Arupa' the 'Implicate Order' as a New frame-work for 'Form and Design'-2

Inner Order and Working Order

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Absract: The article elaborates the notions of Inner Order(IO) and Working Order(WO) taking design as context. These are introduced with a brief note on Cosmic order, Biological Life Order(BLO) and Human Thought Order(HTO) as manifestations of Arupa the Implicate Order. Notion of 'I' as a fragment is discussed based on David Bohm's dialogues with J.Krishnamurti(JK). Manifestation of Inner Order in I-psychological(I-psyc) and I-factual(I-fac) zone is elaborated based on fundamental questions: 'Who am I?' and 'What am I?'. I-fac is unfolded in the frame work of 'Dharma'. Notion of 'Working Order' as a pragmatic manifestation is introduced. Transformation of WO for a creative performance, with insights in I-psyc as an ongoing spiritual process, is suggested, in the overall context of Arupa- the Implicate Order and 'Soma-significance' proposed by Dr. David Bohm.

Concepts of WO1, WO2 and WO3 as functional 'Working Orders' are discussed. Evolution of working Order to deeper zones in the frame work of 'Arupa the Implicate order' is suggested.

Need for relooking at 'Design practice and Pedagogy' in the above context, is pointed out.

Inner Order

When we talk about 'Inner Order' we are referring to the order in an Individual. Each of us as individuals have a separate physical body from others which we tend to identify as 'I'. Animals, birds, etc, also have an identity as individual bodies. This Identity has a psychological dimension as well. In the biological evolution, human beings empowered with language, have created a name for each individual which has become an identity physically and psychologically, as 'I'.

> To probe Inner Order in context of 'whole' the 'Arupa', notion of orders, which were introduced in an earlier article (2), are reiterated below. as a preamble.
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> - Cosmic Order(CO): At a deep level, 'Arupa' can be imagined/understood as Cosmic Order. CO cannot be experienced at human thought level, as very notion of 'arupa' is beyond thought. Yet many religions, spiritual persons have been articulating such a Cosmic Order and an associated notion of Cosmic Intelligence. Earliest scriptures like 'Vedas', Upanishads have intrinsic reference to it. Christian, Islamic, Jewish, Sikh scriptures also refer to its essence in multiple ways. It is believed that many individuals have been 'active participants' in such a Cosmic Order. J. Krishnamurti's, 'Note book' describes the presence of 'Benediction', a super force of Compassion, beauty and Energy, in an extraordinary state he was in.
> - Biological Life Order(BLO) is seen as a manifestation of Cosmic Order. We as human beings are part of BLO.
> - Human Thought Order(HBO) is our operational zone with the special 'language learning capacity' we possess as Humans, signifying a unique position in biological evolution.

1.0 'I' as fragment:
Understanding Fragmentation

'Is there an individual 'separateness', psychologically?', has been a question of spiritual nature, which all religions have been addressing in one way or other. To deal with Reality or to create factual knowledge, Science and some philosophical pursuits consider 'Division as parts of the whole' as necessary. Thus, Science takes the route of analysis which breaks whole into parts to understand and build factual knowledge. Breaking down into parts and comparing to measure, have been basic tools of Science. All factual knowledge created with such tools, has enabled us to tap 'nuclear energy', 'space travel to other planets',etc., possible. Though perceptions of holistic nature have been at the core of 'insights' in Science, we may say factual knowledge is inherently based on 'division as 'parts', a kind of 'fragmentation' from the whole. Manifestation of 'fractal order', based on self-similarity in Nature also indicates inherent relationship between parts and whole. In this process of creating factual knowledge, human beings seem to have got entrapped into a notion of fragmented 'self', with I-psyc dominating it! So it becomes necessary to understand the nature of 'fragmentation' which has become a prime problem of Humanity!

