



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

Opening Address, Libra Solar Festival

Sunday, 13 October 2019; Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Dear Friends, Good Afternoon and welcome to this month's Solar Festival in this intuitive, harmony-seeking sign of Libra. Thank you for being here. I look forward to our work, as we together strive to contribute to the transformation of planetary consciousness.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone the actual time of this Festival occurs early this evening at 5:07 p.m. Thus, in the five day cycle that makes up our observance of these monthly Festivals, we're 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, in complete self-forgetfulness, ever mindful of our planet's compelling 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 and Love divine, recognizing this opportunity of contact between the inner and the outer groups.

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 hold.

Identifying with the Purpose that seeks to “guide the little wills of men,” let us affirm our intention, as we do every month, 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, courtesy of NASA, is that of Gas Giant Uranus, the 4th most massive planet and the seventh furthest from the sun, the first to be discovered in 1781 with the aid of a telescope by the astronomer William Herschel. Its unique tilt makes Uranus appear to spin on its side, also causing its axis to point nearly directly at the sun. The blue-green color of the planet is due to the methane gas in its mostly hydrogen-helium atmosphere. These, of course, are its physical aspects.

*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2019 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>

Esoterically, as a seventh ray planet, it is pivotal in importance to the advancing Age of Aquarius and to our work with Libra because it is the subjective, esoteric ruler of this sign. At this point in our evolutionary journey, its energy is critical in moving our planetary society forward as it relates spirit and matter, bringing together electric fire and fire by friction, thus producing manifestation, allowing us to metaphorically “bring heaven to earth”.

Uranus is often referred to as that mysterious and occult planet, which leads the soul to the burning ground during the final stages of the Path, when the fire of Aries and the fires engendered through the potency of Uranus produce the flaming heart of the final burning ground. This evolutionary stage is of special significance to Libra because this stage must be entered through the free and deliberate choice of the initiate who makes that conscious choice under the influence of Libra, the point of balance wherein the moment for the reversal of the wheel, usually takes place.

The individual must consciously decide: Do I proceed as usual, according to custom, or, do I take up the Mantram of fire of the Deva Lord Agni and choose the burning ground to liberation?

The electrifying energies of Uranus produce the new conditions which will help the soul of humanity to express itself more freely, causing the great transference in the human consciousness from intellectual perception to intuitive knowledge.

In a most poetic way, *Esoteric Astrology* (p. 438) refers to Uranus as the planet of occultism because it veils “that which is essential; it hides that which must be discovered and, at the right moment, it transmits knowledge of the hidden mystery.”

The Agni Yoga wisdom encourages us, “Let us learn to recognize truth. It exists, although there are many veils obscuring it.” (*Supermundane*, 634)

With these thoughts in mind, can we now move forward in our work by together 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]

Dear friends, the Tibetan Master tells us in *Esoteric Astrology* that the words or keynotes of this sign of balance are so clear and plain that they need no further explanation. To the every day person with no developed spiritual consciousness, the word goes forth again and again, incarnation after incarnation, throughout the aeons: "And the Word said: Let choice be made." The mind is thus developed as is the ability to discern and discriminate.

As a result of the evolutionary process, the response eventually comes back from the soul who declares, "I choose the way which leads between the two great lines of force." And, such is the esoteric keynote, the song of the Soul, within this contemplative sign of Libra.

This sign is primarily and specifically important in the case of disciples or those nearing the Path of return. It is a sign of balancing, of the careful weighing of values and of achieving the right equilibrium between the pairs of opposites. This narrow, razor-edged Path runs between the pairs of opposites and, if it is to be safely traveled, it requires the development of a sense of values and the power to utilize rightly the balancing, analytical faculty of the mind, aided by Libra’s intuitive perception.

Libra can also be spoken of in terms of the meditation process, as taught both in the East and the West, as the “interlude between two activities.” As such, Libra symbolizes the stage of contemplation, following those of concentration and meditation, prior to illumination and inspiration.

