

OVERVIEW - MEDITATION QUEST - MODULE 5

MQ-5: The Mantram of Unification

The theme of this meditation work, focuses upon an ancient and powerful mantram called "The Mantram of Unification". It is designed to heal cleavages within humanity with the power of love.

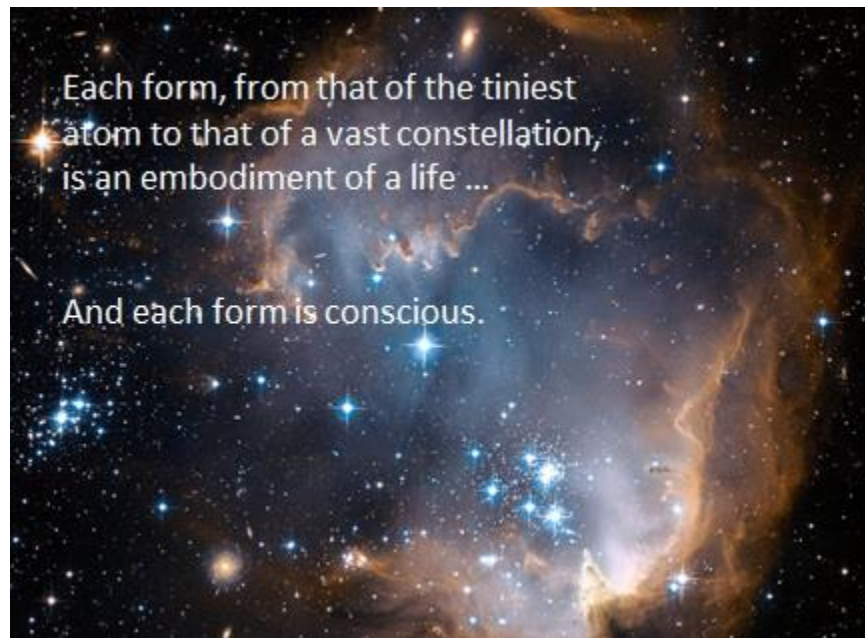


Skill to Learn - Working with a Mantram

The study section introduces the student to the process of meditating on a specific mantram, involving a more demanding focusing of the mind in the act of holding a sentence or phrase in mind during meditation.

MEDITATION 5: STUDY PAPER #1

EVOLUTION OF CONSCIOUSNESS



The Probationary Path

An *aspirant* is one who aspires for something high or good. This brings about a certain structure of right living, thinking and conduct. We call that character. Character building is one of the most important achievements for the aspirant. This achievement on the evolutionary path is called the Probationary Path. The aspirant works on observing what aspects of himself need adjustments, requiring the building in of virtues, the strengthening of positive qualities within the personality and the eliminating of the lesser or weaker aspects of the personality.

On the Probationary Path the aspirant is continually working on integrating the lower vehicles – the physical/etheric, the astral and lower mental fields so that he develops an “integrated personality” through the pull of the soul upon the lower forces. Although the aspirant still identifies principally with the personality, his intended focus is now upon the truer Self or “Soul” as the source of higher energy and spiritual consciousness.



The Path of Discipleship

The *disciple* is one who is transferring his consciousness out of the personal into the impersonal. Although he is becoming more and more soul-infused, he may still be somewhat identified with his form, the personality. He recognizes the uselessness of past attitudes and dogmatic ways of looking at life and people (based usually on tradition and circumstance) and begins to be more inclusive and understanding of others. The disciple walks in the light of his Soul, and the clear light of the sun pours through him revealing the Path and at the same time, certain aspects of the Divine Plan.

Some Qualities to be recognized in Disciples:

As soul is infusing the disciple, there is a greater expansion of consciousness with flashes of insight and knowledge. He becomes aware of capacities and powers (subtle vibrations and phenomena) even though they may as yet not be intelligently under his control. At this stage the mind is dominant and controls the personality forces so there is greater mental focus and receptivity to ideas and impressions from the level of soul. As an integrated personality with influence from soul he becomes an acknowledged force in the world and is recognized as one who can be depended upon to serve. Men turn to him for assistance and help. Service is a key component in soul expression. It is motivated by the aspiration to give of oneself to others. No longer is his focus on the personal self. Service is an expression of love, given freely to the family, the group, or humanity in general. Service is the result of soul impulse, is a technique of group development, and shows our ability to understand and cooperate with the Divine Plan.

