

## Scorpio Full Moon Meeting – London – October 2015

### The Light of our Times

Laurence Newey

Welcome to the full moon festival of Scorpio – a sign in which the soul is said to sing or chant the words “*Warrior I am and from the battle I emerge triumphant.*” Scorpio confers spiritual illumination on the triumphant disciple and clear perception in the light of the lower worlds. That is not to say that the light of the lower worlds is in itself deceptive – for that depends on the one who perceives in it. Light is an alchemical essence that is affected by the quality of consciousness at play within it – it is either purified and transmuted or degraded and distorted accordingly. In this fact lies the whole secret of evolution for “the great theme of LIGHT underlies our entire planetary purpose. The full expression of perfect LIGHT, occultly understood, is the engrossing life-purpose of our planetary Logos.”<sup>1</sup>

As we know, the nature of light baffles the most capable minds in physics, for it simultaneously displays the properties of both a wave and a particle. This is because light is produced by the interplay of spirit and matter and consequently displays the properties of both. As such the nature of light is, and ever will be, an unfathomable mystery. The Tibetan said as much when explaining that from “the Centre of Life where dwells...the Lord of the World...streams what has been called the Light of Life, the Light Supernal. These are empty words as yet” he said, “until we know, as trained initiates, that light is a symptom and an expression of Life, and that essentially, occultly and in a most mysterious way the terms, Light and Life, are interchangeable within the limits of the planetary ring-pass-not. Beyond those limits—who knows? Light can be regarded as a symptom, a reaction to the meeting and consequent fusion of spirit and matter.”<sup>2</sup>

If an adept doesn’t know what light is, we needn’t fret too much at our own inability to understand it. We can, however, learn a lot about the way light behaves in both the gross and subtle planes of our planetary sphere – of how consciousness affects it and is affected by it. But first let’s pause for reflection and then say tonight’s mantram:

*We reach into the Light*

*And bring it down to meet the need.*

*We reach into the silent place*

*And bring from thence the gift of understanding.*

*Thus with the Light we work*

*And turn the darkness into day.*

OM

The behaviour of light and its new forms are the subject of much research and development around the world at the moment. Last year’s World Goodwill seminar, “*Towards an Age of Light*”, was, to a large extent, in support of The United Nations International Year of Light and Light-based Technologies in 2015. And the UN year of

light continues with an inspiring range of events and projects. The official website states that “The UN has recognized the importance of raising global awareness about how light-based technologies promote sustainable development and provide solutions to global challenges in energy, education, agriculture and health. Light plays a vital role in our daily lives and is an imperative cross-cutting discipline of science in the 21st century. It has revolutionized medicine, opened up international communication via the Internet, and continues to be central to linking cultural, economic and political aspects of the global society.”<sup>3</sup>

To take one such example, a recent African Regional Conference in Ghana highlighted the relevance of light in science, arts, culture and the humanities in the enhancement of human welfare. Amongst its resolutions were research into solar and other renewable energy technologies, the development of greater digital literacy and high-speed networks, as well as the use of light technologies in providing healthcare, environmental monitoring and preserving cultural heritage.

Before the end of the International Year of Light, many more coordinated activities are taking place so that people of all ages and backgrounds worldwide can learn and benefit directly. One such activity highlights the impact of kerosene in developing and third-world countries without access to electricity where over a billion people depend on it for light. The burning of kerosene lamps leads to the death of 1.5 million people every year from respiratory illnesses such as asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, and cancer. Impoverished families spend up to half of their income on kerosene which not only provides inadequate illumination but also emits harmful black carbon into the Earth’s atmosphere. Kerosene lamps therefore contribute to a vicious cycle of poverty that needs to be broken. An important aim of the International Year of Light is to promote the use of portable solar-powered high-brightness LED lanterns in these regions.

According to the International Energy Agency, Lighting represents nearly 20% of global electricity consumption. Humanity’s future in both developed countries and emerging economies around the world is intimately tied up with the ability to effectively light homes, schools and cities. We take light for granted and often notice it only by its absence, but by employing new and innovative lighting design techniques and technologies, we can help to maintain and improve access to the benefits of reliable light energy in efficient and cost effective ways.

Many breakthroughs in light technology are occurring at the moment as so many trained minds home in on the subject and evoke response from light itself. We looked at a variety of these during the *Towards an Age of Light* seminar, and considered how humanity is slowly transforming the world into a lighted sphere, physically and psychologically – for always the physical side of things reflects what is transpiring in consciousness. This year, the seminar will consider the work being done in preparation for the intensification of light on the planet with the theme, “*Rebuilding the Shrine of Human Living*”. The term shrine is, of course, very much associated with light. Its etymology can be traced back to *scrin* which is Old English for ark as in the Ark of the Covenant. Ark-shrines appear in many of the world’s religions symbolising the womb in which the light-germ of all nature floats or broods on the great abyss during the interlude that follows every cycle of manifestation.

