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TriFesta1

ARIES THE RAM

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The Lord Buddha has said_ we must not believe in a thing said merely because it is said;

- nor traditions because they have been handed down from antiquity;
- nor rumours, as such;
- nor writings by sages, because sages wrote them;
- nor fancies that we may suspect to have been inspired in us by a Deva/Angel (that is, in presumed spiritual inspiration);
- nor from inferences drawn from some haphazard assumption we may have made;
- nor because of what seems an analogical necessity;
- nor on the mere authority of our teachers or masters.

But we are to believe when the writing, doctrine, or saying is corroborated by our own reason and consciousness.

"For this," says he in concluding, "I taught you not to believe merely because you have heard, but when you believed of your consciousness, then to act accordingly and abundantly."

The Buddha, [overshadowed by Deity] [--] III. 401.

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Noos, we live in an era of extremes,_

- a) of extreme riches and extreme poverty;
- b) of extreme ignorance and extreme learning;
- c) of extreme discontent and the extreme satisfaction of personal ambitions;
- d) of extreme selfishness and extreme self sacrifice.

On every hand can be seen the wrecking of the institutions of the past, with

- consequent chaos and disaster,
- despair and suffering.

At the same time we have the loud shouting and the active work of certain idealists, who seize upon the presented opportunity to swing the people and the nations into certain activities in the spheres of government and religion.

Their measures seem right and good to the self imposed leaders, but they are often, in the last analysis, only misinterpreted ideals, growing out of a dimly sensed idea, and are usually unjustly enforced and wrongly applied.

Between these extremes the people swing,_ inert, helpless, unthinking, easily swayed, regimented and standardised.

Who WILL save the day?

The New Group of World Servers, [Those international noos / disciples, diverse peoples-religion-creed or none, but] who are active **Disciples** and **Initiates** of "the Mysteries" being revealed.

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TriFesta1, ARIES the RAM

Strictly speaking, what we have to say now concerns the pure first ray type because **ARIES** is the zodiacal sign through which the first Ray of Will or Power reaches our planetary life. Such pure types are rare indeed and at this period of evolution well-nigh unknown. Most people are governed by their personality ray and as the present first ray types are expressing themselves through personalities which are on all the rays, we would simply ask you to consider what we have to say from the angle

- of character effects,
- of problems presented and
- of quality unfolded.

It is well-nigh impossible to be more explicit until such time as the **Science of the Rays** has been further developed; the astrologer must ascertain the ray type before he/she will be able to cast the adequate horoscope of the soul. Our remarks are therefore general and not specific and are universal and not particular. We impose no doctrine. We indicate phases of speculation which might prove illuminating and fruitful.

ARIES is one of the constellations of the Cardinal Cross of the heavens. This is the cross of God, the Father, and, therefore, of the incarnating Monad. It is the expression of will or power as it expresses itself through the great creative process.

When the **initiate** (as we shall later see) transfers him/herself on to the Cardinal Cross from which he descended when coming into incarnation and mounted in its place the Common or Mutable Cross,

1. he/she no longer identifies him/herself with form or even with soul, but with the **will of divinity and with the eternal plan and purpose.**

2. It becomes his plan and purpose.

3. He knows no other in a sense which is unknown even to an **initiate** of the third degree.
4. He/she then enters into the council chamber of God;
5. He becomes a part of the conclave at **Shangri-Lha**;
6. He functions no longer simply as a member of the **Hierarchy** upon the mental plane.
7. He/she can now function through all the three world centres_ **Humanity**, the **Hierarchy** and **Shangri-Lha**.

ARIES initiates the cycle of manifestation. All **souls** [Not self absorbed populations of forms/ bodies/personalities asleep to the spiritual necessity of awakening so, have not lived a life of readying/passing through the long tests/temptations that qualify to attaining soul control.], as individual entities, come into human incarnation for the first time in the sign of Cancer, emerging as mental entities in the sign **ARIES**, as emotional-desire entities in the sign Taurus and as vital entities in the sign Gemini, taking then physical form in Cancer. This is an involutory, subjective cycle. Thus they emerge into the ocean of physical plane existence, into the world of matter. Yet the first impulse is awakened in **ARIES**, for **ARIES** is the place where the initial idea to institute activity takes form. It is the **BIRTHPLACE** of ideas, and a true idea is in reality a spiritual impulse taking form_ subjective and objective. There originates the response of the soul to the highest aspect or quality of deity because there appears the "will to incarnate." The first ray aspect of the Monad, responding to the first aspect of deity, evokes response from the first ray aspect of the soul and the first step towards incarnation is taken on that plane in the system which is the mental plane.

