ThoughtLine November 2000

To provide the training, the atmosphere, the companionship and service opportunities necessary to *''link Hierarchical intent with human aspiration.''*

Arcana WorkshopS

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Workshops and Study Groups

New

The Millennium Disciple – Tuesday Mornings @ 11:00 Starting October 31, Please call for details (310) 391-9772

Ongoing

White Magic - Tuesdays 7:30 to 9:00 PM

Nature of the Soul - Wednesdays 7:00 to 9:30 PM

Astrology - Thursdays 7:30 to 9:00 PM

Up Coming Events

November 6, Monday, 8:15 PM

Election Eve Meditation (Public is Welcome.) Arcana Workshops, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd. Suite 202, Culver City

November 10, Friday, 7:45 PM

Scorpio Community Meditation Meeting Arcana Workshops, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd. Suite 202, Culver City

December 10, Sunday, 7:45 PM

Libra Community Meditation Meeting Arcana Workshops, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd. Suite 202, Culver City

Meditation Mount Conference Saturday, November 11 and Sunday November 12 Visioning Spiritual Governance Location: Meditation Mount in Ojai, California. For information, write Meditation Mount at PO Box 566, Ojai, CA 93024, Call (805) 646-5508 or E-mail – <u>meditation@meditation.com</u> Website: www.meditation.com

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Synthesis of the Signs

Ancer is the last of what we might call the four preparatory signs, whether we are considering the involution of the soul in matter, or the evolution of the aspirant as he struggles out of the human into the spiritual kingdom. Being equipped with the faculty of mind (in Aries) and with desire (in Taurus), and having arrived at the realization of his essential duality (in Gemini) the incarnating human being enters, through birth in Cancer, into the human kingdom. Cancer is a mass sign, and the influences which pour from it are held by many esotericists to bring about the formation of the human family, of the race, the nation, and the family unit.

Where the aspirant is concerned, the story is somewhat different, for in these four signs he prepares his equipment and learns to utilize it: In Aries, he grips his mind and seeks to bend it to his need, learning mental control. In Taurus, the mother of illumination, he receives his first flash of that spiritual light that will grow increasingly more brilliant as he nears his goal. In Gemini, he not only appreciates the two aspects of his nature, but the immortal aspect begins to increase at the expense of the mortal. Now, in Cancer, he gets his first touch of that more universal sense that is the higher aspect of the mass consciousness. Equipped, therefore, with controlled mind, a capacity to register illumination, an ability to contact his immortal aspect and intuitively to recognize the kingdom of spirit, he is ready now for the greater work.

In the next four signs, which we might regard as the signs of physical plane struggle for achievement, we have portrayed for us the tremendous battle through the medium of which the self-conscious individual, emerging out of the mass in Cancer, knows himself to be the individual in Leo, the potential Christ in Virgo, the aspirant endeavoring to balance the pairs of opposites in Libra, and the one who overcomes glamour and/or illusion, in Scorpio. These are the four signs of crisis and of stupendous endeavor. In them, all the illumination, intuition and soul power of which the aspirant is capable are utilized to the utmost. These have their reflection, too, on the involutionary arc, and a similar sequence of unfoldment can be traced: The soul achieves individuality in Leo, becomes the nurturer of ideas and of potential capacities in Virgo, swings violently from one extreme to the other in Libra, and is subjected to the disciplining effect of the world of illusion and form in Scorpio.

In the final four signs, we have the signs of achievement. The aspirant has worked out of the world of glamour and of form, and in his consciousness is free from their limitations. Now he can be the archer in Sagittarius, going straight for his goal; now he can be the goat in Capricorn, scaling the mount of initiation; now he can be the world worker in Aquarius, and the world savior in Pisces. Thus he can sum up in himself all the gains of the preparatory period and of the fiercely-fought battles in the four signs of strenuous activity, and in these four final signs demonstrate the gains achieved and the powers developed.

This brief summation of the signs, as they affect our journey, will serve to give some idea of the wonderful synthesis of the picture, and of the steady progression, and of the controlled unfolding of the various forces which play their subtle parts in bringing about the changes in the life of humanity.

