



## i. āyu - lakṣaṇa, paryāya, paribhāṣā and pramāṇa

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## Lakshana & Paribhasha (Definition) of Ayu

### Sanskrit References

āyuḥ śārīrendriyasatvātmamasamyōgah,

– Su.Su.1/15 *Dalhana*

śārīrendriyasattvātmamasamyōgō dhāri jīvitam  
nityagaścānubandhaśca paryāyairāyurucyatē

– Ca.Su.1/42

### Meaning:

**Ayu (life) is the combination of:**

- Physical body (Śarīra)
- Senses (Indriya)
- Mind (Sattva)
- Soul (Ātma)

## Paryaya (Synonyms) of Ayu

1. **Dhari:** It does not let the body rot.
2. **Jivita:** It beholds life and allows us to live.
3. **Nityaga:** It moves constantly.
4. **Anubandha:** It is interdependent between past life and future life.
5. **Chetananuvritti:** Continuity of consciousness (chetanā) throughout life.

## Pramana (Span) of Ayu

### Sanskrit Reference

varṣaśatāṁ khalvāyuṣah pramāṇamasmin kālē; santi ca punaradhikōnavarṣaśatajīvinō'pi manusyāḥ;

– Ca.VI.8/122

**Meaning:** Generally, the lifespan of a human being is considered to be 100 years.

## Bheda (Classification) of Ayu

1. **Hita Ayu**
2. **Ahita Ayu**
3. **Sukhayu**
4. **Dukhayu**