



**Transforming Planetary Consciousness
The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity**

Opening Address, Aquarius Solar Festival'

Thursday, 28 January 2021; Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Dear Friends, Good Afternoon and thank you for being here. Welcome to our first Webinar Meditation in this New Year of a new decade. May it be a bright New Year of radiant, Light and Love—for humanity, all life on our planet and for each one of you.

Welcome to this month's work in the universal, electrifying sign of Aquarius and all its attendant energies.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the actual time of this Festival occurs in just a short while at 2:16 p.m. Thus, as last month, we are once again auspiciously meeting on the Sacred Day of Safeguarding, a day of inner peace and silent solemnity — one in which we attempt to hold ourselves steadily in the light, providing as clear a receptacle as possible — individually and as a group so that we can be of greater service in the healing and uplift of humanity.

Finding inspiration from the possibilities of this brand New Year and from the new energies impacting our planet, can we work with all the tension of our forces to serve the Plan of Light and Love and Power?

Can *we* strive to identify, as best we can, with the highest planetary center of Purpose that eternally seeks to “guide the little wills of men,” affirming and intensifying our intention to act as a living, vital bridge, bringing humanity ever-closer to the ideas and energies held in trust within the Council Chamber of Shamballa, and radiated into our planet by the Great Brotherhood, the Hierarchy of Love-Wisdom?

As most of you know, after this opening address, we'll move to the focus of our meeting, which is group meditation. Following this, you'll have the opportunity to voice any thoughts and ideas you might like to share.

The photo on your screen is entitled The Helix Nebula. It comes to us courtesy of NASA's Astronomy Picture of the Day (APOD), which explains that the central stellar core glows in light so

*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2021 Aquarius 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>

energetic that it causes the previously expelled gas to brightly fluoresce. The interesting thing about this photo is that the Helix Nebula is the nearest such nebula to our own planet Earth (about 700 light years away) and it lies towards the constellation of Aquarius, designated in the NASA description as the “Water Bearer.”

I chose this photo for our work today because to me it serves as a symbol of the fact that the Age of Aquarius is the Age of the flowering of the Soul – the hidden life-giving essence pulsating at the heart of all life.

Interestingly, knowledge of the Soul can be traced back to the dawn of time. For instance, *The Emerald Tablets of Thoth*, the Atlantean Priest-King, which some claim date back some 36,000 years B.C. include in Tablet 11, for example, appreciation of Spirit-Soul, the immortal body of light, not subject to the limitations of the three dimensional physical world. This Tablet poetically affirms the importance of the Soul:

"Hear ye and liste ye, O children of *Khem*...When ye as men can learn that nothing but progress of Soul can count in the end, then truly ye are free from all bondage, free to work in a harmony of Law."

Dear Friends, as we know, Soul unfoldment is, after all, but one of the great processes of nature and whereas *belief* in the Soul flourished in what is now, after 2,000 plus years, the waning Age of Pisces, so will *knowledge* of the Soul flourish in this evolving Age of Aquarius.

The first volume of *Esoteric Psychology* provides this comprehensive description: “the soul is light *essentially*, both *literally* from the vibratory angle, and *philosophically* from the angle of constituting the true medium of knowledge. The soul is light *symbolically*, for it is like the rays of the sun, which pour out into the darkness; the soul, through the medium of the brain, causes revelation.

“It throws its light into the brain, and thus the way of the human being becomes increasingly illumined.” (p. 132)

Whereas the brain is like the eye of the soul, looking out into the physical world, so the Soul is the eye of the greater Monad, and in a curious and occult sense, the fourth kingdom in nature constitutes on our planet the eye of the planetary Deity. (ibid.)

All, dear Friends, is interrelated; is it not? We exist in one unimaginably vast and universal network of interrelationships and interdependence – all of us part of each other and part of the pulsation of the infinite grandeur of the Cosmos.

Eye of the Monad or the vital flower of Love and wisdom – both, I think, can be envisioned in this cosmic photo.

Of course, there is so much more that we can say about the Soul, but, for now, let’s pause for a moment, as we normally do, and together sound the Noon-time recollection. Can we remember, as we do, that it is the free and unimpeded circulation of energy among the three planetary centres of Shamballa, Hierarchy and humanity - *that through this monthly work, we are striving to achieve* - which *is* the underlying motive behind this mantric thought?

