

No. 220 June 2022

HIDDEN POTENTIAL

Some words are best defined by stating what they are not, and so it is with the word courage that we can begin to define it with the recognition that it is not the absence of fear. In confirmation of this, Google cites the Cambridge English Dictionary, stating that courage is "the ability to control fear and to be willing to deal with something that is dangerous, difficult or unpleasant." Going further, we find this comment on Wikipedia, "the Tao Te Ching contends that courage is derived from love" and then this translation from Chinese text, "One of courage, with audacity, will die. One of courage, but gentle, spares death. From these two kinds of courage arise harm and benefit." While we ponder these thoughts, we see that, in these times of rapid change and uncertainty, there is surely no shortage of opportunities to express courage. Nor is it just major issues that require bravery as fears range from those that are primitive instincts to the more modern fears of loss, failure and public opinion. Indeed, spiritual teachings note that, "Fear holds the world in thrall, and no one is exempt from its influence." ¹

From pre-historic times to the present day, fears have been a part of life. They are part of this experience, and yet we are not our fears. The soul's nature is love and with its connection to divine realms, it has no fear. In its light, we can see the underlying dynamics, attachments and values that prompt our fearfulness and gain a better understanding and greater freedom from them. This increased self-knowledge is a hidden gem revealing a clear opportunity for the redirection of our energy into constructive channels. Spiritual teachings confirm that fears are overcome by the embodiment of the soul's values and perspectives. In addition to this, we are reassured that the fears which are denied attention simply die of attrition. With vision and connection to a higher purpose, courage rises from the ashes of fear.

An explanation from the Alice Bailey books provides further insight: "the fears which beset humanity, having their roots in instincts, seem nevertheless to be divine characteristics, misapplied and misused. When, however, they are rightly understood and used, and transmuted by the knowing soul, they produce awareness and are the source of growth and that which conveys to the dormant soul – in time and space – the needed impulse, impetus and urge to progress which have carried man forward from the caveman stage and the prehistoric cycle, through the long period of history, and can be trusted today to carry him forward with increasing rapidity, as he now arrives at intellectual comprehension and can apply himself to the problem of progress in full awareness." Today all around us, the courage derived from love is displayed in all its diversity by the many who face great challenges, whether of a personal or a more universal nature, and the enlightened goodwill that supports this increasing development and growth of soul consciousness is continually distributed worldwide through the service of Triangles.

CLEAR SYNTHETIC VISION

Three aspects of the One Light are the light of knowledge, the light of wisdom and the light of the intuition. The intuition may be thought of as the power to attain direct knowledge without using the mediation of the reasoning mind, quick and ready insight, an inner conviction of whether something is true or false. The teachings of the Ageless Wisdom are more precise as to the nature of the intuition which is described as "light itself and when the intuition is functioning, the world is seen as light..." ¹ Then the light within all forms becomes not only a philosophical truth but a practical reality.

Through this deeper meaning it can be understood that the light of the intuition stands well above the emotions, the instinctive mind, or the intellect, although the mind and the emotions provide a pathway for the transmission of light when that pathway is cleared of emotional and mental obstacles. The source of the intuition lies high in the spiritual realms yet is accessible to those who are able to still the mind and align with the soul. Then through the creative imagination the mind becomes a dual instrument reaching upwards to tap into the world of ideas and downwards into the physical world bringing ideas to life, to be later clothed in form.

The intuition, therefore, goes beyond normal reasoning and beyond the conscious mind rather it lies in the realm of the super-conscious. The intuition is "pure reason" or straight knowledge unobstructed by the illusion, glamour or maya of the lower self, it has no relation to the desires or thoughts of the personality life for it is concerned with group activity that serves the Plan of the Great Ones.

Each day co-workers all over the world link mentally with each other and visualise light and goodwill circulating through the three focal points of their Triangle which forms part of the Triangles network within the etheric body of the planet. The central point of light within each Triangle is the soul principle and through its illuminating rays, the light within all forms is revealed. This revelation marks a significant stage in the evolution of human consciousness and brings understanding of those profound words: "In that light shall we see Light".

Light illuminates the darkness and has brought a deeper understanding of ourselves and the world around us, as well as the way we interact and relate to all planetary life forms. The intensification of light has brought a more intuitive understanding of how everything is interrelated – there is an awareness that the world is interconnected rather than being a collection of separated parts. By irradiating the planet with light and goodwill, the Triangles network contributes to this awareness.

