

Directing the Group Vision

The Festival of Sagittarius – New York December 11, 2019

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Good evening to everyone for this full moon Festival of Sagittarius, here in this room and through the ethers online. Groups and individuals have been celebrating these full moon festivals for many decades now, rhythmically gathering together month by month, year by year, strengthening the beating heart of love and circulating the energies of restoration and peace. These meditative rhythms are the microcosm of the rhythmic movements of the planets and constellations, endlessly moving around the zodiac in new combinations and patterns of energy. We know that there is a clear and direct line of energy connecting Humanity with the Hierarchy at these times of the full moon, when many thousands of people all over the world combine their energies in meditation to widen the channel of light and love. We can also imagine the powerful rhythmic pulse that has been going on through the meditations of the Hierarchy over countless centuries. We are reaching up toward the heart center of the planet, seeking to synchronize our rhythm with the higher center and helping to build a closer relationship between the three planetary centers so as to be able to be of more effective service for Humanity.

There is another rhythmic event about to occur in merely ten days which is called the Festival Week of the New Group of World Servers, celebrated every seven years from December 21st to the 28th, so not only are we preparing for the exact full moon time, occurring just after midnight tonight, we are tuning up the group instrument to receive and circulate the tremendous energies of Capricorn that will be flowing into the planet during the Festival Week. This week is an important opportunity for individuals consciously serving in the subjective world group to reflect on the significance of this vast network of servers and to “strengthen their hands”; through group meditations, explorations of the many projects initiated by groups and by consciously joining their efforts together through webinars, group meditations and meetings and countless activities.

The energies of Capricorn are especially potent during the Festival Week, and although we are here tonight for the Sagittarius Festival, we can begin, as a group, to orient ourselves and set our sights toward the mountain of initiation in Capricorn looming before us as a powerful and lighted magnet in the distance. The word of the soul in Sagittarius is “I see the goal, I reach that goal and then I see another”, so the idea of one pointed direction and orientation toward the higher way is the motivating factor for the disciple in Sagittarius.

The Festival Week presents a rich opportunity to reflect on the oneness of Humanity and our essential divinity. Humanity is seeing itself as a whole as never before, thanks to the relatively new advances in technology, namely the internet, rapid global communication and international travel. We are beginning to understand the implications of these advances and to adjust our actions and behaviors to reflect the growing awareness of interconnectedness and interdependence. As a species, we are seeing our shadow, the Group Dweller on the Threshold, as well as our brilliance, our Angel of the Presence, and are just beginning to learn how to understand ourselves and the implications of our actions in a new way. Of course, at the level of the soul, there is no separation, and world servers working in the esoteric group can help bring this emerging understanding into more popular conversations.

Let's now focus our energies using the Mantram of Unification, a powerful directive that, if said with conviction and assurance will, we are told, "prove unbelievably potent in the life of the one who says them". It "will produce an effect in (the) environment...it will change attitudes (and) enlighten the vision."¹ Let us keep these words of the Tibetan in mind as we say the Mantram together:

The souls of all are one, and I am one with them.
I seek to love, not hate;
I seek to serve and not exact due service;
I seek to heal, not hurt.

Let pain bring due reward of light and love.
Let the soul control the outer form,
And life, and all events,
And bring to light the Love
That underlies the happenings of the time.

Let vision come and insight.
Let the future stand revealed.
Let inner union demonstrate and outer cleavages be gone.
Let love prevail.
Let all people love.

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The energies of Sagittarius help us to see, not the outer world and the appearances that are deceptive and full of glamour, but the inner world of spiritual realities that can only be seen and known through the intuition. True spiritual intuition arises from aspiration, the higher aspect of earthly desire characterized by a focused attention towards that which is of the soul. It is the focused energy of the buddhic plane. Fiery aspiration determines the quality of one's relationship with the Earth, which is the esoteric ruler of Sagittarius, itself a fire sign. The only other zodiacal sign with direct Earth influence is Gemini, the opposite of Sagittarius. We can better understand how this dual line of energy has more significance in relationship to humanity and the Earth when we read this passage from Esoteric Astrology: "The Earth itself is, on a small scale, also an intermediary or a relating planet, because it is found ruling both Gemini and Sagittarius and is potent, therefore, only within the line of this dual relationship, existing between this particular pair of opposites. In the Earth a great balancing process is going forward between two great streams of cosmic energy, emanating the one from Sagittarius and the other from Gemini."²

As we stand in form on the Earth within this stream of cosmic energy, it is useful to consider the significance of the planet Earth itself as the esoteric ruler for Sagittarius. There is much more universal concern for the Earth and its sub human kingdoms now for many reasons. More of Humanity has realized that the sub human kingdoms are our responsibility as well as the source of much of our sustenance. If we destroy the gifts of the Earth, we are committing mass suicide. Because of the crisis of climate change, a crisis which recently has become much more dire as reported in the recent UN Emissions Gap Report, more and more people are taking action to

“Save the Planet”. The report, which was released November 26, “estimates we are actually on track for global warming of up to 3.4 degrees Celsius. Current commitments will reduce emissions by no more than a third of the levels required by 2030 to avert disaster.” So, according to these experts, the planet is 10 years away from a global disaster! The report also states that “To get Earth back on track to the 1.5-degree goal, countries must multiply their commitment level, or the level at which they pledge to reduce their emissions, five times the current rates outlined in the Paris accords. That means global greenhouse gas emissions must fall at least 7.6% every year to remove 32 gigatons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.” Reaching this target is a great challenge for countries who have waited so long to take action. It will take a forward looking and inspired vision, a united political will and drastic action on the part of every country if we are to avert disaster. Will Humanity be able to accomplish such a feat? We certainly have the technical knowledge, but is there sufficient political will?