To quote David Bohm, who had several dialogues on this topic with J Krishnamurti,

Fragmentation is (therefore) an attitude of mind which disposes the mind to regard divisions between things as absolute and final, rather than as ways of thinking that have only a relative and limited range of usefulness and validity. It leads therefore to a general tendency to break up things in an irrelevant and inappropriate way according to how we think. And so it is evidently and inherently destructive. For example, though all parts of mankind are fundamentally interdependent and interrelated, the primary and overriding kind of significance given to the distinctions between people, family, profession, nation, race, religion, ideology, and so on, is preventing human beings from working together for the common good, or even for survival- Bohm (1,page24)

The phrase, '*a general tendency to break up things in an irrelevant and inappropriate way*' in the above quote needs further probe. 'I', the ego, becomes the subject of study. Manifestation of 'I', as I- factual and I- psychological, suggested in an earlier article (2) are elaborated further.

2.0 Manifestations of 'Inner Order' in I-psyc and I-fac zones.
'We are familiar with 'I' as an individual. But 'Inner order' of 'I' is not obvious. It manifests in two sub-orders, 'Psychological and Factual'. Both can be examined in the context of 'Arupa' or 'Implicate order'.

2.1 I-psychological
Who am I?
I-psyc can be understood with a well-known philosophical question
Who are You? Or Who am 'I'?

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It is a question with deep implications. It has been ancient tradition of India and people like Adi-Shankara had answered it with 'So ham' or 'I am that'. I am the 'whole'! Viswa rupa (image of the Universe) gets mentioned in the Hindu scripture, Bhagavat Gita. Other religions have expressed this in their own contexts. Dr.Bohm cites a biblical reference in which 'I am that I am' represents the 'whole', especially expressed in original Hebrew! (3, page150)

Thus, finding 'Who am I?', becomes the ultimate quest for 'I'.

'I', as an identity is created by the culture/society around, right from birth as one is named, often in a ceremony. The kid is brainwashed in a sense to become that person. Naming ceremonies at childhood, reinforce such an identity creation. In all cultures 'self as so and so' is created and it acquires an image.

This 'self' is a reaction to what others think, and say about oneself! Either one assumes what others say, for example, Radha(R) or Cathy(C) is a beautiful or pretty girl, R or C, becomes a proud, pretty girl as a reaction. When a negative tag is given to a kid as 'he is kalu(black)' for Govind with a dark complexion, a reaction may set in him: 'I am not that' or 'I don't want to be that!' The experience of incidences when kids are compared in such a manner, can get enfolded in the person as a 'blockage' or 'knot'. Various such pleasant and unpleasant experiences (and reactions to them) get enfolded as 'Raga' (likes) and 'Dwesha'(dislikes) in an individual, creating an 'I' of that 'person'!

At another level one gets a group identity as belonging to a caste (upper, lower, untouchable), creed and so on. The identity may be with a religion, nation, etc., Since these boundaries which bind one, have no rationality, they lead to '*general tendency to break up things in an irrelevant and inappropriate way!'* as Dr.Bohm puts it.
I-psychological or I-psyc becomes a store house of such enfoldings which each person lives with. All religions and notions like 'Self Actualisation' (Abraham Maslow) in Psychology, aim at freedom from such enfoldings of the 'past'.

It is imperative that one faces the question 'Who am I?' throughout one's life. Such a probe of spiritual nature demands the discovery of 'deep inner order', perhaps with a capacity to touch the 'Ground' or 'Truth' as it gets mentioned in J Krishnamurti and Dr.David Bohm's dialogues(4).

However, there is a danger of looking at I-*psyc, as 'who am I?'* becoming exclusive spiritual query segregated from 'Dharma'*, I-fac, what am I?* To avoid such a confusion and to bring questions of spiritual nature into a pragmatic zone dealing with day to day living, a concept of *'working order'* is suggested.

I-factual

What am I?

To probe I-fac, a convenient question is 'What are You?' or 'What am 'I'. Concept of 'Dharma' mentioned in Hindu and Buddhist traditions can be a frame work for I-fac.

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Dharma is contextual and a product of Society. Accordingly, a 'Practicing Designer' would have a distinct 'dharma', which gives the person, an individual and group identity of the particular discipline at one level. Issues related to Industrial Design are discussed in an earlier article (2)

'Working order' is a combination of I-fac and I-psyc.).