ARIES "awakens the will to reach the lowest and there control, to know the uttermost and thus to face all experience."

_ thus runs an ancient statement.

The keynotes of the sign **ARIES** are four in number, all conveying the same idea. They can be expressed in the following four injunctions which are given, symbolically, to the incarnating soul:

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1. Express the will to be and do.
2. Unfold the power to manifest.
3. Enter into battle for the Lord.
4. Arrive at unity through effort.

CREATION_ BEING_ ACTIVITY_ STRIFE_ SYNTHESIS, these are the nature of the Lord of the first constellation and enable Him to influence our planet to these results.

And thus the great cycle of struggle towards expression starts and the foundational words of the [--], with which you are all so familiar, expresses the goal and the purpose of the first sign of the Cardinal Cross:

"Matter is the vehicle for the manifestation of soul on this plane of existence, and soul is the vehicle on a higher plane for the manifestation of spirit, and these three are a trinity synthesised by life which pervades them all."

_ [--] I.80.

1 What appears in **ARIES** as **spiritual energy**

2. Enters into the soul stage in Cancer, in which sign the **soul incarnates** for the first time in form,
3. Reaches a point of **equilibrium** in Libra, in which sign soul and personality achieve a balance of cooperation and,
4. In Capricorn, the will nature arrives at fulfilment and a **visioned goal** is reached. In Capricorn, the man reaches either the height of personal ambition or he/she becomes the **initiate**, attaining his spiritual objective.

The difference between these two goals depends upon the mode of progression around the WHEEL of LIFE. It should be remembered_ generalising again and speaking symbolically_ that the Crosses also turn, being the spokes of the great wheel.

- The undeveloped man goes from **ARIES** to Capricorn and to Libra and Cancer, whilst
- the developed man reverses the process.

We could, for the sake of clarity, consider the great experience of life as taking place upon the three wheels within the WHEEL of LIFE, viewing it from three angles:

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- | 1. The Wheel of Incarnation.
- | 2. The cycle of ordinary evolution.
- | 3. The period of captivity, wherein the man is bound upon the wheel.

I.

- | 4. The fourfold influence of the Common Cross.
- | 5. Life in the three worlds.
- | 6. The development of personality.

- | 1. The Wheel adjusted or reversed.
- | 2. The cycle of discipleship.
- | 3. The period of emergence, wherein the man alters the revolution of the wheel.

II.

- | 4. The fourfold influence of the Fixed Cross.
- | 5. Life in the five worlds of superhuman evolution.
- | 6. The unfoldment of soul through the personality.

- | 1. The wheel controlled or dominated.
- | 2. The cycle of **INITIATION**.
- | 3. The period of **LIBERATION** from the work of the Great Wheel.

III.

- | 4. The fourfold influence of the Cardinal Cross.
- | 5. Life in the seven worlds of our seven planes.
- | 6. **FUSION** of spirit, soul and personality.

ARIES, therefore, starts the process of the "most ancient **INITIATION**" which all the human family has already undergone and will undergo. The first great cosmic **INITIATION** (as far as humanity is concerned) is **INITIATION** into incarnation_ the **INITIATION** of individualisation. This process culminates aeons later in the reversing of the wheel and the attaining of a definite goal in Capricorn. It culminates in the achievement of transference from off the Fixed Cross on to the Cardinal Cross, which is, in its turn, the logical sequence of the transference from off the Mutable or Common Cross on to the Fixed Cross. Therefore, in its lowest manifestation,

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ARIES is the creator of those activities, conditions and processes which lead to the manifestation of soul through the medium of form, and later of those higher creative undertakings which lead in due time to the manifestation of spirit through the soul. These processes eventually demonstrate the true nature of the triplicity to which we introduced you in the earlier pages of this treatise: **LIFE_ QUALITY_ APPEARANCE**.

