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CONNELL – DE LOTBINIÈRE GROUP

INTRODUCTION TO COSMIC LAWS

To anyone who looks impartially at the 'Creation' and who has a sufficiently all-embracing view, this 'world of appearances' appears truly to be ever-changing and utterly chaotic. It is the 'creation' of the human mind from sensory data extended by technology which merely enlarges it to include innumerable galaxies receding at tremendous speeds, or reduces it to 'ultimate particles' of infinitely short existence. Physics (which really means the 'study of Natural laws'), is as much in the doldrums as it was when it started in Europe among the early Greek philosophers about 25 centuries ago; in the absence of 'Consciousness' it describes a random universe governed entirely by chance; this is merely ignorance.

Wise men have, from time to time, faced up to this Reality. Solomon, who reigned between 970 and 931 BC, is supposed to have said:

The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.

Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity.

What profit hath a man of all his labour which he taketh under the sun?

One generation passeth away, and another generation cometh: but the earth[by comparison] abideth for ever.

(Ecclesiastes 1:1-4)

Contemporary followers of the Buddha Gautama (who lived rather later) wrote this:

Look about you and contemplate life. Everything is transient, and nothing endures. There is birth and death, growth and decay; there is combination and separation.

The glory of the world is like a flower; it stands in full bloom in the morning and fades in the heat of the day.

Wherever you look, there is a rushing and a pushing, an eager pursuit of pleasures, a panic flight from pain and death. The world is vanity fair, and hot are the flames of burning desires.

Amid all these changes and transformations, is there nothing permanent in the world? Is there in the universal turmoil, no resting place where the troubled heart can find peace?

Is there nothing durable? Is there no cessation of anxiety? Can the burning desires not be extinguished? When shall the mind become tranquil and composed?

You who long for Eternal life, know that immortality is hidden in transiency. You who yearn for riches, receive treasures which last for ever. Truth is wealth, and a life of truth is a happy one.

Truth knows neither birth nor death; it has no beginning and no end. Hail the Truth. Establish the Truth in your mind, for the Truth is the image of the Eternal; it portrays the unchanging and reveals the everlasting; the Truth gives to mortals the boon of immortality.

(*The Gospel of Buddha*, compiled by Paul Carus)

What then is Truth? The Truth expressed by the Tradition of the Meditation is that the only permanent reality is Pure Consciousness, and all the rest is a magic show put on by what we would call our psycho-sensory apparatus.

For in and out, above, about, below,
 Tis nothing but a Magic Shadow-show,
 Play'd in a Box whose Candle is the Sun,
 Round which we Phantom Figures come and go.
 (Omar Khayyam)

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Only when one has fully faced up to this reality, is one prepared to learn! The Truth begins with the knowledge of the universal (Cosmic) Laws. One, which is called the *Law of Octaves*, states that all events repeat in cycles, small cycles within larger ones. The second, called the *Law of Three Forces* (the 'Trinity' of all true religions), shows the way to turn repetitive phenomena into profit.

Both these laws lie within the domain of Number – the way both the brains of living beings and the Universal Mind of Nature count everything that is countable.

Primitive counting systems are decimal – based on the number 10, probably due to counting on the ten fingers – beginning with 1, the numbers go in digits, tens, hundreds, thousands, etc., each cycle repeating in units larger (or smaller).

The Law of Octaves is conveniently expressed in the *sol-fa* musical notation, with 'intervals' or stages where the cycle tends to slow down, change direction or die away. Human affairs exhibit many 'broken octaves'; only in cosmic cycles are these intervals overcome by Consciously applied 'shocks' given by means of the three forces. The cycles go in two directions, ascending (increasing) or descending (decreasing) in frequency, duration and magnitude. Try to express this, and you'll find that the only way to include it all in a single comprehensible picture, is by means of a *circle of 9 points*, which (in its simplest form) looks like this:

