

## WESAK FESTIVAL IN TAURUS – NEW YORK – APRIL 2013

### *Secret Light*

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Tonight we are working in what is perhaps the most significant of all the festivals of light, the festival of Wesak. At the exact time of the full moon of Taurus, we are presented with a supreme opportunity to contact the forces of enlightenment brought to the earth each year by the Buddha and transmitted to the Christ and the gathered assembly of light workers. Taurus is a fitting sign for this transmission as it is said to guard the secret of light until the second initiation when it is revealed by “the sudden removal or disappearance of world glamour in the blinding energy of light. This constitutes the final radiant activity which consummates the play of the Taurian force upon humanity during the long and cyclic journey to which man is committed. The individual enacts on a tiny scale what humanity—as a whole—will enact when it takes initiation in Taurus.”

The “secret of light” is a beautiful concept to ponder. The word ‘secret’ is related to the word *secrete* meaning to separate. And the greatest of all separations takes place during cycles of involution, when the one substance – spirit/matter – divides into two differing poles of vibrating energy, between which the evolution of consciousness takes place. As part of the involutionary phase of evolution we had humanity's temporary separation from the source of All and the loss of the mysteries. They became hidden simply by virtue of the fact that man fell into matter and closed himself off from them. Now on the evolutionary wave of the cycle, man travels back again along a path of rediscovery, each step forward into light revealing a spiritual secret. This is why ‘recognition’ is often emphasized in esoteric training, it is a rediscovery of that which, deep down, is already known. The path of initiation is a path of spiritual secrets, each revelation reintroducing us to our true Selves.

From another angle, a spiritual secret is a measure of divine truth seeded into matter as an idea, its expansive effect causing it to be born into expression. What was once secret emerges into the light of the physical world as an idea whose time has come. The history of evolution is thus the history of secreted truth – ideas that build each upon the other in a spiralling procession that is infinite in both potential and expression. In this connection the purpose of the annual appearance of the Buddha at the Wesak Ceremony is to transmit a specific frequency of light that contains the next spiritual secret to be externalized.

One of the effects of this light entering human consciousness is its exposure of secret darkness. That which is in need of redemption is illuminated and brought to the surface to be purified. In *The Externalization of the Hierarchy*, we read that when the Christ Himself reappears amongst humanity, “secret things will be made plain” and “by this emergence of the good and the bad into prominence, men will arrive at knowledge, at understanding, and will be forced to take those steps which will be needed to build a new and better world”.

It's probably fair to say that, for those of us who are consciously treading the path, there's already a certain familiarity with the emergence of the good and the bad into prominence – for the sense of duality is a main characteristic of the path. One by one, the less admirable aspects of our character emerge into the light to be acknowledged worked through and finally absorbed by the paralleling sense of good that is also rising within. We currently see this taking place throughout the entire body of humanity via national and international news and current affairs. It is a painful process of revelation but one that is helping the world to see with new eyes – the eyes of the soul – recognising the varying shades of good and the bad that all human beings share, and the unity we similarly share through the common aspiration to live in a more just, more enlightened world. Humanity lives on a sphere spinning and gliding through the dark waters of space, harbouring deep fears and insecurities within the

collective psyche. An inner source of light is essential to illumine the way forward at this critical juncture and reveal something about the underlying purpose of this mysterious voyage.

The Wesak Festival provides such illumination, transmitted to humanity through a Hierarchy of enlightened beings who silently watch over humanity's growth, expertly directing light to stimulate human consciousness in a measured and progressive way. Such is the power of their being that meticulous care has to be taken not to blind and paralyze those that they seek to nurture. The greatest example of this is the "Silent Watcher" Himself, the planetary Logos. He it was, Who enunciated the great WORD of creation and drove His cosmic thought form of the earth and its kingdoms of nature into being. Now that the sound of the WORD has clothed the thought form of the globe in dense matter in accordance with this majestic archetype, He watches over His creation in deep silence, inciting growth through the direction of his lighted gaze.