ARIES is also the purveyor to our solar system of Fire (Electric Fire) and of the dynamic nature of God which has in it the qualities of fostering and nourishing heat and also of the fire which burns and destroys. From the standpoint of esoteric astrology, there are three major signs in which the "three deaths" are undergone:

1. **ARIES**, which at different points along the Path of Life forces the soul on to the burning ground and subjects it to a purifying process during incarnation.

Through the lesser fire of mind, the "jungles of experience are set on fire and dissolve in flames and then the Path stands clear and unobstructed vision is achieved."

_ The Old Commentary

Through the fiery processes of [personal life] war and strife, brought to the individual through the influence of the planetary ruler, Mars, the God of War, a needed purification takes place. The same purification, but this time through vision, comes to the developed man through the activity of the subjective ruler of the planet, Mercury, who is the illuminating principle which releases the mind, directs the way of man through life and enables him to become aware of the divine PLAN which underlies all his fiery experience.

2. **Scorpio**, which brings about eventually the death of the personality and with which we shall later deal when we come to consider that sign. Esoterically as well as exoterically, Scorpio is the sign of death and burial in the earth, of descent into the depths in order to be lifted again on to the heights (the mountain top in Capricorn). It is stated in some of the most ancient books that **"the heat of the earth, the mother, and the sting of the scorpion are the beneficent gifts which the turning of the wheel gives to the man at the beginning and the end."** These gifts, when

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accepted and used, bring a man to **LIBERATION** and eventually from the control and **PAIN** of the Fixed Cross.

3. **Pisces** sees the relinquishing or the death of all the influences which hold the man to the wheel of **BIRTH** and his release from the control of the Common or Mutable Cross.

It is interesting to note that each of these three signs of death is to be found in a different cross:

1. **ARIES** The cardinal cross
2. Scorpio . . . The fixed cross
3. Pisces The mutable cross

It is the influence of these three which brings about the "three needed and determined deaths" in the life of the human being. We are here referring to the signs, independently of their planetary rulers. There is something in the energy which pours in through these signs which predetermines a crystallising process and the eventual destruction of some type of form control. The Old Commentary expresses these ideas in the following terms:

"The fire blazed forth and through that fire I died to life and so was born to death. And then again I died to form" (**ARIES**).

"The heat of earth, the fiery temper of the mother, destroyed the form, released the soul and so the lesser self was killed" (Scorpio).

"The waters drowned the man. The fish was made to disappear. It then appeared again only to die or else to die and bring salvation" (Pisces).

Thus there are symbolically the death through fire, the death through earth and the death through water_ burning, suffocation and drowning_ but, in this world cycle, the death through air is not either known or understood. There are not therefore four deaths, as the goal of our system during manifestation is "**INITIATION** or release into the air," so that the bird of life out of time and space can fly free. The concept which the **LAW** of CORRESPONDENCE brings of the final death is covered by the words **LIBERATION**, relinquishment and final **INITIATION**, and means little to

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humanity, for it concerns the planetary **LOGOS** and His life cycle. The three deaths which do overtake man, the individual and the human family as a whole, release the soul into three great planetary centres:

1. The death by drowning or by water in Pisces releases man again into that great centre which we call **Humanity**, and there experience is gained. Herein lies the mystery of the fish-goddesses of this sign "who spawn their young again and yet again."
2. The death by suffocation in Scorpio releases man into the planetary centre which we call the **Hierarchy**.
3. The death by fire or burning in **ARIES** releases man into another centre to which we give the name **Shangri-Lha**.

There is much to work out, is there not, in these ideas which we offer to you as suggestive considerations and as hints related to the **SCIENCE of TRIANGLES**, which is the esoteric basis of astrology, just as the doctrine of the trinity (microcosmic and macrocosmic) is the esoteric basis of psyientism. Death is, therefore, of three kinds. This **SCIENCE of DIVINE DYING** underlies the well-known phrase "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world," and when the relationship between **ARIES**, Scorpio and Pisces is properly understood (as the linking and merging of the three crosses) a new light will be thrown upon all subsidiary **Sciences**_ exoteric and esoteric. The teaching in The [--] about the reincarnating monads who are called the

1. Divine Sacrifices, Lords of
2. Knowledge,
3. Will and Sacrifice will be clarified.

These monads, who are ourselves [all noos], are Lords of Persevering Ceaseless Devotion _ devotion even unto death.