Character building continues, intensified by the radiant light of soul. Infusion of soul is a slow process, hastened by meditation and service.



Pilgrim of the Radiant City, Nicholas Roerich

The Spiritual Hierarchy

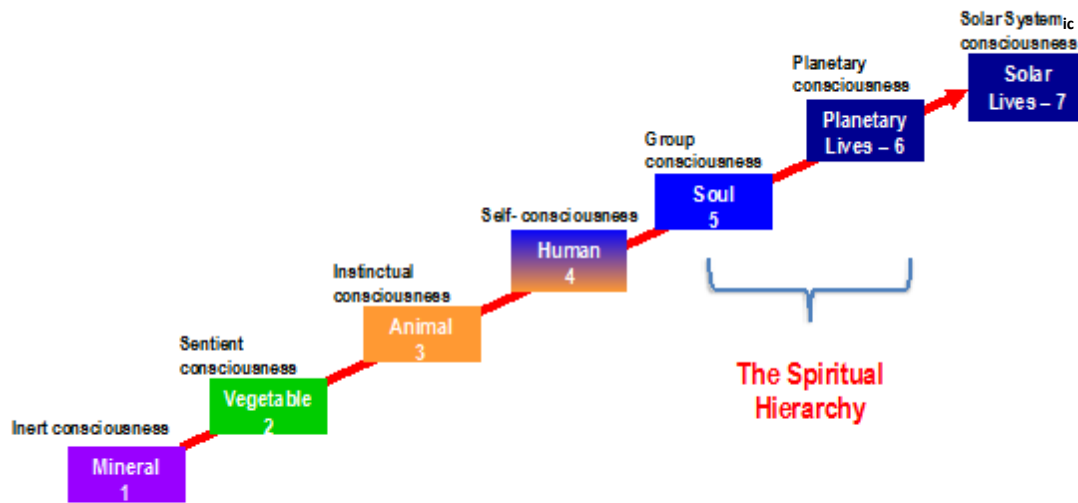
Hierarchy is an ordered arrangement that we find in many types of groups. We see a good example of hierarchy in the kingdoms of nature, in the ranking of mineral elements and the complex classifications in biology and zoology. We also encounter the concept of hierarchy in our society, where groups are structured and organized according to the grade, level, or scope of responsibility of their members. We see such organized groups in a government hierarchy, a church hierarchy, or in hierarchies emphasizing distinctions of social class. We are also familiar with the Celestial Hierarchy, which is a ranking of angels according to their magnificence – from angels, who occupy the lowest rungs of the ladder, ascending to Principalities, Archangels, Powers, Virtues, Dominions, Thrones, Cherubim and Seraphim who occupy the highest levels.

There is also a natural hierarchical arrangement among kingdoms of nature. We usually rank the kingdoms by placing the mineral kingdom at the lowest rung of the ladder, then the vegetable and the animal, and culminating with the human kingdom at the top.

Within the context of esotericism, we include not four, but seven kingdoms of lives, and these kingdoms form a hierarchy that is structured according to the level of consciousness achieved by each kingdom. The three additional kingdoms of esotericism are superior to the human kingdom. These three super-human kingdoms are the Kingdom of the Soul, the fifth, followed by two even higher kingdoms, the sixth and the seventh. Beings belonging to the fifth and sixth kingdoms are constituents of what is referred to as the *Spiritual Hierarchy*.

The diagram that follows illustrates the position of the Spiritual Hierarchy along this evolutionary progression.

