1) The Art of Thinking the Ideas

2) Abstract: Man must "learn to think" in order to understand and comprehend the Beauty of the World of Ideas and to reveal its magical work of creation. We have to learn the science and art of thought in order to "formulate" the causes of the future events and forms.

Along the way of the 6th Ray *Abstract Idealism*, let's consider the way that the esoteric Philosophy presents the *World of Ideas*, that level of Reality which is the source of any manifestation (in the "three lower worlds" for human beings: mental, astral or emotional and etheric/physical).

- 3a) Ideas are entities and energies, unities and sparkles of Life, the "Powers which produce precipitates", and live and pulsate in the higher Minds or *planes of reality* of the celestial Thinkers such as the Planetary, Solar and Cosmic Logoi.
- 3b) At our level, the Plato's Ideas or Causes are involved with the *buddhi* and *higher manas* levels, those where the Principle of Love is expressed through Wisdom, where the Sound of Love is *revealed* by the Light of Wisdom.
- 4) Let's consider a metaphysical equation:

Ideas = Sound/Love + Light/Wisdom

We can think these *sparkles of Life* made of *Sound* and *Light*:

4a - video) Sound is the *first creating agent* of Space, of Akasha, of that infinite Fiery Substance, that is the pure Love energy of Life; and Light reveals It, the very nature of Sound creating in Space, its direction or will - since *Light is the rhythmic motion of Fire*.

Holding Sound and Light as the *two fiery wings* of Ideas, let's explore the Art of these *Powers producing precipitates*/forms—using the indications of the Teaching and the resources of our *creative imagination*.

- 5) Let's start from the Beginning: "Beyond all finite existences and secondary causes, all laws, ideas and principles, there is an Intelligence or Mind, $(vou\varsigma)$, the first principle of all principles, the Supreme **Idea** on which all other ideas are grounded... the *ultimate* substance from which all things derive their being and essence, the First and efficient Cause of all the order, and harmony, and beauty and excellency, and goodness which pervade the Universe.
- 6) This Mind is called, by way of pre-eminence and excellence, the Supreme Good, "The God" $(\theta \epsilon \delta \zeta)$, and the "God over all". These words apply, as Plato himself shows, neither to the "Creator", nor to the "Father" of our modern Monotheist, but to the *Ideal* and Abstract Cause. For, as he says: "This $\theta \epsilon \delta \zeta$, the God over all, *is not the truth or the intelligence*, but the Father of it" and its Primal Cause." (H. P. Blavatsky, *Anthropogenesis*, The Secret Doctrine)
- 7) This *Primal Cause* generates in Itself, substantiates and creates, *by thinking*, the Ideas, on a universal, as well as on solar or planetary level. The *Father One*, and yet *an* orderly infinity of *Logoi* or *Creative Powers –* fecundates, pervades and renews Space, the *Mother*, with these *Seeds of Life*, in all Her levels or spheres of influence.

For the Science of Harmonics applied to the theosophical Teaching,

8) these *Ideal Powers produce precipitates* according to a *hierarchical* Model fixed on all the 4th buddhic levels by the *first creating Agent* - Sound:

- 9) "... the Sevenfold Logos having differentiated into seven *Logoi*, or creative potencies (vowels), these (the second logos, or "Sound") created all on Earth."
- "No mystery is more excellent than they (the seven Vowels); for they shall bring your souls unto the Light of Lights" i.e., true Wisdom.
- 10) "Nothing, therefore, is more excellent than the mysteries which ye seek after, saving only *the mystery of the Seven Vowels and their* forty-nine *Powers* and the numbers thereof."
- 11) In India, it was *the mystery of the Seven Fires* and their forty-nine fires or aspects, or "the members thereof," just the same." (H. P. Blavatsky, *Cosmogenesis*)
- 12) The Seven Directions or Fires of the 2nd Logos/Sound are the Seven *types* or qualities of the Ideas, the *Seven Rays* of Manifestation, the "Sevenfold Logos differentiated in seven Logoi", who generate, vitalize and irradiate these very original seeds or principles of Reality, made of *Sound and Light*.

The Seven Rays organize their *living units*, the *cosmic Ideas*, into **1**, **3**, **7**, **49** primary Orders ("the 49 Fires of Brahma") along Their seven Directions of *Thought* emanated and transmitted by the Lords and Hierarchies of the *starry Systems* or higher Constellations, in a geometrical progression of septenaries up to the galactic and intergalactic systems of the manifested Universe.