Under the sign of Libra, neither the life of the Soul nor form dominates. Equilibrium is experienced, providing thus an interlude wherein the Soul organizes itself for battle and the personality waits.

Because all that Is is ever present, the individual is initiate in potential before he and she is aware of being initiated. That is, the personality grows and develops, and yet at the same time, it veils and hides the hidden indwelling Christ consciousness, the Soul within each form.

The "scales tip back and forth" as the individual swings between the pairs of opposites. This curious see-saw experience proves to be distressing and bewildering first to the individual, who seeks to be entirely human but finds within the self those impediments and urges which drive him and her on to probe the higher levels of consciousness and, secondly, to the aspirant or the disciple whose focus of interest and aim is the life of the Soul, yet, he and she finds within the self that which seeks ever to draw him and her back to the old habits and desires, that eclipse the supermundane life.

Dear Friends, is it possible that some of us at some time or other may have had this same experience?!

However, in that Libra is “the place of judgment,” the decision is eventually made and the die is eventually cast marking the distinction between the ordinary wheel of life and the reversed wheel of return. When the aspirant finally chooses to travel upon the reversed wheel, so begins a new orientation towards the Path of Return and the life of discipleship.

As it is for the individual, so it is for humanity. Today, because of its evolutionary development, humanity must decide and choose between the desire of the material way of life or the life of spiritual aspiration. Which of these desires will weigh the balances down sufficiently so as to indicate the way that humanity will proceed? One choice will lead to the enlightened New World, embracing the spiritual values and what we refer to as “the Kingdom of God,” and the other choice will deify the past and prolong past wrong action and untold human suffering.

These two stark choices and lines of demarcation are the subject of our daily media reports and they were on obvious display as the various Nation State leaders addressed the recent General Debate of the UN’s 74th General Assembly.

If you haven’t yet done so, I encourage you to use the links in this month’s newsletter to view the videos and texts of your chosen leaders, adding your energies of goodwill and thoughts of support to the expressed constructive thoughtforms that will move the global community towards the unifying Light and Love of the New Age.

Today, the balancing process goes forth upon the emotional plane because at our evolutionary point of development, it is the desires of men and women, which will be the deciding factor as to which way humanity will choose to live. The weight of mass desire will turn humanity either up towards spiritual decision or down towards material, selfish ends.

This struggle on the emotional plane is a precursor to the next great evolutionary cycle which, in the future will play out on the mental plane between the manasic and the buddhic vehicles – a struggle between the so-called Sons of Manas and the Dragons of Wisdom.

A study of The Bhagavad Gita and of Arjuna's problem when he sat down in despair between the two opposing armies will be found most illuminating in connection with Libra. The great battle which is related in that ancient scripture really took place in the first instance in mid-Atlantean days and in the sign of Libra.

That conflict in the past prepared the world probationary disciple, humanity, for the path of true discipleship. Today, waged upon a higher turn of the spiral, the world disciple is preparing to wage the battle which will allow humanity to move towards a transformation of consciousness.

During the vast interim between the Atlantean decisive happening and the present time, a great re-orientation upon the wheel of life has taken place; since then, several million men and women have moved forward upon the Path; they've been "weighed in the balances" and refocused their desire life towards spiritual aspiration and reinforced their determination to make progress upon the Way.

It is at the centre of the Scales or at the hub of the wheel that a true perspective and indicated action can be seen correctly. This reality is further explained in *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*:

"I would call your careful attention to one most important matter," states the Tibetan Master. "The moment that a point of balance is reached, the moment that those who stand for separateness and materialism, for totalitarianism or for any imposed regime (and consequently an evil unity), and those who stand for the freedom of the human soul, for the rights of the individual, for brotherhood and right human relations - [the moment that these attitudes] are equal in force, in position and in influence, then the doors of the Hierarchy (symbolically speaking) will open, and the Christ with His disciples will come.