Through His 'All-seeing Eye' the planetary Logos "sees into all parts, aspects and phases (in time and space) of His planetary vehicle...and can identify Himself with all the reactions and sensitivities of His created world and participate with full knowledge in all events and happenings... The monadic world—so-called—is His organ of vision; it is also His directing agent for the life and light which must be poured into the phenomenal world.

"Once a year, at the Wesak Festival, the Lord Buddha...carries to the assembled humanity a dual stream of force, that emanating from the Silent Watcher, supplemented by the more focalized energy of the Lord of the World. This dual energy He pours out in blessing over the people gathered at the ceremony in the Himalayas, and from them in turn it flows out to all peoples and tongues and races." Let's take a few minutes to reflect on this and then say together the Gayatri:

*O Thou Who givest sustenance to the Universe,  
From Whom all things proceed  
To Whom all things return  
Unveil to us the face of the true spiritual sun,  
Hidden by a disk of golden light,  
That we may know the truth and do our whole duty  
As we journey to Thy sacred feet.  
OM*

In a world of feverish, high decibel activity, the existence of a group of silent watchers – Custodians of a Plan of Light and Love – is still largely unrecognised or relegated to the realm of myth and outdated forms of religion that have little relevance to this scientific age of concrete, logical thinking. It is a secret in process of revelation, but it has to be presented in a manner suited for these times. To present such truth in a form that resonates with its more discriminating, intelligent mind is the challenge. To communicate the reality of the spiritual Hierarchy in a reasonable yet compelling manner would place these great unveilers of life and living embodiments of divine love and wisdom within the conscious reach of large numbers of the public.

It would bring such hope and release from the great fears and insecurities of our times to know that there is a Plan of Love and Light guiding humanity – a destiny that we all share. An open mind and awakened heart is necessary to be able to sense the presence of this spiritual Hierarchy in human affairs but the work of the many inspired servers of humanity is testimony to the fact that an inner government is guiding humanity forward. These great lives have to be invoked by humanity for divine law decrees that human free will is never impinged upon, and so the silent watchers must remain behind the scenes until the mass invocation of humanity strikes a certain chord of resonance that will enable their more tangible presence.

Of course, that is not to say that they are inactive working behind the scenes. The concept of silent watchers may suggest passivity but this is not so for the very act of watching is an interactive process as scientific research is beginning to discover. The biochemist and author, Rupert Sheldrake, for instance, posits that the image of things that we see in the external world is in our minds but not inside our heads. The mind reaches out to touch the object that is being looked at and interacts with it, according to the attention and intention of the observer. In his book "The Sense of being Stared at," Sheldrake investigates the common experience of being able to feel someone's gaze from behind – a widespread phenomenon that is backed up by esoteric teachings which state that, "in the average human being...the right eye transmits the energy of the astral body when directed consciously towards an object of attention, and the left eye directs the energy of the lower mind."

The transmission of creative energy through the eyes and the centre of force between them – the ajna centre – was well known to our antecedents. The ancient Egyptians, for example, linked the sun with the God Ra, Creator of the Universe. The sun was thought to be Ra's eye, the source of all life and creations, and light was thought of as His sight. A priest scribe from 1300 BC claimed to note down Ra's thoughts in the words: "I am the one who opens his eyes and there is light. When my eyes close, darkness falls". This thought on a greater cyclic scale is echoed in the Vishnu-Purana. Bk VI "when the universal spirit wakes, the world revives, when he closes his eyes, all things fall upon the bed of mystic slumber"

The ancient Greeks thought fire emanating from the eyes revealed what they beheld and because of this outpouring, the very nature of what was seen was colored by the inner view. Empedocles envisaged actual fire passing through special channels (to separate it from the waters of the eye) and flowing out in a blazing stream to the objects that were seen. This was not so different from the ancient Hindus who held that all things are seen by reason of Satwa - one of the three great qualities that compose all things. This quality is manifested as luminosity operating in conjunction with the eye ... The two must conjoin; the absence of luminosity or its being disconnected from the seer's eye will cause a disappearance. And as the quality of luminosity is under the control of the ascetic, he can, by the process laid down, check it, and thus cut off from the eye of the other an essential element in the seeing of any object." [adapted]. The myth and legend of invisibility has been passed down to us in this way.