“We know oh Lord of Life and Love about the need. Touch our hearts anew with love that we too may love and give.” [PAUSE]

As with all the signs of the zodiac, the continuum of expression of the sign of Aquarius is extensive. The quality of the keynotes changes from a petty and superficial nature to one of deep purpose and profound conviction.

On the ordinary wheel of life, under the influence of the Mutable Cross of the hidden Christ the words spoken give rise to the involutory path: "And the Word said, Let desire in form be ruler." As the spark which ignites motion, desire leads to gained knowledge and the knowledge of that which is hidden at any stage upon the path of evolution eventually relates the individual to Uranus—both the exoteric and hierarchical ruler of Aquarius.

Thus, when the disciple has earned his and her place upon the Fixed Cross of Discipleship, under the influence of Aquarius, the Soul can then sing, “Water of Life Am I, Poured Forth for Thirsty Men.”

At the beginning of the cycle, the Aquarian influence, is expressed as consecration to the service of the lower self and selfishness prevails; later, upon the Fixed Cross, the Aquarian influence is expressed as consecration to the service of the Whole and the universal love of the truly developed Aquarian can express Soul and Spirit through substance.

Dear Friends, the esoteric wisdom informs us and we see examples of this all around us that the water-carrier, another name for the world server, is starting upon his and her self-appointed task. The result is the anchoring upon our planet of that salvaging and healing Group of World Servers, whose representatives can be found throughout the planet, with many, significantly working in affiliation with the United Nations.

Regardless of their different ray make-up, their differing points of view, their differing fields of service and techniques used, they all carry the pitcher containing the water of life upon their shoulder, and all are emitting the light in some degree throughout their environment. (*The Destiny of the Nations*, p. 146)

In the Aquarian Age into which we are progressing, it is the Risen Christ Himself, the Magnetic Point of Love for the entire planet — the True Aquarian, as He is called, who is the Water-Carrier. As we know, He will reappear upon our planet as the supreme Head of the Spiritual Hierarchy, meeting, in the words of the esoteric wisdom, “the need of the thirsty nations of the world — thirsty for truth, for right human relations and for loving understanding.” (Ibid., p. 150)

The sign of Aquarius is one of supreme importance to our solar system at this time, for it is the sign into which our Sun is rapidly moving and its influence is gaining in momentum and added potency with each passing decade. Expressing the universal consciousness of the Great Bear, it is this sign that is largely responsible for the changes now being effected in our planetary life in all the kingdoms of nature, and, because it is an air sign, its influence is all pervasive and inter-penetrating.

Through its powerful and inspiring emanations, including those also of Jupiter, its second ray esoteric ruler, this sign stimulates the astral bodies of humanity into a new coherency, which will result in the

brotherhood of humanity, in spite of all racial and national differences, carrying humanity forward into a destined synthesis and unity.

We can discern the beginning stages of this occurrence today. We note, for example, the many and increasing references in the work of the UN to the One Humanity and the One Planet, the call for justice and equality and the striving to leave no one behind. I'm also reminded too of the Director-General of the World Health Organization, who, in press conferences, steadfastly greets his co-workers as "Sisters" and "Brothers."

It is, of course the inner Brotherhood, which is guiding humanity towards this outer Brotherhood.

This development, which will continue to unfold well into the distant future, is described in *A Treatise on White Magic* in the following way:

This [brotherhood of humanity] means a tide of unifying life of such power that one cannot now vision it, but which—in a thousand years—will have welded all mankind into a perfect brotherhood. Its emotional effect will be to "purify" the astral bodies of men so that the material world ceases to hold such potent allure, and may in its later stages bring about a state of exaggeration as potent in the line of sentiency as that which we have undergone in the line of materiality!

"The final stages of all signs," it is explained, "produce over-development of the factor on which they most potently work. At present, the effect of this sign is constructive among the pioneers of the race, and destructive among the rank and file of humanity." (pp. 313-314)

And of course, this is quite evident in the strife, chaos and great conflicts now present upon our planet.

Another reason for the importance of this sign is that the influence and energies which emanate from Earth's guiding star, the Pole Star are brought to our planet via this sign of Aquarius.

