



The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity

Creating New Solutions for Planet Earth at the United Nations

April 2012

The time has come to set the Earth on a new path.

[New Era Community](#), par. 36, Agni Yoga, New York City

We really are urging the world to grasp this moment to make history.

Dr. Lidia Brito, Co-Chair, [Planet Under Pressure Conference](#), 26-29 March 2012

In the last decade we have become a highly interconnected society. We are beginning to realize this new state of humanity can be harnessed for rapid innovation. But...we need to move away from GDP as the only measure of progress, and we need a new way of working internationally that is fit for the 21st century.

Dr. Mark Stafford-Smith, Co-Chair, [Planet Under Pressure Conference](#), 26-29 March 2012

Dear Friends,

Here in the Northern hemisphere we celebrate the arrival of spring and we thus greet you with all the joyous blessings that are a part of this season of rebirth and renewal.

The annual progress of the four seasons, the cycles of light and dark and the wonder of the emergence of beauty and color at this time of the year brings to mind the wisdom of Ecclesiastes:

To every thing there is a season, and
a time to every purpose under the heavens;
a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up

that which is planted.

Ecclesiastes: 3:1-2

Throughout the ages, the full Biblical verse from which these few lines are taken, has brought insight, understanding and comfort, helping many gain acceptance of the cyclic occurrence of the manifold expressions of Life all around us. On planet earth and in the cosmos, cycles of birth and death abound—providing unquestionable testimony that birth and death evolve out of each other.

As the tree sprouts through the darkness of the earth, reaching towards the light, so the seed is transformed. The flower evolves into the fruit and the caterpillar is absorbed into the winged life of the butterfly. The moon wanes only to wax again in a monthly rhythm of dark and light. And over eons of time, the perfected substance of one solar system morphs into its even more perfect beneficiary.

This month brings to our planet the energies of the sign of Aries, marking as it does the first of the Three Major Spiritual Festivals. Just as the time of each monthly Solar Festival is known as the higher spiritual interlude of each month, so with this first of the Three Spiritual Festivals, we embark upon the higher spiritual interlude of the annual cycle.

Thus, along with the energies of Aries, we also have available on our planet the “Forces of Restoration,” working under the “Spirit of Resurrection” Whose aim is to “restore livingness to men’s spiritual aims,” vitality to their plans to usher in the New Age of spiritual values and practices, while guiding humanity “out of the dark cave of death, isolation and selfishness into the light of the new day.” (*The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, pp. 457-458)

These Forces and energies now available on our planet are acting as leavening agents bringing about the new forms that are so desperately needed in today’s world.

Of the many encouraging activities now taking place in and around the United Nations, there are two that we wish to highlight at this time. Both could provide promising possibilities as we look for the creation of new wine skins into which can be poured the new spiritual livingness seeking entrance and expression on the planet.

On this same day that this newsletter is being written, as part of the 66th session of the U.N. General Assembly, a High level panel discussion is taking place under the theme of “Happiness and Well-being.” Sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Bhutan to the United Nations and reported in *The New York Times* this past Wednesday in an article entitled, “The U.N. Happiness Project,” the Kingdom of Bhutan is continuing its 40-year quest of establishing Gross National Happiness (G.N.H.) as an alternate model to Gross National Product (G.N.P.) as a measure of national progress.

As the Bhutan government Web site asserts, “The 2nd April High Level Meeting is intended as a landmark step towards adoption of a new global sustainability-based economic paradigm for human happiness and well-being of all life forms to replace the current dysfunctional system that is based on the unsustainable premise of limitless growth on a finite planet.”

Having been ranked by *Business Week* as the “happiest” nation in Asia and the eighth happiest in the world, Bhutan, where the average income is about \$110/month and where only those are taxed whose annual income exceeds about \$2,000/year, has unique insight into the conscious pursuit of happiness as a fundamental human goal.

In *The New York Times* article, Karma Ura, a Bhutanese G.N.H. ambassador offers a unique, refreshing and inspirational definition of what comprises true wealth:

The “true forms of wealth” are to be blessed with a “ravishing environment,” “vibrant health,” “strong communal relationships” and “meaning in life and freedom to free time.”

Further information about the G.N.H. project can be found on the [Bhutanese Gross National Happiness Commission website](#) and in this on-line article written for the readers of the *Diamond Light* on “Gross National Happiness; An Alternative Paradigm to Sustainable Socio-economic Development” by Dr. Saamdu Chetri, Director of the Gross National Happiness Centre, Office of the Prime Minister of Bhutan.

A second activity to which we wish to call your attention and whose ideas we also hope you will support and help strengthen is the [Planet Under Pressure Conference](#) (26-29 March) that was just held in London. Bringing together some 3,000 people to discuss the prospects for better management of the earth and seeking to build momentum for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, known as Rio+20 to be held in June 20-22 in Rio de Janeiro, this Conference continues the process of setting the Earth on a new path.

