



World Goodwill

NEWSLETTER

2009 N°4

A regular bulletin highlighting the energy of goodwill in world affairs

THE HEAVENS

In the sky, there is no distinction of east and west; people create distinctions out of their own minds and then believe them to be true.

Buddha

IN THIS, the International Year of Astronomy,¹ it is worth reflecting on both the marvels that we can see via the Hubble telescope and other telescopes, and on the ocean of air through which we gaze at the heavens. The celestial phenomena that we can see by means of a wide variety of instruments strikes a chord of awe in the human heart. We are surrounded by a cosmos that is vibrant in colour and texture, constantly in motion, and constantly inviting us to understand its nature more deeply. While we may feel belittled by the sheer physical scale of what we see, there is something little short of miraculous in the fact that we are able to encompass so much of creation through our instruments, and, more importantly, through our minds. There is some sympathetic principle reverberating within us that allows us to reach out and begin to fathom the mysteries of space.

No sight that human eyes can look upon is more provocative of awe than is the night sky scattered thick with stars.

Llewelyn Powys

seems terribly thin and fragile when we consider the vastness and apparent hostility of space. Yet it is this very veil that is one of the prime sources of life, the source of breath, of air. How easily we take for granted the fact that we are surrounded by an invisible mixture of gases that are crucial to the existence of all life-forms. Air is both intangible when still, and yet also, when it moves, a powerful force that can sculpt landscapes and devastate cities. Specific seasonal patterns of wind and weather have become integral to human culture – who can think of India without the monsoon, for example? Winds and weather are expressions of the great cycles of energy and matter that drive planetary ecosystems. The atmosphere is thus a major facilitator of circulation. Within the atmosphere, the major cycles are those of water vapour, oxygen, carbon dioxide, and nitrogen. All of these cycles are monitored continuously by a vast array of satellites and weather stations, with the UN playing a leading role through the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO).

CYCLIC CIRCULATION

Circulation is the basis of life. As the winds blow freely across the surface of the Earth, so air circulates in the lungs, and blood in the veins. Thus is symbolised a universal truth that free circulation is the way to health, not accumulation/congestion in one part of a system, accompanied by an inevitable depletion in another. Our economic and political systems would do well to take heed of this simple yet profound truth. Aquarius is an air sign, and is said to be connected to the principles of universality and sharing that the physical air embodies so clearly. As we move gradually into the Age of Aquarius, we should expect these principles to manifest with increasing clarity and power in all our institutions.

This is not to imply that humanity has yet come close to unlocking the final secrets of the stars. On a regular basis, astronomers proclaim themselves astounded by new and unexpected observations that do not fit their existing models. The history of science is one of periods of settled understanding that are suddenly overturned by novel ideas – astronomy itself underwent one notable revolution, the Copernican Revolution, that has become a by-word for the process. The ideas and observations of Nicolaus Copernicus, Tycho Brahe, Johannes Kepler and Galileo Galilei then combined to displace the Earth from the centre of the Universe. Who is to say that such an event could not happen again? Indeed, there is mounting evidence that many astronomical phenomena could be explained more simply if the power of electricity in space were given more attention – this theme is explored in more detail in our article on “Electric Climate”.

The Earth’s atmosphere separates us from the wonders of the cosmos by a skin of gas, a veil that

THE CLOUDS OF THE AIR

The most visible natural cycle is the water cycle. The

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heat of the sun drives evaporation and, combined with the rotation of the Earth, this produces the winds which carry clouds to their places of precipitation, feeding the lakes and rivers of the world. We all immediately feel the consequences of precipitation, and recognise its importance in the life cycles of all creatures. Because the oxygen and carbon dioxide cycles work invisibly, it's easier to remain in ignorance of their importance, although science is now focusing more intently on these, given their apparent importance in the debate over climate change. These two cycles are closely intertwined through the agency of fire, for oxygen is the key ingredient in combustion, and many substances containing carbon burn, to produce carbon dioxide. Indeed, in simple terms, breathing is a form of slow combustion, fuelled by the carbohydrates (such as sugar and starch) in food; and photosynthesis is effectively a reverse combustion, taking carbon dioxide and converting it back to carbohydrates again, while releasing oxygen.² So the animal and plant kingdoms are deeply involved in both these cycles. However, it is humanity's intensive and extensive interventions in these cycles – most notably through the burning of fossil fuels – that have given rise to much of the current debate about climate change.