"Aquarius," the esoteric wisdom teaches, "is a force centre from which the adept draws the 'water of life' and carries it to the multitude." This force, via Aquarius, is especially powerful at this time and is one of the factors that is facilitating the Reappearance of the Christ. (*A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, p. 1263)

It is here helpful to recollect that in *The Secret Doctrine* the "water of life" is equated with electricity – the ONE Life at the upper rung of Being, which is described as the sacred generator of fire, light, heat, adhesion and sound, as well as the foundation of all manifestations, which lie back of all evolution.

When He was in Palestine, centuries ago, the Christ said, 'No man cometh unto the Father but by me.' (John XIV.6) This, as we now better understand, was a foretelling of the work which He is now accomplishing in this evolving Age of Aquarius.

That is, in the Piscean Age, His work was to relate humanity to the Hierarchy and thus it is He who administers the first two initiations; in this evolving Age of Aquarius, His work is to relate the growing group of senior disciples and initiates to the higher centre, to which He referred as His Father's Home

— what we know to be the planetary center of Shamballa that holds in trust the divine purpose of our entire planetary life.

His main mission two thousand years ago, was to demonstrate the divine possibilities and powers latent in every human being. The proclamation which He made to the effect that we are all sons of God and own one universal Father will, in the future, no longer be regarded as a beautiful, mystical and symbolic statement, but will be recognized as a scientific pronouncement. As we are understanding, our universal brotherhood and our essential immortality is a fact in nature as humanity is inextricably related to the Hierarchy and Shamballa. (*Esoteric Psychology, Vol. I, p. 96*)

Over the masses, the Christ continues to pour out light, love and power, constantly stimulating the Christ or Soul-consciousness within humanity. Today, He is the “Dispenser of the Water of Life.” Through the over-shadowing of those sensitive to His impression and His focused Mind, He is also technically known as the “Nourisher of the little ones,” influencing, enlightening and producing right relations within humanity.

To this end, the development and establishment of an international consciousness is the objective of the present Plan. Based on mutual need, mutual understanding and mutual helpfulness the intention is to establish a “Brotherhood of Nations” — just as is described by all the major programs and projects of the United Nations.

As we are becoming increasingly aware, this work is perhaps one of the hardest tasks possible. Racial hatreds and national aspirations are so deeply and strongly entrenched and the blindness and ignorance of many is so great that all the resources of the spiritual workers must necessarily be actively engaged to make the needed impact upon public consciousness.

As we know, the main objective and the immediate task of the Christ is to bring to an end the separateness which exists between man and man, family and family, community and community, and nation and nation, and in this task, we are called upon to help.

It is therefore helpful to remember that when a point of balance is reached, the moment that those who stand for separateness and materialism, for totalitarianism or for any imposed governing group — and those who stand for the freedom of the human soul, the rights of all individuals, for brotherhood and right human relations — when these are equal in force, in position and in influence, when, as the current U.S. President said in his inauguration speech, “enough of us have come together to carry all of us forward,” then, the longed for transformations can occur. (*The Externalisation of the Hierarchy, pp. 648-651*)

Dear Friends, if an impact is to be made, the intensity of the spiritual energies must far outweigh those being replaced. As the Sanatana Dharma, the Agni Yoga Wisdom and *all* esoteric wisdom teaches, hatred does not end by hatred, but by love. Evil can be eradicated only by growing the Good.

“Such a truth is simple,” states the Agni Yoga wisdom, “and yet it remains not understood. The good in people is usually not operating and therefore remains inactive. They cannot imagine how good can expel evil, thus cutting short its existence. Good,” this wisdom continues, “is the most active, vital,

inexhaustible, invincible principle....Each action for good is an eternal achievement. When the dross of evil shall have long since disintegrated, the sites of good will flourish.” (*Fiery World I*, 592)

The "Ancient Law of Evil Sharing" must be replaced by the "Law of Ancient Dominating Good." The Aquarian Law of Loving Understanding must be put into daily practice by all disciples and spiritual workers who recognize and strive to understand and participate in the healing and redemption of our planet.

We need to remember, dear friends that every human thought, whether in the form of powerful mass thoughts or individual dynamic ideas — these will eventually emerge objectively on the physical plane. This is inevitable and unalterable as it is the law which governs mental substance.

Can we take this to heart as we now take up our meditation, realizing that our thoughts count more than we know and that they do contribute to the formation of an enlightened public opinion?