

## F-06 Reincarnation, is it scientifically acceptable ?

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Reincarnation, if it is true, is a very fundamental phenomenon of nature as important as birth and death. Belief in reincarnation is as old as the age of mankind. A large fraction of the world population believes it. About 20% of the people in the western world whose religions shun reincarnation nevertheless believe it as exemplified by Sir Winston Churchill's statement, "*It is conceivable that I might well be reborn as a Chinese coolie*". According to opinion polls the above percentage is increasing.

A large amount of data has been accumulated by research workers around the world on matters relating to reincarnation. Spontaneous recall of past lives, past life therapy, child prodigies and others who can make use of knowledge and experience gathered in their past lives are some of the aspects that have been subjected to much research and investigation.

An attempt is made in this paper to examine the data gathered by these research workers to test the scientific acceptability of the phenomenon of reincarnation using the scientific process normally used to establish a new theory in science.