

# Fundamental Knowledge of **Abhidhamma**

## Lesson – 14 –

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### **54 - Sense-sphere Consciousness**

Collected By Ven.Paññādhikālaṅkāra

## More Information about sense-sphere consciousness

- The Original Pāli texts and translations of *Abhidhammatthasaṅgaha*

### Enumeration –

1. By way of feelings –
2. By way of roots –
3. By way of prompting –
4. By way of kinds –
5. By way of quality – (beautiful and non-beautiful)

Analyses according to Planes of existence, individuals, the moments of occurrence



Table of 89- Consciousness			<i>Kusala</i> -(21)	Abyākata		
				<i>Vipāka</i> Resultants-(36)	<i>Kiriya</i> functional- (20)	
	<i>Sobhana-Citta</i> -59/ 91	<i>Lokuttara</i> - 8	<i>Magga</i> - 4	<i>Phala</i> - 4	x	
<i>Lokiya-Citta</i> -81		<i>Arūpāvacara</i> - 12	4	4	4	(Lokiya)-81 Akusala-12 Kusala - 17 Vipaka-32 Kiriya - 20
		<i>Rūpāvacara</i> - 15	5	5	5	
		<del><i>Kāmāvacara</i></del> <i>Sobhana</i> – 24	8	8	8	
	<i>Asobhana-Citta</i> -30	<i>Ahetuka</i> - 18	x	15	3	
		<i>Akusala</i> - 12	<i>Lobha-Mūla</i> -8	<i>Dosa-Mūla</i> -2	<i>Moha-Mūla</i> -2	

Unwholesome Consciousness-12	~ accompanied by	~associated with/ ~disassociated from	prompted / unprompted
Lobha-Mūla-8	~joy	Asso~ with wrong view	unprompted
	~joy	Asso~ with wrong view	Prompted
	~joy	disasso~ from wrong view	unprompted
	~joy	disasso~ from wrong view	prompted
	~equanimity	Asso~ with wrong view	unprompted
	~equanimity	Asso~ with wrong view	prompted
	~equanimity	disasso~ from wrong view	unprompted
	~equanimity	disasso~ from wrong view	prompted
Dosa-Mūla-2	~displeasure	Asso~with aversion	unprompted
	~displeasure	Asso~with aversion	prompted
Moha-Mūla-2	~equanimity	Asso~with doubt	
	~equanimity	Asso~with restlessness	
<b>Somanassa</b> =joy / <b>Upekkhā</b> =equanimity / <b>Domanassa</b> =displeasure/ <b>Sahagata</b> =accompanied by / <b>Ditthigata -sampayutta</b> =associated with-wrong view/ <b>Ditthigata-vipayutta</b> = disassociated with-wrong view/( <b>associated with~</b> = arise together, cease together, take the same object, have the same base) / <b>Paṭṭha-sampayutta</b> =associated with-Aversion / { <b>Asankhārika</b> =unprompted / <b>Sasankhārika</b> =prompted}			

## *Akusala*– Unwholesome

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1. *Lobhamūla citta* – consciousness rooted in greed (*lobha*) – (8)
2. *Dosaamūla citta* – consciousness rooted in hatred (*dosa*) – (2)
3. *Mohamūla citta* – consciousness rooted in delusion (*moha*) – (2)



# Rootless Consciousness – 18

## (*Aṭṭhārasa Ahetukacittāni*)

Why are they called Ahetuka, rootless consciousness?

*Ahetuka* – devoid of the mental factors called hetu, roots.

Three unwholesome root – **greed**, **hatred**, and **delusion**. & Three bright root – **non-greed**, **non-hatred**, and **non-delusion**.

**1- Unwholesome-Resultant Consciousness – 7**  
(*Satta Akusalavipākacittāni*)

Result of unwholesome *kamma*.

Rootless **Resultant**  
Consciousness – 15

**2- Wholesome-Resultant Rootlessness Consciousness – 8** Result of wholesome *kamma*.  
(*Aṭṭha Akusalavipākāhetukacittāni*)

**3- Rootlessness Functional Consciousness – 3**  
(*Tīṇi Ahetukakiriyacittāni*)

- not wholesome *kamma*

- not unwholesome *kamma*

- not result of *kamma*

- but just **functional**

- (action without any kammic potency)

Rootless **Functional**  
Consciousness - 3

(*Dvipañca-viññāṇa*) Two sets of fivefold sense consciousness-10

(*Sampaticchana*) Receiving Consciousness - 2

(*Santīraṇa*) Investigating Consciousness - 3

**15** – Rootless  
Resultants

(*Āvajjana*) Adverting Consciousness - 2 + (*Hasituppāda*) Smile-producing Consciousness - 1

