

Natural Goods in Epicureanism

Post by "Don" of June 12, 2022 at 2:18 PM

I need to read the article for its take, but - for the record - I have no problem with "tranquility." In fact, I'm coming around to the idea that ataraxia and aponia actually refer to something like homeostasis or basically just the sensation that the body and mind are working well and in-tune. One can more easily or readily experience pleasure - of all kinds - when neither the body nor the mind are troubled. And both ataraxia and aponia *are* in fact pleasure just like khara and euprosyne. Pleasure is, by definition, good. So I think in many places in the texts where the word "good" ἀγαθόν is used, we can substitute "pleasure." And where τὰγαθόν tagathon "greatest good" is used by a number of philosophers in ancient Greece to mean "the highest good" (that good to which all other possible goods point to), Epicureans use it to refer to pleasure in the tetrapharmakos (and elsewhere, I believe).