

Diamond Light

Newsletter of the Aquarian Age Community

2020 No. 1

The Great Awakening and the Unbreakable Chain of Consciousness

Each man bears a secret within himself.....Only by transcending the boundary of Earth is man enlightened in the realization of a portion of his secret. Remarkable is the process when subtle energy reveals the Chalice of accumulations; the memory is suddenly illumined, and the past stands out in all justice. Amazing is the extent of man's transformation at the moment when he leaves the earthly sphere. People call this death, but it is really birth.¹

One of the most influential books in all history, *The Egyptian Book of the Dead*, also called *The Book of the Great Awakening* and the *Papyrus of Ani*, which dates from the second half of the XVIII Egyptian dynasty (about B.C.1500-1400) describes in great detail the religious views of the people of Thebes who, more than five thousand years ago, proclaimed the resurrection of a spiritual body and the immortality of the soul. The purpose of these Pyramid Texts was ultimately to help the dead king take his place among the gods, in particular to reunite him with his divine father, Ra.

Referred to as one of the most influential books in all history, this ancient text details "the Doctrine of Eternal Life." It describes a ritual to be performed for the dead, with meticulous instructions that served as the most important repository of religious authority for some three thousand years. Chapters of this text were carved on the pyramids of the ancient 5th Dynasty and selections were also painted on mummy cases well into the Christian era. In a certain sense, according to the archeologist/author, Dr. E. A. Wallis Budge, it stood behind all Egyptian civilization.

The Great Eternity and the continuity of life was also the note and message sounded by the Christ when last publicly teaching on Earth. Through the example of His Life, He taught that resurrection is the keynote of nature; death is not. As today's esoteric wisdom describes it, "death is only the ante-chamber of resurrection. Resurrection is the clue to the world of meaning and this is the fundamental theme of all the world religions—past, present and future. Resurrection of the spirit in man, in all forms, in all kingdoms, is the objective of the entire evolutionary process and this involves liberation from materialism and selfishness."²

The cyclic occurrence of the manifold expressions of Life are all around us. In nature, in the heavens and in the cosmos, cycles of birth and death abound — providing unquestionable testimony that birth and death evolve out of each other.

As we are born into one level of existence, so we die unto another. As the tree sprouts through the darkness of the earth, reaching towards the light, so the seed disintegrates. As the fruit appears, the flower withers. As the butterfly develops its wings, the caterpillar disappears. The moon wanes only to wax again in a monthly rhythm of dark and light. And over eons of

"Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone, but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit." (John: 12/24) The end or death of one cycle is the beginning or birth of another — the door which on one side reads "Exit", on the other side reads "Entrance."

The Agni Yoga wisdom succinctly affirms: "We do not die, but change" and then proceeds to rhetorically ask, "can one speak any more clearly about eternal life?"³

It was after the civilization of Atlantis that a wrong understanding of death appeared and then, earthly life was locked in a shell of ignorance and narrow-mindedness. Denial and fear replaced knowledge:

"The fear of death is one of the great abnormalities or distortions of divine truth for which the Lords of Cosmic Evil are responsible. When in early Atlantean times they emerged from the place where they had been confined, and forced temporarily the retirement of the Great White Lodge to subjective levels, their first great act of distortion was to implant in human beings fear, beginning with the fear of death. From that time on, men have laid the emphasis upon death and not life, and have been ridden by fear all their days."⁴

However, the Hierarchy of Light and Love, the Elder Brothers Who have guided humanity through long centuries, are today preparing humanity for the next great evolutionary change, which will bring in an understanding of the continuity of consciousness. In this evolving New Age, the concept of death is being superseded by the concepts of resurrection/livingness, spiritual unity, transference and service, so that a new note is entering human life, bringing hope and joy as well as power and freedom — and the recognition of the unbreakable chain of consciousness. ♦

1 *Aum* (153), Agni Yoga Society, NY.

2 *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, Alice A. Bailey, Copyright Renewed 1985 © by Lucis Trust, p. 470.

3 *Fiery World II* (369), Agni Yoga Society, NY.

