

THE PLANETARY SYSTEM

Ideas, Formulas and Forms for a new Culture/Civilisation

RESTORATION OF THE MYSTERIES

Compendium from H. P. Blavatsky, A. A. Bailey and E. Savoini

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ORIGIN OF THE MYSTERIES¹

If the first appearance of those institutions is a matter of historical tradition with regard to some of the later nations, their origin must certainly be assigned to the time of the Fourth Root Race. The Mysteries were imparted to the elect of that Race when the average Atlantean had begun to fall too deeply into sin to be trusted with the secrets of Nature. Their establishment is attributed in the Secret Works to the King-Initiates of the divine dynasties, when the “Sons of God” had gradually allowed their country to become Kookarma-des (land of vice). (258)

There were no Mysteries in the beginning, we are taught. Knowledge (Vidyâ) was common property, and it reigned universally throughout the Golden Age (Satya Yuga).

But when mankind, rapidly increasing in numbers, increased also in variety of idiosyncrasies of body and mind, then incarnated Spirit showed its weakness. Natural exaggerations, and along with these superstitions, arose in the less cultured and healthy minds.

Selfishness was born out of desires and passions hitherto unknown, and but too often knowledge and power were abused, until finally it became necessary to limit the number of those who knew. Thus arose Initiation.

Every separate nation now arranged for itself a religious system, according to its enlightenment and spiritual wants. Worship of mere form being discarded by the wise men, these confined true knowledge to the very few. The need of veiling truth to protect it from desecration becoming more apparent with every generation, a thin veil was used at first, which had to be gradually thickened according to the spread of personality and selfishness, and this led to the Mysteries. They came to be established in every country and among every people, while to avoid strife and misunderstanding exoteric beliefs were allowed to grow up in the minds of the profane masses. Inoffensive and innocent in their incipient stage—like a historical event arranged in the form of a fairy tale, adapted for and comprehensible to the child’s mind—in those distant ages such beliefs could be allowed to grow and make the popular faith without any danger to the more philosophical and abstruse truths taught in the sanctuaries. Logical and scientific observation of the phenomena in Nature, which alone leads man to the knowledge of eternal truths—provided he approaches the threshold of observation unbiassed by preconception and sees with his spiritual eye before he looks at things from their physical aspect—does not lie within the province of the masses. The marvels of the One Spirit of Truth, the ever-concealed and inaccessible Deity, can be unravelled and assimilated only through Its manifestations by the secondary “Gods,” Its acting powers. While the One and Universal Cause has to remain for ever *in abscondito*, Its manifold action may be traced through the effects in Nature. The latter alone being comprehensible and manifest to average mankind, the Powers causing those effects were allowed to grow in the imagination of the populace. Ages later in the Fifth, the Aryan, Race some unscrupulous priests began to take advantage of the too- easy beliefs of the people in every country, and finally raised those secondary Powers to the rank of God and Gods, thus succeeding in isolating them altogether from the One Universal Cause of all causes. (261)

Henceforward the knowledge of the primeval truths remained entirely in the hands of the Initiates.

The first and fundamental principle of moral strength and power is association and solidarity of thought and purpose. “The Sons of Will and Yoga” united in the beginning to resist the terrible and ever-growing iniquities of the left-hand Adepts, the Atlanteans. This led to the foundation of still

¹ Extracts from H. P. Blavatsky, *The Secret Doctrine III*, 1800.

more Secret Schools, temples of learning, and of Mysteries inaccessible to all except after the most terrible trials and probations.

The Egyptian Priests, like the Brâhmans of old, held the reins of the governing powers, a system that descended to them by direct inheritance from the Initiates of the great Atlantis. The pure cult of Nature in the earliest patriarchal days—the word “patriarch” applying in its first original sense to the Progenitors of the human race, [The word “patriarch” is composed of the Greek word “Patria” (“family,” “tribe,” or “nation”) and “Archos” (a “chief”, the paternal principle. The Jewish Patriarchs who were pastors, passed their name to the Christian Patriarchs, yet they were no priests, but were simply the heads of their tribes, like the Indian Rishis.] the Fathers, Chiefs, and Instructors of primitive men—became the heirloom of those (Page 264) alone who could discern the noumenon beneath the phenomenon. Later, the Initiates transmitted their knowledge to the human kings, as their divine Masters had passed it to their forefathers. It was their prerogative and duty to reveal the secrets of Nature that were useful to mankind—the hidden virtues of plants, the art of healing the sick, and of bringing about brotherly love and mutual help among mankind. No Initiate was one if he could not heal—aye, recall to life from apparent death (coma) those who, too long neglected, would have indeed died during their lethargy. [There is no need to observe here that the resurrection of a really dead body is an impossibility in Nature.] Those who showed such powers were forthwith set above the crowds, and were regarded as Kings and Initiates. Gautama Buddha was a King-Initiate, a healer, and recalled to life those who were in the hands of death. Jesus and Apollonius were healers, and were both addressed as Kings by their followers. Had they failed to raise those who were to all intents and purposes the dead, none of their names would have passed down to posterity; for this was the first and crucial test, the certain sign that the Adept had upon Him the invisible hand of a primordial divine Master, or was an incarnation of one of the “Gods.”

The later royal privilege descended to our Fifth Race kings through the kings of Egypt. The latter were all initiated into the mysteries of medicine, and they healed the sick, even when, owing to the terrible trials and labours of final Initiation, they were unable to become full Hierophants. They were healers by privilege and by tradition, and were assisted in the healing art by the Hierophants of the temples, when they themselves were ignorant of Occult curative Science.

