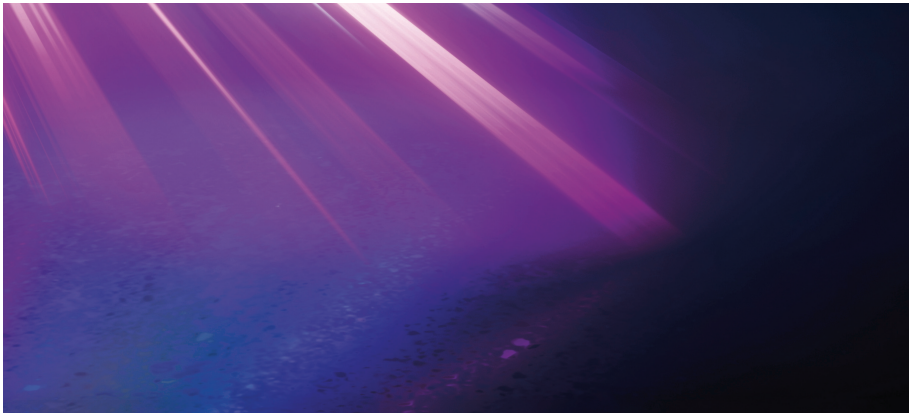


Three Spiritual Festivals 2024

*Cosmic Rays:
Gifts for the Aquarian Age*



www.lucistrust.org/3sf



Three Spiritual Festivals 2024

Cosmic Rays: Gifts for the Aquarian Age

Dear co-worker,

Amaterasu, one of the most powerful cosmic rays ever detected, struck the Earth's atmosphere in 2021. Named after the sun goddess in Japanese mythology, Amaterasu means “shining in heaven”—and this is where she seems to have come from, her trajectory tracing back to a vast region of empty space known as the Local Void. Scientists are baffled as to how such a powerful cosmic ray could suddenly appear out of nothing. And even if this were not the case, as one analyst put it:

“Things that people think of as energetic, like supernova [exploding star], are nowhere near energetic enough for this... what the heck is going on?”¹

From the esoteric perspective, a clue to the mystery lies in the relationship between the cosmic rays known to science and the seven rays of esoteric science which are “the sum total of the divine Consciousness”—the “seven channels through which all being in... [the]... solar system flows.”

In this present cycle, it is the seventh ray of Ceremonial Order that is currently growing in power, the influence of which is most potent

upon the physical plane. And it is through this channel that the cosmic rays familiar to modern science are finding their way to earth. In Alice Bailey's *Esoteric Psychology* Vol I, we read:

*“It is under the influence of the incoming seventh ray... that we shall discover new cosmic rays. They... are always present in our universe, but they use the substance of the incoming ray energy as the path along which they can travel to our planet and thus be revealed.”*²

Cosmic rays originate from the subjective realms of the universe, and as they precipitate into the earth's atmosphere they produce “air showers”—cascades of charged particles and electromagnetic radiation that, in the case of Amaterasu, were picked up by detectors spread across the desert in Utah. Air showers provide us with wonderful symbols of the age of Aquarius—an air sign with the spiritual keynote:

“Water of life am I, poured forth for thirsty men.”

Furthermore, one of this sign's planetary rulers—Uranus—embodies the energy of the incoming seventh ray of Ceremonial Order, enabling new cosmic rays like Amaterasu to have a powerful effect on human behaviour. Returning to the information on cosmic rays in the book, *Esoteric Psychology*:

*“The interest being shown today in the so-called cosmic rays indicates a scientific recognition of the new incoming seventh ray energies. These rays, pouring through the sacral centre of the planetary etheric body, have necessarily an effect upon the sacral centres of humanity, and hence the sex life of mankind is temporarily over-stimulated, and hence also the present over-emphasis upon sex. But hence also (and this must be remembered) the keen impetus now being mentally expressed which will eventually result in man's thinking through to a solution of this problem of sex.”*³