Evolution of Consciousness



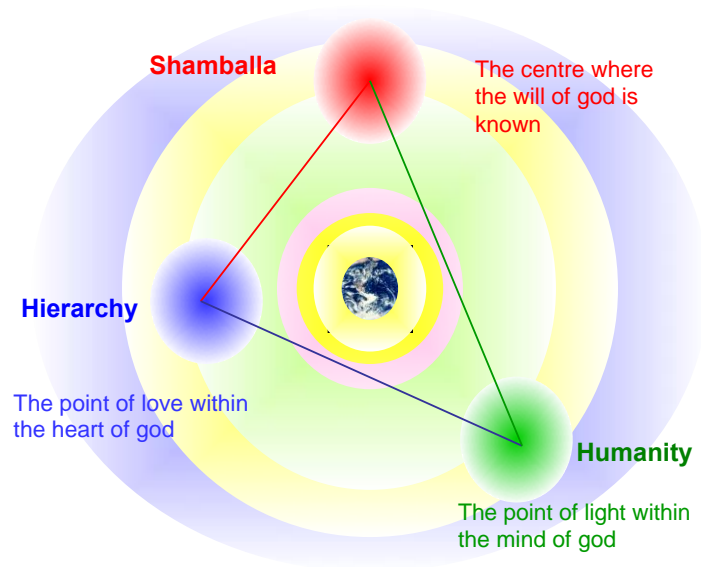
- Each kingdom carries the consciousness aspect forward to a greater stage of perfection
- The goal for each kingdom is to develop the consciousness of the next higher kingdom

Constitution of the Spiritual Hierarchy

We will now focus on the group of super-human lives that we designate as the *Spiritual Hierarchy*. Among the members of the Spiritual Hierarchy are some of the great human beings who have contributed to the advancement of human evolution through history: Vyasa, Krishna, Shri Sankaracharya, Jesus of Nazareth, Paul of Tarsus, Mahomet, Martin Luther, and other outstanding individuals (known and unknown) who have been major influences for the good of humanity throughout the ages.

The Spiritual Hierarchy of our planet includes Chohans, Masters of the Wisdom and lesser initiates of various degrees. Chohans are sixth degree initiates while Masters are fifth degree initiates. Having mastered themselves and the laws of nature, they guide our evolution and serve as the Inner Government of our planet.

The Spiritual Hierarchy receives impression from the Centre of Divine Will for our planet, a centre that we call *Shamballa* – the Centre where the Will of God is known. Divine Will is then translated by the Spiritual Hierarchy into the Divine Plan, which is a blueprint for the evolution of all lives within our planet.



As Custodians of the Plan, members of the Spiritual Hierarchy have the responsibility for its implementation. They are aided in this great task by lesser initiates, disciples, and men and women of goodwill. It is important to note that the plans for humanity are not laid down in a pre-determined way, for humanity determines its own destiny. However, by establishing a closer relationship with the Spiritual Hierarchy we are aligning ourselves with the evolutionary forces of our planet. Master Djwhal Khul is most explicit about this:

*Humanity itself is rapidly arriving at the point where its united will, will be the determining factor in world affairs and this will be due to the unfoldment of the mind through the success of the evolutionary process. The major requirement therefore at this time is the rapid educating of the people in the Plan and in the nature of the forces which are controlling evolution and their directing agencies. The fact of the Hierarchy must be announced in no uncertain terms, thereby arousing public interest, public investigation and public recognition.*¹

Within the Spiritual Hierarchy, the great task of formulating and implementing the Divine Plan is divided among seven major centres called *Ashrams*. These Ashrams are constituted of initiates and disciples of various degrees who in turn work with the world servers and men and women of goodwill throughout the world – whether they are conscious or not of this connection. Each person, no matter what his or her spiritual status might be, has a part to contribute in this great work. There is a great mantram which affirms:

*"I am one with my group brothers, and all that I have is theirs.
May the love which is in my soul pour forth to them.
May the strength which is in me lift and aid them.
May the thoughts which my soul creates reach and encourage them".*

¹ Alice Bailey, *Destiny of the Nations* p 37



Roles and Functions within the Spiritual Hierarchy

The Spiritual Hierarchy is a Trinity. It is structured around three main roles and associated functions that are held by a trinity of great Lives who represent the Will, Love and Intelligence of God. These are the Manu, the Bodhisattva, and the Mahachohan.

