



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

Opening Address, Libra Solar Festival

Monday, 24 September 2018; Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Dear Friends, Good afternoon and Welcome! Thank you for being here. It's a Joy to welcome you back for this month's Solar Festival Webinar, and I look forward to working together.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the exact moment of the Libra Solar Festival is later this evening at 10:52 p.m. Thus, we're auspiciously meeting on the sacred day of Safeguarding—a day of inner peace and silent solemnity.

Let us begin our work then, by focusing on the need to touch, contain and hold force for the rest of humanity, as we seek to become recipients and custodians of as much of the inflowing spiritual force as we can possibly hold.

We observe this day as one of *inner* silence and solemnity, a day of service carried forward entirely on esoteric levels and of complete self-forgetfulness, fully mindful of humanity and its need. Regardless of what is going on around us or what we may be outwardly engaged in, we hold ourselves steadily in the stream of Light divine, recognizing this opportunity of contact between the inner and the outer groups.

In opening our hearts and minds, we recognize ourselves to be part of the world-wide group through which the spiritual energies now available on our planet are being poured forth for the benefit of the whole of humanity.

Identifying with the Purpose that seeks to “guide the little wills of men”, let us become 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 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 spectacular image on your screen is that of the big and beautiful spiral galaxy, M81, in the northern constellation of Ursa Major. NASA tells us that this is one of the brightest galaxies in our planet's sky and that it is similar in size to the Milky Way. If you would like more information

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

about it, on the first of the month, please visit the October quote in the Aquarian Age Community website.

As part of the triplicity that makes up the air signs of the zodiac, Libra transmits the energies of the Pleiades; however, the esoteric ruler of Libra is the planet Uranus and it is through this planet that zodiacal energy reaches our planet from one of the stars in the Great Bear.

As we take in the beauty of this image, let us think too about how it represents the living consciousness of our planetary Logos, constituted as it is of a great Hierarchy of Being—a chain of life in which the smallest link is of just as much importance as the greatest link and wherein all are related through the electrical interplay of spiritual energy.

As the esoteric wisdom teaches, there is naught but Hierarchy—a great Living Chain, linking sun with sun, star with star, solar system with solar system, planet with planet and all planetary lives with each other. The major keynote of every single planetary initiation is that of *RELATIONSHIP*—“what other qualities may be revealed to the Initiate on other paths,” states the Tibetan Master, “we know not, but the goal of all endeavour upon our planet is right relations between man and man and between man and God, between all expressions of divine life, from the tiniest atom up and on into infinity.” (*The Rays and the Initiations*, pp. 737-738)

I think this idea is well reflected in this portrait of the Great Bear, and I hope you agree.

With this thought in mind, can we pause for a moment 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 choose the way that leads between the two great lines of force.” Such is the esoteric keynote for the sign of Libra.

Friends, so many factors today point to the fact that we have arrived at the time, which the esoteric wisdom refers to as “*a turn in our evolution.*” All forces are gathering for this. Transformation is the keynote that is sounded from all corners of the globe and the longing for transformation reverberates throughout the whole of our planetary culture.

In this epochal labor of the ages, each of us are called on to apply our best efforts.

Writing about the individual's role in this work of spiritual evolution, in the second volume of her collected Letters, Helena Roerich indicates, that the greatest benefit, which each of us can contribute to this work of transformation, redemption and healing resides in our individual and collective ability to broaden the consciousness, to improve and deepen and enrich our thinking—and that this, together with the sustained and unceasing purification of the heart, strengthens our emanations. In thus raising our vibrations, we transform planetary consciousness; we “restore the health of all that surrounds us.” (*Letters of Helena Roerich, I, 25 October 1936*)

As we know, the objective of the Plan of Light and Love and Power is to reproduce upon the plane of earth the inner kingdom of the Soul.

Humanity's habit is to dwell within the restricted reality of the personality, wherein life is known and understood only through the five senses of the personality. And of course, we know that there is much more than this: In the Father's House, as the Christ proclaimed all those many years ago, there are, indeed, many mansions. (John 14:2)

As explained within the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali, the pervasiveness of all the senses are capable of infinite extension. Every sense when consciously followed and utilized can lead the individual in three main directions: to the centre of all things within the heart of God; into ever closer communication with one's fellow human beings; and in touch with all forms.

To the average individual, the means of what we know comes only through what we can hear, touch, see, taste and smell. Later, to the advanced individual who can use the mind itself—not only as the unifier of all the five senses, but also as a sixth independent sense, a higher range of vibration opens up. Through the mind, the soul realm is known and understood.

(Light of the Soul; Its Science and Effect; a Paraphrase of the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali, p. 352)

Indeed, universal mind or manas permeates all there is. Through all evolutionary development the ONE Who hears, touches and sees, persists and interprets *according to the stage of development* of the indwelling manasic principle. This basic Interpreter is the life that animates the atoms of substance and electrifies them. This great Entity knows itself to be one with all, yet also apart from all—knowing the self as the thinking, discriminating, Self-realizing something that we call MIND.

In short, each individual is Spirit or the Self, working through matter or the Not-Self, by means of the intelligence or manas. And, it is by means of this principle of manas that form is built. Manas or intelligence is also the means whereby the link is made between the abstract and the concrete worlds. Slowly the individual awakens to the realization that the aim of evolution is to build consciously the channel between the levels which are to her and him, the planes of the abstract or of the ideal, and the concrete ones whereon she and he normally functions. *(A Treatise on Cosmic Fire, pp. 399)*

“I choose the way that leads between the two great lines of force.”

