



**Transforming Planetary Consciousness
The Spiritual Work of the United Nations**

Opening Address, Scorpio Solar Festival Webinar 2016*

Sunday, November 13, 2016

Dear Friends, Good afternoon and Welcome! Thank you for being here. I look forward to the good work we are about to accomplish together as we take up our monthly planetary service, under the influence of the sign of Scorpio.

For those who may be here for the first time, my name is Ida and it is under the auspices of the Aquarian Age Community that we are here today and it is thanks to the kind generosity of a co-worker that we are able to come together in this Webinar format.

After this opening address, intended to unify, stimulate and prepare our group mind, we will move to the focus of the meeting, which is Group Meditation. Afterwards, there will be an opportunity for you to share your thoughts and ideas, if you like.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the exact time of the Scorpio Solar Festival is tomorrow morning, November 14th at 8:52 a.m. Thus, as we did last month, we are meeting on the second and last day of Preparation—a day of dedication and upward striving as we intend to become the recipients and custodians of as much of the inflowing spiritual force as we are capable of holding on behalf of humanity.

The photo on your screen is that of the Nicholas Roerich painting, entitled, “He Who Hastens.” It seems an appropriate symbol for the attitude and work that all spiritual workers, aspirants, disciples and Initiates are called upon to shoulder during these challenging days when humanity is confronted by daunting, Soul-sized crises on every hand.

The Agni Yoga wisdom teaches that “Amidst the fiery path, man mentally [needs to strive]... for acceleration.” It is explained that “many earthly obstacles, attractions and allurements are arranged by the dark forces, yet once” the spiritual worker has plunged into Hiero-inspiration and exclaimed— “Let’s go faster!”, his and her strength is renewed and, without turning back, he and she hasten impetuously toward the Fiery World. We are assured that “such meditation is useful on the pathways to the Fiery World.” (*Fiery World II*, par. 373)

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Additionally, in one of her published letters, Helena Roerich counseled about the need to “hasten”: she wrote, “Truly speaking, everyone should have only one thought—how to hasten spiritual development. For only the spirit can raise us and carry us over the abyss.” (*Letters of Helena Roerich I*, 17 August 1934)

A fitting symbol and goal for our work during these arduous and testing days; don’t you think?

Originating in the old Tibetan Buddhism, there is one final thought with regard to this photo that I would like to share with you. It relates to the concept of the *Lungta* or the Tibetan Wind Horse, with which some of you may be familiar.

This mythical creature is known to combine the *speed* of the wind and the *strength* of the horse, as it carries prayers from earth to the heavens. *Lungta*, like our understanding of the Soul is the unlimited energy of basic goodness and inherent wakefulness, which is accessible to everyone who strives towards that Goodness. And, like the Soul, *Lungta* is both the vanquisher of evil and the vehicle of enlightenment.

Holding these thoughts in mind, can we now *hasten* our ascent into a deeper, more inclusive consciousness, working in mental substance, as we usually do, in order to bring about planetary healing and transformation?

Let us open our hearts and minds, uniting in loving cooperation with all those who are similarly working throughout the planet, consecrating and dedicating ourselves, to this work of planetary transformation by sounding, with heart-felt dedication, 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.”

“Warrior I am and from the battle I emerge triumphant.” Such is the esoteric keynote for the sign of Scorpio.

And so, dear friends, the crises are intensifying and humanity is in the throes of battle, undergoing the tests and trials, as it prepares to emerge triumphant. If we were previously not aware of the Dweller—at the individual, national and planetary level, now it is becoming unmistakably and starkly clear. I know you will agree with me when I say that we have our work cut out for us.

We also now understand, perhaps better than ever before, that the “Law of Ancient Dominating Good” must prevail and supersede the “Ancient Law of Evil Sharing”—*and* this can only happen as the aspirants, disciples and Initiates of the world apply themselves—*ourselves*, with as much fiery dedication, focused commitment, and spiritual tension as possible.

