The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity
Inviting the Youth of the World to Engage in the Spiritual Work of the UN
August (Leo II Solar Festival) 2013

It is bridging work which has now to be done—bridging between what is today and what can be in the future. If, during the coming years, we develop this technique of bridging the many cleavages found in the human family and in offsetting the racial hatreds and the separative attitudes of nations and people, we shall have succeeded in constructing a world in which war will be impossible and humanity will be realizing itself as one human family and not as a fighting aggregate of many nations and peoples, competitively engaged in getting the best of each other and successfully fostering prejudices and hatred....Humanity has always progressed from stage to stage of enlightenment and from glory to glory. We are today on our way to a far better civilization than the world has ever known and towards conditions which will ensure a much happier humanity.

The Tibetan Master, Djwhal Khul in Problems of Humanity, by Alice A. Bailey

There are lots of bumps along the way, lots of trying and failing, and a few bouts of failing to try. Nonetheless, the most important moment for me—and I dare say the most important moment for you—is the first one: the moment you decide that, though the odds are against you, you are going to offer whatever you have—your voice, your time, your creativity, your skills, your determination—to try to help people....The work the founders of the UN began is yours now. It is your time, and your turn to breathe new life into the issues that inspired them, and into the institution they created: to demand more of it, to make it work better, to build the world that we envision....It is the courage and creativity of those in this room and young people everywhere that gives me hope, that we too can accomplish great things, united.
Dear Friends,

At the United Nations, this month of August has brought a spirited focus on the youth of the world. A floodlight of attention has been placed on this, the largest generation the world has ever known. Representing approximately 18% of the world’s population, in various forums and venues, UN leaders sought to engage the youth (ages 15-24) of the world by listening to their voices, harnessing their passion, drive and high idealism and eliciting their vibrant, high energy and fresh ideas for the cause of bringing solution to the world’s most intractable problems and critical challenges.

For example, on August 5th, Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon held a “Global Interactive Dialogue on United Nations Youth Initiatives.” Youth were welcomed and told that for the first time ever, the UN system will put in place a common strategy for youth development, including a dedicated website which will serve as the “UN Online Platform for Youth.” Additionally, among many other activities, the UN Economic and Social Council will facilitate youth forums at the national, regional and global levels.

This event was followed by hundreds of young people from across the world gathering at the UN for the 12th International Youth Assembly, which sought to strengthen youth leadership and accelerate the achievement of the anti-poverty targets of the Millennium Development Goals. At this meeting on August 7th, these engaged youth heard the Secretary-General acclaim them as “the most powerful agent of social change in the world.” And, the UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations, Nassir Abdulaziz al-Nasser, called on these youth to help build the urgently needed bridges of understanding and acceptance between diverse cultures.

This event was followed by the International Youth Day, observed yearly on August 12th, which was first declared on the eve of the new millennium on 17 December 1999. The theme of this year’s observation was “Youth Migration: Moving Development Forward.”

Among this special session’s many informative and interesting proceedings, one of the most moving and powerfully compelling was a panel discussion featuring the testimony of youth migrants spanning many of the world’s trouble spots. For example, the participants heard the heartbreaking story of a young lady who had fled
from Burma and then lived 13 years of her young life in refugee camps in Thailand and was now struggling in the U.S. to become a human rights activist. We also heard the heartrending and soul-full story of a young refugee who daily feared for her life as she witnessed the torture and killing of family and friends while in Syria and who is now working in Sudan with the UN Refugee Agency, striving to bring comfort and hope to those who have undergone and are undergoing similar experiences.

Moderating one of the panel discussions, H.E. Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, Ambassador from Bangladesh, addressed the fresh, vibrant, enthusiastic willingness of the youth to tackle today’s challenges, if given an opportunity. He provided a helpful perspective by pointing out that of the nearly 1.3 billion youths in the world, the majority of them—nearly 63%—live in Asia and another 23% percent live in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. As Ambassador Momen summarized, this means that nine out of every ten youth live in developing countries.

