

MASLOW'S HOLISTIC-DYNAMIC THEORY OF PERSONALITY

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ABRAHAM MASLOW is the spiritual father
of the **HUMANISTIC OR THIRD FORCE**
MOVEMENT.

Every individual must be studied as an
integrated, unique, organized whole.



KEY FEATURES OF MASLOW'S PERSONOLOGICAL THEORY :



Irrelevance of animal research

Man's inner nature

Human creative potential

Emphasis on psychological health

META-MOTIVATION THEORY:

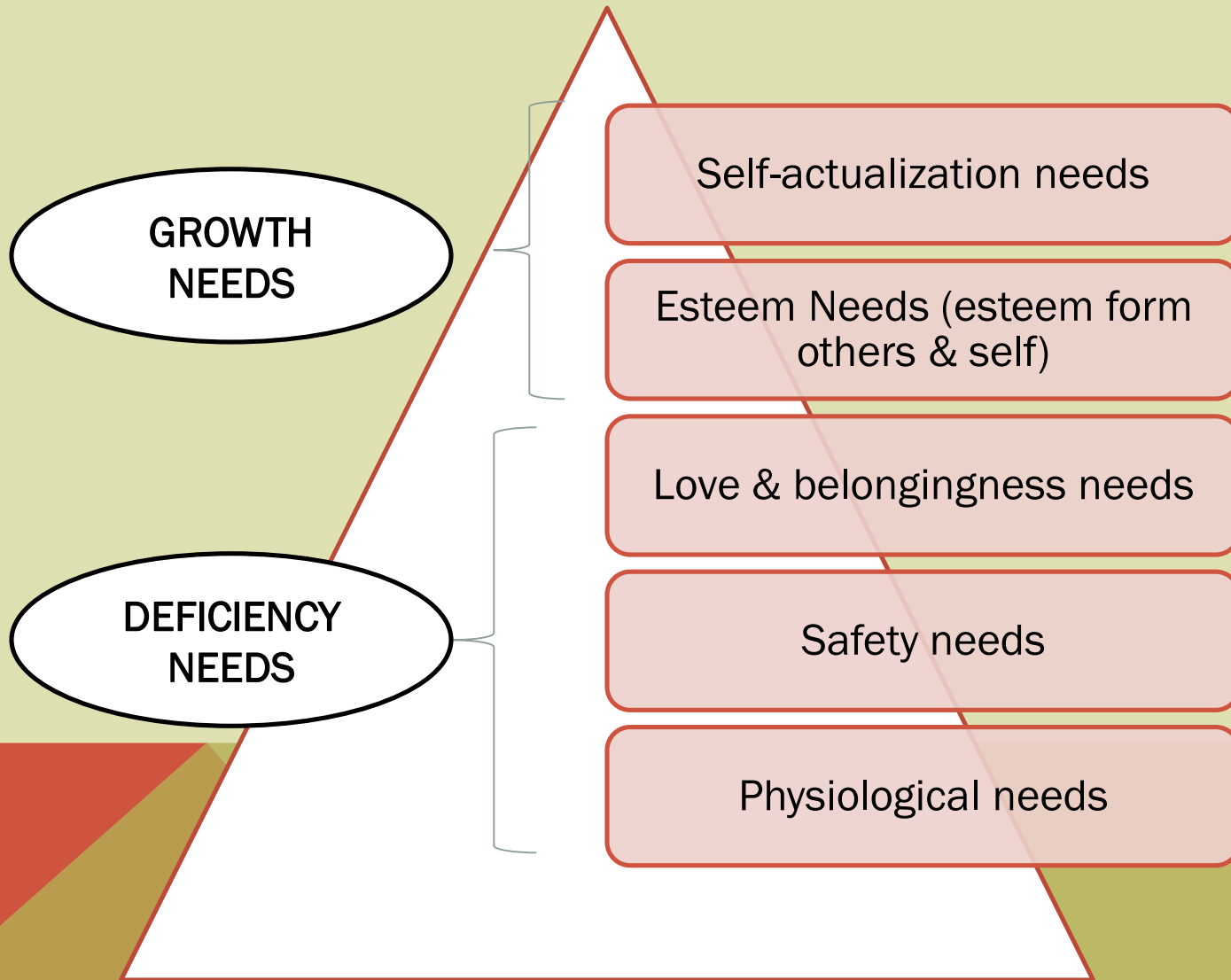



Holistic

**Dynamic or
motivational**

Cultural

HIERARCHY OF NEEDS/ THEORY OF PRE-POTENT NEEDS



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- Self-actualizing people are not primarily motivated by basic needs; rather, they are meta-motivated by **meta-needs or Being values (B-values)/ eternal verities/ growth needs.**

- Maslow suggested that self-actualizers (more fully human) are guided by intrinsic values, and not by the quest of goal objects.

- The metaneeds are **instinctoid**, or biologically necessary, are needed to avoid “meta-pathology”, and to achieve full humanness. As such, B-values are indicators of psychological health and are opposed to deficiency needs, which motivate non-self-actualizers.