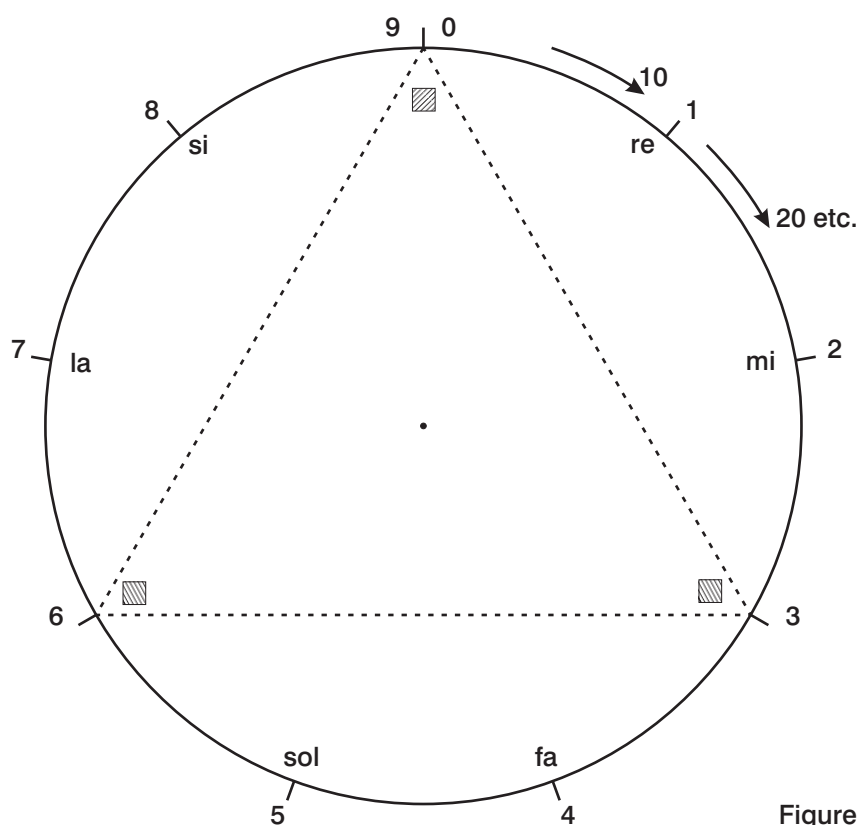
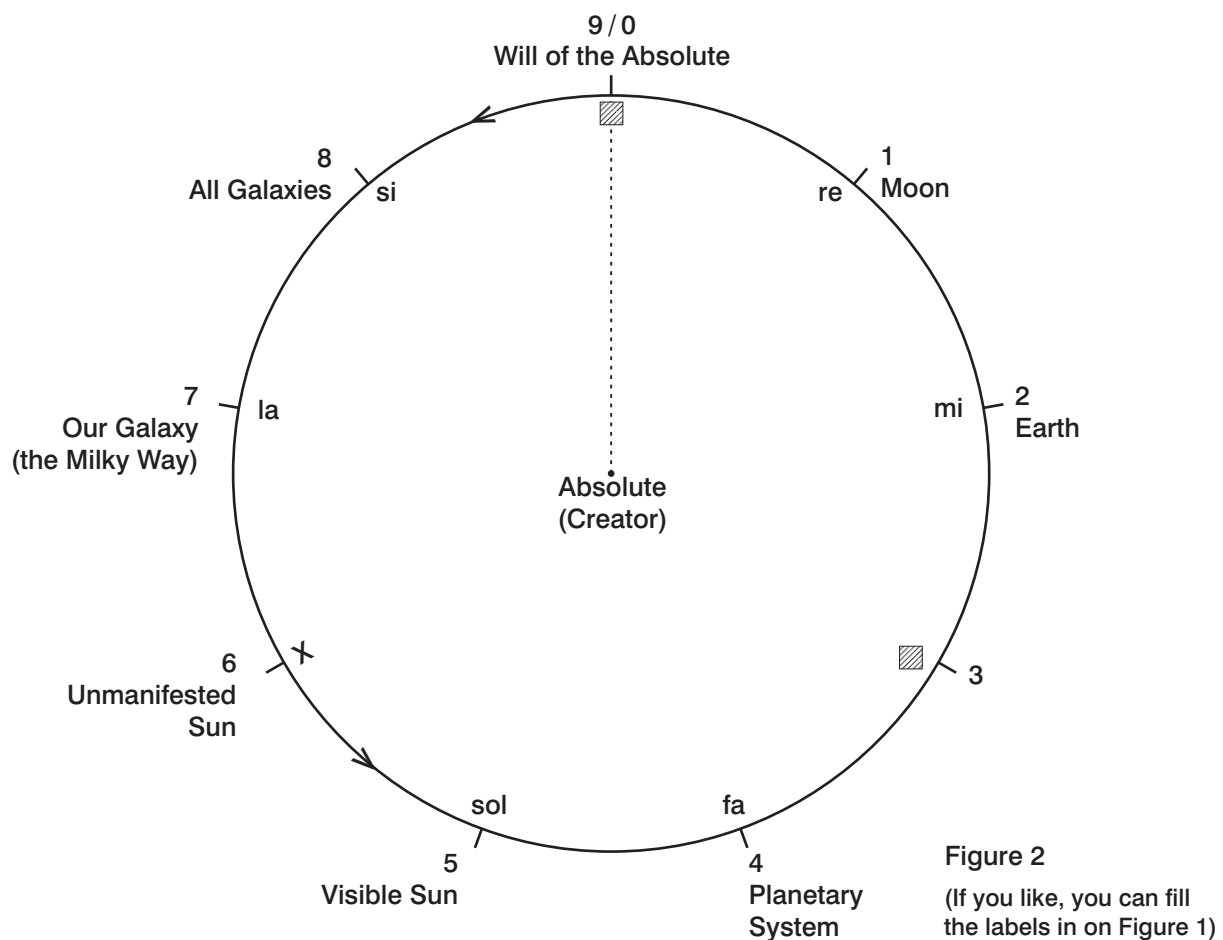