Whence the wonderful knowledge of the Egyptian Priests in every department of Science, unless they had it from a still more ancient source? The famous “Four,” the seats of learning in old Egypt, are more historically certain than the beginnings of modern England. It was in the great Theban sanctuary that Pythagoras upon his arrival from India studied the Science of Occult numbers. It was in Memphis that Orpheus popularized his too-abstruse Indian metaphysics for the use of Magna Grecia; and thence Thales, and ages later Democritus, obtained all they knew. It is to Saïs that all the honour must be given of the wonderful legislation and the art of ruling people, imparted by its Priests to Lycurgus and Solon, who will both remain objects of admiration for generations to come. And had Plato and Eudoxus never gone to worship at the shrine of Heliopolis, most probably the one would have never astonished future generations with his ethics, nor the other with his wonderful knowledge of mathematics.

All the notions possessed by Hindustan, Persia, Syria, Arabia, Chaldaea, Sydonia, and the priests of Babylonia, [on the secrets of Nature], was known to the Egyptian priests. It is thus Indian philosophy, without mysteries, which, having penetrated into Chaldaea and ancient Persia, gave rise to the doctrine of Egyptian Mysteries.[Des Initiations. p.24.]

The Mysteries preceded the hieroglyphics. They gave birth to the latter, as permanent records were needed to preserve and commemorate their secrets. It is primitive Philosophy that has served as the (Page 266) foundation-stone for modern philosophy; only the progeny, while perpetuating the features of the external body, has lost on its way the Soul and Spirit of its parent.

Initiation, though it contained neither rules and principles, nor any special teaching of Science—as now understood—was nevertheless Science, and the Science of sciences. And though

devoid of dogma, of physical discipline, and of exclusive ritual, it was yet the one true Religion—that of eternal truth. Outwardly it was a school, a college, wherein were taught sciences, arts, ethics, legislation, philanthropy, the cult of the true and real nature of cosmic phenomena; secretly, during the mysteries, practical proofs of the latter were given.

The noble precepts taught by the Initiates of the early races passed to India, Egypt, and Greece, to China and Chaldaea, and thus spread all over the world. All that is good, noble, and grand in human nature, every divine faculty and aspiration, were cultured by the Priest-Philosophers who sought to develop them in their Initiates. Their code of ethics, based on altruism, has become universal. It is found in Confucius, the “atheist,” who taught that “he who loves not his brother has no virtue in him,” and in the *Old Testament* precept, “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” The greater Initiates became like unto Gods, and Socrates, in Plato’s *Phaedo*, is represented as saying:

The Initiates are sure to come into the company of the Gods.

Said Clemens Alexandrinus, referring to the Mysteries:

Here ends all teaching. One sees Nature and all things. (267)

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RESTORATION OF THE MYSTERIES²



Definition

The Mysteries are, in the last analysis, the true source of revelation; it can only be when the mind and the will-to-good are closely fused and blended and are thus conditioning human behaviour that the extent of the coming revelation can be safely grasped. RC 123

The only true mysteries are those points of revelation for which the mechanism is inadequate and which, therefore, find no response in the one whom the initiate or disciple contacts. DNA II 511

The Mysteries are revealed not primarily by the reception of information anent them and their processes, but by the action of certain processes, carried out within the etheric body of the disciple; these enable him to know that which is hidden; they put him in possession of a mechanism of revelation and make him aware of certain radiatory and magnetic powers or energies within himself which constitute channels of activity and modes whereby he may acquire that which it is the privilege of the initiate to own and to use. RI 337

Content of the mysteries

[...] the Hierarchy will then restore the ancient Mysteries, the ancient landmarks so earnestly preserved by the Masonic tradition and which have been securely embalmed in the Masonic ritual, awaiting the day of resurrection.

These ancient Mysteries were originally given to humanity by the Hierarchy, and were—in their turn—received by the Hierarchy from the Great White Lodge on Sirius. They contain the clue to the evolutionary process, hidden in numbers and in words; they veil the secret of man's origin and destiny, picturing for him in rite and ritual the long, long path which he must tread. They provide also, when rightly interpreted and correctly presented, the teaching which humanity needs in order to progress from darkness to Light, from the unreal to the Real and from death to Immortality.

[...] The Mysteries will be restored in other ways also, for they contain much besides that which the Masonic rites can reveal or that religious rituals and ceremonies can disclose;

² Texts cited are by A. A. Bailey: RC (Return of the Christ), DNA (Discipleship of the New Age), RI (Rays and Initiations), TMB (A Treatise on White Magic), BC (From Bethlehem to Calvary), EP (Esoteric Psychology), TCF (A Treatise on Cosmic Fire).

[...] The Mysteries are, in reality, the true source of revelation, and it can be only when the mind and the will-to-good are closely blended and conditioning human behaviour that the extent of the coming revelation will be grasped, for only then can humanity be trusted with these secrets. They concern those capacities which enable the Members of the Hierarchy to work consciously with the energies of the planet and of the solar system and to control forces within the planet; they will put the ordinary psychic powers (today so stupidly approached and so little understood) in their rightful place and guide man towards their helpful usage.

