



Transforming Planetary Consciousness

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

Opening Address, Leo Solar Festival

Friday, 27 July 2018; Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Dear Friends, Good afternoon. Welcome! Thank you for being here. It's a Joy to welcome you to this month's Webinar, and I look forward to the good work we are going to accomplish.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the exact moment of the Leo Solar Festival is in a few short hours, at 4:20 p.m. Thus, we are meeting on the sacred day of Safeguarding, a day of inner peace and silent solemnity—one in which we regard ourselves as the recipients or custodians of as much of the inflowing spiritual force as we can possibly hold. In this service, we are asked to forget our personal issues as we selflessly strive to touch, contain and hold force for the rest of humanity.

Aware of the needs of our fellow human beings, let's open our hearts and minds as we recognize ourselves to be part of the world-wide group through which these spiritual energies are poured throughout the whole body of humanity. As much as possible, let us identify with the Purpose that seeks to "guide the little wills of men", thus becoming as a living 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.

As is our monthly practice, 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, courtesy of NASA's Astronomy Picture of the Day, is that of "Mighty Sirius"—the alpha star of Canis Major, which is said to resemble a dog following the hunter, Orion. Thus, the bluish light of Sirius, the brightest star in the night sky, is appropriately known as the Dog Star. It easily dominates the scene at the right of your screen, shining from a distance of 8.6 light years away, which for us humans is quite far; however, in astronomical terms, the star is considered as our cosmic neighbor, and is the closest star outside our solar system, which we can see with the naked eye.

August, which is ruled by Leo, is also the month ruled by Sirius, which thus brings this brilliant star into close relation to Leo—and Leo, in the cosmic sense (apart from our solar system altogether) is ruled by Sirius—the home of that greater Lodge to which our fifth initiation admits the disciple and to which it brings him or her, as a humble disciple. (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 299)

*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2018 Leo 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>

We are told that the influence of Sirius is not consciously felt until after the third initiation, when the true nature of the spirit aspect begins to dawn upon the liberated, intuitive perception of the initiate. It's at this time that the initiate begins to respond to its vibration, focussed as it is, in Regulus, a star of first magnitude, and frequently called "the heart of the Lion." However, it's important to keep in mind that the Masters of the Wisdom use this energy from Sirius while training disciples for the second, the fourth and the sixth initiations.

In *Esoteric Astrology*, we learn that along with the constellations of the Great Bear and the Seven Sisters of the Pleiades, Sirius is one of the three major influences which find their way "from far distant Sources" into our planetary life and produce definite effects upon both the individual life and upon humanity as a whole. (p. 300)

Called the "brilliant star of sensitivity", Sirius is that great star of initiation because our Hierarchy is under the supervision or "spiritual magnetic control" of the Hierarchy of Sirius. It's through this relationship that the cosmic Christ works upon the Christ principle in the solar system, in the planet, in the individual, and in the lower forms of life expression. (Ibid., p. 197)

This great Sun—which is to our solar Logos what the Monad is to the individual—has a peculiar part to play where our Earth is concerned. Here, I am quoting from *The Rays and the Initiations* (p. 413):

"It might be considered by those with a sound sense of occult proportion that our tiny planet with its planetary Logos (one of the 'imperfect Gods' of *The Secret Doctrine*) would be too small to enter in the slightest way into the consciousness of that Supreme Illumined Entity Who is greater even than our Solar Logos. Such, however, is the case [because] there is a relationship of very ancient date between our Lord of the World, Sanat Kumara, and the Lord of Sirius, and this exists in spite of the fact that our planet is not a sacred planet."

Although, it is pointed out that our planet is rapidly passing out of this category, and actually—on the inner planes and subjectively considered, it already is a sacred planet. It is only on the physical plane, in the three worlds of human living that this fact yet needs to be realized and expressed.