It is interesting here to note also that through the ruling planet, Mars, the average man born in this sign is related to Scorpio, and thus the Cardinal Cross is related to the Fixed Cross. Points of crisis can thus be noted when the horoscope is considered from this angle. At the same time, **ARIES** is related to **BIRTH**, through Mercury who rules **ARIES** esoterically, and also Virgo, of which Mercury is the exoteric ruler. Through **URANUS** also, **ARIES** is related to Aquarius, the sign of world service, leading to death and

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LIBERATION in Pisces. **URANUS** is the planet through which zodiacal energy flows, in connection with the Creative Hierarchies upon our planet, from one of the stars of the Great Bear. It is these relationships with which esoteric astrology deals, and from them the universal can be grasped and the particular understood. The human being in his/her eventual recognised group relationships is of more importance than appears in his individual life, which the orthodox horoscope seeks to elucidate. It only determines his little destiny and unimportant fate. Esoteric astrology indicates his group usefulness and the scope of his potential consciousness.

We would remind you here that frequently when the ruler of a sign is given as the Sun or the Moon we shall speak of one of the hidden planets, **URANUS** or Vulcan. These are interchangeable in their use and it is difficult to tell to which the esoteric planet refers unless you have been told. Hence our above reference to **URANUS**.

In connection with **ARIES**, which expresses or is the agent primarily of the first Ray of Will or Power, the ray of the destroyer, it should be stated that first ray energy comes from the divine Prototype in the Great Bear, that it becomes transmuted into the force and activity of the planetary **LOGOS** of the first ray, and works out as His triple activity under the guidance of the three ruling planets_ Mars, Mercury and **URANUS**.

MARS embodies sixth ray force which leads to idealism, destructive fanaticism frequently, struggle, strife, war, effort and evolution. God's idea in **ARIES** becomes the concrete plan in Capricorn whether that objective is the full flower of the planetary life in all its forms, the ambition of a personality working out its own ideas and ambitious worldly projects or the spiritual aspiration (worldly ambition transmuted into its higher aspect) of the **initiate**, who seeks to work out God's plans and make them his/her own. In every case, **Mars** leads to the battle ground of Scorpio.

MERCURY, embodying the energy of the fourth ray, eventually carries the man around the WHEEL of LIFE and through the medium of conflict enables him to achieve **harmony**. **Mercury** illumines the mind and mediates between the soul and the personality, being the Messenger of the Gods. This mediatorship, in the first instance, produces an inevitable opposition between the pairs of opposites and a long drawn out **conflict**. This conflict

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finally works out into victory and the dispelling of illusion through the illumination of the lower mind. Mercury and the Sun are one, we are frequently told in the scientific literature. The Sun is the symbol of the Son of God, Who is the mediator between Father-Spirit and Mother-Matter. Mercury, therefore, leads **ARIES** to Virgo (again speaking symbolically) where the idea or Word of God begins to take form, and consequently the latent life in **ARIES** comes to the "crisis of the **BIRTH** hour," prior to the **BIRTH** of the Christ, cosmically considered, through the **BIRTH** of the individual Christ takes place in Capricorn, at the close of the needed gestation period.

URANUS embodies the energy of the SEVENTH RAY and its work is analogous to that of Mercury, for the SEVENTH RAY is the ray which relates spirit and matter and brings together electric fire and fire by friction, thus producing manifestation. **URANUS** leads the soul to the burning ground during the final stages of the Path, when the fire of **ARIES** and the fires engendered through the potency of **URANUS** produce the flaming heat of the final burning ground. Through this burning ground, the **initiate** has finally to pass. **URANUS** rules the scientific Way and is, in an esoteric sense, connected with the Hierophant of the Mysteries of **INITIATION**.