→ *Seeing Inner Order in I-fac, I-psyc can give us new tools to understand both 'who and what are you?' questions, which need to become part of design pedagogy. Otherwise it is likely to remain as spiritual pursuit of individual designers unconnected to common 'dharma' of 'design-pedagogy.*

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3.0 Understanding 'Working Orders'-1,2,3

Human Thought Order (HTO), the special human ability, being the cause of 'fragmentation' as 'self', a working order becomes necessary. Natural, in built, sub-conscious order is a balancing force for normal, mentally and physically healthy people. 'Sleep' is a well-known ordering agent. Order which facilitates day to day functioning can be termed as Working Order1(WO1).
Short coming in the normal I-fac, I-psyc zones lead to 'physically and mentally' disturbed people who are out of WO1 and will need special care in Society.,
Addressing 'Meaning of self' and a 'boundary of meaning' in which, one is able to operate seem to give shape to working orders 1,2 and 3. Insecurity in I-psyc plays a dominant role. Soma, the body also enfolds such 'psychological insecurity', giving it a material manifestation according to Buddhist philosophy. So, 'Soma Significance' proposed by David Bohm can be understood as an integrated feature of 'Body (Soma)and Meaning(Significance). This, as a frame work, features of working orders,1,2,3 and possibility of change from one to another can be explored further.
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3.1 Working Order 1(WO1): *for those who believe in existing order of Society.*

WO1 persons operate in the conventional zone based on religious beliefs, political ideologies, and National aspirations of power through weapons, knowledge, etc,.

WO1 persons tend to rely on 'dharma', or 'one's occupation', an I-fac function, as a prop for day to day functioning. But ''psychological security', rooted in I-psyc, is also necessary and multiple modes adopted for it are elaborated below.

3.1.1 'Dharma or Occupation' as Position of Power

Position of Work and power associated with it, keeps a person occupied for immediate action. Urgent takes over Important. Whenever, there is a break in work like not having assignments and paid projects, WO1 persons get disturbed, often leading to their 'Health problems'. Retirement after certain age, creates a bigger crisis for many in WO1.

Not creating a space for 'reflection' and 'questions of deeper nature', especially of I-psyc, 'who am I?', at a younger age, when one is endowed with higher physical energy, takes its toll.

3.1.2 Routines, Rituals and Habits

Working Order, embedded in routine engagement in work and habits based on satisfying physical desires, is likely to affect the body order/ health! Heart attacks at younger age have increased in recent times

WO1 people tend to depend on rituals or regularized 'habits and routines' in their daily activities! Any deviation in these can create 'disturbance' in their working order. As one gets older, these habits get enfolded into the biological order or body order, reducing the ability to adjust to new situations which demand a change in body order. 'Stress', often seen in the body, with advanced age, due to a break in daily 'routines', is not unusual. 'Hypertension' in seniors, leading to higher blood pressure, is common.

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> *Habits which people adopt*
> Morning Tea/coffee
> Walking, jogging
> Taking Bath
> Break fast
> In some cases, smoking
> Pooja,
> Prayer,
> Reading newspaper,
> Forwarding a WhatsApp message
> Seeing news on TV,
> Listening to the music or chit-chatting, etc.,
>
> All these habits become micro orders one gets used to. Some of these habits like jogging/ morning walk / yoga / Taichi /… are desirable as they promote 'Body health'. Some habits like smoking can damage health.

3.1.3 WO1 and Creativity

WO1, based on habits, can become an impediment for creative thinking. Edward De Bono introduced concepts like, 'Lateral Thinking' in 1967(5) to counter habitual patterns of thinking.

Architecture has a tradition of studio culture to enable professionals to create a boundary for 'creative operation' in their profession or 'Dharma'.

Designers are also often exposed to techniques like brain storming, mind maps, synectics, etc., as part of their training. They develop working orders, in which a 'creative image and commitment to creative work' become operational 'Dharma' with a group Identity which remains contextual (6).

Looking at factors critically in WO1 becomes inevitable for creative performance.

3.1.4 Limitations of WO1 for 'Creativity of higher order'

WO1 persons become dependent on external agencies for their creative engagements. Reflections for 'creative acts' remain within the conventional work boundaries. Inability to generate 'energy with inner motivation' to go beyond the conventional boundary becomes a limitation.

