A Meditation on the Research Methodology in Psychology:

Why is the integration of psychologies necessary?

Akihiro YOSHIDA Ph.D.

After having written the four preceding methodology articles, the author turns back to the origin to ask himself a Why-question: Why is the proposed integration of diverse psychologies necessary? This article is the author's attempt to respond and answer to the self-raised Why-question, to solidify the foundation of further meditation. The author begins with the explication of the network of the concepts: Psychology, Psyche, learning and science, particularly, with regard to the Japanese expressions for these concepts: Shinrigaku, Kokoro, Gakumon, and Kagaku. Supposing that Psychology as a whole were a "science of Kokoro", the author asks the question "Does the Kokoro" (Psyche, mind, soul, spirit) --- the object and the subject in the science of psychology--- exist?" to which the seven possible viewpoints among psychologies were described, to show the diversity among psychologies even regarding the very existence of its subject matter, i. e. Kokoro. A further exploration was made into the possible relationships between the experienced necessities for the integration of psychologies, on the one hand, and, on the other, A) the four types of cognitive attitudes in persons (Goethe), and B) the four types of the possible objectives being held by human scientific disciplines (Yoshida). The meanings of the self-raised Why-question were shown to differ according to each of the types in A) and in B), which is to lead into a further exploration in the future of the question: Why, by Whom, and How the diverse psychologies will and must be integrated.