Therefore, we have in relation to **ARIES** and the life of the soul, which there comes into subjective manifestation, certain related signs wherein the soul, in objective manifestation, passes through peculiar and definite crises:

1. The crises of the battle field, leading to the culminating battle in Scorpio and the **LIBERATION** into life in Capricorn, the place of the higher **INITIATIONS**, after the reversal of the wheel.
2. The crisis of the **BIRTH** place in Virgo, brought about through the activity of Mercury, leading through Leo to the **BIRTH** of the Christ in Capricorn. The self-conscious individual in Leo becomes the Christ-conscious **Initiate** in Capricorn.
3. The crisis of the burning ground, which is brought about through the activity of **URANUS**. This is entered through the free choice of the **initiate** who makes his choice in Libra, the point of balance where_ usually_ the

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moment for the reversal of the wheel takes place. There the man has to decide whether to proceed as usual and according to custom or, reversing the wheel, to pass through the burning ground to **LIBERATION**. Libra is the polar opposite to **ARIES** and therefore closely related.

You will note that the rays which are related to or expressing themselves through **ARIES** are curiously balanced, Rays 1 and 7 are the highest and the lowest, and therefore demand a point of balance upon the wheel which is provided in Libra. Rays 6 and 4 bring to this balancing process the energy of the second ray, the major building ray which enables the man to build anew and provide himself with a **spiritual body** of manifestation.

We would also call your attention to the fact that through **URANUS, ARIES** is related to Aquarius. The vague beginnings in **ARIES**, the faint emergence of the latent embodied ideas have_ after the turning of the wheel in two directions_ brought release in Capricorn and produced the world server in Aquarius, who voluntarily stays upon the great wheel (using the Cardinal Cross as his conditioning signs) and thus staying within the sphere of influence in order to help humanity to find **LIBERATION** from the Fixed Cross.

In the sweep of the zodiac there are four signs which are signs of **BIRTH**, of beginning and of renewed cyclic realisation.

1. **ARIES**, the "**BIRTHPLACE of divine Ideas**," whether these ideas are souls brought into incarnation and controlled by Mars [conflict] until they reach the point of reorientation and become sensitive to the influence of Mercury [mind], or whether they are the **BIRTH** of the ideas of God in the form of the hierarchical plans to which the **initiate** becomes sensitive.

2. **Cancer**, the "**BIRTHPLACE into the life of form**," the door into physical incarnation. This is the sign in which humanity, as a whole integrated unit, is born, the scene of the emergence of the fourth kingdom in nature. Humanity has "emerged from rock and water and brings its habitation with it" (as the Old Commentary expresses it) and **mass instinctual consciousness** comes into being. Note that phrase.

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3. **Leo**, the "**BIRTHPLACE of the individual**," the coming into form of individual self-conscious man who emerges out of the mass and herd in Cancer, substituting, for instinctual consciousness, self-awareness and a sense of responsibility of an individual kind.

4. **Capricorn**, the "**BIRTHPLACE of the Christ**," the place of the "second **BIRTH**" and the scene for the emergence of the fifth kingdom in nature when the right time comes. In this sign, the **initiate** comes into a spiritual awareness which demonstrates later in Aquarius and in Pisces as man, the world worker, and man, the world saviour_ both of them with a universal mission.

It is from hints such as these that the astrologer of the future will determine the type of horoscope which should be cast. Two questions will then arise, requiring reasoned answers:

1. Is the subject a personality, progressing around and around the wheel, perfecting self-consciousness and developing a rounded out personality through experience and the working of the **LAW of KARMA**, subject to the Great Illusion and arriving eventually at the height of personality ambition in Capricorn?

2. Or, is this person beginning to manifest as a soul, pouring light through dense fogs of illusion, and preparing for the major tests in Scorpio, to be followed by **INITIATION** in Capricorn?

Subsidiary questions would, for instance be: For which death is the man preparing? Is there an imminent crisis at hand which indicates a **BIRTH** into some new state of consciousness? The crucial question, however, to be determined in every case, is the direction in which the man is progressing around the **WHEEL of LIFE**.

1. The **orthodox** horoscope concerns the **personality** life and the form is bound upon the "**WHEEL of LIFE** as it turns from right to left" (from **ARIES** to Taurus via Pisces). But

2. the **soul** is bound to the wheel as it turns from left to right, going from **ARIES** to Pisces, via Taurus.

