



i. āyu - lakṣaṇa, paryāya, paribhāṣā and pramāṇa

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Lakshana & Paribhasha (Definition) of Ayu

Sanskrit References

āyuh śarīrēndriyasatvātmasaṁyōgaḥ,

– Su.Su.1/15 Dalhana

śarīrēndriyasatvātmasaṁyōgō 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

varṣaśataṁ 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**