

Ch. 7: Mental Factors with a Determinate Object

- 111 Five Mental Factors with a Determinate Object
1. Aspiration experiences pleasure, pain, or neutral feeling as its object
 2. Resolution distinguishes the attributes of the object (such as color)
 3. Mindfulness moves the mind and mental factors toward the object
 4. Concentration causes the mind and object to meet
 5. Wisdom directs the mind to specific object
- “They are said to have determinate objects because they ascertain only particular objects, in this order:
a desired object, a determined object, an object of acquaintance, and an analyzed object.”
- 111 1. Aspiration: **a mental factor that, upon observing a desired thing, seeks to attain that thing by its own power.** [aspiration gives rise to *diligence*]
- 112 2. Resolution: **a mental factor that, by its own power, upon perceiving an object previously seen, heard, and so on, has the aspect of apprehending it to be just so.** [functions to prevent *diversion*]
[differs from discernment, which merely discerns its object and applies a classificatory convention]
- 113-114 3. Mindfulness: **a mental factor that, focusing on an object to which there has been previous familiarization, prevents the forgetting of it by its own power**
[arises from *appreciation of a familiar object*; prevents movement of the mind away from the object]
[3 divisions: being mindful of the mind's thought, the body's deeds, & the voice's utterances]
- 114-115 4. Concentration: **a mental factor that, by its own power, stabilizes the mind single-pointedly on its object and functions as the basis of wisdom** [single-pointed = no second object]
[arises from physical solitude and mental solitude]
[differs from attention, which directs the mind but does not give rise to wisdom]
[pacifies mental disturbances, allowing wisdom of special insight to arise]
- 115-118 5. Wisdom: a mental factor that, focuses on an object of inquiry, has the function of analyzing it by its own power
[arises and increases through *learning* and cultivating familiarity with what has been learned]
[functions to *eliminate doubt*, which is not a function of inquiry, analysis, or discernment]
[differs from discernment, which applies a classificatory convention to things]
Wisdom in Sanskrit is *prajñā*: an excellent (*pra*) form of knowing (*jñāna*)
- 116-117 various classifications of wisdom; the fruits of wisdom
- 118 Restatement of the determinate objects of these 5 mental factors
1. Aspiration arises regarding a sought object, but does not arise regarding anything else
 2. Resolution arises regarding a previously ascertained object, but does not arise regarding anything else
 3. Mindfulness arises only regarding a familiar object
 4. Concentration arises only regarding an object of investigation
 5. Wisdom also arises only regarding an object of investigation

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106 REMINDER: Asaṅga names fifty-one mental factors (other lists may differ)

Ch. 6 five omnipresent mental factors

Ch. 7 five mental factors with a determinate object

Ch. 8 eleven virtuous mental factors

Ch. 9 Love & Compassion

Ch. 10 p 139 six root mental afflictions

Ch. 10 p 147 twenty secondary mental afflictions

Ch. 11 four variable mental factors