13) Actually, we can think that the real **World** or **Model of Ideas** inhabits and is attested on the fourth cosmic and systemic *Buddhic levels* of <u>Manifestation</u>.

And that the *solar Logoi* are those cosmic "Ideators" who absorb and transform *cosmic Ideas* or Causal Energies into *solar Ideas*,

- 14) each of them "on their own **plane** of evolution", constituted for us by the plane of the **Ecliptic**, the common *plane and Plan of evolution and revolution* of the solar system and of all its creatures.
- 15) And, as we know, for our "local universe", the directive septenary Constellation is the <u>Ursa Major</u>, which is contacted and represented by the *Seven Head Centres* of our solar Logos: the *Seven Rishis of the Great Bear*, together with the *Lesser Bear*, whose astronomical constellations are just around the North Ecliptic Pole
- 16) in the Draco constellation, the "seven-headed serpent":
- 17) "These seven vowels are represented by the Swastika signs on the crowns of the seven heads of the Serpent of Eternity, in India, among esoteric Buddhists, in Egypt, in Chaldea, etc. etc., and among the Initiates of every other country... The seven-headed serpent has more than one signification in the Arcane teachings. It is the seven-headed Draco, each of whose heads is a star of the Lesser Bear; but it was also, and pre-eminently, the Serpent of Darkness (i.e., inconceivable and incomprehensible) whose seven heads were the seven Logoi, the reflections of the one and first manifested Light -- the universal LOGOS." (H. P. Blavatsky, Cosmogenesis, The Secret Doctrine).
- 18) The Two *Draconian Bears* together with the *Seven Sisters of the <u>Pleiades</u>*, build the cosmic *spiritual Triad* that causes and influences the solar Evolution, through the interaction of our *cosmic Angel* <u>Sirius</u>.
- 19a) The Ideas and cosmic Energies of the Seven Rays emanated from such *Heights* are 'digested' and transformed into usable *solar Ideas* by our *solar Logos* as *He*
- 19b) from the mental cosmic plane is directed toward its manifestation on the seventh physical cosmic plane as a solar System.

19c) As we learn from Esoteric Astrology, this is precisely through the reception-transmission and decoding of a "parabolic", in our case and point of evolution through the *Zodiac*, those corresponding 12 *creative Hierarchies* of conscious Beings that form the <u>collective Individuality</u> of a manifested solar Logos.

These 12 creative Hierarchies (that constitute the astral and etheric/physical Body of the solar Logos, with the *human Hierarchy* being one of them

19d) on the *fourth systemic buddhic level*), just like our perceptive apparatuses and systems, receive-transmit as Antennas these higher *Impulses* and translate them through their own Energy and Substance; in the case of the Zodiac and for the evolution of solar consciousness, in as many *Signs* or *Causal Signals*. As we have learned, these will be intercepted more or less clearly and "consciously" according to the evolutionary degree of beings: solar, interplanetary and of each planet, human and natural kingdoms included, down to the most infinitesimal partition or identification of Manifestation.

19e) In turn, the solar centres, the *planetary Logoi*, the Consciousnesses ruling and caring for the various planetary schemes, combine and associate the *solar Ideas* into *solar* Formulas (circulating in the System through their orbital revolution), but also *planetary* Formulas, typical of the evolutionary level of their own planetary scheme (activated through their daily or axial rotation): in essence, it is on the *fifth systemic mental level*, of Manasic and Agni Fire, that they make those Formulas circulate in the whole solar Space thus saturating it, and *there* they fix the *sonorous and luminous* <u>Archetypes of Forms</u>.

In the process of precipitation, these igneous Prototypes are impressed

19f) on the spatial waters of the *sixth astral plane* according to the Desire of the celestial Thinkers/Builders (desire comes from the Latin *de-sideris* which means "that comes from and belongs to Stars"), where their sound & light *vibration* creates and projects a first cosmic astral *image* of Ideas. Here the 'creative imagination' of the *planetary Formulators* composes and perfects their *figures* through the *living Substance* of Their constituent creative Hierarchies, which will "in-form" the dense and concrete Forms

19g) (on *the seventh etheric plane*, the vitalizing aspect of the *physical* one) as long as the contemplation of Their Eye will persist.

