

*The Builders of the Lighted House*  
THE FESTIVAL OF CANCER  
June 23, 2021, New York

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Welcome to the full moon Festival of Cancer which follows upon the participation in the three spiritual festivals, which are like the spiritual peak season of the year, a kind of spiritual ascent to the mountain top. Through the vibrant renewal in Aries, the illumination of Taurus, during the Wesak festival, and the World Invocation festival in Gemini, we now symbolically descend, directing these high spiritual energies into the whole of human consciousness in Cancer. Cancer is a sign of mass consciousness, and within this mass consciousness we seek to do some specific creative work, defined by the keynote of Cancer: we seek to “build a lighted house” within the mass consciousness of humanity “and therein dwell.” Our success in constructing this lighted house, will contribute tremendously to the expression in human consciousness of the School’s keynote for this year as the lighted house we build becomes the vehicle for letting “the illuminating energy of pure reason produce complete freedom from glamour and reveal the love of divine relations.”

Energized, illumined and our invocative appeal correctly oriented, we bring the effect of the contacted and penetrating energies of the three Spiritual Festivals into expression--into inner and outer demonstration—just as they have earlier come to qualify “our hearts, through our groups and throughout the world.” Now we joyously focus these energies on the present work to be done in Cancer and in the succeeding signs of the zodiac.

We shall be working with Light and Love and the Will-to-Good throughout the year and through the nine constellations from Cancer to Pisces. In Cancer we begin with the Light, “for the Light is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen”. Accordingly let us pause for few moments to sound the Invocation of Light, noting that Sound is the evocative consummation of the Voice of the people – the inchoate yearnings, the prayers and invocations -- this is what transpires when the OM is accomplishing Its work.

“Radiance, are we and power. We stand forever with our hands stretched out,  
Linking the heavens and the earth, the inner world of meaning and the subtle world of glamour. 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.

We have been engaged in this full moon work for some decades now, let us look briefly into what we have been doing for so long--for each month and each year. Let us see what we will be able to contribute to this service in Cancer, this building of a lighted house and dwelling therein.

Each month in meditation we work to creatively precipitate the available energies from each constellation. our task at this time, working with the energies of Cancer, we are spiritually and factually building a lighted house. As a result of this work a gratifying and joyful sense of

persistence emerges, but there is also a seeming sense of repeated activity, proceeding endlessly, into the interminable years, which could make it appear as a mere tradition.

But our work is not so; it is neither monotonous; nor is it some mere tradition or simply some new activity started decades ago and continued today as a spiritual tradition. It is more than that. The full moon work is a living ceremony. Our effort is not some stale and tedious repetition, recurring every full moon. But rather each year and each month we create a new spiritual tension, a tension which perhaps, is not so easily recognized, at times, but nevertheless, vitally present! Each month, we gradually penetrate into a higher and a deeper understanding as we evoke an increasingly revealing light. Each month we sound a progressively higher note than before, a note more refined and clearer in tone that becomes able to penetrate to “ears, more attentive than ours.” Each month we contribute anew towards the creation of a pattern, increasingly clearer in outline, steady in form and of increasingly reflective of “the pattern of things above.” Each month we are developing a fuller responsiveness to group vibrations that are much more exquisite than our mechanisms and vehicles. Each month our integration becomes ever stronger, and we advance as a group disciple, into greater light, love and power and, as a result, our invocative and evocative tension is increasingly becoming magnetic and radiatory. The effects and results of our work are reflective of an increasing tension in the world geared towards the establishment of right human relations and the refutation of actions motivated by ill will in many places in the world. The results of our efforts are also, curiously enough, often seen as reflected in the seeming disturbances all over the world-- for most great beginnings appear first as disturbances. Our work, in cooperation with a vast world-wide group, is inducing recognition of the global responsibility needed, and which must be in place, if the world is to move forward into a greater light, cooperation, sharing and healing, especially today, after passing through the virulent peak of the pandemic.

The spiritual accumulations of our daily, weekly, monthly and yearly efforts together with the decades of work of those who worked before us, are impacting the world, and building a lighted house. The good news is that we are becoming better at this building through the years, we have gained experience and are proceeding with some spiritual confidence as our alignment, our soul contacts, our directed purpose, our inclusiveness and our service orientations are being slowly but increasingly perfected.

Let us recognize the nature of the builders of this “lighted house”, just who are these builders? What is their constitution? The nature of the builder has been identified for us in one of the solemn declarations in the blue books, “The Affirmation of the Disciple.” Of this affirmation, the Tibetan has the following words to say: “There is a certain esoteric Mantram which embodies this attitude—the attitude of the disciple who is striving, in cooperative endeavor with others, to link Hierarchical intent with human aspiration and thus bring humanity closer to the goal. ... its meaning should not be beyond the ability of any sincere student and thinker to penetrate if it appeals to them as significant and warranting their effort” (*Telepathy & the Etheric Vehicle*, p. 197). Let us together sound the Affirmation of the Disciple:

I am a point of light within a greater Light  
I am a strand of loving energy within the stream of Love divine.  
I am a point of sacrificial Fire, focused within the fiery Will of God  
And thus I stand.

