



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

**Opening Address, Capricorn Solar Festival**

**Friday, 10 January 2020; Noon - 1:00 p.m.**

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Dear Friends, Good Afternoon and welcome to this month's Solar Festival Webinar—our first for this New Year and new decade of 2020. Thank you for being here. May we collectively anchor and manifest the new sacred energies of the Festival Week of the New Group of World Servers, bringing these into our work today and further anchor and distribute them over the next seven year cycle.

Happy New Year to each of you! I look forward to our work, as we together create thoughtforms of healing, uplift and renewal for humanity and all life on the planet in alignment this month with the sign of Capricorn – that sober, yet magical and most mysterious of all the twelve signs of the zodiac.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the actual time of this Festival occurs at 2:21 p.m. today, in just a short while from now.

Thus, in the five day cycle that makes up our observance of these monthly Festivals, we are auspiciously meeting on the sacred day of *Safeguarding* – a day of inner peace and silent solemnity – a day of service carried forward entirely on esoteric levels and of complete self-forgetfulness, as we focus on the compelling needs of humanity.

Let us recognize this opportunity of contact between the inner and outer groups and do our utmost to keep the channel of communication open and free of all which would eclipse the divine circulatory flow.

As we have done in the past, let's begin our work by identifying, as best we can, with the Purpose that seeks to “guide the little wills of men,” affirming 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 photo on your screen, as you probably have recognized, is Saturn, which is both the exoteric and esoteric ruler of Capricorn. This photo, Courtesy of NASA's Astronomy Picture of the Day (APOD) is entitled “Cassini's Last Ring Portrait at Saturn.” The sun is just above the frame, causing Saturn to

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\*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2020 Capricorn 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](http://www.lucistrust.org) and from the Agni Yoga Society at <http://www.agniyoga.org/index.php>

cast a dark shadow onto its enormous rings, creating this quite dramatic depiction of the planet, emphasizing, to my mind, the pivotal crisis point it is engendering in humanity's evolution.

In *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, we learn that it is through the synthesizing schemes of Uranus, Neptune and Saturn that Sirius – the brilliant star of sensitivity and that great star of initiation, influences our entire solar system. Saturn is the focal point for the transmission of cosmic mind to our entire seven planetary schemes and, it is in Capricorn – in this complicated and sacred sign of initiation, that Saturn reveals the nature of the third aspect of divinity, the nature of intelligent substance.

As one of the most powerful of the four Lords of Karma, Saturn forces the individual to face up to the past, while presenting karmic opportunity in the present to prepare for the future. Interestingly, Saturn is also regarded as the planetary Dweller on the Threshold. This, because humanity as a whole has to face that Dweller as well as the Angel of the Presence, and in doing so, discover that both the Dweller and the Angel are that complex duality which is the human family.

We also know Saturn as the great Taskmaster, the Teacher, the imposer of retribution, the perfectionist who demands full payment of all debts, and, the Gatekeeper who will not allow passage into the greater realms of glory until reality is known and all lessons are learned.

It is understandable then that Saturn's power is completely ended and his work is accomplished when the disciple has freed him and herself from the power of both the Mutable and the Fixed Crosses. In other words, it is only *after* the third initiation that we are released from the boundaries, the restrictions and the rule of Saturn because *esoterically*, Saturn's guidance is no longer needed when the Initiate has entered the experience of the Cardinal Cross.

Keeping these thoughts in mind, can we now move forward in our work as we together sound 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]

Dear Friends, The key words for Capricorn upon the ordinary wheel are "And the Word said: Let ambition rule and let the door stand wide." Here, as the Tibetan Master teaches, we have the key to the evolutionary urge, to the secret of rebirth, and the secret of that word which reverberates from Cancer to Capricorn.

The door of initiation stands ever open, but for aeons of time the individual prefers the open door in Cancer. Ambition urges him and her on from life to life until the spiritual wo/man discovers the insignificance, and according to the Tibetan Master, the *worthlessness* of all earthly gratification.

Gradually, spiritual ambition and a desire for liberation take the place of worldly ambition, and these become the impelling impulse of a life, until finally the moment arrives when a true sense of reality supersedes both earthly and spiritual ambition.

