5 The Possibility of Acquiring Absolute Thing-in-Itself Knowledge

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The Possibility of Acquiring Absolute Thing-in-Itself Knowledge in Transcendental Wisdom

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Abstract

Mulla Sadra assumes two approaches toward the issue of the soul's acquisition of absolute, thing-in-itself knowledge. In his general approach based on common sense, he sheds doubt on the ability of the soul in gaining knowledge of the true nature of things. In his special approach, *Sadrolmote'allehin* reiterates the existence and perfection of soul perceptions and the unity of these perceptions and soul in the perception proces to clarify this issue. From *Sadra's* perspective, the physical occurrence and existential Niggardliness of soul is the reason why it does not move beyond the

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perception of appearances and accidentals. He attributes the soul's intensification to the unity of soul and its existential perception process. *Mullasadra* believes that the more the soul expands in its unity with perception, the more it acquires the capacity to pass through the appearances of objects to obtain perceptions derived from the true nature of objects.

Key Terms: knowledge, unity, soul, intensification.