Forms, the *precipitates*, are "simply apparent", "transitory", they are "what grows and decreases, and alternatively develops and destroys itself", be it the form of an atom, or of a human being, a planet, a sun, a universe. Nevertheless, all Forms, from the mental archetypes to the concrete ones, are *living*, and not deceiving *Symbols*, they are projections and creations of *hierarchies of beings* that can *reveal* - to *whom has eyes to see and ears to hear* - the Quality and Ideas of the Thinker who wanted, loved, thought and projected them,

20) Forms are the living symbols of Ideas, of Reality, as:

"All symbols emanate from three groups of Creators:

The solar Logos, Who is constructing a "Temple in the Heavens not made with hands."

The *Planetary Logoi*, who—in Their seven groups—create through seven ways and methods, and thus produce a diversity of symbols and are responsible for concretion.

Man, who builds forms and creates symbols in his work of every day, but who as yet works blindly and largely unconsciously. Nevertheless, he merits the name of creator, because he utilises the faculty of mind and employs the rational quality." (A. A. Bailey, *A Treatise on cosmic Fire*", p. 1233-4).

- 21) As a server of Evolution and of the "ultimate perfection", we must rise to our heritage and dignity as *creators*, as *artists* working at the conscious service of the divine **Order of Ideas**.
- 22) With respect to this, the current *state-of-the-art* is such that "... we have in the world at this time the many and varied attempts to straighten out affairs along business, national, economic, social and other lines, to produce some *system* and *order*, and to bring about the re-arranging of all energies with the objective (unrealised consciously as yet) of inaugurating the New Age. Owing, however, to defective mental control and to an almost universal ignorance as to the *laws of thought*, and in addition, to a profound lack of knowledge as to man's own nature, man works blindly.
- 23) The *ideals* sensed are not correctly interpreted by the mind nor applied in such a way that they are of general and appropriate application. Hence the confusion and the chaotic experimentation going on, and hence also the imposition of personal authority to enforce an individual's *idea of the ideal*.

The need today is for sound teaching as to the laws of thought, and the rules which govern the building of those thought-forms which must embody the ideas sent forth from the universal divine Mind. Men must begin on the subjective planes of life to work out the needed order.

- 24) When this is realised, we shall have every important group of men engaged in world affairs, or in the work of government in all its branches, aided on the mental plane by trained thinkers, so that there may be right application and correct adjustment to the <u>Plan</u>. This time is as yet far away, and hence the distortions and misrepresentations on earth of the Plan *as it exists in heaven*.
- ... The world has been changed beyond belief during the past five hundred years, and during the next two hundred years the changes will be still more rapid and deep-seated, for the growth of the intellectual powers of man is gathering momentum, and <u>Man, the Creator, is coming into possession of His powers</u>." (A. A. Bailey, "Esoteric Psychology I", p. 81-83)
- 25a) As asserted in Agni Yoga, "An unceasing will-to-harmony moves the universe", and we can imagine that all the *Agents of Transmission* of this universal Will-to-Harmony, at any level, use Their Ideas to accomplish it. And we have to <u>comprehend</u> their *Art of Thinking*:
- 25b) "Not beauty, but the comprehension of Beauty will save the world".
- 26) "Devotion to objects will eventually be superseded by the creation of that which will more truly express the **Real**; ugliness and materiality will give place to **beauty** and **reality**. On a large scale, humanity has already been "led from darkness to light" and the light of knowledge fills the land. In the period which lies ahead and under the influencing radiation of the seventh ray, humanity will be "led from the unreal to the Real." This the first initiation [that is the 'birth' or 'rebirth' to the spiritual or 'philosophical' dimension of things] makes possible for the individual and will make possible for the mass of men." (A. A. Bailey, "Rays and Initiations", p. 572)

We can assert that the *comprehension of beauty* – "the splendor of Truth" for Plato – *leads humanity from the unreal to the Real*, to the World of Ideas.

- 27) Besides, this is really the gift of the current Taurus-Scorpio axis, the very Direction of our 4th human creative Hierarchy and 4th Ray: "the harmony of beauty dissolves contrasts and calms violence without taking power out" (E. Savoini). This is our Destiny and cosmic Duty *or* Right, the *restoration of the harmonic Order of Ideas*, that is, of *the Plan of Light and Love on Earth*.
- 28) It is therefore essential to learn to **think**, in order to comprehend Beauty or the magical work of Reality: learn to use our manas to express our 6th Principle and 4th Ray: buddhi.

