

**Modern thought within Ancient Context:
The impossibility of thinking out of the box, when you are in the box!**

Over the last 100 years or so, attempts have been made to blend together culture and medicine from around the world. The now “global” society has exchanged so many ideas that there is a complex mix of expressions which are very hard to understand. We know, at a deep level, that this all comes from the same source, but simultaneously we deeply feel the urge to go one way or the other, either towards natural medicine and its ideologies, or towards westernized ideologies of medicine and its theorems and expressions. So is it actually possible to join theoretical systems, each of which seems to have “strong points”, and make them into an overall picture of something?

The main difficulty with this concerns the *way* of the Ancient understanding. In order to understand medicines like Chinese medicine, Ayurvedic medicine, tribal and shamanic medicines, we actually have to find an insight that is different from how we normally view things. From the perspective of these ancient peoples there was a total wholeness to everything. Practice within medicine and also within the whole of their cultures was about seeing patterns within this wholeness. The question about whether things were separate parts or whether they were whole did not arise.

In modern thought this concept is flipped on its head. There is a total belief in separation, and it is a mental-belief which is just experienced as an empty feeling, rather than a feeling which informs everything else, as with the ancients. Separation, free will, separate sense of self, and the ideologies and theories that go with this kind of thinking, are thought to be “true”.

Herein lies the difficulty. When one is attempting to join one group with another group there has to be common ground. As far as the Ancients are concerned, expressions of modern people would not have been held in contention, all of it would be absorbed into the base root understanding that everything is One. So Oneness envelops the ideas of modern science and underpins them. It says: “Yes, you can see it like that, but it is only a fragment of knowledge; however, if one see it from the whole, then it is One”, therefore the fragments of ideas are then seen to be all connected.

The modern way of thinking cannot incorporate the ancient. However, if the expression of the Ancients is actually taken on board, then the *pure* scientist gets what he’s always dreamed of, a theory (which is no longer a theory but a reality) of Oneness. This is the same as the movement towards Quantum ideology in science today, but in fact, when and if Quantum theory is verified, it will show science itself to be totally different from what it is today; ending the split between sciences, arts and everything else, and also ending the idea of science overall as something other than reality. However we have a long way to go before the scientist is open enough to expand beyond the notion of a non-separate self, because the very structure of science *is* the methodology of the separate sense of “self”, it is the place we are still caught in - structuralism, attempting to define things which are unexplainable and impossible to formulate, using the same way of thinking that got us into this trap in the first place. This is, of course, Albert Einstein’s point:-

“The world we have created today as a result of our thinking thus far, has problems which cannot be solved by thinking the way we thought when we created them”

The present day scientist/ thinker/ therefore has a real dilemma. Being fragmentary and often based on a scientific model that has firm parameters about what is real and what is not, based on experimentation, doesn't work. It actually restricts and obliterates the reality of the picture because it is looking so keenly at abstract parts of it, leaving little room for possibility. We could call this the Newtonian model of science. Humans are not more fulfilled/happier/less anxious with this way of being than societies without this mentality who, although they were a few decades ago called “primitive tribes” are found to be much more deeply content. The movement towards Quantum physics is still coming from the Newtonian model of thinking, because only this format of “analysis of parts or fragments” exists within science. Everything is based in Newtonian science, which is simply separatist thought processes.

Wittgenstein makes the point, on being asked: “What is your aim in philosophy?” by answering: “To show the fly the way out of the fly-bottle.” The fly-bottle is the parameter of the way of thinking. If one lives within this then there is only a limited space one can see, one can see only from within the parameter which is set up. The end of the fly-bottle mentality requires a quantum leap to expand beyond the edges of what is thought to be a reality. As with the fly-bottle the broader expanse of reality exists behind the glass. The bottle, the air within the bottle, and the fly itself are all part of Oneness so there is no contention.

