Welcome and Introduction

Dear Friends, Good afternoon and welcome to today’s meditation meeting, as we observe this auspicious Day of the Christ Festival, World Invocation Day, the Festival of Humanity, the Festival of Goodwill and of course, the Solar Festival of Gemini. These are of course, all the various names by which this third of the Three Major Spiritual Festivals is known—each name indicating yet another essential facet of this significantly pivotal Festival in the creation of a new civilization.

My wish is for each of us to take personal responsibility to make this meeting a focused, invocative and evocative spiritual event that will contribute to the preparation of the reappearance of the Christ and the transformation of planetary consciousness towards which we are all striving.

The exact time of the Festival occurs at 12:19 p.m. while we are in meditation. So, let us focus and bring our very best and our very highest aspirations and heart-felt intentions as we sound the Noon-time recollection. Using the “as if” technique, let us imagine ourselves as part of that notable band of world servers—the symbolic 9,000 Initiates working, under the influence of the Christ and His disciples.

“I know oh Lord of Life and Love about the need. Touch my heart anew with love that I too may love and give.”

“I see my other self and in the waning of that Self, I grow and glow.” And so we dedicate ourselves, especially today and for the next two days of distribution to what is known in the East as the Ishvara principle and what is known here in the West, as the Christ Principle—that “hope of glory” within the heart of each human being.

Let us keep in mind too that this Festival is "Christ's Unique Occasion" wherein He principally officiates. Thus, the reason for the Nicholas Roerich painting on your screen called “Signs of Christ.”

It is related to the Agni Yoga passage wherein the Christ speaks to Master M., after they have visited the cities of Sarnath and Gaya in India. As the passage indicates, “On the way back, under the full moon, occurred the memorable saying by Christ.” In the words of Master M: “After some seeking, I found Christ seated upon a sand mound looking at the sands flooded by moonlight,” saying, “‘Rossul M., what is a way to Us, when the whole world is awaiting Us? The sign of the foot and the hand shall be inscribed above the Cornerstone.' For it is by the human hand and the human foot that the temple will be built.”

(Leaves of Morya's Garden II, Illumination, II:V:5)

With this in mind, in preparation for our meditation, we have five concise, diverse and, we hope, inspiring talks to share with you today. In the interest of time, each person speaking will give you hers and his first name and the theme of the address. Susan will start us off.

♦ Invoking the Power of the Heart at the Time of the Christ Festival—Susan
On the journalist Bill Moyers last show, his final line was a farewell message and challenge to young activists: “Over to you. Welcome to the fight.” This is our responsibility as working disciples, that of creating a path of Light to the future for the Christ’s reappearance. In training ourselves towards discipleship, we must embrace the entire scope of life, the good the true and the beautiful, as well as the chaos. The Master’s remind us that they are keeping vigil, and in order to receive the gentle touches of the subtle world we are required and obliged to invoke the power of the heart. Ram Das suggests that through many of the traumatic world events, we observe how, “the suffering of others spontaneously releases our desire to help out. Our heart[s] begin to open” (How Can I Help?, pg. 58).

To my mind, expressing gratitude is one of the most practical methods for invoking the power of the heart. Even, and maybe especially, regarding small things. Sending gratitude and good thoughts, a few times a day, into space about the world, can be a simple task. But, if humanity does it simultaneously, we are instructed it can clear the lower spheres of the infected atmosphere immediately! This faithful heartfelt striving, with gratitude, contributes to our crossing over to the New World.

“Fear is the mind’s reaction against the inherent generosity of the heart,” (Ram Das, ibid) and, the heart knows the creatures of falsehood that encircle our path and try’s to deviate us from the truth. And yet, as we affirm the World Savior’s intention, we may act “as if” He is beside us and we are conversing through the heart. The fiery heart comes close to the Rider on the white horse as we invoke the Teacher through words. Can we emulate Him and how He thinks? In this sense the heart is a transformational organ.

