



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

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### Lakshana & Paribhasha (Definition) of Ayu

#### Sanskrit References

āyuh śarīrēndriyasatvātmasaṃyōgaḥ,

- Su.Su.1/15 Dalhana

śarīrēndriyasattvātmasaṃyōgō 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

varṣaśataṃ khalvāyusaḥ pramāṇamasmin kālē; santi ca punaradhikōnavarṣaśatajīvinō'pi manuṣyāḥ;

- 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**