

Sankhya Philosophy

The 25 Cosmic Principles

1. Purusha
(pure consciousness)

2. Prakriti
(unmanifest matter/gunas)

3. Mahat/Buddhi
(intelligence/discrimination)
The discerning faculty, the decision maker, the “knower”

4. Ahamkara
(ego/self identity)
The “I-maker”

5. Manas
(mind/thought processes)
The common, functional mind that processes and synthesizes data collected by the senses. Also the faculty of attention.

Cognitive Senses
6. Hearing/ears
7. Touching/skin
8. Seeing/eyes
9. Tasting/tongue
10. Smelling/nose
The “importers” that bring information into manas.

Active Instruments
11. Speaking/mouth
12. Holding/hands
13. Moving/feet
14. Procreating/
reproductive organs
15. Eliminating/
eliminary organs
The “exporters” or means of expression.

Subtle Elements
16. Sound
17. Touch
18. Sight
19. Taste
20. Smell
The properties of things that make them perceptible by our senses.

Gross Elements
21. Ether
22. Air
23. Fire
24. Water
25. Earth
The building blocks of physical creation.