

## THE ENNEAGRAM PART II

All the knowledge of the System, psychological and cosmological, is unified in a symbol known as the enneagram, or circle of nine points. The enneagram demonstrates the interaction of the laws of three and seven which together create all phenomena and their movement in space and time. It shows not only the nature of processes, how they start, develop, culminate and begin again, but also the hidden connections between the successive stages of every process.

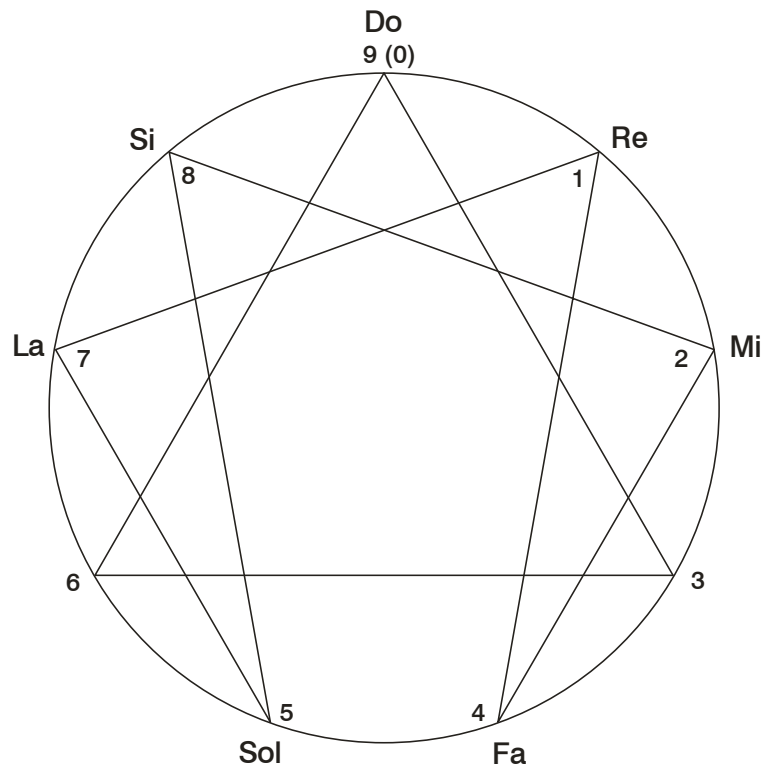


Fig.1

An octave consists of seven notes and the eighth is a repetition of the first. Together with the two additional 'shocks' required to fill the intervals mi-fa and si-do there are nine elements.

Any complete process can be represented on the enneagram. The separate points along the circumference represent the stages of the process and the symbol as a whole represents an orderly and completed process—a completed circle. Many phenomena are repeated, cyclical processes, and the circle emphasizes that the process starts again after a cycle is finished. Examples of repeated processes are a day or a week. What about a human life?

The transition from one point on the circle to the next is carried out by triads, and we have already discussed how this works in the case of the downwards process of creation—counter-clockwise in the enneagram. We will go on to study processes that occur in the 'upward' direction—clockwise in the enneagram. In general processes do not proceed automatically; something special has to happen at intervals. The energy for this is supplied by an 'inner circulation', shown by the lines inside the circle. This circulation connects the points on the circle together in the sequence of the numbers found by dividing unity, one, by seven, which is a recurring decimal 0.142857.

Connecting the points on the circumference in this order produces the complex figure which demonstrates the interactions between the notes of the octave. The remaining points, 3, 6 & 9 represent the free trinity or law of three which form the separate triangle. The apex of this triangle shows the Do, the start and completion of any octave and the points 3 & 6 correspond to the intervals in the octave. The separate triangle penetrates the period of the octave and these two figures in combination show the inner structure of the octave and its notes.

