

HARMONY IN THE NATURE AND EXISTENCE

UNIT - 4



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TOPICS TO BE COVERED

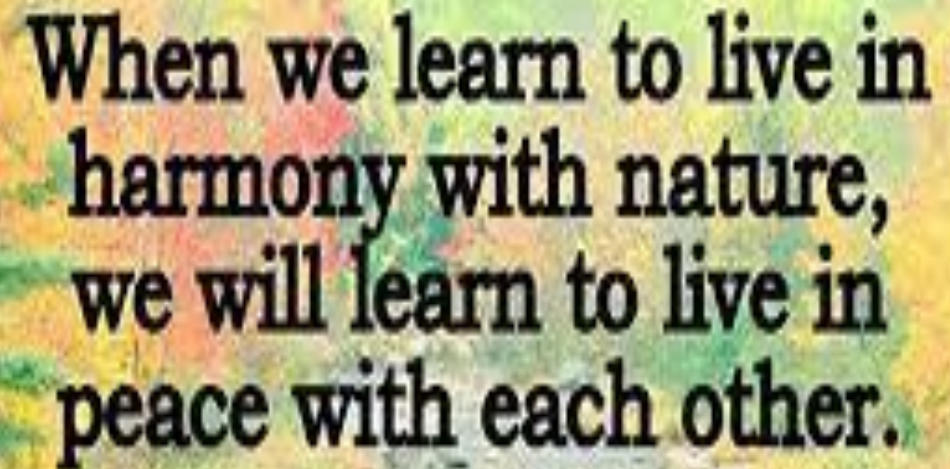
- ➡ Harmony in Nature and Existence
- ➡ Whole existence as Co- existence
(Sah-astitava)
- ➡ Holistic perception of harmony at all levels
of existence

Harmony with Nature

- "*Harmony with Nature*" refers to a principle of harmonious and holistic co-existence between humanity and nature.
- It refers to interconnectedness and balance of various ecological systems, species and natural processes and the balance of which allows life on earth.
- Human order is a part of nature; hence, it is essential to understand the nature and the participation of human being in nature for a mutually fulfilling and sustainable way of living.

UNDERSTANDING HARMONY IN NATURE

- The word nature is derived from the Latin word '**Natura**' or "**essential qualities, innate disposition**", and literally means "birth".
- Nature is the collection of all the units – the air, soil, water, plants, trees, animals, birds, other human beings and even things that are at a distant from us like the sun, the moon, the other planets, etc.
- **Nature:** Natural / Physical / Material world (or) entire Universe



When we learn to live in harmony with nature, we will learn to live in peace with each other.

CLASSIFICATION OF UNITS INTO FOUR ORDERS

Everything around us can be placed under the following 4 orders –

1) Material order – Padarth / Vastu avastha

It includes the soil, metals, compounds, liquids, gases etc (on earth) and the stars, planets, moon etc (beyond earth)