At this point, the song of the Soul is heard: "Lost am I in light supernal, yet on that light I turn my back." The world initiate in Capricorn realizes that there is now no goal but service — service that redeems and brings greater light to the self *and* the planetary whole of which each of us is a part.

Although Capricorn is the most mysterious of all the twelve signs, it also provides a rather complete picture of the individual human being, with his and her feet upon the earth, yet running free and

climbing to the heights of world ambition or of spiritual aspiration in search of what he and she realizes, at any particular time, to be the major need.

In Capricorn we have the triumph of matter, which reaches its densest and most concrete expression; but this triumph is followed by that of spirit. There is full expression of the earthly nature, but also immense spiritual possibilities.

As such, Capricorn is a sign of extremes. It can express all the worst of which a person is capable and all the best. Esoterically, all world Saviours and Sun Gods are born in Capricorn, but so are all the worst of our humanity — those who are hard, materialistic, cruel, proud, selfishly ambitious and egoistic. In such instances, the head rules the heart, whereas, in the perfect example of the influences of Capricorn, the head and the heart are perfectly balanced.

Interestingly, even the symbol of this sign is indecipherable and intentionally so. *Esoteric Astrology* teaches that it is sometimes called the "signature of God," which cannot be interpreted, partly because it has never yet been correctly drawn and partly because its correct delineation and the ability of the initiate to depict it would produce an inflow of force which would not be desirable, except after due preparation and understanding. "It is," the Tibetan Master states, far more powerful "than the pentagon and leaves the initiate 'unprotected.'"

The crystallizing and concretizing faculty of Capricorn can be considered in several ways. For example, because it expresses the densest point of concrete materialisation of which the human soul is capable, it also holds in itself the seeds of death and finality.

That is, when crystallization has reached a certain degree of density and "hardness," it is easily shattered and destroyed. Again and again, a measure of concreteness is achieved, only again to undergo destruction, prior to the release of the growing life and the rebuilding of the form.

Relatedly, Capricorn is ever the sign of conclusion, and of this the mountain top is frequently the symbol, for it marks the point beyond which further ascent in any particular life cycle is not possible. Progress becomes impossible under the existing forms, and there has to be the descent into the valley of pain, despair and death before a fresh attempt to scale the heights takes place.

Dear Friends, does this not describe and explain so much of what we are experiencing in our own lives and what is happening to those worldly structures that no longer serve the highest good?

As a consequence of all the above, Capricorn is the sign in which is inaugurated a new cycle of effort, whether this effort is in connection with the ordinary individual or with the initiate. Effort, strain, struggle, the fight with the forces native to the underworld, or the strenuous conditions entailed by the tests of discipleship or initiation — these are distinctive of experience in Capricorn.

In Atlantean days, the humanity of that day had become so responsive to the planetary and solar influences that the door of initiation into hierarchical experience was opened and two more signs were added. These two signs, Aquarius and Pisces, were the higher correspondences of Leo and Virgo and their polar opposites.

Their influence became active and effective and thus they formed part of the zodiacal wheel because the individuals of the day began to respond to their energies. It then became possible for the Fixed Cross to function esoterically in the life of humanity, and the first reversals of the wheel in the life of the advanced people of the period took place.

And here, dear Friends, we have the astounding explanation for the cataclysmic destruction of Atlantis. Here, we have the true cause of the great contest or battle between the Lords of the Dark Face (as they are called in *The Secret Doctrine*) and the Lords of Light.

Certain individuals were able to reach the stage of discipleship wherein they could consciously mount the Fixed Cross and be prepared for a major initiation. This, the Forces of Materiality and of Obstruction fought and the battle was on and continues to this day.

Today, in our current Aryan\* cycle, a similar conflict upon a higher turn of the spiral is again taking place. Certain world disciples and initiates have reached the point in their unfoldment wherein they are ready to mount the Cardinal Cross and take some of the higher initiations, resulting in a conflict between humanity, under the control of the Lords of Materiality, and the Hierarchy, under the control of the Forces of Light and Love.

It is easy to recognize this same battle playing out everywhere throughout our planet within the lives of individuals, within nation states and in opposition to the work of the United Nations.

