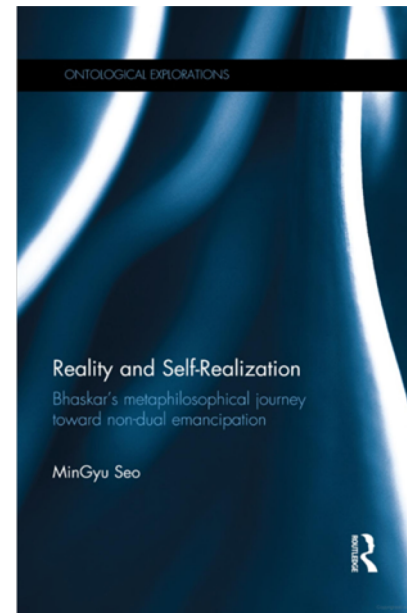


# metaReality: Reality and Self-realization



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# What is real in Critical Realism



Bhaskar defines reality “*the structured intransitive* in the sense that the **real objects** that make scientific knowledge possible are not just events but the things as **generative mechanisms** that manifest **in tendencies...**”

(Baskar, RTS 50.)

# What is real in Critical Realism

ROY  
BHASKAR

ROY  
BHASKAR  
A REALIST  
THEORY OF  
SCIENCE

- it is “structured” because it is the **activities of mechanisms and causal structures**, not the occurrence of events, that are designated in statements of causal law;
- it is “intransitive” because the mechanisms and causal structures, whose activity is designated, endure and act quite **independently of men**.

# What is real in Critical Realism and the role of metaReality

- If **critical realism** shows what is real – the structured intransitive – and why anthropocentrism is a problem in that approach, then **metaReality** – the last stage of Bhaskar’s philosophy of reality – reveals **the way we realize it without anthropocentrism.**
- As Bhaskar puts it, if critical realism is about ‘**thinking being,**’ then metaReality is about ‘**being being,** or rather a **becoming of our being,** the becoming or **realization of ourselves, self-realization.**’

# The way metaReality approaches to reality

**Self-realization:** transcending into the realm of non-duality

“The westerners overestimate the ability of reason enough to disenchant humans, but, as a result of it, they commit the ‘**epistemic fallacy**’ – the reduction of being to its scientific knowledge – which is the effect of dualism, and the ‘**anthropic fallacy**’ – the exegesis of being in terms of human being – which is now turn on ‘**misidentification**’ of **truth** with **dualistic reality**.”

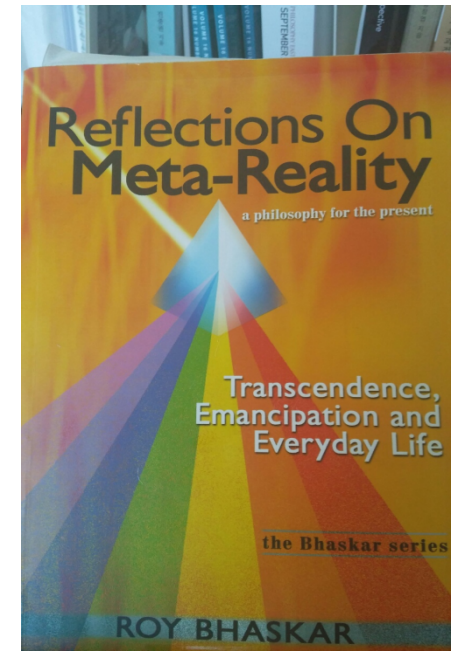
(Bhaskar, RTS, D, and mR)

# Self-Realization?

The underlying reality – **metaReality** – is neither the object of **rational judgement** nor the **object of empirical perception**; but it can be approached when we overcome the **subject-object dualism**.

# The Way of Self-Realization

Transcendental moment of subject-object identification:  
the moment of scientific, artistic, and social discovery

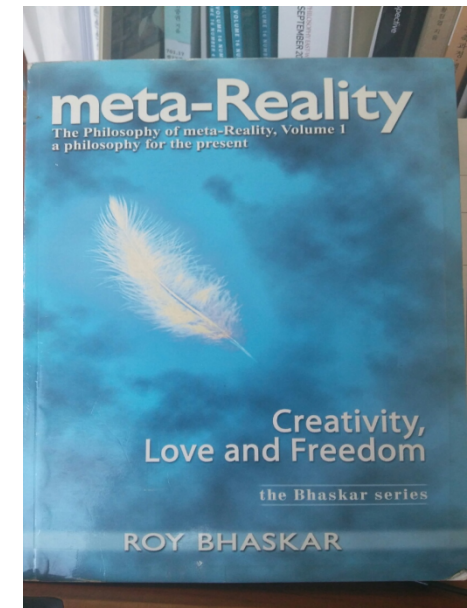


“So Leonardo in painting and so predicting the nature and dynamics of flight achieved transcendental identification with the **alethic truth** of flying. Or Newton achieved transcendental identification with the **alethic truth** of gravity, previously unknown.”

(Bhaskar, mR 3.)



# The Way of Self-Realization



“Underneath such embodied personalities is a *transcendentally real Self* which is the *source of their causal agency and powers*, and such selves are unlimited and absolute realities. Thus what we think we are is a *mixture of an illusory ego, a real but limited embodied personality, and an absolute, unlimited, transcendentally real being*, for the most occluded and dominated by the realities which depend on it.”

(Bhaskar, RmR 71.)

# Self-Realization?

- Turn to identity can be elaborated by an analysis of the **self**. Elaborating a tripartite schema of dualism, duality and non-duality, Bhaskar correspondingly analyses the self into the **ego**, the **embodied personality** and the **transcendentally real self**.
- The *transcendentally real Self* which is the source of their causal agency and powers, and such selves are unlimited and absolute realities. Thus what we think we are is **a mixture of an illusory ego, a real but limited embodied personality ..., and an absolute, unlimited, transcendentally real being**, for the most part occluded and dominated by the realities which depend on it.

# Self-Realization?

- Attainment of the truth at the level of metaReality sheds the misidentification of ourselves – the absence of a concept of the **transcendentally real self** and of the relativity of our **embodied personalities** – in anthropocentric identity.
- ‘revealing our true **ground-state**, our transcendentally real selves located in the **cosmic envelope** with potentially cosmically infinite powers, inseparably connected with all other beings on the cosmos.’

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