## THE ARCANE SCHOOL

Great is the Mystery of Godliness

The word went forth to all the sons of men, the Sons of God: Shew forth the signature of God. Leave this High Place and, in the outer realm of darkness, toil and serve; bring forth the Real; unveil the hidden depths of light. Reveal divinity.

Thus down the ages have the sons of men, who are the Sons of God, embodied in themselves the Light which shines, the Strength which lifts and serves, the Love that evermore endures. They walked the Way of purity, the Way into the innermost. We follow after. They serve their time. We seek to do the same.

(The Old Commentary)

"Man" is from the Sanskrit word "manas", meaning "human being", the root of which, "man", means "to think". Man thus means "one who thinks".

There is a Way by which human beings may achieve knowledge and understanding of the light, love and purpose of divinity, and learn to wield these spiritual energies in the service of their fellowmen to speed the progress of human evolution. Many have trodden the Way before us, leaving for our guidance the laws and rules of the Road, graded according to the need and spiritual status of the student and aspirant.

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The Arcane School was established by Alice A. Bailey in 1923 to help meet an obvious and growing demand for further teaching and training in the science of the soul.

The purpose of the esoteric training given in the Arcane School is to help the student grow spiritually toward acceptance of discipleship responsibility and to serve the Plan by serving humanity. Esotericism is a practical way of life.

The function of the School is to assist those at the end of the probationary path to move forward on to the path of discipleship, and to assist those already on that path to move on more quickly and to achieve greater effectiveness in service.

A disciple is one who, above all else, is pledged to do three things: (a) To serve humanity. (b) To cooperate with the Plan of Hierarchy as one sees it and as best one may. (c) To develop the powers of the soul, to expand the consciousness and to follow the guidance of the higher self and not the dictates of the threefold lower self.

Discipleship is a word in constant use among aspirants in the world, both in the East and in the West. Discipleship could be defined as the final stage of the path of evolution. It is the stage in which a human being knowingly takes a pledge to impose the will of the soul (which is essentially the will of God) upon the lower nature. Upon this path the aspirant submits to a training process through a systematised and applied discipline, producing a more rapid unfoldment of the power and the life of the soul.

The training given in the Arcane School is based on three fundamental requirements-occult meditation, study and service to humanity. Sincerity of purpose, purity of motive, and persistence in the face of all obstacles and difficulties are required in those who voluntarily undertake this self-training in the esoteric science of the soul expressed through discipleship living. The training offered throughout the School in the different courses of study and meditation is, therefore, eliminative of the unready and of those unwilling to make the needed effort and adjustments. The Arcane School is a place for hard work.

The presentation of the teaching adapted to the rapidly emerging new civilisation stresses the training of disciples in group formation, a technique which will characterise discipleship service in the Aquarian Age. The training given in the Arcane School, therefore, is carried forward in groups.

The Arcane School provides a practical training which will help the aspirant in the self-initiated effort to "know oneself" and one's place of service in relation to those ahead of one in evolution to whom one may look for help, and to those whom one in turn can serve.

Students in different parts of the world, who may never meet or know one another, work together in the service of group meditation and study, helping to precipitate the ideas on which the new civilisation and culture will be founded.

The work of the Arcane School all over the world is carried forward entirely by correspondence in direct relationship between the student and headquarters. There are no lectures, classes or discussion groups organised by the School. Each student is expected to think, meditate, and search out the truth independently according to his or her own need and understanding, learning through acquired spiritual independence the significance of interdependence in group work.

Students living in the Americas are served through the headquarters in New York; those in Great Britain and the Commonwealth through the London headquarters; and all students working in the different European languages through headquarters in Geneva. Postal library services are available at each headquarters. The work is financed by the voluntary contributions of students and those interested in the work of the School and in the teaching. Students in the School are expected to share responsibility for its maintenance, and each gives according to personal circumstance.

The Arcane School is non-sectarian and respects the right of each student to hold his or her own views and beliefs. It does not rely upon an authoritarian presentation of any one line of thought or code of ethics. Material used in the lesson courses is drawn from a variety of sources. The knowledge, insight and wisdom, and capacity to wield spiritual energy resulting from work and training with the Arcane School should be expressed and applied in daily living service in helping to materialise the Plan of God and to aid in solving the problems of humanity.

For further information write to:

## Arcane School

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