In this context, Prof.Gruber's, studies on 'creativity as a life-long process in individuals' is of great relevance. His study of Charles Darwin's thinking (7), is a land mark. Howard Gruber had a long association with 'Jean Piaget' and was Director of Cognitive Studies at Rutgers University in 1980, when I was fortunate to have a month long association with him. In our personal discussions, he brought out the limited influence of 'creative techniques' like brain storming, synectics, etc., on people, in their life-performance.

A lifelong, deeper commitment seems to be an important factor for creative achievements which can break the existing boundaries of 'known concepts' in any field. We may categorize such persons, who in essence, are not dependent on external agencies for their actions, as Working Order2(WO2) persons.

3.2 Working Order2 (WO2): *for those who are in a deeper 'quest'.*

Persons in WO2 are those who start perceiving the limitation of 'self', caught in an image. Their insights lead them to see 'WO1, as fragmentary'. Perception of beauty and silence, in Nature i.e, Biological Life Order(BLO) will be their driving factors. Discoveries, Creative Actions of higher order come out of them. WO2 persons are in some sense 'Truth seekers'. Many of them pursue 'truth' against 'odds' they face in 'Societal Order'. 'Pursuit of, 'Freedom from I-psyc', is seen as a necessary step for any fundamental change in Society, by many of them. Thus persons in WO2 are in a continuous search for deeper meaning, 'arupa' or 'implicate order'.

3.2.1. Professionals in WO2

We see exceptional professionals getting into WO2 mode on their own 'Intuition' or 'encounters' of unique kind. Their broader interests enable them to see their own areas with a strategic outlook. Some inspirational WO2 persons related to field of design:

- Industrial design - Charles Eames, well known for design of classic chairs, made a remarkable contribution with his short films like 'Powers of Ten' and 'Blacktop: A Story of the Washing of a School Play Yard'.
- Architecture- Well known Architect, Louis Kohn made philosophical Connections on 'Silence, Beauty and Order'.
- Art- Piet Mondrian- brought abstract art into everyday life when he connected rectangles to forms in Nature.
- Invention, multi-disciplines: Buckminster Fuller cut across disciplines like Geometry, Architecture,Science and Future.
- Science - Fritjoff Capra crossed well set boundaries in Science, Mysticism and Ecology with his books: 'Tao of Physics'(1975) to 'Hidden Connections'(2002).
- Medicine- Dr. Abhay Bhang moved from exemplary contribution in 'tribal health' to 'Social Action'.
- Surgery - Dr. Steven Gundry moved away from successful career in heart surgery' to research in 'Health care of Heart'
- Quantum Physics- David Bohm brought 'Implicate order' into picture connecting Quantum physics to Spirituality.

3.2.2 Change of Dharma

Persons in WO2, not only see the limitation of WO1, operating in confined boundaries of professions (Dharma), but also acquire tacit and articulated knowledge of other professions, due to their wider conceptual insights. They transform the 'Dharma' they practice and create a *new dharma* with holistic, strategic goals. Glimpses of WO3 can be seen in them

Thus 'what are you' in factual zone, can give directions for actions even as one's efforts continues in probing 'who are you?' in I-psyc zone!

What it means is that:

→ *A person's transformation in I-psyc zone, changes his/her 'dharma' in I-fac zone! Conventional limitation of a profession like 'design' bound by its 'dharma' will change for a particular person. That person's practice of the profession with a new dharma has the potential to change the collective dharma of the profession ('design') itself!*

3.3 Working Order 3 (WO3) - *for those who are ready to look at a pathless journey*

Spiritual leaders, free thinkers like J Krishnamurti have questioned the ability of Human Thought Order (HTO) to bring any fundamental change in Human living. A level of operation 'beyond thought' comes into picture.
David Bohm and F. David Peat, acknowledge J K's stand, in concluding part of their book, *'Science, Order and Creativity'*,

→ *'particularly interesting and unusually thorough going example of this approach is from a modern thinker, Jiddu Krishnamurti. His writings go exclusively and deeply into the question of how, through awareness and attention to the overall movement of thought, the mind comes to a state of silence and emptiness, without any sense of division between the observer and observed. In this state, the mind's perception is clear and un-distorted. Krishnamurti feels that such a mind is necessary to dissolve the kind of problems that have been discussed throughout this book. (8, pages 257,258)*