This *science* and art of thought in order to "formulate" the causes of the evolutionary events and forms clearly concerns those human consciousnesses capable of holding the mind steady in the light, and is summarized as so by the esoteric tradition:

29-29a) - Forms are constructed from the causal level of the *human Soul*, focused upon the 5th plane of the abstract or Higher Mind (*higher manas* — the fiery plane of 'Ideal Formulas', the *Fiery World*), 29b) - they are molded on the lower 5th and 6th planes through the *creative imagination* (*kamâ-manas*),

29c) and are vitalized on the 7th etheric plane (linga-sharira) through visualization.

On the higher Mental plane of the *Abstract mind*, the reason/ratio for building cannot be but 'golden', that is, in *right proportion* to the *World of Ideas* (the fourth *Buddhic* level) and to the common Good and Purpose: evolutionary, benevolent, loving, *beautiful*.

29d) This is the very symbol of the *Hermaphrodite*: Mercury and Venus fused in One Being, the 4th and 5th Rays of the human Kingdom.

30) The Divine Hermaphrodite is indeed the Symbol of the *Beauty of Being*, it is the sign of union between Buddhi and Manas, Spirit and Matter, Ideas and Forms; it is the *Real Man* of the **4**th **Human Hierarchy** of the *Initiates* expressing through the **5**th **Hierarchy** of the Perfect Human Personality. It is the *Om* or *Man* uniting Heaven and Earth:

"... the Presence of the Unseen Principle throughout all Nature, and the highest manifestation of it on Earth – Man (...)." (H. P. B., Anthropogenesis, The Secret Doctrine)

Even if the *true thinkers* are evidently few in the world, every individual already knows deep down that it is necessary to learn to *think by love*, *beautifully*, for the Good and the True, in the here and now, in the always and everywhere of the *Unseen Presence*.

Such is the premise and goal of every *art* and *form of art* – since "there is no harmony without love nor love without harmony."

As we know, the *Art of ideal thinking* is not about a vague aspiration, but an intense discipline that is taught by the *central buddhic Reality* – the Soul – and learned by the Personality in the *Workshop of Life* at the expense of innumerable experiences and inspirations.

- 31) "Only a tested consciousness understands the value of the seed of reality. Rulership is not in crowns nor in crowds, but is in the cosmic expanse of ideas." (*Community* § 84, Agni Yoga)
- 32) As the Heart/Soul employs the *Eye* of the Mind to create the Archetypes of Reality, symmetrically from the *plane of the mind illumined by Love*, the comprehension and thus the expression of the Beauty of Reality will emerge.

"The sumtotal of the highest phases of human thinking along all lines, *materially* affects what appears on the physical plane in all the kingdoms of nature, what precipitates civilisations and cultures, and which expresses the best response *at the moment* of human sensitivity to cosmic impression.

This is all that can be said as we attempt to sum up the fixed desire and the pattern or purpose of divine activity down the ages. We know it to be profoundly inadequate as yet to express or to produce in manifested form the beauty of that design and to create in conformity with God's thought; but—age by age—the **thinking capacity** of man and his **creative imagination** have wrought out the slowly unfolding design, and will continue to do so; *every great world cycle sees the emergence of greater beauty*, and sees the subtle effects of man's thinking upon the subhuman kingdoms in nature steadily bringing the unknown to the surface, altering the nature of the flora and the fauna of the planet, and preparing the way for that time of wonder when the Hierarchy will again be exoterically directing the Plan upon the earth and aiding

mankind to work with a fuller understanding of the divine design." (A. A. Bailey, "Rays and Initiations", p. 244-5)

- 33) "It is in connection with this effort that he [man] discovers the value, uses and purpose of the **creative imagination**. [This] instrument ... enables him at the very beginning to act *as if* he were capable of thus creating; then, when the *as if* imaginative consciousness is no longer useful, he becomes consciously aware of that which he has—with hope and spiritual expectancy—sought to create; he discovers this as an existent fact and knows past all controversy that "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."
- 34) [...The **creative imagination** is] "that basic quality which has always been inherent in **desire** itself: the imaginative quality of the soul, implementing desire and steadily becoming a higher creative faculty as desire shifts into ever higher states and leads to ever higher realisations. This faculty eventually invokes the energies of the mind, and the mind, plus the imagination, becomes in time a great invocative and creative agent [purified kamâ-manas, desire-mind]. It is thus that the Spiritual Triad [atma-buddhi-manas: will-love/wisdom-intelligence] is brought into rapport with the threefold personality.
- 35) The **imagination** is.... the lowest aspect of the **intuition**... Sensitivity, as an expression of the astral body, is the opposite pole to buddhic sensitivity. The disciple has purified and refined his imaginative faculties so that they are now responsive to the impression of the buddhic principle or of the intuitive perception ... The creative imagination is in the nature of an active energy, drawn up into relationship with the point of tension; it there and then produces effects in mental substance. The tension is thereby increased, and the more potent and the clearer the **visualization** process, the more beautiful and stronger will be the bridge.
- 36) **Visualization** is the process whereby the **creative imagination** is rendered active and becomes responsive to and attracted by the point of tension upon the **mental plane**." (A. A. Bailey, "Rays and Initiations", p. 443, 442 & 488-9)

