

The development of ego. Where does ego begin? How does it build up to a full-fledged solid ego structure? (Five skandhas: 1. form/duality/reification, 2. feeling/attitude, 3. perception/impulse/ prejudice, 4. intellect/formation/concept, 5. consciousness)

- The ground: all pervading basic ground, **absolute**
- Energies appear out of the basic ground, sparks of duality, intensity, sharpness, flashes of wisdom and knowledge. Arise and drop back like waves on the ocean, clouds in the sky.
- Blinding effect, bewilderment. This is the secondary basic ground of ego, the source of all **relative** concepts, 8th consciousness. The projection takes over. (This is the beginning of **form**, the first skandha)
- Freeze the space. Panic/anxiety takes over. Duality begins. Characterized by ignorance, grasping, solidification. The 7th consciousness (klesha/neurosis instigator) is a way of relating the eighth consciousness (delusion) to the six sense consciousnesses (touch, taste, smell, sound, sight, mind.)

*Why do the eight consciousnesses become the skandha of **form**? Aren't they about mind?*

First drop your idea of form as something solidly appearing in the world. Here form means the way we label what appears to us through our senses and mind. It is **duality** of self and other that we establish when we freeze the energy of basic ground.

Remember that the first four skandhas are pre-concept. They happen too fast for us to notice--in a fraction of a second. We freeze, we **label** and then we have a feeling about "it." We like or dislike or ignore depending on our association with the past. This is the second skandha--feeling. (Read p. 16 Form)

Feeling/attitude

Going further into the dualistic split. Pleasure/pain, positive/negative/indifferent. creative/destructive, friend/enemy, mind/body.

Mind: emotional, meditation as imaginary, possibility of spiritual materialism (benefit to ego)

Body: clusters of instincts, things, thingness; meditation on intuitive level, body level of feeling, sensations. Body is more down-to-earth.

"Feeling is at the level of both body and mind and is the link between the two." p. 163 Holecek

What does Trungpa R. mean when he says "...all human experience is high on something..... So we could say that this idea of feeling is different kinds of intoxication....The whole thing, all of experience, is being intoxicated on something...you would like to lay trips on something." p 24