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It is this antagonistic movement of the wheel "turning upon itself" (as it is expressed in the Bible) which leads to the conflict carried on

- in the individual life,
- in the life of humanity and
- in the life of the planet.

3. In the early stages of evolution and upon the Mutable Cross, the consciousness is entirely identified with life in form and with the life of self-consciousness, self-preservation and self-enrichment.

4. Then comes an interlude wherein the consciousness begins to shift into that of the group and becomes identified with the soul and with soul purpose. The experience of the Fixed Cross covers this period. It might here be noted that the experience of the three crosses has a Masonic significance and can be connected with the Blue Lodge:

1. The Common Cross . . . The E\ A\ Degree
2. The Fixed Cross The F\ C\ Degree
3. The Cardinal Cross The M\ M\ Degree

Much will come to light in Masonry when its astrological implications are studied and understood. Much also will be revealed anent individual life and purpose when the fate of certain planets (when in the various zodiacal signs) is properly investigated and grasped and their symbolic significances interpreted. For instance, it is well known theoretically and mathematically that,

1. The **Sun** is exalted in **ARIES**. Here the Sun stands for the life of the spirit which comes to full expression as the result of the great evolutionary process, **initiated** in **ARIES**. The life of God which in this sign is "swung into activity" eventually achieves consummation. Latency becomes potency and midnight merges into midday. God, the Father, rules.

2. The power of **Venus** is lessened in this sign. It is a detrimental sign to Venus. The reason for this is that when the Sun is exalted and blazes forth in all its glory, the other lesser luminaries fade out. Just as the personality is lost sight of in the light of the soul, the solar Angel, so the soul itself disappears and its power and radiance fade out when the **Presence**, which it has hitherto veiled, appears and dominates the scene at the end of the greater world cycle. We are told that the incarnating Minds, human beings,

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the solar Angels, came originally from Venus, but they in turn give place to the monad, the One. Mind gives place to intuition and reason to pure perception.

Saturn "falls" in ARIES. This has two meanings, for this is a dual sign. First: **Saturn is the Lord of KARMA, the imposer of retribution and the one who demands full payment of all debts and who therefore condemns us to the struggle for existence, both from the form side and from the soul side.**

Saturn, therefore, "fell" when man fell into generation. He "followed the sons of men down into their low place." Second: **Saturn's** power is completely ended and his work accomplished when man (the spiritual man) has freed himself from **KARMA** and from the power of the two Crosses_ the Common and the Fixed. Esoterically, Saturn cannot follow man on to the Cardinal Cross.

There is much that could be elaborated along this line but the above will give a hint as to the esoteric significance of these three happenings within every sign. They can also indicate much concerning the man whose horoscope is under consideration.

The decanates can also be dealt with in two ways, according to the direction in which man is travelling upon the wheel and therefore entering the sign, speaking in symbols. If he/she enters **ARIES** when on the

- **Common Cross** he will come under the influence of Mars, the Sun and Jupiter, according to Sepharial. This means conflict, **REVELATION** and the successful satisfaction of desire and ambition as the aeons pass away. When he reorients himself and mounts the
- **Fixed Cross**, he comes under the influence of Jupiter, the Sun and Mars, for the **initiate** and the disciple culminates his career in any of the signs with a final and dominant struggle and fight. We would remark here that Alan Leo had a glimpse of the inner significance of the decanates when he assigned Mars, the Sun and Venus to the three decanates. He touched the truth of the inner subjective reversal upon the wheel which brings in other energies and influences when he substituted Venus for Jupiter. Mind and heart must be coordinated and brought into play when the great reversal takes place.

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We have seen that **ARIES** is the sign of beginnings_ the beginning of the creative process, the first step of the soul (the microcosm of the already **initiated MACROCOSM**) towards incarnation, the beginning of recurring and constant cycles of experience, the beginning of the period wherein the soul changes its direction, its purpose and its method, and finally enters upon that definitely defined process which we call spiritual regeneration and **INITIATION**. There are four words of vital importance upon which we shall ring the changes, as we study the path of evolution, or the progress of the soul around the great wheel, both as a personality and as a disciple, headed towards the final liberating process. These four words express the subjective impulses and motives and, in reality, introduce four different cycles of progress upon the Path in its various stages of individualisation to **INITIATION**. They are:

1. **RE-CREATION** in which the influence of Cancer, combined with that of **ARIES**, produces the pull into incarnation upon the physical plane.

