



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

**Opening Address, Easter/Aries Solar Festival'**

**Sunday, 28 March 2021; Noon - 1:00 p.m.**

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Dear Friends, I greet each of you with welcome good wishes of Joy, Renewal, Restoration and Resurrection. Welcome to this month's work at this time of the first of the three Spiritual Festivals, the Festival of Easter, in the fiery, strengthening and creative sign of Aries.

Let us together welcome this season of renewal, new beginnings and regeneration; a time of joyous exuberance and vitality when here in the Northern Hemisphere, the hours of sunlight increase, new plants bloom, animals awaken and the earth responds to the sun's increasing warmth and light with new signs of life.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the actual time of this Festival occurs in just a short while at 2:48 p.m. Thus, we are auspiciously meeting on the Day of Safeguarding, a day of inner peace and silent solemnity—one in which we hold ourselves steadily in the light as we focus on the needs of humanity.

At this most opportune time, aware of the new energies provided, most significantly, by the Spirit of Resurrection and the Forces of Restoration, let us respond by opening *our* hearts and minds to the possibilities in front of us as we take our place within the world-wide esoteric group, actively and cooperatively invoking and evoking the available spiritual energies, in service to the Plan of Light and Love and Power.

Let us 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 transformative energies held in trust within the Council Chamber of Shamballa, and radiated into our planet by the Great Brotherhood 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.

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\*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2021 Easter/Aries 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>

The photo on your screen, courtesy of the [AstroBackyard Website](#), is the Constellation of Ursa Major, which, as we know, is the Latin term for Great Bear. It is one of the oldest constellations in the night sky and dates as far back as 13,000 years ago. It is mentioned in the Bible as well as in the works of the Greek author, Homer and it was among the 48 constellations listed by Ptolemy in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century AD. It's well known in most world cultures and it is associated with several Greek, Roman, Hindu, Chinese, Japanese and other cultural myths. The best time to see this constellation is in the spring when it is high, above the north-eastern horizon.

Its' seven brightest stars, which you see featured here, form one of the most recognizable asterisms in the sky with deep significance in many diverse cultures. Referred to as the "Big Dipper", "the Wagon" or "the Plough," this asterism also points to Polaris, our planet's North Star. Being located nearly above the Earth's northern axis, Polaris is the star around which the whole northern celestial sphere appears to turn.

As lovely as this photo is and as magnificent and meaningful as this outer seeming is and has been in the history of our planet, the esoteric reality is much more consequential and significant.

The esoteric wisdom tells us that our solar system — of supreme unimportance on its own, is yet a part of the greater sevenfold appearance of the One Essential Cause. Because of certain cosmic relationships, referred to in *The Secret Doctrine*, our solar system has within itself the capacity to respond to the energies emanating from what is referred to as the "fountainhead of light and will" — a "vast aggregation of intelligent Forces" and "stupendous divine 'Intentions,'" which according to *Esoteric Astrology*, make it clear "that our solar system (and consequently our planet) is a part of this vast whole, kept alive by its 'grace', fused by its will, and preserved by its 'Intention.' Because these Forces are, we are; because They persist, we persist; because They move in form, in space, in time, we do the same." (pp. 608-609)

This stream of energies moves outward into space from the constellation of Ursa Major, transmitted by certain zodiacal constellations to our solar system and then, via the Sun, to the seven sacred planets. "These produce what are called 'transformations' on our non-sacred planet, the Earth, bringing it increasingly into line with the will aspect of divinity."

The first Ray energy of Will or Power, expressed by the sign of Aries comes to us from the divine Prototype in the Great Bear, working out in triple activity under the guidance of the three planets, ruling Aries — these being Mars, Mercury and Uranus, the exoteric, esoteric and hierarchical rulers, respectively.

Additionally, in connection with the Creative Hierarchies upon our planet, zodiacal energy flows from one of the stars of the Great Bear through Uranus, which relates Aries to Aquarius, the sign of world service. As William Shakespeare wisely noted all those years ago, there are more things in heaven and Earth, than are dreamt of in our philosophy.

Dear Friends, we are part of a remarkably interdependent and interconnected universe; are we not?

