



Transforming Planetary Consciousness

The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity

Opening Address, Cancer Solar Festival¹

Wednesday, 27 June 2018; Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Good afternoon, friends! Welcome. Thank you for taking time out from your busy schedules to be here. It is a joy to once again meet with you, and I look forward to the good work we will here accomplish today.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the exact moment of the Cancer Solar Festival is shortly after midnight at 12:53 a.m., June 28th. Thus, in the five day cycle that makes up each of the 12 Solar Festivals, we are meeting on the last day of preparation, dedication and upward striving.

Recognizing ourselves as part of the world-wide group through which these spiritual energies are poured throughout the whole body of humanity, can we strive to identify with the Purpose that seeks to “guide the little wills of men,” becoming thus as a living, lighted bridge—bringing humanity ever-closer to the ideas and energies held in trust within the Council Chamber of Shamballa and radiated outward by the Hierarchy of Love-Wisdom into the minds and hearts of men.

As is our monthly practice, following this opening address, we’ll move to the focus of our meeting, which is group meditation, wherein we will strive to be receptive to spiritual impression as we hold the mind, “steady in the light.”

Following the Group Meditation, you will have an opportunity to voice any thoughts and ideas you would like to share.

The image on your screen is the “The Observable Universe”, from NASA’s Astronomy Picture of the Day (APOD). In case you would like to explore it further, on the first of July, this same image will be posted in the Aquarian Age Community website, accompanying the Quote of the Month.

NASA’s description for this image indicates that “Everything you can see, and everything you could possibly see, if your eyes could detect all types of radiations around you—*is* the observable universe.

Here, you have the Earth and the Sun at the center surrounded by our Solar System, nearby stars, nearby galaxies, distant galaxies, filaments of early matter, and the cosmic microwave background.

To my mind, it is a fitting reminder that humanity is an inseparable part of the Universe, and an inextricable part of the divine circulatory flow.

¹Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2018 Cancer 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>

In the words of the Agni Yoga wisdom, “the cosmic Breath of the Mother of the World is all-pervading. Verily, all is imbued with it. From infinitesimal grains of dust to immeasurable magnitudes, life moves and breathes by this [one] Breath.” (*Infinity I*, 10)

“Fathom the rhythm of cosmic energy”, states this Wisdom, “and [try to] understand the rhythm of evolution”—the essence of which is unalterable and measured by the manifestation of Infinity. (*Infinity I*, 10) The entire Universe is as one stream! (*Infinity I*, 193) “In each drop of dew is reflected the whole Universe.” (*Supermundane*, 822)

“We care especially that people should not turn away from earthly purposes, but in every earthly detail, recognize the presence of the higher treasure.” For, “In Thee is hidden the knowledge of the universe. In Thee is born the striving to behold the mysteries.” (*Leaves of Morya’s Garden, Vol. I*, 327).

Willfully opening ourselves to become recipients of this higher treasure, can we pause and together sound the Noon-time recollection?

“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 build a lighted house and therein dwell.”

Friends, in this esoteric keynote, the Word of the Soul indicates the evolutionary objective of the Cancer experience and the purpose for which incarnation has been taken.

Where the personality is concerned and the wheel rotates towards involution, the Cancer keynote is manifestly different. Here, the temporary method of the personality is also clearly given and the Word proclaimed by the soul as it takes incarnation calls out, "Let isolation be the rule and yet—the crowd exists."

To our dismay, and to the detriment of all, we see this tunnel vision continuously and repeatedly expressed on the world stage, do we not?

Esoteric Astrology explains that Cancer is not an easy sign to understand for it is the polar opposite—psychologically speaking—of the state of group consciousness towards which humanity is, at this time, tending. We are alerted to the fact that it’s difficult for the casual student to distinguish accurately between *mass* consciousness and *group* consciousness.

It is pointed out that today, we are at a midway point, generally speaking, between these two incompatible worldviews, with a fairly large minority who are becoming group conscious, and a majority, emerging out of the mass consciousness stage and becoming self-conscious individuals.

