

6 June 1974

## READING 6a

## A NEW ORIENTATION CONTD.

We can't spend time at the moment on the implications of the diagrams in Reading 6 in theoretical physics, though they are very interesting and suggestive. Those equipped and interested in the subject can re-read Eddington's *Space, Time and Gravitation*, Chapter 9, 1935 edition; or a recent book like *The Nature of Matter*, 1972 (especially Chapter 4, and the last one called 'Summing Up') by Otto Frisch, a pupil of Niels Bohr, and the present Director of Research in high energy physics at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge.

For us, moments of clear reflections of Consciousness are measured by *intensity* and *duration*, as represented by successive circles at given distances from the Centre. The Ladder of Self-realization consists in moving along one or other line of 'Now' from an outer circle where a 'good impulse' is feeble and short-lived, towards an inner circle, such as Samadhi or Turiya. The less said about that the better – it just needs practising, but an amusing little story which reached me today from one of our New York group illustrates this point:

From Mrs. B.T. (1st June, 1974) 'You will enjoy a story I heard the other day. It is very much connected with "giving-up":

There was a holy man (or 'clergyman' in the Protestant vernacular) walking along a dusty road on an extremely hot, uncomfortable day. He was feeling very low and having doubts about many things, when, all of a sudden, St. Peter appeared before him on a magnificent white stallion complete with a shiny golden saddle. The clergyman – somewhat awed by this vision – looked longingly at the stallion, expressing his great desire to possess it.

St. Peter told him that he could certainly have the white stallion if he could honestly and sincerely pray, and keep only God in his mind and heart for one full minute.

Well, the clergyman was chuckling inside himself, thinking how easy this would be, and so he began to pray. Sure enough, 15 seconds went by, 30 seconds, 40 seconds..., and after 45 seconds, he looked up and said, 'Can I have the golden saddle too?'

\* \* \*

