

The Triple Sun
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Good afternoon everyone and welcome to this Festival of Leo. Thank you all for maintaining that silence prior to our meeting as it is always helpful to create the right conditions within consciousness that make effective work possible. This particular full moon is focused within the Spiritual Hierarchy of the planet, the heart center, the Ashram of our Planetary Logos, Sanat Kumara, and also of the World Teacher, the Christ. This particular full moon is directed by a relationship that extends from the Hierarchy, to the heart of the Sun (the subjective aspect of the sun), to the star Regulus, known as “the heart of the lion” found within the constellation Leo, and then on to the great star Sirius.

This festival could in fact be called the “Sirius Festival” because that great star, which is found upon the second ray, as is our Solar Logos, overshadows this event. It’s said that the great Life Who informs Sirius has an ancient karmic connection with the Lord of our World. And this relationship exists despite the fact that we are a fairly insignificant, non-sacred planet from the perspective of the vastness of the cosmos. We are told that at this Leo festival there is an alignment of hearts, a great inpouring of love, into all those who stand ready to receive that energy. Together we form part of that flow, part of that current, so why don’t we begin by taking a moment of silence to link up with each other and with the world wide group

The Gayatri

O Thou Who givest sustenance to the universe,
To 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.

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In the teachings it’s said that if we can come to some understanding of the sign Leo we will be able to penetrate into the mysteries of esoteric astrology. Leo holds the key to a mystery. We know there is a certain mystery related to Leo because it is part of the sphinx, one of the great mysteries. The sphinx is related to the combination of the two signs Leo and Virgo. In ancient days these signs were not separate as they are now but rather embodied one sign and the sphinx is a symbol of that union. But there are other mysteries related to Leo and, on one level, they primarily concern the symbolism of the sun, for as we know, the sun rules Leo, in all three aspects. In *The Secret Doctrine* it’s said, “The mystery of the sun is the grandest of all the innumerable mysteries of occultism.” Perhaps we might want to ponder why that is so. One thing we can say right up front is this planetary rulership by the sun is mysterious because the sun is not a planet. Leo is ruled by a star in all three aspects from the perspective of esoteric

astrology. The three planets that the sun veils in Leo are Jupiter, Neptune and Uranus. It's said the sun pours its energies like a lens through each of those rulers. So there is a tremendous potency brought to bear through this sign.

We know that the goal of all life in our solar system is the expansion of consciousness and the radiation of energy. This is the symbol of the sun. The strength of Leo is that it brings about the radiation of second ray energy into our planetary life. And because of its triple rulership by the sun, Leo is a symbol of alignment. Leo is sometimes called the sign of the triple sun. Leo stands for the potential alignment of the three suns or the three aspects of the human being. On the one hand there is the personality, composed of three lower vehicles that have to be aligned if we are to become an integrated person. Leo is a symbol of the ability to stand as the master of oneself, as the sun stands to the solar system. So on one level Leo is related to the alignment of the personality, but it doesn't stop there. On another level there is a deeper alignment that is possible through the esoteric rulers – Sun/Neptune – which are related to the spiritual heart of the sun. So as we bring about an alignment within our lower self that alignment eventually becomes the vehicle for alignment with the soul. And in the teachings it's said that the particular light conveyed by Leo is “the light of the soul.”

In the case of an advanced individual in the sign of Leo there is held out the opportunity for a third and higher alignment, with the Monad, the spirit aspect, which is aided and abetted by the underlying energy of Uranus, a mental planet. To achieve that highest alignment the personality and the soul must fuse and become as one and then make their united approach to the Monad. That, in a nutshell, is part of the mystery behind the sign Leo. It helps us to understand the mystery of our journey upon the spiritual path. Alignment means to bring together, to establish a point of tension within ourselves, which then enables us to reach outside the normal confines of our personalities into a more rarefied state of consciousness. This alignment happens rarely at first but as we work day in and day out in our meditation work and at these monthly opportunities of the full and new moon, we build a bridge in consciousness whereby we can increasingly sense that alignment with the soul and, eventually, with the spiritual Triad.

This teaching on alignment is also intimately connected with the teaching on the eye, the spiritual eye. We've all heard about the ajna center, the center within ourselves that is likened to an eye—an eye that sees more clearly than does our two physical eyes. But in esotericism it's said there are actually three inner eyes that relate to the three central points within each of the three suns. The first, as mentioned, is the third eye. The second is the eye of vision, the eye of the soul through which it looks out upon a new world, not the three worlds, but the inner world of consciousness. And then we are told there is a higher eye that corresponds to Shiva, and it's said all things are known by this great and powerful eye of Shiva, the Monadic eye.

There is an interesting aspect of the teachings known as the Formulas of Revelation. The Tibetan tells us these formulas, which are symbols, are found on sheets of a rarefied metal that is a type of allotrope of silver. The symbols were used by spiritual teachers to train their disciples. The first of these Formulas is related to a symbol which the Tibetan has given to us in words that relate to this idea of the three eyes and their ability to align. I'm just going to read part of this symbolic teaching but it gives you a sense of the potency of the symbol he is trying to describe. “Out of the fire, and always at the midway point, appears the eye of God, the eye of Shiva. Upon

the stream, between the two extremes, there floats the eye of vision, a thread of light unites the two. Deep in the tree, between the root and flowers the eye again is seen. The eye that knows, the eye that sees, the directing eye. One made of fire, one fluid as the sea, and two which look from here to there. Fire, water, and earth, all need the vital air. The air is life. The air is God.”