A most interesting mystery, related to this fact, is that in the course of taking the higher initiations, it becomes apparent to the initiate that two major streams of energy enter our planetary life. One stream of energy, comes from the cosmic mental plane. This carries the life principle for our entire planet and centres itself in Shamballa.... "This life principle embodies or "is impregnated with the will and purpose of THAT which overshadows Sanat Kumara", just as the soul overshadows the personality. (Ibid., p. 414)

A second stream of energy coming from the sun, Sirius, directly enters into the Hierarchy. This stream carries with it the principle of buddhi, or cosmic love. In a most wondrous way, this principle is found at the heart of every atom, waiting for the opportune conditions when it can be realized and expressed.

Thus, atma-buddhi pulsates at the heart of all that is and becomes the blended reality which is slowly, but surely, brought to full unfoldment and revelation as evolution proceeds. Atma-buddhi pulsating at the heart of all that is. Dear Friends, can we grasp the reverberating importance of this thought?

Bypassing Shamballa, the energy of Sirius is uniquely focussed in the Hierarchy. In fact, the entire work of the Great White Lodge is controlled from Sirius; the Ashrams are subjected to its cyclic inflow and the higher initiations are taken under its stimulation. The reason for this is that the principle of buddhi, of pure love (i.e., of love-wisdom) must be realized and active in the heart of every initiate prior to the initiation of the great decision.

To my understanding, it is most consequential and remarkable to learn that previously, this Sirian influence was not even recognised, and little of it was definitely focussed in the Hierarchy, until Christ came to our planet to reveal the true nature of Love.

In the Hierarchy, the Christ is in fact recognized as the epitomized expression of a Sirian initiation, and it is to that high place that He will eventually go—no matter what duties or Hierarchical obligations may take Him elsewhere between now and then.

For our purposes here today, I would like to ask that we consider one final noteworthy aspect of this “Mighty Sun.” The principle of freedom, referred to by the Tibetan Master as a “leavening energy which can permeate substance in a unique manner” represents an aspect of the influence which Sirius exerts on our solar system, and especially on our planet.

The freedom for which humanity has over the many centuries fought is actually one of the lowest aspects of this cosmic freedom, which is related to certain great evolutionary developments that enable the life or spirit aspect to free itself from the impact, the contact and the influence of substance.

And so, it makes sense that it is this principle of freedom, which lies behind the Spirit of Death and forms the motivating power of that great releasing Agency. It is this which provides a "pathway of power" between our Hierarchy and the distant sun, Sirius, and gives the incentive, on our planet, towards the "culture of freedom" or of liberation which motivates the work of the Masters of the Wisdom; it is this same principle, which produced the vortex of conflict in far distant ages and which has been recognised in the present as that which "substands" or lies under or behind all progress.

This mysteriously "exerted influence," this "pulling away" from form emanates from Sirius. The resulting “Law of Freedom”, as the Tibetan refers to it, is responsible for Sanat Kumara, the Lord of our planet to be known as the "Great Sacrifice." Under the control of this law, He created our planetary life and all that is within and upon it, in order to learn to wield this law with full understanding, in full consciousness, and yet at the same time to bring release to all the multitude and variety of forms of His creation, including of course, humanity.

The history of our evolution is in reality, and from the occult point of view, the history of the freeing of the spirit by the means of steadily developing forms which—in orderly unfoldment and at the demand of spirit—meet its requirements in any particular cycle and at every stage of growth, resulting from the response of substance to spiritual impact and impression.¹

Dear Friends, how does this fairly extensive focus on Sirius relate to our understanding of Leo and its esoteric keynote? Hopefully, the relationship is becoming self-explanatory and will become even more so; however, before moving forward, can we first pause and together sound the Noon-time recollection?

¹*The Rays and the Initiations*, pp. 413-420.

“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 am That and That am I”—such is the esoteric keynote of Leo.

In *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, we read that the spiritual individual is he and she who having been both a person of the world *and* an occult student has reached the conclusion that behind all those causes with which he and she has been hitherto engaged there is a CAUSE; this causal unity then becomes the goal of the search.