Visualization: etheric =
Creative Imagination: astral =
Ideation: mental =
Intuition: buddhic

Symmetrically/ /Analogically:

Intuition: Sound =
Ideation: Light =
Creative Imagination: Vibration =
Visualization: Form.

"RULE FOUR

Sound, light, vibration, and the form blend and merge, and thus the work is one. It proceedeth under the law, and naught can hinder now the work from going forward. The man breathes deeply. He concentrates his forces, and drives the thought-form from him." (A Treatise on White Magic)

37) And in M.me Blavatsky's words:

"There can be no objective form on Earth (nor in the Universe either), without its astral **prototype** being first formed in Space. From Phidias down to the humblest workman in the ceramic art -- a sculptor <u>has</u> had to create first of all a <u>model</u> in his mind, then sketch it in one and two dimensional lines, and then <u>only can he reproduce it in a three dimensional or objective figure</u>. And if human mind is a living demonstration of such successive stages in the process of evolution -- how can it be otherwise when NATURE'S MIND and creative powers are concerned?"

(H. P. Blavatsky, Secret Doctrine II - Anthropogenesis, p. 660, footnote 2)

- 38) "... the new small groups dedicated to serving the human race sincerely must trust in the real power of *inner construction*, which precedes concrete action. Otherwise, or if they continue to follow impulses instead of thoughts, they will obtain temporary and feeble effects on the present situations, but will not affect creation of the irresistible causes of the future. The great reawakening of the *Real Art*, which **determines the causes** and which is designated for the dawn of the new Age, will then take place without a human contribution and a fine opportunity will have been lost. In brief, it is a question of learning to **build the future**, for the future." (E. Savoini, *The Distant Goals a compendium*, Goal 5.4).
- 39) In such a *System of Hearts and Thinkers* which is the Universe, Ideas are the guarantee for our infinite creative *luminous and sonorous* power, which is that Soul force liberating the "prisoners of the planet".

And, learning the *Art of Ideas* we work out the *Plan*, and working out or following the Plan, the *Purpose* will be ultimately revealed:

- 40) "(...) the initiate—as he progresses upon the Path of Initiation—works first with the *idea*, then with *ideas*, then with the hierarchical *Plan* in a wide and general sense, and finally reaches the point where he comes under the influence of the *purpose* of Sanat Kumara. Then the will of the Lord of the World will stand revealed to him." (DNA II p 281)
- 41) "Initiates, in the past, were admitted into the **world of ideas**, of intuitional perception or of buddhic awareness; their task was to transform these *ideas* into *ideals*; thus, they presented spiritual goals and hierarchical objectives to the race, this being their major form of service. Today, owing to the pronounced development of mankind, the accepted disciples of the world, those who have undergone the first initiation (and their name is Legion), and the initiates of higher degree, have objectives which their mental unfoldment has made possible;
- 42) they can be admitted into *divine areas of consciousness* which are conditioned and brought into being, not by *divine ideas* but by the *divine Will* (their perception of that Will will be according to the degree of the initiatory control). Their task is therefore to *perceive the Plan* which is the hierarchical mode of implementing the divine Will, plus the **Purpose** which is perceived by the Heads of the Hierarchy. They have also to undertake to see that that Plan becomes a factual expression upon the physical plane and a part of the recognised consciousness of humanity as a whole." (*Ibidem*, p 350)
- 43) (For a first attempt to *formulate* into 49 Goals the hierarchical evolutionary Plan and to enliven it in Group or Soul Work *formation*, following the celestial Rhythms on the Ecliptic Solar Plane, see the text <u>Asserting the planetary Plan</u> in the <u>Documents</u> page of <u>TPS</u>).

44) TPS

45) The waves I take were never sailed before; Minerva breathes, Apollo pilots me, and the nine Muses show to me the Bears. (Dante, Divina Commedia III, Paradiso, Canto II 7-9)
