#### PERISPIRIT



# Mediumship Lesson 6



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#### **Etymology of the Word Perispirit**



Its first use was in a commentary (by Kardec) to the answer given by the spirits to the 93rd question of *The Spirits' Book* 

As a fruit seed is encased within the perisperm, the spirit per se is surrounded by an envelope, which, by comparison, may be called the perispirit.



## Perispirit



This was a breakthrough concept, since the spirit had not been previously thought of as distinct from its form (the ghost one saw was considered to be "the ghost itself", not the appearance of a ghost). How does the soul assert its individuality, since it no longer has a material body?

"It still has a semi-material body peculiar to itself, which it draws from the atmosphere of its planet and which represents the appearance of its last incarnation - its perispirit." (Question 150-a)

Is there anything in human beings besides a soul and a body?

"Yes, there is the link by which the soul and the body are connected." (SB - Question 135)







#### Can you describe this link?

"It is semi-material. In other words, it is, by nature, midway between soul and body. Without it, soul and body could not communicate with each other. This is, in fact, the purpose of the link; it enables the spirit to act on matter and matter to act on the spirit." (SB - Question 135-a)

#### **SEMI-MATERIAL PROPERTIES OF THE PERISPIRIT**

#### THE NATURE OF THE PERISPIRIT

IT IS MATTER (UNKNOWN)

IT IS THE CONDUCTOR "WIRE" OF THE THOUGHT

IT NEVER SEPARATES FROM THE SOUL

IT BECOMES ETHEREAL (IN THE STATE OF PURITY)

IT IS PART OF THE SPIRIT

**IT DOES NOT THINK** 

**ITS FORM: HUMAN** 

IT IS THE AGENT OF ACTION OF THE SPIRIT

IT IS FLEXIBLE AND EXPANDABLE

IT ASSUMES APPEARENCES (IT DESIRES)

**IT IS MALEABLE TO METAMORPHOSIS** 

IT IS NORMALLY INVISIBLE (TO PEOPLE)

IT MAY CHANGE STATES: FROM FLUID-SOLID

IT POSSESSESS SEMI-MATERIAL PROPERTIES

**REACT UPON THE UNIVERSAL FLUID** 



"THE SPIRIT, ... NEEDS MATTER IN ORDER TO ACT UPON MATTER ..." AK - § 58



"IT IS SOWN A NATURAL BODY; IT IS RAISED A SPIRITUAL BODY. THERE IS A NATURAL BODY AND THERE IS A SPIRITUAL BODY." (PAUL -CORINTHIANS – 15:44)



The perispirit, or fluidic body of the spirits (incarnate or discarnate), is one of the most important products of the cosmic fluid: it is a condensation of this fluid around a focal point of intelligence or soul.

he perispirit and the physical body originat from the Universal Cosmic Fluid?

# WHAT ARE WE?

#### DISCARNATES

# The perispirit is the fluidic envelope of the Spirit, and is of a semi material nature



Due to its spiritual essence, the spirit is an indefinite abstract being that cannot act directly upon matter; it needs an intermediary.

This intermediary is the fluidic envelope designated by the name perispirit, makes the spirit – an abstract being – into a concrete, defined being, that is perceptible to thought.

It renders it capable of acting upon tangible matter.

## Perispirit and Its connection with the Physical Body



The perispirit, which possesses certain properties of matter, is united molecule by molecule to the body that is forming; a fact from which one may deduce that the spirit, through the perispirit, "takes root" in the fetus, much as a plant takes root in the soil.

# Perispirit and the process of death



- At the moment of death the perispirit detaches more or less slowly, from the body.
- The perispirit disengages from the body molecule by molecule, in the same manner as when it was uniting, and the spirit is set free.
- Thus, it is not the departure of the spirit that causes the death of the body; rather, the death of the body is what causes the departure of the spirit.

## **Constitutive Elements of the Perispirit**

- Spirits extract their perispirits from the environment in which they find themselves, which means that this envelope is formed from environmental fluids.
- The result is that the compositional elements of the perispirit must vary according to the different worlds.



#### Relation of Perispirit with the Elements of Nature

- The perispirit is the link that unites the spirit with the matter of the body.
- We could say that it is the quintessence of matter.
- It is the principle beginning of organic life, but not of intellectual life, because that belongs to the spirit.
- It is also the agent of all the sensations of the outer life. Those sensations are localized in the earthly body by the organs which serve as their channels.
- When the body is destroyed, those sensations become generalized.



## Perispirit and the Moral Evolvement of the Spirit



The nature of the fluidic envelope is always in accord with the degree of moral advancement of the spirit. Inferior spirits cannot change their inclination, and consequently cannot go at will from one world to another.

## PERISPIRIT AND VITAL PRINCIPLE

- There is, in organic matter, a special, elusive principle, which has not yet been defined: the vital principle.
- The activity of the vital principle is maintained during life by the activity of the organs, just as is the rotating movement of a wheel maintains heat.
- When this action ceases because of death, the vital principle is extinguished like the heat when the wheel stops turning.



