

Hello everyone. Welcome to this talk on the 12 Creative Hierarchies. Everything in our manifested universe is composed of tiny elemental lives, collectively called devic substance. These lives have their origins in the Great Mother, the source of all form-life.

[!] **The 12 Creative Hierarchies** consist of the builders of the archetypes that determine the configuration that these tiny elementals shape themselves into. The Hierarchies form an unbroken chain of lives from the absolute universal source to the tiniest in-spirited entity. All forms are found in these hierarchies. Through their varying qualities, patterns, and energy structures, they create the world of appearances: the outer garment, of all entities on all planes of existence.

**DK tells** us that *forms are built...* [!]

*(from the form of atoms to the body of the ego, from the form of a flower to the vast planetary or solar lotus) because the Hierarchies exist as the aggregate of germ lives, giving the impulse, providing the model, and procuring, through their very existence, the entire raison d'être of all that is seen on all planes."*

**The** builders that comprise the 12 Creative Hierarchies are negatively polarized and thus responsive to Ray energy. **This** becomes evident, when we compare these two highlighted columns. Notice that the ray numbers of the hierarchical planetary rulers of the seven signs that currently condition our solar system are the same as the numbers of the hierarchies themselves. **Thus** 2nd ray Jupiter rules the 2nd hierarchy, **3rd** ray Saturn, the 3rd hierarchy, etc, confirming the fact that the **devic** substance of each of the hierarchies is positively conditioned by their ruling rays. Said another way, the archetypes that determine the form life of all within the solar ring-pass-not is conditioned by, and an expression of, the rays that rule each hierarchy. **This** is why, for example, the human hierarchy as a whole is so profoundly conditioned by 4th ray Mercury, in its role as hierarchical ruler of Scorpio.

**In addition** to the positive/negative polarity of the rays as conditioning energies of the hierarchies, there is also a positive/negative polarity within each Hierarchy, with **the** evolutionary devas forming the positive aspect, and the lesser lives which are manipulated by these devas— forming the negative polarity.

So, using the elemental lives, the evolutionary devas create the templates, which are specifically qualified and differentiated energy patterns— of all that takes shape in matter, thereby determining the appearance of all sentient beings as they manifest on their designated planes of existence.

**Continuing** with the theme of polarity: each Hierarchy is also negatively polarized to the hierarchy above it, thus acting as the form aspect for that hierarchy. It follows then that each hierarchy is positively polarized not only to the hierarchy directly below it, **but** to all the hierarchies beneath it, thus either directly

or indirectly stimulating their spiritual growth. **Here** are the polarities of the four hierarchies that form the human kingdom. Through this interactivity, each hierarchy flowers forth and expresses its form life through the medium of those beneath it. **DK** says "*these interlocking energies play through, traverse, return, stimulate and energise every part of our solar system.*" All this movement is infused with an evolutionary urge, because the hierarchies work under the Law of Attraction, the guiding law of the Builders.

**The** seven manifested hierarchies, make up our 2nd solar system.

**The** lowest four of these are concerned with manifestation in the three worlds of human endeavor, which makes up the **dense** physical body of the solar Logos, thus their forms are composed of mental, astral and etheric substance. Notice that the physical matter that forms our dense outer shell is not included— we'll get to that in a minute.

[!] So. Our sheaths— both visible and invisible, consciously realized and as yet unrealized, are made up of the ray qualified substance of one or more of these four hierarchies. As a result, we as human beings have a structure that allows us to evolve our consciousness through progressively more rarefied devic substance. **First** we are identified with the energy of matter as it expresses itself through the lunar lords of the 6th hierarchy, **then** with the energy of the soul as it expresses itself through the integrated personality of the 5th hierarchy, and **finally** with the the energy of the Monad as it expresses itself through the 4th hierarchy. During this long pilgrimage we remain allied with, and expressions of, the **same** four hierarchies, but our consciousness gradually shifts its alignment with the **positive** polarity, first with the sixth, **then** with the fifth, and **finally** with the fourth hierarchy. **This** shift is made possible by the inter-related polarities of the hierarchies. Evolution itself could be defined by these shifts from negative to positive polarity— and with each shift we discover a new realm of consciousness to grow into.

**The** nature of the fire that determines the quality of the inter-relation of the hierarchies changes from fire by friction for the two sublunar hierarchies, to **solar** fire, which draws the personality into soul awareness, to **electric** fire, which draws the soul-infused personality into Monadic consciousness.

