Dear Friends, Good Afternoon and welcome to this month’s work, in this consequential sign of Taurus at this highest pinnacle of the spiritual year. We observe today the sacred and holy festival of Wesak, the Festival of Illumination—the Festival of the Buddha, that great spiritual Intermediary between the planetary centres of Shamballa, that of Will-Purpose and the Hierarchy of Love-Wisdom.

As we know, it was in this sign of Taurus that the Enlightened One achieved victory over desire and arrived at illumination, teaching, “even when on the threshold of Nirvana,” that he only accomplished what all others could also accomplish. (Sir Edwin Arnold, *The Light of Asia*)

In the U.S. Eastern Time Zone the actual time of this Festival occurs, tomorrow afternoon, May 18th at 5:11 p.m.

Thus, in the five day cycle that makes up our observances of these monthly Festivals, we are meeting on the last day of Preparation. Let us therefore dedicate ourselves, in 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 humanity. Let us open our hearts and minds to the possibilities in front of us, recognizing 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 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.

*Opening Address presented by Ida Urso, Ph. D., for the 2019 Wesak/Taurus 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](http://www.lucistrust.org) and from the Agni Yoga Society at [http://www.agniyoga.org/index.php](http://www.agniyoga.org/index.php)*
I would like to preface my thoughts about Wesak with the following excerpt from *The Rays and the Initiations* (pp. 735-736) as it provides what I think is a clarifying context for the Buddha’s annual, sacrificial pilgrimage to our planet. Herein, the Tibetan Master teaches that:

Every initiation is a process of energy transmission from a higher centre of energy to a lower; every initiation charges the initiate with electrical force, and this charging and re-charging is related to what...[Helena Blavatsky] calls "the mystery of electricity." These transmissions of energy enhance the magnetic-attractive force of the initiate, and at the same time are eliminative in their effects.

In this fact lies a great planetary truth and the key to the science of planetary redemption. When the spiritual and the electrical charging of the three major centres on the planet—Shamballa, the Hierarchy and Humanity—has reached a high stage of receptive efficiency, a certain cosmic Avatar will “become conscious of the vibratory quality of the little point of light within the solar sphere” and will then "turn His gaze and send His force unto that point of light, and cosmic evil will be driven out, and find no more a place on [planet] Earth."

This, dear Friends is the greater work upon which we, as part of the world-wide group of spiritually oriented aspirants, disciples and Initiates are engaged at these three Spiritual Festivals and especially at this high point of Wesak.

Establishing the divine aspects of will or purpose, love/wisdom and light or intelligent activity, it is expected that these three major spiritual Festivals of Easter, Wesak, and the Christ Festival will eventually be kept “throughout the world, and by their means a great spiritual unity will be achieved and the effects of the Great Approach, so close to us at this time, will be stabilized by the united invocation of humanity throughout the planet.” (*The Reappearance of the Christ*, p. 156)

The photo on your screen is that of the luminous star of Aldebaran, referenced in the website of the Online Star Register as the “Fiery Eye of the Bull” within the sign of Taurus. As this website indicates, this star derives its name from an Arabic term (*al-dabaran*) meaning “the follower,” a name given to this star because it appears to follow the Pleiades across the night sky.

Noted for its massive size and brilliant reddish-orange glow, this celestial wonder is large enough and bright enough to be seen with the naked eye. It is massive compared to our Sun and burns at extreme surface temperatures. Referred to as the “bull’s eye” it is the brightest star in the constellation of Taurus. In ancient Persia this star was recognized as one of the “Four Royal Stars.” (The other three being Regulus, Antares and Fomalhaut).

In our modern esoteric wisdom, “the eye of the bull” within the sign of Taurus—one of the four arms of the Fixed Cross, is also given special importance. *Esoteric Astrology* points out that the Christ said, as have all the Teachers of humanity Who know the true significance of the Fixed Cross, “I am the Light of the world,” and he added, “if thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.” Taurus here is referred to as the “Mother of Illumination”, and the ‘eye of the Bull’ is the symbol of the eye to which Christ made reference.” (pp. 565-566)

This same wisdom continues,

The entire secret of divine purpose and planning is hidden in this sign of Taurus—enhanced by the fact that the "eye of the Bull" is the eye of revelation. The underlying goal of the evolutionary process—"the onward rush of the Bull of God," as it esoterically called—reveals
steadily and without cessation the stupendous and sublime plan of Deity. This is the subject which light reveals. (Ibid., p. 376)

It is the Shamballa force of Planetary Will and Purpose, which pours through the eye of illumination into those spheres of influence upon our sorrowful planet, “impelling the Bull upon its onward rush.” (Ibid.)

