

Aristotle's Concept of Mind

A Transcendental Thesis

Soul

- **Principle of Life**
- Soul as the **essence** of life
- Soul is an **actualization**

Knowledge of the particulars

- **Substance**
- **Matter** and **form** are not distinct phenomena
- Matter is in *itself* not *this*
- *Through Form it is identified as --- ‘this’*

- *The substance is composite of matter and form*

Substance

- Matter is potentiality
- Form is actualization

- Human being is *knower* in the potential sense

Two levels of actuality

- Actuality refers to grammatical knowledge (agreement between subject and verb)
- Actual awareness of using this knowledge in correcting the sentence.

Natural substances

- Nature in physics : things that exist in nature
- Animals, plants and simple elements

- Things that exist by ***other causes***
- ***E.g. clock***

Natural Bodies

- **Living**
- Self nutrition, growth and decay
- **Non-living**
- Every natural body which shares life is a substance
- **Body and soul stand to each other as matter and form**

Regarding the relation

- “For the body is a subject and matter, and is not an attribute of a subject. Hence, soul is not an attribute of the body. Rather soul is the substance in the sense of the form of natural body which potentially partakes of life.” (Miller 1999: 312)

In the first level of actualization

- Knowledge as actual state
- Being awake corresponds to the exercise of such knowledge
- *Soul is the first level actualization of a natural body which potentially partakes in life. (Miller 1999: 312)*

Four different levels of soul

- Intellect
- Perception
- Locomotion and rest
- Nutritive movement, growth and decay

Against Plato and Pythagoras

- Power and the interlocking relationship
- No explanation is given regarding the cause and condition of the body
- Each body has peculiar form
- Soul must use its body

Nature of the soul

- Soul is basically material
- The body stands to soul as the matter stands to form
- Soul is everlasting and imperishable
- Intellect is a different kind of power
- Power of contemplation is associated with soul

Soul as agent

- Four type of causal arguments
 - Material
 - Efficient
 - Formal
 - Final

Aristotle's Materialism

- **Soul is the most material component of the body**
- **Soul consists of some condition, disposition, and alternation of the material components of the body**

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