Although the Tibetan Master makes it clear that only Sanat Kumara, the Ancient of Days, the Lord of the world is capable of responding to and carrying out the objectives of the solar Logos and thus

capable of responding to the “sevenfold Emanating Cause, expressing Itself through the Great Bear or Ursa Major,” he provides for us, as he states, “the psychological aspects of the emanations of the seven Rays, [all of] which embody the will-to-good.” (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 612)

Keeping these thoughts in mind, can we here pause for a moment, as we normally do, and together sound the Noon-time recollection, keeping in mind 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]

Dear Friends, the Aries keynote for the involutory journey is familiar and self-explanatory, “And the Word said: Let form again be sought.” For the disciple/initiate who follows the evolutionary Path of return, the Soul indomitably affirms, “I come forth and from the plane of mind, I rule.”

As one of the four constellations of the Cardinal Cross of the heavens – the cross of God the Father, and therefore, of the incarnating Monad, Aries, as I mentioned, is the zodiacal sign through which the first Ray of Will or Power reaches our planetary life.

*Esoteric Astrology tells us that* when the initiate transfers him and herself on to the Cardinal Cross from which s/he descended when coming into incarnation and mounted in its place the Mutable Cross, s/he no longer identifies with form or even with the Soul, but with the will of divinity and with the eternal plan and purpose, which then becomes his and her plan and purpose. The Initiate then becomes part of the conclave at Shamballa and can now function through all the three world centres – Humanity, the Hierarchy and Shamballa (p. 92)

It is this sign of Aries that initiates the cycle of manifestation. Symbolized by the its astrological glyph of the blade of grass piercing through the dark of the earth, the first impulse to be awakened is the initial idea to institute activity. That is, Aries is the birthplace of ideas, and a true idea is in reality a spiritual impulse taking form – subjective and objective.

As we know, the first step towards incarnation or any form taking, is first created on the mental plane. This ancient statement describes this activity in these poetic words: Aries "awakens the will to reach the lowest and there control, to know the uttermost and thus to face all experience." (Ibid.)

*I come forth and from the plane of mind, I rule.* The great cycle of struggle towards expression begins, and, the foundational words of *The Secret Doctrine*, with which you are all so familiar, expresses the goal and the purpose of this first sign of the Cardinal Cross:

"Matter is the vehicle for the manifestation of soul on this plane of existence, and soul is the vehicle on a higher plane for the manifestation of spirit, and these three are a trinity synthesised by life which pervades them all."—S.D. I. 80.

In its lowest manifestation, Aries is therefore the creator of those activities, conditions and processes which lead to the manifestation of soul through the medium of form, and later of those higher creative undertakings which lead in due time to the manifestation of spirit through the soul, demonstrating

thus, that triplicity that the esoteric wisdom refers to as Life – Quality – Appearance. (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 95)

Aries is also the transmitter to our solar system of Electric Fire and of the dynamic nature of God, which has in it the qualities of fostering and nourishing heat and also of the fire which burns and destroys.

At different points along the Path of Life, Aries forces the soul on to the burning ground and subjects it to a purifying process during incarnation. As the Old Commentary describes it, through the lesser fire of mind, the "jungles of experience are set on fire and dissolve in flames and then the Path stands clear, and unobstructed vision is achieved."

This purifying process is actuated by its three rulers: Mars, the God of War — the exoteric, orthodox ruler, which brings purification through the fiery processes of war and strife, substituted later for the prepared disciple by the influence of Mercury, the subjective, esoteric ruler, which brings about purification through vision. Mercury, as we know, is the illuminating principle, which releases the mind, directs the way of the disciple through life and enables him and her to become aware of the divine Plan underlying all fiery experiences.

Uranus, the hierarchical ruler, embodies the energy of the seventh ray and its work is analogous to that of Mercury, for the seventh ray is the ray which relates spirit and matter and brings together electric fire and fire by friction, thus producing manifestation.

Experience leads to rulership and in this sign the individual who is embodied first ray force develops the power of organization, of control over forces and especially, over the energy of death.

Dear Friends, do we see here the synchronicity with the Festival of Easter?

Symbolic of spirit and matter, as we know, the spiritual year is divided into two periods—the period in which the Sun moves northward and the period when it travels on the southern way. The waxing and the waning moon of each month reflects this same pattern.

