

12 June 1967

READING 4

At the Campden House Terrace meeting last Thursday, Mr. Stacey said: 'Is it stupid to ask what practical application we can make from a Study of Cosmozes?' Not stupid: the sort of question we ought to keep asking. But it's not quite a fair question! It's like asking what practical application we can make from a study of physics? But it took twenty-five centuries from the time when the Greek philosophers Leucippus and Democritus at Miletus in Asia Minor had the first idea of Atomic Theory, before technology caught up enough to make physics 'practical' all the way from atomic energy to washing machines! And it has taken just over fifty-one years since the idea of Cosmozes was first given to the West in Moscow, for some of us to prove to ourselves even that *there are in fact only seven cosmozes in the Universe!*

But although we have not yet made the teaching on Cosmozes practical in that sense, yet from the very start it can be made practical in another sense – as a *mental* washing machine! For it is impossible for the small personal ego to think profitably about cosmozes; and it is perhaps the best way to work on the Causal level and expand the mind from the particular to the Universal.

It is quite possible that the Teaching on Cosmozes took definite shape in the sixth century BC in the countries bordering on the Eastern Mediterranean – Asia Minor, Greece, Alexandria and Agrigentum in Sicily. At any rate the seven cosmozes retain their Greek names. But I want to leave these ancient labels for the moment and start from what we can discover for ourselves in the light of current knowledge 'about a *succession of worlds, contained one within the other and related, each to the next, as zero to infinity*'.

We know that each of us has a body, related to many other species of Organic Life on earth, all governed by definite Laws of time and size and made out of a certain kind of matter which we call 'cells'. Let us for the moment call this whole Biosphere or world of cellular bodies the 3rd or *Tritocosmos*. But we are taught by our System that only man, as the Self-creative species of Organic Life, is capable of full Realization of all the possibilities of Organic Life, and that he can do this by virtue – not of his body, but of his Consciousness. So let us take the basic unit, the *Microcosmos* as the essence of *Man* as the Self-Creative Being, the goal of all the experiments in the Great Laboratory of Organic Life on earth.

Man then, (the Microcosm) is related to the cosmos next in size, as zero to infinity, for not only has he a thousand million cells in his brain alone, but he is just one of an infinite number of distinct species in Organic Life on earth. Each species commensurate with Man in size and in duration is said to belong to Man's cosmos – the Microcosm. So you see a 'cosmos' is on a very big scale indeed.

Everything that has been so far possible for the (as yet) imperfect species *Homo sapiens*, is included in the Microcosm. But the visible cell contains within itself another world, still partly invisible, which is composed of a finer kind of matter – molecular matter. Moreover this kind of matter is under wholly different 'laws', for whereas cells are held up by porcelain filters, molecules can pass through even the finest filters; whereas cells are easily visible with the ordinary light

microscopes, it requires 'electron microscopes' to see even bundles of molecules; whereas cells live only a few days, the germinal material with its specific DNA formula lasts as long as a species – perhaps three million years. Looking outward we see that the Planets are also composed of molecular matter and under suitable conditions can give birth to Organic Life; and so as a hypothesis we refer to this Molecular world as the cosmos next in size – the *Mesocosmos*, or Middle Cosmos. But we must realise we are bound to remain profoundly ignorant of the extent of this Middle Cosmos, for owing to the relatively small size of a planet or even of a whole system of planets, we are totally unaware of the existence of any other planetary systems in the Starry World. Moreover, since this Molecular world is two cosmoses away from the Microcosm, we are woefully ignorant even of our own planetary system, and unable to see that it is 'a living being' which (in the words of the Teaching) 'lives, breathes, thinks, feels, is born and dies'. But owing to the recent discoveries of molecular chemistry, that is of the self-reproducing molecule as the basis of life, we are in a far better position than we were in understanding of the kind of matter of which it is composed.