There is little need to rehearse the details about climate change here – all concerned citizens are broadly aware of the issues. One thing that is worth considering, though, is that the physical and biological systems that scientists are attempting to model, and on which they base their forecasts, are complex, subtle, and of vast extent. And the models are based upon assumptions that, like those in modern astronomy, may not be as close to the truth as they seem. While science is supposed to be a dispassionate quest for truth concerning the physical world, it is nevertheless conducted by flawed human beings who may have their own prejudices. And it is doubtful that science knows everything relevant to changes in the Earth's major life-support systems: esoteric thinking proposes influences on the planet's climate, including human thought, that are not yet accepted by mainstream science. This is not to recommend a blanket scepticism towards all scientific pronouncements, or those concerning climate change: rather, it is to propose a generous open-mindedness to all explanations, coupled with a discriminating mind, and a deep humility in the face of Nature's mysteries.

Whether the current consensus about climate change and the causative role of carbon dioxide is fully correct or not, the main lesson that this crisis has for humanity is surely the need to learn a much wiser and more equitable approach to utilising the resources of the planet, on behalf of *all* the kingdoms of nature. And there is indeed hope that this is what is emerging, albeit slowly, from the deliberations of the International Panel on Climate Change (co-sponsored by the WMO and the United Nations Environment Programme) and the subsequent negotiations that governments are conducting. The upcoming conference in Copenhagen in December will be another milestone in this process. Lest the

results are not what everyone would hope for, we should temper our concern with the conviction that things are trending in the right direction. It is easy to be disappointed that one meeting has not solved everything, but we shouldn't forget the vast network of subsidiary meetings and unrecorded negotiations that support each major conference, and which will continue after the event. Through these almost ceaseless contacts, humanity is slowly struggling into the light of a more enlightened attitude to the other kingdoms, regarding them not as passive resources to be used, but fellow beings deserving of respect and understanding.³

It may seem strange to some to include the nitrogen cycle as important, for it plays no known role in respiration or photosynthesis. Yet nitrogen, in the form of nitrates, proteins, and amino acids, is crucially important in the nutrition of animals and plants. How does the nitrogen in the air find its way into these ecological cycles? The answer lies mainly in the soil, where bacteria, either free, or in association with plants, 'fix' nitrogen into usable forms. Thus, animals derive all their nitrogen from the plant kingdom. Another contributor to the fixing of nitrogen is lightning. And given the importance of nitrogen for nourishment, it is no surprise that humanity has learned to industrialise the process of fixing it. However, as with the other atmospheric cycles, this has led to problems of excessive use – in this case, of nitrate fertilisers. Once again, it seems that humanity is discovering the urgent necessity to learn a measure of restraint in its intervention in natural cycles, given our limited understanding of their subtlety and complexity.

SHIELD

The atmosphere is not only a major driver of planetary circulation. It is also a protector. Most people have heard of the ozone layer, and are aware that it protects us from some of the damaging effects of ultraviolet (UV) light. The detection of the ozone hole over Antarctica, its connection with chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), and the international cooperation to tackle this problem, have formed part of the recent history of our times. The Montreal Protocol, an international agreement to phase out production of a number of ozone-depleting chemicals, has been called, "perhaps the single most successful international agreement to date" by former UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan. It is once again an example of the key Aquarian value of sharing – in this case, scientific knowledge and political responsibility. The interesting thing is that ozone is actually created by the very radiation – UV – against which it subsequently shields. And the ozone layer is not the only shield present in the atmosphere. Above the ozone layer is found the ionosphere, a layer that also provides protection against various forms of harmful radiation, while at the same time providing a vital electrical link to the wider solar system.

BRIDGE

There is now emerging evidence that the ionosphere is linked both with the lightning in thunderstorms, (which

The drawing in of the life breath, the sharing of the air with all other human beings, denotes both an individual centre of life and participation also in the general life of all.
(Esoteric Healing p.130)

occur far below it) and with electrical phenomena in the magnetosphere – a region that extends far above the ionosphere, dominated by the magnetic field of the Earth and its interaction with the particles from the Sun known as the solar wind, and the interplanetary magnetic field. The magnetic field of the Earth channels the solar wind down into the ionosphere at the north and south poles, giving rise to the majestic beauty of the aurora. The colours of the aurora are created by electrical ionisation of various gases in the atmosphere, just as in a fluorescent lamp. And now it seems that periodic interaction occurs between magnetosphere and ionosphere over the whole surface of the Earth, not just at the poles. The deeper implications of this electrical connection are explored further in the next article.

