

## The 25 Principles (*tattva-s*) of the Sāṃkhya System

## The Seven Creations in the Purāṇas

Ummanifest (*avyakta*)

Pradhāna/Prakṛti

Puruṣa (spirit)

(primary substance or matter)

Manifest (*vyakta*)

**Primary Creation** (*prākṛta-sarga*)

Mahat  
(principle of intelligence in the cosmos)

1. *Mahat-sarga*, principle of intelligence

Ahaṃkāra

(principle of self-consciousness)

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(*Sattva* aspect) ⇓ (*Tamas* aspect)

2. *Bhūta-sarga*, subtle elements, from which arise the great elements  
3. *Indriya-sarga*, sense faculties, action faculties, and mind

Manas (mind)	Buddhindriya-s (sense faculties)	Karmendriya-s (action faculties)	Tannātra-s (subtle elements)	Mahābhūta-s (great elements)
śrotra (hearing)	vāc (speaking)	śabda (sound) →	ākāśa (space)	
tvac (touching)	pāṇi (grasping)	sparsa (touch) →	vāyu (air)	
cakṣus (seeing)	pāda (walking)	rūpa (form) →	tejas (fire)	
rasana (tasting)	pāyu (excreting)	rasa (taste) →	ap (water)	
ghrāna (smelling)	upastha (procreating)	gandha (smell) →	prthivī (earth)	

**Secondary Creation** (*vaiṅkṛta-sarga*)

4. *Mukhya*, the plant kingdom
5. *Tiryak-srotas*, the animal kingdom
6. *Ūrdhva-srotas*, the gods (*deva-s*)
7. *Arvāk-srotas*, the human kingdom