4 *The Rays and the Initiations*, Alice A. Bailey, Copyright © Renewed 1988 by Lucis Trust, p. 732.

The Great Eternity

Imagine the change in the human consciousness when death comes to be regarded as an act of simple and conscious relinquishing of form, temporarily taken for two specific objectives: to gain control in the three worlds. [And] to give opportunity to the substance of the forms...[in order to] reach a higher point of perfection through the impact upon it of life, via the soul.¹

The act of dying is the great universal ritual which governs our entire planetary life. The great Law of Death as it governs substance in the three worlds is a beneficent and corrective process; it is a reflection of a cosmic purpose, which governs the cosmic etheric planes of our solar system, the cosmic astral plane and the cosmic mental plane. This process emanates from and is an expression of the life principle of that greater Life, which enfolds all the seven planetary systems, which in Themselves express the Life of our solar system. Death, the esoteric wisdom points out, is governed by the Principle of Liberation, and not by that of Limitation. It is the great Liberator and the Great Releaser. It shatters the forms which are bringing death to that which is embodied:

“When the consciousness is focussed in form and identified entirely with the principle of limitation, it regards freedom from form life as death; but, as evolution proceeds, the consciousness shifts increasingly into awareness of that which is not form and into the realm of that which is transcendent or into the world of the abstract, i.e., into that which is abstracted from form and focussed in itself.²

Everything that is of true spiritual value is persistent, ageless, immortal and eternal. Only that dies which is ephemeral and temporary, including those transitory forms fleetingly used for the purpose of the indwelling Soul. Those values which are based on principle and not upon the detail of appearance have in them that undying principle which leads the individual eventually, to the gates of the Great Eternity.

With so-called death, the consciousness remains the same; individuality is not lost and the same person is still present on the planet. Only that has disappeared which was an integral part of the tangible appearance:

That which has been loved or hated, which has been useful to humanity or a liability, which has served the race or been an ineffectual member of it, still persists, is still in touch with the qualitative and mental processes of existence, and will forever remain — individual, qualified by ray type, part of the kingdom of souls, and a high initiate in his [and her] own right.³

The individual is now a free agent as far as the physical plane is concerned and more fully responsive to the quality of his/her astral-emotional equipment; the mental condition in which he/she habitually lives and the voice of his/her own soul, often unfamiliar but sometimes well-known and loved.

Whether consciously or unconsciously, death is the withdrawal of the inner living entity from its outer shell; it is the relinquishing of the subtle body or bodies, according to the point in evolution of the person, with the additional benefit of having garnered for that soul and the substance of the form that he and she inhabited, increased vitality, sensitivities and understandings.

Qualified by one's experience, the part returns to the whole from whence it came and the individual then comprehends the true meaning of the words of Lord Krishna: “Having pervaded this whole universe with a fragment of myself, I remain.” The conscious experiencing fragment which has pervaded the little universe of the form in the three worlds, still remains and knows him/herself to be part of the whole—the Great Eternity.

There is no death, only entrance into a fuller life. Death, the esoteric wisdom teaches, is a part of the great illusion and only exists because of the veils which we have gathered around ourselves. Intense desire for sentient existence or attachment is inherent in every form and is self-perpetuating. When the life of the living spiritual essence withdraws itself, the form dies, occultly. When the thought of the Soul or Higher Self is absorbed and occupied on its own plane, there is no outgoing energy towards the matter of the three worlds, and thus, no form-building or form-attachment is then possible.

The Agni Yoga wisdom provides these beneficial and comforting ideas: “If those who remain would consider the departed as having been sent to light and for enlightenment, then the communion would be more sound.” (*Leaves of Morya's Garden II*, 100) And, “Love that impels forward is not impeded by distances or considerations of death.” (*Heart*, 242) ♦

1 *Esoteric Healing*, Alice A. Bailey, Copyright © Renewed 1981 by Lucis Trust p. 427.

2 *Esoteric Astrology*, Alice A. Bailey, Copyright © Renewed 1979 by Lucis Trust, p. 615.