The Heresy of Separateness

My original intent for tonight's discourse was to revisit with some fresh light the theme of The Great Heresy of Separateness, to examine its underpinnings and its relationship to some of its apparent opposites like inclusiveness, cultural diversity, and to the internet as its most powerful antidotes, and to further consider how the Heresy is fostered by the tyrannies of churchianity, financial grading and scientific materialism. I have been overly ambitious, and I will write that talk another day; but, tonight I will share something else I feel is very special, in pursuit of satisfying both the keynote of Cancer and my original intent of exploring The Great Heresy of Separateness. I have gone to a helper, who can in practical and simple words address these as Themes of tonight's gathering-the Dalai Lama is perhaps the most public person on the planet administering to the mass emerging consciousness of humanity.

I have transcribed a portion of a talk that the Dalai Lama gave in the Hawaiian Islands in 1994. This was given at a colloquium on the subject of achieving world peace through non-violence and salvage of the earth's environment in the 21st Century. His talk also fits remarkably well with the seed thought that has

been our theme for meditation throughout the entire course of the solar month of Cancer for this year 2000. That is:

"If the great organized religious groups and churches in every land and composing all faiths do

not offer spiritual guidance and help, humanity will find another way. Nothing under heaven can arrest the progress of the human soul on its long pilgrimage from darkness to light, from the unreal to the real, from death to immortality and from ignorance to wisdom." *Problems of Humanity* p. 124

Additionally, the Dalai Lama's talk also is a very good comment on the theme of our Three Linked Meditation Festivals of Spring: The spiritual destiny of Humanity. He touches upon several subjects that I feel are essential to our lives:

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These are his words:

I always believe that we are the same Human Being. No matter what cultural differences, or racial or ideological differences, in spite of them, we are the same Human Being. I think one's very own existence is much dependent on the other. It is obvious that, as part of human nature, we need good friends and good companions.

We need the Human Smile. I love the smile. The smile is something I do and is a very beautiful thing. Of course, sometimes in a day there are a mix of smiles; sometimes in a day there are

The requirements of Human Beings cannot be provided for fully by machines, money or by material. We need something else.

sarcastic smiles. Certain times in a day I think that automatic smiles are also there. So I think that these smiles sometimes are artificial smiles that give us—instead of satisfaction—just more suspicions. But the genuine smile ... that's one thing that I think is the human's special feature. So even when I am just passing through in the

car, and sometimes I see the people directly, I usually just smile. No matter whether I know them or not. My feeling is, "Oh, that's another Human Being," so no need to introduce each, to one another. So usually I smile often; then

sometimes the people at the beginning have sort of a little bit of a surprised attitude, and then—a SMILE. They respond with a smile. This is good, very good. Isn't it? Or sometimes, in spite of my smile, some ignore it ... so a little bit of that response is some embarrassment. This is OK. So, therefore, a SMILE is something, I think ... is very beautiful.

According to my little experience, it is quite clear that we expect the solution to our problems to come from outside of us. I think that is wrong. And, particularly if we expect that if we have money, if we have some wealth, then all problems can be solved.

I think that kind of attitude is not based on a complete thought. Of course, if we have money then we can get much in the way of facilities, much comfort, at the same time reducing the problem, and reducing some illness. However, basically the money alone is not a cure.... The requirements of Human Beings cannot be provided for fully by machines, money or by material. We need something else.

Now, here I see that the most important thing is Human Affection.

So you see, naturally I think it is a wrong attitude, just to be thinking that with material development alone our human society can achieve some kind of peaceful and happy society. I think that is wrong. We need this material development; at the same time, we have to take every care about internal development. Internal Spiritual development.

When I say Spirituality, I am not thinking in terms of religious belief. A religion, if you have one, is good. It is very useful. But even without religions, we can manage. There can be a happy person even without religion. So, therefore, when I say that spirituality, or internal spiritual development, it means the basic human good qualities. That is, Human affection; the human sense of community; and a sense of responsibility. These are, I believe, the basic internal spiritual values.

Now, firstly, human nature ... what is human nature? Of course, I am a Buddhist monk, so certainly some Buddhist ideas may have influence in my mind. I believe the basic human nature is gentleness. Of course, the aggressive nature, based on greed and ambitions, or these things, also are a part of our mind. But certainly

these are not the force in our mind.

The dominant force in our mind, I believe, is human affection. The reason is:

Look right from the beginning of our life and until our death; we can see human affection rules the whole of this life, period. So, this nature is not something created by sophisticated technology or sophisticated thinking. But, rather, it is a biological phenomenon, something natural. Then obviously, experts today recognize fully that those children who have grown under parents or someone else's care with affection, these children's basic brain function is also better and their physical development is also better. So for their whole lives, these children can be more happy people. On the contrary, those children who, at the beginning and at a young age, see a lack of human affection, then the whole of their life, these children will suffer.