Let us take heart from the recognition that humanity grows by the presentation of moments of crises; and, let us remember that we are living at a time of both great spiritual opportunity and world crises—and indeed, it is precisely because of these cleavages *and* this opportunity that many of us chose to be present on the planet at this time.

As we know well, from our own hard-won and heartfelt experiences, new cycles of Being and of consciousness are initiated by the conflict inherent in crises.

“The life of the disciple moves forward through moments of crisis,” states the Tibetan Master. “These crises produce two results: 1. the intensification of *aspiration*, if the disciple is still upon the Probationary Path; or the intensification of *illumination* if the disciple is nearing the Path of Accepted Discipleship.”

This results in “2. The achievement of a more stabilised attitude of detachment, based upon conscious personality renunciation, upon a right orientation of the personality to the soul...and to the Hierarchy of Servers.” (*Discipleship in the New Age*, Vol. I, p. 663)

The esoteric wisdom teaches that the handling of crises is the hallmark of the disciple, and every crisis met and rightly handled— provides the place from which an extended vision can be gained. Fresh knowledge can flow into the life and the transmuting light can shine from the Angel of the Presence, thus helping the personality produce the desired transformations. (*Discipleship in the New Age*, Vol. II, p.13)

The sign of Scorpio and its attendant energies is here to assist all striving disciples and a struggling humanity.

At this particular stage of human evolution, Scorpio *governs* the Path of discipleship. Being under the influence or the inflowing energy from Sirius—the great star of initiation, Scorpio is the constellation which influences the turning point both in the life of humanity and in the life of the disciple.

Our planetary Hierarchy of Love-Wisdom is also under the supervision or spiritual *magnetic* control of the Hierarchy of Sirius because, interestingly, it is in this way that the *cosmic* Christ evokes or stimulates the Christ principle in our solar system, the planet, the individual *and* the lower forms of life expression.

Thus, for the first time in the history of both humanity and disciples, the energy of Sirius, that “brilliant star of sensitivity” is pouring into the seven groups which form our planetary Hierarchy and thereby evoking a response.

The effect of this on the disciple, the awakened spiritual seeker, is that he and she undergo those tests which prepare the threefold personality to first, reorient itself to the life of the spiritual center, the Soul, and later, to evidence readiness for the initiation of transformation, demonstrating finally, sensitivity to the Plan of Light and Love, held in the trust of the planetary Hierarchy.

It is through the tests and trials undergone that the desire nature is subdued and conquered. The lower nature is then lifted up, metaphorically, into "heaven," and the disciple triumphantly demonstrates his and her fitness for world service.

This is pictorially expressed in the legend of Hercules, the Sun-God, the prototype of all disciples everywhere, who overcomes the nine-headed Hydra or serpent of desire by being forced to his knees and from that position of humility lifts up the serpent into the air—and only then does understanding and deliverance come. (*Esoteric Astrology*, pp. 193-194)

When the problems presented by the tests in Scorpio are thus lifted upwards through the use of the reasoning mind, the problems can then be resolved. The result in the daily life, will be the establishing of right relations with the Soul and also with the environment—a transformed planetary consciousness within the daily life of the individual and all life on the planet.

Friends, is this not the planetary transformation for which we work? Is this not the envisioned goal of the United Nations?

“Scorpio”, states the esoteric wisdom “governs ‘the initiates,’ which is the true esoteric name of man, and through [Mercury,] its hierarchical planetary ruler, the Sons of Mind, the Messengers of Deity are revealed, but it is through Mars and the Martian activity (that is, through conflict,) that the revelation comes about.” (Ibid., p. 211)

As was mentioned in this month’s newsletter, esoteric astrology explains and elucidates this ancient and arduous journey which all the “sons of Men” who are also the “Sons of God” must undertake:

“From ancient recesses of the memory, from a deeply rooted past which is definitely recalled, and from the racial and the individual subconscious (...[the] established thought reservoirs and desires, inherited and inherent), there emerges from individual past lives and experience that which is the sum total of all instinctual tendencies, of all inherited glammers and of all phases of wrong mental attitudes; to these (as they constitute a blended whole) we give the name of the Dweller on the Threshold.