While there has been much intellectual research and discussion on problems related to sex, new problems keep surfacing—a notable example being the issue of gender confusion and fluidity—

particularly in young children. This difficult and troubling phenomenon may well be related in some way to the incoming qualities associated with the seventh ray of Ceremonial Order causing disturbances in the collective sacral centre of humanity. And speaking in general terms, changes seem to be occurring in the way many people are experiencing gender in modern societies. Of concern though, is that in our highly sexualised world society, children are surrounded by sexual imagery and content in almost every area of life, resulting in the erosion of childhood innocence. Children today are presented with many conflicting messages concerning gender, for in modern times its definition has become far more to do with social and cultural differences between the sexes than biological ones. A remarkable definition is posted on the World Health Organisation's website:

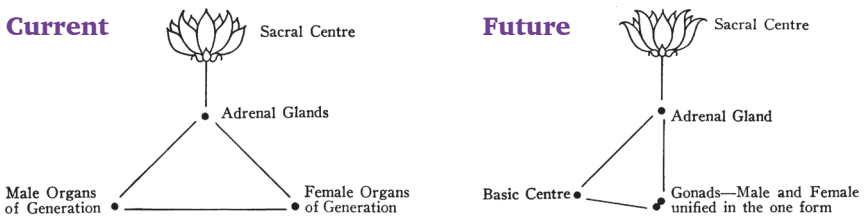
“Gender refers to the characteristics of women, men, girls and boys that are socially constructed. This includes norms, behaviours and roles associated with being a woman, man, girl or boy, as well as relationships with each other. As a social construct, gender varies from society to society and can change over time.... Gender identity refers to a person's deeply felt, internal and individual experience of gender, which may or may not correspond to the person's physiology or designated sex at birth.”⁴

Whatever our own views on this may be, the answer to wrong lower identifications with the physical sex of the body lies in lifting consciousness away from the body nature. Given that a feeling of incompleteness is one of the main characteristics of gender dysphoria, encouraging the aesthetic sense in young children would surely be of more assistance than ever-earlier sex education. The feeling for beauty and wonder in nature helps to nurture in the child a strong sense of identity with the soul of all things, including the soul of humanity as a whole, where the solution to the problem of gender lies. As human consciousness is steadily raised towards the Kingdom of Souls, masculine and feminine energies are synthesized into a perfected unity, as the Christ will undoubtedly demonstrate

when He reappears. For the Christ is the “perfected human being”—Who unites the highest expression of the positive and negative forces of creation within His own Being and wields them in service of the Divine Plan. This too is the glorious destiny that lies before each and every human being at some point in the future, no matter how distant it may seem.

With this in mind, psychological progress towards this unification seems evident in many of the creative thinkers of the race who are embracing more of the higher, spiritual characteristics of the opposite sex within themselves. As far as longer-term changes in the human organism are concerned, an interesting and challenging prophecy to contemplate is to be found in the book *Esoteric Healing*:

*“the dense physical externalisation of this [sacral] centre is to be found in the gonads, the human organs of generation—viewing them as a basic unity, though temporarily separated in the present dualistic expression of the human being.... Eventually, in the Divine Hermaphrodite (later to appear) you will have another combination.”*²⁵



Returning to the book, *Esoteric Psychology*, we learn that:

*“other cosmic rays will play upon our earth as this seventh ray activity becomes increasingly active, and the result of their influence will be to facilitate the emergence of the new racial types.”*²⁶

Elsewhere, the following traits are described in connection with this evolutionary development:

*“The intuition will be awakening, and will be more prominent than now, but the outstanding characteristic will be the ability... to think in abstract terms, and to use the abstract mind.”*²⁷

Because esoteric training has the same objective of awakening the abstract mind, those who are following its threefold discipline of meditation, study and service are likely to find themselves sensitive to the influence of the new incoming cosmic rays. This represents an added stimulus to contend with—accelerating progress but also intensifying the psychological challenges of treading the path. It is just one of the many new factors to bear in mind should any period of unaccustomed psychological tension be experienced or fluctuations in the quality of subjective awareness. Following a path of esoteric training at this momentous time in planetary history is without doubt a test of spiritual tenacity. However, those who have the will to persevere in the great endeavour are presented with an unparalleled opportunity to take a significant step forward on the path of spiritual unfoldment and increase their capacity to serve.

The higher spiritual interlude of the year marked by the full moon festivals of Aries, Taurus and Gemini, is the most opportune time to do this by working with the new cosmic influences that are seeking entrance into human consciousness. The ability to “think in abstract terms, and to use the abstract mind” is facilitated by the waves of energy or “gift waves” that are circulating throughout the realm of the planetary mind at this time. The bridge of consciousness that is forming between the Spiritual Hierarchy and the human kingdom is thereby strengthened, preparing the way for the reappearance of the Christ—the great hope for humanity in these troubling times.