In a formal declaration issued on Thursday at the end of the conference, Dr. Lidia Brito and Dr. Mark Stafford-Smith, the two co-chairs of the conference, whose above keynotes introduce this month’s newsletter, hailed 2012 as “a defining moment in history” and wrote the following assessment of humanity’s current state of affairs:

The very interconnectedness of economic and political systems across the globe place pressures on the environment; however, “the same interconnectedness provides the potential for solutions: new ideas can form and spread quickly, creating the momentum for the major transformation required for a truly sustainable planet.” They further wrote, “the defining challenge of our age is to safeguard Earth’s natural processes to ensure the well-being of civilization.”

Echoing the thoughts of the G.N.H. project about the need to find a new more holistic paradigm, the State of the Planet Declaration affirms that it is critical to recognize that GDP is an inadequate measure of sustainable economic activity and that we need to complement it with a much better measure of the wealth of a nation.

Conference officials cited Brazil and India as examples, indicating that from 1990 to 2008, Brazil’s G.D.P. per capita rose 34 percent and India’s, 120 percent. However, the picture changes when another measure known as the inclusive wealth indicator is substituted for G.D.P. By this measure, which, among other factors, takes into consideration the declines in things like forests and minerals, Brazil’s wealth rose by only 3 percent and India’s by only 9 percent.

Are not these two initiatives a fitting example of humanity's awakened response to the spiritual energies now seeking entrance into our world? Do not these attempts to create a new civilization and culture reflect humanity's sensitivity to the Forces of Restoration that are concerned with human vision, human integrity and human relations as they underlie the spiritually-based brotherhood of man?

Do they not seek to liberate humanity from the materialism and selfishness of the past—a materialism and selfishness that has wreaked havoc and brought untold suffering, pain and war?

Are they not worthy of and do they not merit our full assistance, focus and support?

The esoteric keynote for the sign of Aries is "I come forth and from the plane of mind, I rule."

"Each era has its own call," states the Agni Yoga wisdom. "The power of thought will be the evocative principle of the New World." (*Agni Yoga*, par. 101)

Using the power of thought, will you participate in this month's Easter/Aries Solar Festival meditation meeting to further initiate humanity's entrance into a new spiritual way of life as we together seek the inspiration that will help bring about the liberation of humanity from its old and outworn habits and conditions that oppress, subjugate and keep us mired in darkness and ignorance?

A link to an introductory explanation of the importance and benefit of meditating at the time of the Solar Festivals can be found [here](#)—in English, Portuguese and Spanish.

The meditation meeting will take place at Noon on Friday, April 6th in the [UN Meditation Room](#). We will work silently, in unison, using the meditation outline, "The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity," from 12-12:30 p.m. and then reassemble outside the meditation room from 12:30-1:15 p.m. for discussion.

If you need a copy of the meditation outline, based on the six-fold progression of divine love, please let us know. It is available in several languages and you are encouraged to use it, not only on the day of the meditation meeting—but, weekly every Friday.

For those whose geographic location necessitates that you join in subjectively, please note that your meditative thoughts can contribute to the available planetary streams of Light, Love and the Will-to-Good that we strive to deepen and expand through this meditation initiative. We wish to thank and gratefully acknowledge those of you who have requested this meditation outline and steadfastly work with it. As you know, and as we often repeat, it is by the power of enlightened, united thought that the needed transformations will take place on our planet.

A UN pass is not required to attend this meeting. Enter the UN through the Visitor's entrance on 1st Avenue at 46th St. After you pass through security and enter the building, the meditation room is located to the right of the information desk and next to the Chagall stained glass window.

Further information about this meditation initiative and the 2012 meditation meeting dates are posted on this [web page](#), which also includes a link to the on-line flyer on [Solar Festival Meditations](#), in English, Portuguese and Spanish.

You are invited to ponder the [quote of the month](#), posted on the first of every month. This month's choice provides a brief introduction to the three major Spiritual Festivals of this high tide of the year. The quote, as usual, is accompanied by a stunning image of the cosmic landscape in which our planet Earth "lives and moves and has its being."

At this time of opportunity we also call on you to add your subjective energies to the following YouTube videos of the Great Invocation in relationship to the spiritual work of the United Nations.

- 1) Under the heading of "Reconciliation and the Healing of the Nations"
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uw8OwJl10HA> (4:31); and,
- 2) "The Great Invocation in the Six Official Languages of the United Nations"
<http://www.youtube.com/user/AquarianAgeCommunity> (6:11)

Your continued support and help in circulating these two videos is an invaluable service—a contribution to our common effort to serve the Common Good, thus adding to the expanding tidal wave of Divine Light, Love and Power that seeks entrance in our day-to-day world through the enlightened consciousness of spiritual workers everywhere in the world.

In loving planetary service,

Aquarian Age Community

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