

# Handout 5. Matter (*Rūpa*)

## Material *Rūpas*

### Four Great Elements

	Pāḷi	Characteristic	Function	Manifestation	Proximate Cause
Hardness/ Roughness/ Heaviness	<i>Paṭhavī</i> “earth”	Hardness	Acting as a foundation	Receiving	The other three great elements
Flowing/ Cohesion	<i>Āpo</i> “water”	Trickling/ Oozing	Intensifying	Holding together	The other three great elements
Heat/ Coldness	<i>Tejo</i> “fire”	Heat	Maturing/ Maintaining	Continued supply of softness	The other three great elements
Supporting/ Pushing/ Pressure	<i>Vāyo</i> “air”	Distending	Causing motion	Conveying	The other three great elements

### Sense objects

	Pāḷi	Characteristic	Function	Manifestation	Proximate Cause
Visible-form	<i>Rūpa</i>	Striking the eye	Object of seeing process	Being the field of seeing process	Four great elements
Sound	<i>Sadda</i>	Striking the ear	Object of hearing process	Being the field of hearing process	Four great elements
Odour	<i>Gandha</i>	Striking the nose	Object of smelling process	Being the field of smelling process	Four great elements
Taste	<i>Rasa</i>	Striking the tongue	Object of tasting process	Being the field of tasting process	Four great elements

## Sense organs

	Pāḷi	Characteristic	Function	Manifestation	Proximate Cause
<b>Eye-sensitivity</b>	<i>Cakkhu-pasāda</i>	Sensitivity to <b>Visible-forms</b>	Finding object among <b>Visible-forms</b>	Footing of eye-consciousness	4 great elements, kamma-born desire to see
<b>Ear-sensitivity</b>	<i>Sota-pasāda</i>	Sensitivity to <b>Sounds</b>	Finding object among <b>Sounds</b>	Footing of ear-consciousness	4 great elements, kamma-born desire to hear
<b>Nose-sensitivity</b>	<i>Ghāna-pasāda</i>	Sensitivity to <b>Odours</b>	Finding object among <b>Odours</b>	Footing of nose-consciousness	4 great elements, kamma-born desire to smell
<b>Tongue-sensitivity</b>	<i>Jivhā-pasāda</i>	Sensitivity to <b>Tastes</b>	Finding object among <b>Tastes</b>	Footing of tongue-consciousness	4 great elements, kamma-born desire to taste
<b>Body-sensitivity</b>	<i>Kāya-pasāda</i>	Sensitivity to tactile objects	Finding object among tactile objects	Footing of body-consciousness	4 great elements, kamma-born desire to feel

## Heart-base

	Pāḷi	Characteristic	Function	Manifestation	Proximate Cause
<b>Heart-base</b>	<i>Hadaya-vatthu</i>	Support for the mind	Supporting the mind	Carrying the mind	Four great elements

## Nutriment

	Pāḷi	Characteristic	Function	Manifestation	Proximate Cause
<b>Nutriment</b>	<i>Āhāra/Ojā</i>	Nutritive essence	Feeding kinds of matter	Consolidating	Physical bases that must be fed

## Faculties

	Pāḷi	Characteristic	Function	Manifestation	Proximate Cause
<b>Femininity</b>	<i>Itthindriya</i>	The state of being female	Showing “This is female”	Femininity in feature, mark, deportment	Four great elements
<b>Masculinity</b>	<i>Purisindriya</i>	The state of being male	Showing “This is male”	Masculinity in feature, mark, deportment	Four great elements
<b>Life</b>	<i>Jīvitindriya</i>	Maintaining conascent matter	Making conascent matter occur	Establishing presence of conascent matter	Four great elements

Nominal *Rūpas*

Space

	Pāḷi	Characteristic	Function	Manifestation	Proximate Cause
Space	<i>Ākāsa</i>	Delimiting matter	Displaying the boundaries of matter	Non-touching of matter	The matter delimited

Indications

	Pāḷi	Characteristic	Function	Manifestation	Proximate Cause
Bodily indication Bodily intimation	<i>Kāya-viññatti</i>	Communicate	Displaying intention	Bodily excitement	Mind-born motion
Verbal indication Verbal intimation	<i>Vacī-viññatti</i>	Communicate	Displaying intention	Verbal excitement	Mind-born hardness

Agility, Pliancy and Adaptability

	Pāḷi	Characteristic	Function	Manifestation	Proximate Cause
Agility/ Lightness/Buoyancy	<i>Rūpassa-lahutā</i>	Non-sluggishness	Removing heaviness	Quickness of change	Buoyant matter
Pliancy/ Elasticity/Malleability	<i>Rūpassa-mudutā</i>	Non-rigidity	Removing rigidity	Absence of opposition	Plastic matter
Adaptability/ Workability	<i>Rūpassa-kammaññatā</i>	Workableness	Removing non-workableness	Non-weakness	Workable matter

Characteristics

	Pāḷi	Characteristic	Function	Manifestation	Proximate Cause
Production	<i>Upacaya</i>	Setting up	Making matter emerge initially	Launching	Grown matter
Continuity	<i>Santati</i>	Continuous occurrence	Linking/Binding without a break	Unbroken series	Matter bound up without a break
Decay	<i>Jaratā</i>	Maturing/Ripening	Leading towards termination	Loss of newness	Matter that is maturing/ripening
Impermanence	<i>Aniccatā</i>	Complete breaking up	Making matter subside	Destruction and fall	Matter that is breaking up

# Groups of Rūpa

The eight inseparable *rūpa* that are part of every group include: **Hardness** (earth-element), **Flowing** (water-element), **Heat** (fire-element), **Supporting** (air-element), **Visible-form**, **Odour**, **Taste**, and **Nutrient**.

## Temperature-born groups of rūpa

	Pure octad group			
	Healthy octad	Sound	Healthy sound	
Eight inseperable <i>rūpas</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Sound</b>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<b>Agility, Pliancy &amp; Adaptability</b>		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

☐ *Rūpa* included in group

## Kamma-born groups of rūpa

	Vital nonad group	Femininity	Masculinity	Heart-base	Eye-sensitivity	Ear-sensitivity	Nose-sensitivity	Tongue-sensitivity	Body-sensitivity
Eight inseperable <i>rūpas</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Eye-sensitivity</b>					<input type="radio"/>				
<b>Ear-sensiitivity</b>						<input type="radio"/>			
<b>Nose-sensitivity</b>							<input type="radio"/>		
<b>Tongue-sensitivity</b>								<input type="radio"/>	
<b>Body-sensitivity</b>									<input type="radio"/>
<b>Heart-base</b>				<input type="radio"/>					
<b>Femininity</b>		<input type="radio"/>							
<b>Masculinity</b>			<input type="radio"/>						
<b>Life</b>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

☐ *Rūpa* included in group

Mind-born groups of *rūpa*

	Pure octad group	Healthy octad	Bodily intimation	Healthy bodily intimation	Verbal intimation	Healthy verbal intimation
Eight inseperable <i>rūpas</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Sound</b>					<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Bodily intimation</b>			<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>		
<b>Verbal intimation</b>					<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Agility, Pliancy &amp; Adaptability</b>		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>

☐ *Rūpa* included in group

Nutriment-born groups of *rūpa*

	Pure octad group	Healthy octad
Eight inseperable <i>rūpas</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>Agility, Pliancy &amp; Adaptability</b>		<input type="radio"/>

☐ *Rūpa* included in group