In the light of group consciousness,
Lucis Trust

1. *The Guardian* article, www.theguardian.com/science/2023/nov/24/amaterasu-extremely-high-energy-particle-detected-falling-to-earth
2. *Esoteric Psychology*, Vol I, pp.369–70
3. *Ibid*, p.280
4. World Health Organization, Gender and health, www.who.int/health-topics/gender#tab=tab_1
5. *Esoteric Healing*, pp.179–80
6. *Esoteric Psychology*, Vol I, p.370
7. *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, p.456

Reflections on the Incoming Seventh Ray of Ceremonial Order and Ritual

from *The Destiny of the Nations*, by Alice Bailey

...the seventh ray is spoken of as governing the mineral kingdom and also as manifesting through its mediumship that significant soul characteristic and quality which we call radiation. That word effectively describes the result of soul stimulation upon and within every form. The life of the soul eventually radiates beyond the form and this radiation produces definite and calculated effects. (p.123)

One of the inevitable effects of seventh ray energy will be to relate and weld into a closer synthesis the four kingdoms in nature. This must be done as preparatory to the long fore-ordained work of humanity which is to be the distributing agency for spiritual energy to the three subhuman kingdoms. This is the major task of service which the fourth kingdom, through its incarnating souls, has undertaken. The radiation from the fourth kingdom will some day be so potent and far-reaching that its effects will permeate down into the very depths of the created phenomenal world, even into the mineral kingdom. Then we shall see the results to which the great initiate, Paul, refers when he speaks of the whole creation waiting for the manifestation of the Sons of God. That manifestation is that of radiating glory and power and love. (p.124)

One of the major characteristics of the seventh ray disciple is his intense practicality. He works upon the physical plane with a constant and steady objective in order to bring about results which will be effective in determining the forms of the coming culture and civilisation; towards the end of the seventh ray cycle he will work equally hard to perpetuate what he has brought about. He wields force in order to build the forms which will meet his requirements and does this more scientifically than do disciples on other rays.... [The] failure to work intelligently, and

I would like to add, lovingly with substance and so bring it into right relation with the dense outer form that has made the last two thousand years produce so disastrously a mismanaged world and which has brought the population of the planet into its present serious condition. (pp.126–7)

The keynote, governing the development of the sixth ray disciple, was expressed for him in the words of Christ when He said: “I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men.” The emphasis of all sixth ray [The Ray of Devotion and Idealism] work is Attraction and Repulsion—hence division and cleavage, producing eventually a realisation of the necessity for a consciously undertaken synthesis and integration, mentally motivated and produced. The history of Christianity (which is the history of Europe) will stand illumined if the Law of Attraction and Repulsion is studied in connection with its eventful past. The use and misuse of this law and its constant interpretations in terms of material desire, personal ambitions, and territorial control produced the many schisms and cleavages and will account for much that happened. Under the seventh ray influence, these cleavages will end and synthesis will eventually take place. (p.133)

The keynote of the seventh ray disciple is “Radiatory Activity.” Hence the emergence in world thought of certain new ideas—mental radiation or telepathy, the radiatory use of heat, the discovery of radium. All this connotes seventh ray activity.

The divine principle with which the seventh ray humanity will be mainly concerned is that of life as it expresses itself through the medium of the etheric body. It is for this reason that we find a growing interest in the nature of vitality; the function of the glands is being studied and before long their major function as vitality generators will be noted. Esoterically, they are regarded as externalisations upon the physical plane of force centres in the etheric body and their aliveness or

their lack of activity are indicative of the condition of those centres. The shift of the world interest is also into the realm of economics which is definitely the realm of life sustenance. Much is, therefore, bound to happen in all these spheres of interest, and once the etheric body becomes an established scientific fact and the centres—major and minor—are recognised as the foci of all energy as it expresses itself through the human body upon the physical plane, we shall see a great revolution take place in medicine, in diet and in the handling of daily life activity. This will produce great changes in the mode of work and labour and above everything else in the leisure activities of the race. (pp.133–4)