Members of the New Group of World Servers, whether they are esotericists or not, whether they call themselves “spiritual” or not, are all on some level, influencing human thinking. They are responsible for becoming sensitive to and interpreting the ideas emanating from the spiritual Hierarchy into the ideals which will govern the coming era. For the past 50 years, largely as a result of the photographs of the Earth from space, we have been able to see the planet as a whole, as the beautiful blue sphere that we call home. Humanity is beginning to realize its devastating effect on the global environment through over consumption, pollution causing energy systems and industrial development. We are now in what’s commonly called the Age of the Anthropocene, a proposed geological epoch when Humanity itself has a significant impact on Earth systems.

“I vision” is one of the themes of Sagittarius; vision to see the goal ahead, clear and unobstructed vision that cuts through the deceptive mists of glamour and illusion and a straight and true vision that inspires the kind of creative activity that builds lasting changes in line with the divine Plan. This creative activity is fueled by the 3rd Ray of Active Intelligence, the ruling influence of the Earth and the potent force behind the creative work of the New Group of World Servers. In this transition period between the Piscean and Aquarian eras, Humanity is leaving behind the method of individual initiation and moving toward the newer process of group initiation. We should then start to visualize the *group* as the disciple in Sagittarius, together moving swiftly across the flat plains of the Earth toward the mountain, unified by group thought and a common vision.

There are many cosmic influences constantly bombarding Humanity and the Earth and science is only just beginning to explore them. We can’t possibly understand the larger significances with our limited perspective from Earth and yet we recognize that the cycles of planets around the zodiac have fascinated thinkers and sages for thousands of years.

During the Festival Week, we are reminded that the energies of Capricorn are augmented by “a constellation which is – to our zodiac- what the zodiac is to the Earth.”³ What does this mean? How are we to comprehend the significance of this tremendous energy pouring into the group?

We know that the Tibetan is very particular about how he uses words and are often reminded to pause and ponder on some statement. In his discussion about the first Festival Week in 1935, although it is not said overtly, he implies that this was the first time these stupendous forces entered the Earth sphere to intensify the week and stimulate the New Group. The augmented

Capricornian forces have continued every 7 years building a strengthening field of connection between the New Group of World Servers and the Hierarchy and we should remember that members of the Hierarchy are taken from the New Group. The previous Festival Week in 2012 was the 12th Festival Week, so this year, we are entering into a new cycle of 12. Interestingly, the complete cycle of 12 Festival Weeks happening every seven years, equals 84 years and this corresponds to a complete cycle of Uranus around the zodiac. In 1935, Uranus was in the early degrees of Taurus as it is now and Taurus is the ruling sign for the New Group of World Servers. More food for thought.

Alice Bailey writes in *Esoteric Astrology*: “The entire theme of the zodiac can be approached from the angle of light and its unfolding and increasing radiance and of the gradual demonstration in what I have called elsewhere, ‘the glory of the One’.”⁴ We know that the nature of the soul is light and that soul light, when contacted and known, has a drastic and transformative effect on the personality and physical vehicles of expression. Light reveals more light and leads to the realization of the reality of this Oneness. Everything is interrelated and moving together harmoniously in a cosmic unity we can only begin to sense.

Within the Glory of the One, all is light exhibiting different characteristics for each zodiacal sign. Sagittarius is described as “A beam of directed, focussed Light” while Taurus, in relation to its rulership of the New Group of World Servers is “the nurturer of all illumination...the revealer of the vision, the eye of the Gods.” The New Group of World Servers is described as the “bull, rushing forward upon a straight line with its one eye fixed upon the goal and beaming light.” The goal of self realization has been left behind and the goal before the group is to bring illumination to Humanity. It is no wonder then that the “Stage of the Forerunner”, the last several decades until 2025, has its beginning and ending with the planet Uranus in Taurus.

Uranus as the embodiment of the seventh ray, a change agent and “disrupter”, helps reveal the new way, helps identify the patterns of the new incoming energies and clarifies the old structures and systems that need to move into the past. It stimulates a new kind of consciousness which is oriented to the spiritual values of inclusiveness, loving kindness and sharing. It aids the disciple in Sagittarius in directing a one pointed intention on the “beam of directed, focused light” toward an enlightened group consciousness oriented to the new, the innovative and the Aquarian. The Tibetan points out that all the light and illumination needed to address global problems is “waiting to precipitate itself through the New Group of World Servers under the influence of Taurus.”⁵

Alice Bailey mentions that in some ancient books, Sagittarius is known as the “sign of silence”, reminding us that at this last full moon of the year, we are joining together once again with our Elders on the other side to link in concentrated thought for the purpose of the upliftment and redemption of Humanity. Silence exposes beauty, it unites diverse perspectives and reveals the soul. Within the silence of the Ashram, the group can carry on its work to build the new world based on soul values of inclusiveness, tolerance, common purpose and love. The “Global Silent Minute”, occurring on December 21st at 9PM Greenwich Mean Time, is one of the many initiatives of the New Group of World Servers to help usher Humanity toward a new world that will be able to receive and assimilate the coming externalization in a spirit of cooperation, mutual respect and love.

Let us unitedly turn the group gaze to the World Disciple, hurriedly travelling on a “beam of directed, focused light” toward the goal of the emerging Aquarian world, to the destination of the mountaintop on whose summit we imaginatively stand, breathing out love and peace to all of Humanity as one group working within “the Glory of the One.”

1. EXH pp.142
2. EA pp. 362
3. EP II pp. 195-96
4. EA pp. 328
5. Rays V pp. 229