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Enhancing Memory and Problem-Solving Skills through Yoga: A Psychological Perspective

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Abstract: Yoga, an ancient practice rooted in Indian philosophy, is renowned for its positive impact on mental, emotional, and physical well-being. Recent research highlights yoga's role in enhancing cognitive abilities, particularly memory retention and problem-solving skills. This study explores the psychological mechanisms through which yoga influences cognitive functions, focusing on the impact of pranayama (breath control), asanas (physical postures), and dhyana (meditation) on neural plasticity, attentional control, and executive functions. Through a synthesis of empirical studies and psychological theories, this study demonstrates how regular yoga practice strengthens memory, improves cognitive flexibility, and enhances decision-making and analytical abilities. Findings underscore that yoga, by promoting stress reduction, increasing oxygen supply to the brain, and improving emotional regulation, creates an optimal environment for cognitive growth and problem-solving efficacy.

Keywords: Yoga, Memory Enhancement, Problem-Solving, Cognitive Flexibility, Meditation, Pranayama, Neural Plasticity, Executive Functions