Recognizing that out of the 214 million international migrants, nearly 13%, or 27 million are youth migrants, whose tragic stories of abuse and deprivation often cause us to “shiver and feel pain,” Ambassador Momen called attention to the need “of the global media and the global leadership to consider the citizens of this planet earth as one and [to] be inclusive for the fullest realization of human and global potentials for the well being of humanity.”

This same theme of unity, global citizenship and the related need for everyone to “love your neighbor as yourself” was also clearly articulated by newly appointed U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Power, as she addressed the Fourth Estate Leadership Summit in Los Angeles on August 10th. H.E. Ambassador Power was fervent in her appeal to the participating youth, reminding them that it is their “positive moral vision” that is needed more than ever: “We need your vision of justice to win over those who fear it. We need your vision of freedom to overwhelm those who rely on repression. We need your vision of equality and tolerance to overcome those who propagate division and terror. And, we need you to act so that that vision—your vision—prevails.”

At this point, we would like to refer to some contemplative summary thoughts by a youthful representative in response to her experience at the International Youth Day. As this young representative wrote,

The human spirit needs to be nurtured. We need to provide it with ample opportunities to grow, serve, and find its place in the world. It was made abundantly clear at this meeting that young people all over the planet are not only seeking money and a job, but rather, they are searching for meaning and a purposeful life. They hope that others will reach out to them so that, in turn,
they can help others. The Aquarian Age is upon us, and it brings a change in attitude, which is best represented in young people all over the world who are ready to make the needed sacrifices, hoping that it is a shared sacrifice by all generations.

Here, the Agni Yoga wisdom deepens our understanding, providing an affirming thought about the fresh thinking and healthy outlook of the young, while warning about the often antiquated attitudes of the older generations:

Urusvati knows that the world-outlook changes with each generation. But few individuals grasp this, for an entire generation is rarely studied. Amid life's confusion people are not accustomed to paying sufficient attention to the thinking of youth, and believe that by using the old textbooks, they will strengthen traditional concepts. But these books are obsolete, and young thought finds its own way. (Supermundane II, par. 368)

Not only in the examples cited above, but we also remember Malala Yousafzai, featured in last month’s newsletter and we recognize that today’s youth are particularly capable of heroism, as they seem to be instinctive global citizens and especially responsive to the fact of the One Humanity and the Common Good.

Not only is that person called a hero/heroine who acts selflessly, states the Agni Yoga wisdom, but a hero/heroine is also one who acts in a self-sacrificingly, unwaveringly and conscious manner; acting in the name of the Common Good, such heroism brings nearer the current of cosmic evolution. (New Era Community, par. 147)

In considering the current of cosmic evolution, we turn to the solar and cosmic energies uniquely available to us this month as our sun once again spotlights the sign of Leo. In doing so, let us recollect the Ageless Wisdom teaching that indicates that at the time of the full moon, it is as if a door is opened between the Sun and Moon. This band of golden light, extending between the Sun and the Moon, completely irradiates the lunar surface, making possible certain revelations.

Through that door or opening, energies can be contacted which are otherwise not available and through that door, approaches can be made to the planetary Hierarchy and to reality which are at other times not possible.

As above, so below; as in the macrocosm, so in the microcosm; that is, the above occurrence serves as a lighted symbol for the relation possible between the Soul and the personality, between the Hierarchy of Love-Wisdom and Humanity; between the subjective world of meaning and the objective world of material form; between the realm of causes and the realm of effects.
Leo is a fire sign and the esoteric wisdom informs us that it is the pre-eminent fire sign at this time. The energies of the Leo sign as seen from an esoteric perspective are purifying in their effects; they can burn and destroy and thus, eradicate all that hinders an essentially divine expression, bringing, for example, the personality into contact with its indwelling Soul and bringing the collective center, humanity, into contact with the overshadowing Hierarchy of Light and Love.

