

Subject: Spiritual Human

Article: 1

QUANTUM PHILOSOPHY

Doç. Dr. Haluk Berkmen

The twentieth century started with two important and revolutionary physical theories. These are the theory of Quantum Mechanics and the Theory of Relativity. Both theories had revolutionary ideas about matter, space and time. Both theories have been demonstrated to be experimentally correct and accurate in many respects. They both claim that matter and energy are interchangeable. Or more clearly stated that matter is condensed energy.

We know many kinds of energy forms. Such as Potential Energy, Kinetic Energy, Solar Energy, Hydro Energy, Nuclear Energy, etc. But we cannot claim that we understand exactly what is meant by “Energy” per se. Energy is defined generally as “the capacity to do work”. But, where is this capacity hidden? Is it within matter or is it flowing freely in space and entities grab it in order to perform some kind of work? The only claim that modern science can make about energy, is that there is an “energy field” which can take different forms and which is responsible for all kind of interactions that exists in the universe.

There is a constant motion in the universe and human beings are also in constant interaction with their surroundings. They interact with each other, with other living as well as with non-living entities during their entire lifetime. In this talk, I intend to introduce a different kind of energy, which can be tentatively called “spiritual energy”. Although both Eastern and Western mystics and wise people can feel and can make practical use of this spiritual energy field, it is still not been mentioned in any scientific publication as having observable effects.

Modern western scientific theories such as Quantum Mechanics and Relativity Theory, which deal with the non-living aspects of nature, are clearly accepting that there is an energy field forming the background of all forms of matter. Moreover, that such an energy field is the essence of all physical objects existing in the universe. In fact, we can say that all that exists is pure and simple, energy. Most people have heard of the famous equation of Einstein, $E=mc^2$. In this equation E stands for Energy, m for mass or matter and c for the

speed of light. Thus, this equation is mathematically telling that energy and matter are equivalent and interchangeable, since the speed of light is a constant parameter.

Not only non-living material objects, but also living beings are concentrated energy formations. Especially, when we consider human behavior we can clearly observe that all human activity stems from an internal energy source. People are inclined to define this energy source as being chemical, electrical or mechanical. It is also accepted in general that these energy fields are of a local character and can only connect elements that stand very near to each other. Such measurable energy fields are local by definition and do not have the capacity to directly connect distant elements and objects. I propose that the energy field forming the essence of all that exists in the universe is of a non-local character and can be called 'spiritual energy'.

Spiritual energy has observable consequences like any other energy type, but is essentially non-local and can connect points that are quite separated in space and time. The reason why this spiritual energy is dismissed by scientists is because the presently existing technology is unable to directly measure such non-local interactions. Experimental science has its own methodology, and every methodology has its limitations, such as only commenting on things that are measurable. Thus, wise scientists do not dismiss 'spiritual energy' only do not comment on it. Spiritual energy has the capacity to contain and transmit information about the whole of the universe. This capacity is already known among physicists, and has been defined as the 'Holographic' paradigm. It was Karl Pribram, already in 1978, who claimed that the human brain recorded information in the form of a hologram. The basic character of a holographic record is that any piece of it contains information about the entire structure. In that sense, human beings could well be considered as holographic receptors and recorders of such a non-local spiritual energy. It is possible to say tentatively that spiritual energy exists both without as well as within us and forms an integral part of us. Presently, we cannot measure this energy objectively but only can tap it subjectively.

Objective measurements are based on the assumption that all interactions are local and that independent objects exist in space. But if space and matter are different aspects of the same energy field and differ only on the amount of the locally condensed quantity of energy, how can we claim that independent objects exist in space and do not affect each other. An objective measurement cannot be performed if the observer and the observed are interacting and affecting each other. One of the most important claims of Quantum Physics is that the observed and the observer form a correlated and unified system that becomes a new and integral entity that cannot be separated into independent and isolated parts or objects. Therefore, since all kind of measurement involves some kind of interaction, we can claim that any observation or measurement entails a change in both the observed as well as the observer. The change may be minute and could be dismissed practically, but nevertheless a change occurs even if it is imperceptible.

We, humans are constantly interacting with different kinds of energy fields. Seeing, hearing, smelling and even touching are the result of an interaction with some kind of energy field. These are all external physical energy fields. If we want to interact with the global spiritual energy we need to “go within” and attain an awareness of self-knowledge. The mystics claim that self-knowledge is the path to liberation. Research into the brain has suggested that every person has the potential capacity to experience non-local interactions and thus tap into spiritual energy. This is because the spiritual energy, which is both inside and outside of us, is essentially a global energy field that connects the macrocosm to the microcosm. Therefore, one can say that “further in is further out” or “as above so below”. We are now in the position to claim that there is no distinction between the in and the out or the above and the below, the small and the large. Contrary to the accepted belief that small entities form the large, the modern scientific paradigm tells us that the large exists in the small, and in whatever scale one may study nature the problem to understand the whole remains.

It seems that the Philosophy of Quantum Physics brings a new way of thinking which requires a new kind of logic. The new logic, which I have in mind, is not the dialectical logic of F. Hegel, but a way of thinking where opposite concepts do not exist. This way of thinking is well known for eastern as well as western mystics, but it is a rather new and controversial way of thinking for the scientific mind used to differentiate with the help of dichotomies.