The Mysteries will restore colour and music as they essentially are to the world and do it in such a manner that the creative art of today will be to this new creative art what a child's building of wooden blocks is to a great cathedral such as Durham or Milan. The Mysteries, when restored, will make real—in a sense incomprehensible to you at present—the nature of religion, the purpose of science and the goal of education. These are not what you think today.

The ground is being prepared at this time for this great restoration. RI 330-333

Restoration to which Christ will give the initial impulse

The Mystery of the Ages is, through the reappearance of the Christ, on the verge of revelation. Through the revelation of the soul that Mystery (which soul knowledge veils) will stand revealed.

The Scriptures of the world have ever prophesied that, at the end of the age, we shall see the revelation of that which is secret and the emergence of that which has hitherto been concealed, into the light of day. As we know, our present cycle marks the end of the Piscean age; the next two hundred years will see the abolition of death or rather of our misconceptions as to death and the firm establishing of the fact of the soul's existence; the soul will then be known to be an entity and the motivating impulse and the spiritual force behind all manifested forms. The work of the Christ (two thousand years ago) was to proclaim certain great possibilities and the existence of great powers.

[...] Our universal brotherhood and our essential immortality will be proven to be facts in nature.

The ground is being prepared at this time for the great restoration which the Christ will engineer.

[...] Little as the orthodox Christian may care to admit it, the entire Gospel story in its four forms or presentations, contains little else except symbolic details about the Mysteries which are (as far as humanity is concerned) five in all. These Mysteries indicate, in reality, five important points in the spiritual history of an aspirant; they indicate also five important stages in the progress of human consciousness. This advance will become definite and clear in a manner not understood today, at some point during the Aquarian Age.

[...] The sequence of the Mysteries which each of the signs of the Zodiac embodies will be clarified for us by the Christ, because the public consciousness today demands something more definite and spiritually real than modern astrology, or all the pseudo-occultism so widely extant.

[...] You can see, therefore, that initiation is not a ceremonial procedure, or an accolade, conferred upon a successful aspirant; neither is it a penetration into the Mysteries—of which the mysteries of Masonry are, as yet, only the pictorial presentation—but is simply the result of experiencing "livingness" on all three levels of awareness (physical, emotional and mental) and—through that livingness—bringing into activity those registering and those recording cells within the brain substance which have hitherto not been susceptible to the higher impression. Through this expanding area of registration or, if you prefer it, through the development of a finer recording instrument or responsive apparatus, the mind is enabled to become the transmitter of higher values and of spiritual understanding.

[...] When the searchlight of the mind is penetrating slowly into hitherto unrecognised aspects of the divine mind, when the magnetic qualities of the heart are awakening and becoming sensitively responsive to both the other aspects, then the man becomes able to function in the new unfolding realms of light, love and service. He is initiate.

These are the mysteries with which the Christ will deal. RC 123-128

Restoration of the Mysteries for Group Initiation

I would remind you that one of the new things which the coming era of spiritual expansion will see is the inauguration of something entirely new: *Group Initiation*.

[...] It must be remembered also that as humanity develops and more and more people begin to function as souls, the nature of the soul (which is relationship) begins to have an effect; men become larger in their outlook and their vision. The outlook of the separated self vanishes, and group relationship and group interest supersede that intense personal and interior relationship and interest which have made evolving man what he is: first of all an integrated personality, and then a disciple—a candidate for initiation. As more and more disciples come into group realisation it will become increasingly possible for the Hierarchy to admit such disciples in group formation. That is one reason necessitating the re-establishing of the Ancient Mysteries on Earth.

[...] Two things have therefore been decided upon by the Masters as They face the future of humanity and prepare to take the required steps to meet man's advancing aspiration. I have chosen these two words with care. These two requirements have been demanded of the Hierarchy by Shamballa in order to safeguard the Mysteries and prevent a too premature precipitation of the hierarchical life upon the Earth. Both these requirements are expressed in this fifth Rule.

Rule V.

In unison let the group perceive the Triad shining forth, dimming the light of the soul and blotting out the light of form. The macrocosmic Whole is all there is. Let the group perceive that Whole and then no longer use the thought, "My soul and thine."

The first demand made by Shamballa is that the groups being prepared for initiation should consist only of those who are in process of building the antahkarana, the bridge between the Triad and the personality; the second demand is that those being prepared should show some signs of the sense of synthesis. RI 111-112

Current opportunity for the restoration of the Mysteries

Humanity at this time is passing through a cycle of excessive activity. For the first time in human history this activity embraces mankind on a large scale in the entire three aspects of the personality consciousness. The physical bodies, the emotional and mental states of consciousness are all in a condition of potent upheaval. This unified triple activity is increased by a cycle of equally intense planetary activity, due to the coming in of a new age, the passing of the sun into a new sign in the Zodiac and the preparation consequently going on to fit man to work easily with the new forces and energies playing upon him. At the centre of human life, the integrating group of new World servers must meet therefore a very real need. Their work must primarily be to keep such a close link with the soul of humanity—made up of all souls on their own level of being—through their own organised soul activity that there will always be those who can "*work in the interludes*" and so keep the plan progressing and the vision before the eyes of those who cannot as yet themselves enter into the high and secret place. They have, as I oft times have said, to learn to work subjectively, and this they must do in order to preserve—in this cycle of activity and exoteric expression—the power, latent in all, to withdraw into the centre. They constitute the door, speaking symbolically.

