

Modern Neuroscience And The Katastematic / Kinetic Debate

Post by "Don" of July 1, 2023 at 4:06 PM

Okay, further thoughts...

Epicurus likes his parallel constructions (ex., his "never too old... never too young..." sections in Menoikeus), so how would those (conveniently) four feelings of pleasure line up ... extrapolating from my thoughts above in post 128:

"Feeling"	Pleasure Category	Valence	Arousal	"Source"
Ataraxia	Katastematic	Positive	Low	Mental Source (Internal Stimuli); Not Observable
Aponia	Katastematic	Positive	Low	Bodily Source (Internal Stimuli); Not Observable
Khara	Kinetic	Positive	High	Mental Source (External Stimuli); Observable
Euphrosyne	Kinetic	Positive	High	Bodily Source (External Stimuli); Observable

What I'm proposing here is that Ataraxia is the parallel to Khara; Aponia is the parallel to Euphrosyne.

Khara is "joy, delight" in being a spectator or member of audience. You experience pleasure from the experience. You can still be observed (it's a kinetic pleasure) engaging in the activity, but the pleasure is felt primarily as an internal feeling. It's still an external stimuli, but your "body" isn't as involved. LSJ definition includes "joy in or at a thing." Think watching a dancing or singing performance. The corresponding katastematic pleasure example is ataraxia.

Euphrosyne is "[mirth, merriment, esp. of a banquet, good cheer, festivity](#)." Euphrosyne is the pleasure you feel when actually involved yourself - with your body - in an activity. The corresponding katastematic pleasure example is aponia.