

15 March 1973

MEETING FOR NEW PEOPLE AT COLET HOUSE

It seems evident that the idea of levels and of scale proves difficult when we hear it for the first time. May one refer those of you who are very new to the preface of *A New Model of the Universe*, 1934 edition, in which different levels of thought are explained and also the idea that the psychological mind develops a method of distinguishing between different levels of thinking and of realising that perceptions change according to the powers and properties of the perceiving apparatus?

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At a public address on 29th January 1973, H.H. began like this:

As compared with the huge size of the Universe we live in, this human body of ours is like a speck of dust. Compared to the unlimited attributes of the Param-Atman, our mind is like a drop in the ocean, and the problem before us is how to tackle such a great idea with such little means. A hopeless business. But hope comes from the saying that 'God helps those who help themselves', which is fortunately true. The real cause of our failure is not the inadequacy of the means at hand, but the inadequacy of our determination. Provided the determination is strong enough, even small efforts can achieve great results, because on seeing the unbeatability of determination, the heart of Param-Atman melts and He Himself comes to our help.

In order to appreciate the unlimited attributes of the Param-Atman mentioned above, we should take a look at our Universe.

We live on this tiny earth, an insignificant planet in the only planetary system we have a means of knowing, and its even smaller satellite, the moon, is the only point outside the earth in the entire Universe that man has actually visited; but the earth is just one unit of its system of planets which revolves with the utmost regularity round the central Sun which is just an average star in the millions of stars in our Milky Way, and this Milky Way is only one of the uncountable spiral nebulae which make up the manifest Universe which can be listened to as well as seen by our latest instruments. But this manifest Universe is obviously built on a single plan – all one whole – the manifested aspect of what can be called the Absolute or Param-Atman. This outward aspect of the Universe can help to give us an idea of the immense scale compared to which our body is a speck of dust.

But the wonderful thing is that seen spiritually, this unbounded Param-Atman lives in all of us and we have only to convince ourselves of this fact in order to keep turning towards this immense source of energy instead of wallowing in our own doubts and dilemmas. The repetition of this big Universe is almost inconceivable but on the scale of the Solar System the same Laws and plan can be seen.

And so it is to the Solar System or Lateral Octave as it is called that we turn in order to find man's place in the Universe.

The Lateral Octave starts in the Unmanifested Sun above the level of the Manifest Sun which we see in the sky, and here is the source of all Creation. Creation is a continuous process which illustrates the laws of a descending octave. We can think of the note Si in relation to the

idea of the Great Laboratory described in the *New Model*. The notes La-Sol-Fa are described as Organic Life on Earth – the Biosphere which includes man himself. Mi represents dead organic matter which enters the earth's surface, and Re, the final note, is the matter which goes to feed the moon.

In this octave is created the possibility of development. Thus man, if he can be regarded as a seed, has in himself the possibility of growth. He is not only what he looks; there is something which cannot be seen in him – the possibility of development.

(P. D. Ouspensky *A Record of Meetings*, 3 February 1938)

The moon controls all the fluids in the body, tides, etc; is the weight on the pendulum of a clock; is embryonic; its geology quite different.

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