

Fundamental Knowledge of Abhidhamma  
&  
Discussion  
**Immaterial-sphere Consciousness**  
**(*Arūpāvacara Citta*)**

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Recommended reading (CMA) p – 60 to 64...and- 342

*Arūpabhūmi* – Four realms in which matter has been totally transcended and only consciousness and mental factors remain.

*Arūpāvacara Citta* – the consciousnesses pertaining to the immaterial plain of existence (*Arūpabhūmi*).

The (**Wholesome**) attainment of *Arūpajjhāna* by worldings(*Puthujjana*) and trainees(*Sekha*)



The (**Resultant**) consciousness of *Arūpajjhāna* Which arise through rebirth in the immaterial realms

The (**Functional**) attainment of *Arūpajjhāna* by *Arahant*

<b>(Direct) Objects</b>	<b>Contemplation</b>	<b>Attainments</b>
The concept of infinite space ( <i>Ākāsa-paññatti</i> )	“ <i>Ananto Ākāso</i> – Infinite space”	<b>Ākāsañācāyatana jhāna</b>
First Immaterial-sphere consciousness ( <i>Ākāsañācāyatana citta</i> )	“ <i>Anantaṃ viññāṇaṃ</i> - Infinite consciousness”	<b>Viññāṇañācāyatana jhāna</b>
The Concept of Non-existence (or) Nothingness (of First Immaterial-sphere consciousness) ( <i>Natthibhāva-paññatti</i> )	“ <i>Natthi kiñci</i> – there is nothing whatsoever”	<b>Ākiñcañāyatana jhāna</b>
Third Immaterial-sphere consciousness ( <i>Ākiñcañāyatana citta</i> )	“ <i>Santa’metaṃ, paṇīta’metaṃ</i> - It is peaceful; it is good”	<b>Nevasaññā- nāsaññāyatana jhāna</b>

## *Four Types Of Arūpāvacara Citta –*

- 1. *Ākāsānañcāyatana citta* –**  
the consciousness pertaining to the base of **Infinite Space**
- 2. *Viññāṇañcāyatana citta* –**  
the consciousness pertaining to the base of **Infinite Consciousness**
- 3. *Ākiñcañāyatana citta* –**  
the consciousness pertaining to the base of **Nothingness**
- 4. *Nevasaññā-nāsaññāyatana citta* –**  
the consciousness pertaining to the base of **Neither perception  
nor non-perception**

**Wholesome – 4 + Resultants – 4 + Functional - 4 = 12 (*Arūpajjhāna cittas*)**

<b>Immaterial-sphere Consciousness - 12</b>	<b>Types Of Consciousness</b>	<b>Two Jhāna-Factors</b>
<b>Immaterial-sphere Wholesome Consciousness – 4</b>	Con...Pertaining to the base of <b>Infinite Space</b>	(1) <b>Equanimity</b> (2) One-pointedness
	Con...Pertaining to the base of <b>Infinite Consciousness</b>	(1) <b>Equanimity</b> (2) One-pointedness
	Con...Pertaining to the base of <b>Nothingness</b>	(1) <b>Equanimity</b> (2) One-pointedness
	Con...Pertaining to the base of <b>Neither perception <u>nor</u> non-perception</b>	(1) <b>Equanimity</b> (2) One-pointedness
<b>Immaterial-sphere Resultant Consciousness – 4</b>	As they are produced by the wholesome, identical with <i>Kusala</i> (wholesome)	
<b>Immaterial-sphere Functional Consciousness – 4</b>	Same as <i>Kusala</i> (Wholesome) (the only difference is not producing result)	

(See – P.63)

<b>Immaterial-sphere Consciousness - 12</b>	<b>Consciousness</b>	<b>Transcended Objects (Atikkamitabba)</b>	<b>Direct Objects (Ālambitabba)</b>
<b>Immaterial-sphere Wholesome Consciousness – 4</b>	Con...Pertaining to the base of <i>Infinite Space</i>	Concept of <i>Kasiṇa</i>	Concept of inf.Space
	Con...Pertaining to the base of <i>Infinite Consciousness</i>	Concept of inf.Space	Consciousness of Inf.Space
	Con...Pertaining to the base of <i>Nothingness</i>	Consciousness of Inf.Space	Concept of nothingness
	Con...Pertaining to the base of <i>Neither perception nor non- perception</i>	Concept of nothingness	Consciousness of the base of nothingness
<b>Immaterial-sphere Resultant Consciousness – 4</b>	As they are produced by the wholesome, identical with <i>Kusala</i> (wholesome)		
<b>Immaterial-sphere Functional Consciousness – 4</b>	Same as <i>Kusala</i> (Wholesome) (the only difference is not producing result)		

## *Mahaggata Citta* – Sublime Consciousnesses

1) *Rūpāvacara Citta* –

Fine-material sphere Consciousness (15)

2) *Arūpāvacara Citta* –

Immaterial-sphere Consciousness (12)

(27) Sublime consciousness  
*Jhāna-cittas* (Absorption Consciousness)  
(Meditative attainments) {P.64}

As all *Arūpāvacara-Cittas* – have two *jhāna*-factors of **equanimity** and **one-pointedness**, they are included in fifth-*jhāna* (*pañcamajjhāna*)

(*Rūpāvacara-pañcamajjhāna* – 3 +

*Arūpāvacara-Cittas* – 12 = 15 - *Pañcamajjhāna-cittas*). {p.64}

Name of Jhāna	Fine-Material-sphere-Consciousness - 15	Immaterial-sphere Consciousness - 12	Sublime Consciousnesses - 27	By way of Feeling
First Jhāna	3	×	3	Accompanied by joy - 12
Second Jhāna	3	×	3	
Third Jhāna	3	×	3	
Fourth Jhāna	3	×	3	
Fifth Jhāna	3	12	15	Accompanied by equanimity - 15