Libra is an air sign; along with the other two air signs of Gemini and Aquarius, these three are pre-eminently signs of the Mind of God as it expresses itself through the individual and through humanity. The lower mind dominates at first, eventually revealing the recognition of the Self and the Not-Self—or the essential dualism which underlies all manifestation. The higher mind, then steadily increases its power and control, producing the balancing of the pairs of opposites through the illumination which it brings to the lower mind—and then the Soul, the eternal Son of Mind, becomes the ultimate synthesis, focusing and relating the universal mind to the two lower aspects of the Mind of God. *(Esoteric Astrology, pp. 241-242)*

These three air signs then stand for duality, which must eventually be known, overcome and resolved into the synthesis of the great World Server, bringing his and her contribution—*wrested* from the experience upon the wheel of life, in service to the greater Whole.

Initiation (or expansion of consciousness), we are reminded, is but another way of referring to synthesis and fusion. *(Ibid., p. 241)*

Along with Leo and Capricorn, Libra is a sign of crisis and of testing. All three signs indicate the progressive influence of the other nine and the situations which evolve out of their activity.

Constituting, with these two other signs, the triangle of the father or will aspect, these three signs mark points of attainment, through crisis met and the resulting triumph of achievement.

Through Libra, we experience the crisis of balance or equilibrium between Soul and Form. It provides for the opportunity of free choice. It is the consciousness of duality and it provides incentive to balance the two opposing forces. When mastered, this process leads to the emergence of the sense of self-direction and equilibrium.

Through Libra we become aware of the narrow razor-edged Path which runs between the pairs of opposites, which ultimately allows for the development of a sense of values, the careful weighing and balancing of these values—via the analytical faculty of the mind and the intuitive perception, which Libra provides and thus we attain right equilibrium.

Regarded as the "interlude between two activities," and likened to that stage of contemplation in the meditation process (concentration, meditation, contemplation, illumination and inspiration), Libra provides the balance between the life of soul and form. Neither dominates. Duality is known.

In the previous sign of Virgo, we experienced the activity wherein the personality grows and develops and yet at the same time veils and hides the hidden inner Christ life—the Soul within the form.

Then, comes the interlude wherein the point of balance is reached between these two and neither is dominant. The "scales tip back and forth" in either direction as the individual swings between the pairs of opposites, providing thus the importance of this sign and hence also its peculiar difficulty.

The see-saw experience proves to be distressingly bewildering, first to the individual who seeks to be entirely human but finds within the self impediments and urges which drive him and her on to something which is higher than the human and, secondly, to the aspirant or the disciple. At this point, the focus of interest and the objective is soul life, yet the individual finds within the self that which seeks ever to draw one back to the old ways, the old habits and the old desires of the personal life.

The individual experience in Libra is today reflected within the whole of humanity wherein experiment is being made and the consequent tipping of the Scales in one direction or another, until either desire or spiritual aspiration weighs the balances down sufficiently so as to indicate the way forward. The experience between negative and positive, between those who blindly follow either instinct or custom and those who climb feely where they choose and are self-directed in conduct and attitude is the hallmark of this Cardinal sign.

Once achieved, this self-direction may lead the individual in either direction, following either selfish desire or spiritual aspiration, but the point to have in mind is that, judicially and with intent and after due reflection and balancing of the various ways, the individual and humanity then do as they will and as seems to them right and desirable. And thereby, they and *we* learn—for all action produces results and the judicial mind weighs cause and effect more correctly than any other.

Under the influence of Libra, among the pairs of opposites with which we struggle is that between the masculine and feminine principles, and today, this is being most dramatically played out on the world stage and most imminently here in the United States.

Via its three rulers of Venus, Uranus and Saturn, Libra is related to five other signs of the zodiac, these being Aries, Taurus, Gemini, Capricorn and Aquarius. These five signs along with Libra at the point of balance, create one of the six-pointed stars of evolution—a point of great importance if we consider the fact that these three rulers are also especially concerned with bringing in the expression of the Christ consciousness into our world.

Friends, we thus return to the idea that the first indication of the broadening of the consciousness is the recognition of Community and the striving to achieve within that Community, the Common Good, thus bringing about the union between the inner essence and the outer tangible form.

It is not an accident then, and, in fact, it is most auspicious that the General Debate of the 73rd General Assembly begins tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. on the first day of the Distribution of this Libra Solar Festival.

Interestingly, and most meaningfully, the theme of this 73^d Assembly, chosen by this year's newly elected President, in consultation with Member States and the Secretary General is *Making the United Nations relevant to all people: global leadership and shared responsibilities for peaceful, equitable and sustainable societies.*

As the former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador and only the fourth woman and the first Latin American woman ever to hold this office, Ms. Maria Fernanda Espinosa Garcés has chosen to start her tenure by dynamically choosing to D.A.R.E.—an acronym she chose as a reminder that the General Assembly must focus on Delivery, Accountability, Relevance and Efficiency.

With a prominent focus on community her theme and priorities are Inclusion, Equality, Justice, Good Stewardship of our planet, bringing the UN closer to people, with special attention given to empowering youth and women.

In her letter explaining her choice for this year's General Assembly theme, she affirmed the “importance of a shared vision.” And, so dear Friends, here is how we can and must help:

In the second volume of *Esoteric Psychology*, the Tibetan Master offers us this opportunity; “You can—if you so desire,” he states, “help construct the thought form of the New Age teaching. You do this, above all, by your thought; by your practical application of any truth, which you may have understood, to your personal life at any cost; by your sacrifice and your service to your fellow men and by the constant dissemination of any knowledge which you may possess. (p. 712)

And, so here we are, dear Friends, preparing to go into meditation to support the spiritual work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity. Can we therefore focus our attention upon the blessed energies now available to us and work together in meditation, knowing that we are thus contributing to the planetary transformation of planetary consciousness?