But the Middle or Molecular World contains, and is contained within, an infinitely greater world, the Starry World composed of matter in the atomic state. The interior of a hot star like our Sun is forging helium and other elements out of primal hydrogen through atomic transformations, and in so doing has created a field of high-powered particles in its vicinity, big enough to produce perturbations in the stars which are its closest neighbours. Let us call this world of a star with its component atomic material the *Deutercosmos* – or Second Cosmos. You will soon see why it was given this name by Higher Mind all those centuries ago.

But as we try to count the stars we see on a clear night, we are amazed to learn that all those separate stars are atoms in a spiral nebula which we call our Milky Way. We can well believe that such a nebula belongs to the world called '*Macrocosmos*' or Great Cosmos; that the 'cosmic dust' in it which obscures the field of our biggest telescopes is composed of atoms or ions of hydrogen and finer matter still, and that the 'ultimate particles' of the Cosmic Rays probably stem from our nebula and others like it. We have learnt that our Milky Way not only is the habitat of stars at all stages of their life history (red giants, blue giants, white dwarfs, binary systems, etc.), but also contains a regular system of nests or 'star clusters' near the plane of the Galaxy, wherein it is said, new stars are incubated.

So now we have begun to think about five cosmoses, each contained within another – the small World, the Third World, the Middle World, the Second World and the Great World, and that the old phrase 'Microcosm reflects Macrocosm' is indeed oversimplified. We begin to see that the Relativity Equation 'Action = Energy multiplied by Duration, changes in value as we go up the scale of cosmoses.

But we cannot stop even here, for the great telescopes have revealed that some of the so-called 'stars' we can see with the naked eye, are not stars at all, but are really other galaxies like our Milky Way – one of the nearest being the Andromeda Nebula in Orion. In fact, countless similar galaxies have already been mapped, but owing to the curvature of the Universe we shall never observe more than a proportion of them. Besides this, galaxies have been observed to be connected into groups or Supra-galaxies; and moreover radio telescopes have proved the existence of strange energy emission sources so far away as to be scarcely visible through the most

powerful optical telescopes. So we begin to realise that there must be a 'Nebular Universe' composed of them all together and this was called the '*Hagiocosmos* (pronounced Ayo-), the Holy Cosmos', also named in our System the 'Eternal Unchangeable'.

And still we have not reached the Creator of the Universe, Brahma, the First or *Protocosmos*. For it would be very unscientific to suppose that all those galaxies formed and arranged themselves without a common origin and Master-plan. It would be like saying that all the cars we see today evolved themselves and sent themselves off the production lines without any other agency at all! So this seventh cosmos is the greatest of all, containing and being contained by all the others.

So much for an elementary statement of the main idea of the Teaching on Cosmoses. But perhaps I can hear Mr. Stacey still saying: 'Well, but what "practical application can we make from a study of cosmoses"?' The first stage in any true Knowledge is the general philosophical conception. Next must come precise measurements and a working hypothesis which assembles the data and compares one cosmos with another making the correct divisions; classifies all the branches of science which, in fact, fit inevitably into this scheme; and so on. Now belonging to the Teaching on Cosmoses is the Symbol of the Enneagram (the blueprint or plan of any cosmos), which enables one to do all this with absolute precision, to fill in the gaps, correct mistakes and make predictions of future discoveries. But I expect Mr. Stacey would agree that we can't do all this all this at once!

Now after 30 years, I can say that we are much nearer to that than we might think. For with the Meditation, in any successful half-hour, we *can* pass through three cosmoses to a fourth (the Cosmos of Sun), and in rare moments of Expansion of Consciousness even beyond that.

Only we must systematically use the Teaching on Cosmoses for work on the third or Causal level (remembering that the aphorism 'as above so below' refers to cosmoses), just as in the Meditation or the Mukabeleh or the Movements a transformation at the Subtle level is being made. So although 'Knowledge begins and ends with the Teaching on Cosmoses', yet by studying this Teaching in the right way we are changing our level of Being also and working *towards* 'Immortality within the limits of the Solar System'.

* * *

