

MIND 1. Mind, as a singular entity, is not spiritual. As a dualistic entity - ordinary mind (ego) and subtle mind (soul) - it is both material and spiritual. Together with nature it forms the creation; mind rules all human endeavours, nature rules the world of matter. **A**t the core of creation is an energy that manifests in us as soul - or the subtle mind - which strives for liberation from the creation. The ordinary mind holds it here by instigating the karma-generating actions that keep soul in the cycle of death and rebirth. **W**e are caught in the struggle that arises from our duality, where mind is pitted against soul. When we feel the desire to be benevolent - when our heart is going out to others - it is soul winning over mind, while soul and mind cooperate. **T**hen the ordinary mind (also known as lower consciousness) becomes a refined entity and our benevolent decisions are made by the subtle mind (a.k.a. higher consciousness). Thus the subtle mind is constructive, loving and creative. **H**owever, the ordinary mind - as the entity that is capable of opposing and suppressing soul - is delusional, aggressive, vengeful. For the ordinary mind to successfully rule the world it must dominate soul and its virtues of compassion and love. **I**t does so with its propensity to reason, to judge, to justify, to falsify and to de-construct. Mind achieves its objectives through policing the world's societies and claiming to provide 'justice'* as it administrates the perceived disparities between peoples. **B**ut among the methods mind uses are deception and coercion. In this sense mind can be identified as the root of all evil. Nature can cause heartbreaking calamities, like earthquakes, but only mind generates deceit and betrayal, murder and war.

This nature of mind is acknowledged in the introduction to the UNESCO constitution: '... wars begin in the minds of men ...'

**Justice is a tricky thing. Faced with the call for justice I always ask: 'OK, whose justice are we after here - the Israelis' or the Palestinians'?*

Where science does not distinguish between mind and soul, it may be useful to differentiate lower consciousness and higher consciousness.

A reality check is in place here: All philosophies, religions, concepts of spirituality, spirit, self, God, soul etc are mind constructs.

They are beliefs, not facts; they are not an entity (as in: organism, object, body, thing), they are - all & sundry - processes of the mind.

see also DUALITY, KNOW YOUR SELF, SPIRITUALITY