

Dualism vs. Duality

Dualism and duality:
both deal with
difference;
but dualism fosters
division,
whereas duality preserves
unity.

Dualism talks about
distinct entities;
duality sees
divergent aspects
of the same reality.

In the sphere of
anthropology,
for example,
dualism postulates
body and soul;
duality prefers
embodied soul
or ensouled body.

In the area of
knowledge
dualism fosters
a subject—object
opposition;
by duality
the knower and the known
are identified.

In the arena of morality
dualism
clearly demarcates
good and evil
and even neatly
locates them;
duality
respects the complexity
and is reluctant to brand
persons or things as
all-right or all-wrong.

Dualism
stems from
a top-down
conception of causality;
duality
emanates from
a bottom-up
view of process.

In all instances,
therefore,
dualism
goes beyond
duality
by separating;
while duality
avoids dualism
by distinguishing
only to unite.

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