We are entering a scientific age, but it will be a science which passes out of the impasse which it has now reached and which—having penetrated as it has into the realm of the intangible—will begin to work far more subjectively than heretofore. It will recognise the existence of senses which are super-sensory and which are extensions of the five physical senses.... The moment that the subjective world of causes is proven to exist (and this will come through the indisputable evidence of man's extended senses) science will enter a new era; its focus of attention will change; the possibilities of discovery will be immense and materialism (as that word is now understood) will vanish. Even the word "materialism" will become obsolete and men in the future will be amused at the limited vision of our modern world and wonder why we thought and felt as we did. (pp.134–5)

Three Spiritual Festivals Meetings

The high point in the annual flow of spiritual energies is a potent time to invoke light, love and goodwill on behalf of all humanity.

On the dates and times below, you are invited to join a full moon meditation meeting in person or by tuning in to the simultaneous audio broadcasts.

Venues for physical meetings:

Easter and Christ's Festival

Lucis Trust, 866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 482, New York, NY 10017

Wesak Festival

New York Theosophical Society, 242 E 53rd St, New York, NY 10022

Broadcast

Simultaneous zoom audio broadcasts: www.lucistrust.org/3sf

Easter Festival

Aries full moon meeting, Sunday, 24 March, 3:00pm EDT*

Peak time of full moon, Monday, 25 March, 3:00am EDT

Keynote: I come forth and from the plane of mind, I rule.

Wesak Festival

Taurus full moon meeting, Tuesday, 23 April, 7:00pm EDT

Peak time of full moon, Tuesday, 23 April, 7:49pm EDT

Keynote: I see and when the eye is opened, all is light.

Christ's Festival and Festival of Humanity/Goodwill

Gemini full moon meeting, Wednesday, 22 May, 6:00pm EDT

Peak time of full moon, Thursday, 23 May, 9:53am EDT

Keynote: I recognise my other self and in the waning of that self, I grow and glow.

For a meeting in your area:

www.lucistrust.org/worldwide_network

*EDT: Eastern Daylight Time

Easter Festival: Aries

The spirit of resurrection that characterizes the Easter Festival is generated by a positive spiritual tension which lifts us to the Light, bringing a sense of wonder, upliftment and renewal. As we penetrate this Light, the tension is augmented by the challenges and crises of the times, which bring a real sense of urgency to our spiritual purpose. The living Spirit of God is emphasised at Easter strengthening the central point of life in all beings and drawing all things upward in fulfillment of His Will. It is this energy of resurrection that the worldwide group of servers is now invoking, raising matter into heaven, and lifting hearts and minds ever closer to the wonder and beauty of spiritual destiny.

Easter is a time for this re-energizing process, magnetically overriding self-centered consciousness through the power of the Christ force, the soul within. In the coming era, the eyes and thoughts of men and women will be fixed on life rather than death. The use of the will to bring about this living resurrection is re-enacted for us every Spring when Nature awakens from its winter sleep, its orientation to the light beautifully portrayed with each new sprig of greenery which bursts into life in a display of its ongoing creative triumph. For humanity, the orientation to the light empowers the journey to the true self—the Christ principle that exists at the heart of every human being.

From experience we know how difficult it is to sustain our alignment with the will of the soul and to maintain a state of “livingness” that extends beyond the habitual focus of the personality life. But we persist in this endeavor knowing that every effort counts in the long labor of raising our “lesser self” into the extraordinary Presence who resides, undeterred by time and events, in our higher states of consciousness.

Wesak Festival: Taurus

As we look back over the millennia of human experience we can discern the developing trends of human aspiration and thought—the artistic movements, philosophical understandings, the scientific breakthroughs that adorn human history. These express the evolutionary success of individuals and groups within the human family, all symbolic beacons of light that have illumined the human condition and pointed the way forward for us all.

Now and again extraordinary beings emerge from within the human kingdom whose light outshines all that has gone before. Their influence spans thousands of years and is global in reach. Such a one was the Buddha. He emerged two and a half millennia ago into a society characterised by social upheaval and ardent quests for spiritual truth. He distilled his life experiences into the Four Noble Truths and the revelation of the “Middle Way” to Truth and Buddha-hood. It is this Noble Eightfold Path of right relationships which can lead to the cessation of suffering not just for humanity, but ultimately for our planet and all lives upon it.