"This balance has to reach a point upon mental levels; it has to be reached by those who can think, who can influence, and in whose hands lies the responsibility for what the masses below the mental level know and believe. The unskilled labourer, the numerous people who never think, who are only young in the experience of incarnation, and the multitudes who evade thought even when they are capable of it, lie in the hands of two vast and dominant groups: the totalitarians and the democracies." (p. 651)

The following passage within the same book, speaks most urgently and decidedly to our current national and global dilemmas. Here, the Tibetan Master provides us with a sense of encouragement, while also tasking us with a most urgent responsibility. Writing at the end of the Second World War, he offers wisdom that I believe, for the most part, resonates as truth for our current time, as well:

"The consequences of attaining a point of balance are very close today. Organised evil is not in power; organised good is still quite ineffective, largely owing to the failure of the religions of the world to give a true picture of Christ's mission; therefore, the struggle for control is with us now. If the forces of evil, plus the groups of men [and women] who seek control of the human spirit (no matter in what country they are found, and they can be found in every single country without exception), [if these people] become dominant, the doors of evil will open and the life of man will lose its meaning; death will settle down upon our planet - death both spiritual and mental. [However,] if the forces of good, the work of the New Group of World Servers, and the activities of men [and women] of goodwill everywhere prevail, the doors of the spiritual Hierarchy will open and - to use a Biblical phrase - the Hosts of the Lord will issue forth. The Christ Will Come." (pp. 651/2)

He then offers a seemingly simple, but in practice, a most challenging prescription, alerting us to our responsibilities:

“The first lesson, therefore, which you have to learn in this work of preparation,” he states, “is *controlled thought and sensitivity to hierarchical impression*. (Ibid., p. 653)

Indeed, “controlled thought and sensitivity to hierarchical impression”! The purpose behind all meditative efforts.

Because of Libra’s exoteric, esoteric and hierarchical rulers – these being Venus, Uranus and Saturn, respectively, Libra is related to five signs of the zodiac. These five, with Libra at the point of balance, create one of the six-pointed stars of evolution and also bring into relation with them three planes which are peculiarly concerned with the expression of the Christ consciousness in the world. These three planets, through the rays of which they are the medium, are all found upon the first major line of force, the line of will or power and of purpose and visioned goal, which can aid us greatly in our work of anchoring the will-to-good.

As part of the air triplicity, Libra along with Gemini and Aquarius are cosmically related in a most peculiar way to the Great Bear, to the Pleiades and to Sirius. Libra is related to and transmits the potencies of the Pleiades, which are to our solar system, the source of electrical energy. And, just as our sun is the embodiment of the heart, or love aspect, of the Logos, so the Pleiades are the feminine opposite of Brahma. And, once again, we take note of the significant balancing influence of this sign.

A deeply esoteric understanding of the purpose and need for balance is further explained in *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, which informs us that “when the point of rhythm or balance is reached – be it in a solar system, in a plane, in a ray, in a causal body, and in the physical body, then the occupier of the form is loosed from prison.” He and she can withdraw to the originating source, and liberation from the sheath which has hitherto acted as a prison is then possible; so the indwelling Knower can escape from an environment which he and she has utilized for the gaining of experience, as a battle ground between the pairs of opposites, and for service. (p. 159)

There is much more to say about Libra and its pivotal role in our evolutionary, spiritual work, and I encourage you to read, ponder and study the Libra chapter within the book, *Esoteric Astrology*.

For now, I would like to ask that we step back a bit and consider the constant impact upon the human consciousness of the great concepts held in trust and offered to humanity by the Ageless Wisdom -- the great concepts which lie back of our evolutionary process.

Through the presentation of these ideas, over time, there has been a steady march towards a liberty of thought, an expansion of consciousness.

Dear friends, the world structure emerges from and is built upon inner thought patterns and, it is these underlying thought patterns that create the outer structure of our world.

By making these concepts a part of our daily living, are we not helping humanity to develop the power to think, to choose, and to build a better foundation for the New World towards which we aspire? Earnestly, the Agni Yoga wisdom proclaims, “Consider as lost that day in which you did not contemplate the New World.” (*Agni Yoga*, Par. 77)

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