

## LESSON 02

## ETERNAL SUBSTANCES

As we have learned earlier, this universe was there and would be there forever. The changes are in their form, shape and structure.

### Eternal Substances

It can be called in general that this universe is filled up with eternal substances. Eternal means they were there, they are now, and they will be there. These two substances are: 1) Soul or Living beings (Jiva), 2) Non-living substances (Ajiva).

#### 1) **Souls or Living beings:**

Souls or Living beings were there. They were never created nor will they be destroyed. At the time of death they will keep on changing their forms like sometime they can be human and other time he can be animal, bird, plant or insect, etc. The intrinsic independent substance is soul, which is taking a new body. Soul will always keep its intrinsic characteristic of knowledge, perception, etc. at variable level within all new forms it may take.

#### 2) **Non-living substances (Ajiva):**

Just as souls were there so were the Non-living substances. It was also not created nor will it be ever destroyed. It undergoes changes all the time. In the universe along with soul, commonly called Jivas are various types of non-living things (Ajiva). This ajiva has five sub-divisions, namely, 1) Space (Akashtikay), 2) Medium of Motion (Dharmastikay), 3) Medium of Rest (Adharmastikay), 4) Matter (Pudgals) and 5) Time (Kala). Of all these five only matter is a visible thing and rest are invisible substances. The karman particles fall in this matter. They are very fine and cannot be seen by ordinary eyes but are spread all over the universe. Then, there are metal, plastics, cement, wood, etc.

### RELATIONSHIP OF SOULS AND KARMAS:

The relationship between Souls and Karmas was there from the beginning. The jiva gets born and dies and gets reborn in different forms due its relationship with karmas. As mentioned earlier even though this relationship was there, there is end to it. The soul when reaches to its purest form (Siddha stage) karma particles are shed off and there is no relationship with karma. The soul does not accumulate new karmas anymore. The soul is not reborn after that but stays as Siddha.

### IMMORTAL NATURE OF THE SOUL

All souls are immortal. But, while karmas are still attached to the souls, the souls occupy into various types of bodies, like the humans, the animals, the birds, the plants, etc. Though soul resides in the body, the body and the soul are two different independent things. When the soul leaves the Jiva the body remains behind. As mentioned above when all the attached karmas are destroyed from the soul, the soul is liberated from the body permanently and reaches to the top of universe, called Siddha Shila and stays there forever. These souls then are called Siddhas. That is the state of being Immortal for the

soul from the bondage of the body. Though the soul does not have any body it occupies 1/3 of its mass space of the last body in Siddha Shila.

#### MATTER (AJIVA)

The matter is found in one form today and when it gets destroyed or disintegrated it takes a new form again. For example, a gold coin can be changed to necklace, from there to bracelet, or from there to ring, etc., it will still be gold. It maintains its original characteristics even in new form.

So this way the Soul and Ajiva are always going to be around us forever in one or other form.