

Psychology, esp

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of the Psychology of the Concerned 30 May Extra-Sensory Perception ESP or Extra-Sensory Perception is also popularly referred to as the sixth sense. With the scope of Parapsychology, ESP is defined as the ability on the part of an individual to acquire certain information without relying on the known physical senses or deducing from the past experience (Pratt, Rhine, Smith & Stuart 3). ESP has been known to be a phenomenon reported in both the pre-scientific and scientific systems of thought and practice.

Belief in ESP constituted an integral part of the magical practices and animism of the prehistoric man and the tribal cultures like the Native Americans, Zulus and Maoris (Pratt, Rhine, Smith & Stuart 4). ESP has always played a central role in the religious writings and practices of oriental religions like Hinduism and Buddhism (Pratt, Rhine, Smith & Stuart 4). The prophets in the Old Testament were mentioned to have access to the knowledge inaccessible to the ordinary people (Pratt, Rhine, Smith & Stuart 4). The New Testament also mentions Jesus as having the unusual ability of acquiring direct knowledge (Pratt, Rhine, Smith & Stuart 4).

The followers of Franz Anton Mesmer practicing hypnosis on their patients were the first to report instances of ESP in the modern times (Pratt, Rhine, Smith & Stuart 8). The British Society of Psychical Research was constituted in 1882 to research the psychic phenomenon like ESP. JB Rhine was the first to study ESP in a scientific context in the 20th century, who used Zener Cards to conduct experiments on ESP (Pratt, Rhine, Smith & Stuart 36).

In the current times research on ESP is being carried on at many reputed research facilities around the world.

Works Cited

Pratt, JG, Rhine, JB, Smith, Burke M & Stuart, Charles E. Extra Sensory
<https://assignbuster.com/psychology-esp/>

Perception after 60

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