META- PATHOLOGY

Maslow hypothesized that when meta-needs are not met, individuals experience illness, which is referred to as **existential sickness**; its characteristic symptoms being **feelings of inadequacy, disintegration and non-fulfillment**.

Thus, deprivation of any of the Being values results in metapathology, or the lack of a meaningful philosophy of life (Maslow, 1971)

THREE OTHER DIMENSIONS OF NEEDS:

Cognitive Needs

- Need to know, to solve mysteries, to understand and to be curious

Aesthetic Needs

- Need for appreciation of finer contents in life

Neurotic Needs

- Non-productive needs, perpetuate an unhealthy style of life.
- Neurotic needs are unusually reactive in nature and serve as compensation for unsatisfied basic needs.

CHARACTERISTICS OF SELF-ACTUALIZING PEOPLE

More efficient perception of reality

Acceptance of self, others and nature

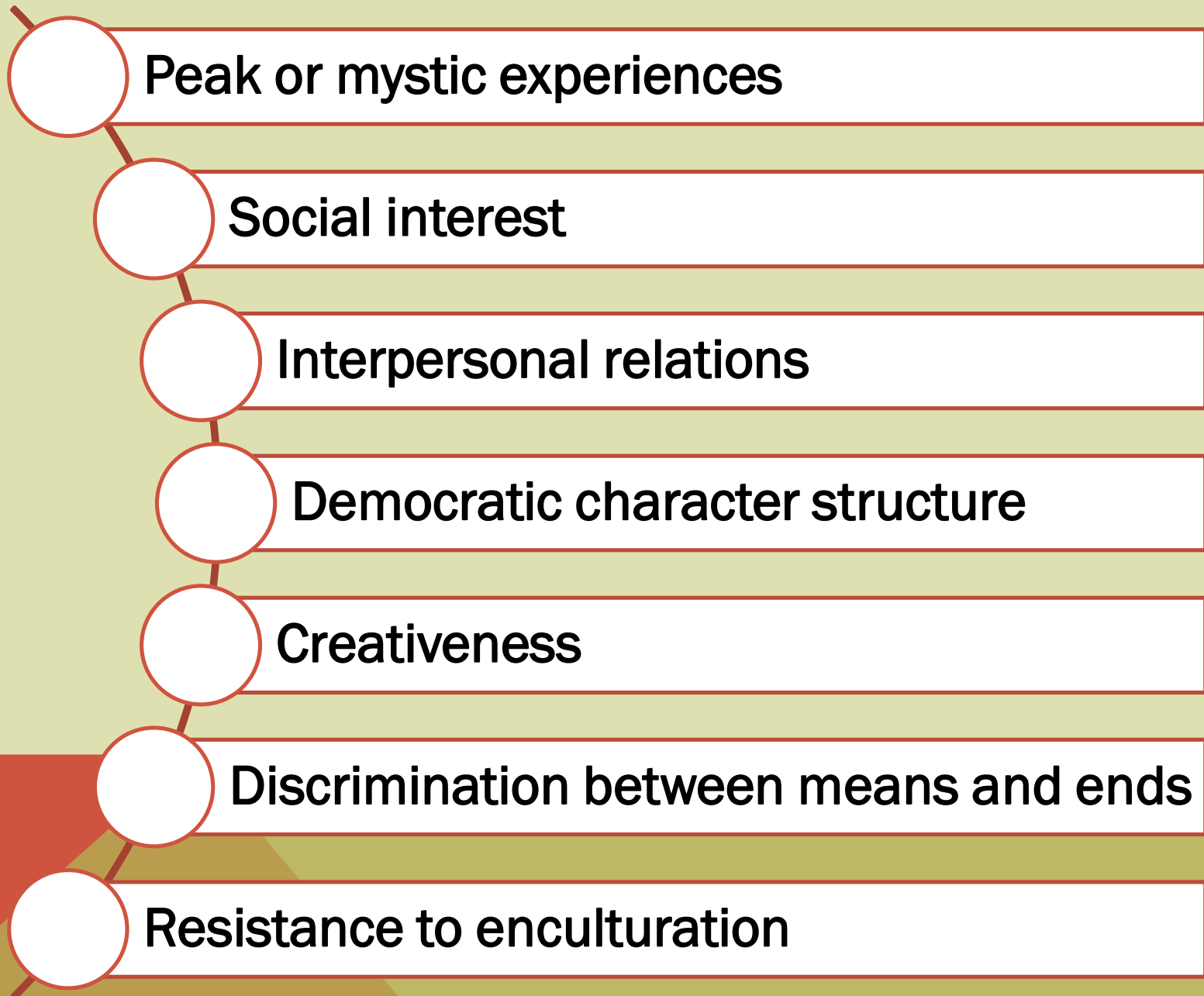
Spontaneity, simplicity and naturalness

Problem-centered

Detachment: need for privacy

Autonomy: independence of culture and environment

Continued freshness of appreciation



MALADAPTIVE DEVELOPMENT:

Jonah complex

- An abnormal syndrome that blocks growth towards self-actualization - fear of being one's best.
- It is characterized by attempts to run away from one's destiny. It represents a **fear of success, a fear of being one's best and a feeling of awesomeness in the presence of beauty and perfection (Maslow, 1971).**