

MANIFESTO FOR AN ORGANIC METAPHYSICS

This is a collection of ideas that together form a new worldview opposed to the Classical Greek view and the Mechanical Metaphysics, which arose around 1700 in Europe with the modern Scientific Revolution. This is called “**Organic Metaphysics**” because they are based on Living Matter (organic) and most of the proposals are intuitive and not demonstrably ‘true’ – otherwise, this would be called a Science. The basis for all existence (**ontology**) is claimed to be collections of matter, which eventually produces self-directed creatures, we call animals with many common activities: reproduction, birth and death. Animals must therefore make appropriate decisions to stay alive. These decisions arise from internal (organs) and external interactions (senses). Higher animals, including mankind, have self-awareness (consciousness) and intentionality (will). Some animals share their actions in co-operative behavior, while the more primitive ones (e.g. ‘reptiles’) are intensely competitive. Some animals are mammals that must care extensively for their helpless young through early provision of food and protection (caring) from predators; this needed new brain layers (mammalian) to guarantee these features. Persistent co-operation first produced families and later larger groupings of related individuals (tribes). As these groupings grew larger, they included members who were strangers to many (non-family); these are called a society. The need to communicate amongst members of the same society led to a new brain level (neo-cortex) that eventually could project across time: backward (as memory) and forwards (‘imagination’) and when close to one another (in space and time) could speak an agreed code, we call **language**. Through standardization, these linear utterances could be remembered and taught to new members (especially children). All viable groups developed domestic skills (or copied them from other groups); such as hunting, making (pottery, tools, etc.), agriculture and (often) the domestication of animals. Most of these activities worked best when the group stayed close to a given area (**territory**). Unfortunately, some men still behaved as reptiles and evolved their hunting skills to **kill** people; first to achieve domination of their own group and then predatory attacks on other societies. These activities, called wars, attracted specialists, called **warriors** who monopolized these skills to maintain their social status and privileges. The creation of stone-masonry led to the creation of defensible dwellings that when aggregated together became cities. Successful warrior families consolidated their power over their fellow citizens and became the ruling **aristocracy**. The more intelligent children of the aristocracy did not want to risk dying in warfare, so they concentrated on developing their **intellectual** skills (symbolic manipulation in the neo-cortex). In addition to useful commercial skills, such as counting and the creation of aesthetic objects (plastic arts), the intellectuals constructed **verbal** collections, such as poetry, theology, mathematics, science and even philosophy (or global explanations for natural and social phenomena); sometimes preserved in **writings**.

The present metaphysics proposes that the **material** world consists only of the tiniest of stable objects, with a size almost too small to be measured, that were discovered in 1897 – these are called electrons by physicists and form the foundation of all advanced technological societies. Unlike larger material spheres, like billiard balls, that only behave inertially unless they come into contact with large-scale (macro) moving objects, electrons can attract one another remotely and build complex structures and processes with an ‘urge to merge’. The passive level of activity can be contrasted with self-initiated motions of life forms (static plants and mobile animals). As the ongoing existence of living forms need ongoing awareness, we can call such talents as ‘intelligent’ or ‘smart’. Thus, we consider electrons to be ‘smart particles’ as they at least manifest ‘awareness’ and can also interact selectively with other electrons. In fact, we define “material existence” as the ability to interact with other ‘real’ objects; the totality of such interactable objects across time throughout the Universe we call **Reality**. These interactions generate changes in the world and most people eventually realize they too will participate in an irreversible change, called **death** which removes the living animal from the active ‘Game of Life’ forever. Intellectuals, like most people were appalled at this eventuality, so they created **timeless** intellectual schemes to bypass this Final-Ending. We find these immortal schemes in theology, mathematics, logic, science and language. When preserved by corporate institutions, these ideas become ‘**frozen**’ and lose their utility for their wider societies. Thus, we need a new metaphysics that recognizes change (or time) as always a key ingredient and looks to **life** examples for its inspiration and principles (e.g. organisms, homeostasis, evolution); one based on **human** values and qualities (like love, caring, sharing and empathy) and is future oriented.