

Fundamental Knowledge of Abhidhamma

(Lesson 4 - Classification of 89-Cittas)

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Contents

- Consciousness (*Citta*) is one with reference to its characteristic of knowing the object. It is classified into many types according to accompanied mental factors (*Cetasika*).
- Classification by way of planes
- Classification - With respect to its kind or nature (*Jāti*)
- Classification - according to its roots, accompanying feeling –

Three Types of Worlds (Loka)

- Satta-loka – the world of living beings,
- Okāsa-loka – the physical universe, - (plains of existence)
- Saṅkhāra-loka – the world of formation

(conditioned phenomena of mentality and materiality included within the five aggregates of clinging)

(p.31)

Classification by way of plane

Four Types Of consciousness

1. ***Kāmāvacara Citta*** – the consciousnesses that have their domain in the sensuous plane of existence, though they may arise in other planes as well.
2. ***Rūpāvacara Citta*** – the consciousnesses that have their domain in the fine-material sphere of existence, though they may arise in other planes as well.
3. ***Arūpāvacara Citta*** – the consciousnesses that have their domain in the immaterial sphere of existence, though they may arise in other planes as well.
4. ***Lokuttara Citta*** – supramundane consciousness

Loka – world & ***Uttara*** – beyond, transcendent to (the word directly refers to the unconditioned element, ***Nibbāna***)

- The types of consciousness that directly accomplish the realization of ***Nibbāna*** are called ***Lokuttara Citta***. (p.31)

Avacara – consciousness which moves about in, or frequents, a particular locality

Kāma – subjective sensuality, i.e. craving & objective sensuousness, i.e. the five external sense-objects – form, sounds, smells, tastes, and tangibles (p.30)

Two types of Kamma and Two types of resultants

Kamma , volitional activity is twofold –

1. (**Kusala-Kamma**) – volitional activity associated with wholesome consciousness
2. (**Akusala-Kamma**) – volitional activity associated with unwholesome consciousness

• The result of **Kamma** is also twofold –

1. (**Kusala-vipāka citta**) – the resultant consciousness of wholesome **kamma**
2. (**Akusala-vipāka**) – the resultant consciousness of unwholesome **kamma**.

(**Kiriya Citta**) Functional consciousness is neither wholesome nor unwholesome and non-productive (unproductive).

Classification - With respect to its kind or nature (*Jāti*)

Four Types Of consciousness

1. **Akusala Citta** – Unwholesome consciousnesses – which is mentally unhealthy, morally blameworthy (*Sāvajja*) and productive of painful result (*dukkhavipāka*) - accompanied by any of the three unwholesome roots (greed, hatred, or delusion).
2. **Kusala Citta** – Wholesome consciousnesses – which is mentally healthy, morally blameless (*Anavajja*) and productive of pleasant results (*Sukhavipāka*) – accompanied by wholesome roots (non-greed, non-hatred, or non-delusion).
3. **Vipāka Citta** – Resultant consciousness – which arises through the ripening of **Kamma**
(**Kamma** = Volitional action)
4. **Kiriya Citta** – Functional consciousness – neither kamma nor kamma resultant, mere activity – which is a mental activity, but not capable of producing kammic results.

1.	Unwholesome	– 12	←
2.	Wholesome	– 21	←
3.	Resultant	– 36	} ←
4.	Functional	– 20	
		(89)	

Resultant consciousness and **functional consciousness** are neither wholesome nor unwholesome. They are classified as indeterminate (*Abyākata*).

Enumeration by way of its nature (*Jāti*)

1. Unwholesome – 12

2. Wholesome – 21

3. Resultant – 36

4. Functional – 20

(89)

1. All types of unwholesome consciousness (*Akusala-citta*) are included in sense sphere.
2. Wholesome consciousness (*Kusala-citta*) –
 sense sphere wholesome – 8 +
 fine material sphere wholesome – 5 +
 immaterial sphere wholesome – 4 +
 supra-mundane wholesome – 4 = 21
3. Resultant consciousness (*Vipāka-citta*) –
 sense sphere resultant – 23 +
 fine-material-sphere resultant – 5 +
 immaterial sphere resultant – 4 +
 supra-mundane resultant – 4 = 36
4. Functional consciousness (*Vipāka-citta*) –
 sense sphere functional – 11 +
 fine-material-sphere functional – 5 +
 immaterial sphere functional – 4 = 20

Classification - according to its roots,

Six types of Roots (*Cha Hetū*)

1. *Lobha* – greed
2. *Dosa* – hatred
3. *Moha* – delusion
4. *Alobha* – non-greed
5. *Adosa* – non-hatred
6. *Amoha* – non-delusion

1. *Ahetuka citta* – rootless consciousness
2. *Sahetuka citta* – consciousness with roots, accompanied by roots

Three types of *Sahetuka citta* –

1. *Eka-hetuka* – consciousness with one root,
2. *Dvi-hetuka* – consciousness with two roots,
3. *Ti-hetuka* – consciousness with three roots,
(lesson -27) (p.120)

1. *Ahetuka puggala* – rootless individual, whose rebirth-linking (*paṭisandhi citta*) consciousness is not accompanied by any roots
2. *Sahetuka puggala* – individual with roots, whose rebirth-linking consciousness (*paṭisandhi citta*) is accompanied by the roots (double-rooted individual, and triple-rooted individual).

Consciousness - 89

6- Lokuttara (Supra-mundane)- 8 (Magga (path)- 4 + Phala (Fruition) – 4)			
Sobhana-Citta -59/91 (beautiful)	5- Arūpāvacara (Immaterial-sphere) – 12 (<i>Kusala</i> (wholesome) – 4 + <i>Vipāka</i> (Resultant) - 4 + <i>Kiriya</i> (Functional) – 4)	Mahaggata -27 (sublime, lofty, or exalted)	Lokiya-Citta -81 (mundane)
	4- Rūpāvacara (Fine-material-sphere) – 15 (<i>Kusala</i> (wholesome) – 5 + <i>Vipāka</i> (Resultant) - 5 + <i>Kiriya</i> (Functional) – 5)		
	3- Kāmāvacara.Sobhana (Sense-sphere Beautiful) – 24 (<i>Kusala</i> (wholesome) – 8 + <i>Vipāka</i> (Resultant) - 8 + <i>Kiriya</i> (Functional) – 8)		
Asobhana-Citta-30 (not beautiful)	2- Ahetuka (Rootless)– 18 (unwholesome resultant (<i>Akusala-vipāka</i>)- 7 + Rootless wholesome resultant (<i>Ahetuka kusala-vipāka</i>) – 8 + Rootless functional (<i>Ahetuka kiriya</i>) – 3)	Kāmāvacara-Citta-54 (Sense-sphere)	
	1- Akusala (Unwholesome)– 12 Lobha-Mūla (greed-rooted)-8 + Dosa-Mūla(Hatred-rooted) -2 + Moha-Mūla (Delusion-rooted)-2		

The fifteen fine-material-sphere cittas and the twelve immaterial-sphere cittas are collectively called Mahaggatacitta – sublime, lofty, or exalted consciousness – because they are free from the hindrances and are pure, elevated, great states of mind. (P.64)