Human affection, the human sense of community, and a sense of responsibility, these are, I believe, the basic internal spiritual values.

The Ecology Problem

Then, of course, the environment, the ecology problem. No matter how powerful one single nation is, you cannot solve this problem, unless the entire world—all countries—put forth the same effort with a clear goal. Otherwise, it is very difficult to solve these problems. So this is the reality.

Now compare this to humanity in a broader way. The reality of our current existence, the modern world, is such that we are forced-we are compelled—to rethink our modes of thought ... to think in a more global and broader way. In the past, when nation-to-nation, people lived more independently and had less interdependence with their neighbor countries, the kind of points I have been raising about the need for global thinking and the need for creating a more global society, and non-violent society, may although be considered NOBLE IDEAS ... they would be considered but idealistic. unrealistic and irrelevant.

> But today we have come to a point where, irrespective of whether they are noble great ideals or not, they are realistic. We

are forced to think in such a way, that we have to work toward such a society.

Calming the mind ... according to my own little experience, the more your mind remains calm, in spite of any difficulties or difficult circumstances, if your mental state remains calm, then the blood circulation and all of the other physiological things go smoothly. As a result your health remains good. So the very nature of our body, our constitution, is very much suited to a calm mind. It is very useful to take care about the calmness of mind. It is not expensive. We can do it; nobody external can control that ... whether educated or uneducated, rich or poor, you can make this effort. Make it a constant effort. Modern education is, of course, marvelous. Through modern education we achieve a lot of new development which I think our ancestors would not even have been able to dream. But it seems to me, generally people are not paying enough attention about the development of the spiritual side. I think the reason, perhaps, is that in the past the spiritual development side lived through the church or in religious community.

So then as time goes, people's interest toward religion declined. Here again, the religion's role in the spiritual field is, of course, very important but not inseparable. Although religion has a very important role to play in spiritual development, one should, however, be aware of the fact that basic spirituality and religion need not be one and the same thing. Without Human Affection we

The reason is, I feel that in our life the religion comes later. For example, when we

are born, I think we are free from any ideology, any religion; but at that time we are not "free" from Human Affection. Without Human Affection we cannot survive! Without religion we can survive. So that is clear.

So it is very important to know that it is our Nature that is the base of reality. So to me various different religious traditions are actually about strengthening basic human good qualities. Sometimes I describe religion, not out of disrespect, but sometimes I describe it as "a luxury asset item." If you have it, very good! But, without it we can survive. However, as far as the Human Affection altruistic mental attitude is concerned, it is a necessity. Without that, that person or that family will not be a happy person or happy family.

The Dalai Lama, in some of his other day-long teachings, speaks about this last concept as being the ultimate aspiration of the Bodhisattva (the disciple on the path). He says that the ultimate aspiration of the Bodhisattva is altruistic attention; that unless we practice altruistic compassion there is no real happiness. He invites us into the Vigor of Joyous Effort which is very like the concept of enlightened enthusiastic will that the Tibetan, Djwhal Khul, speaks of.

We can take encouragement from the Dalai Lama's words, for he is a reflection of what has been forecast for this time by the Tibetan, as the influence generated by direct contact between humanity and the energy of Shamballa makes itself felt.

DK has indicated that we can expect great ideologies, potent groupings of workers and thinkers dedicated to the changing of the old order, and massed efforts to end separativeness to all present at this time. Large masses of human beings will be and are now taking the 1st and 2nd initiations.

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Divine Plan, we have a sign that preparation for the 2nd initiation is in the works. I think that we can all see that, on a larger scale than ever before, humanity is awakening to truer values and spiritual perception. That we have crisis is indicative of these changes.

Thank you for your participation in this evolutionary process, and for your presence here this evening in support of this global work through our group meditation process.

Carol Houst July 15, 2000



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can survive.

\$ and Sense

Oney is an area to which I give a fair amount of thought. Since we are all disciples, I assume we are all into using the money that comes into our hands as wisely as we can, so I will not go into that area. The area of money flow that I think gets short shrift from the esoteric community in general is the political arena.