Human well-being relies on love and the fiery sanctuary of the heart. The heart is the dwelling of the Spirit. And the heart, “the heart,” is what reminds us about the Light. We are told in the Agni Yoga teachings that “the brain is the past, the heart is the future,” (Heart, pg. 148). Our striving spirits think through the fiery heart, and then the heart senses what is needed to contribute to or change circumstances hence nourishing and orienting us toward and through the Aquarian Age.

I’ll bring to a close these thoughts on Invoking the Power of the Heart at the Time of the Christ Festival, with this quote from Christ’s brother, the Buddha, from Foundations of Buddhism/Helena Roerich.

“Buddha’s love was of so immeasurable a stream that it could not be exhausted by any hate or hostility. On the contrary, such a hostile attack only brought it to fuller unfoldment. Therefore, he decreed that his disciples act thus, “However men may speak concerning you, whether appropriately or inappropriately, whether courteously or rudely, whether wisely or foolishly, whether kindly or maliciously, thus, my disciples, must you train yourselves. Our minds should remain unsullied; neither should evil word escape our lips. Kind and compassionate will we ever remain, loving of heart, not harboring secret hate. And we will bathe them with the unfailing stream of loving thought. And proceeding further, we will embrace and flood the whole wide world with constant thoughts of loving kindness, wide, ample, expanding, immeasurable as the world, free from enmity, free from ill will. Thus, disciples, must you train yourselves!”

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As we observe this sacred day, also known as the Festival of Goodwill, with all our Sisters and Brothers, the Global Heartbeat of Hierarchy is with us as we recognize the good work being accomplished within the UN.

We have been given the occult axiom, “Synthesis is, whilst Unity is created,” and so with this in mind we can turn towards the United Nations’ Global Pulse Initiative as a good indicator that this truth is transforming planetary consciousness. In 2009 the Global Pulse Initiative was created by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon in an effort to harness the vast amounts of “Big Data” safely and responsibly for public good.

What is “Big Data”?

In 2012 *The New York Times* reported that the World Economic Forum in Davos declared that big data information from wireless technology, satellites and computers was growing by more than 50% each year and that it could be considered a new class of economic asset like currency. The impact of data abundance now extends well beyond business and the synthesis of digital data can offer us the opportunity to gain a better understanding of on-going changes throughout the world as well as within humanity.

The main objectives of the Global Pulse Initiative are:

1. to increase the number of big data for innovative successes
2. to lower systemic barriers to big data for development
3. to strengthen cooperation within big data for developing ecosystems

The Global Pulse runs innovative programs and labs in New York, Jakarta, Indonesia and Uganda which partner with the UN agencies, governments and the private sector focusing on world challenges such as; food security, agriculture, employment, infectious diseases, urbanization and disaster response. The goal is to provide “real time” information tools and to close the gap between the onset of global crises and the availability of actionable information for decision making.

From an esoteric standpoint the United Nations’ Global Pulse Initiative is endeavoring to reflect the pulsating web of life that is ever present and that is the world unifier. As we focus today within the energies of Gemini, ruled by the messenger of intercommunication, Mercury, we can add our lighted support to the Global Pulse as it seeks to create better pathways of light to connect all of humanity for the greater good.
Discouragement is common in all elements of the human family. The aspirant to the Ageless Wisdom will deal with discouragement repeatedly and through myriad levels of experience. It is helpful to remember that discouragement is experienced by the personality, never by the soul. We know that until the third initiation lies behind us, disciples struggle with glamour and illusion and discouragement is one of the most persistent foes with which disciples contend.

Discouragement can affect disciples on three levels—mental, emotional and physical—and sometimes on all three levels simultaneously. On the mental level one cause of discouragement lies in the over-development of the concrete mind. In this instance the disciple sees the enormity and complexity of the world’s problems and needs and feels overwhelmed. The cure for this form of discouragement is the “realization that time, eternity and evolution brings all things to pass and that everything does not depend upon individual effort.”

On the physical level, the lowering of the vitality of the physical body can also result in discouragement because “the astral body then makes too strong a demand on the physical and in the sensed incapacity to respond adequately, lies a cause of discouragement.” Getting needed rest and relaxation can offset this form of discouragement.