“This Dweller is the sum total of all the personality characteristics which have remained unconquered and unsubdued and which must be finally overcome before initiation can be taken. Each life sees some progress made; some personality defects straightened out and some real advance effected. But the unconquered residue and the ancient liabilities are numerous and excessively potent and—when soul contact is adequately established—there eventuates a life wherein the highly developed and powerful personality becomes, in itself, the Dweller on the Threshold. Then the Angel of the Presence [the Soul] and the Dweller stand face to face... something must then be done.

“Eventually, the light of the personal self fades out and wanes in the blaze of glory which emanates from the Angel. Then the greater glory obliterates the lesser. This is, however, only possible when the personality eagerly enters into this relation with the Angel, recognises itself as the Dweller and—as a disciple—begins the battle between the pairs of opposites and enters into the tests of Scorpio...[which] are ever self-initiated.” (Ibid., p. 207)

These tests are necessarily three in nature as they concern intimately the readiness of the threefold personality. Each of these three are themselves divided into three additional stages, and thus the reference to the nine-headed Hydra or Serpent, which is ever associated with Scorpio and hence also the nature of the stupendous victory achieved by Hercules, the Sun-God, in this sign.

When these faults are recognized and are overcome, there eventuates right relations with the soul and also with the environment. These are detailed within the Scorpio chapter of *Esoteric Astrology* and, if you yet haven’t done this, you might find it of interest to study these.

As we know, the keynotes of this sign are, therefore, test, trial and triumph: “Warrior I am and from the battle I emerge triumphant.”

As one of the four arms of the Fixed Cross of the heavens, the disciple, stands right at the centre where the four arms meet, where the energy of all the four signs and their ruling planets and rays pour through him and her and evoke the needed reaction, produce the conditions that eventually bring about the necessary reversal of the life currents in the disciple’s nature and place him or her upon the reversed wheel of evolution.

“Extremes ever meet in the disciple who stands at this midway point or at the centre of the Fixed Cross in Scorpio”, explains *Esoteric Astrology*. “The spiritual imagination, which is the factor of greatest service to man, begins to take the place of the ancient glamour by means of which we have fabricated the untrue world in which we appear to live and move and have our being.”

The self-indulgence initiated earlier in the evolutionary journey, “gives way in Scorpio to the selfless attitude of the disciple; ambition gives place to the executive activity of the soul, whilst attachment to personality desires, likes and dislikes is transmuted into the tenacity of soul purpose. The hidden powers of the soul nature—secret and misused because misunderstood and misapplied and, therefore, misdirected—are superseded by the mysteries of initiation, and the practical understanding of the energies thereby conferred upon the recipient.”

“Such are some of the great transformations which [can] take place in the life of the disciple who submits intelligently to the tests and difficulties in Scorpio.” (*Esoteric Astrology*, pp. 225-226)

And so we stand, friends: personality and soul, with freedom to go forward into the light if we so determine or, in the words of the Tibetan Master, we can “remain static and unprogressive, learning nothing and getting nowhere.” We are equally free to return to identification with the Dweller, negating thus the influence of the Angel, refusing imminent opportunity and postponing—until a much later cycle—the determining choice. This is true of the individual disciple and of Humanity as a whole.

The keywords of this sign are significant and illuminating. On the one hand, there is Deception and on the other, triumph—control by Maya and control by the Soul—conflict and peace—and, such are the hidden secrets of this sign, summed up for all disciples in the two keynotes.

The keynote upon the ordinary wheel, whereon the soul is found blind and apparently helpless, states, “And the Word said, Let Maya flourish and let deception rule. Upon the reversed wheel, the soul chants or sings... ‘Warrior I am and from the battle I emerge triumphant.’” (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 226)

With this chant reverberating in our minds and hearts, can we now take up our work in meditation?