1. The International Astronomical Union, together with UNESCO, is celebrating 2009 as The International Year of Astronomy. Many events have been organised in “a global effort to help the citizens of the world rediscover their place in the Universe through the day- and night-time sky, and thereby engage a personal sense of wonder and discovery”. A further aim is to educate the public as to “how scientific knowledge can contribute to a more equitable and peaceful society.” For further information, see www.astronomy2009.org/general/about/
2. This fact about photosynthesis – that it can remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and ‘fix’ carbon as carbohydrate for the life-span of the plant – explains why the planting of trees is seen as a way to balance out or *offset* carbon dioxide emissions from other sources, such as burning fossil fuels.
3. The World Goodwill meditation initiative *The Cycle of Conferences* takes as one of its main themes the idea of ‘Earth Stewardship’. For further information, see the final article.

✦ **GOODWILL IS...**the oxygen of universality. ✦

Electric climate

As discussed in the World Goodwill newsletter “What is Life?”, esoteric philosophy regards Life as “a constant flow of electrical energy, while forms are temporary expressions through which life manifests at the dense physical level”. The whole of manifestation is therefore alive – the atom itself having a rudimentary consciousness. With this in mind we can take a fresh look at one of the big worries of our time – changes in global climate and weather patterns – viewing them from the angle of intelligent, electrical life.

Scientists are still debating the cause of the thousands of electrical discharges taking place all over the planet at any one time via thunderstorms and lightning. They are generally thought to be due to atmospheric perturbations and perhaps the impact of charged particles from the sun (the solar wind). A further conundrum has been the recent discovery of electrical discharges taking place high above thunderstorms called Transient Luminous Events. These dazzling displays include colossal towers of red and blue light known as Sprites, rapidly expanding rings of luminosity referred to as Elves, and rising up out of the clouds, fingers of bright light that have been christened Gnomes. These phenomena are difficult to explain mechanically i.e., as a result of wind driven charge separation taking place in the clouds far below. But in contrast to these orthodox theories of atmospheric science, pioneering thinkers in plasma cosmology regard the earth as part of an electric circuit in which the sun and the planets act as opposite electrical poles.

In this model, thunderstorms are the exact opposite to what they are currently thought to be. Rather than

electrical generators, they are dissipaters of energy in an interplanetary circuit – lightning being the spark of a celestial current as it connects to the Earth. The colourful sprites, elves and gnomes are the form that lightning takes high up in the atmosphere where the pressure is low. Similar phenomena are routinely reproduced in laboratories when a long discharge spark – the analogue of a lightning stroke – is introduced into a vacuum tube when most of the air is removed; the colourful glows and filament like structures that occur corresponding to sprites.¹

The Ageless Wisdom teachings regard the whole universe as electrical in nature, the electricity with which we are familiar on the physical plane being the descendant of a great cosmic life that works on higher, more subtle levels of the cosmos and which, through the assistance of hosts of intelligent creators, brought the outer universe into being. In this scenario and as far as the earth is concerned, all phenomena of orbital planetary motion, the cooling and heating of air, clouds, rain, storms and winds are due to the inner electromagnetic forces of nature incessantly generating electric currents that restore disturbed equilibrium.²

This tendency towards dynamic equilibrium is something of a mystery to science, as the physicist Paul Davies commented: “Most computer simulations of the Earth’s atmosphere predict some sort of runaway disaster, such as global glaciation, the boiling of the oceans, or wholesale incineration due to an over-abundance of oxygen setting the world on fire...Yet somehow the integrative effect of many interlocking complex processes has maintained atmospheric stability in the face

of large-scale changes and even during periods of cataclysmic disruption.”³

The constant restoration of equilibrium is known as homeostasis – a common property of all living organisms as they regulate their internal environment to maintain a stable condition; and the earth itself is a living organism, its global weather patterns and climate guided by celestial intelligences in accordance with planetary and human karma. This, of course, is a far cry from the search for mechanical explanations by atmospheric scientists, but the primary causes of climate and weather must be sought for beyond the world of outer effects in the subjective realm of consciousness.