Can we here pause for a moment to appreciate the beauty and significance of these truths underlying our daily lives and carry this inspiration into our sounding of 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]

“I see and when the eye is open all is illumined.” Such is the song of the Soul in this illuminating sign of Taurus.

Dear Friends, we can take heart from the fact that “the eye of the cosmic Bull of God is open and from it light pours radiantly forth upon the sons of men. The eye of vision of the individual [wo/]man must likewise open in response to this cosmic light. Hence victory is inevitable for the potency of cosmic energy will unfailingly and in time subdue and re-orient the energy of humanity.” (Esoteric Astrology, p. 403)

“The entire secret of divine purpose and planning is hidden in this sign [of Taurus], owing fundamentally to the relation of the Pleiades to the constellation [of] the Great Bear, and to our solar system.” (Ibid., p. 376)

This relationship in fact constitutes “one of the most important triangles in our entire cosmic series of relationships and this importance is also enhanced by the fact that the ‘eye of the Bull’ is the eye of revelation, which eventually—when “the eye is open and all is light,” will reveal the sublime Plan of Light and Love and Power that we daily invoke when we sound The Great Invocation.

It was over 2600 years ago that Prince Siddhartha Gautama attained buddhic consciousness, achieved enlightenment and earned the title of the Buddha—the Enlightened One. As a result, He clarified for humanity the burdensome nature of desire and the suffering it creates when it is persistent and unenlightened. Because of His achieved illumination and the work of His disciples, who followed in His footsteps, humanity was flooded with a light previously unavailable.

Year after year, ever since His great achievement, at the exact time of the Taurus Solar Festival, through an act of great sacrifice, prompted by His love for humanity, He returns from His High Place to bring Light and Blessings to our long suffering planet.

Year after year, He and His great brother, The Christ, work in the closest cooperation for the spiritual benefit of humanity. In these two great Sons of God have been focussed two aspects of divine life, and They act together as Custodians of the highest type of spiritual force to which our humanity can respond. Through The Buddha, the wisdom of God is poured forth, Through The Christ, the love of God is manifested in humanity, and it is this wisdom and love which pour forth upon humanity at each Wesak Festival.
Consequently, today, many millions everywhere are turning their thoughts towards the Buddha at this Festival of Wesak. Many seek to come under His influence and blessing and that of the Hierarchy at His annual, though brief, return to bless humanity.

We are told that this recognition will continue to grow until the time in the not too distant future when His term of service will be over and He will return no more, because the coming Avatar will take His place in the minds and thoughts of the peoples of the world. Until then, His task of reminding aspirants continuously of the possibility of illumination, and His work of keeping a channel open for the light to irradiate the minds of humanity, by piercing annually through light substance to the Earth is helping humanity to recognize that “in that light we shall see Light.”

As a result of his service to humanity, the Buddha has forged a closer relation between the Hierarchy and Shamballa, thus facilitating the impress of the Will of God upon the minds of men, through the medium of the Hierarchy. He evokes in humanity the spirit of demand, while holding open for them—for us—the channel whereby that demand can reach straight through to Shamballa.

Acting as a focal point or as a "distributor of impression,” the flood of Light and spiritual energy is brought down to the level of human consciousness. Thus, we have the impression of humanity by the Hierarchy of Love and Wisdom through the stimulation of ideas, which demonstrate through a steadily growing and enlightened public opinion.

We have also the influence of the Ashrams of the Masters as they affect the aspirants of the world, the humanitarians and the idealists. The united Ashrams of these Masters, which form the great Ashram of the Christ, affect humanity as a whole through the New Group of World Servers whose members are on all rays, are of all grades of development, and who work in all the various fields and levels of human living.

It was in May of 1945, following such an inflow, at the time of the Wesak Festival of that year that the Forces of Enlightenment became active, and light began to stream into the minds of men and women. These energies of enlightenment reach humanity, via the New Group of World Servers who are very susceptible to their impact, and who are in a position to distribute them, because they are to be found working in all fields of activity.

Emanating from the Heart of God and related to divine understanding, these Forces reach and strengthen all those who love and serve their fellowmen. This energy is related to the second aspect or principle of divinity—that of love-wisdom, of which the Buddha and the Christ are the two outstanding divine expressions.