[...] Now a new attempt is being made to free the "prisoners of the planet". The Hierarchy, through the Group of World Servers now in process of formation is seeking to externalise itself, and to restore the mysteries to humanity to whom they truly belong. TWM 520-521

Three stages for the occult understanding of the Mysteries

Initiation is essentially a *penetration* into areas of the divine consciousness which are not within the normal field of consciousness of a human being. This initiatory penetration is achieved by the disciple through reflective meditation, the development of an interpretive spiritual understanding, plus the use of the trained discriminative mind. This leads eventually to the stabilisation of his consciousness in the new field of awareness, so that he becomes *polarised* there and can work intelligently from the attained point of awareness and of conscious vision. Once he can do this and is aware of the new energies with which he may now work, he enters the stage wherein he may *precipitate* these energies into the three worlds of human service and thus employ them for the furthering of the hierarchical Plan. These three stages of conscious activity—*penetration*, *polarisation* and *precipitation*—are definite and recognised stages in every initiation, with the exception of the first initiation.

[...] Initiation is in fact a process wherein the initiate is taught how to work with energy, how to use the creative, attractive and dynamic energies in accordance with the hierarchical Plan in order to bring about the precipitation of the planetary Purpose into the outer field of manifestation. You may say that there is little new in these things which I am telling you and that is somewhat true, but not entirely so.

The use of the three words which I have been attempting to elucidate for you brings in, however, an exceedingly deep occult apprehension of the hidden Mysteries and of the spiritual Realities: the conception of a goal to which penetration must be made; of a fresh area of consciousness in which the initiate must be stabilised and polarised; and the result—the dynamic use of hitherto unknown energies. DNA II 431-434

When mankind will be the Great Initiate

What is true of the individual will be true ultimately of the entire human family. The plan for humanity concerns man's conscious unfoldment. As mankind grows in wisdom and knowledge, [...] men as a group approach the gate which leadeth unto life. [...] to that expansion of consciousness which will make of mankind the Great Initiate. Just as soon as human beings can grasp in a large synthesis the necessity of entering more definitely into the world of true meaning and of value, we shall see the mysteries becoming universally recognised. BC 28

The Three Temples of the Mysteries

[...] a mystery only remains a mystery when ignorance and unbelief exist. There is no mystery where there is knowledge and faith. The coming of the Avatar Who will fuse in Himself three principles of divinity is an inevitable future happening, and when He shall appear "the light that always has been will be seen; the love that never ceases will be realised, and the radiance deep concealed will break forth into being." We shall then have a new world—one which will express the light, the love and the knowledge of God.

These three Temples of the Mysteries (of which two are already existing, and the third will later appear) are each of them related to one of the three divine aspects, and the energy of the three major rays pours through them. In the corresponding approaches upon the path of ascent by humanity, it is the energy of the four minor Rays of Attribute which produce the power to make the needed

approach. Through the active work and the guidance of the "presiding guardians" of these temples, the fifth kingdom in nature will be brought into manifested being. Over the Temple upon the mental plane, the *Buddha* presides and there will consummate His unfinished work. Over the Temple upon the plane of sentient feeling and of loving aspiration, the *Christ* presides, for this is the Temple of the most difficult initiatory processes. The reason for this difficulty and for the importance of this Temple is due to the fact that our solar system is a system of *Love*, of sentient response to the love of God, and of the development of that response through the innate faculty of feeling or sentiency. This calls for the cooperation of a Son of God who will embody two divine principles. Later will come an Avatar Who will achieve neither the full enlightenment of the Buddha nor the full expression of the divine love of the Christ, but Who will have a large measure of wisdom and of love, plus that "materialising power" which will enable Him to found a divine powerhouse upon the physical plane.

[...] He carries the will of God into manifestation, and of that will we, as yet, know really nothing. So difficult is His task that the New Group of World Servers is being trained to assist Him. Thus an aspect of the first ray principle will be anchored by Him upon earth.

All that the student can grasp is that the *Plan* will be the dynamic impulse of this third and vital energy which will pervade the outer court of the Temple, constituting a Temple of Initiation upon the physical plane, thus externalising the activities of the Hierarchy in certain possible respects. The first initiation will then take place upon earth.

[...] In all the above information there is given a hint as to what will take place when human personalities are actively functioning and steadily awakening. The rapid coming of the Avatar Who will found the station of light and power upon the physical plane is dependent upon the rapid unfoldment and appearance of integrated personalities who love and think and seek to serve. There has here been given a new hint upon one of the more esoteric aspects of the work of the New Group of World Servers, and a hint at the same time as to the reason that this *Treatise upon the Seven Rays* has been written. An understanding of the rays and of the impelling forces in, through, and with which the personality has to work was essential if the work of this third Avatar from cosmic sources, was to be made possible. EP II 280-282

