

Six Astika Schools of Indian Philosophy

| School > Subject ↓ | Mimamsa | Vedanta | Nyaya | Vaisesika | Sankhya | Yoga |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| Founder & Exponent | Jaimini | Vedavyasa | Gautama | Kannaada | Kapila | Patanjali |
| Jagat (World) | It is by nature of continuous flow, beginningless, endless and has conjunction & dissociation without dissolution | Nama, Rupa & Kriyatmaka, It is an effect of Maya but vivarta of or an appearance on Self constituting creation, sustenance & dissolution | It is atomic subjected to conjunction & dissociation and also dissolution | Same as Nyaya | It is the modification of Prakriti constituting the three Gunas | Same as Sankhya |
| Cause of the World | Jivanadrista and Atoms | God who is the Instrumental & Material cause | Atoms of the four physical elements and other substances | Same as Nyaya | Prakriti that manifests as 23 tattvas | Prakriti that follows the Karma of Jiva and the rules of Isvara |
| God / Isvara | No | Consciousness with the adjunct Maya | One, Creator, endowed with eternal qualities (Gyana, iccha & Kriya) & Vyapaka | Same as Nyaya / No | No / Some yes | A special Purusa who is untouched by afflictions, desires & fruits of actions |
| Individual Soul / Jiva | Combination of insentient & consciousness, All pervading, Doer & Enjoyer, Many | Consciousness with the adjunct called ignorance or Internal organ an effect of Maya | Many, possessed of 14 gunas, Doer & Enjoyer, Jada, Vyapaka | Same as Nyaya | Unattached Consciousness, Enjoyer only, Vyapaka and many | Same as Sankhya |
| Cause for Bondage | Desired actions & Prohibited actions | Ignorance | Agyana | Agyana | Aviveka | Aviveka |
| Bondage | Painful experience in Hell | Ignorance with its effects | 21 kinds of pain | 21 kinds of pain | 3 kinds of Taapa *2 | The 5 afflictions |
| Liberation | Attainment of Heaven | Realisation of Supreme Self along with removal of Ignorance & its effects | Destruction of 21 kinds of pain | Same as Nyaya | Destruction of the 3 kinds of Taapa | Destruction of the Five Afflictions and the Union of Prakriti & Purusa |
| Practice for Liberation | All rites enjoined in Vedas etc done without desires | Knowledge of Identity of Jiva and Brahman | Distinct knowledge of Jiva and Isvara | Knowledge of seven tattvas | Discrimination between Prakriti & Purusa | Viveka preceded by Nirvikalpa Samadhi |
| Qualified or Entitled Man | One who is not attached to the fruits of actions but wishes to attain liberation by desireless actions | One who is endowed with The four means (Sadhana Catustaya) | One who desires to attain liberation by the knowledge of the sixteen tattvas | One who desires to attain liberation | One who possesses Vairagya & wishes to severe bondage | Qno who has Viksipta or Ekagra Citta and wishes to attain niruddha citta state |
| Vedic Portion | Rites / Karma | Knowledge / Jnana | Knowledga / Jnana | Jnana/Knowledge | Knowledge / Jnana | Devotion / Upasana |
| Causation | Conjunctual Beginning / Arambha | False appearance / Vivarta | Arambha | Arambha | Parinama | Parinama |
| Size of Jiva & Numbers | All pervading & Countless | All pervading & Countless | Vibhu and Ananta | Vibhu & Ananta | Vibhu & Ananta | Vibhu & Ananta |
| Proofs | Five / Six | Six | Four | Two | Three | Three |
| Error | Akhyati | Anirvacaniya Khyati | Anyatha Khyati | Anyatha khyati | Akhyati | Akhyati |
| Existence | Jiva-Jagat Paramarthika Satta | Jiva & Brahma - Paramathika Satta, Jagat - Vyavaharika & Pratibhasika | Jiva, Jagat & Isvara - paramarthika satta | Jiva, Jagat - Satta Paramarthika | Jiva, Jagat - Paramarthika Satta | Jiva, Jagat, Isvara - Paramarthika Satta |
| Usage (In the view of Vedanta) | Citta Suddhi / Purification of internal organ | Liberation | Manana / Reflection | Manana / Reflection | Manana / Reflection | Concentration & Cessation |