Figure 1

At the points 3 and 9 are the two ‘intervals’, and the point 6 is the place where the additional impetus is prepared in order to pass those intervals, whether in an ascending or descending system of octaves.

Having been so carefully trained by Mr. Ouspensky in the application of the two cosmic Laws and the use of this Universal Symbol, it should not perhaps have come as a surprise when in comparing notes with the Shankaracharya nearly thirty years later, I found that he recognised the same two cosmic Laws and used the same Symbol.

Our Western System had described a ‘Ray of Creation’ – a descending octave set in motion by the Will of the Absolute:



The Interval at the point 3 is passed by the creation of the Biosphere – Organic Life on Earth.

During the first series of talks I had with the Shankaracharya, I gave him a statement of the framework of our Western System which, of course, had to be translated into Hindi, and his answer translated back into English. It was:

S. The two sets of laws – the laws of three and the laws of seven – are exactly as your System says...

In relation to Self-realization he spoke about the Law of Three and relates it to the three Gunas. He says that of the three, two of them in this case are the poles (Sattva and Tamas) and Rajas is the interaction of Sattva with Tamas. This simply goes on like the three Times, of which he says that the Present is the interaction of the Past with the

Future – the Future is continuously becoming the Past through the forces of what we call the 'Present'.

He then went on to speak of the other Cosmic Law and gave us an example of an *ascending* octave in the form of what he called 'Seven Steps to Self-realization'. You can write in the labels: Centre point 'I' or Atman, who exerts his Will to give the 'good impulse' at Point 1 (the arrows going the other way). Probably they have already heard a description of the 'Ladder'.

You could conclude the meeting by saying: 'You may perhaps discover that over all these years, nothing is ever put into the weekly material which is not derived from and checked with the Universal Symbol. Only in that way can one be sure of speaking the Truth.'

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