Who gets elected as the president of this country, who sits in and controls the Congress, which propositions get approved or disapproved—all of these things are very, very important. To those who say there is no difference—between presidents, for example—I would suggest they look a little closer, and it is good to remember that when we talk about even a 3 to 5% shift in the spending or allocating of funds, we are indeed talking about BILLIONS. In the case of a recent 8 year administration, it was TRILLONS.

I am well aware of the point of view in the esoteric community that maintains that D.K. has made kind of iron some clad proposition that groups should avoid everv appearance of political involvement, that

disciples are supposed to be apolitical—that is neither for nor against any party—that "since we can't really see the big picture", we should beware of pushing either agenda. While I think that there are issues where we do need to avoid taking sides, I have come to think that this reading of the Teaching is too simple. It is too narrow. It makes discipleship way too easy. I think that, to the detriment of the Light, it is a point of view that frequently interferes with people supporting issues of great importance or candidates in an election, speaking on their behalf, putting money into their campaigns and so forth. There are many passages in the Teaching that indicate the disciple's duty is otherwise. One might look at *Discipleship In The New Age Vol I* pp. 784-5 for an example.

Anyway, the fact is that disciples have never been able to see the big picture; we have always been only able to see the picture as big as we can see it, and that is all. But there have always been disciples who have had the courage to act on their visions, and were willing to accept responsibility for their actions. Should I name a few? How about George Washington? How about any disciple anywhere anytime who put his or her life on the line to further the plan as they understood it, to do what their hearts indicated to let in more light?

There is nothing in the Teaching that I have ever read that says disciples are not supposed to struggle for the right, serve with all they have of time, money, thought, and will to bring in the light and roll back the forces of greed and selfishness. It seems to me that all of our training is aimed at helping us make the kinds of discriminations that would make us good citizens and needed voters.

Disciples, it is also said, are to be found in all parties, and we can all agree to that. I think that it is the responsibility of each disciple to evaluate those who are running for public office, hold them up to the frequency of the Christ, see how they vibrate, and then to act. And that action should be positive. That is

disciples work for something rather than against something. So what we are talking about here is supporting the Light as each of us sees it manifesting through the candidates and propositions in our particular area. I think that this is Seventh Ray work worthy

of anyone who thinks of him or herself as a disciple.

What is the point? Simple. People control how the energy or the money of the nation is used. We can impact that by getting politically active. Time spent getting the more group conscious, humanly focused people in control of the country's money spending and allocating is time well spent indeed. One hour spent in this way will get more bang than weeks spent in some of the other fashions of which esoteric types are so fond.

I suppose that this message will not sit well with some esoteric people, but, as I see it, especially in the flow of the First and Seventh rays that are impossible to avoid, we really need to get more practical and active in the political area. I think it is all about embodying the principles we talk about. After all, "The white magic of right human relations cannot be stopped; it must inevitably demonstrate effectively, because the

Time spent getting the more group conscious, humanly focused people in control of the country's money spending and allocating is time well spent indeed. energy of this Seventh Ray is present and the Lord of the Ray is cooperating with the Lord of the World to bring about the needed 're-forming'." *Rays and Initiations* p. 573 But right human relations which is one of the Six Laws and Principles "which will control the coming era, the civilization and the future world culture" (*Discipleship In The New Age Vol. II* p. 236) can demonstrate effectively only through humanity, and that means when enough people do what it takes. The other five concepts for living which are embedded in the Laws and Principles will likewise find their way into manifestation only through something that looks a lot like political action.

Dreaming, of course, is fun. It is easy, and we love to dream big dreams,

but it seems that we lack the backbone to try to implement the dream. We take a look at the dream and then we say "If only this or that could be." Then, we give up and go back to dreaming. Its a lot easier to say "if only." It's time we quit hiding behind "if only" and start making it happen.

Many of us have been doing the subjective work to attract "untold sums" for the implementation of the plan for years, and the money has come. It has come in great abundance. The problem is that in the best tradition of "new speak" this enormous flow of money, which I think is the direct result of our meditative efforts over the last 75 years, is being called a budget surplus.

Think of it. The money has been generated and directed into the hands of the people's government for use on the people's programs, but this money is being misdirected or even non-directed because the people who would direct it toward lighted avenues are simply not there. It is to me clearly our responsibility that the right people are not there. We need to see that the people who will use this money as humanity needs it to be used—rather than to further the materialistic desires of those who already have more in the way of material comforts than can possibly be used in one life—get elected to public office.