The Manu:

He is the sumtotal of the Will Aspect of divinity. The work of the Manu is largely concerned with government, with planetary politics, and with the founding, direction, and dissolution of racial types and forms. To Him is committed the Will and Purpose of the Planetary Logos who is the highest Divine Being supervising planet Earth, and who is our "God."

The Bodhisattva:

Group two has the World Teacher for its presiding Head. He is that Great Being who is the sumtotal of the Love Aspect of divinity. He is known as the Christ, the Bodhisattva, the Lord Maitreya, and is the One looked for by Mohammedans under the name of the Imam Mahdi. He is destined to reappear among men. He is the great Lord of Love and of Compassion, just as his predecessor, the Buddha, was the Lord of Wisdom. He is the World Teacher, the Master of the Masters.

The Mahachohan:

Group three has as its Head the Mahachohan. He is the sumtotal of the Intelligence Aspect of divinity. He is also known as the Lord of Civilization. He wields intelligent love and is responsible for directing the implementation of the Divine Plan. All human beings eventually join one of these Three Departments of Hierarchy.

Thus you have Will, Love, and Intelligence represented by these three great Lords; the closest co-operation and unity exists between these three Beings, and every move and plan affecting humanity, the other kingdoms of nature and the planet as a whole, is administered by them. They are the agents for the carrying out of Planetary Purpose, for the bringing about of love and right human relations, and for the furthering of the evolution of humanity through the implementation of the Divine Plan.

Relationship between the Spiritual Hierarchy and Humanity

The Spiritual Hierarchy stands immovable in its strength, steadily oriented towards world salvation. It guides us towards our spiritual destiny, our destiny being to gain admittance into the fifth kingdom, the Kingdom of Souls, which in fact means becoming members of the Spiritual Hierarchy. Membership in the Spiritual Hierarchy IS our next step along the ladder of evolution.

The immediate objective for many of the more advanced human beings is to unite their personality and their Soul. This individual achievement produces a corresponding response between Humanity and Hierarchy and fosters their eventual union. Thus every spiritual step that each individual takes on the ladder of spiritual progress has significant effects upon the whole of humanity. The eventual union of Humanity and Hierarchy will establish the Kingdom of God on Earth.