2) Plant/ Bio order – Prana avastha

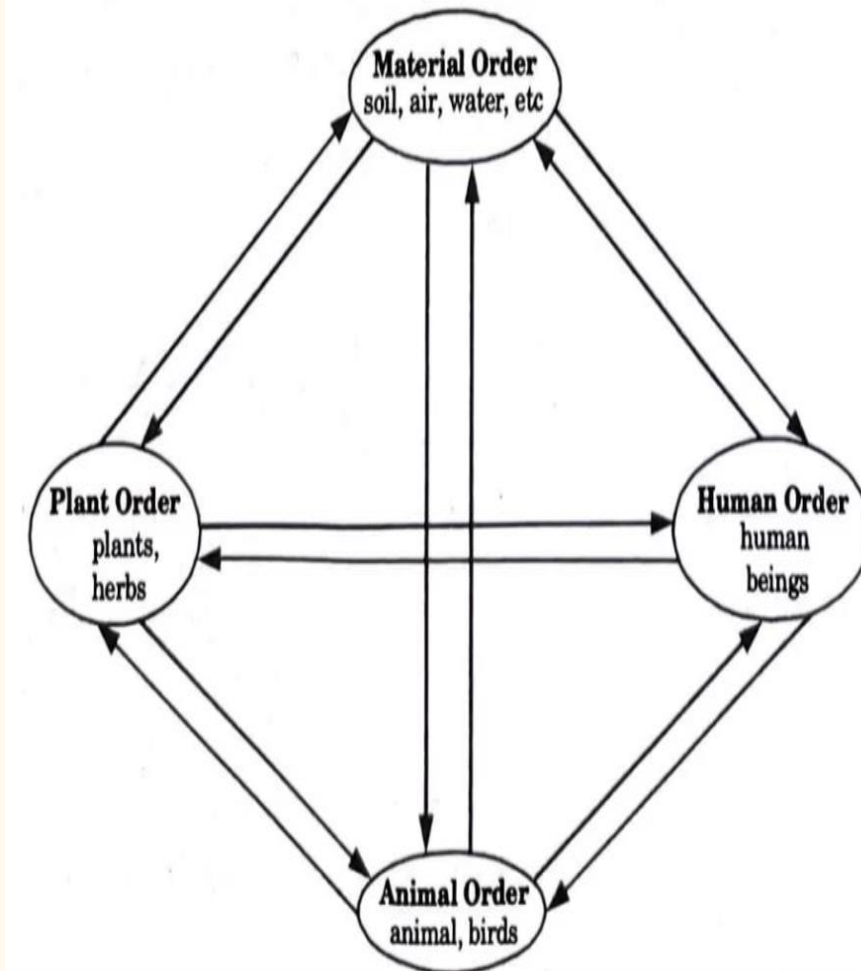
It includes all flora such as grass, trees, seeds, fruits, flowers, parasitic plants, carnivorous plants

3) Animal order – Jiva order

It includes all the animals, birds and insects (from unicellular to complex animals)

4) Human / Knowledge order – Gyana avastha

It includes all the human beings (Body + I)



Interconnectedness and Mutual fulfilment between the Four Orders

Material Order, Plant Order, Animal Order:

- **Material Order** helps the Plant and Animal Order by providing soil, water, oxygen, sunlight, nutrients, minerals etc. and also provides the basis for movement.
- **Plant Order** helps the Material Order by preventing soil erosion, producing Oxygen, absorbing CO₂ etc. It helps the Animal Order by providing food.
- **Animal Order** helps the Material Order by enriching the soil through excreta. It helps the Plant Order in Pollination.

Thus all the three orders are mutually interdependent and co-exist with mutual fulfilment.

MATERIAL ORDER, PLANT ORDER, ANIMAL ORDER, AND HUMAN ORDER:

All the first three orders help the Human Order to have the Natural Acceptance to be mutually fulfilling with the three orders. But human beings are not able to ensure this fulfilment.

