



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

Opening Address, Cancer Solar Festival

Friday, 3 July 2020; Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Dear Friends, Good Afternoon and thank you for being here. Welcome to this month's work in the nurturing, complex and watery sign of Cancer— that Zodiacal Door through which streams the “magnetic, magical light which guides the soul into the dark place of experience,” the Door through which the spirit enters the material world of physical plane expression.

Our point of meditative focus as we work with this sign of Cancer and its attendant energies is to consider how to anchor and express in the daily life, the energies and ideas generated and inspired throughout the last three months of the three High Spiritual Festivals of Spring, at the time of the Aries, Taurus and Gemini Solar Festivals. As the Cancer keynote indicates, our service work in this sign is to help humanity “build a lighted house.”

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the actual time of this Festival occurs early Sunday morning, July 5th at 12:44 a.m. Thus, in the five day cycle that makes up our observance of these monthly Festivals, we're meeting on the first day of Preparation — a time of dedication and upward striving — a time for us to hold the intention to become recipients and custodians of as much of the inflowing spiritual force as we are capable of holding on behalf of humanity.

At this most consequential and critical time on our planet, let us then intensify our strivings as best we can to become custodians of as much of the inflowing force as we are capable of holding on behalf of humanity; let us seek to identify with the Purpose that 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.

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 image on your screen is entitled *Neptune and Trans-Neptunian Objects*. Back in 1846 when European astronomers quarreled over what to call the newly found eighth planet, they eventually settled on Neptune, after the Roman god of the sea. The name turned out to be most appropriate for

*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2020 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>

later it was discovered that indeed, as you see here, Neptune is colored a deep oceanic blue, with white flecks and deeper blues playing across its clouds.

Neptune is both the esoteric and hierarchical ruler of Cancer and in fact, also the exoteric ruler, if we consider the fact that the Moon, the orthodox ruler of Cancer, veils Neptune. We thus have a close relationship between the Moon as the Mother of Forms and Neptune, the God of the Waters.

Esoteric Astrology tells us that “in this esoteric marriage” between these two planets, we have pictured for humanity a major synthesis of form and of desire-sensitivity and, consequently, a true expression of that Atlantean stage of consciousness, indicating as it does, mass emotional sensitivity and mass identification with the material world of form.

However, the Moon, as a ruling planet, also relates Cancer to the signs of Virgo and Aquarius and in this combination, we have, not only the sign of mass-consciousness, but also the sign of the Christ-consciousness *and* the sign of universal consciousness — all closely related to each other through the influence of Neptune, which, for this time period, the Moon veils.

Cancer, as we know, is the sign of birth; it is the door into incarnation and the sign of generation. The tests, difficulties and pains of our current era are symptoms or indications of the "entering into manifestation" of the new civilization and culture. They portend the birth of the new Lighted era for which the entire world waits.

Along with Uranus and Saturn, Neptune is one of the three synthesizing planets through which Sirius, that brilliant star of sensitivity influences our entire solar system. As a sacred 6th Ray planet of idealism, devotion and struggle, Neptune presides over and makes possible the second initiation, which here in the West is referred to as “the Baptism” and in the East is referred to as “entering the stream.”

As a result of this initiation, the world of the personality becomes transformed and begins to display divine “quality.” The physical body becomes obedient to the dictates of the mind, which, in turn, is becoming responsive to the higher mind via the medium of the Soul. This second initiation of Transformation is further described as a process in which the emotional nature becomes the receptacle of the intuition or of buddhi—the energy or consciousness of love as “pure reason.”

This second initiation is uniquely significant because it is the astral plane, the plane of the emotions that provides the battleground of the Soul. It is the place of victory or defeat, providing for both the individual and humanity as a whole, the *Kurukshetra*, the plane of illusion, where land (the physical nature) and water (the emotional nature) meet.

The fluid nature of the emotional body is either attentive to Soul impression or it is swayed by the "million voices of earth." It provides the battleground through which we all must pass and prove ourselves and many life times are spent in purifying and learning to control this vehicle, in preparation for the second initiation.

When adequate control is gained and the energies of the inclusive and group-oriented Soul can be reflected within the emotional body, the heart center is awakened and the individual becomes conscious of the life and nature of right relationship. Aspiration and altruism then supersede emotional reactions and competition, aggression and selfishness are transformed into cooperation, compassion and sharing. A basic unity with all that breathes is experienced and there is recognition of the One Life in which we all live, move and have our being.

And, here dear Friends, we have portrayed and described the potential of humanity that, in response to our current multiple crises is beginning to germinate and grow. Here, we have described the potential of that for which so many within and around the United Nations are today striving. Listen, for example, to any of the briefings of the World Health Organization and note the compassionate voices of these world servers as they attempt to guide the whole of humanity out of the current Covid crisis. Thankfully, there are many other examples that I and many of you could additionally identify.

With regard to Neptune, it is clarifying to remember that whereas a non-sacred planet affects primarily life in the three worlds of daily living, a sacred planet will aid in the processes affecting the fusion of soul and body, of consciousness and form, producing also the quickening of the intuition. All of this makes Neptune a very important influence at this time in humanity's evolution.

Keeping these thoughts in mind, can we pause for a moment, as we normally do, and together dedicate ourselves to today's work by sounding the Noon-time recollection?

"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]

"I build a lighted house and therein dwell"—such is the esoteric keynote, the Word of the soul, which so clearly expresses the objective of the Cancer experience and the purpose for which incarnation has been taken. "I build a lighted house and therein dwell."

It is, as we know, through this sign of Cancer that souls pass into outer, objective manifestation, appropriating the material substance, fashioning it into a suitable form, and subsequently identifying with that form for many long cycles.