OK. Let's take a closer look at the devic lives that make up these four lowest Hierarchies.

**The** sixth and seventh hierarchies are made up of the **little** lives that express the lowest qualities of the Quaternary. They are, we're told, conscious, ethereal Entities, as invisible as Ether, which we learn in the SD, are quote, "shot out like the boughs of a tree from the first central group, and shoot out in their turn numberless side groups, the lower of which are the Nature-Spirits, or Elementals

of countless kinds and varieties; from the formless and unsubstantial -- the ideal THOUGHTS of their creators -- down to the Atomic, though, to human perception, invisible organisms."

**OK-- now** let's take a look at each hierarchy individually. Coming in at number 7 we have the lesser builders who determine the archetypal patterns through which the forms of the etheric physical plane are produced-- these include those elemental lives that constitute the positive pole of the energy found at the heart of every atom. The Secret Doctrine calls these lives terrestrial spirits, which configure themselves in such a way that they actually form the etheric physical body. These lesser lives even inform the physical atoms of substance, and because they are sentient, they are subject to the laws of karma.

Imbued with the most material aspect of the 7th ray, which is represented by the color violet, its ruler is the moon, whose work in relation to humanity is to form what is sometimes called the prison of the soul, creating, in response to karmic law, the body types and the qualities of the energy through which the indwelling jiva works to effect its own emancipation. But it does this blindly, following the dictates of the lunar lords of the 6th hierarchy, for whom they are the quote, Basket of Nourishment, a name given this hierarchy because they are living substance of the physical etheric plane.

**Below** this lowest of Hierarchies are those occultly inert lives which are used by the lowest two hierarchies to **form** the concrete physical vehicles of all that is visible on the physical plane. They are thus the densest concretion of Spirit in the Universe, comprised, we're told, of the failures of the system preceding this, and their failure was so complete (from the standpoint of consciousness) that all the response they can make to the positive vibration of the seventh Hierarchy is simply to be attracted to it.

Only at the close of this solar system, after aeons of stimulation, will they finally be in a condition to become the lowest Hierarchy for the *next* solar system. **They** have no name other than "the refuse of that which earlier was seen." Since they lie completely below the threshold of logocic awareness, the little atomic lives that make up the 7th Hierarchy are considered to be their saviours, **because** they draw them from inertia into conscious activity. Btw, the role of the 7th hierarchy as saviors gives a hint as to the purpose of deity as regards all manifestation, **for** the positive polarity in every hierarchy acts as a redemptive energy, uplifting the lives in the hierarchy directly beneath it.

**OK!** Standing just above the 7th hierarchy and using that hierarchy to build the forms of its own 6th hierarchy, are **the** Lunar Lords, called also the Greater Builders, the Sacrificial Fires, the Barhishad Pitris, and the lunar ancestors. They use the energy of matter, called Kundalini-shakti, and are ruled by 6th ray Mars,

the hierarchical ruler of Sagittarius, whose astral quality is symbolized by the color red, and whose field of expression is the sacral center. They quote-unquote 'ooze out' their astral doubles, which become the models for human physical forms. The goal and eventual destiny of these lives is identification with the Personality. **An old** Commentary says of them, "The devas hear the word go forth. They sacrifice themselves and out of their own substance they build the form desired. They draw life and the material from themselves, and yield themselves to the divine impulse."

**As the** source of our physical vitality, the 6th hierarchy expresses itself through our etheric bodies, as well as constituting the elementals of the threefold personality. It is these elementals that eventually have to be brought under the control of the solar aspect. Because they are devoid of any self-awareness, these lunar lords, also called lesser pitris, progress unconsciously with the tide of evolution.

**Summarizing** this hierarchy DK says:

Fire by Friction.—Path of Evolution— life experiment; human life.

GOAL: Identification with the Personality. Produces responsiveness to planetary influences.

**Next**, we move onto the mental plane into the element of fire, where we find the 5th Hierarchy. These great beings are the Agnishvattas, or solar angels— builders of the body of the Ego, and thus the producers of self-consciousness in the human being, which leads eventually to self-realisation. They are the "Seekers of satisfaction" and the cause of the second fall into generation, which is why they seek incarnation. Thus the energy associated with them is called Ich-cha-shakti, or the Will to manifest. The Hindu word Ich-cha-shakti literally means volition. This is the high seat of the Human Personality, called the Crocodiles, or Makara, whose goal and destiny is **divine** marriage with the hierarchy above them, thus this 5th hierarchy is considered feminine to the masculine 4th above it.

