



TRIANGLES

Bulletin 122

December 1997

Persistence: A Spiritual Quality

From the moment of birth, our upbringing is largely governed and controlled by the particular environment in which we find ourselves. During this formative period we are raised and educated in line with national, family, and other environing influences which inevitably condition us in various subtle ways. The time eventually arrives when the mature, thinking individual begins to achieve new recognitions, sets sights on new objectives and goals, and seeks ways and means of breaking through the old boundaries of limitation. For the aspirant to the spiritual life, many of the old habits must now give way to new and higher rhythms.

In this respect, it can be helpful to remember that we dwell in a world of forces and energies; we are ourselves constituted of force or energy units, and we are asked to note that there are two different methods for the application of energy. It can be used dynamically – which produces speedy results but may sometimes prove destructive or result in other unwanted effects. On the other hand, energy can be used steadily and persistently, producing, in due course, a time-persistence which manifests as strength – the power to endure, to hold out, to stand steady, and to go forward undeterred.

The physical heart is a symbol of rhythmic, tireless endeavour: it is subjected to every imaginable type of pressure, functions under every conceivable circumstance, yet it keeps on keeping on until life itself is withdrawn. The persistent effort to live as the soul can be likened to a *spiritual heart beat*. Spiritual service and achievement is the fruit of a steady effort which is based upon the indwelling soul's intelligent appreciation of the work to be done and the goal to be reached, and not upon spasmodic enthusiasm.

It involves the right use of the will which is the steady effort to stand in spiritual being. The true will nature shows itself as *persistence* and *determination* – and their development produce a reorientation which becomes a permanent attitude. We literally produce a steady, regular, persistent endeavour which can be adapted to meet almost any situation or set of conditions. It may demonstrate in the outer environment as commitment to a particular purpose and goal – to a specific service activity or enterprise. Such servers refuse to discontinue their effort or to change the spiritually-ordained plans even when the obstacles to accomplishment seem insuperable.

Many individuals and groups are to be found working in this way. Triangles workers themselves are setting an example of persistent effort and group commitment to world service. Their daily link up with the worldwide network of light and love acts as a group channel for the sounding of the Great Invocation.

Spiritual Rhythm

Spiritual rhythm is a central theme underlying all creation – from the turning of the seasons, to the ebb and flow of the ocean’s tides, to the rising and setting of the sun – all life conforms to a cyclic and natural pattern.

Humanity, however, because of its particular place within the chain of evolution, does not always submit to this rhythmic law because of the strength of the personal will. In many ways, humanity at this time appears out of balance, as much of late 20th century living seems intent upon disrupting the flow of life’s natural rhythm. The stimulation generated by many aspects of contemporary culture – such as pop music, the motion picture industry, advertising, and the fashion industry – play artificially upon the sensitive astral body rendering it immune to the higher impressions.

One of the first lessons, therefore, that humanity has to learn in the decades ahead is that the soul controls its instrument, the personality, through ritual, or through the imposition of a spiritual rhythm. No one can evade ritual or ceremonial, for all of life imposes this rhythm upon us. Periods of intense activity are followed by periods of apparent inactivity; periods of contact alternate with periods of silence. These fluctuating cycles of activity and inactivity come and go with distressing frequency in the lives of those who have set themselves upon the spiritual Path. Growth is a process of building which is inevitably followed by destruction in order to make way for the new. This continual process can cause confusion until one learns to accept and understand the cyclic nature of life and the wisdom of the soul’s higher authority.

Spiritual rhythm is akin to the condition of sattva, the Sanskrit term which is defined as rhythm or harmonious vibration, and which leads to the integration of the unit into the life of the greater whole. The natural Law of Rhythm gradually comes

into play within the life as the personality turns itself towards the light. If the life is vibrating in many directions and registering thoughts from all sides, this law will be unable to penetrate the consciousness. Spiritual rhythm depends upon raising the focus of life to mental levels and then gradually and rhythmically expanding the consciousness to include ever wider realms of contact. The individual then begins to realise the “united breath” and the vastness of the planetary ebb and flow of energy which assimilates all workers in the bonds of light and love.

Rhythm, once established, has a way of perpetuating itself within the daily life and expanding the consciousness. As the outer life adapts to the newer and higher vibrations associated with any spiritual practice, the lesser qualities are gradually left behind as the individual becomes aware of something far greater than the personal self. The higher tension generated by a spiritual practice enables one to build the life anew and yet the process of change and transformation is never ending, for even Christ is steadily learning to handle higher levels of vibratory life.

The daily linking with the Triangles network serves to integrate the individual into the richness and beauty of ritual through the inherent rhythm and power generated by the Great Invocation. This ritual releases the energies of light, love and the will-to-good into human consciousness. When the Great Invocation is said rhythmically and with focused spiritual intent, a channel opens between the inner and outer worlds. The creation of Triangles helps to sustain and strengthen the etheric network of the planet through which spirit and matter can increasingly blend, infusing all of life with divine purpose. The higher energies pulsating through the lighted network bring to life and to all events a deeper significance whereby the next step ahead for the human family can be more clearly seen.

Rhythm, ebb and flow, and the measured beat of the pulsating life are ever the law of the universe....

Alice Bailey

The Planetary Network

The planetary network of light, love and service is transforming the mental climate of the planet, reorientating humanity to spiritual attitudes and values. The groups and activities reported in the Bulletin reflect different aspects of the network. Please send information on any activities that could be included in a future Bulletin.