**3** – Rootless  
Functional

1) Sukha-sahagata – 1

2) Dukkha-sahagata – 1

3) Somanassa-sahagata – 2

4) Upekkhā-sahagata – 14



# Sense-Sphere Beautiful- Consciousness –(24)

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1. *Aṭṭha Mahākusala (or) Kāmāvacara-kusala-cittāni*

Sense-sphere Wholesome Consciousnesses – 8

2. *Aṭṭha Mahāvipāka (or) Sahetuka-kāmāvacara-vipāka-cittāni*

Sense-sphere resultant Consciousnesses with roots – 8

3. *Aṭṭha Mahākiriya (or) Sahetuka-Kāmāvacara-kiriya-cittāni*

Sense-sphere Functional Consciousnesses with roots - 8



## 54 - Sense-sphere consciousness

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- (*Dvādaśa*) *Akusalacittāni* – Unwholesome Consciousness - 12
- (*Aṭṭhārasa*) *Ahetukacittāni* – Rootless Consciousness – 18
- (*Catuvīsati*) *Kāmāvacara Sobhanacittāni* –  
Sense-sphere beautiful Consciousness – 24

# Enumeration

## By way of feeling –

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- 1) ( *Sukha-sahagata* ) – Consciousness accompanied by **pleasure** – 1
- 2) ( *Dukkha-sahagata* ) – Consciousness accompanied by **pain** – 1
- 3) ( *Somanassa-sahagata* ) – Consciousness accompanied by **joy** – 18 (4+2+12)
- 4) ( *Domanassa-sahagata* ) – Consciousness accompanied by **displeasure** – 2
- 5) ( *Upekkhā-sahagata* ) – Consciousness accompanied by **equanimity** – 32 (6+14+12)



## Enumeration By way of root –

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- 1) *Ahetuka Citta* - Rootless Consciousness – 18
- 2) *Ekahetuka Citta* – Single-rooted Consciousness – 2 (*Mohamūla cittas*)
- 3) *Dvihetuka Citta* - Double-rooted Consciousness – 22 (8+2+12)  
(*Lobhamūla* – 8 + *Dosamūla*-2 + *Ñāṇavippayutta* – 12)
- 4) *Tihetuka Citta* - Triple-rooted Consciousness – 12  
(*Ñāṇasampayutta* – 12)

## Enumeration

### By way of prompting –

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- 1) *Asaṅkhārika* = unprompted – 17 (5+12)
- 2) *Sasaṅkhārika* = prompted – 17 (5+12)
- 3) Exclusive – 20 (2+18)



## Enumeration – By way of kinds –

Summary of Sense-Sphere Consciousness CMA- p.51

1. Unwholesome – 12
  2. Wholesome – 8
  3. Resultant – 23 (15+8)
  4. Functional – 11 (3+8)
- 
- (54)**

## Enumeration

### By way of quality –

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- 1) *Asobhana* = non-beautiful – 30 (12+18)
- 2) *Sobhana* = beautiful – 24