The seven rays are also divided into the first three major Rays of aspect and the minor Rays of attribute. The distinction between these has been well summed up in these sentences from the Old Commentary:

"The seven brothers are all the children of the same Father, but the elder three partake of the Father's nature. The younger four resemble the Mother. The three elder sons go forth into the universe of stars, and there they represent the Father. The younger four go forth into the universe of stars and show the nature of the one the Father loved."

The rays of aspect have longer cycles than the rays of attribute, and their measure is occultly slow, cumulative in effect, and — as the ages pass away — their momentum steadily increases. (*Esoteric Psychology, Vol. I*, pp. 351-352)

Today, as we note, increasingly, among spiritual groups and more so in the future, we will find emphasis laid throughout the world upon the Three Major Festivals: the Easter Festival of the Risen Christ; the Wesak Festival of the Buddha or the Festival of Illumination; and the June Festival of

Unification carried forward by the Christ, the Master of all the Masters and the Teacher alike of angels and of men.

The Forces of Restoration, particularly active at the time of the Easter Festival, emanate from the mind of God. The restoration referred to is psychological in nature, resulting in the restoration of the will-to-live and the will-to-good. Such a restoration is foundational and guarantees the new civilization and the new culture that we see haltingly attempting to manifest, most especially in the work of the United Nations that ever holds up the vision of the One Humanity and the One Planet.

First set in motion in April 1945, during the Easter season of that year and covering approximately a period of five weeks, these Forces began their work upon the subtler planes of human experience. This energy poured into the Hierarchy, via certain of the Masters and Their groups of disciples, and it was immediately transmitted by Them to humanity as a whole, stimulating the intelligence of the masses, inspiring people to think, to plan and take action.

Let us remember that, as the Tibetan Master describes it, it is this spiritual impulse that was behind the creation of the United Nations, over which the Guides of the Race, kept such a close watch.

These new and living restorative forces are under the direction and the control of the One Who is referred to as the Spirit of Resurrection. We are told that He in turn, is working temporarily under the direction of the Christ, Whose task is to restore livingness to humanity's spiritual aims and life to their planning and Who will engender anew the vitality needed to implement the New Age.

It is this energy of resurrection that is now being poured into humanity and can more fully be distributed if the disciples and initiates of the world, the New Group of World Servers, and the men and women of goodwill will cooperatively think clearly, speak forcefully, demand spiritually and implement the inner plans with intelligence. (*The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, p. 458)

The Forces of Restoration are evoking response from the members of the New Group of World Servers and from disciples everywhere. As their psychological "morale" stiffens and their will-to-live and their will-to-good is strengthened, an immediate effect will be felt on a larger scale and the work of the Spirit of Resurrection can then intensify.

Dear Friends, do we need any further awakening to our responsibility and our opportunity?

Let us here also remember that the disciple is always humanitarian in his and her outlook; the focus is always on the One Humanity. The esoteric wisdom provided is intended to help disciples work and serve more effectively and fully. Although the disciple may be aware of a possible affiliation with the Hierarchy or with one of the Masters within the Hierarchy, his and her loyalties, his and her service and his and her life intention are directed entirely to the cause of human betterment and uplift — reflecting thus the attitude of the Christ who asked not that His disciples serve Him, but that they go out into the world and be of service to humanity.

The esoteric wisdom teaches that when the energy of the light of all the seven rays can express itself through the medium of the incoming (and intensifying) seventh ray, then the highest aspect of the light divine — the light supernal — can penetrate down into the physical plane. (*Discipleship in the New Age, Vol. II*, p. 425)

Because initiation is essentially a penetration into areas of the divine consciousness which are not within the normal field of consciousness of a human being, the moment, that a disciple enters upon the Path of Initiation, from the second to the ninth initiation, he/she is to be found functioning at one or other of the following three stages of conscious activity: penetration, polarisation or precipitation.

In service to humanity and the Plan, we have been asked to pay close attention, to watch and interpret current events, noting the expression of the precipitating and penetrating energies, in order to cooperate as far as our insight permits, and to thus further the right production of the required effects. (Ibid., pp. 428-429)

Keeping these thoughts in mind, can we now turn to our meditation?