I am a way by which men may achieve.

I am a source of strength, enabling them to stand.  
I am a beam of light, shining upon their way.  
And thus I stand.

And standing thus, revolve  
And thread this way the ways of men.  
And know the ways of God  
And thus I stand.

Here, clearly illuminated, is the nature of the builder of the lighted house, and this is who we truly are and paradoxically, also we seek to be.. In this mantram, also lies the source of our spiritual confidence and the process of building the lighted house. In this affirmation is indicated our inherent capacity to work with the inspiration emanating from each of the zodiacal signs and particularly today, in Cancer.

Now that we have recognized and affirmed the nature of the builder, the next concern is: where do we build this lighted house, that we are engaged in every Cancer full moon? We build the lighted house in the threefold worlds of human endeavor, in the world of Maya, Glamour and Illusion. We build within the maya of all that constitutes materialism, the organized forces of the world which are wrongly motivated, directed and perpetuated which is impacting humanity adversely. We build the lighted house in the world of the glamour and distortion of selfishness on the astral plane, the producer of all crimes and breeder of disfigured human relationship. And we build this lighted house within the world of the illusion of the mental plane, leading to the heresy of separateness which leads to all the wrong receptions, wrong interpretations and the wrong application of ideas and to the consequent creation of competing thought forms instead of cooperative solutions. It is within this spiritually unwholesome world, whose conditions are reflected in our irresponsible relations with the environment, that we build the lighted house.

But this is only one side of the picture, for much of goodness, beauty and truth is taking place within the three-fold world of human endeavor, and there is optimism in the air. The very recognition of the unwholesome conditions in the world is itself a major evidence that light is pouring in and the building of the “lighted house” is in full progress. The G7 conference has just concluded with pledges of far reaching cooperation and sharing. There is renewed vigor to tackle climate change. The world is weathering down a devastating pandemic, the death tolls is down and decreasing, but it is not over yet. There are still scary flares of the Covid 19 virus and possibilities of challenging outbreaks still hanging over our heads, but we understand and know more today about the pandemic in terms of how to manage it. The pandemic (pain) evoked demonstrations of goodwill from unusual places, resulting in cooperation among ordinary people, groups and countries and the sharing of resources abound in the world, demonstrating that which humanity is capable of achieving. Many companies and institutions demonstrated acts of benevolence, understanding and helpfulness. Hope is high and the scientific researchers have shone a bright light through the darkness of the pandemic and health workers are singularly demonstrating unusual faith and courage every day.

Of course it is not being implied here that we, or the esoteric and occult groups, are the only groups so working. All intelligent and decent peoples of the world are involved, all aspirants and disciples are taking part in this building of the lighted house; all people with their simple beliefs in God, whatever and however they recognize divinity, are included. In every branch and aspect of human

endeavor, from factories and offices, all across the world, in tiny villages and in the big cities people may be found just doing the right thing, just as in governmental agencies, education, religious groups, economic centers banks and financial institutions may be found people simply thinking truth, desiring fairness and acting right in their little ways. There is also the multitude of bewildered and very sensitive suffering humanity whose inchoate yearnings for betterment contribute to this building of the lighted house, in some way or another.

And to all of these, the esotericists in the world are contributing the effects of the practice of occult meditation, based on knowledge, understanding, patient and persistent spiritual effort to devitalize maya, dissipate glamour and dispel illusion. This latter group is not in the majority but the effect of their constant effort is very great, for they especially and particularly work with Light substance and energy, and the light is potent. A sense of the potency of the constant irradiation of light may be gained by reflecting on the speed of light in a vacuum, which is about 670,616,629 miles per hour, that is by the time a person says the name MISSISSIPPI, light has circled the globe at the equator about 8 times already. And we regularly use this power of light daily in our work!

In concluding, let us note that we are the generation of students and servers most opportune in the world and at this time to “build the lighted house and therein dwell,” for we have all the work of our predecessors, and we have the conclusions and insights of almost a century of reflections on esoteric work. We are also at the dawn of the incoming 7<sup>th</sup>. Ray energies, the energies most suited to the work of relating Spirit and Matter. This is one aspect of the work being done on the vertical arm of the cross. This is important, it is very important, for the seventh Ray activity of spiritualizing matter and lifting matter up to heaven, is the mode par excellence, of producing Light. This light is employed in all we do, and is emphatically indicated in the Keynote of Cancer.

We are the generation that is most acquainted with light, for science has penetrated into the nature of light, more than ever before. We are the witnesses to the greatest infiltration, the most powerful penetration, the salutary and beneficent intrusion of light into human lives. Everywhere we turn there is the light. And truly are we responding to the injunction: “Let there be light ...”, “and there was light.” Today, this light is revealing the darkness of maya, glamour and illusion in an unprecedented manner. This is the light which God called “day” in Genesis, the first book of the Old Testament. It is “the light in which we see greater light, it is the light which shineth ever more and more until the day be with us”, it is the light in the Invocation of Light, which turns the darkness into day, that is, the day of opportunity “to build a lighted house, within the mass consciousness of humanity and therein dwell”. Let us now “Let in the Light”.

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