

Hindu Views on the Environment

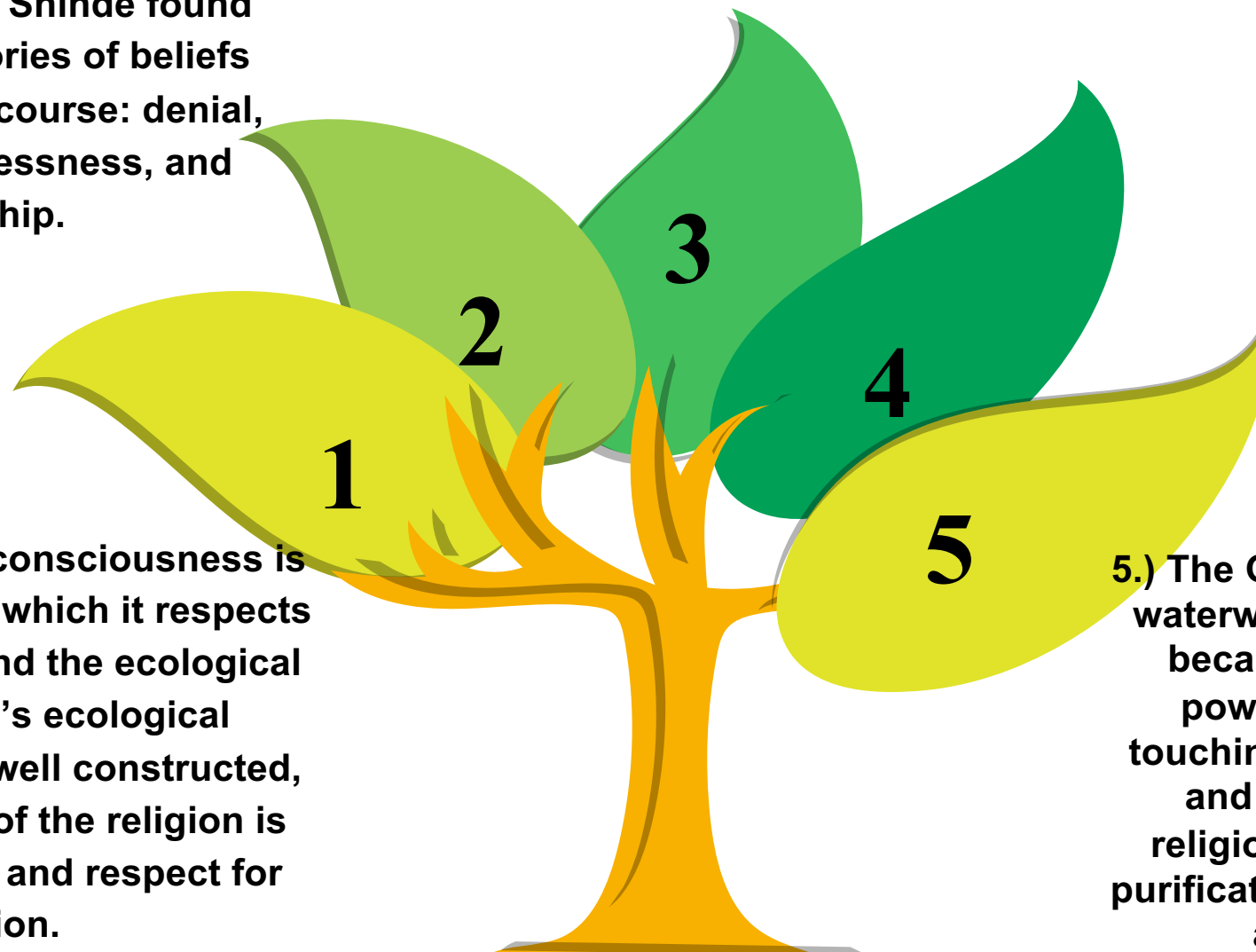
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2.) There are 2 conflicting views in India surrounding physical environment. 1st being the physical does not matter, but the sacredness of the site does. 2nd being the physical environment does matter, the environment is dirty and deteriorating. Kiran Shinde found there were 4 categories of beliefs surrounding the discourse: denial, indifference, helplessness, and stewardship.

- 3.) Those who practice Hinduism don't see nature as inanimate, rather they see all nature as alive and divine. The Hindu people in India are constantly fighting the development of the natural world through the creation of protected forests and fighting the construction of dams along their sacred Rivers. (Shinde, 2011)

4.) Religions can have a strong impact on one's viewpoint about sustainability and how to create sustainable development. Hinduism emphasizes a mindset that combines between spirituality and the environment. One aspect of Hinduism that creates the bridge between spirituality and the environment is Purushartha, or the soul's purpose.



1.) The ecological consciousness is the way of living in which it respects the environment and the ecological world. A Hindu's ecological consciousness is well constructed, as a main aspect of the religion is care for the Earth and respect for creation.

5.) The Ganges River is seen as a sacred waterway for the Hindu people. This is because of the special purification powers that the river acquired by touching the three Gods Brahma, Siva, and Visnu. They use the river for religious practices such as religious purification as well as practical use such as bathing and cleaning.