

Indian Philosophy

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Lecture - 15

Self Assessment Questions & Possible Answers

1. List the names through which Nyāya system is familiarized to us.

Ans.: Tarkashāstra, Pramānashāstra, Hetuvidyā, Vāda vidyā, Anviksiki.

2. What are the valid sources of knowledge on the account of Naiyāyikas?

Ans.: Perception, Inference, Comparison, and Verbal Testimony.

3. Briefly explain how do Naiyāyikas treat 'knowledge' on the epistemological ground?

Ans.: According to Nyāya philosophy, knowledge or cognition is the revelation or manifestation of objects. It is an apprehension (upalabdhi) or consciousness (anubhava) or awareness of objects. The object of apprehension may be a thing, quality, action, emotion- the existent and non-existent. But in all cases, knowledge means there must be something that stands out as the *object* of knowledge. Thus, knowledge consists simply in the manifestation of objects.

4. 'I know'- what does the expression mean?

Ans.: The expression 'I know' means I am pleased or displeased with the objects of the world with what I am relating to. Thus, knowledge is a cognitive fact by which we have an apprehension or understanding of objects.