

19 May 1975

READING 3

SUBTLE ASPECT OF CREATION

We are all thrilled by the interest (and intelligence!) shown, often by quite new people, in the System diagram of Creation. But, of course, we are bewildered when we try and think *which* of your questions should be answered first!

We must keep that feeling of *wonder* at the miraculous world we inhabit without realising it. To get and keep that wonder we have to devote ourselves to one idea – the Pure Consciousness (Param-Atman), and the union of Love and true Knowledge (which is the very Nature of that Consciousness) will bring and keep the wonder.

As the Shankaracharya said once to the multitudes at the annual religious Festival at the confluence of the great rivers Ganges and Yamuna:

The flow of this great civilisation is directed towards this confluence both physically and Spiritually and its basis is Union (Yoga). Yoga means union by fire; man uniting with Consciousness is Yoga; a discipline uniting with the Guru is Yoga; a man and a girl uniting in wedlock is Yoga; Yoga is fulfilled only when the uniting persons never separate...

Next, he said that Consciousness pervades all objects, whether living or non-living. Therefore everything is Conscious and nothing is Jada (lifeless – senseless). Any natural object like a tree or a crystal can teach you so much (only, of course, if you have the will to learn) that you could find yourSelf face to face with the Ultimate Reality, the Absolute.

(Record, 1 February 1970)

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So, tonight, we should start with the Diagram of Creation (overleaf) in a fuller form and then see if your questions can be answered from it.

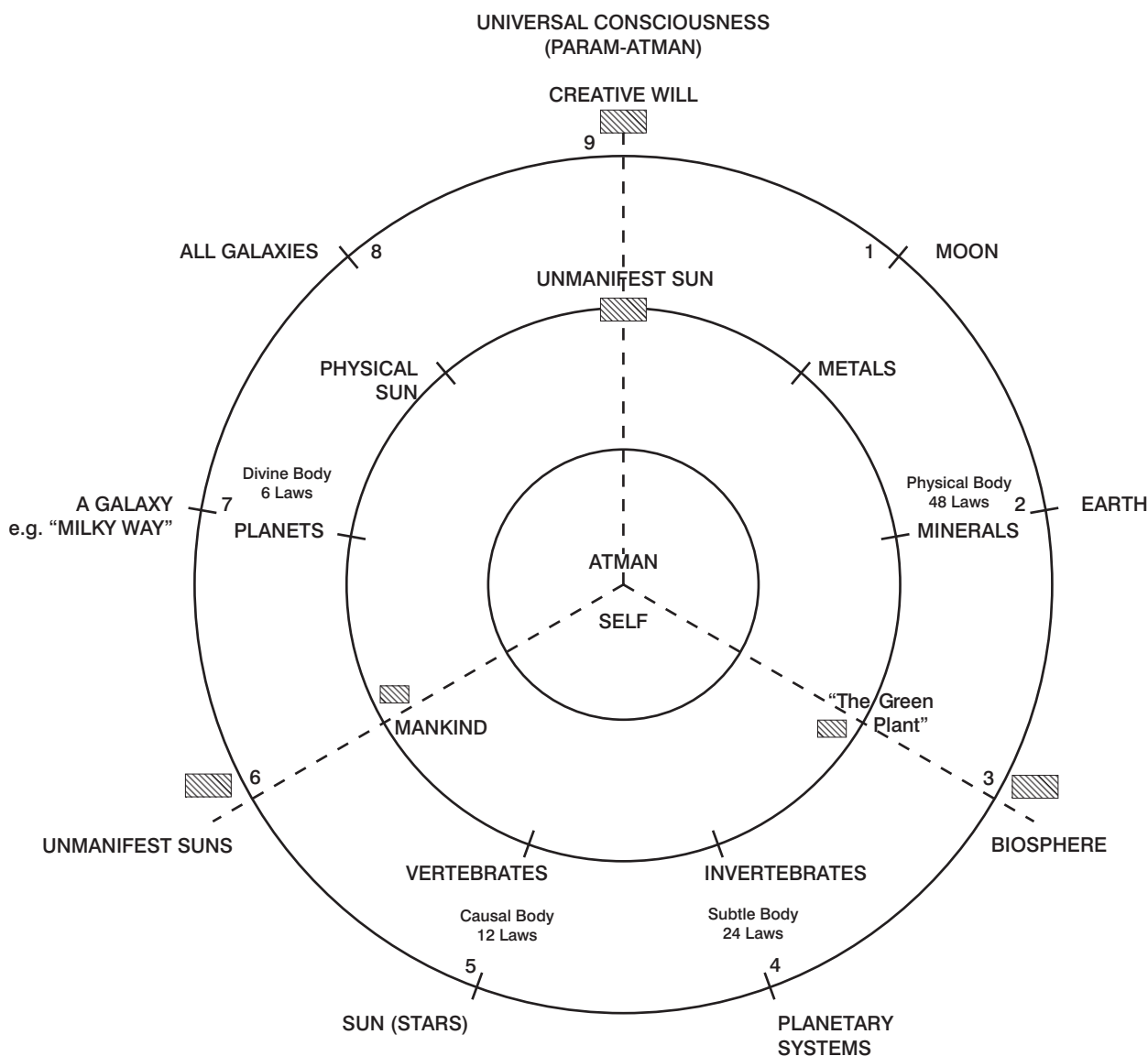
First, there are three levels from which to look at it – physical, subtle and causal. Only the physical is subject to ordinary time and magnitude, and velocity and mass, to the approach, that is, of the physical sciences.