Never has the message of the Buddha been more important than now in our times of political upheaval, embattled ideologies, religious extremism and the apparent breakdown of international trust and co-operative relationship. So, the world-wide observance of the Festival of Wesak gives us all a wonderful opportunity to re-vivify His life’s message within the consciousness of the whole human family. It also gives us the opportunity to recognise and affirm that the expression of human goodness and empathy has never been so abundant as now. In our daily lives we can build on this fact as we join all who serve by infusing the mind of humanity with the thoughts which our souls create. We do this not from duty, but from the overflowing wellspring of compassion within each and every one of us.

Christ's Festival: Gemini

The word *festival* has evolved over time and has come to mean a spiritual *holy day* which is celebrated with solemnity, with joy and with a spiritual intensity that penetrates through to its inner significances.

Thus this Festival of the Christ is also known as the Festival of Unification, the Festival of Humanity and of Goodwill. In its most powerful synthetic expression, it is the *Festival of the Spirit of Humanity*.

For Christ represents the highest potential to which each of us can aspire: the perfect unification of the light of matter with the Light of the Soul, and thus the unflawed manifestation of divinity within a human form. As the Spirit of Humanity, He also represents synthesis, transmitting the Will-to-Good to implement divine intention.

At this Festival therefore we celebrate our divine nature. We are invited to observe this Festival subjectively, intelligently, imaginatively, in unison with others around the world. This is the time to acknowledge but leave aside our imperfections, and to focus on our potential to emulate Christ—to be in deep communion with the Divine Will and thus to be a beacon of right relationship and goodwill in the world.

The steady inflow of Divine Light into humanity is constantly offering us opportunities to expand our awareness, to awaken our inner resources and to make higher contact, so that we can progressively move toward our spiritual potential. We know that humanity can be unresponsive to this inflow. We also know that it can be over-responsive to it, using it for selfish ends and material objectives.

Undeterred by these temporary outcomes in the form aspect, we stand united working within the consciousness of the divine soul which underlies all outer events. And at this Festival of the Spirit of Humanity, we invoke, solemnly and joyfully, humanity's highest potential—the unification of matter and spirit within each of us and the manifestation of the Divine Plan on Earth.

World Invocation Day, Thursday, 23 May 2024

This day of focused power and appeal to the Divine has been observed annually since 1952. On this day, countless people around the world sound the Great Invocation with heartfelt intent to invoke spiritual energies of Light, Love and Purpose. Invocation is in reality the intelligent organisation of spiritual energy and of the forces of love. At its heart lies an appeal to the Coming One to return—the One in Whom all major faiths share a belief though they call Him by different names.

Amidst the ongoing crises taking place in humanity and the natural world, each person who sounds the Great Invocation participates in a great energy formula which can bring real and lasting changes in consciousness. Together we invoke Light to reveal the way forward, Love to fill our hearts, and Enlightened Purpose to guide us. These divine energies are abundantly available—we can invoke them now, on behalf of all humanity and for the evolution of a new world.

We invite you to join us in using the Great Invocation on Thursday, 23 May, on World Invocation Day, and every day, for the benefit of all peoples and the restoration of the Plan on Earth.

www.worldinvocationday.org

Translations into other languages are available at
www.greatinvocation.org

The Great Invocation is a world prayer, and when sounded with heartfelt intent, it draws humanity closer to the center of divine love from which the great agents of divinity have, down the ages, come forth. It expresses humanity's need and pierces through all difficulties, doubts, and despairs straight to the Mind and Heart of the One in Whom we live and move and have our being. The true power of this mantram lies in its potential to transform not just the individual consciousness but the consciousness of all humanity, and therefore the planet itself.

The Great Invocation

(adapted)

*From the point of Light within the Mind of God
Let light stream forth into human minds.
Let Light descend on Earth.*

*From the point of Love within the Heart of God
Let love stream forth into human hearts.
May the Coming One return to Earth.*

*From the centre where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide all little human wills –
The purpose which the Masters know and serve.*

*From the centre which we call the human race
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out
And may it seal the door where evil dwells.*

Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.