What is asked of us at this time? How can we more effectively cooperate?

In the first volume of Discipleship in the New Age, the Tibetan Master states that “no cost is too great to pay in order to be of use to the Hierarchy” at the time of the Wesak Festival; “no price is too high in order to gain the spiritual illumination which can be possible, particularly at that time.”

“Pure channels and released minds are the major requirement....It is the growing inner momentum of aspiration and devotion and the increasing ‘lucidity’ of the mind which must constitute the goal for all of you,” he states. “For it is the demand of the disciples of the world which will bring in that which the world needs,” and, it is in the intensification of light that the real light can be seen. (p. 97)

We are called therefore “to a great service of demand and of invocation on behalf of humanity—a demand for the inflow of light upon the decisions of men and women. “I would ask you,” states the
Tibetan Master, “to request and expect the needed enlightenment for those who have to make decision on behalf of men everywhere. Your individual enlightenment has nothing to do with this demand. It is a selfless motive which is required and which must lie behind your individual and group demand. You are demanding enlightenment and illumined perception for those who have to guide the destiny of races, nations and world groups. On their shoulders lies the responsibility to take wise action, based on world understanding, in the interests of international cooperation, and in the establishment of right human relations.” \textit{(The Externalisation of the Hierarchy, p. 467)}

Each of us are called upon to be of use. Each of us are given the responsibility to help bring about the desired objective of right human relations and to strive to implement the Plan of Light and Love and Power, to the best of our understanding and as best we can, at any given point in time.

The work to date has been brought about through an intensive effort in two directions—the Hierarchy has sought to impress that Plan upon the minds of men and women and to convey the needed power and understanding to effect the intended work, and secondly, the effort of all disciples and aspirants to respond and bring through into manifestation that which is waiting on the subjective side of life.

The service of the Buddha is to bring certain Spiritual Beings into touch with our earth Hierarchy. That aid, has come in the form of a much increased spiritual inflow of energy of a kind more powerful and of a quality somewhat different than previously available. Those aspirants and disciples who can train themselves to the realisation of an increased spiritual responsibility and can preserve an inner quietness and a focussed esoteric attentiveness can be swept into this tide of spiritual force and thus serve humanity’s need. \textit{(Esoteric Psychology, Vol. II, pp. 684-685)}

We thus have the releasing of certain energies which can powerfully affect humanity, and which will stimulate the spirit of love, of brotherhood and good will on our planet. We have the fusion of all men and women of good will in the world integrated as a responsive whole; we have the invocation and the response of certain great Beings, Whose work can and will be possible if the spiritual workers of the planet, but play their part. \textit{(The Externalisation of the Hierarchy, p. 689)}

The era of peace and right relations will be ushered in by a gathering together on earth of the forces which stand for construction, development, for a wide humanitarianism and a determination to aid in the cause of human welfare and by a conscious deliberate banding together of groups in every land who embody the principle of Brotherhood. The good of humanity and a stabilized spiritual future for the whole of humankind are the major spiritual objectives. This can be seen most clearly taking place within the many activities and programs of the United Nations, which needs our strengthening support.

Dear Friends, as we know, impression is an art and science to be mastered both from the angle of the impressing agent and of the impressed recipient—all of which are related to the world of ideas.

At this time of Wesak, we have the impression of Sanat Kumara, the Lord of the World, the Ancient of Days and the Fountainhead of the Will as well as the great Lives within Shamballa by great extra-planetary sources, from planets and constellations—bringing life more abundant into the highest planetary center of our planet.

These Great Lives and Beings step down their impression from these high sources so that the Hierarchy as a whole may cooperate with the purposes intended by those who are forming the needed Plan.
At this Festival of Wesak we have the Buddha and the Christ cooperatively working to impress and bless the Three Great Lords of the Hierarchy and the Hierarchy Itself, Who, in turn then impress Their Initiates and Disciples, who in turn impress the New Group of World Servers who translate this divine impression and step it down so that humanity may receive these energies in the form of stimulating ideas.

Within this illustrious grouping of beneficent and powerful Beings—all working for the Good, the Beautiful and the True and offering opportunity to bring our earth humanity into Their circle of beneficence, let us now—most humbly and with great reverence and a loving focus—let us take our stand within this Stream of Love Divine and prepare for our meditation.