The ark-shrine is the vehicle for the universal light – Akasa – the spiritual essence which pervades all space. It holds within itself ‘the eternal Ideation of the Universe’ from which all that exists is born by separation or differentiation. This light of

Akasa is reflected down into the terrestrial planes to become what is called in old occult teachings the astral light – not to be confused with the term astral as it later came to specifically represent desire and the plane of emotional reaction. The term astral as used in old occult teachings means starry light and refers to the vital light of the planetary ethers. It is a scintillating light that transmits the true nature of the much maligned Lucifer. As HP Blavatsky elucidates in a simple statement: “Lucifer is divine and terrestrial light.” The Luciferic light is a radiant essence in which human consciousness is constantly creating and destroying things through the power of thought and desire. The evil attributed to Lucifer is in truth simply due to deviant human thinking in the starry light which produces corresponding deviant effects in physical matter.

The occultist Eliphas Levy remarked that the astral light can be a fatal light as it is an interior phosphorus of the nature of fire that warms and vivifies but in excess dissolves and annihilates. Thus man has to conquer it.<sup>4</sup> And in the words of the abbot and alchemist, Johannes Trithem, “The art of divine magic consists in the ability to perceive the essence of things in the light of nature (astral light) and by using the soul powers of the spirit to produce material things from the unseen universe, and in such operations the Above and the Below must be brought together and made to act harmoniously. The spirit of nature (astral light) is a unity creating and forming everything and acting through the instrumentality of man, it may produce wonderful things. Such are accomplished, if you learn to know yourself. You will know it by the power of the spirit that is in yourself, and accomplish it by mixing your spirit with the essence that comes out of yourself.”<sup>5</sup>

While Lucifer and the astral light are sometimes used as interchangeable terms, it is more accurate to consider Lucifer as a great angelic being who influences the astral light of our planet and the development of human consciousness within it. His collaborator in this work is Ahriman. Lucifer and Ahriman are both found in the great Persian religion, Zoroastrianism, under the names of Ahura Mazda and Angra Mainyu respectively. Helena Blavatsky wrote that these two powers are inseparable on our present plane and at this stage of evolution – they are the two opposites of the one creative power. Ahura Mazda and Angra Mainyu became more commonly known in Zoroastrianism as Ormuzd and Ahriman and it was Rudolf Steiner who later recognised Ormuzd as being one and the same identity as Lucifer.

Steiner then went on to write much about the interplay of Lucifer and Ahriman and the detrimental affect they have on the lower ego if not brought under control. Lucifer stirs up “all fanatical, all falsely mystical forces in human beings, all that psychologically tends to bring the blood into disorder and so lift people above and outside themselves. Ahriman is the power that makes people dry, prosaic, philistine—that ossifies them and anchors them in the superstition of materialism.” The human being “hovers perpetually between two extremes: between the ahrimanic on the one side, where he is presented with an outer delusion . . . and, on the other, the luciferic element within him which induces the tendency to illusions, hallucinations and the like. The two extremes are expressed in the tension between mysticism and science: Just as external science becomes ahrimanic, the higher development of our inner nature becomes luciferic if we give ourselves up to mystical experience.”<sup>6</sup>

Looking at the current world situation we can easily see the forces of Lucifer and Ahriman at play in many areas. For example, Ahriman in the mathematical, reductionist world view of science that looks to matter and measurement as the one fundamental reality, and Lucifer in religious fundamentalism to the point where many will gladly surrender their physical form and in some cases destroy the form of others in the

mystical quest for salvation. All the negative traits of Lucifer and Ahriman are to be found in the illusions, glamours and maya which enthrall humanity at this time and of which the Tibetan speaks so voluminously, particularly the book, *Glamour, a World Problem*. There also seems to be a general correspondence between the forces of Lucifer and Ahriman in the Tibetan's teachings on the seven rays of life – Lucifer conditioning the second, fourth and sixth ray line of energy, and Ahriman the first, third, fifth and seventh line. The Tibetan writes much about the glamours associated with the lower influences of these ray energies and the acquisition of their higher counterparts to bring about a resolution.