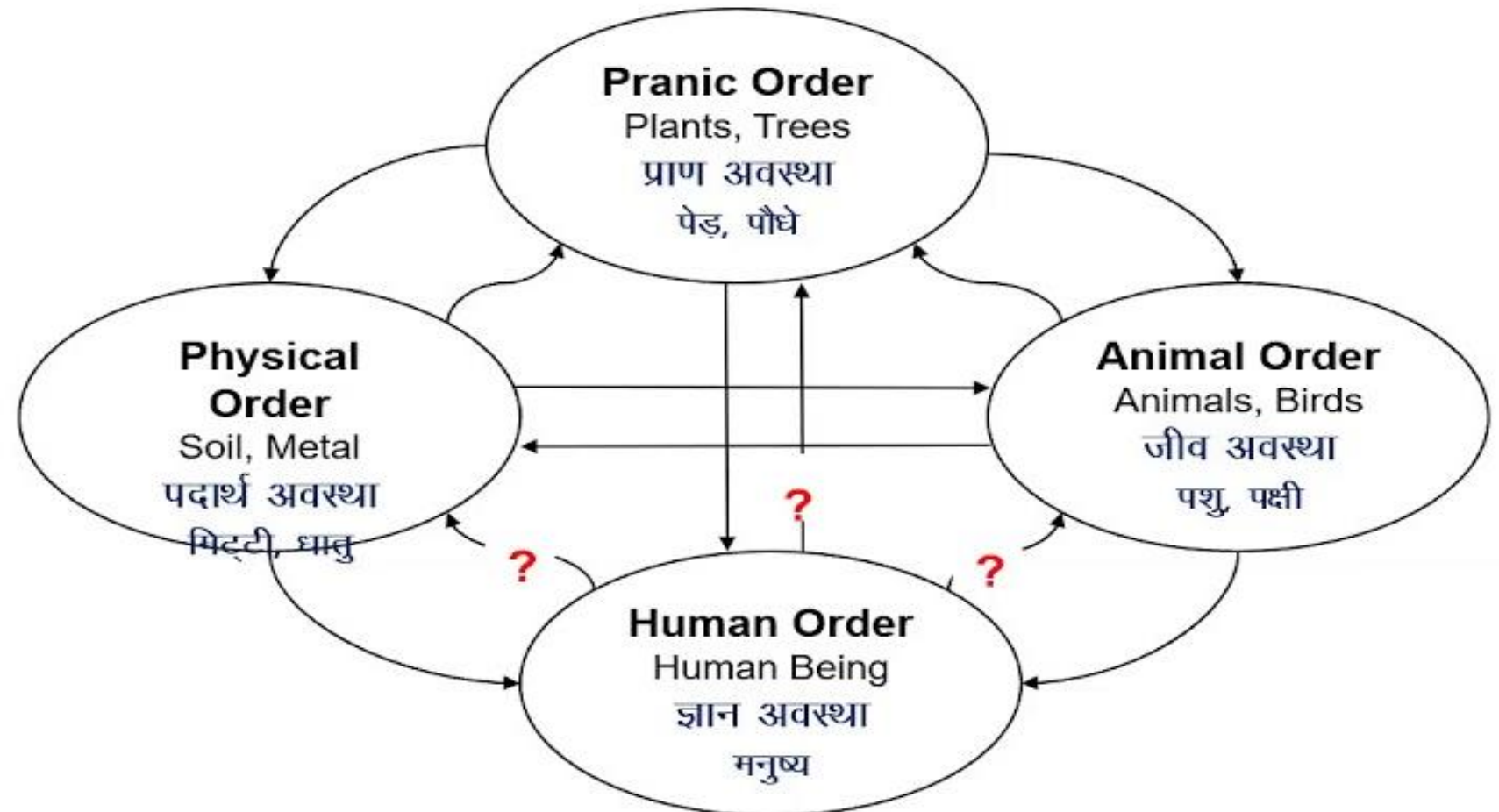
- The Material Order helps the Human Order by providing soil, minerals, metals, oxygen etc. but Human beings in return are polluting the Material Order and depleting the fossil fuels.
- The Plant order helps the Human order by providing food, oxygen and by absorbing Carbon dioxide. In return, the Human beings are destroying forests and many species of plants and herbs.
- The Animal order provides the Human order with food, wool, leather, means of labour and transport etc. The Human beings in return have made several species of animals extinct.

Thus, except the Human order, all the other three orders are in harmony with each other and are also fulfilling the Human order. It is high time that the human beings learn to live in harmony with the other three orders.

Relationship of Mutual Fulfillment परस्पर पूरकता का संबंध

Mutual Fulfillment = Relatedness + Fulfillment

↓ ↓ ↓ ↓
परस्पर पूरकता = परस्परता + पूरकता



Harmony in Nature

ORDERS 4	UNITS	ACTIVITY ▪	INNATENESS (Self-organisation)	INHERITANCE
Physical	Soil, Metal	Composition- Decomposition	Existence	Constitution based
Pranic	Plants, Trees	"-" + Respiration	" + Growth	Seed based
Animal	Animals, Birds	"-", " in Body Selecting/Tasting in I	", " in Body Will to live in I	Breed based
Human	Human Beings	"-", " in Body Imaging, Analysing, Selecting/Tasting in I Potential for Understanding in I	", " in Body Will to live with continuous happiness in I ↑ Right Feeling & Thought ↑ Knowledge	Education-Sanskar based

RECYCLABILITY AND SELF-REGULATION IN NATURE

Cyclical/Recyclability and Self-regulation are the two characteristics of Nature.

Cycles such as Food chain, Water cycle, Nitrogen and Carbon cycles help in regulating –

- Pollution (through decomposition of dead organisms in forests etc.)
- Changes in seasons to promote birth and death and regulate overgrowth of plants etc.
- Food chain controls over population of plants as well as animals
- Balance in male and female species disturbed by the Human Order
- Compensating for the loss of nutrients from soil through decomposed matter.

