

THE CONSTITUTION OF BDTH

Constitutional Edition

PAPER 09

Witness

POSITION

Witness describes the ordinary human capacity to observe experience without immediate identification with it.

BDTH treats Witness neither as mystical nor as exceptional.

It is regarded as an ordinary constitutional capacity.

WITNESS

OBSERVATION

Thought may be observed.

Emotion may be observed.

Prediction may be observed.

Memory may be observed.

Reaction may be observed.

Observation itself therefore deserves constitutional attention.

AVAILABILITY

Witness is frequently overlooked because attention remains progressively occupied elsewhere.

The capacity itself need not be created.

Its availability progressively increases as unnecessary interference diminishes.

WITNESS

DISTINCTION

Witness does not oppose experience.

Nor does it suppress experience.

It restores distinction.

Experience continues.

Observation increasingly accompanies it.

PRACTICE

Practice repeatedly restores Witness before interpretation resumes.

Observation gradually becomes increasingly available without deliberate effort.

WORKING POSITION

BDTH proceeds from the working position that Witness is an ordinary constitutional capacity whose availability progressively increases as unnecessary interference diminishes.

WITNESS

CLOSING POSITION

Witness need not become stronger.

It need only become increasingly available.