Each completed whole, each cosmos or individual organism etc. is an enneagram but not each of these enneagrams has an inner triangle. In one sense the triangle stands for the presence of higher elements, higher energies, which, by filling the intervals in the octave, by providing the necessary shocks, complete the process and allow it to proceed to a higher level. We should note that the triangle divides the circle into three arcs, and correspondingly there are often three distinct stages to a complete process: human life is an example—first the embryo, then the child, then the adult.

We can show the full Ray of Creation as one octave on the enneagram as Fig. 2 below.

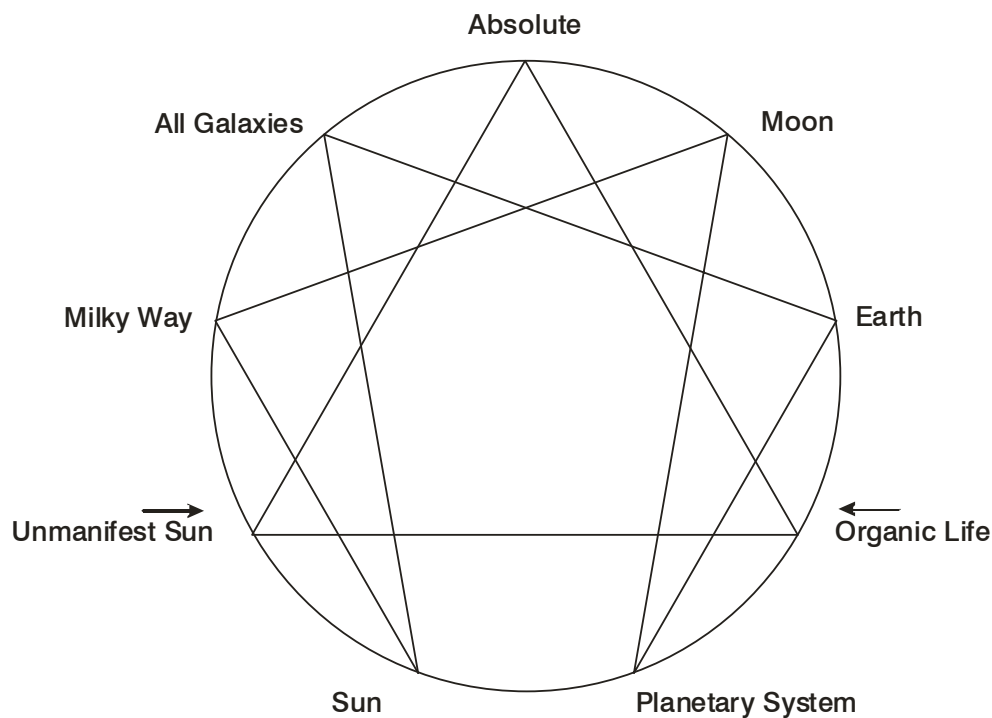


Fig. 2

And Fig.3 (overleaf) on the individual scale, the human organism and the energies it receives and transmits, which we will deal with in more detail later.

An enneagram is not static: there is a flow all the time, around the circle (sometimes in both directions), along the inner circulation. We see that in nature, a constant cycle of organisms being born, growing, living and dying, and all the time with a flow of food and energy.