The emotional plane is where so many suffer from discouragement. The inevitable cycles of light and shadow in which vision is obscured and soul contact seems lost often result in much anguish by disciples. Keeping in mind the law of cycles and holding fast to the realization “that day always night and after obscuration succeeds the vision” can aid the disciple to regain equilibrium. The astral body can be controlled by the mind held steady in the light and love of the soul.

The Tibetan Master teaches that the cure for discouragement doesn’t lie in cultivating a violent counter vibration but rather in the wise use of the mind, and in a capacity to reason logically and to see the cause of the condition, which lies either in the disciple’s own personality or in his environment. What is needed is the “stilling of the concrete mind and a subsequent linking up with the soul and, via the soul, with the egoic group and consequently with the Master.”

Discipleship is a unique stage in human development. The disciple is one who has realized that the world of outer seeming hides great mysteries and previously unknown patterns and meanings. The disciple is pledged to the service of humanity and the Plan of Love and Light and chooses, of his/her own volition, to sacrifice the personality’s self-centered focus to the growing vision of the group-conscious soul and to a steadily enlarging vision of the Whole. In the face of doubt and failure disciples are counseled to “be not discouraged. By our failure and our reactions to glamour, we learn to tread with confidence the Way of Light.”

Discouragement breeds hopelessness, a sense of futility, and results in inaction. Discipline and spiritual will are needed in these situations. We know that all is energy and energy follows thought. Disciples learn to recognize and wield energies and forces for the greater good. The first field of experimentation is self. We are not helpless and we always have choices. We can control our thoughts, our emotions, and our actions. Here lies the challenge and herein begins the field of endeavor. In the words of the Tibetan Master, “do not permit yourselves to be discouraged.” The Light of the Soul by Alice Bailey is an entire treatise devoted to achieving soul alignment, fusion and control and can serve as a handbook to aid the struggling aspirant.

It must be pointed out that at this time of the highest spiritual interlude of the year, and especially at this third culminating Festival, when faced with the stimulating vital energies pouring into our planet, disciples are especially prone to experience discouragement, feeling/thinking that they are not adequate to the task. Here again, the Tibetan Master has words of strength and comfort for the struggling disciples of the world: “My
brothers, believe in the reality of the work to be done by these great spiritual Potencies, invoked during the three Full Moons of April, May and June. Go forth to the task of helping humanity, of establishing goodwill, of bringing about right human relations and of restoring a true spiritual perspective, with undaunted courage, sure faith and the firm conviction that mankind is not alone.”vi

\[1\] A Treatise on White Magic, p. 342
\[2\] Ibid, p. 341
\[3\] Ibid, pp. 341-345
\[v\] A Treatise on White Magic, p. 341
\[vi\] The Externalization of the Hierarchy, pp. 487-488

“The UN International Year of Light: The Objective Manifestation of Subjective Oneness”

Mary Curtsmith

Two thousand fifteen is the United Nations year of light and light-based technologies. The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) states that “The International Year of Light is a global initiative which will highlight to the citizens of the world the importance of light and optical technologies in their lives, for their futures, and for the development of society. It is a unique opportunity to inspire, educate, and connect on a global scale.” Seeking to influence international policy makers and stakeholders, the IYL 2015 Steering Committee has partnered with over 100 organizations to spread the word about the problem-solving abilities of light-based technologies.

As the United Nations promotes light, we observe the New Group of World Servers emitting that light for their disposal. The Group diligently works in their place of silence, committed to the same goals stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the UN Charter. This synthesis of thought and action provides a platform for the emergence of light into dark. The Tibetan Master stated “the Hierarchy endorsed the attitude and aims of the United Nations, fighting for the freedom of the whole of humanity and for the release of the suffering people.” We see this both through our meditative work and through the work of scientists and technological organizations pairing with the United Nations to celebrate all that light is doing for humanity. We see light providing freedom from the darkness of night, in cities, streets, and our homes, light permits us to travel, read, cook, or engage in nearly any daytime activity at night. Light permits us to see in places that would never be illuminated by daylight, such as mineral caves or the deep sea. It is permitting humanity to explore further than we could have ever imagined. This too is true for the light of the soul; illuminating the personality and permitting further self-exploration and examination.