The integrating centre between the two eyes is the ajna centre and it is a fact of major importance that, from a global perspective, "the ajna centre of the Lord of the World is just beginning to express itself in a recognizable manner through the New Group of World Servers. This intermediate group—between the Hierarchy and Humanity—is a carrier of the energy which makes the Plan possible (the Plan of which the Hierarchy is the custodian). This Plan implements the Purpose, and later, when the New Group of World Servers is organized and is recognised as a living organism, it will definitely receive energy from Shamballa in a direct reception, via the Hierarchy."

Like the Wesak Festival, the new group of world servers is ruled by the qualities of Taurus. The group is sensitive to the light of illumination streaming from Taurus and projects it forward along the evolutionary path that humanity is tentatively treading, highlighting obstacles to progress and indicating ways of surmounting them. Wesak's Taurian influence on the disciple is summarized in its keynote: I see, and when the Eye is opened, all is light. It is possible to see here the connection with the ancient view of sight as a two way process – the projection of the light of the inner eye of this group in order to see greater light – "illumination and the attainment of the vision." This new group of world servers is, figuratively speaking, the "bull, rushing forward upon a straight line with its one eye fixed upon the goal and beaming

light." But what is that goal? The Tibetan answers in this way: "it is the goal of providing a centre of light within the world...and of holding up the vision to the sons of men. Let this never be forgotten, and let the New Group of World Servers realize its mission and recognize the demands of humanity upon it." He goes on to ask us to take these demands of humanity in all simplicity and act upon them.

The new group of world servers are acting collectively as "the light of the world" and irradiating human consciousness with the light of new truths, values and principles. And simultaneously, we see the physical light of the world being transformed, for the outer world of form is ever the symbol and revealer of that within. By studying the physical illumination of the world, we can gain an idea as to the progress of the inner state of the collective human consciousness. That light rules our lives is abundantly apparent today. Lasers are used in medical treatments; and information is stored as light in crystals. Light literally carries information through the rapid communication systems that links the world together as one. Developments in more energy efficient lighting are taking place all the time with the consequence of a greater percentage of electricity being transferred into light and less into heat. This we might say reflects individual human development – for a long time the energy that pours into the personality is dissipated in the heat of the emotional and physical nature, but later, on the spiritual path, it is steadily redeemed to transmit the clear, cool light of the soul.

While experiments are pushing back the boundaries of our everyday reality, our work with light is with the consciousness aspect as it displays quality and eventually reveals purpose. As science takes us forward and brings us greater powers, we need more than ever to use these enlightening discoveries with skill in action and to be motivated by the wisely judged good of the whole.

From a consciousness perspective, world history could be seen as the unfoldment of the Ages of Light. Evolution is the story of the advancement of light and its grounding on earth. And during Wesak, at this time in human history, the Buddha flashes forth like a power beacon lighting up a dark sea for travellers to see the way forward, and in the new light of a directed purpose that will carry us into the New Age. Taurus corroborates our understanding of the eye as producing light as well as receiving it. The underlying goal of the evolutionary process – the onward rush of the Bull of God, as it is esoterically called – progressively reveals, without cessation, the great wisdom of the Plan of Deity.

The power to correctly observe is enhanced in Taurus through its exoteric ruler, Venus, which channels the fifth ray of science and knowledge. In an instruction to one of his disciples, the Tibetan comments on this saying that the illuminating power of the fifth ray is "that quality which permits the man who has it, to stand steady in the light, to rest in pure being, and to become the true Observer...These qualities of steadiness with the intent to reflect light, of centralization of the self, and of right observation are essential to this group" he goes on to tell him. "They must be developed as group qualities, if the work planned is to be safely undertaken." As the importance of the Wesak festival grows in the West, more and more eyes are becoming sensitive to the source of spiritual light on the planet and within its radiance, the power to observe and to understand is growing. As we learn to identify with the silent watcher, we too can count ourselves amongst the ranks of those trained in silent observation who, owning the eye of vision, are projecting the glory so that all of humanity may see.

Our keynote tonight for meditation is "I see, and when the eye is opened, all is Light"