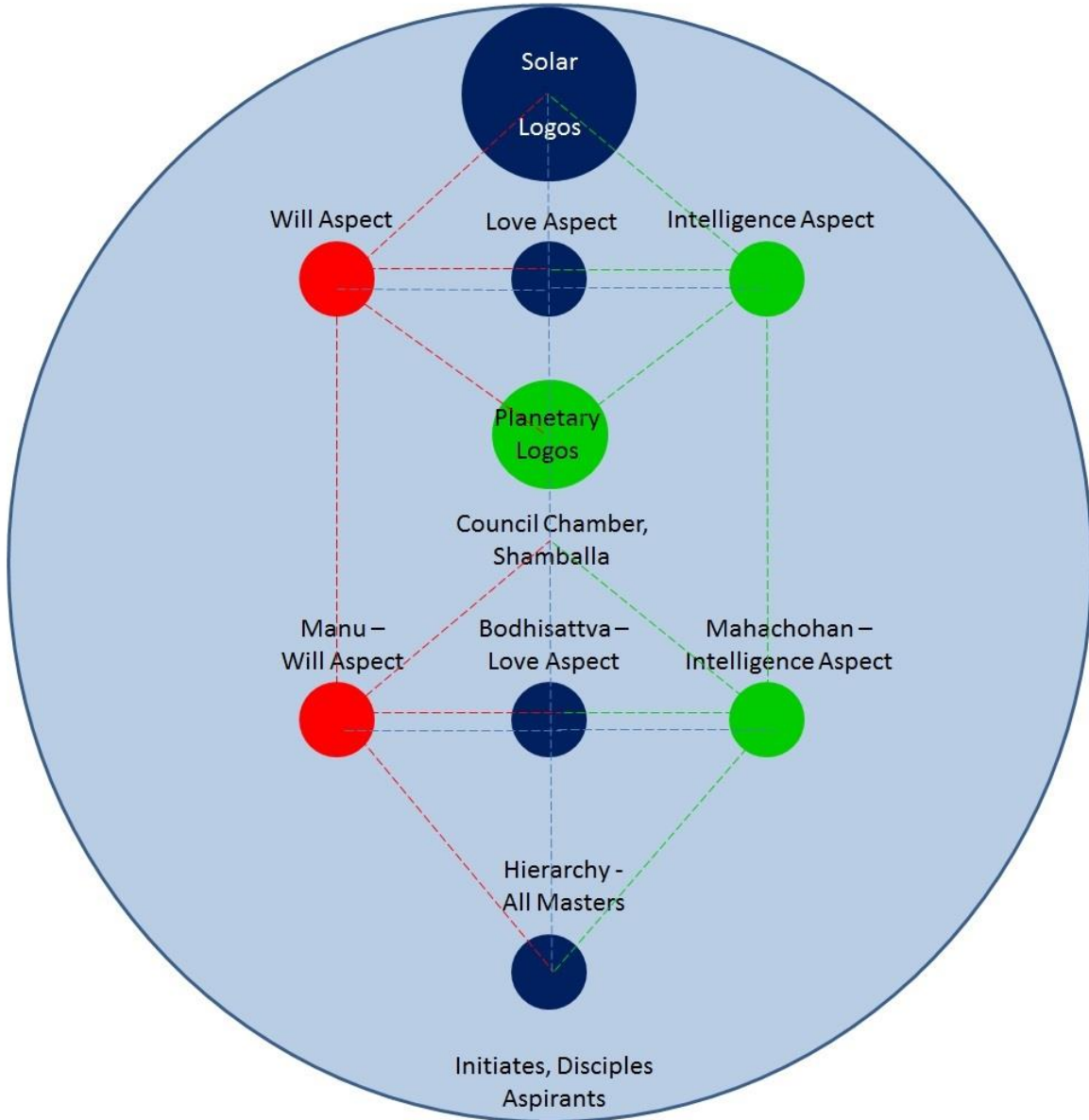
Love streams forth from the Hierarchy and enters the hearts of men, thus bringing humanity and the Hierarchy into relationship. Individuals who are progressing along the Path of higher consciousness have the task of making men's hearts receptive to this love; this is another way of saying that our role is to help Humanity to become receptive to the consciousness of the Spiritual Hierarchy.

“This Hierarchy is composed of Those Who have triumphed over matter, and Who have achieved the goal by the very self-same steps that individuals tread today. These spiritual personalities, these adepts and Masters, have wrestled and fought for victory and mastery upon the physical plane, and struggled with the miasmas, the fogs, the dangers, the troubles, the sorrows and pains of everyday living. They have trodden every step of the path of suffering, have undergone every experience, have surmounted every difficulty, and have won out

. . . Their apprehension of the freedom that comes through the sacrifice of the form by the medium of the purificatory fires, suffices to give Them a firm hand, an ability to persist even when the form may seem to have undergone a sufficiency of suffering, and a love that triumphs over all setbacks, for it are founded on patience and experience.”²