UNDERSTANDING EXISTENCE AS CO-EXISTENCE (SAH-ASTITVA)


- Co-existence is a state in which two or more groups are living together while respecting their differences and resolving their conflicts non-violently.

Co-existence has been defined in numerous ways:--

- To exist together (in time or space) and to exist in mutual tolerance.
- To learn to recognize and live with difference.
- To have a relationship between persons or groups in which none of the parties is trying to destroy the other.
- To exist together (in time or place) and to exist in mutual tolerance.

EXISTENCE AS CO-EXISTENCE

- The concept of “existence as Co-existence” also known as ‘Sah-astitva’ considers everything in universe as interdependent & inter-connected and the existence of one thing is dependent on existence of another thing.
- According to ‘Sah-astitva’ all things in the universe whether they being living beings, objects or abstract concepts are mutually interacting units that exists within all pervasive space. This space is just not a physical space but everything in it is constantly interacting & influencing one another, shaping & influencing each other's existence.



➤ **Sah-Astitva** relates to the idea of “Unity in diversity”. While each thing in the universe appears to be unique & separate, in reality it is a part of a larger whole & its existence is inseparably linked to the existence of everything else.

➤ **For eg.** – The existence of living being is dependent upon environment and its resources, such as food & water. The environment in turn, is shaped & influenced by the actions of these living beings.

➤ **Characteristics of Sah-Astitva –**

a) Interdependence

b) Unity in diversity

c) Transformation

d) Mutual Interaction

e) Responsiveness & respect

f) Holistic view of the world

UNDERSTANDING UNIT AND SPACE

UNIT (Ikai) : All the things in nature are called units. All units big or very small are limited in size.

For Ex.- A small blade of hair to the large galaxies (each unit occupies limited amount of space and has a boundary and is countable).

SPACE(Sunya/Shoonya) = Empty space found everywhere

For example : What is there between you and your book? Nothing. This “Nothing” or empty space is called Shoonya or Space.

Space is not a unit. It can't be touched, smelled or seen. We can just see through it. Space exists everywhere.

EXISTENCE AS UNIT IN SPACE

EXISTENCE - All the units of all orders in nature, along with the empty space constitute the Existence. Hence,

$$\text{Existence} = \text{Space} + \text{Units (in space)}$$

We can also say that all the units of all the orders 'exist in space', 'are in space' and 'submerged in space'.