This, the Tibetan Master teaches, is the mystery lying behind all mysteries; this is the secret of which all that has hitherto been known and conceived is but the veil; this is the heart of the Unknown which holds hid the purpose and the key to all that IS, and which is only put into the hands of those exalted Beings Who—having worked their way through the manifold web of life—know Themselves indeed and in truth to be Atma, or Spirit itself, and veritable sparks in the one great Flame:

“Three times the cry goes out to all the Pilgrims upon the Path of Life: ‘Know thyself’ is the first great injunction and long is the process of attaining that knowledge. ‘Know the Self’ – [the Soul] comes next and when that is achieved, man knows not only himself but all selves; the soul of the universe is to him no longer the sealed book of life but one with the seven seals broken. Then when the man stands adept, the cry goes forth ‘Know the One’ and the words ring in the adepts' ears: ‘Search for that which is the responsible Cause, and having known the soul, and its expression, form, search for THAT which the soul reveals.’ (pp. 1237-1240)

“I am That and That am I.” Dear Friends, can we appreciate the fact that “The growth of consciousness is the most essential basis for onward progress”? (Agni Yoga, 406)

Behind each human being stretches a long series of lives. Many stages follow until, in the light of the Whole, the light of the separated little self fades out, just as the light that is inherent in every atom of the body is gathered together and obliterated in the light of the soul when that blazes forth in all its glory.

The soul indeed is linked with form but its major link is with the spirit. Self-will relates the individual to form and the will of God relates the soul to the spirit. It takes three initiations to make this clear to the disciple.

In the Agni Yoga Wisdom, it is written, “One wishes to say: Dear travelers, look upward. And, if instead of clinging to the illusions of Earth, you wish to fly farther, then your wings will grow.” (*The Leaves of Morya’s Garden II, Illumination* 224).

And, additionally, "Earthly cares are like stones rolling down a mountain. The lower down they roll, the more violent the impact of the landslide. Would it not be better to ascend to the very summit where there are no falling stones? Upward striving also transforms our attitude toward earthly cares. Even though they continue, their meaning is altered. Thus one may perceive how many advantages the summit has over the canyon." (*Aum*, 304)

The wisdom of the Tibetan Master echoes this thought: the "ascent of knowledge towards wisdom" is always the key to progress. (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 290)

Leo is a fire sign, and it is the pre-eminent fire sign at this time. Upon the wheel reversed, the fire burns away all dross. Purification of the entire nature is thus gradually achieved and the individual becomes sensitive to the influences which can be brought to bear upon him and her when the fiery triplicity of Aries-Leo-Sagittarius begins to re-orient the disciple towards universality, self-consciousness and one-pointed attitudes.

As part of the Fixed Cross, which brings light and liberation, Leo, the Lion of Self-assertion is the Light of the Soul.

The whole story and function of Leo and its influences can be summed up in the word "*sensitivity*," and this sensitivity can be studied in four stages, the last of which sees the fused soul and personality beginning the arduous task of conditioning the environment in relation to the divine plan and purpose and at the same time, beginning to cultivate sensitivity to the higher impacts of those worlds which lead to the final goal.

As Leo's exoteric, esoteric and hierarchical ruler, the Sun veils both Neptune and Uranus—two planets through which it focusses its energy as a lens. The "heart of the Sun" employs Neptune as its agent, whilst the central, spiritual Sun pours its influences through Uranus.

As a result, the disciple will eventually be aware of him and herself as a soul involved in form which is itself developed and unfolded through soul activity. He and she will be motivated by spiritual intent and able to perceive the uses of inherent sensitivity. He and she will understand and be profoundly aware of the realities, forces and energies of existence and therefore, free from the ordinary glammers and illusions, which colour the reactions and life of the average individual. He and she will then be governed by the physical Sun, motivated by the energies pouring from "the heart of the Sun", via Neptune and bringing about at-one-ment through the forces reaching him and her, via Uranus.

And so it is, dear Friends, that the voiced aspiration of the true Leo person can be expressed in the words of Christ, so well-known to all of us: "Father, not my will but thine be done."

Can we take this thought into our work as we prepare for meditation? I am happy to give the mike over to Merwyn who will lead us.