



**Transforming Planetary Consciousness
The Spiritual Work of the United Nations**

Opening Address, Libra Solar Festival Webinar 2017*

Thursday, 5 October 2017

Good afternoon, dear friends and welcome to this month's Solar Festival Meditation in the sign of Libra. Thank you for being here to participate in this work of transformation and liberation. I ask you to consider our meeting here together as a sacred occasion, with all of us working as attentively and responsively as we can to fulfill our responsibility and to embrace our opportunity here today.

As is our monthly practice, after this opening address, intended to unify, stimulate and prepare our group mind, so that we can hold it "steady in the light", allowing us then to become part of the planetary alignment, responding to impressions and contacts emanating from the subjective and Supermundane spiritual planes, we'll move to the focus of the meeting, which is Group Meditation. Following this, you will have an opportunity to share your thoughts and ideas, if you like.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the exact time of the Libra Solar Festival is today, just a few hours from now at 2:40 p.m. Thus, in the five-day cycle that makes up each of the 12 Solar Festivals, we are meeting on the day of Safeguarding.

Our focus today, then, is on the needs of humanity, recognizing ourselves as part of the world-wide group through which the available spiritual forces can be poured throughout the whole body of humanity.

With focused intention, let us bring the realization of the great cosmic current to our work here today, giving wings to our labor, (*New Era Community*, 135) as we recognize ourselves to be a part of the living lighted bridge that can bring humanity closer to the planetary and extra planetary energies of Light, Love and Power that are now available on our planet.

* Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2017 Libra Solar Festival Webinar Meditation Meeting, sponsored by the **Aquarian Age Community**. The books cited in parentheses are copyrighted, published and available from the Lucis Trust at www.lucistrust.org and from the Agni Yoga Society at <http://www.agniyoga.org/index.php>

The photo on your screen comes to us courtesy of NASA's Hubble Telescope. It is the planet Uranus photographed in infrared light. Unique because of its tilt that makes it appear to spin on its side, Uranus is the 7th planet from the sun with the third largest diameter in our solar system. It is surrounded by 13 gossamer rings and a network of 27 small moons.

Discovered in 1781, Uranus (OURANOS) was the first planet found with the aid of a telescope and named for the mythological Greek god of the sky or, some say, "the starry heavens" who in ancient days was thought to be the husband to Gaia, our own planet Earth.

As we know, Uranus is the esoteric planetary ruler of Libra and a major force that is helping to usher humanity and our planet into this evolving Age of Aquarius. The energy of the 7th ray works through this planet, relating spirit and matter and thus, bringing together the electric fire of spirit and the fire by friction of matter. As the embodiment of the principle of concretion, it helps materialize that which is in need of objective manifestation.

Promising a more scientific understanding of all which is spiritual, Uranus, rules the occult Way as it is esoterically connected with the Hierophant of the Mysteries of Initiation. This planet gives innate spontaneous activity, which produces evolutionary development as it urges humanity forward to create ever better conditions.

This is an important point to keep in mind in terms of the yearly meeting of the UN General Assembly that meets under the sign of Libra—this sign that also plays a significant role in the astrology of the United Nations, which has three planets (Jupiter—12d, Venus—7d and Neptune—7d)—all conjunct in the sign of Libra.

Finally, for our purposes here, Uranus causes the great transference in human consciousness from intellectual perception to intuitive knowledge. Very promising for the work of the UN and for the future of our planet, wouldn't you say?

With these thoughts in mind, can we now pause and together affirm the noon time recollection, before we delve deeper into our work?

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

[PAUSE.]

"I choose the Way that leads between the two great lines of force"—such is the esoteric keynote, the song of the Soul in this sign of Libra.

Friends, it is under the influence of Libra that the point of balance or equilibrium is attained between material personal desire and intelligent spiritual love. As a result of this attained point of equilibrium, these two qualities of cosmic desire are brought to the fore in the consciousness and there balanced one against the other. Each of us, and ultimately, the whole body of humanity must decide whether to choose either desire for material and personal (i.e., selfish) ends or the way of spiritual development.

Having made that decision, under the sign of Libra which inclines towards the development of a sense of values, a careful weighing of those values, and the power to utilize rightly the balancing, analytical faculty of the mind—this, in light of an intuitive perception, Libra then provides the energy to project the inner spiritual purpose or intended will into physical expression.

So let's be especially aware today that through this monthly service, we have the potential to project the inner spiritual purpose and the intended will of the Hierarchy and Shamballa into outer, physical expression.

It was the 7th Century Buddhist Saint, Shantideva, who observed:

It is not possible for me to restrain the external course of things, unless I first restrain this mind of mine. If I can accomplish this, what would be the need then to restrain all else?

Substantiating this causative relationship between the inner and outer world—between the material and the spiritual, in the first volume of *The Secret Doctrine*, Helena Blavatsky confirms that "the Universe is worked and guided from within outwards...every external motion, act, gesture, whether voluntary or mechanical, organic or mental, is produced and preceded by internal feeling or emotion, will or volition, and thought or mind."

In other words, first comes the imagination, the thought, the idea and then the manifestation. When the spiritual nature is in control, it redeems the lesser, integrating it into a more harmonious, holistic expression. Just as surely as the orchestra conductor can bring harmony out of cacophony, so the Soul, when sought, embraced and given dominion, harmonizes the lesser, conflicting and warring elements.

As this month's quote in our website indicates, the Hierarchy—that aggregate on our planet of the forces of the fifth kingdom in nature seeks to provide fit conditions for the development of awareness or self-consciousness in all beings.