The subtle aspect can be seen psychologically – in oneself, and from the Causal aspect everything is Now, everything is One.

We put the universe as a Whole (the Macrocosm) round a big circle with its 6 fixed points and 3 ‘intervals’. Then inside that, a smaller circle, where the *same* points and intervals can be felt psychologically both within and outside oneself. And finally, the innermost circle, where there are no divisions, for everything is under only one Power – the Atman in each of us, which is the *same* as the Param-Atman or Consciousness of the Solar System and of the whole Universe.

Concentrating on that middle circle we realise what was meant by the Sufi Saint who put these words into the mouth of Allah:

I was unmanifest and I wanted to manifest, so I created Man that I should become manifest.



[**Note:** In presenting this diagram, would you please at first leave out the labels at the 3 intervals on each circle; putting in those labels as you come to the places in the Reading where they are described. It would be good if people asked themselves the question, ‘What, from common knowledge, could be thought to bridge those intervals.’

Remember that it is central Consciousness on which every point depends. The outer circle is a descending octave taken counter-clockwise; while the middle circle is an ascending ladder going clockwise each day.]

So we label the top interval (point 9) 'Unmanifest Sun' (for we cannot be directly conscious of anything further and bigger than that), and the second interval (point 6) as 'Mankind'. And we remember that Nietzsche's Zarathustra said:

I teach you the superman. Man is something that has to be surmounted. What have you done to surmount man?...

Even the wisest of you is but a discord, and hybrid of plant and phantom.

Man is a rope over an abyss. A dangerous crossing, a dangerous wayfaring, a dangerous looking back, a dangerous trembling and halting.

What is great in man is that he is a bridge and not a goal...

(Quoted in *A New Model*, 2nd Edition, p.116)

So man at point 6 was designed to be the Regent of the Biosphere instead of a careless waster of its riches. At point 5 we place the Vertebrate, and at point 4 the Invertebrate kingdoms. Then comes an 'interval' at point 3, which separates the 'Organic' from the 'inorganic' matter of minerals and metals (points 2 and 1), which make up the earth's crust. What bridged the gap at point 3? The scientists tell us that it was the green plant which converts carbon dioxide and water (by the agency of sunlight) into oxygen and sugar without which animal life could not exist. And, vice versa, when any organic matter 'dies,' its body goes into those deposits of coal and oil which give the Earth its heat and energy. That we know, but our System says further that the Moon is a big electromagnet which attracts ('feeds on') metals and grows thereby, at the same time exerting its own gravitational influence on the biosphere. The 'tides' are due to the three forces from Sun, Earth and Moon, and this applies to all the water in our bodies as well as to the oceans and rivers.

Nothing is accidental in Creation. Everything is the result of Consciousness working through the great law of Cause and Effect. The Shankaracharya assures us that it is only ignorance that ascribes *anything* in the world to chance.

[Pause for breath, and then for questions!]

Finally, we have to take the three kingdoms – Man, Vertebrates and Invertebrates *psychologically* rather than physically. Each of us has a threefold nervous system – Voluntary, Autonomic and Segmental; we are *at the same time*, man, sheep and worm. Again Nietzsche echoed this:

You have made your way from worm to man, and much is still in you of the worm.

Once ye were apes, and even yet is man more of an ape than any of the apes.

(*Thus Spake Zarathustra*)

For the worm (invertebrate) in each of us is that 'one-dimensional' mind that is blind, can only move along a line and is at the mercy of any passing bird! To qualify to be a vertebrate (like a sheep) we have to give up our self-will to the Will of the Shepherd. Jesus (whom we can now regard mystically as an incarnation of that 'Unmanifest Sun') used this symbolism frequently (as in St. John 10: 27):

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of My hand.

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