In 1835, the first constant electric light was demonstrated, and for the next 40 years, scientists around the world worked on the incandescent lamp, tinkering with the filament (the part of the bulb that produces light when heated by an electrical current) and the bulb’s atmosphere (whether air is vacuumed out of the bulb or it is filled with an inert gas to prevent the filament from oxidizing and burning out). Lights now illuminate our homes and streets, operating rooms and our computer screens are illuminated by light. Light is connecting us whether it be through rapid travel or the rapid exchange of ideas from one lighted phone screen to another across the world. Light permits us to see in the dark.

The Groups’ lighted subjective oneness found in meditation is found objectively in the international scientific communities’ oneness in discovering, engineering and designing new ways that light can benefit humanity.

The United Nations celebrating this year of light is more of an opportunity for us to celebrate the United Nations. The Tibetan stated in “The Problem of International Unity” that “The United Nations, through its
Assembly and Committees, *must* be supported; there is as yet no other organization to which man can hopefully look. Therefore…[w]e must support the United Nations but, at the same time, let this group of world leaders know what is needed.”

Therefore, let us continue to support and celebrate the lighted work of the United Nations by recommitting ourselves to the subjective Work and the Plan itself as it pertains to this great organization.

“Who Can Withstand the Sweet Influences of the Pleiades?”

Ida Urso

Dear Friends, of course, this theme relates to the science of invocation and evocation, which is the method by which the Christ and the Hierarchy stimulate evolution on our planet. It is this science which will become the “third great Approach” to Reality.

In the life and Teachings of the Buddha, humanity learned about the Noble Middle Way and the need to practice Detachment, Dispassion and Discrimination. As a result of His Blessed work, within the Light generated, the Christ was then able to further humanity’s understanding.

We learned the value of the individual and his and her self-initiated effort, leading to initiation, with the objective of the group good. Individualism, Initiation and Identification with the whole became the goal of the spiritually prepared.

As a consequence, for several hundred years now, the spiritual Hierarchy has been drawing nearer to humanity and the great concepts of freedom, brotherhood, fellowship, world cooperation and right human relations, are today close to the hearts of humanity everywhere and increasingly, both within and without the United Nations, many devote entire lives towards their realization.

It is within this context that humanity is now preparing for the next evolutionary Approach to Reality. This includes:

1. The *demonstrated* existence of a Spiritual Hierarchy, whose life-purpose is the good of humanity; who are recognized as the Custodians of the divine Plan and the Representatives of the Love of that greater Reality we call God.

2. Also included is the development and mastery of the Science of Invocation and Evocation as the way to approach this Greater Hierarchy.

3. And, finally, the realization that the starry heavens, the solar system and the planetary spheres are all manifestations of great spiritual Lives; that the interrelation between these embodied Lives is as real and valuable as is the interrelation between members of the human family.

“In the future,” states the Tibetan Master, “we shall draw closer and more intelligently to the living substance of Reality and be more definite in our apprehension of this hitherto vaguely sensed relationship.”

“We shall know and see and understand.” He continues, “We shall speak openly of the Hierarchy and of its Members and Their work. The hierarchical nature of all spiritual Lives, and the fact of the great ‘chain of hierarchies’ stretching all the way up from the mineral kingdom through the human and [beyond]… will be emphasised.” Those who are prepared will then enter “the Way of the Higher Evolution.”

(*The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, pp. 416-417)
The science of invocation and evocation will take the place of prayer and worship and it will be practiced by those who have trained their minds through right meditation, knowledge of the uses of sound and formulas and by those who can work consciously, on the mental plane, with the power of a controlled mind, focusing on the intent and meaning behind the spoken word.

Using Great Words of Power or “Stanzas of Direction,” such as, for example, the Great Invocation—with constancy, exactitude and with the power of the soul, as well as with the directed attention of the mind, will prove dynamically effective.

Once mastery in this science has been attained, then truly we can appreciate the question, “Who can withstand the sweet influences of the Pleiades?”

Mindful of the cosmic Triangle formed by Gemini, the Great Bear and the Pleiades, let us now take up our meditation as we together strive towards these greater possibilities.