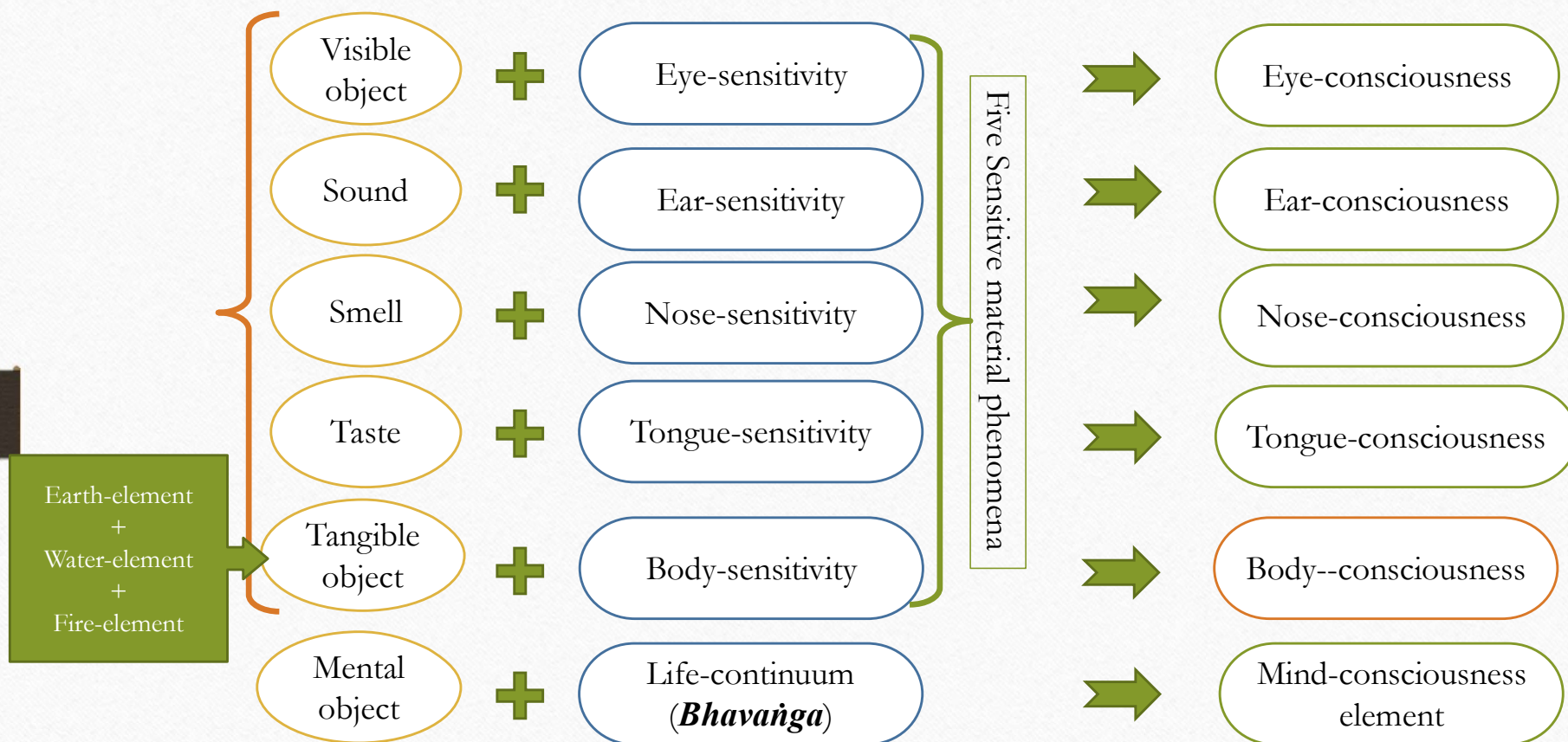
## *Kāmāvacara Citta* – Sense-Sphere Consciousness –(54)

The consciousnesses that have their proper domain in the sensuous plane existence, though they may arise in other planes as well. (CMA- p.30)

{Eleven sensuous planes – four woeful states,  
the human realm, and the six sensuous heavens.}

The Kammically active *cittas* of any particular sphere, the *cittas* that generate *kamma*, tend to produce rebirth into corresponding plane of existence, and if they succeed in gaining the opportunity to generate rebirth, they will do so only in that plane, not in any other plane. (CMA – p.30)

The Kammically active *cittas* – *wholesome and unwholesome consciousness*



The 28 Material phenomena – The four Great essentials (*Mahābhāta*) – 4 +  
Derived material phenomena (*Upādārūpa*) – 24 = 28



## Enumeration

### By planes of existences –

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- 1) Some occur only in Sensuous planes (*Kāmāvacara*)
- 2) Some occur *Rūpāvacara* as well
- 3) Some occur in all planes where mentality can arise

Types	Analysis by way of the planes of existence		
Unwholesome - 12	(Lobhamūla) Ditthigata-sampayutta - 4	25	Except <i>Suddhāvāsa</i> , and <i>asaññasatta</i> (-6)
	(Lobhamūla) Ditthigata-vippayutta– 4	30	Except <i>asaññasatta</i> (-1)
	<i>Dosamūla</i> -2	11	Only in sensuous planes
	(Mohamūla) Vicikicchā-sahagata – 1	25	Except <i>Suddhāvāsa</i> , and <i>asaññasatta</i> (-6)
	(Mohamūla) Uddhacca-sahagata – 1	30	Except <i>asaññasatta</i> (-1)
Rootless - 18	Eye-consciousness -2, Ear-consciousness -2,	26	Except <i>arūpa</i> , and <i>asaññasatta</i> (-5)
	Nose-consciousness-2, Tongue-consciousness-2 , body-consciousness-2	11	Only in sensuous planes
	<i>sampaṭicchana</i> (receaving)-2, <i>Santīraṇa</i> (investigation) -3, <i>Pañcadvārāvajjana</i> – (Five-sense-door averting) - 1,	26	Except <i>arūpa</i> , and <i>asaññasatta</i> (-5)
	<i>Hasituppāda</i> – (smile-producing)-1	22	Except <i>Arūpa</i> , <i>asaññasatta</i> , <i>Apāya</i> (-9)
	<i>Manodvārāvajjana</i> – (Mind-door averting) - 1	30	Except <i>asaññasatta</i> (-1)
Sense- sphere Beautiful - 24	Great-wholesome cons.. – 8,	30	Except <i>asaññasatta</i> (-1)
	Great-resultant cons.. (with roots) – 8	11	Only in sensuous planes
	Great-Functional cons.. (with roots) – 8	26	Except <i>asaññasatta</i> , <i>Apāya</i> (-5)