## PERISPIRIT AND VITAL PRINCIPLE

Organic bodies would thus be veritable electric batteries, which function as long as the components of these batteries can sustain the conditions required to produce electricity, that is, life; and which stop when such conditions cease, that is, death.

The vital principle would be but a particular type of electricity called animal electricity, released during life by the activity of the organs, and whose production ceases upon death by the cessation of such action.



#### Are the aura and the perispirit the same?

- They are not the same thing, nor do they fulfill the same functions; the former disappears with the death of the physical body, while the second survives the physical body's disintegration and accompanies the spirit to the invisible world.
- The human aura would be the [outward] radiation of the perispiritual body, and its colors vary in intensity and shade, according to the state of health and the greater or lesser spiritualization of men."



#### The main properties of the perispirit Pliability:

Refers to the morphologic alterations that occur due to the continuous mental commands of the Spirit.

As a result of this property, the perispirit is capable of expanding and exteriorizing in the out-of-body phenomena and in its fluidic donations.



#### **Density:**

It is the property that deals with the measure of weight (ponderability) and luminosity (mental vibratory frequency); both are related to the evolution of the Spirit.



#### **Penetrability:**



It is the ability to cross through physical barriers, if the required mental conditions exist.

#### Visibility:



The perispirit is normally invisible to incarnate Spirits; less evolved discarnate Spirits can only perceive the perispirits of those who are at the same level or at levels inferior to their own. Such visibility is a natural occurrence among Superior Spirits.

#### **Sensitivity:**



It is the property of perceiving sensations, feelings and emotions. These perceptions are not caught by means of specific organs, but, rather, are "sensed" throughout the perispiritual body.

#### **Bicorporeity or out-of-body experience:**



It represents the property of the Spirit whereby it becomes two, that is to say, the physical body is sighted in one place (generally sleeping in a bed) and the perispirit is seen at another place.

#### **Unicity:**

It means to say that each person carries in their own perispirit the sum of its evolutionary achievements. Therefore, no two perispirits are the same.



#### **Changeability:**

It is the property that allows changes in the perispirit as a result of the evolutive process. This changeability occurs with regard to the substance, the form and the perispiritual structure.





### The Functions of the Perispirit

can be divided into four parts: instrumental, individualized, organizer and sustaining.

#### THE INSTRUMENTAL FUNCTION ALLOWS THE INTERACTION OF THE SPIRIT WITH BOTH THE SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL WORLDS.



## **Properties and Functions of the Perispirit**

- THE INDIVIDUALIZED FUNCTION ALLOWS THE PERISPIRIT TO BE THE LINKING ELEMENT BETWEEN THE SPIRIT AND THE PHYSICAL BODY.
- THE INDIVIDUALIZED FUNCTION IS RELATED TO THE HISTORY AND THE EVOLUTIONARY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PERSON AND IT PRESENTS PECULIAR CHARACTERISTICS TO THE IDENTIFICATION OF EACH INDIVIDUAL.

## **The Organizer Function**



THE ORGANIZER FUNCTION IS RELATED TO THE ROLE OF MOLD THAT THE PERISPIRIT EXERTS, DETERMINING THE MORPHOLOGIC AND HEREDITARY LINES OF THE PHYSICAL BODY. THIS FUNCTION GUARANTEES THE MANIFESTATION OF THE LAW OF CAUSE AND EFFECT.

## **The Sustaining Function**



THE SUSTAINING FUNCTION, UNDER THE IMPULSE OF THE SPIRITUAL MIND, ALLOWS THE PERISPIRIT TO BE ABLE TO GRADUALLY TRANSFER THE VITAL ENERGY TO THE PHYSICAL BODY, SUSTAINING IT FROM ITS FORMATION UNTIL ITS COMPLETE DEVELOPMENT.

IT IS DUE TO THIS FUNCTION THAT THE PHYSICAL BODY GUARANTEES THE VITALITY THAT WILL SUSTAIN IT DURING THE FORESEEN DURATION OF ITS REINCARNATION.



"IN THIS VITAL SKETCH, NOT VISIBLE TO US, IT IS TRACED THE IDEAL DRAWING OF A BODY. CLAUDE BERNARD (1813-1878)- FRENCH PHYSIOLOGIST

#### PERISPIRIT:

#### Astral Body, Causal Body and Vital Body

The perispirit is formed by the astral body, casual body and vital body.

Astral body: the wrapping of the spirit

Casual body: is the result of the actions lived

Vital body: the etheric double or the link between the spirit and matter, responsible for the circulation of the vital fluid or ectoplasm.

CASUAL BODY is one of the components of the fluidic body [perispirit] or spiritual body, described by Lísias. "We are bearers of dirty clothes to be washed in the tank of human life. This unclean clothes is the casual body, woven by our hands in previous experiences". Excerpted from the book A Luz do Eterno Reencontro, -Uma viagem por Nosso Lar, by Dra. Marlene Nobre, published by FE, 2011





SATURDAYS @ 10:00 am to 11:00 AM EST WEDNESDAYS @ 9:00 PM to 10:00 PM EST

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