**Addressing** this association with crocodiles, DK says, "It becomes the task of the fifth Hierarchy, the mysterious beings that preside over the constellation Capricornus, or "Crocodile" in India and Egypt, to inform the empty and ethereal animal form and make of it the Rational Man."

**These** great lives are called Saviors of the Race because they emanate a redemptive energy that quote, "*lifts the lower aspect up to Heaven.*" This energy is imbued with the principle of at-one-ing, which is also a fundamental quality of the solar logos.

**Thus** both demonstrate as a 12 petalled lotus. DK gives us the following tabulation:

a. The logoic twelve-petalled egoic lotus on the cosmic mental plane.

- b. The solar twelve-petalled lotus.
- c. The planetary logoc heart center, also a twelve-petalled lotus.
- d. The twelve-petalled human egoic lotus on the mental plane [The 5th Creative Hierarchy].
- e. The twelve-petalled heart centre in a human being.

**The** 5th Creative Hierarchy represents, in time and space on the mental plane, the essence of humanity, for it is the inherent volition of this hierarchy that enables human beings to unfold their own 12 petaled egoic lotuses, and thus free themselves from the limitations of the forms that they themselves have constructed.

**The** 5th Hierarchy is inherently manasic and thus distributes energy on the fifth subplane of every plane. This puts it in a position to mediate between the higher four– the etheric subplanes of each plane– and those lesser lives found on the lower three subplanes, **eventually** leading to a unification of atma-buddhi-manas, the spiritual Triad, the true divine Self... and the Quaternary, or lower self. This mediating role, made possible by the Law of Magnetic Control, makes this hierarchy the middle principle in the human constitution, **a quality** described in an Old Commentary: *"...they lift one hand aloft to Him who standeth just above; they lean one downward to the man who standeth next below. The hands, freed from the transverse arms, are freed but to be held. Only the empty nail-marked hands can keep the chain complete."*

**So it** is through Their work, that the disciple gradually becomes conscious of that which lies above the manasic plane, for manas, we're told, is the vehicle of buddhi– the form through which the buddhic principle is able to make itself known. Thus, it is through the mediating work of the 5th Hierarchy, ruled by the 5th ray, that the keywords for that ray are realized– that Universal Mind, higher mind, and the lower concrete mind unite, in order to demonstrate as the unified transpersonal mind. **In TCF** we read, quote, *"...the solar Angels concerned with the fifth Hierarchy are naturally a potent factor in the evolution of the fifth or spiritual kingdom; they are that which make it possible, for they not only bridge the gap between the fourth and third kingdoms, but bridge that found between the fourth and fifth."*

**The** manasic orientation of the 5th Hierarchy is mirrored in a particular group of names given them, which include: Manasaputras, Manasa Dhyanis, Sons of Mahat, Mind-born Sons, and Sons of Universal Mind. The fire of mind that they embody is bound up in the quote-unquote "**secret** of the Dragon," and it was this dragon-influence or "serpent energy" that caused the influx of manasic energy into our solar system. Unlike the two hierarchies beneath them, they do not create using physical means, but reproduce their kind through the power of mind

alone. This freedom from astral and physical plane influences is mirrored in another set of names given them: Holy Ascetics, Holy Yogis, Virgin Ascetics and Holy Youths. These Beings, we're told, attained self-consciousness in the preceding solar system, and are known in this 2nd solar system as the vehicles of Divine mind.

**DK** tells us that the at-one-ing energy of this hierarchy also makes possible a link between a disciple's seven head centres and the seven egoic groups on the mental plane, which opens up a whole new area of study, suggesting, for example, that our soul ray is directly linked with our etheric vehicle through the particular head center that responds to that ray, which in turn links it to its lower etheric counterpart. So, for example, if you have a 2nd ray soul, it will be etherically linked and thus can be accessed by means of, the heart in the head as well as the heart center, thus activating the double triangle of forces shown at right, and described in Esoteric Healing.

One last piece of info on this hierarchy: [slowly] Because we are in the 5th root-race, the five Kumaras that represent rays 3 through 5 channel to our planet the 5th ray force of the Lord of the planet Venus, who embodies in Himself the function of the fifth Hierarchy.