Notions of Silence and Emptiness (as Beauty), mentioned above are also talked about in WO1 and WO2 zones. But it is likely that these are experienced partially, at moments of 'insights' and 'creative flow'. But even such 'Partial Insights' and 'occasional creative flow', have the power to change one's 'Inner Order', creating a ground for working Order3(WO3). Practice in WO3, does pose a challenge as it cannot be put into words. It would be pragmatic to conclude that WO3 persons are those who are active in WO2 but also able to comprehend a 'complete I-psyc free state' intellectually.

4.0 Strategies and possible Actions

Individual to collective actions in a correct direction are possible at both WO1 and WO2 levels.

4.1 Actions at WO1 level

Actions based on 'ambition and desire for fame' seem to bring further disorder and misery in the 'Society'. Actions in an 'in-correct' direction, needs to be reflected upon, to gather energy to change. Compassion and 'not hurting others' can be guiding rules.
One needs to gather the energy of 'Silence and Beauty' to move into WO2- zone.

4.1.1 Energy to change from WO1 to WO2 as Natural Process

Practicing designers in WO1 mode are likely to face many conflicting situations in their careers. Earning a livelihood would force a practicing designer to fit into the policies of organizations they work for. One may end up 'Wearing a creative cap, only in certain zone of their professional practice'. Overall creative energies get curtailed in the process. This is likely to lead to unrest in a creative person, resulting in *'reflections and encounters of right kind'* to bring 'insights' for a clear perception of the reality. Such an awakening of 'Intelligence' will demand a change in one's life style or pattern. But it will also generate the energy required for such a change.

4.1.2 Preparing a ground for change

Can one consciously take steps towards a change from WO1?

Each individual is likely to have one's own path. Any defined single direction is likely to become an obstacle for 'freedom to change'. Some steps with known positive feedback are suggested as general guidelines.

- 'Soma' the body needs to be kept fit. Conscious effort and intention can keep the body physically fit. I-fac can overrule I-psyc, through 'will' or 'determination', by not falling prey to undue social influences. 'Sat-sangh', (company of right persons) can play an important role.
  Regular 'Yoga and physical fitness exercises' have a positive effect.
- Reflection and Silence: being with Nature in a quiet, silent, observational mode from time to time or regularly is desirable.
- 'Yoga Nidra': Lying flat, relaxing the body, listening to music or natural sounds has beneficial effect. Guided Imagery sessions are also beneficial.
- Listening or reading 'J Krishnamurti –David Bohm dialogues' (available on you-tube) can provide an ambience for 'Silence' to operate.
- Vipassana- 10 day camps, organized in Buddhist tradition are immensely beneficial. These can be attended free of cost in many parts of the World.

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4.2 Action at level of WO2, WO3

- Person's in WO2, need to have a strategic pursuit and a vision for larger benefit of Society. Even a selfless commitment may put them on a pedestal with many followers. This may also lead to groups, who are unable to dialogue with each other due to 'their righteous' ideological stands.

- Dialogue as a process

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- Dr.Bohm has proposed a framework, 'Soma Significance' (9) to pursue deeper meaning or implicate order in dialogue mode.
- *Can this become a self-generating process with serious professionals of different disciplines participating in it?*

- *Can we expect more and more individuals in WO2, leading to self-organized groups? Perhaps a fractal order in human psyche would operate as a part of human evolution in the correct direction to understand Cosmic Order!*

- Ketan Patel brought out in his notable book 'The Master Strategist - Power, Purpose and Principle' (2005) comprehensive coverage of challenge of future eloquently. Subject of 'design' gets mentioned as 'The language of technology, engineering and architecture, design and the arts', along with other languages. (10, page211)

- Perhaps it is time to see 'Design' with 'Arupa the implicate order' as a frame work with a holistic approach in which multiple disciplines participate for the transformation of all individuals. Design- 'Practice and Pedagogy', need to relook at its 'tacit contributions' in the past to assume a new role in this endeavor.

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