Conventional science has yet to discover that electricity is the fundamental force of the universe, but when it does, the discovery will undermine the foundations of the present, gravitational model and the idea of an intelligently ordered universe thrilling with life may then become a serious, scientific consideration. The cosmos is a huge electromagnetic field – albeit complex and intricate – and all lives within it behave as charged particles that are forever interacting and exchanging their own specific qualities with one another. As plasma cosmologists David Talbott and Wallace Thornhill point out, “From the smallest particle to the largest galactic formation, a web of electrical circuitry connects and unifies all of nature, organising galaxies, energising stars, giving birth to planets and, on our own world, controlling weather and animating biological organisms. There are no isolated islands in an electric universe.”⁴

This new cosmology would clearly provide a basis for a renewed scientific investigation of subjects such as astrology, telepathy and psychic phenomena in general. It also throws light on why spiritual teachings emphasise the responsibility we all have for our thoughts and the subjective climate in which we dwell. In an interconnected universe the radiation of our state of consciousness has an influence on all other lives and kingdoms and either increases or decreases the quality of our environment. The Ageless Wisdom teachings say that accumulated human emotions even have an impact on the weather and that we most truly make our own climate in one significant sense.⁵

This is an intriguing thought in view of the current focus on climate change and the world crisis that has grown out of it. While global warming through carbon emissions may well be adding to this, there are many other factors at play from the esoteric viewpoint. To focus on one of them, it may be that our turbulent desire nature and selfish thinking is adding to the

unsettled climate of the planet. Even on physical levels, recent scientific investigations are indicating how this may be so. An example is the discovery of biogenic magnetite in human brain tissue by means of which the human central nervous system may interact with environmental magnetic fields. Current research is looking to see if magnetic material exists specifically in the pineal gland as it does in birds and animals, by means of which they interact with the earth’s magnetic field for navigation.

The pineal gland is situated in the centre of the brain in a tiny cave or resonant cavity. This may correspond to a resonant cavity that exists between the surface of our planet and its ionosphere – a spherical shell that is excited by lightning strikes from the two thousand or so thunderstorms that are taking place around the globe at any one time. It has been discovered that the electromagnetic resonances produced here are of a similar frequency to the alpha and theta states of the human brain and that other resonances also exist between various layers of the earth’s electromagnetic ionosphere and the brain.⁶ The Ageless Wisdom teachings extend this interaction to the spiritual aura of the earth too, teaching that through meditation, resonances can be generated in the brain cavity in sympathy with the frequencies of the inner, subjective realms of the planet, and their potencies distributed in service to all living beings.

The ionosphere is just a part of the vast magnetic medium through which intelligent electric life works, and the clue to this has been with us all the time in the scientific term we use to describe weather and climate – meteorology. The Ageless Wisdom teaches that a veil of magnetic, meteoric dust surrounds the earth and it is the periodic expansion and contraction of this meteoric veil that affects climatic change. While less meteoric dust corresponds to a cooling of the atmosphere and glacial epochs, an increase of meteoric dust corresponds to a heating up of the atmosphere and hot eras such as the carbonaceous period. Geological records indicate that climate change has taken place repeatedly. Scientific expeditions have dug core drills down into glaciers and examined the tiny bubbles of air trapped over thousands of years and have correlated high earth temperatures with increased amounts of carbon dioxide in the earth’s atmosphere. Carbon dioxide and carbonic acid are key indicators of periods of global warming and interestingly, they are also prominent components of meteoric dust. Science acknowledges the fact that “dust particles left by falling meteoroids can persist in the atmosphere for up to several months; and that particles might affect climate, both by scattering

electromagnetic radiation and by catalyzing chemical reactions in the upper atmosphere. However, the extent of meteoric influence on climate isn't yet recognised.

When it is recognised that meteoric dust is an integral part of the electromagnetic veil that surrounds the earth, and that human consciousness can subtly affect this veil in some way, the collective responsibility we bear to the lower kingdoms of nature through the right use and direction of thought will also become apparent. Through the scientific use of meditation in accordance with the law "energy follows thought", humanity will then enter into its birthright as steward of the planet and the all consuming purpose of human life will be devoted to fulfilling the divine injunction contained in the Great Invocation: "From the centre which we call the human race, Let the Plan of Love and Light work out." The fact that humanity is an electromagnetic "centre" in the vehicle of divine expression and has a destined responsibility to let this Plan of love and light work out in all kingdoms of nature points towards a truly awe-inspiring vision of the future. The power of applied group thinking will one day purposefully direct specific potencies into the lower kingdoms of nature to lift and redeem.

While these thoughts may seem revolutionary, the idea that all substance is alive and comprised of tiny elemental lives has been with us since the dawn of human civilisation in the great religious idea of planetary redemption. This is destined to come to the fore of human thinking again on a higher turn of the spiral as humanity takes on the mantle of earth stewardship and assumes responsibility for planetary evolution. The application of the energy of applied goodwill to all kingdoms of nature, as broached in the previous newsletter, "Right

Relations with All Beings", highlights the tentative beginning of this process. It is essential that all who are awakening to this tantalising vision of humanity's part in the Divine Plan join together to serve this cause – Goodwill Meditation groups,⁷ the Triangles network,⁸ and the Cycle of Conferences⁹ being wonderful examples of how to do so. The world is now moving through a critical period of crisis and decision and the hope lies before us of a vigorous new alignment with the Divine Plan. At this critical juncture of human history, may fresh light and meaning be thrown on the stupendous utterance of St Paul that "the whole creation groaneth and travaileth together in pain until now, waiting for the manifestation of the Sons of God."