Gajalomawa Foundation

During the week of February 8-14, 1998, Gajalomawa Foundation invites people of goodwill to focus on practising forgiveness. The Foundation explains: "Today thousands and thousands of people around the world affirm that forgiveness is the way to world peace. It is the most powerful, healing and reconstructive attitude we can adopt."

This is the 9th Forgiveness Week that Gajalomawa Foundation has sponsored. Suggestions for preparation for the Week of Forgiveness and a meditation outline are available from the Foundation.

- Gajalomawa Foundation, 25 Grey St, East Melbourne, Victoria 3002, Australia

The Seekers Trust

Centre for Prayer and Spiritual Healing

The Seekers Trust is a non-denominational, charitable trust based upon Christian principles, and using prayer as a means of spiritual healing. The Trust was founded in 1925 by the healer, Mr C.A. Simpson.

The Trust owns Addington Park, set in 39 acres of Kent countryside, south of London, England. The Park consists of woodlands, gardens, an office, lecture hall and prayer chapels, where the healing work is focused.

Throughout the year conferences and seminars are held on spiritual, new age, 'green' and related themes in the Trust's lecture hall. Also low rent, self-catering guest flats are available "for all who seek periods of rest, retreat or recuperation in an atmosphere of total peace and security".

The Trust publishes a magazine 'Beyond' that is distributed three times a year and literature is available. There is no charge for the Trust's healing work, which is funded by voluntary donations.

- The Seekers Trust, Addington Park, West Malling, Kent ME19 5BL, UK. Tel: (+ 44 1732) 843589

World Peace 2000 Campaign

The World Peace 2000 campaign aims to build an international membership which "will work positively for the high aspiration of world peace in the new millennium by encouraging the virtues of love and kindness and positive problem-solving by creative thinking".

The focaliser of the initiative, Chris Hildred, began the campaign on January 1, 1996. Their work is now supported by leading visionaries including HH The Dalai Lama and Dr. Robert Muller, a former Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations.

People of goodwill are invited to join the "5 Minutes for Peace Campaign" between the hours of 07.55-08.00 a.m. and p.m. each day or any other convenient time by meditating for peace using the power of positive thought. World Peace 2000 explains: "You can light a candle, be peaceful, chant, pray, meditate, wish, will, hope, dream, visualise or just imagine what a peaceful world for our children and our children's children would be like."

Other ways to support the work include signing the World Peace 2000 petition. Plans are underway to obtain 2 billion signatures by the year 2000. The group also suggests 'Communicate for Peace', whereby "you can help us expand... by telling your friends, colleagues and family about the World Peace 2000 network – and how to stop war for good". The campaign encourages the idea of establishing a 'World Peace Day' on January 1, 2000, "the first day of the new age of forgiveness, compassion, tolerance, wisdom, and above all peace".

- World Peace 2000, PO Box 6, Woking, Surrey GU22 0NW, UK. Tel: (+44 1483) 727170
e-mail: childred@aol.com
website: www.worldpeace2000.com

Sharing Group Thought

Twice a year we feature on this page the thoughts and ideas that co-workers submit to headquarters on the Triangles work. Thinking clearly on the significance of Triangles, as a planetary service, is an important contribution to the work and therefore to our potential to serve. We warmly welcome your insights.

Much of the work is done through silence. Yet this silence is the channel which reverberates to the sound of the joyous voices. It is a joyous silence which reaches and touches all humanity, all souls. We can safely say it is the ‘power of command’ with the gentle touch creating the greatest impression.

UK

Triangles provides a vehicle through which we can express and exercise our growing love of humanity. Transcending political borders and community fences, Triangles knits together the subjective consciousness of all people everywhere, generating a storehouse of light, love and goodwill, from which all may share.

USA

Humanity needs more light than ever before in these times of rapid change. The Triangles work is

simple, yet dynamic and enables us to actively do something to uplift our fellow beings. As a group, we stand united and anchor such a lattice-work of lighted Triangles as to make the earth’s etheric body scintillate with light. We humbly participate in a work of great beauty and great potency, from which none are barred by reason of age, race, gender or social status. The Triangles work deepens our awareness of the Oneness of all life and of the importance and effectiveness of group work.

Australia

We can learn from life how beautifully we are taught of our ultimate goal, by the fact that life starts with the individual, progresses to the group, via a triangle (father, mother, child), and so progresses to the whole.

UK

For certain tasks of great length, steadfastness of purpose and persistence are needed even more than energy. In fact, they may aptly replace energy in persons who have little physical strength. In this case, one may effectively use the technique of “little and often”. Another kind of persistence is that exercised in spite of repeated failures. This is the secret of many successful inventors and scientists. Persistence, tenacity, and repetition can be seen also in the natural world. There is a Latin saying that “the drop makes a hole in the stone not through its force, but by its constant falling”. (Adapted)

Roberto Assagioli

Triangles is a world service activity in which people link in thought in groups of three to create a planetary network of triangles of light and goodwill. Using a world prayer, the Great Invocation, they invoke light and love as a service to humanity. Further information is available on request from Triangles. The Triangles Bulletin is for men and women of goodwill and is published four times a year in Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. Triangles is an activity of the Lucis Trust, a non-profit educational charity which exists to promote right human relations.

For further information and literature write to Triangles:

Suite 54
3 Whitehall Court
London SW1A 2EF
UK

Case Postale 31
1 rue de Varembé (3e)
1211 Geneva 20
SWITZERLAND

120 Wall Street
24th Floor
New York, NY 10005
USA