² Alice Bailey, *Initiation, Human and Solar*, p 24-25

Solar, Planetary, and Spiritual Hierarchies



MEDITATION 5: STUDY PAPER #2

THE BRIDGE OF CONSCIOUSNESS – THE ANTAHKARANA

THE BRIDGE OF CONSCIOUSNESS – THE ANTAHKARANA



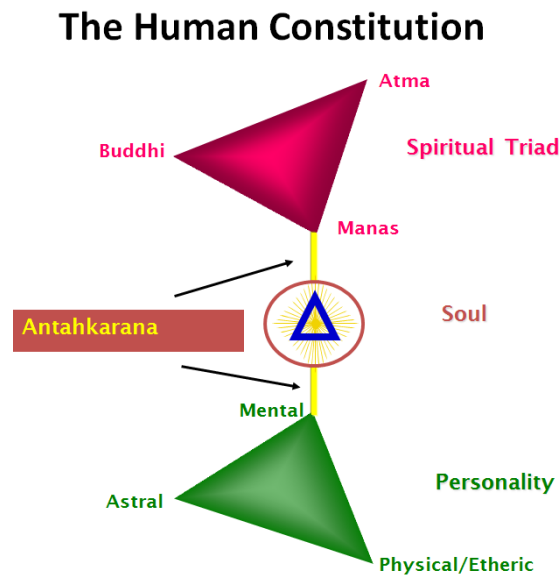
As we evolve and become more conscious we begin to connect with our Soul via a thread of connection or a bridge, which is called the “antahkarana”. This bridge that we build through meditation produces alignment between our personality (the physical/etheric vehicle, the astral/emotional vehicle and the mental vehicle), and the Soul so that the fairly evolved personality is capable of steadily developing the expression of the Soul.

This part of the bridge is known as the lower antahkarana and links or *integrates* the personality and the *infusion* of soul into the personality. It is built out of the directed thoughts and rising motivations of the individual and is the result of the use of *will* plus the creative, imaginative faculties. The will used in this

context can be summed as directional, intense, determined and persistent. The antahkarana is then available to higher impression and vibration.

There is a second part of the antahkarana known as the higher antahkarana and it reaches from the soul-infused personality to the Spiritual Triad. This Spiritual Triad is the personality of the Monad (Spirit) and has an analogous relationship to the Monad as the personality with its three vehicles has to the Soul. The Spiritual Triad consists of manas – higher mind, buddhi – pure intuition and atma – the spiritual will\ --the first expression of monadic will.

In the graphic below we see both the lower and higher antahkarana. The lower antahkarana reaches from the personality to the Soul. The higher antahkarana reaches from the soul infusing personality to the Spiritual Triad.



THE SCIENCE OF INVOCATION AND EVOCATION

Invocation has its roots in prayer and meditation. So, then, the question posed is why do people pray, meditate, or invoke a higher being in some fashion, and what is the difference between the three? Prayer is usually done when a person is hoping to receive something, a favor, solace, healing, or something similar from a source they consider as divine – wise, beneficial, and powerful. Meditation, as we’ve seen, is the act of calming our lower vehicles and concentrating our mind in hope of receiving some insight, intuition, or higher wisdom. Meditation becomes an *invocation* when the consciousness is projected towards a higher dimension, in this case the Soul. This projection of energy from the mind creates a channel along which the soul energy can descend into the invoking mind. This response from the higher source is called *evocation*.

Somewhere along the line we realized the inner need to search for contact with a higher energy or higher purpose. This eventually led us to make changes in our daily life in either a material or spiritual context, or both. It drove us to seek alternative ways to understand the world around us and our part in it. This could have been anything from intense brooding on our inner life to an inclination to think along scientific lines; or perhaps it could even have been the muse that inspired the creative, artistic expression. Something inside us invokes a higher purpose and intention, and this is a form of meditation or prayer.

And while the Science of Invocation and Evocation will eventually take the place of what we now know as prayer and meditation, prayer and meditation were the preliminary steps toward this emerging science. They were necessary in the process of developing our consciousness; thus we now build on what we've learned from them. Occasionally it might be tempting to just discard religious practices and prayer because we have become dissatisfied with the results or disillusioned with something about them that is counter to our beliefs. But if we think both practically and realistically, we realize that both prayer and meditation—with an enlightened approach to both that is inclusive and understanding of the underlying brotherhood of all humanity—can be a very potent means of establishing and maintaining right spiritual and human relations.