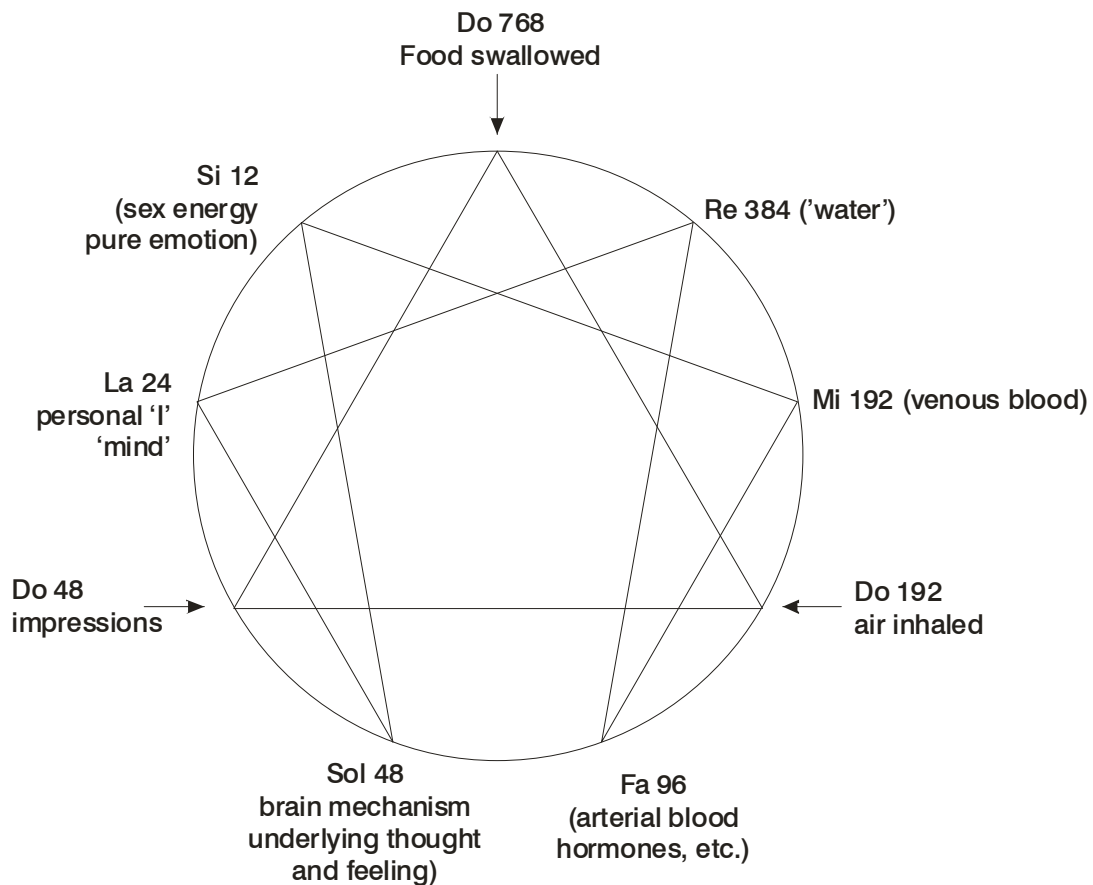


Fig. 3

There is an enormous amount of information and food for thought available in these diagrams and before embarking upon any detailed discussion it is necessary again to remind ourselves that the intellectual aspect of this exercise is not the main issue.

We must keep reminding ourselves, and observing, that we are almost entirely mechanical beings. In our thoughts, our feelings and our actions. Only in the act of self-remembering, in being present, do we begin to have any choice at all over the energies which ceaselessly flow through us, creating, without our permission, what we think and feel and do. These diagrams show us the enormous range of cosmic energies which constitute our being and of which we are largely unaware—what we are and what we could be.

The sense of wonder that this knowledge can generate—if we dwell upon it long enough for it to become more emotional—becomes part of the energy needed to bridge the first interval in our efforts at self-remembering so that a new state can begin to arise, allowing new and finer energies to quicken our being.

The key to all this is the feeling of 'I'. Only when we are conscious of 'I am here now' are we momentarily connected to an energy higher than our usual state—and and at the same time it is a paradox that our conviction of 'I am doing, 'I am thinking, 'I am feeling' is the very thing which constitutes the illusion of free will that keeps us asleep.

We should aim to establish an observer who will regularly ask, "Who am I? Where am I? What am I doing?" and look in silence at the answers to these questions in relation to the energies we see in the enneagram.

Originally a symbol was provenance of the truth of a message sent in dangerous times. A clay disc broken to be rejoined. The power of the enneagram only manifests when we acknowledge within ourselves the truth it brings.

\* \* \*