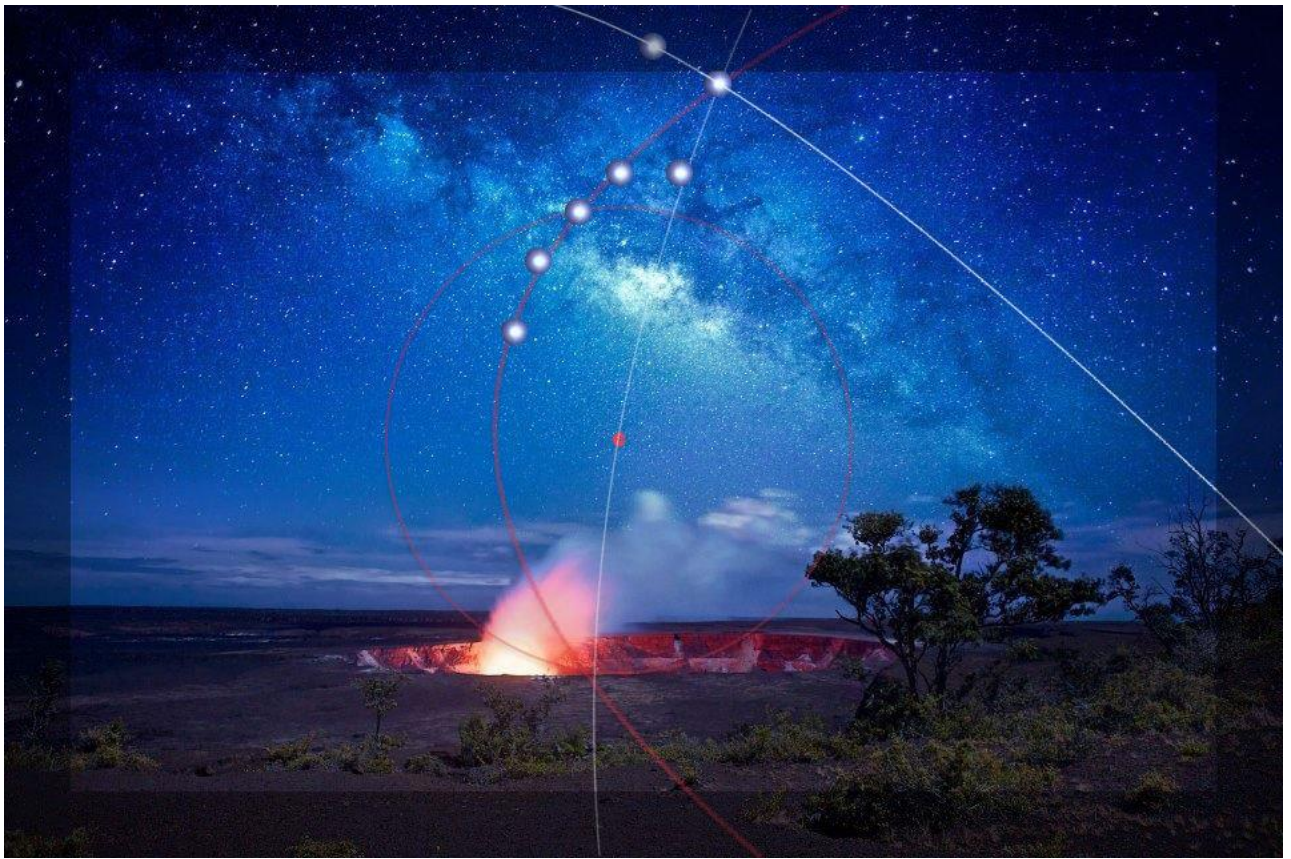
The Three Mysteries of the Solar System

1. *The mystery of Electricity*. The mystery of Brahma. The secret of the third aspect. It is latent in the physical sun.

2. *The mystery of Polarity*, or of the universal sex impulse. The secret of the second aspect. It is latent in the Heart of the Sun, i.e., in the subjective Sun.

3. *The mystery of Fire* itself, or the dynamic central systemic force. The secret of the first aspect. It is latent in the central spiritual sun.

... The electricity of substance, the electricity of form, and the electricity of Life itself must blend and meet before the true Man (whether Logos, or human being) realises himself as creator. Man at this stage knows somewhat of the electricity of substance, and is coming to the belief as to the electricity of form (even though as yet he calls it magnetism) but as yet he knows nought of the electrical reality of life itself. Only when the "jewel in the Lotus" is about to be revealed, or the third circle of petals is about to open up, does the initiate begin to have a realisation of the true meaning of the word "life" or spirit. The consciousness has to be fully awakened before he can ever understand that great energising something of which the other types of energy are but expressions. TCF 871-876



FOREWORD

The whole experience we gather living in the world of forms is to educate and lead us to the Mysteries. These, first considered as accidental, reveal themselves as the motor and pivot of development for all of creation, set up to discover them.

Initiation to the Mysteries is to be experienced as a process, it is not just a sacred and ritual ceremony, however august be it. The latter is limited to enshrining and stabilising the vibration acquired gradually, by living our daily existence.

... The view of the Heavens is the most beautiful example of a cosmic Mystery, which remains impenetrable while unfolding itself.

There are no prohibitions in the Firmament: its secrets educate the mind to explore and understand them.

The Mysteries are the [first Goal](#), the One Who is responsible for restoring them lives in the hearts - Advent and Expectation. He awaits the hour designated by Heaven, together with those who know and those who do not.

The disciple prepares for the Mysteries not to know them in advance, but to avoid being caught up in sleep or in distraction.

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Mystery is always full of beauty and harmony, that is, it synthesises the fifth and fourth Rays, form and reality, as well as the two triangles of the [six-pointed star](#). The Mystery is the relationship that causes creation and withdraws from it.

The Mysteries, therefore, burn at the centre, which means that every living centre is a Mystery, as well as that which directs towards the centre. Such is the function of the four, which reveals the One.

CENTRALITY OF THE MYSTERIES

The Master of Agni Yoga narrates that the Enemy of man, having stolen his treasure, did not know where to hide it. In the end he resolved to bury it in his heart, sure that he would never look for it there. The story highlights the shrewdness of the Enemy, the stupidity of men, but above all the centrality of the Mystery, which is the treasure.

