The Fundamentals 2014

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What follow are some of the basic ideas, concepts, principles that inform most of my writing. See: <u>Dynamic Humanism</u> – available on my website: <u>www.Dynamic-Humanism.com</u>

Existence is Motion/Change. Energy is in constant flux, and energy is everywhere all the time in a condition of infinite interconnection. There is no true vacuum – just more and less dense energy. Matter is just bundled energy in its varied forms of expression. Stasis does not exist. The only "steady state" is constant change – from vibrating strings at the micro particle level to pulsating membranes among multiverses at the macro level.

There are only two forces in all of existence – attraction and repulsion. All phenomena at all levels from atoms to cells to galaxies participate in this dynamic – coming together [integrating/accumulating] and coming apart [disintegrating/diminishing].

In the physical sense, life is the effort to control change and sustain integration in the face of inevitable failure – disintegration/death. Life starts out in dramatic growth/coming together/ accumulation and ends as systems weaken – disintegrate.

Culture is the mechanism humans use collectively to cast a framework of certainty over fundamental uncertainty – perpetual change, including the very existence of the human species, Earth as a planet, our solar system, the Milky Way Galaxy, etc.

Science is the process we use to discover the rules that "define" the system of change at all levels. Science and technology suggest that if we know the rules, we can control change, but that is an illusion since the "rules" themselves must change in an existence where nothing is constant and everything is relative! As valuable as Science and technology seem to be, they ultimately just reveal the vast scope of our ignorance, confirm our absolute insignificance, and expose an existence that is beyond our control.

Spirituality is our option, using our intuitive capacity, to dwell in existence where we discover by immersion in the infinite web of interconnection how

our individual identity diffuses through and participates ultimately in all of existence. Individual identity expands to encompass more and more of existence until the self is no longer isolated, but dissolves to become everything.

Religion begins in Spirituality but ends by becoming a social device employed to control the populace and to convince us that by conforming to its rules individual and cultural identity [the integrated state] will somehow persist [life after death] within the pervasive context of change where nothing remains the same for more than an instant.

Psychic phenomena [telepathy, clairvoyance, precognition, psychokinesis] are evidence in the objective material domain of subjective, spiritual principles of interconnection, which are not bound by our material limitations of form, time and space. These cross boundary phenomena are available to humans when their intuitive capabilities are developed to a significant degree. Intuitive abilities can be honed to a sophisticated level just as our abilities to reason and think critically can be promoted.

Through the metaphors of the imagination, Great Art [graphic, plastic or performing] communicates subjective awareness in the objective, everyday realm. Lesser Art addresses social issues, while Entertainment evokes sentiments and engages the senses under the simple umbrella of what is culturally held to be good or bad.

Morality is the result of knowing ourselves in the spiritually expanded sense where we are obligated to respect the more inclusive "expression/ realizations" of ourselves – other beings and "things" as literally aspects of our selves. Ethics represents the effort cultures utilize to instill social rules of relationship that reflect the expanded identity awareness of more fundamental, spiritually based morality.

Progress is what we take to be the positive result of our efforts to influence change – by moving things around, changing their shape, and/or rearranging them. Attributing positive or negative value [judgment] is just a matter of what perspective we take regarding changes that occur. No value or judgment is universal in a world of infinite perspectives. Only at the level of complete subjective unification [enlightenment – All as One] can absolute judgments arise as there is no alternative perspective at that point.

Individuals and their cultures must manage the dynamic of material, objective awareness [promoting individuality, competition and survival self-interest] and immaterial, subjective awareness [promoting community, cooperation and respect socially, ecologically, and cosmologically]. The challenge for both individuals and cultures is to avoid excessive emphasis on either side in this oppositional dynamic. Rather the objective is to achieve the proper balance in developing the associated human mental capabilities [reason and intuition] so we are able to utilize at a sophisticated level the objective and the subjective modes of knowing, the condition for truly enlightened participation in existence.

Philosophy is our effort to conceptualize the nature of existence and our place in it. Relying solely on the intellect, reason and logic is important in this effort, but it is not sufficient. There must be an equal place for the subjective awareness that emerges from a rigorous use of our intuition. In general, Religion and other explicitly defined symbolic systems do not provide reliable paths to unobstructed subjective awareness, and thereby they are not appropriate instruments to achieve a rigorous use of our intuition. There are more reliable means/methods and development available processes to engage and pursue sophistication subjective/spiritual [e.g. meditation with careful guidance]. Such belief-free means and processes can avoid the very considerable limitations and obstacles posed by religious and symbolic dogma.