The Ray of Creation — 1

The System follows ancient traditions, Judaic, Vedic and Hermetic for instance, which say in their various ways that 'man is made in the image of God' — 'the universal and the individual are not different' — 'as above, so below'— 'the microcosm reflects the macrocosm'.

How can this be, and how can we know it? It would certainly seem difficult to demonstrate such axioms by looking at ourselves individually, or even at mankind in general. The System suggests we must start by looking at the large scale, to establish a clear view of the forest before we begin examining the trees. We need to discern the general laws that apply to everything before we attempt to categorise the particular.

The System conceives 'the Absolute' as infinite and unknowable, beyond space and time, beyond knowledge or sense — and yet immanent, omnipresent, always available. From this *unknowable* unity the Absolute emanates pure consciousness, which can, by definition, *be known*, — a 'Ray of Creation' to produce a series of worlds of increasing diversity — the Creation, from atoms to starry nebulae and everything in between. (*See diagram*)

The first step of the Creation is said to be a division into three separate forces. If it were only two, these would merely cancel each other out. The Absolute divides itself into a fundamental Holy Trinity, three manifestations of pure consciousness at the heart of creation from which all else proceeds automatically.

What are these fundamental three forces? Father, Son and Holy Ghost in one canon, Knowledge, Consciousness and Bliss, in another. Or the 'seed syllable', the sounding of which commences the Creation. As we are, we cannot know *what* they are and so we use only general labels, positive, negative and neutralising, the three forces required to create and maintain an 'atom'.

The Indian system calls these three fundamental forces the three 'Gunas', sattva, rajas and tamas. As is said in the *Mahabharata*, 'The unmanifest Absolute, by means of the six unions of the gunas (sixfold yoga of gunas) transforms itself into hundreds and thousands and millions and millions of forms.'

These three emanating 'vibrations' of the Absolute can combine in six different ways (and also in one incomprehensible way where each force occupies all three places simultaneously). In this way the Law of Seven or octaves arises and from here on the process becomes mechanical. At level six are said to arise Time, Space and Mechanicalness as the mechanism whereby spirit enters matter; here, in our own terms of perception, infinite unity shines out into infinite diversity.

The Law of Three creates every phenomenon, every event. Three components, or a 'triad' of forces are required for anything to exist, for anything to happen. The Law of Seven controls the succession, development and relationship of events, *in time*. A sufficient understanding of these two fundamental laws of the universe is said to contain *all knowledge* — everything that human beings can know about themselves and the world around them.

The Ray of Creation also shows another meaning of the principle of *relativity*. Each level has its own scale of time and space, and its own scale of free-will and consciousness. These things are not universally the same as we might wish to believe, but are defined according to their position *in relation* to the Absolute, pure consciousness. It is clear that, for instance, a worm, a sheep and a human being have very different measures of time and space and consciousness.

Each successive level of the creation (the levels refer to both energy and materiality) is formed by a doubling of the rate of vibration of the level above. Twice as many 'laws' arise at each level. This is a musical relationship. If we take a musical octave, *Do, Re, Mi, Fa, Sol, La, Si, Do*, the second 'Do' is double the rate of vibration of the first.

The highest levels are the most energetic and the least materially dense. As the combinations of the original three forces proliferate, becoming more and more complex and forming more and more 'orders of laws', so new levels unfold down the scale, the energy becoming always coarser and slower until matter solidifies into 'elements' to become the physical level, one note before the end of the process.

Each level exists as a 'world' in its own right, with successively doubling statutes of laws determining its form and its scale of time. Each level, or world, is a *living being* wholly containing all the worlds beneath it and wholly contained in the world above, each with its own measure of will and consciousness. Just as in a human being, there are more microorganisms living in the intestinal tract than there are cells in our whole body.

We can only see 'life' within our own range of perception, the range of energy of the world of which we form a part. The vast scale of space and time of higher worlds precludes our knowing them as living beings, unless we can extend our range of perception.

This is not as unlikely as it may sound. Through all these worlds runs a central core of the undiluted pure consciousness of the Absolute and the System shows that the way to discover it in THIS world is to be silent and enter the still dimension of any moment of 'now' where Knowledge, Consciousness and Bliss are eternally present.

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