As we mentioned in last month’s newsletter, “the whole story and function of Leo and its influences can be summed up in the word ‘sensitivity’ and this sensitivity can be studied in four stages.” (Esoteric Astrology, p. 294)

The first two stages entail a developing sensitivity to one’s physical plane environment; the third and fourth stages are of particular concern to those of us who are focused on the planetary transformation of consciousness and the spiritual renaissance needed on our planet.

In the third stage, the Leo energies incline towards the development of sensitivity to the indwelling Soul of Love-Wisdom as the conditioning factor in the life—instead of sensitivity to the environing world, as the conditioning factor. It is at this stage that the individual becomes aware of one’s spiritual destiny and life purpose—a factor occurring among scores of the youth mentioned in the above examples.

At the fourth stage of unfoldment, the liberated individual is no longer conditioned by his/her environment, but, instead, begins the arduous task of conditioning the environment and influencing it so that it begins to respond to the divine plan and purpose, while at the same time cultivating a sensitivity to the higher cosmic and planetary energies that can aid in the process.

As a result of the conflict and clashes of energies and forces between the material and the spiritual, humanity experiences the multiple and multi-level crises evident everywhere and in all fields. Through these crises, humanity’s aspiration for peace and security, for understanding and good will and for truth and justice can be raised to its highest possible expression. Through this experience, the invoked higher energies of the Soul can be precipitated upon our planet and a spiritual stimulation, such as many are today experiencing, can increasingly take place.

It is this healing force, these healing energies that we have the opportunity to bring into humanity’s consciousness during our daily, weekly and monthly meditations.

Will you join us in that meditation as we ponder the esoteric keynote for this sign of Leo: “I am That and That am I” as it applies to “The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity?”
Because of the renovations that are part of the UN Capital Master Plan, we have been holding the UN monthly meditation meetings via Webinar, making it possible for anyone with a computer to join from any part of the United States or the world.

This month's meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 20 from noon until 1:00 p.m., U.S. Eastern Daylight Savings Time on the exact day of the second Leo Solar Festival, which occurs at 9:45 p.m. U.S. Eastern Daylight Savings Time.

Registration is required and accessible via the following web page link: https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/723026919

The first half hour will include a brief introduction, a guided group meditation, using the meditation outline, “The Spiritual Work of the United Nations and the Liberation of Humanity” followed by a half hour of group sharing and discussion.

A copy of the meditation outline, which we encourage you to also use weekly, every Friday, is available upon request.

You are invited to ponder the quote of the month, which is posted on the first of every month, accompanied by a photograph of the cosmic landscape in which we live and move and have our being.

Additionally, this month we are pleased to offer the new Diamond Light, which includes the following articles: “Progressing Towards the Age of Aquarius”; “Why Is Group Work an Inmate Characteristic of the Age of Aquarius?” And “Using the New Age Science of Invocation/Evocation to Support and Strengthen the Spiritual Work of the United Nations.” Those who have requested to receive the newsletter via postal mail will receive it shortly. Thank you for your patience.

Thank you for working with the videos in the Aquarian Age Community YouTube channel as well as with the video under the heading of Reconciliation and the Healing of the Nations. Your continued support and help in working with and circulating these videos is welcome and deeply appreciated.

We will look forward to your participation and contributions in the upcoming Webinar (in English). Please see below for registration for all meetings in 2013.

In loving and shared planetary service,
Aquarian Age Community
A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit NGO in association with UN/DPI
http://www.aquaac.org
http://www.youtube.com/user/AquarianAgeCommunity
UN@aquaac.org

Registration Links for 2013 Monthly UN Meditation Meetings Via Webinar
All meetings will begin promptly at Noon (12:00 p.m.) and end at 1:00 p.m. U.S. Eastern Daylight Savings Time. Registration for each meeting is required.

Tuesday, August 20/Leo II - https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/489131919
Wednesday, September 18/Virgo -
https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/464281303
Friday, October 18/Libra - https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/259580079
Friday, November 15/Scorpio - https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/659100519
Monday, December 16/Sagittarius -
https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/910875447