There is consciousness raising that we can do here. This is political work. It is working in the field trying to bring in enough light in the form of common sense to shatter some of the old self conscious generated and now fossilized thoughtforms that dictate how and why money is used.

This concept of a budget surplus is one such thoughtform. The idea that there can be a budget surplus, which we are constantly told we have in the nation as well as in the State of California, when the roads are falling apart, schools have no books and fewer teachers, people are homeless, hunger is a big problem, medical care is a joke, even for the insured, and I could go on and on, but this thoughtform—that there is a budget surplus—just doesn't make sense.

> To reiterate: The money to put the programs in place that people need to just survive is available.

This money is being called surplus because we are not using it to get the things the people need. We are not using this money because the people who would vote to do so are not being elected to office. Could it be that they are not being elected because "good people are doing nothing?" I think so.

I am questioning two things: 1) Is there a difference worth considering between candidates and voting "yes" or "no" on issues or propositions? 2) What is a surplus? How can there be a surplus when there is so much need in the common welfare?

Get Involved

The point of this little sharing is that action is what is needed, action that will make a difference. And this means, at least from where I see, getting involved in deciding which propositions will get implemented and who will make the budget and on what the zillions will be spent.

I hope that everyone will take the time to look at the meditation suggestions which follow this little note and, if the Spirit moves you, that you will participate in this subjective effort as well.

Tom Carney

We love to dream—big dreams—but it seems that we lack the backbone to try to implement our dreams.

Dear Friends and Fellow Workers

The following meditation was designed to help "set the energies" to increase the possibility that the highest good, aligned with Divine purpose, will result from the upcoming U.S. elections. This meditation does not support a particular candidate, but is intended to create an energetic field which will facilitate the highest choice possible by the American people. If you are drawn to this type of work, we encourage you to use this meditation several times a week in your individual or group meditations, with increasing frequency as we approach the elections on November 7th.

There will be groups all over the country and perhaps in foreign nations too who will be using this meditation. Many of these groups will meet together in a culminating group meditation on the night before the elections. Arcana Workshops is participating in this nation and worldwide intergroup endeavor in the spirit of the One Ashram and the One Humanity. Arcana joins all participating groups in encouraging individuals and other groups around the U.S. and other nations to sponsor similar meditations leading up to and especially on the night before the elections on November 6th.

The meditation is specifically designed so that it can be widely disseminated to the public and used by anyone who chooses. We also invite you to modify this meditation and the invocative appeal, The Great Invocation, with which the meditation is closed in any way that would make it useful and meaningful for your group.

Thank you for your participation in this crucial inner work to help invoke the Soul of our nation.

Tom Carney

Thoughtline

MEDITATION FOR THE 2000 U.S. ELECTIONS

The purpose of this meditation is to help "set the energies" to increase the possibility that the highest good, aligned with Divine purpose, will result from the upcoming U.S. elections and to create a positive atmosphere conditioned by the will-to-good, so that each person, participating in the election according to the vision of his/her soul, can be aligned with Divine Will and make the best possible choice in the elections, serving the highest good of the nation and the world.

1. Align with your higher self or soul, the indwelling Divinity.

2. As the Soul, see yourself as part of a network of light, circulating light among all individuals and groups around the U.S. and the world who are meditating and working to build a better world, in harmony with God's will.

3. Now align with the Saints and Masters of all traditions.

4. Align with the center where the Will of God is known.

5. Hold the silence for 10 minutes or more.

6. Visualize the American people aligning with their higher self, facing the decision of the 2000 elections. See the inflow of the energies of love, goodwill and wisdom. See them circulating as people align with Divine Purpose, anchoring it on earth more fully through their choice.

7. Then see the government in Washington, D.C. aligned with higher spiritual principles. See the energies of God's Will flowing to the White House, love/wisdom into the Congress, and light flowing to the Supreme Court of the U.S. government.

8. Close with the Great Invocation

THE GREAT INVOCATION

From the point of Light within the Mind of God Let light stream forth into human minds. Let Light descend on Earth.

From the point of Love within the Heart of God Let love stream forth into human hearts. May the Coming One* return to Earth.

From the center where the will of God is known Let purpose guide all little human wills -The purpose which the Masters know and serve.

From the center which we call the human race Let the Plan of Love and Light work out And may it seal the door where evil dwells.

Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.

*Called Christ by Christians, the Messiah by Jews, the Iman Mahdi by Muslims, and Maitreya by Buddhists