In humanity, this is accomplished by the work of blending the higher three aspects of spirit with the forces of the lower four—this through the example it sets of service, sacrifice and renunciation and through the constant stream of Light which the Hierarchy eternally radiates. (*Initiation Human and Solar*, pp. 20-21)

How does humanity, which normally exists within the limiting ring-pass-not of the fourth kingdom in nature, eventually enter this more exalted, inclusive and loving 5th kingdom of the Soul, of the Christ Consciousness and of the expression of Love-Wisdom?

The esoteric wisdom provides the answer: This takes place, dear Friends, through the *full* development and control of the fifth principle of mind. (Ibid.)

Through this fifth principle of mind (higher mind, lower mind and egoic intelligence), which stimulates the sense of awareness, humanity will eventually develop divine omniscience. Such awareness will allow humanity to respond not only to external stimuli, but to contacts emanating from the Higher Self or Soul and from the worlds of introspection and mystical vision. (*Esoteric Psychology, Vol. I*, p. 135)

Of the primal triplicity which we know to be Life, quality, and appearance. It is the latter which has been the objective focus of scientific study—probed, studied, analyzed and classified over the ages.

Only recently has humanity begun to probe the inner realms of reality.

“Now we are introverting and introspecting, and have the commencement of a cycle wherein the world of quality and of meaning will be subjected to a similar investigation and classification”—so states the Tibetan Master in the first volume of *Esoteric Psychology* (p. 136) and so we increasingly witness in our daily lives.

“This will result in the giving of new values to life, to an enriching of our understanding, and [this] will produce, as a result, the growth and substitution of the intuition for the intellect.” (Ibid.)

“May I urge upon all to live more continuously in the world of meaning and less in the world of appearances?” Asks the Tibetan Master, adding that “it is a truer world and less full of illusion. When the understanding is developed, when men have learnt to see below the surface and have cultivated true vision, then we shall have the steady emergence of the quality of the soul in all forms and the relative subsiding into the background of the power of the form nature. It is this world of meaning which it is the privilege of humanity to reveal, and all true esoteric students should be pioneers in this field”. (Ibid., p. 137)

The fifth principle of mind or manas is the principle which makes a human being what he and she is; it is this principle which makes of us either a prisoner within the form and upon the planet, and, alternatively, it is this same fifth principle of mind, which, when controlled and used by the Soul, will increasingly enable the spiritual man and woman to free him and herself from every form, resulting in the experience of liberation.

At individualisation the two poles of spirit and matter come together and at their meeting, light streams forth, irradiating the cave of matter, and lighting the pathway that must be traveled by the Pilgrim on his and her way back to the source. This process is described as follows in *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*:

“Individualisation is literally the coming together...of the two factors of Spirit and matter by means of a third factor, the intelligent will, purpose and action of an Entity. By the approximation of these two poles light is produced, a flame shines forth, a sphere of radiant glory is seen which gradually increases the intensity of its light, its heat and its radiance until capacity is reached, or that which we call perfection.” (p. 345)

Libra provides the energies and focus that will help humanity arrive at an understanding of this process, providing opportunity and incentive to make progress on the Way.

“I choose the Way that leads between the two great lines of force.”

In terms of the meditation process as taught both in the East and the West, Libra can be regarded as the "interlude between two activities." This is also the explanation given to that stage in meditation which we call *contemplation*.

In the five stages of meditation (as usually taught) we have concentration, meditation, contemplation, illumination and inspiration. These five stages are paralleled in the five strictly human signs of the zodiac, one of which is Libra.

In this stage of contemplation, the life of soul and form is balanced. Neither dominates. Equilibrium reigns. This stage provides the interlude wherein the soul organizes itself for battle and the personality awaits. For humanity, this is the probationary path in which duality is known and experienced.

The "scales tip back and forth" in either direction or—as it is sometimes expressed—the individual swings between the pairs of opposites. Hence the importance of this sign in the life expression and hence also its peculiar difficulty; it provides the curious see-saw experience which proves so distressingly bewildering first to the one who seeks to be entirely human but finds within the self impediments and urges which drive him and her on to something which is higher than the human and, secondly, to the aspirant or the disciple.

The focus of interest and the aim is soul life, yet the individual finds within the self that which seeks ever to draw him and her back to the old ways, the old habits and the old desires.

The point of balance is eventually reached between the spiritual and the personal and through the activity of the judicial mind, the stage is laid for the reversal of the wheel and the beginning of the new orientation and the full flowering of discipleship in subsequent signs.

Libra, as we know, governs the legal profession and holds the balances between so-called right and wrong, between negative and positive and also between East and West. Esoteric Astrology points out that whereas legislation has hitherto been focused on retributive, negative and punitive law, based on attitudes of fear, today, with humanity's growing spiritual progress and the impact of the Libra energies, the law is becoming the custodian of a positive righteousness and not simply the instrument of enforcement.

This was evident within the views expressed at the recent General Assembly session. For example, the Secretary-General indicated that experience has shown that harsh crackdowns and heavy-handed approaches are counterproductive and do not work.

As a result of its three ruling planets—Venus, Uranus and Saturn, which are in the Tibetan Master's words, peculiarly concerned with the expression of the Christ consciousness in the world, Libra is related to five other signs. With Libra at the point of balance, these signs create one of the six-pointed stars of evolution. These three planets, through the rays of which they are the medium, are all to be found upon the first major line of force, the line of will or power and of purpose and visioned goal.

This coupled with the fact that Libra is found upon the Cardinal Cross, which rules man's subjective and spiritual life and along with Leo and Capricorn constitutes the triangle of the Father or will aspect—all guarantee that humanity will eventually be able to project the inner spiritual purpose and the intended will of the Hierarchy and Shamballa into outer, physical expression.

For the disciple and initiate, once balance is attained under the influence of Libra, the promise is the experience and expression of divine love and understanding. With this thought in mind, can we now take up our meditation?