



Transforming Planetary Consciousness
The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity
Opening Address, Scorpio Solar Festival Webinar 2017*
Friday, 3 November 2017

Good afternoon, friends and welcome to this month's Solar Festival Meditation in the sign of Scorpio. Thank you for being here to participate in this work of transformation and liberation. This month's newsletter quoted the passage in the Agni Yoga wisdom that indicates that "Only when all torches are kindled, does the Light smite the darkness." ([Infinity II](#), 285). Can we keep this thought in mind as we strive to fulfill *our* responsibility and embrace our sacred opportunity here, today?

As is our monthly practice, after this opening address, intended to unify, stimulate and prepare our group mind, we will move to the focus of our meeting, which is Group Meditation. May we each hold the mind, "steady in the light," so that we can become part of the planetary alignment, responding to impressions and contacts emanating from the subjective and Supermundane spiritual planes.

Following the Group Meditation, you will have an opportunity to contribute your thoughts and ideas, if you like.

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone, the exact time of the Scorpio Solar Festival is early tomorrow morning at 1:23 a.m. Thus, in the five-day cycle that makes up each of the 12 Solar Festivals, we are meeting on the second and last day of Preparation.

Our work today, then, is one of dedication and upward striving, as we seek to become recipients and custodians of as much of the inflowing spiritual force as we are capable of holding on behalf of the whole of humanity. In this process, let us recognize ourselves as part of the living, lighted bridge that can bring humanity closer to the planetary and extra planetary energies of Light, Love and Power that are now available on our planet.

The photo on your screen is entitled "[Mars and Orion over Monument Valley](#)". It comes to us courtesy of NASA's Astronomy Picture of the Day. In its explanation, NASA indicates that this is part of their international effort called "The World at Night", which features spectacular and impressive photos of the night sky, featuring the world's landmarks against celestial attractions.

*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2017 Scorpio 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>

TWAN, as they call it, intends to form a bridge between art, science, and culture, as it encourages a sharing of the night sky seen around the world. Indeed, it is One Humanity and One World.

This photo was recorded in December 2007. It shows the [planet Mars](#), as a glowing beacon of orange—the brightest object in the frame at the left of the skyscape. Also displayed in this stunning view is the constellation of Orion, to the right of Mars and Betelgeuse, which is the reddish star near the center. Also visible is the Belt of Orion and the Orion Nebula, farther to the right in the photo.

I chose this photo for us today because, of course, Mars—one of the ruling planets of Scorpio, is featured, but also because of two references in the Tibetan Master's books.

The first is from *Esoteric Astrology* (p. 223), which provides an explanation for what the Tibetan Master refers to as his constant use of the word, “relation” and “relationship”.

As he points out, the entire Science of Astrology is, in the last analysis, the Science of Relations. “Inter-relation, inter-dependence, inter-communication, interplay—these are words governing the scientific basis of astrology,” and as we know, today, these words and concepts are widely used today in all human affairs.

And, it is obvious and understandable that this will increasingly become the case, because, as the Tibetan continues, “The preparatory stages for world fusion, blending and synthesis are present at this time”—and, in this fact lies the hope of the world and the certainty of the ultimate solution to our world problem.”

“The created state of Earth's isolation must end,” states the Agni Yoga wisdom, “and it must be finally brought into the predestined circle.” (*Leaves of Morya's Garden*, Vol. II, 224)

This idea of relationship, I think, is well reflected within this photo—both among the constellations as well as between earth and sky.

The second reference comes from *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire* (pp. 1085/1086). Therein, the case is made that there is much within our world of which we know, but little. Great Beings of such a high degree exist who are as far removed from the consciousness of our solar Logos as the consciousness of the individual is removed from that of a crystal.

It is helpful to keep this fact in mind so that we do not become overly complacent in our attitudes and so that we may remain open-minded about what we think we may know. Related to this fact, the Tibetan Master also makes mention of the interest awakened in the public mind with regard to the giant star Betelgeuse, in the constellation of Orion. The reason for this, he states, is that “at this particular time, there has been an interplay of force between our tiny system and this giant one”, resulting therefore in “communication between the two informing Existences.”

In short, this spectacular photo is a reminder that there is much more going on in our world—globally, systemically *and* cosmically than we can possibly even imagine.

Alternatively, because of the teachings given to humanity within the Ageless Wisdom, we do know that Mars, at this juncture in humanity's evolutionary journey is exceedingly powerful in connection with initiation into the life of the Hierarchy.

As both the orthodox planet controlling the personality, as well as the esoteric planet conditioning the unfoldment of the disciple, Mars is the dominating factor in the tests and trials of the disciple, prior to his and her experience in Sagittarius and initiation in Capricorn. (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 209)

With these introductory thoughts in mind, can we now pause and together affirm the noon time recollection, before we delve deeper into our work?

“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 keynote of the awakened disciple in the sign of Scorpio.

In this sign, there is deception and triumph—control by Maya and control by the soul—conflict and peace and such are the hidden secrets of this sign, summed up for us in its two keynote phrases. Upon the ordinary wheel, on which the soul is found, blind and apparently helpless, the keynote phrase indicates this ignorant state of affairs: "And the Word said, Let Maya flourish and let deception rule."

Upon the reversed wheel, as it liberates itself from the grip of matter, the soul chants or sings the words: "Warrior I am and from the battle I emerge triumphant."

Dear Friends, there are factors present in today’s battle between evil and good which are so deeply esoteric and hidden from the understanding of the most advanced human being that the Tibetan Master tells us that it is useless for him to try to explain these.