Knowing where it is does not resolve it, yet reveals the technique for approaching it: in order to get to the centre you have to surround it. This is the decisive strategy.

The centre is conquered by tightening from all sides; when at the end one is in front of oneself the Mystery is revealed. “*Know thyself*”, we read on the pediment of the temple of Delphi, seat of the Greek Mysteries.

... The fires of the ancient Mysteries are extinguished. This is the optimal condition for reigniting the flame. When the neo-Christian Mysteries will burn in the secret centre of the new society, it will be the start of an extraordinary civil development which will make of the seventh epoch³ a true human and planetary triumph.

The Mysteries pulsate. They turn on and off, and their rhythm is shown by the rise and fall of cultures and civilizations. In reality, those fires are perennial and burn forever, and what pulsates is only their relationship with the world of forms.

At the centre - seat of the Mysteries, the miracle of formal existence takes place: *what is continuous and what is discontinuous exchange their natures, and they are reversed*. This is caused by the power of the four, which, reflecting, turns upside down. Life always flows from the centre, which is the Mystery, but the latter exists only as long as the Form exists, however subtle it may be, then it disappears in the radiance of Being, which has no Mystery. It is rigorous to state that the *Mysteries are active throughout the development of becoming*, that is, in the processes of existence, and in this sense they are immortal and cyclical; *they are cancelled out only when everything is clear*.

The Mysteries periodically update themselves, taking on the attributes of the culture and civilization they promote. Their essence is immutable, but they are flexible in the forms of their rite.

The Mysteries that animated the ancient Nations differed in forms, and were intended as distinct schools,⁴ but their truth does not undergo any change.

Sooner or later, one by one, human beings are called to understand the Life that animates them. For long cycles of experience they are attracted above all to things of the physical, emotional and mental worlds, that is, to the magic of the concrete. Then they face the inner fire and learn to use it. Hence, they discover the Path, its stages and peaks; absorb the Mysteries and carry them in secret, and finally leave the human kingdom, on their way towards other functions.

THE SECRET

It is widely believed that the Mysteries are generally for the benefit of a few, who have been elected to exercise a special power over human society, directing it according to their interests. In fact, numerous criminal organisations are active everywhere, pursuing selfish ends and hiding in a well-defended secret. Mystery and secrecy seem to be interchangeable terms.

The Mysteries actually reveal, through a higher intervention, truths that have nothing secret about them, but are simply ignored. The Mystery is a gift from above, when the candidate is ready and willing to accept it: neither before nor after. It is therefore the opposite of secrecy, since it communicates, bestows and reveals.

The Mysteries, however, are surrounded by discretion, in the sense that *they are not public*, despite the fact that they convey knowledge.

The secret of the Mysteries is accessible to anyone, but few venture into the “desert”: only those who are called because they are ready.

... The reality of the Mysteries is surrounded by a general misunderstanding. They are the driving force of the evolutionary progress, which they measure out according to epochs and peoples; they are the origin of all the authentic achievements of human ingenuity and nevertheless they are excluded from history textbooks.

³ See in [From Linear to Cyclical Time](#), p. 14.

⁴ See A. A. Bailey, “Letters on Occult Meditation,” Letter IX, Lucis Collection.

The secret of the Mysteries is respected and protected precisely by those who deny them.

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The Mysteries, therefore, are not secret, but prudence recommends confidentiality. Guns should not be placed in the hands of boys; philosophy is not taught in elementary schools. Power is to be conveyed, but only to those who know how to receive it without harm and use it wisely.

Let us repeat that Mystery and secrecy are not synonyms. Hiding a treasure is not a mystery, but only a secret act. Preparing for the Mysteries is not a secret thing in itself: it is the daily experience of the disciple.

The common mentality confuses the two terms also because *the Mysteries act suddenly*. Their nature is supermundane and in the world of becoming they cause changes, but they are unexpected: the expectation of the initiatory moment takes it away – it is a sign of immaturity.

The Mysteries place the disciple on the border between continuous and discontinuous, in balance between mundane and supermundane, that is, where the truth can be conveyed without fear of error.

THE INITIATOR

The Mysteries are not automatic. They are managed by higher Intelligences and Powers, which protect the candidate while raising his energetic vibrations. He has to “do it himself”, without external help; but he is not alone.

This applies to the individual disciple, or to a group, but when we consider the lofty function of the Mysteries within human society, which they guide from within, the work of those Entities takes on definite aspects. They have the task of translating the ideal Formulas composed by the Luminaries into planetary terms, that is, to carefully dosing the energies available in the current solar cycle: They cultivate humanity and the other kingdoms of nature. They are initiatory Agents, since they launch the first impulse, directed towards the purpose, yet leaving the possibilities of development free. They guarantee the achievement of the goal, whatever the human reactions to the energies thus placed in circulation.

It is a mysterious Work, but not a secret one, because it can be traced through a careful, general and rhythmic study of history, to which nothing is opposed.

The Mysteries are not only an initiatory institute, dedicated to raising the best prepared consciousnesses: they are also an organ that stimulates and leads the human race, by internal guidelines, towards the evolutionary [Goals of the Plan](#). In fact, it is essential to control both the ferments of growth and the stagnation of decay.

The Initiator and his Assistants are therefore tirelessly engaged, not only on some ritual occasions. They, for each solar Day,⁵ direct the various phases of the cycle and the gradual expansion of consciousness, single and collective.

