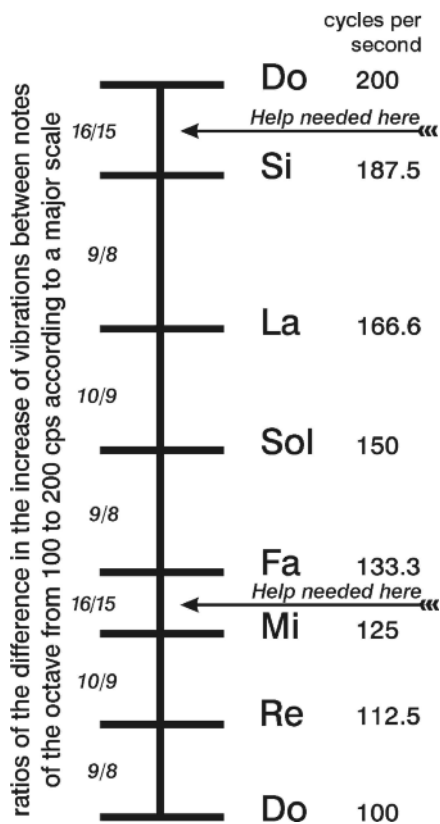


## Ray of Creation — 2. Octaves.

Before we can understand more exactly how a human being really is a miniature reflection of the whole cosmos we need to understand something more of the Law of Seven, or Octaves. The fundamental three forces of the Absolute can combine in only 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 which determines the succession, development and relationship of phenomena and events in time.



In order to understand this Law it is necessary to regard the universe as consisting of vibrations. These vibrations proceed in all kinds and densities of the matter which constitutes the universe from the finest to the coarsest.

An octave is a period of vibrations in which the rate of vibration exactly doubles. Anything that vibrates can be described in terms of octaves; sound, light, heat, electro-magnetism etc. There is a similarity, or a concordant relationship between the vibrations at the beginning and end of an octave. The periodic table of elements demonstrates this to some degree (it was originally named the 'law of octaves') showing a similarity of function at increasing degrees of complexity at successive levels or periods.

The octave relationship is the basis of harmony, the harmony of music and light — in fact the essential harmony of the whole creation. It is also the basis of the principle of worlds within worlds; quite different yet *similar* phenomena appear in corresponding positions at different levels.

An octave, like any scale of vibrations can go up or down, but in neither direction is it a smooth progression. The notes, or steps, between the beginning and the end of an octave are unevenly spaced because the impetus to proceed is variable; the rate of increase of vibrations from note to note is not equal. Consequently octaves can run out of steam and not complete themselves at all, or they can get there with some help. The help is required in two places, and in the System these places where the impetus to proceed falters are called 'intervals'. (This is not to be confused with musical intervals which refer to the relationship between different notes).

For a process to complete itself and come to a successful conclusion some extra energy is needed at two particular places in the scale. Many things we try to do falter and stop after a while from lack of the right energy to keep them going. Being present, and being still, for

instance. After only a short time we find we are doing something else entirely. Understanding how octaves work can help us see what we really need to take things further.

We simply do not know how to overcome the resistance that so often arises and deflects a chosen course of action. Let's say we set out to accomplish some difficult task which requires focused attention. We start with a good feeling and for a little while attention flows seemingly quite naturally. Then some distraction occurs, or the task becomes more difficult and we begin to feel fatigued; the good feeling has slipped away and indifference or impatience take its place. Unless we can somehow regenerate the initial good feeling and enthusiasm the work will go wrong or merely be abandoned for something more attractive or less taxing. And all this can happen without our noticing it much at all, and if we do notice it there is usually some swift justification available to mitigate any uncomfortable feeling that may arise.

There is a crucial difference here between *ascending* and *descending* octaves because the point where help is needed comes at a different place. In a *descending* octave the first interval between Do and Si is often filled naturally, helped along by the original intention. In an *ascending* octave the initial impetus lasts only until the third note, Mi, where extra help is required — what the System calls a 'shock'— for the original intention to be maintained. Descending octaves are therefore generally easier to complete, like going downhill rather than up.

Nature knows how to fill the intervals in the octaves of the creation, but human affairs are littered with incomplete octaves, and octaves which began as one thing and then turned into something completely different while still being regarded as the same. Plenty of obvious examples of this can be seen in every field of human life, religion or politics for instance.

In this Work it is said that three octaves are required to maintain our original intention, so that the energy from another octave can come in to help when one of the others slows down or stops. This is called 'three lines' of work':

1. Work on oneself.
2. Work for other people.
3. Work for the School.

If these three lines can become established in us it will make progress much more reliable. Three lines of work means to send help ahead.

\* \* \*

### **Practical.**

During the week, observe at least three examples of the law of octaves in your own life.