Meditation: Letting in the Light

I. GROUP FUSION We affirm the fact of group fusion and integration within the heart centre of the new group of world servers, mediating between Hierarchy and humanity:

I am one with my group brothers, and all that I have is theirs.

May the love which is in my soul pour forth to them.

May the strength which is in me lift and aid them.

May the thoughts which my soul creates reach and encourage them.

II. ALIGNMENT We project a line of lighted energy towards the spiritual Hierarchy of the planet, the planetary heart, the great Ashram of Sanat Kumara; and towards the Christ at the heart of Hierarchy.

Extend the line of light towards Shamballa, the centre where the Will of God is known.

III. HIGHER INTERLUDE Hold the contemplative mind open to the extra-planetary energies streaming into Shamballa and radiated through Hierarchy. Using the creative imagination, endeavour to see the three planetary centres—Shamballa, Hierarchy, and Humanity—gradually coming into alignment and interplay.

IV. MEDITATION Reflect on the applicable seed thought:

Easter Festival: *I come forth and from the plane of mind, I rule.*

Wesak Festival: *I see and when the Eye is opened, all is light.*

Christ's Festival: *I recognise my other self and in the waning of that self, I grow and glow.*

V. PRECIPITATION Using the creative imagination, visualise the energies of Light, Love and the Will-to-Good pouring throughout the planet and becoming anchored on Earth in prepared physical plane centres through which the Plan can manifest. (Use the six-fold progression of divine Love as the sequence of energy precipitation—Shamballa/Hierarchy/the Christ/the new group of world servers/men and women of goodwill everywhere in the world/physical centres of distribution.)

VI. LOWER INTERLUDE Refocus the consciousness, as a group, within the periphery of the great Ashram. Together sound the affirmation:

In the centre of all Love I stand. From that centre I, the soul, will outward move. From that centre I, the one who serves, will work. May the love of the divine Self be shed abroad, in my heart, through my group, and throughout the world.

Visualise the downpouring spiritual inflow released from Shamballa through the Hierarchy and streaming into humanity through the prepared channel. Consider how these inpouring energies are establishing the “Pathway of Light” for the coming World Teacher, the Christ.

VII. DISTRIBUTION As the Great Invocation is sounded, visualise the outpouring of Light and Love and Power from the spiritual Hierarchy through the five planetary inlets (London/Darjeeling/New York/Geneva/Tokyo) irradiating the consciousness of the whole human race:

*From the point of Light within the Mind of God
Let light stream forth into the minds of men.
Let Light descend on Earth.*

*From the point of Love within the Heart of God
Let love stream forth into the hearts of men.
May Christ return to Earth.*

*From the centre where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide the little wills of men—
The purpose which the Masters know and serve.*

*From the centre which we call the race of men
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out
And may it seal the door where evil dwells.*

Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.

OM OM OM

Arcane School Conference, 2024

You are warmly invited to attend the Arcane School Conference held by the three centres—New York, Geneva and London. In all locations the conference will be a physical and an online event.

The events will include talks, meditations, visualisation and discussion inspired by the Keynote:

Let the Group dedicate Itself anew to the Service of the Coming One and do all it can to prepare Human Minds and Hearts for that Event. We have no other life intention.

Arcane School Conference, New York

Venue: 3 West Club, 3 W 51st Street, New York, NY 10104

Saturday, 20 April, 2:00pm – 5:00pm EDT*

Sunday, 21 April, 2:00pm – 5:00pm EDT

Arcane School Conference, Geneva

Venue: Université Ouvrière de Genève, Place des Grottes 3, 1201 Geneva

Saturday, 18 May, 1:30pm – 5:30pm CEST* (7:30am – 11:30am EDT)

Sunday, 19 May, 1:30pm – 5:00pm CEST (7:30am – 11:00am EDT)

Arcane School Conference, London

Venue: Lucis Trust, Suite 54, 3 Whitehall Court, London SW1A 2EF

Saturday, 25 May, 2:00pm – 5:30pm BST* (9:00am – 12:30pm EDT)

Sunday, 26 May, 2:00pm – 5:00pm BST (9:00am – 12:00noon EDT)

**EDT: US Eastern Daylight Time; CEST: Central European Summer Time; BST: British Summer Time*

To view all three programs and to register for any of the Zoom events, please go to our website: www.arcaneschool.org/conference



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www.lucistrust.org/3sf

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