3 *Esoteric Healing*, *ibid.*, p. 478.

Update Report on the COVID-19 Appeal for a Global Ceasefire¹

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres

This note provides an update on the responses to my appeal for a Global Ceasefire of 23 March 2020. It documents the broad international support with which this appeal has been greeted, the response by conflict parties in a number of situations of armed conflict and the efforts on the ground by United Nations representatives and other actors to press forward and try to consolidate fragile advances towards laying down weapons. While I am pleased to be able to report on these positive signals, they come with a note of caution: it will take time and sustained diplomatic engagement to agree and then maintain ceasefires in settings of deep mistrust. Underscoring the urgency of our efforts to do so is our shared imperative, at this time of global crisis, to stop the fighting everywhere — now.

I. IMPLICATIONS OF COVID-19 ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

1. The COVID-19 pandemic is the greatest test the world has faced since the formation of the United Nations. It is a global health crisis that is killing people and spreading human suffering. It has and will have profound social, economic and political consequences, including relating to international peace and security.

2. As detailed in my report of 31 March on the socio-economic impact of COVID-19, the crisis brought on by the pandemic “risks reversing decades of progress in the fight against poverty and exacerbating already high levels of inequality within and between countries”. The postponement of elections or limitations on the ability to vote, sustained restrictions on movement and access to food and other resources, as well as spiraling unemployment and discontent over the capacity of public institutions to respond, may all increase political tensions. In conflict settings, the uncertainty created by the spread of the pandemic may create incentives for some actors to press their advantage, potentially leading to an increase of violence. Terrorist groups in particular may see opportunities to strike as the attention of governments and the international community is absorbed by the health crisis. COVID-19 also risks diverting international attention and resources away from conflict prevention and mediation, when diplomatic engagement is needed most.

3. More immediately, the pandemic has the potential to devastate fragile and conflict-affected states, overwhelming already weak and faltering health systems and assailing the most vulnerable: those caught up in conflicts, refugees and others forcibly displaced by violence and persecution. As set out in the Global Humanitarian Response Plan to COVID-19, the lack of adequate health systems and governance structures,

combined with poor basic service in countries already facing humanitarian crisis, will severely constrain these states’ ability to prevent the spread of the pandemic and provide sufficient health care to infected people as well as to sustain health services. Women and children in fragile settings are particularly likely to face obstacles accessing health care, livelihoods/education and other critical support. Meanwhile, their needs for protection — including in relation to domestic and gender-based violence — may increase with the imposition of much needed social distancing measures and movement restrictions.

II. APPEAL FOR A GLOBAL CEASEFIRE

4. The severity of the crisis we face in the COVID-19 pandemic highlights the tragedy and folly of the ongoing suffering caused by armed conflict. On 23 March 2020, I accordingly launched an appeal for an immediate global ceasefire in all corners of the world, urging all warring parties to pull back from hostilities, to put aside mistrust and animosity and to silence their guns as a means to help create conditions for the delivery of aid, to open up space for diplomacy, and bring hope to places among the most vulnerable to COVID-19.

5. This appeal for a global ceasefire rests on my belief that the urgency and tragedy of the current moment warrants confidence-building measures between conflict parties to alter their calculations about the benefits of continued fighting. It is a call for conflict parties to end the scourge of war and fight the virus ravaging our world instead, and for the international community — necessarily focused on our joint battle against the pandemic — to recognize such entry points as they emerge and prioritize efforts to bring armed conflicts to an end.

6. Countries and populations devastated by years of war need our support. Stopping the fighting will allow those places where coping mechanisms are already at a breaking point to better prepare themselves for what might be coming. Foremost in our attention must be those who are paying the highest price, including women, children, people with disabilities, the marginalized and the displaced....Together, we must work to build more peaceful, resilient and prosperous societies. ♦

¹ The initial call, *The Fury of the COVID-19 Virus Illustrates the Folly of War* was issued on 23 March 2020: [Video](#); [TEXT](#). [The \[Full\] Update Report](#), the source of these excerpts, was issued on April 2, 2020. As of 24 May 2020, the World Health Organization reported 342, 029 confirmed deaths.