On every hand, Humanity is in a state of turmoil, an indication that a great step forward in self-conscious unfoldment is inevitable. We note, too, on the part of many both within and without the UN, the growing expression of responsibility - the first flower and fruit of self-conscious awareness.

The disciples of the world and advanced humanity are equally in a state of turmoil. They are being tested and tried, prior to taking a major step forward in preparing for either the first or 2<sup>nd</sup> initiation.

The initiates, in their turn, are being subjected to the impact of energies from the signs of Scorpio, Capricorn and Pisces — bringing therefore an inflow of force from each of the three Crosses, engendering the trials, tests and difficulties, which will enable the initiates to take the third initiation.

The reason for this turmoil in world affairs is caused by seven constellations in particular, including the three just named. These have been brought into a close relationship at the present moment of crisis and the battle is especially daunting because the signs of the Cardinal Cross are involved in a most concentrated and powerful way.

We are being showered with the energies of Cancer and Capricorn, forming one of the arms of the Cardinal Cross as well as Taurus, Leo and Scorpio bringing in the energies of the Fixed Cross of discipleship and Gemini and Pisces bringing in the influence of the Mutable Cross.

Under these influences, the death of constricting and outdated forms will bring greater freedom to the disciples of the world; the dissolution of old structures of thought, embodying worn-out ideas and ideals is necessarily taking place. Crystallized old forms are dissolving and disappearing, but in their place the undying spirit — impressed by revelation and sensitive to the emerging new concepts of truth — is creating the needed new forms of expression.

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\*Aryan is a term derived from the Sanskrit word “Ārya,” which refers to someone who is holy and highly evolved or especially trained.

The interlocking nature of the heavenly forces of all the twelve constellations, are pouring into and through all the kingdoms in nature; they carry with them, not only their own individual potencies, but also those of the seven rays, focussed through the sacred and non-sacred planets — the discovered and undiscovered planetary Lives.

A vision of these powers and their many weaving lines — seen as rivers and streams of light, is given to the initiate from the mountain top of Capricorn and it is at the Transfiguration initiation that this vision appears before the eyes of the astounded disciple.

One additional point that I would like to have us consider today, is that together with the signs of Aries and Leo, Capricorn forms what is referred to as the triangle of the Father\*. It is this Triangle that conveys to our planet the first Ray of Will and Power.

These are signs of crisis as they indicate the progressive influence of the other nine signs and the situations which evolve out of their interlinked activities. They make up the testing points in the process of the play of energies from the other nine signs as these energies especially affect individual aspirants. Through crisis met, they mark points of attainment resulting in triumphant achievement.

Within this triangle, Capricorn is the constellation by means of which comes the conquering will which releases from form life and initiates the spiritual wo/man into the kingdom wherein the will aspect of divinity expresses itself. Here, *Esoteric Astrology* points to a most interesting correlation between our planet Earth and the sign of Capricorn. The reason for this special relationship is that the Earth is in the process of transforming from a "non-sacred" to a "sacred planet."

It is for this reason that Saturn is such a powerful ruler and transmitter to the Earth of the dynamic quality of the first ray of power — an energy which is increasingly accelerating. And, here we have the reason why it is mandatory that we intensify our expression of the will-to-good and why we are enjoined to strengthen the hands of the New Group of World Servers, whose work is now so critical.

As part of the six pointed star of the human Hierarchy, Capricorn marks that stage in the unfolding of the human consciousness wherein illumination governs the intuition. This illumination brings about the unfoldment of the Soul consciousness in its later stages and allows the disciple to finally say in truth and in fact, "I realize."

"Inspired from on high," as this stage is technically called, in Capricorn, the initiate learns to realize the meaning of the growing light which greets his and her progress as s/he climbs upward to the mountain top. The flashes of intuition with which s/he is becoming familiar change into the blazing and constant light of the soul, irradiating the mind and providing the "fusion of the two lights, the greater and the lesser light." The light of the personality and the light of the soul are now blended.

Dear Friends, The Agni Yoga wisdom succinctly states, "Great is the scope of the battle for the regeneration of humanity's consciousness." (Agni Yoga, 104). And so it is.

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

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\* Cancer-Virgo-Pisces.—Constitute the triangle of the Mother or matter.