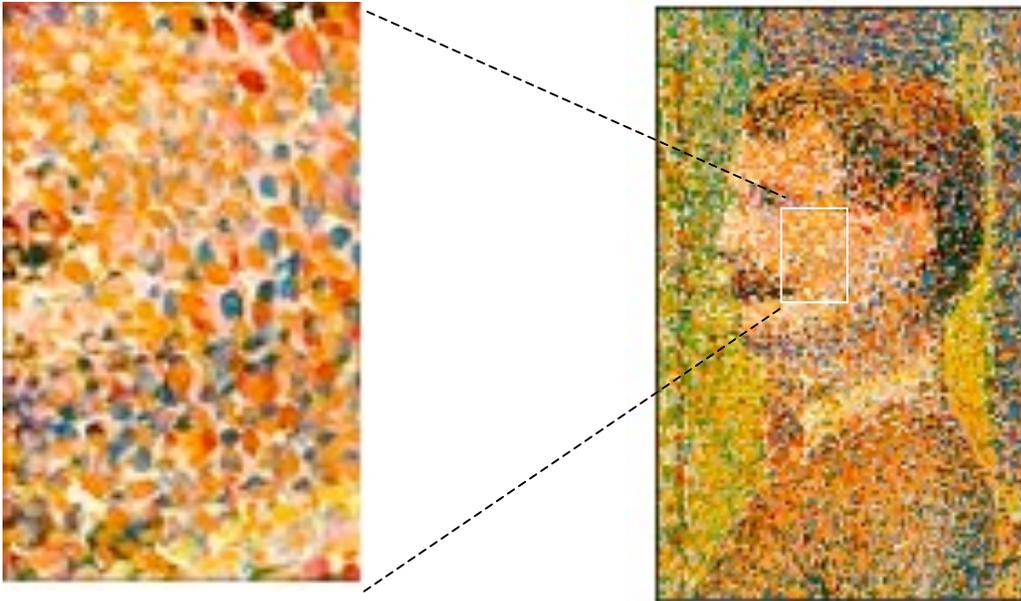
To really join with the ancient paradigms one must think outside the box of separation, outside the box of belief in separation. This is the basis of change. Dis-ease, as an overall expression, IS, in itself, the sense of separation. Hence when one moves to the cure - the sense of Oneness, through nature's process - there is an immediate recognition of peace, a sense of no requirement to attempt to “do” anything for a particular goal in mind, but simply a response to what it is that is happening, and the expression from Oneness simply emanates outwards. It is an authentic expression. Most of the time there is an editing and filtering of the authentic via the glass bottle: the idea of “self”.

What this means is that modern ways of thinking are not only of a different order of understanding but also are the product of a mind in dis-ease, a mind that believes all things are separate; it is, in fact, itself which is the “problem”. Interestingly, Wittgenstein would like to open out the bottle to allow the fly to be free, but the bottle never existed in reality; the fly is under the illusion that there is such a thing called “a bottle”. In reality what we have is a perception of separation and a thought process about separation, forming a world of seeming separation but all of this, in reality, is encompassed by Oneness.

This Oneness is known to the ancients and is the source of the roots of medicine. While the majority will probably not recognize this for another 100 years, slowly but surely, through the natural entropy of the human, as he needs to respond to the future difficulties

of environmental change and nature's response to the heat of humanity reaching a peak, this change will come. We find ourselves now in alienated relationships as a result of belief in "self" and the ideology of personal freedom, personal health and personal clarity, when none of these are truly possible, or personal. The nature of Oneness is oneness and so every time a move is made to look at this, from a fragmentary process, the whole is never sensed. The resolution can only come when we let go of what we know and then naturally, when the time is ripe, re-discover that there was never a time we had lost our sense of Oneness, only a time when we believed the separateness was true, rather than a joke of perception.

A look at George Seurat painting from close-up, "through the microscopic or telescopic tube" of modern mentality, alongside the 'in context' view of the same region (ancient), gives us the different ways of looking:-



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