As these eyes begin to develop within us through our spiritual practices and our ability to serve in our manner, this inner eye of light grows in radiance. We know great spiritual teachers are possessed of an inner radiant sun, that is reflected in the majestic auras that surround them. We are in process of building that inner sun.

There is a sutra from Patanjali that relates to these ideas. It is sutra 26 from book three of the Yoga Sutras. It states, “Through meditation, one-pointedly fixed upon the sun, will come a consciousness (or knowledge) of the seven worlds.” The ancient sages from the east taught that if we could focus our attention upon this inner sun, and grow it in radiance, day in and day out, we would have an understanding of the seven planes of consciousness that constitute our cosmic physical plane—we would understand all these things, progressively, one by one. We are in process of unfolding these recognitions. There is much to be revealed, of course, if we wish to understand all of these levels, but progress is being made.

And this idea of the triple sun is also contained in a passage from what is called *The Old Commentary*. It says, “When that which rises over the horizon, becomes the guiding light, the path runs clear from the highest to the lowest and lo, the three are one.” It goes on to state, “The disciple, taking his stand upon the firm foundation of his radiant sun” (we have to take our stand within the personality) then sees another sun “arising over the horizon.” This new sun is related to the goal towards which we are striving. This new sun rising over the horizon “appears to us as a goal.” We could say, astrologically speaking, that this new sun is our rising sign. Eventually, “this second sun obliterates the first.” The rising sign or the soul should obliterate the sun of the personality. It’s the ruler. But the personality does not easily give up the fight, as we all know. The personality wants the control, but if we are working in alignment with our soul we have to listen to that new voice, the voice of conscience and it will guide us. Maybe the guidance will not come immediately, not at the moment that we desire the decision to be made. Sometimes we have to wait to really hear clearly what our soul wants us to do in any given situation but that’s how we progress spiritually—it’s not a race, it’s often a slow listening process. Eventually, with our cooperation, the second sun obliterates the first and when these two suns blend and merge, a third is seen. The soul/personality united, sees a third sun, the Monadic point.

The fires of Leo are related to the burning ground—the burning ground into which we all step, if we so choose. No one is going to force us onto the burning ground. But if we so choose we can stand in the center of that ground. Leo is a sign of the burning ground. We stand in the center of the Fixed Cross of discipleship, which is a powerful place of burning. This burning ground does just what it sounds like it does—it burns away all of the dross, all of the impurities and the imperfections of the personality. The Leo subject, it is said, faces the burning ground with will and self-efacement. Since the sun is in Leo right now, we have the opportunity to face our particular burning ground, whatever it might be. There are lesser burning grounds and greater burning grounds. So perhaps we are approaching a burning ground experience wherein we are really taking the fire and applying the heat to the dross of our personalities, to the non-essentials,

to that which should be left behind and making an approach to the radiant sun rising over the horizon .

The burning ground experience closely relates to the familiar mantram that many of you surely know, The Mantram of Fire. It relates to Leo and I would like to recite the last stanza of the mantram:

I seek the Way. All ways my feet have trod.
The Way of Fire calls me with fierce appeal.
Naught in me seeks the way of peace; naught in me yearns for earth.
Let the fire rage, the flames devour; let all the dross be burnt;
and let me enter through that Gate, and tread the Way of Fire.

We are not advised to use this mantram unless we are prepared and serious about applying that fire to all aspects of our lives. The agni yogi has tried all other ways and found them wanting. “All ways my feet have trod” but now this way of fire calls me. It’s not an easy path. In order to tread it we need wise discrimination, moderation, and the heart approach in order to combat the spiritual will that comes into play under the impress of agni yoga. In the book *Agni Yoga* we read, “While in other yogas the dangers are diminished through the practices, in the yoga of fire the perils are increased. It is essential not to mislead newcomers into thinking that the teaching of agni yoga is easy. Truly it is not easy for there is much tension and danger in it. Gaining mastery of the fires is a slow process.”

But this new yoga is needed in our world by those brave and wise individuals who are willing to approach it. It’s needed to combat the fires that are raging in our world—the fires of materialism, the fires of selfishness, the fires of separatism. And we’re told we can only counter the fire by spiritual fire, by the fire of love. And so it is incumbent upon those who are willing to tread this path, the path of fire, to take the fire into their lives.

What are the fundamentals of agni yoga? They are Aquarian values –world unity, true brotherhood, telepathic interplay, the elimination of non-essentials and the laying of emphasis upon the fundamentals of the Ageless Wisdom. Those are the primary qualities and we can probably all state that in our higher moments we are all practicing these qualities in our daily lives. The Tibetan makes a powerful statement in relation to these fundamentals, “This, and this alone warrants the expenditure of all that any of you have to give. And this and this alone justifies your existence.”

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