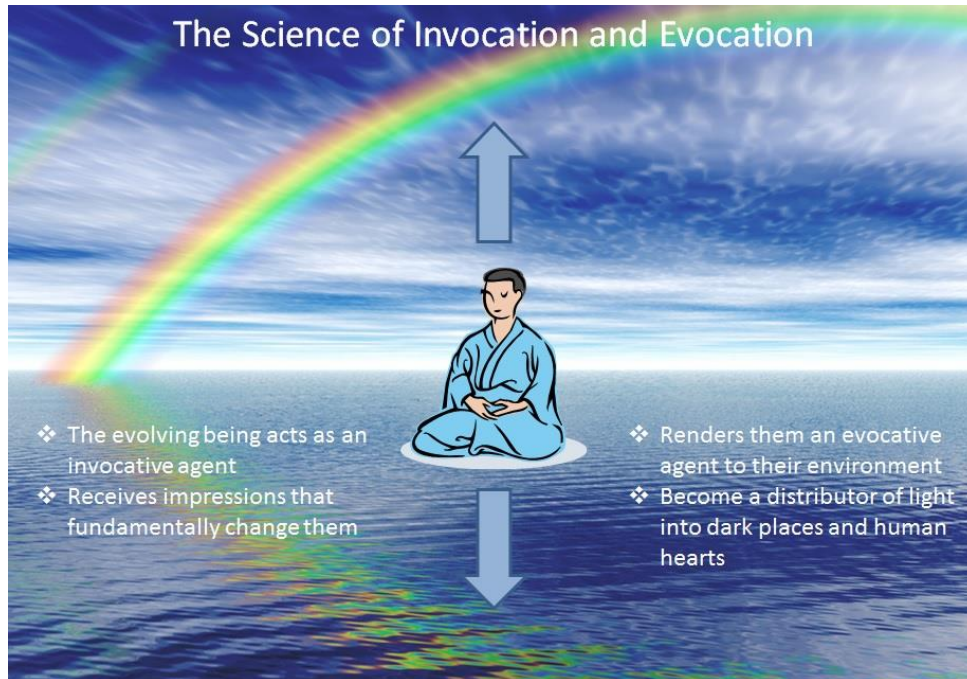
With invocation, we assume an attitude of meditation (an inner mental attitude and firm spiritual orientation) that employs prayers or mantras as a method to focus our mind. Through regular use, the rhythm and power of the prayer or mantra can effectively evoke the response of high spiritual Beings, for instance, the Masters of the Hierarchy.

“As we look ahead into the world of tomorrow and begin to question what structure the faith of humanity should assume and what building the skill of the knowers will erect to house the religious spirit of man, fundamental truths appear to be emerging as necessary adjuncts to the revealed body of truth:

The demonstrated existence of a Spiritual Hierarchy, the life-purpose of which is the good of humanity. The Members of the Hierarchy are seen to be the Custodians of the divine Plan and expressions of the Love of God.

The development of the Science of Invocation and Evocation as a means and method of approach to divinity. This will grow out of the ancient habits of prayer as used by the masses, and the practice of meditation as developed by the mystics and occultists. Prayer and meditation are the preliminary steps to this emerging science, and what is vaguely called "worship" is the group effort to establish some form of united approach to the spiritual Hierarchy, functioning under the guidance and control of the Christ and related to the highest spiritual centre, Shamballa, through its most advanced individuals, just as humanity is related to the Hierarchy by its spiritually minded people.²

² Alice Bailey, Externalization Of the Hierarchy p 415-416



Humanity as a whole is moving forward into the area of mental understanding that allows it to effectively make invocations for the greater good

The effect of meditation at this time is to change conditions, to invoke the higher, spiritual energies and the forces of love, and when effective, these will evoke response from the Spiritual Hierarchy, spiritual Beings aware of Divine Purpose and working for the progress and welfare of the planet and all its kingdoms.. These actions become invocative of the higher energies, and they create a channel of contact between Soul and Spirit.

“This new invocative work will be the keynote of the coming world religion and will fall into two parts. There will be the invocative work of the masses of the people, trained by the spiritually minded people of the world (working in the churches, whenever possible, under an enlightened clergy) to accept the fact of the approaching spiritual energies, focussed through the spiritual Hierarchy, and to voice their spiritual demand for light, liberation and understanding. There will also be the trained, scientific work of appeal and invocation as practised by those who have trained their minds through right meditation, who know the uses of sound, of formulas and of invocation, and who can work consciously, focussing the invocative cry of the masses and at the same time using certain great formulas of words which will later be given to the race, as The Lord's Prayer was given by the Christ and The Great Invocation has been given in this day and age.”³