**Summarizing** this hierarchy DK says: Solar Fire.—Path of Discipleship— full life experience; soul life.

GOAL: Identification with the Soul. Produces responsiveness to the twelve zodiacal constellations.

**DK** stresses the numerological importance of the hierarchies throughout his teachings on the subject. **And** not just through the ray associations, such as the embodiment of the function of the 5th Hierarchy by 5th ray Venus, but in other ways. For example DK says, quote, "**The fourth Creative Hierarchy is in reality the ninth and that is why it is called the Hierarchy of Initiates.**" Nine, as you may know, is the number associated with initiation.

**From** a human perspective, the source and goal of the lowest three hierarchies, which collectively make up the form aspect of humanity, is the fourth manifest hierarchy, whose lives, an OC tells us, are the points of fire who must become the flame, hence their name "Lords of Flame". This transformation from fire— [!] DK's name for the form aspect of flame— happens through the transformation in consciousness of the indwelling jiva, which takes place in its aeons-long evolutionary journey up through the three lower hierarchies.

In the beginning— when humanity was on the involutory arc— the 4th Hierarchy, we're told, was the nursery for those Monads preparing for incarnation in this solar system, and thus carried within it the germs of the Lives which had

achieved the human stage in another solar system, but whose further development was arrested by the coming in of pralaya.

**There** is an extraordinary teaching in *Letters On Occult Meditation* that describes the seven great logoc breaths by which the substance of this solar system evolved. This teaching also reveals the key position held by the 4th Creative Hierarchy in this solar system.

So. Here's the occult version of the Creation story: First, by means of a great in-breath, the Logos gathered into Himself the matter needed for solar systemic manifestation. This aeons-long stage was followed by the **1st great** out-breath through which the Logos initiated the evolution of that matter. With the second great Breath the matter aspect differentiated itself from spirit. **At the** third great Breath matter was infused with the activity aspect, making evolution possible. These three breaths set the stage for the **fourth** great Breath, which is especially relevant to human evolution.

With this out-breath, certain Hierarchies responded, and the Builders that inhabit those hierarchies began to see the plan more clearly. **There** is, DK tells us, a causal link between the fourth Breath and the fourth Creative Hierarchy, which has had a unique effect on Earth during this fourth round. Not surprisingly, this fourth breath demonstrates as the harmonic note of the **fourth** or buddhic plane and of the 4th ray, which has permeated humanity since the fourth root-race of this fourth globe.

Again we see the resonant conditioning effect of number. We tend to view history as a series of events. But in truth these events are responses to the logoc note and breath that, unbeknownst to us, permeates our consciousness. Thus we could say that the ever-present struggle to grasp the ideal of harmony and peace is actually humanity's response to this 4th great breath.

As part of a deeply occult description of this fourth breath **DK** says, "*Subtone four of the threefold Word is the sound of the Human Hierarchy, and in its entirety might be called the "cry of Man."*

**So**, it is through these Great Breaths that the Logos incarnates. In a fascinating detail, we're told that the **4th Hierarchy** of Monads on its own plane emulates the Logos by sending out its own note, so that **it too** may take on the sheaths of matter that will allow it to fulfill its destiny...

...which is, we're told, to create harmony and beauty in nature, through blending into one functioning related unity the soul in all forms. This stupendous goal is achieved individually at first, then in group formation, and finally by the entire human kingdom. When this takes place, most of the human egos in that future time will be expressing themselves through fourth ray personalities, thus

facilitating the task of fusion, and the consciousness of its advanced units will be **consciously** functioning on the fourth or buddhic plane.

The resonant effect of the number four which makes possible this goal of the 4th hierarchy is **not** that of the 4 of the imprisoning cube that characterizes the lower quaternary, but rather **four** as the unifying energy of the midway point— an energy that mediates between the three above and the three below on every subplane, thus achieving harmony between the spirit and form aspects. It is this energy of four— expressing itself through the buddhic plane, personified by Mercury, as the Hierarchical ruler of Scorpio, now truly fulfilling its role as Messenger of the Gods, that **unifies** the threefold personality with the Spiritual Triad.

**Summarizing** this hierarchy DK says: Electric Fire.—Path of Initiation— full soul expression; monadic life.

GOAL: Identification with the Monad. Produces responsiveness to the three constellations.