¹ Glamour: A World Problem p.3 (adapted)

Triangles Webinar: Broadcast every Monday www.lucistrust.org/triangles/webinar

THE PLANETARY NETWORK

This network of light, love and service is transforming the mental climate and reorientating humanity to spiritual values. The items here are a small sample of these constructive activities. www.lucistrust.org/worldwide network/list groups

UNIDAD DE SERVICIO SANTA FE [http://www.unsersantafe.com.ar/] This is a group working within the Spanish speaking community and based in Sante Fe, Argentina. A heartfelt responsibility to assist in the creation of a future based on spiritual values and principles informs their service. Their efforts are unified by this common purpose and, using meditation and reflection, they seek to learn the essentials of service through contact with the soul. Alignment and cooperation with the Lucis Trust forms an important part of their ethos, and, amongst their other activities, they have also undertaken to provide translation of the Triangles webinar scripts into Spanish. [https://www.lucistrust.org/es/triangles/webinar]

UNIFY orchestrates Global Synchronized Events to inspire community-driven action campaigns for World Peace. During these events, people of all backgrounds are invited to meditate, pray, host local ceremonies and contribute to a more loving, peaceful world in their own way. By unifying at these times, they strive to create a living example of the truth that we are all one. They strive to give rise to an emerging planetary culture that embraces the interdependence and well-being of all. [www.unify.org]

SHARING GROUP THOUGHT

We invite you to share your insights on Triangles by post, email or online at triangles.org

There is a remarkably beautiful and powerful triangle created from three major points, the mind, the heart centre, and the head centre. We are told that this triangular formation guides the energy of the intuition, through which the soul will eventually govern the personality. This being the case, it seems to follow that the group of Triangles co-workers are replicating this pattern with loving and intelligent precision.

Although we may marvel at the beauty of this pattern and the quality of visualisation that brings each Triangle to life, the factor of integration being stimulated through this project is phenomenal. Visualising the expanding network of united triangles, it's possible to begin to understand how integration, starting with the etheric plane, might be extended to other planes.

Everything about Triangles speaks of integration – joining, uniting, resolving fragmentation, healing cleavages that cause pain and suffering. Before we can restore ourselves and humanity to a state of wholeness, as symbolised by the circle, we must learn the ways of integration, and this the triangle teaches. The continuity of the three lines meeting at the corners symbolises the immutable bonds of trust, and the one, indivisible spirit to which we all belong.

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THE POWER TO PERSIST

There are many virtues which those on the spiritual path are encouraged to cultivate. We can think of love, truthfulness, compassion, to mention but a few. But there is one without which none of the others can be properly anchored and sustained in consciousness, and this is perseverance.

Virtues are often seen as gifts from above, which all the ardent aspirant needs to do is to simply accept them as a grace. But this is actually wishful thinking. It is much more realistic and nearer to the truth to regard virtues as disciplines that need to be worked out in the crucible of daily life. This requires an unremitting perseverance in dealing with the constant tests of our values and resolve, which both probe our weaknesses and – for our encouragement – highlight our strengths too. The reason for all this is the presence in us of so many ingrained habits of thought, emotional response and physical life patterns. These have been built up in the personality and established over many lifetimes of self-centredness, and they require much effort not only to recognise them for what they are, but then to offset and eventually redeem them.

This is exactly where perseverance comes into the equation. Perseverance doesn't just mean identifying the goal occasionally; it means holding it as a constant attitude of heart and mind throughout the day, as a state of vigilant expectancy, knowing that as soon as one has let down one's guard then the danger arises of relapsing into those former patterns of thought and behaviour that we now recognise as no longer appropriate – indeed, if they ever were. It is good to hold in mind the saying that to those who persevere comes the victory.

But with persistence in spiritual striving, the results of our labours will start to bear fruit. Probably others will notice the change before we do. But it will definitely be there, perhaps in a sweeter disposition, in a growing self-forgetfulness that puts others first, in a helpfulness that sees real need and does whatever it can to help meet that need. When one becomes aware of these character changes oneself, it is important that one resists the temptation to relax spiritually. Indeed, now is the time of greatest challenge, and is perhaps when one's perseverance in treading the path to the Soul is most needed. But it is also the time when such perseverance pays the greatest dividends. For now, with continued striving and vigilance, the grace of all the virtues will start to flow into one's whole being with the profligate abundance that characterises spiritual Love. This is the love that holds nothing back, but gives all, sacrificially and gladly.

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 people of goodwill and is published four times a year in Dutch, English, French, German, Greek, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. Triangles is an activity of the Lucis Trust, a non-profit educational charity which exists to promote right human relations.

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