As we can appreciate, these differing levels of consciousness bring a divergent approach to world problems and therefore account for much of the present world conflicts and clash of idealisms. (pp. 311-312)

Cancer, as we know, is one of the two gates of the zodiac. Through this sign, souls pass into outer manifestation and to the appropriation of form, experiencing subsequent identification with that form for many long cycles.

Symbolizing mass consciousness and instinctual awareness, Cancer is "the gate which stands wide open, broad and easy to pass through and yet," from the point of the spiritual reality, "it leads unto the place of death and to that long imprisonment which precedes the final revolt"—being allied as it is with the material nature—the mother of forms, just as the opposite gate, Capricorn, is allied with spirit, the father of all that IS. (p. 312)

Because Cancer makes up one of the four arms of the Cardinal Cross, its understanding proves to be most elusive to the ordinary thinker—a point the Tibetan Master makes about all the four signs of the Cardinal Cross.

In the last analysis, it's only the initiated disciple who can fathom the comprehensive and true meaning of these zodiacal influences as they pulsate throughout the manifested universe, because they are primarily the expression of spirit or life, more than they are of soul or body.

Therefore, until after the third initiation of Transfiguration, it is difficult to understand what the esoteric wisdom refers to as that "mysterious essence which is divinity in motion." However, pondering these ideas, helps us stretch the mind and heart, preparing and cultivating the soil for eventual understanding.

As a result of the three preceding signs—these being Aries, Taurus and Gemini, the essential substance of manifestation assumed a triple differentiated relationship to which has been given the names of Life (Aries), Consciousness (Taurus), and manifested duality (Gemini).

Blended together, these three aspects came into outer manifestation in Cancer, thus completing an esoteric quaternary of great importance. It is then in Capricorn, the polar opposite of Cancer, and the sign of initiation, that "this basic triplicity begins to return to the earlier state of the 'breath of spirit' but, this time, with full awareness and properly fulfilled organisation, so that form is a perfect expression of the soul and the soul is sensitive and responsive to the pulsations of the One Life, as that Life reveals, through its activity, the perfect will of the Logos." (p. 314)—*the perfect will of the Logos*. Friends, can we even begin to fathom what this might mean?

Here, it would be helpful to ponder two words, given to us, which convey the "purpose and intent of expression upon the Cardinal Cross": *self-preservation* and *immortality*. These words relate to the Law of Rebirth and therefore to the whole process of involution and evolution.

They provide understanding as to why the two "Doors of the Zodiac" open wide to the impulse and demand of the divine Spirit. *Self-preservation* leads to the impulse to incarnate in Cancer, which is the Door to the physical plane expression of spirit.

And, "*immortality*" is the divine aspect of self-preservation, leading to the recurrent appearance of life in form, and to the revelation of that life in form. It's helpful to remember that it's not until the third initiation that this life aspect assumes a primary importance. Until then, as we see all around us, the focus, in varying degrees, is on the form, and on denser matter. (p. 315)

Including the sign of Cancer, there are nine signs which carry the individual from the stage of imprisonment in form to the freedom and liberation of the kingdom of God—from the state of embryonic consciousness to the full flower of divine knowledge; from the condition of human awareness to the conscious wisdom of the initiated disciple. These nine signs are strictly expressive

of human unfoldment—conscious and superconscious, all beginning with the mass awareness of Cancer.

Thus, in this sign lies hid the whole quandary of the Law of Rebirth, which is implicit in the manifested universe and is a basic and fundamental theme underlying systemic pulsation—ceaseless inbreathing and out-breathing. Here, the Tibetan Master informs us that, contrary to what is usually believed, it is not desire which prompts reincarnation, rather, it is *will* and *knowledge of the plan*.

It is not the need for achieving an ultimate perfection which stimulates the ego on to experience in form, for the ego is already perfect. Rather, the main incentive is sacrifice and service to those lesser lives that are dependent upon the higher inspiration (which the spiritual soul can give) and the determination that they too may attain planetary status equivalent to that of the sacrificing soul.

In themselves, rebirth and reincarnation are misleading terms and the Tibetan Master suggests that we think, instead, in terms of "cyclic impulsion," "intelligent purposeful repetition" and "conscious in-breathing and out-breathing," which describe this cosmic process more accurately.