Humanity is now at a stage where the Science of Invocation and Evocation can begin to replace the earlier techniques. The whole of humanity is moving forward into the area of mental understanding that allows it to effectively make invocations for the greater good. The grasping and selfish nature of the

³ Alice Bailey, Externalization of the Hierarchy p 417-419

prayers of the unenlightened man (based on desire for something) has disturbed individuals seeking something more spiritual. The vagueness of the meditation that is taught and practiced worldwide at this time (with its selfish approach to personal peace, liberation, or satisfaction) is unfulfilling for the true spiritual seeker. Something bigger than individual desire and liberation is registering on a greater scale today. Many groups are wrestling with these changes and this, in itself, represents progress for humanity as a whole. Thus, the inner cause, and the effect is that there is now a demand for group work, group good, group knowledge, group contact with the divine, group salvation, group understanding and group relationship to God and the Spiritual Hierarchy. Group work is inspired by the soul, so this demonstrates to Hierarchy that Humanity is now awakening in greater numbers to soul control.

MEDITATION 5

MANTRAM OF UNIFICATION

Skill to learn - Meditate upon a Mantram

*Mantric forms are collections of phrases, words, and sounds which by virtue of rhythmic effect achieve results that would not be possible apart from them.*⁴

There are mantric forms based entirely on the Sacred Word OM. These, sounded rhythmically and on certain keys, accomplish certain results, such as the invoking of protective angels; they lead to certain effects, either objective or subjective. These forms or mantrams are much more in use among the eastern faiths than at present among occidentals. As the power of sound is more completely understood and its effect studied, these mantrams will be adopted in the occident.

Some of them are very old and when enunciated in the original Sanskrit have unbelievably powerful effects. So powerful are they that they are not permitted to be known by the ordinary student. There are a few very esoteric mantrams that exist in the original Sensa, and that have remained in the knowledge of the Brotherhood from the early days of the founding of the Hierarchy.

Certain of mantrams are chanted in unison by the Brotherhood on great occasions, or when the united power of the Lodge is required to effect desired ends. Great events are inaugurated by the sounding of their key note with appropriate words employed. A mantram, when rightly sounded forth, creates a vacuum in matter, resembling a funnel. This funnel is formed betwixt the one who sounds it forth and the one who is reached by the sound. There is then formed a direct channel of communication. You will see therefore why it is that these forms are so carefully guarded and the words and keys concealed. Their indiscriminate use would but result in disaster. A certain point in evolution has to be reached, and a similarity of vibration somewhat achieved, before the privilege is afforded the pupil of being custodian of a mantram whereby he may call his Master.

Once a year the entire Hierarchy employs a composite mantram that creates a vacuum between the highest and the lowest members of that Hierarchy and on up to the Logos Himself. It marks the moment of intensest spiritual effort and vitalisation during the year, and its effects last throughout the intervening months. Its effect is cosmic, and links us up with our cosmic centre.

Glossary

Antahkarana - The Bridge of Consciousness

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⁴ Alice Bailey, Letters on Occult Meditation, p162-165

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Aspirant

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Atlantean

According to esoteric history, Atlantis the continent was the home of the Fourth Root Race, the residents of which are called Atlantean. This word is also associated with consciousness, and when so used, refers to consciousness that is focused in the world of emotion and feeling. We are told, that this is the faculty in man, that the fourth race developed.

Brotherhood

A genderless term that refers to that very close bonding that occurs between people who share the same thought or philosophy. In esoteric text, it refers to a soul-to-soul relationship formed between those who serve the Plan of Deity, and whose relationship is based on inclusive love and trust.

Invocation

Invocation is the act of demanding something from a higher source. It implies that there is a relationship established between the person making the demand and the higher source sought. If the relationship is solid and the invocation motivated from the soul, it can evoke a response from the higher source, such as the master, but the invoker must be able to adequately receive and interpret the impressions evoked.

Service

Service is motivated by consciousness to give of the self to others. It is an expression of love, given freely to the family, the group, or humanity in general. Service is the result of soul impulse, is a technique of group development, and shows our ability to understand and cooperate with the Divine Plan.