1. *The Electric Universe*, p 49, W Thornhill & D Talbott.
2. *The Mahatma Letters to A.P. Sinnett*, p. 160.
3. *The Cosmic Blueprint*, p. 132. Paul Davies.
4. *Thunderbolts of the Gods* www.thunderbolts.info
5. *A Treatise on White Magic*, p 226. Alice Bailey. Available from our website at www.lucistrust.org or by writing to us at the address on the back.
6. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schumann_resonances. Theta waves are roughly thought to lie in the range of 6–10Hz, alpha waves in 8–12Hz. The resonance frequency of the earth itself has been measured to be 8Hz, in agreement with estimates first made by the inventor and electrical engineer Nikola Tesla.
7. See http://www.lucistrust.org/en/service_activities/world_goodwill_1/more/goodwill_meditation_group
8. See www.triangles.org
9. See following article.



For those who would like to investigate some of the deeper aspects of the Electric Universe, please see our website at: www.lucistrust.org/en/arcane_school/the_electric_bridge

The Cycle of Conferences

World Goodwill's Cycle of Conferences project is a worldwide meditation group that joins together in a visualisation to help spiritually enlighten the atmosphere on which world conferences vital to humanity's spiritual progress depend. Participants are able to link to our download page which provides access to a visualisation form as well as commentaries and other literature of interest.

A weblog of news and quality journalism on the current projects can be seen at <http://lucis.typepad.com/> Participants are emailed on important news/developments and advised of upcoming conferences.

Currently the Cycle of Conferences group is focusing on two main projects.

Earth Stewardship: With the growing concern about climate change, pollution and plundering of the earth's resources, this visualisation empowers the work of those who are evoking humanity's responsibility for the earth.

The Middle East Peace Process: Peace in the Middle East is a fundamental prerequisite for peace throughout the world at this critical juncture in human history. This visualisation is focusing especially on *The Geneva Accord*, a joint Israeli-Palestinian effort that suggests a detailed model for a peace agreement to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

For further information, please contact us, or go to our website at www.worldgoodwill.org

THE GREAT INVOCATION

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

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

From the centre where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide the little wills of men –
The purpose which the Masters know and serve.

From the centre which we call the race of men
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.

Adapted version

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 centre where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide all little human wills –
The purpose which the Masters know and serve.

From the centre 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.

* Many religions believe in a World Teacher Who is to come in the future (hence 'Coming One'), knowing Him under such names as the Lord Maitreya, the Imam Mahdi, the Kalki avatar etc.. These terms are sometimes used in versions of the Great Invocation for people of specific faiths.

Esoteric science is based on the purposeful, electric drive of Divine Will contacting substance and accelerating its inherent rotary motion. The Love aspect of Divinity directs this motion into spiralling, cyclic movement on whose foundation forms of all shapes and sizes are built. From the myriads of spirallae that make up the atom to the kundalini force that rises in the awakening human being as a caduceus of electrical power, the spiralling proceeds. The elegant beauty of this divine process is to be noted exoterically in the double helix of DNA, and the long spiralling filaments of plasma in deep space.

from The Electric Bridge

HELPING TO BUILD RIGHT HUMAN RELATIONS

ISSN 0818-4984

World Goodwill is an international movement helping to mobilise the energy of goodwill and to build right human relations. It was established in 1932 as a service activity of the Lucis Trust. The Lucis Trust is a registered educational charity in Great Britain. In the USA it is a non-profit tax-exempt educational corporation, and in Switzerland it is registered as a non-profit association. World Goodwill

is recognised by the United Nations as a Non-Governmental Organisation and is represented at regular briefing sessions at UN Headquarters. The Lucis Trust is on the Roster of the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

The World Goodwill Newsletter is published four times a year. Unless otherwise indicated, all articles are prepared by World Goodwill staff mem-

bers. Multiple copies for distribution are available on request. The newsletter is also available in: Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Hungarian (via Internet), Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swedish.

www.worldgoodwill.org is the address for World Goodwill on the Internet. The newsletter is available on this site.

World Goodwill relies solely on donations to maintain its work. The newsletter is distributed free of charge to make it as widely available as possible, but donations are always needed for this service, and are much appreciated.

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