Groups of souls come into incarnation cyclically and together in order to further the Plan and permit that interplay to proceed between spirit and matter which makes manifestation possible and which extends the working out of the divine ideas as they exist in the Mind of God.

Dear Friends, does this not add texture, vitality and depth to the concept of group work—and to our individual affiliations and engagement with different groups? Is this not a good reminder of the working out of the Purpose that guides the little wills of men?

"It will be found," states the Tibetan Master, "that rebirth is, in truth, a magical and magnetic interplay between the form side of life and life itself. This interplay is consciously undertaken by the soul which is the product of the two related factors." This relationship and process is expressed in the *Old Commentary* in the following poetic words that I think many of you will find familiar:

"Those who are demanding to be saved have cried aloud. Their voices penetrate into the formless world and there evoke response.

"Those who in distant aeons have pledged themselves to save and serve respond. Their cry too rings forth and, ringing, penetrates into the dark and distant places within the worlds of form.

"And thus a vortex is established and kept alive by that constant dual sound. And then a touch is made and for a space and during time, the two are one—the Saving Souls and the Units to be served.

"Slowly, the vision of the Saving One becomes a light which guides the Crying Ones into the place of light." (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 326)

Cancer is the Light within the form—the diffused light of substance itself, the "dark light" of matter referred to in *The Secret Doctrine*; the light awaiting the stimulation of soul light.

Through the door of Cancer streams the "magnetic magical light which guides the soul into the dark place of experience." Similarly, it is the magical pull of Capricornian energy, which upon the returning wheel of discipleship draws the soul steadily away from form life and experience and constitutes that "radiant light which leads the soul in safety to the mountain top."

(*Esoteric Astrology*, pp. 336-337)

In Cancer, the undeveloped individual is the blind unit who is lost; the advanced individual is the one who awakens to that which is around and the Disciple/Initiate recognizes the Whole as one.

The two rulers of this sign—the Moon and Neptune—are symbolic of the close relationship between the Mother of all Forms and the God of the Waters. They lead to the unfoldment of the form of life and of the emotional-astral body. The supreme usefulness of these aspects will be grasped if we realize that without the form and without the ability to bear in mind the need to respond with sensitivity to the environing conditions and circumstance, the soul would never awaken to knowledge in the three worlds and, therefore, would never know God in manifestation.

There is much that could be said about these rulers, but for our purposes, I'll mention only that the unveiled Neptune relates Cancer to no other constellation or sign, and this fact is of great importance because it indicates that having reached the stage of initiate, the individual does not react to ordinary feeling, sentiment or to personality relations as they express themselves in pleasure or pain.

All of these emotional states are surmounted and eventually the watery life of emotional reaction is superseded by the life of true and of inclusive love. Soul control esoterically "obliterates" the Moon and all traces of Neptunian life. The initiate is no longer ruled by the Mother of Forms or by the God of the Waters. Metaphorically, when the "waters break and are carried away," the Mother gives birth to the Son, the Soul, the Christ principle, and that individual spiritual entity then stands free. Friends, there is much for us to ponder here; is there not?

Two planets are exalted in this sign, Jupiter and Neptune. As this is the sign of rebirth, these two planets indicate the successful development and eventual use of the form aspect and the development of psychic sensitivity both in the higher and the lower senses.

These are important developments for the soul who has chosen to incarnate. The building of adequate forms and the use and control of form are essential if there is to be wise and right cooperation with the Plan of God. Jupiter guarantees this in Cancer from the very initial stage of birth. Love as relationship to divinity and wisdom as relationship to form lie behind the soul's intent.

In summary, the main thought for us to hold clearly in the mind is that energy is either consciously manipulated by the governing soul or it is swept into activity by the force inherent in the matter of the three worlds, independently of the soul. When this is the case, the individual is a victim of his and her own form energies and the matter aspect of all manifestation. In the other case, the Soul is the intelligent ruler, the controller of his and her own destinies, swinging the lower energies into forms and activities through the power of the mind and the focussed attention of the soul.

Keeping these thoughts in mind, can we now take up our work of meditation?