

Why Are There So Many Words... If We're Just Chemicals?

written by Bhaskarananda | April 3, 2026

Pause for a second.

Why do we have *so many words*?

Not just enough to survive—

but words for subtle emotions, for longing, for devotion, for things we can't even explain.

If we are just chemicals reacting...

Why would chemistry need poetry?

The Strange Excess of Being Human

If life were only about survival, we'd need maybe a few dozen words.

But instead, we created:

- poetry
- philosophy
- music
- stories that make us cry over imaginary people

That's not efficiency.

That's **overflow**.

And overflow always points to something deeper.

Who Is Actually Experiencing?

When you watch a movie:

- your eyes receive light
- your ears receive sound

That's all the body is doing.

But *you* feel everything:

- joy
- sadness
- tension
- goosebumps

So ask yourself:

Is the body experiencing?

Or is something else... using the body?

The Gītā's Simple Answer

The Bhagavad Gita gives a striking analogy:

*“As a person puts on new garments, giving up old ones,
the soul accepts new bodies, leaving the old behind.” (2.22)*

The body is like clothing.

Worn for some time.

Then replaced.

Which means:

You are not the body.

You are the **soul** wearing it.

The Nature of the Soul

The Gītā goes further:

*“The soul is never born, nor does it die...
It is eternal, ever-existing.” (2.20)*

“Weapons cannot cut it, fire cannot burn it...” (2.23)

The soul cannot be reduced to matter.

Yet it is the one that **experiences everything**.

The Real Insight

Modern thinking says:

Consciousness comes from the brain.

The Gītā flips it:

*“That which pervades the entire body is indestructible.”
(2.17)*

The soul is not produced by the body.

The body is a tool.

Final Thought

If you were just chemicals:

You wouldn't search for meaning.

You wouldn't feel beyond words.

You wouldn't need millions of ways to express yourself.

But you do.

Because you are not just a body.

You are the **soul**...