

28 February 1972

READING 4

We thought it would interest everybody to read the reactions of our newest group (taken by the de Lotbinières and Dr. A. Connell at Colet House, February 24th) to the material of Reading 3 which you all had last week. At the start, of course, the diagram of Cosmoses was put up and a short explanation of the idea of Cosmoses was given.

A little of Reading 3 (about the Earth) was read:

Mr. C. Is it a new idea that the Earth is changing shape? I thought it was known long ago.

[Not all that new, but it is the first time that the researches of the last two decades have been put altogether for the general reader.]

There was very general interest and conversation about the changing face of the earth, etc. Mrs. F. spoke of the feeling of movement and of Time she felt when on the volcanic island of Thera in the Aegean, which is supposed to have given rise to the story of Atlantis (confirmed by Calder). Then there was meditation, more reading of Part 1, followed by these questions:

Mrs. C. It makes man seem very important.

Mlle R. What are we doing here on Earth?

Mr. C. I am reminded of what Pascal said: 'Man is but a reed, but a thinking reed'.

Mrs. F. Man-like apes turning into ape-like men... what makes the difference and how? We recognise but can't define it.

Miss G. It seems man has not been able to latch on to the pattern or system yet, but perhaps each year we get nearer to what is going on?

Miss V. You can look into yourself for the answer. One can liken one's body to the physical body of the earth... due to subtle influences outside and inside... yet all this moves.

When one is asked to pray to the Param-Atman one has the feeling this is the only place where there is stillness, less disturbance.

Miss L. Man is just part of the pattern somehow – one gets this feeling – the inner part belongs to the permanent part and the physical part to the physical world.

Miss V. The Self has always been.

Mlle R. We began like apes, but we are not yet complete.

Miss H. Is there a divine spark in man which the ape has not got?

Mlle. R. Every being must have a spark – plants and everything has this?

Mrs. C. From this reading by Nigel Calder one feels that man has not got a divine spark.

Miss F. I am confused as to when logical mind is applicable and when one should try for higher mind... Is higher mind something outside oneself... one's understanding?

Miss G. Scientists and geologists use logical explanations – and this book comes through logical reasoning – but are some discoveries helped by something else? What is genius?

Mrs. F. What is meant by each cosmos being three-dimensional for itself? What does the word ‘dimension’ mean?

Miss V. What would you see observing from the Mesocosmos?

Mrs. F. Very often one starts with a physical impression of a person; then it can be superseded by a psychological impression and perhaps then one goes deeper. In great paintings one can see more than the physical. The 16th century paintings do not deal with personality as happens several hundred years later.

Mrs. C. Brain cells are not reborn, are they?

Mr. C. Man-like apes, ape-like men: the author just states this as a fact without any evidence.

Miss L. Did man get this far before? Why are we the only ones to prove that earthquakes, etc., are not wrathful acts of God? Historical time is so short?

Mrs. F. Was there a time when evil was seen as part of the concept of goodness?... one concept seen from different points of view?

Mrs. C. Does this quotation from Calder not give the opposite point of view from the *New Model of the Universe*? Is it Dr. Roles’s opinion? Is what is written in this paper what he believes?

Mr. C. Reducing the time of the earth to clock-time, is this what Dr. Roles is suggesting we do? This is a method of exploring, we can use this idea? Dr. Roles does not endorse the book; he just suggests the method?

Mrs. F. It is frightening that this book is sold out – so much attention is paid nowadays to the physical level.

If the architect’s plan is in Hagiocosmos we are so far away. Can we ever get a glimpse of it? Or doesn’t it matter?

Miss G. Trying to discover something in ourselves. I would like something to do during the week – it’s lovely coming on Thursdays, but I need something during the week.

Suggestion from Miss I. about remembering the Param-Atman, and from Dr. Connell to think of levels and scale in relation to the diagram.

Mrs. F. Can one think of just part of the diagram? I might find this easier?

Mrs. C. Why is Protocosmos written inside instead of outside?

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NOTE: All the people in this group are meditators and their questions are probably just what you and I would want to ask. It is so much more important to *ask questions* than to invent answers, that we hope these will help you to find the very questions which could lead us out of the contemporary human dilemma – but begin with your own doubts, if any!

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