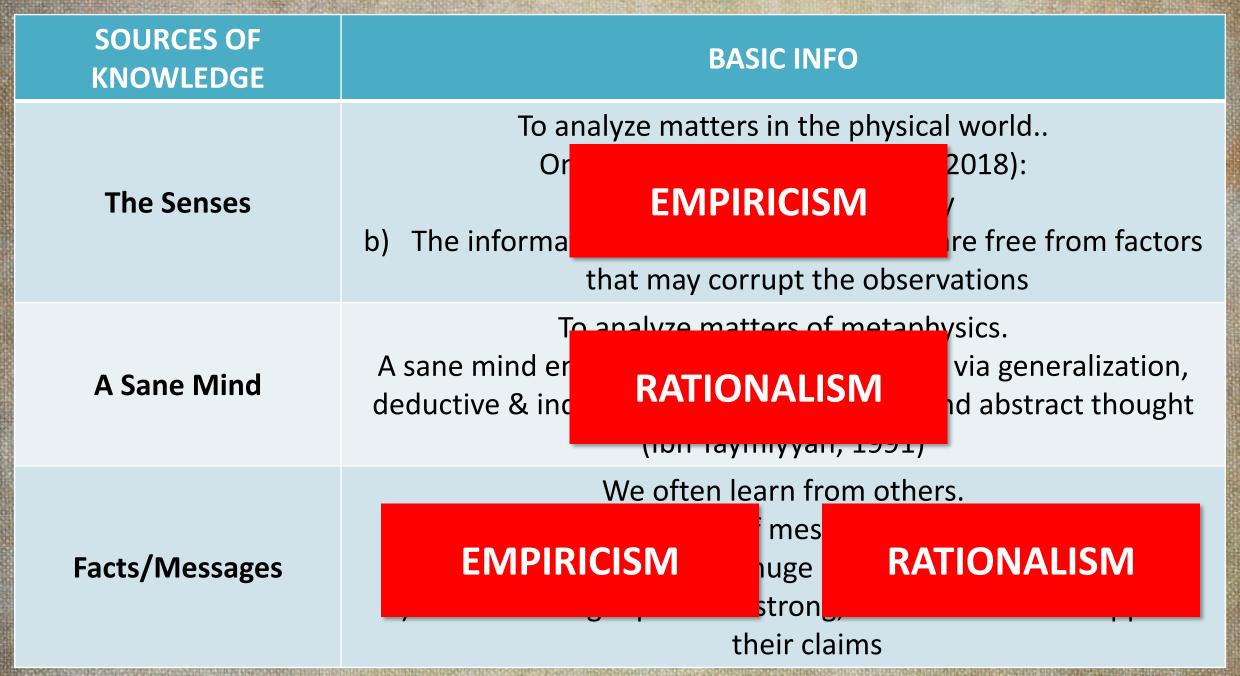


as important.

THEORY	BASIC INFO
Correspondent	A statement is true if it matches with what exists in real life.
Coherent	A statement is true if it is consistent with other statements.
Pragmatic	A statement is true if it is beneficial and can be practiced. Impractical knowledge are only illusions.

Sources of Knowledge

SOURCES OF KNOWLEDGE	BASIC INFO
The Senses	To analyze matters in the physical world On two conditions (Al-Karsawi, 2018): a) The senses are healthy b) The information gained from the senses are free from factors that may corrupt the observations
A Sane Mind	To analyze matters of metaphysics. A sane mind enables us to think of the issue via generalization, deductive & inductive reasoning, analysis, and abstract thought (Ibn Taymiyyah, 1991)
Facts/Messages	We often learn from others. Two forms of messages/facts: a) Accepted by a huge number of people b) The messenger provides strong, clear evidence to support their claims



Take Home Questions

- Explain the reality of knowledge (the 3 big questions).
- 2. Differentiate Rationalism and Empiricism.
- 3. Elaborate the 3 theories of Truth Discovery.