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⁵ See footnote 2.

The *restoration* of the Mysteries is [the first Goal of the planetary Plan](#) that is being implemented, therefore it is an imminent event, which will take place in secret but will be decisive – and nothing will be able to prevent it. It draws its reason for being from the harmonious psychic relationship between the planet and the solar System: it will be its liturgical celebration, and at the same time the first act of Government of a new world, bearing a new culture.

Given the higher power of that Fire, the other Goals of the Plan will be assured and destined from that moment on, and in an absolute sense already achieved, even if apparently immersed in the ocean of becoming. Once we see and interpret the situation in this way, everything seems in favour of the first experiments of group initiation, which the Tibetan Master announced (around 1940).

Those who consciously accept and recognise that event as inevitable, predisposed and decisive for society, instead of thinking of it as vaguely possible, uncertain or utopian, demonstrate that they know how to deal with it, and establish a connection or set a direction.

The really big events aren't sensational.

AQUARIUS

Men will be called upon to collaborate rather than compete.

It is a great upheaval of consciousness and attitude, and it will not be achieved any time soon, but the age of *Aquarius* demands it. The previous era, ruled by *Pisces*, provided for the salvation of the individual, which resulted in aggressive competition through the centuries of its decline. Now a different general concept is slowly asserting itself: we are resorting to forms, still very imperfect, of social solidarity, which, however hypocritical and bureaucratic, are already far from the old ways.

Everything is ready for the restoration of the Mysteries. *The most convincing proof is given by the current dryness of human hearts*, which aspire only to material well-being. The psychic situation is such, and so serious, that we might think all is lost and humanity is unable to get back on track. Here is the surest sign of the next intervention by the higher Authority.

ACT OF WILL

The Mysteries are inseparable from the Will, that is, from Power. They confer power because *they teach how to use the Will*.

Conversely, the candidate qualifies as such precisely when he begins to understand its mystery. The crossing of the Threshold is accomplished through an act of one's own Will, not because dragged by a benevolent superior force. On that border, forces are sublimated into energies, and *this implies the abandonment of desire as a driving force*, replaced by free responsible will.

These statements deserve to be commented upon. Disciples are inclined to allow themselves to be led, and even transported, towards the Mysteries: their conduct simply tends not to hinder the Guide, rather than helping Him. Such an attitude, very common, is passive towards the Master, in whose Hands they entrust their spiritual destinies. They behave shyly and very respectfully, which is inevitable at first, but this offloads their indecisions on the Master.

How to teach the student the difference between a vague aspiration, however sincere, and the use of Will? How to put in his hands the key to that Door that simple desire is unable to unlock?

At that juncture, when the disciple is almost ready, the ability of the Master is revealed, and He is called to give the best of Himself. He must lead the student from the semiconscious use of desire, *which acts only in the world of becoming*, to the practical exercising of the Will, *which lives in the world of being*. This is done on the Threshold, where the student pauses until he has learned.

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The lesson is fundamental, but is expressed in just a few words:

“Not my will, but Yours be done”.

On the Threshold, the disciple learns to live as an individual, and no longer as a person who is unable to manage the Will, a great cosmic mystery. Only the spiritual individual can handle it, provided that he observes the aforementioned Rule, which excludes any impulse that does not descend from above. Easier said than put into practice. Fulfilling the higher Will requires total adherence to the Model, with which the disciple identifies himself.

It should be noted that this overturns the current political conception, which (theoretically) places the source of power at the bottom, and moreover entrusts it to the *quantity* of consensus. True elections are held from above and by the few, wise and experienced, rather than from below and by the many, incompetent and ignorant. Today’s approach is false and contrived; the other, true and natural, will emerge one day, applied in the practice of civil life [when public opinion has evolved enough to be able to choose wise people as leaders of the *Common Good*].

In short, the Initiates are channels or instruments of a higher Will, and their mandate concerns the whole of human activities. True Government is always in Their hands, but nowadays politics is so misunderstood, distorted and corrupt that it is impossible to understand it as the supreme social art.

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Nonetheless, it is possible to radically change the methods in use today, without resorting to subversive actions: it will be enough to change, slowly and gradually, the level of vital interest. As long as material and selfish well-being is considered the top priority, there will be no significant changes, but only conflicting ideologies, since everything will remain concentrated on quantity, which reacts to desire. It will be understood, however, one day, that the focus of interest must be placed on **quality**, which by its nature cannot be chosen or sanctioned from below, but only from above.

This will reverse the current conception of existence. It will be one of the fundamental teachings of the new Christianity, destined to lead from the fictitious realm of quantity to the real and scientific world of quality.

There is therefore an intimate link between Will, Mysteries and Real Government. The restoration of the Mysteries modifies and supports, from within and from above, the social order in every field, and its effectiveness is irrepressible.

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It has just been stated that quality can only be assessed from above. It is not difficult to verify this. The qualities of materials (hardness, fragility, requirements of products of all kinds) are always estimated by man, that is, from above.

The rule fades away, however, when it comes to estimating human qualities, for which no measurement systems are known. The main religions, in fact, maintain that judgment belongs only to the divine. Man does not know how to measure, that is, to compare with certainty, the qualities of his fellow men. He then regulates himself on the basis of subjective and personal criteria, namely according to unreliable and varying parameters, often flawed by preconceptions of which he is not fully aware.