Diamond Light

Make hard thy Soul against the snares of self; deserve for it the name of Diamond-Soul. For as the diamond buried deep within the throbbing heart of earth can never mirror back the earthly lights, so are thy mind and Soul; plunged in Jnana-marga, these must mirror naught of Maya's realm illusive.

The Voice of the Silence, Helena Petrovna Blavatsky



The *Diamond Light Newsletter* is dedicated to the recognition and expression of the indwelling Soul, the Inner Christos at the heart of all life. As the above quotation from *The Voice of the Silence* indicates, "diamond" throughout the ages has been one of the terms by which the Soul is known. The Alchemists of past ages often interchanged the terms Philosophers' Stone, *lapis* and diamond. In the book, *The Light of the Soul* authored by Alice A. Bailey, two words are used to convey the idea of compact cohering force. One is the diamond, the other the thunderbolt. The diamond reflects the pure white light and yet reflects equally all the colors of the rainbow, the seven colors of the chromatic scale. In the esoteric wisdom the diamond is also considered the initiate within the mineral kingdom: "The best known example of the effect of the initiation of the mineral by fire can be seen in the great transition and transformation, allotropically brought about, from the carbon stage to that of the perfect diamond." (*Esoteric Psychology, Vol. I* by Alice A. Bailey, p. 224)

We therefore named our newsletter *Diamond Light* as a reminder of the indwelling Soul within each of us, which is ever Initiate. As we awaken to that pure white light and consciously seek its unfoldment and expression, so we note, link with and exponentially augment the resplendent light within our brother and sister. The Soul is ever group conscious. Its cohering, attractive quality irradiates and imbues all planes and states of planetary consciousness with the triple energy of light, love and the will-to-good. Yet the Soul does not impose itself. Like the diamond buried deep within the earth, the Soul must be sought with a singleness of purpose. The techniques by which it is "mined" and then honed and polished to a brilliant purity are known to the esotericists of the ages as a definite science. Much information on this science is included within the Ageless Wisdom Teachings referred to in this newsletter. Within these few pages, we can but spark an interest in the reader and encourage exploration—an exploration we think is not only necessary but also more rewarding than any upon which humanity has thus far embarked! As the well-known parable tells us, the stolen jewel of humanity's divinity lies deep within each individual. It is now time to bring it forth.◆

The Great Invocation

From the point of Light within the Mind of God
Let light stream forth into the minds of men.
Let Light descend on Earth.

From the point of Love within the Heart of God
Let love stream forth into the hearts of men.
May Christ return to Earth.

From the centre where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide the little wills of men—
The purpose which the Masters know and serve.

From the centre which we call the race of men
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out
And may it seal the door where evil dwells.

Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.
OM OM OM

The Great Invocation is distinctive to our unfolding Aquarian Age. Its appeal is neither personal nor temporal and unlike past invocations, it is a world prayer, belonging to no one group, but to all of humanity.

According to the Ageless Wisdom, the Christ, "The Anointed One," is the office or title of The World Teacher – the Teacher alike of angels and of humanity. Many religions believe in a World Teacher, knowing this great Being under such names as the Lord Maitreya, the Imam Mahdi and the Bodhisattva.

The word "man" is a derivative of the Sanskrit term *Manas* which refers to the mental principle – the positive element that characterizes humanity, the fourth, masculine kingdom relative to the fifth, feminine and therefore receptive, spiritual kingdom of the Soul.

Will you join the millions who daily use this prayer to invoke the needed light and love on earth?

Should someone you know also be receiving *Diamond Light*? Send us names and addresses, as well as comments, suggestions, questions, favorite quotes and other contributions. We look forward to hearing from you.

Aquarian Age Community 2910 Devore Court; Lorain, OH 44052; E-mail: commune@aquaac.org; web site: <http://www.aquaac.org>

Diamond Light cannot exist without your contributions. Please use your credit card on-