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## On Separate Forms in Hylo-Morphistic System

*Masao Matsumoto*

Pure spirits, called angels, have been defined as separate forms in Aristotelian ontology. If these are mixed up with God, the absolute on the one hand and with bodily human being on the other hand, thereof came out modern idealistic subjectivism. Neo-Platonism, a descendant of Indian Atman-philosophy, has missed the distinction between pure act and pure forms, i.e. God and angels. And Descartes and Kant, sources of German idealism handled human separable forms quite same as angelic separate forms.

The application of matter-form principles to plants, animals and human beings, the gradation of empirical world, proved the well-fitness of the matter-form system. So if we extrapolarize this system in the direction of the lowest matter, we can get to the pure matter at the extreme, though, however, this matter is only a thinkable one and not a being in reality. In order to exist, even the most material substance must be composed of matter and it's own form. On the contrary, we can also extrapolarize the same system in the direction of the highest form and arrive at the pure form in the extreme. And this time this pure form is proved to be not only a thinkable one in mind but exist as a true real being.

From the hylo-morphism we deduced also the following theses: the separate forms which can be "entia realia" even without their material "substratum", have the cognitive faculty of "intellectus agens" and at the same time possess self-conscious and self-determining personality. However, the primarily necessary matter for them, is that they are cognitive. Their self-consciousness and self-deter-

mination are rather secondary, even derivative for them. These belong exclusively to God, to the absolute alone. All finite and relative intelligences never apriori possess such natures, they are rather endowed with these natures as acquired "habitus". So we do not admit that premise of modern epistemology, insisting that the cognitive consciousness is just a self-consciousness.