**OK!** Directly above the 4th hierarchy are the Triads, also called the triple flowers of the previous solar system, which, we're told, wield the third aspect of electric force in Their role as Lords of Sacrifice and Love. This is the first hierarchy, counting upwards, that is in a realised contact with Its emanating source. These folks never pass beyond Logoic etheric levels, and thus never incarnate. Rather, they hold in themselves like a beacon, the potencies of mental, psychical, and spiritual evolution, and are thus considered to be the great donors of immortality. Being the 5th hierarchy counting upwards, they are the noumenal source and force of Mind, called in Hindu, Jnana-shakti.

The fact that they are the 8th of 12 Hierarchies aligns them with the Cosmic Christ, and makes them quote, *"the eightfold points awaiting opportunity to flame forth."* DK gives us this terse warning: *"It is the rejection of the Triadal lives by units in the fourth Hierarchy, that of the human Monads, which precipitates a man eventually into the eighth sphere. He refuses to become a Christ, a Saviour and remains self-centred."* **It is** this statement that reveals the polarity between the 3rd and 4th hierarchies.

**Next** up are the Divine builders, also called the Bright-crested, who make up the 2nd hierarchy, and who are the prototypes of the Monads— but, DK tells us, are not the Monads Themselves; for They are far higher. This role as Monadic prototypes closely allies Them with the Great Bear. It is the energy of this Hierarchy that results in the manifestation of the Divine Androgyne. Because of the purity of Their vibration, They have found and still find no opportunity to incarnate during this 2nd solar system because, unlike the 5 hierarchies we've already covered, they are in essence, an expression of the logoic cosmic astral

sheath, whereas the 5 hierarchies so far described are the expression of the Logos cosmic *physical* sheath. Thus Their influence on those hierarchies found on the cosmic physical plane is limited, but DK does mention that they are able to impart the ability to realise the nature of group consciousness. This is a 2nd ray ability, and as we see, this 2nd hierarchy is ruled by Jupiter, the 2nd ray lord of our solar system, reminding us that these hierarchies are embodiments of the *function* of the rays themselves.

**In Hinduism**, Kriyashakti, which DK defines as the energy of the materializing ideal, is one of three creative cosmic powers. **The** other two are iccha shakti (willpower) and jnana shakti (the power to know). **DK** rightly inserts Mantrikashakti, the power of the Word, above Ich-chha-shakti, the energy of volition, for it is the word that initiates this volition.

All the manifest hierarchical shaktis are synthesized by the energy of the first hierarchy, **called** Parashakti or supreme energy. Hinduism describes Parashakti as the energy that creates, sustains and governs all of manifestation. **Those** who belong to this first hierarchy, ruled by the Sun veiling Uranus, which represents the first ray in its role as the final synthesizing planet, are called the Divine Flames, the Lions of Life, and the Sons of Necessity, among other names. These great lives who, we're told, emanated from the Heart of the central Spiritual Sun, express the mental vibration of the solar logos. The symbol of this Hierarchy is the Golden Lotus with its twelve petals folded.

**We'll** end with a brief look at the unmanifested hierarchies. Their influence reached our Earth through the medium of the **fifth** hierarchy, which is ruled by Cancer acting as the gate into manifested life for this solar system. **These** 5 hierarchies express the 3rd ray and its four rays of Attribute because they achieved liberation during the first solar system.

The symbols linked to these hierarchies are noumenal descriptors of their ruling signs, **for** example the 3rd hierarchy, whose energy is 'Light through knowledge' is ruled by Taurus, and described as, "*A bird, with plumage dark and with the eye of radiant fire.*" **Whereas** the 4th hierarchy, whose energy is desire for duality, is ruled by Gemini, and is described as, "*Two stars of vivid rose linked by a band of violet.*"

**I'd like** to end with the first few lines from stanza 2 of the TCF version of the stanzas of Dzyan, which describe the creation of the hierarchies, "*AUM," said the Mighty One, and sounded forth the Word. The sevenfold waves of matter resolved themselves, and varied forms appeared. Each took its place, each in the sphere ordained. They waited for the sacred flood to enter and to fill. The Builders responded to the sacred sound. In musical collaboration they attended to the work. They built in many spheres, beginning with the third. Upon*

*this plane their work commenced. They built the sheath of atma and strung it to its Primary.”*

OK– Thank you! May the light of illumination grow in us all during this conference. Much love!