“They are concerned”, he states, “with the ability of the mind...to react to truth or to lies; [and] the mystery of this reaction is hidden in the evolutionary process itself. [However], a point can be reached in human development where acceptance of deception is impossible and clear thinking is normal.” (*The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, p. 432)

The energies emanating from the sign of Scorpio and all the other signs, stars, planets and rays related to Scorpio can bring about the achievement of this stage of clarity, liberation and eventual illumination.

The reason for this is that in our current stage of human evolution, Scorpio *governs* the Path of Discipleship. Scorpio is that great constellation which influences the turning point both in the life of humanity and the life of the individual human being.

Because Scorpio is under the influence or inflowing energy from that greater star, Sirius, for the first time in the history of both humanity and the disciples of the world, the energy from this star of sensitivity and initiation, as it is called, is governing our planetary Hierarchy.

As a result, 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. (*Esoteric Astrology*, pp. 197-198)

Thus, in connection with the path of discipleship, in the sign of Scorpio, we have the following five major lines of “influential energy,” which affect those who travel the spiritual path:

1. The star, Sirius—which, astoundingly, to my mind, works in a sevenfold manner through the seven rays and their seven groups as these make up the active Hierarchy of our planet.

2. The Fixed Cross—on which Scorpio is found and wherein a fusion of four major energies and all six of the seven rays, pour into our solar system, on to our planet and through humanity.

3. Scorpio itself as an aspect of the Fixed Cross, which prepares with its tests and trials both the process of re-orientation whereby the individual mounts the Fixed Cross and, under that influence, the disciple then prepares for the first, second and third initiations.

4. The Hierarchy—which distributes these energies to the various kingdoms in nature. Ad, finally, we have the influence of:

5. Mars and Saturn—two planets, which, at this time, are exceedingly powerful in connection with initiation into the life of the Hierarchy; Mars, as we noted, is powerful in relation to Scorpio and Saturn in relation to Capricorn.

Scorpio thus provides "*points of crisis*" and "*moments of reorientation.*" The Tibetan Master encourages our understanding of these facts, as he offers the following explanation:

“I am exceedingly anxious that in these days wherein the influence of Scorpio and of the planet Mars is so strongly felt in world affairs that true insight may be cultivated, optimism and understanding developed and the nature of the tests to which the world disciple, humanity, is today being subjected may be estimated at their true value and thus light [may] be shed upon the way of man.” He adds, “only through understanding will solution come and rectification of [past] error be achieved.” (*Esoteric Astrology*, p. 203)

So, let us then, consider what are these tests which Scorpio provides? Having to do with the readiness of the threefold personality to take up its advanced work in consciousness, these tests are described very simply in the form of the following three questions:

First, is the personality prepared to reorient itself to the life of the soul?

Secondly and later, does the personality evidence readiness for initiation?

Thirdly, does the personality demonstrate sensitivity to the Plan, thus becoming the one-pointed disciple in Sagittarius?

As we know, each of these three major tests are again divided into three additional stages, so that upon the Path of Discipleship the individual may find him and herself passing into this sign for testing and experience nine times. Thus, the three great tests in Scorpio are in reality nine tests and because of this, the nine-headed Hydra or Serpent, that must be lifted into the air, is ever associated with Scorpio and thus, also the nature of the stupendous victory achieved by Hercules, the Sun-God, in this sign—a victory which will be replicated by disciples of all time and all cultures.

The “serpent of wisdom”—the esoteric name often given to the soul, *must* eventually overcome the “serpent of evil”—the form nature with its isolating promptings and demands.

These tests of appetite, desire and self-will can only be solved by the use of the reasoning mind—and once realized and overcome, the result is twofold: the establishing of right relations with the soul and also with one’s own environment.

And here, in these most simple of words, we have the expressed goal of all the nine tests in Scorpio: *the establishing of right relations with the soul and also with one’s own environment.*

Life, quality and appearance are all tested. The entire experience has to be fought out subjectively and finally lifted "up into the air" and raised into the world of spiritual values where all problems must be solved in the light of the intuition and by the soul.

Test, trial and triumph; struggle, strength and Sagittarian attitudes; re-capitulation and re-orientation.

It is in this sign that the prodigal son comes to him and herself, and having eaten of the husks of life and having exhausted the resources of worldly desire and ambition—finally announces the magical words: "I will arise and go to my Father." I will return to the Halls of Shamballa.

Esoteric Astrology teaches that there are two such major crises in the life of the aspirant:

1. When the intelligent human being of the world comes to him and herself and then re-orientes the life to the soul and its requirements, which leads to the tests in Scorpio.

And, secondly,

2. When the initiate of the third degree—upon a higher turn of the spiral—re-orientes him and herself to the Monad and passes through the most subtle tests, and then on to new spiritual recognitions.

This epic work of the Ages, which will eventually be possible to humanity as a whole, is well summarized in the following passage from the book, *A Treatise on White Magic*:

“Just as the human brain, made up of an infinite number of sentient responsive cells, can be suitably impressed when quiescence has been achieved, and can become the medium of expression for the plans and purposes of the soul, transmitting its ideas via the mind, so the planetary Deity, working under the inspiration of the Universal Mind, can impress humanity with the purposes of God and produce consequent effects in the world of phenomena.

“... [As you think this through,] it will be apparent to you that when this point is grasped, the purpose for which humanity exists, the objective before the group of world mystics and workers, and the ideal set before the individual aspirant, are the same as in the individual meditation; the achieving of that focussed attention and mental quiet wherein reality can be contacted, the true and the beautiful can be registered, divine purpose can be recorded, and it becomes possible to transmit to the phenomenal form, upon the physical plane, the needed energy whereby the subjective realisation can be materialised.

“...Through humanity on the physical plane, the nature of reality will be revealed; the true and the beautiful will be manifested; the divine plan will eventually work out, and that energy [will] be transmitted to all forms in nature which will enable the inner spiritual reality to emerge. (pp. 527-528).

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