However we view the world, it is clear that humanity is still in the grip of ignorance and out of all the misapplied forces of human nature has risen the planetary dweller on the threshold that resonates to the lower keynote of Scorpio: *And the Word said, Let Maya flourish and let deception rule*. The dweller is a phenomenon that is finally resolved with the higher influences of Scorpio in both an individual and a collective sense through the shining light of the Christ principle. The preceding sign to Scorpio – Libra – is where the disciple learns to stand midway between all dual, conflicting forces. Libra represents Christ... [standing]...at the point of balance in human evolution; He stood between the old world and the new, between the East and the West. In the Christian era comes a 'point of balance' or that 'crisis of equilibrium' in the human kingdom."<sup>7</sup> In Scorpio, the forces of Lucifer and Ahriman are raised and fused in the light of the soul, buddhi, the Christ principle, symbolised by Hercules cutting off the Hydra's head and lifting it high above him.

It is in Scorpio that the soul triumphs, astral glamour is dissipated. Scorpio is no longer the Agent of Deception but the Light of Liberation. Scorpio is the place where three lights meet: –*the light of form, the light of soul, and the light of life. They meet; they blend; they rise*. Here we see the light of form represented by Ahriman and the light of life by Lucifer for as we have discussed, esoterically speaking, Lucifer represents "divine and terrestrial light" and "the terms Light and Life, are interchangeable within the limits of the planetary ring-pass-not."

It may seem from the outer happenings of our time that we are still firmly engulfed in the light of deception and maya, but the light of the Christ principle is breaking in on all sides. As we know, all physical events are a symbol of the way consciousness is developing on the inner planes, and so there is much to be optimistic about when we consider the steady illumination of the physical plane that is taking place with ever more subtle forms of light. This is likely to accelerate too when new forms of energy are discovered to replace the fossil fuels that are causing so much planetary pollution and symbolising in turn, the darker side of human consciousness.

A breakthrough in new, clean energy, as forecast in the Alice Bailey teachings would be a decisive indication from the perspective of symbols that the purification of human consciousness is progressing rapidly. There are many researchers involved in the hunt for new sources of energy, but the most promising one at the moment concerns the ongoing saga of Steorn – a small, technology Development Company in Dublin, Ireland which announced in 2006 that it had developed a technology which provides free, clean, and constant energy in defiance of a fundamental principle of physics. Although it's been a rocky journey for the company, Steorn are about to launch their first commercially available free energy technology – The Orbo Powercube – a charging station for electronic devices with no identifiable power source; in other words, a free everlasting battery that is constantly recharging itself from the ethers.

Steorn begins a series of online webinars on 28th October during which the CEO Shaun McCarthy will talk and demo the Orbo Powercube technology, and at some point during the webinars it is likely to be launched on the market. While the demos themselves aren't likely to convince the scientific community, if a product is produced that works and one which scientists can take apart and test for themselves, everything changes; it could herald a pivotal moment in the history of science and a worldwide revolution that moves as rapidly as the information and communications revolution has. If it proves to be true, the ramifications are immense, not only in the battle to alleviate world poverty and pollution, but also in the areas of social, political, economic fields, as well as science and philosophy. It will mark a launch forward into a new world – one with many opportunities as well as hidden dangers.

In the words of the Tibetan the "power of the fourth order" (on the physical plane)...will enable...[humanity]...to utilise electrical energy for the regulation of...everyday life in a way as yet incomprehensible; it will produce new methods of illuminating, and of heating the world at a small cost and with practically no initial outlay...Transportation on sea and land will be largely superseded by the utilisation of air routes and the transit of large bodies through the air, by means of the instantaneous use of the force or energy inherent in the ether itself, will take the place of the present methods. Religious students will study the side of manifestation we call the 'life side' just as the scientist studies that called 'matter,' and both will come to a realisation of the close relation existing between the two, and thus the old gap and the ancient warfare between science and religion will be in temporary abeyance."<sup>8</sup>

In these words lies much hope for the fusion of Lucifer and Ahriman through the medium of the Christ principle. When a breakthrough in free energy occurs, it will indicate a significant spiritual development and demonstrate that the buddhic plane is shining through the collective egoic vehicle of humanity transmitting the Christ principle, the light of the world. Then we will know that humanity is not as far away as many may think in emerging triumphant from the battle of Scorpio.

1. *The Rays and the Initiations*, p. 142 A.A. Bailey
2. *Ibid*, p. 143
3. International Year of Light website <http://www.light2015.org/Home/About.html>
4. *Histoire de la Magie*, p 197
5. Quoted in Dr. Hartmann's 'Paracelsus'
6. *The Ahrimanic Deception and The Influences of Lucifer and Ahriman*, R Steiner
7. *Esoteric Astrology*, p 567. A.A. Bailey
8. Steorn news <http://steornnews.com/>