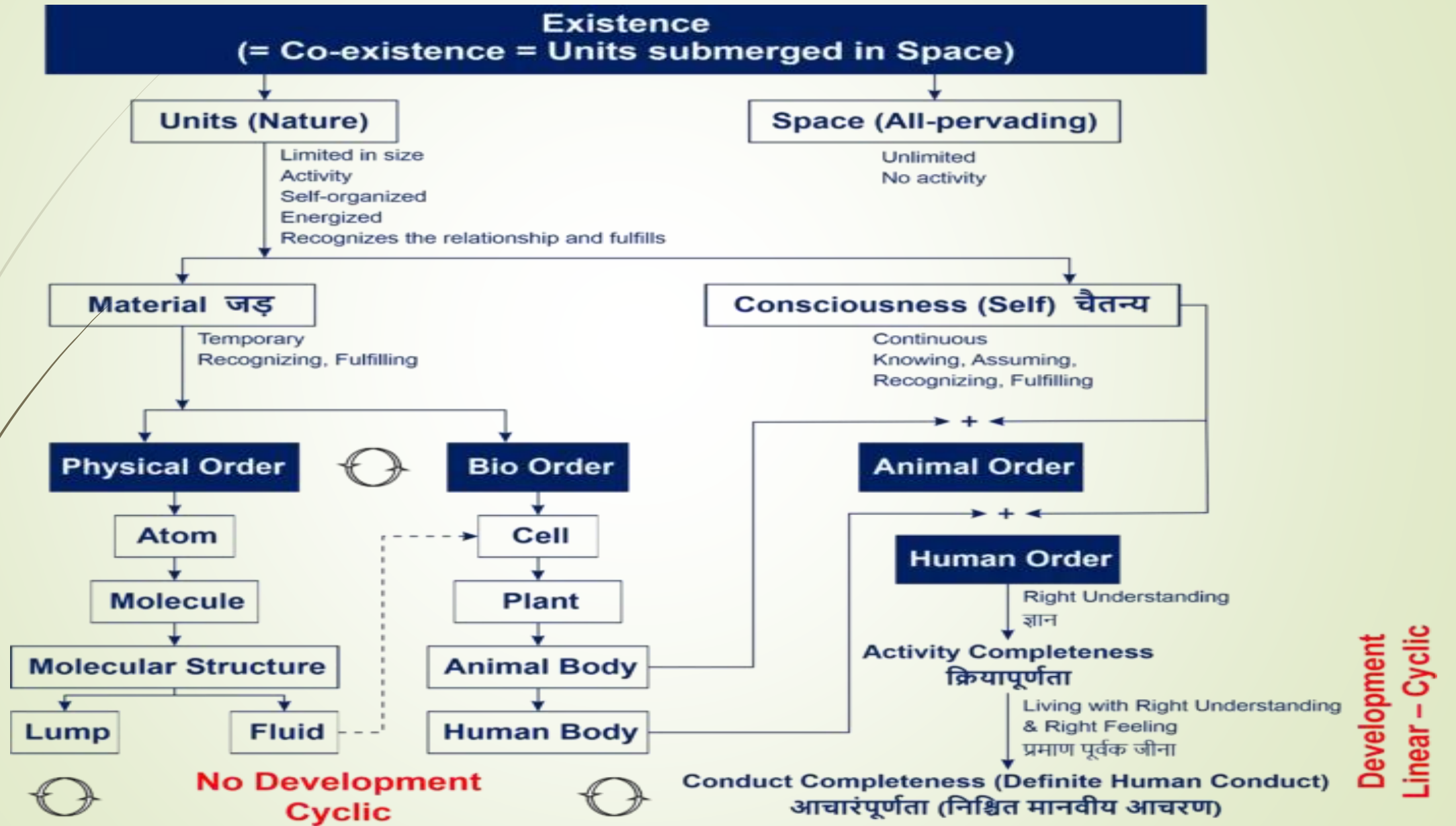
Therefore **Existence = Nature submerged in space**


Nature = Four Orders

Being in space, all the units in nature, lead to the **Complete Existential Order (Samagra Vyavastha)**

Existence = Co-existence = Units submerged in space


EXISTENCE IS CO-EXISTENCE






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- If we look at the left side of the chart, the transformation keeps taking place and the transformation is cyclic in nature. But on the right-hand side, the transitions are acyclic. This implies that what we have understood continues to stay with us. We will never miss it. This is a transition in one direction. This is actually called development (Vikas).
 - So, Existence is in the form of co-existence. It is in Harmony. We don't have to create this harmony, it already exists. We only have to understand it to be in it.
 - This means that having the knowledge of self ('I') gives us the knowledge of humane conduct (how to live in existence, with the four orders). With this knowledge, we can live with humane conduct.



HOLISTIC PERCEPTION OF HARMONY AT ALL LEVELS OF EXISTENCE

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- **Natural harmony in Ecosystem**
 - **Natural harmony in Trees**
 - **Natural harmony in Building**
 - **Natural harmony in residential Real Estate**
 - **Natural harmony in Gardening**
 - **Natural harmony in Education institutions**
 - **Natural harmony in School parks**
 - **Natural harmony through Yoga**

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- Natural harmony is necessary to solve the problem of global warming and depletion of non-renewable natural resources can be avoided.
 - Natural harmony with trees cure all problems like - reduction of wind velocity, Energy savings, Doing companion planting, development of an eco-subsystem in terms of establishing a forest garden, reduction of building heat.
 - It is possible to achieve natural harmony in the establishment, maintenance and management of educational institution like schools, colleges and universities.
 - One can understand the depths of harmony and alignment in nature by contemplating and reflecting upon the natural order. It is possible to unravel the mystery of the natural synthesis in the midst of ongoing chaos at the material plane. Yoga enables one to understand the intrinsic worth of life and the meaning and significance of the cosmic order.

A wooden-framed chalkboard with the words "Thank You" written in white chalk. The chalkboard is placed on a rustic wooden surface. To the left of the chalkboard is a portion of a vintage orange rotary telephone. To the right is a green leafy plant. The background consists of horizontal wooden planks.

Thank
You