According to *Esoteric Astrology* (p. 312), Cancer "is 'the gate which stands wide open, broad and easy to pass through and yet it leads unto the place of death and to that long imprisonment which precedes the final revolt.' It is allied with material nature, and with the mother of forms, just as the other gate, Capricorn, [the polar opposite of Cancer] is allied with spirit, the father of all that IS."

As one of the arms of the Cardinal Cross, a true understanding of this sign is only possible to the initiated disciple who alone can "fathom the 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 of soul or body." Therefore, although we have been given much helpful information about this sign, as one of the arms of the Cardinal Cross, Cancer is that "mysterious essence which is divinity in motion." (p. 313)

Recognized and established as an influencing factor by ancient humanity, Cancer is one of the oldest of the zodiacal signs. Aroused by the impact of divine desire and impelled by the divine Breath, the divine Life or Spirit, in Cancer — the essential substance of manifestation awoke to renewed activity and in Cancer this living substance assumed a triple differentiated relationship of Life emanating from Aries, Consciousness emanating from Taurus, and manifested duality emanating from Gemini. Blended together, these three subjective aspects came into outer manifestation in Cancer, completing then an esoteric quaternary of great importance.

It is in Capricorn, the sign of initiation and the polar opposite of Cancer 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 organization, so that form then becomes a perfect expression of the soul and the soul becomes

sensitive and responsive to the pulsations of the One Life, revealing, through its activity, the perfect Will of the Logos. (Ibid., p. 314)

Dear Friends, using the esoteric sense, can we recognize the very faint outlines, or perhaps the delicate, wispy tendrils of humanity's awesome spiritual destiny within the responses to the turmoil, suffering and chaos of the moment?

It might here be helpful to say a few words about the Law of Rebirth, which I think is also clearly reflected in what we see happening on the world stage at this time. "Basically," the Tibetan Master states, it is not desire which prompts return, but rather, "will and knowledge of the plan."

It is not the need for achieving an ultimate perfection which goads the ego on to experience in form, because 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.

"Bear this always in mind," he encourages, "as you study the subject of rebirth" and consider that "conscious in-breathing and out-breathing" would describe more accurately this cosmic process."

"Esoterically speaking," he states, the point of greatest interest lies in the fact that it is group rebirth which is taking place all the time and that the incarnation of the individual is only incidental to this greater happening."

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.

If we look at the multiple crises now playing out in our world, do we not recognize such groups within, for example, the scientific community, or the department of government, or the department of education, or within the spiritual communities, geographically spread out over the entire world, but cooperating to bring solution and uplift to the whole of humanity?

Rebirth is in truth, the Tibetan tells us, "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. The Old Commentary expresses this truth in the following poetic words:

"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."

Interestingly, [Eleanor Wikstrom](#), the young, 17-year old Youth Poet Laureate, whose video commemorating the signing of the UN Charter is included in this month's Selected Links section of

the Cancer newsletter offers similar thoughts. Addressing the empty San Francisco Herbst Theater, where the UN Charter was signed in 1945, she poignantly shares her plaintive heartbreak:

“I am 17 years old and I have watched the world try to end a thousand times, and I will watch us try to save it a thousand more. Maybe there is something more to this human inheritance and darkness and entropy, failure and free fall – something you have to choose – a fight that never ends; a hope that always burns; a belief that our inheritance can be greater than the sum of its parts....I am not the first girl to come of age with the world mourning at her feet and each time we stand over this abyss, it is a little brighter, a little warmer inside....I choose... this endless fight; a thousand hands reaching through darkness to offer their own little pieces of magic and light until someday, the next girl who stands here will see only stars.”

Dear Friends, The theme of service and sacrifice runs, unrecognized, throughout history. As I mentioned, we are told that the key to the understanding of these reincarnating, saving factors lies in a coming intuitive ability to recognize the reincarnating groups, as groups and not as individuals. If we look at our current planetary landscape through this lens, I think we can see the contours of these groups quite clearly, recognizing their service and, of course, supporting it!

A powerful personality functions in any field of human expression. His and her work will warrant being referred to as spiritual just in so far as it is based on high idealism, the greatest good of the largest number, and self-sacrificing endeavor. These three elements – *idealism*, *group service* and *sacrifice* – are the characteristics of those who are becoming increasingly sensitive to the soul aspect, the qualities of that soul being knowledge, love and sacrifice.

Alternatively, the outstanding characteristics of those personalities who are not as yet soul-centered or controlled, are *dominance*, *ambition*, *pride* and a *lack of love for the whole*, though they frequently possess love for those who are necessary to them or to their comfort. (*A Treatise on White Magic*, pp. 395-396)

This very same point is also made unmistakably and clearly by Zeid Raad Al Hussein, the former High Commissioner for Refugees in a podcast series, entitled *Finding Humanity* that you will find again in the Selected Links section of this month’s newsletter. Therein, Mr. Zeid is asked, “What is human good?” His full answer is well worth the listen, but in summary, he states that human goodness is qualified by our ability to care for *everyone*. “Good,” he states, “is where you have a very broad approach to humanity and you defend the rights of everyone.” If any of our actions are taken at the expense of the other, then that does not serve the good.

In its powerful simplicity, the Agni Yoga wisdom affirms that the goal and the meaning of existence is to strive upward beyond the limits of the known, and to help one another. (*Leaves of Morya’s Garden II*, 160)

Dear Friends, the UN is a relentless force for good. In the second volume of the book, *Discipleship in the New Age* (p. 220), it is affirmed that “*Within the United Nations is the germ and the seed of a great international and meditating, reflective group – a group of thinking and informed men and women in whose hands lies the destiny of humanity... Their point of meditative focus is the intuitional or buddhic plane.*” They need our cooperative support, wouldn’t you agree?

With these thoughts in mind, can we now take up our meditation?