Types	Analysis by way of individuals			Exclusion
Unwholesome - 12	<i>(Lobhamūla) Ditthigata-sampayutta</i> - 4	4	Only in ordinary persons	8
	<i>(Lobhamūla) Ditthigata-vippayutta</i> – 4	7	Except <i>Arahant</i> and four <i>Maggaṭṭhāna</i>	5
	<i>Dosamūla</i> -2	6	Except <i>Anāgāmi</i> , <i>Arahant</i> and four <i>Maggaṭṭhāna</i>	6
	<i>(Mohamūla) Vicikicchā-sahagata</i> – 1	4	Only in ordinary persons	8
	<i>(Mohamūla) Uddhacca-sahagata</i> – 1	7	Except <i>Arahant</i> and four <i>Maggaṭṭhāna</i>	5
Rootless - 18	Seventeen –rootless consciousness except <i>Hasituppāda</i> (smile-producing) – 17	8	Except four <i>Maggaṭṭhāna</i>	4
	<i>Hasituppāda</i> – (smile-producing) -1	1	Only in <i>Arahant</i>	11
Sense-sphere Beautiful - 24	Great-wholesome– 8	7	Except <i>Arahant</i> and four <i>Maggaṭṭhāna</i>	5
	Geat-resultant <i>Ñāṇa-sampayutta</i> - 4	5	Only in <i>Tihetuka-putthujjana</i> , and four <i>Phalaṭṭhāna</i>	7
	Geat-resultant <i>Ñāṇa-vippayutta</i> - 4	6	Only in <i>Dvihetuka-putthujjana</i> , <i>Tihetuka-putthujjana</i> , and four <i>Phalaṭṭhāna</i>	6
	Great-Functional – 8	1	Only in <i>Arahant</i>	11

## Individuals In the planes of existence

Plane of existence	Individuals
Four woeful states (4)	<i>Duggati-ahetuka</i> ( <i>putthujjana</i> ) - woeful rootless individual
Human realm, and 1 <sup>st</sup> deva realm( <i>Catumahārājika</i> ) (2)	11- individuals except <i>Duggati-ahetuka</i>
Six higher deva realms (except <i>Catumahārājika</i> ) (6)	10- individuals except <i>Duggati-ahetuka</i> and <i>Sugati-ahetuka</i>
Ten Brahma realms up to <i>Vehappahala</i> – (10)	9 – triple-rooted individuals (Triple-rooted individual + Noble persons)
<i>Asaññasatta</i> (1)	1- <i>Sugati-ahetuka</i>
<i>Suddhāvāsa</i> (5)	Three highest noble persons
Immaterial-sphere planes (4)	Triple-rooted individual + 7 – noble persons except <i>Sotāpattimaggaṭṭāna</i> person=(8)



## 12- Types of Individuals

		Apāya(woeful)	Manussa(Human)	Catumahārājika	(5) - Deva realms	First-jhāna	Second-jhāna	Third-jhāna	Fourth-Jhāna			Arūpa (4)
									Vehapphala	Asaññasatta	Suddhāvāsa (5)	
Ariyā (Noble persons) - 8	8-Arahatta-phalaṭṭhāna - (fruition of Arahant)	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	✓	✓
	7-Arahatta-maggaṭṭhāna - (path of Arahant)	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	✓	✓
	6-Anāgāmi-phalaṭṭhāna - (fruition of non-returner)	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	✓	✓
	5-Anāgāmi-maggaṭṭhāna - (path of non-returner)	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	✓
	4-Sakadāgāmi-phalaṭṭhāna - (fruition of once-returner)	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	✓
	3-Sakadāgāmi-maggaṭṭhāna - (path of once-returner)	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	✓
	2-Sotāpatti-phalaṭṭhāna - (fruition of stream-entry)	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	✓
	1-Sotāpatti-maggaṭṭhāna - (path of stream-entry)	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	×
Putthujāna - 4	4-Tihetuka ( <i>putthujjana</i> ) - Triple-rooted individual	×	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	×	×	✓
	3-Dvihatuka ( <i>putthujjana</i> ) - double-rooted individual	×	✓	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
	2-Sugati-ahetuka ( <i>putthujjana</i> ) - blissful rootless individual	×	✓	✓	×	×	×	×	×	✓	×	×
	1-Duggati-aketuka ( <i>putthujjana</i> ) - woeful rootless individual	✓	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
		1	11	11	10	9	9	9	9	1	3	8