To solve the problem one must *rise in consciousness beyond the human psychic level*. There is no other solution. The Mysteries provide the necessary energies.

... In the East it is known and taught that the Kingdom of Heaven is conquered by force. It seems absurd. It looks like senseless violence. It sounds blasphemous. The disciple, on the Threshold, must learn that it is a truth, and it is wise to let him meditate.

CULTURE AND CIVILISATION

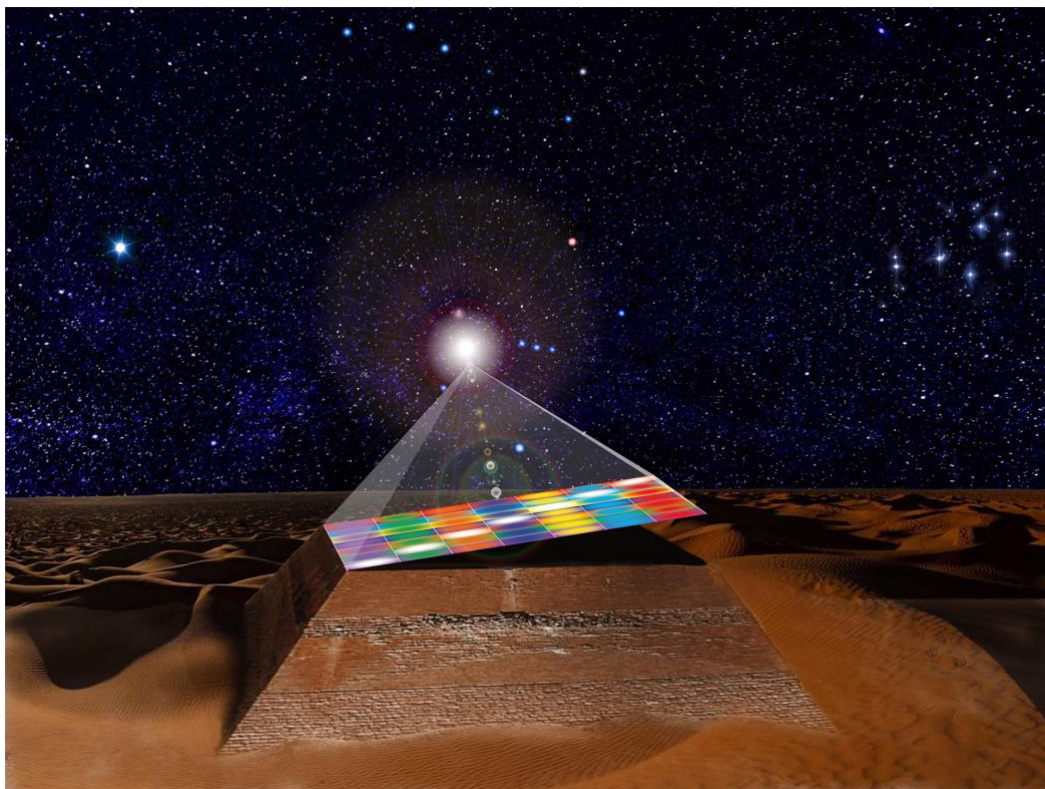
In terms of culture and civilisation, state governments are powerless: they limit themselves to imposing external norms, but these cannot build anything. They place certain banks, often poorly designed, to the water that descends from Heaven and from the mountains. Never a culture originated from a system of laws; never a civilisation asserted itself as a result of government regulations.

These are things that everyone knows, but about which we keep silent. Better than other clues, this silence shows the current general collapse of culture and civilisation. We are on the verge of thinking that state power can and should intervene in those fields, that is, that mankind is autonomous; it is like believing you can govern the rain and the seasons. It is the old fable of that fly which, resting on the horn of the ox, bragged about driving the cart.

As a matter of fact, *culture and civilisation are originated and promoted by the Mysteries*, which burn in the secret place; when, like today, they are poor and confused, it is a sign that that flame has long been smouldering under the ashes. Hence, the link between Heaven and Earth weakens, and the energy that animates hearts is scarce. Then comes the time of restoration, the fire is revived, culture flows and pulsates, and civilisation organises social existence.

The core of these events are the Mysteries, which express the higher Will, give freedom and create culture: they are essential for human progress.





EXERCISE

The proposed exercise is not a true meditation, as it takes care of inner attitude more than mind control. Disciples usually spend time and effort to internalise consciousness, to align, to come into contact with the higher Self. They never succeed, but they constantly try.

This is commendable, and can be fruitful in the long run. It is a phase of patient invocation, *governed by desire*. For this reason it certainly triggers a becoming, a development, which however does not stop as long as that desire persists. Instead of getting closer, the goal seems to escape, and in any case it is not reached.

Removing the cause of failure is easy, in words: we just have to *turn off the desire*, to stop feeding it and giving it energy. To bring the cart to a halt, you have to stop the horse.

At first this simple piece of advice seems foolish. With the passing of cycles, the disciple has become accustomed to considering his own effort as a demonstration of faithfulness, of serious and steadfast commitment, of honest application of the Teachings – and has difficulty understanding the new lesson.

However, the day comes when the vision is reversed. It is not like any other day. An omen then falls into the heart of the pupil, light as dew.

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Now, in a few words, an exercise should be suggested in order to detach him from desire, in order to initiate him in the use of higher Will.

To do this in the most careful, useful and powerful way, we keep silent.

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