2. **REGENERATION** in which the growing influence of the Fixed Cross, playing upon the Mutable Cross, produces those interior changes which eventually lead to

3. **REORIENTATION** or the great **CYCLE** of **REPOLARISATION** which takes place through the influence of Libra (the Cardinal Cross) and the "swerving of the Bull in mid-career," as it is called in the ancient books. This process of reorientation leads to a passage around the wheel in which, steadily and persistently, the inner **subjective** man comes into outer manifested **expression** and the personality recedes into the background. Finally, there come twelve lives wherein the final stage of:

RENUNCIATION is experienced and the disciple or **initiate** renounces all for the love of humanity and its service, and lays himself upon the altar of sacrifice.

He achieves, as a result, the final LIBERATION.

This **LIBERATION** is, in reality, twelve-fold in nature, for **LIBERATION**, **VICTORY** and **TRIUMPH** have to be experienced in every sign, just as captivity, defeat and failure have been experienced in all the signs of the

zodiac, whilst the man is functioning as a personality. It is these four words and their significance which will underlie all that we have to say to you **anent the dual experience upon the great WHEEL of LIFE**. We would ask you to bear this definitely in mind.

Going through the great cycle from **ARIES** to Taurus, the man re-enters the sign **ARIES** again under the potent impression of TAURUS, which at this stage of development feeds his/her ardent desire for the many material advantages of physical incarnation and of constant worldly undertakings; thus after a period of re-creation, he/she passes out into incarnation in Pisces and begins again the great round of manifested life, for Pisces is the ocean wherein he is "the fish," controlled by the **LAWS** of substance or material existence. In the second great stage, he passes from **ARIES** to Taurus, because desire has at last been transmuted into aspiration. After proving his steadfastness to the ideal of the spiritual life in the intervening signs, he passes again into Pisces, from the opposite direction to his usual procedure, having earned the right to mount the Cardinal Cross of the Heavens, the power to take a final planetary **INITIATION** and the privilege of passing on to one of the seven paths to which we have made reference in our other books; these eventually give him "the **FREEDOM** of the seven solar systems," as it is called in contradistinction to "the **FREEDOM** of the seven planetary spheres," which the experience of **INITIATION** has guaranteed him, after a process of intensive training in one or other of the planetary schools (according to his/her ray type) and the path of service chosen.

You will see, therefore, the significance of the two keywords of the sign **ARIES**:

1. "And the Word said: Let form again be sought"
The Man.
2. "And the Word said: **I come forth and from the plane of mind, I rule**"
The Initiate.

Experience leads to rulership and in this sign the man who is embodied first ray force develops the power:

- of organisation,
- of control over forces, particularly:

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- over the energy of death,
- over the power of destruction applied with love,
- of dominance over multitudes,
- of cooperation with the plan and
- the practice of the Will in rightly and correctly guiding and directing planetary affairs.

Before we take up the remaining eleven signs of the zodiac, and in order to give you a clear framework upon which to build the new astrology by means of which you can grasp the dual procedure of the soul around the great wheel, we would point out that what we have given you on **ARIES** will be dealt with also as we consider the other signs. You will find that we have indicated significances and pointed out some of the truths which can be found in connection with:

1. The keynote of the signs. These express the underlying effect upon the man as he progresses in one of two directions.
2. The Nature of the Cross upon which the man is crucified at any one time.
3. The influence of the planetary Rulers_ orthodox or esoteric.
4. The Rays which primarily express themselves through a particular sign; the clue to which sign it may be is found in the orthodox planetary ruler where the personality ray is concerned and the esoteric planetary ruler where the soul is concerned.
5. The Qualities of the sign and of the man who has come forth in a particular sign.
6. The interplay between a sign and its polar opposite.
7. The planets which are exalted, in detriment, or which fall in any particular sign, for a study of these will indicate the three phases of the Path_ with its involutory cycle of becoming increasingly involved in matter, or life upon the Mutable Cross, the interlude of readjustment or struggle for LIBERATION which leads to the mounting of the Fixed Cross, and the period of LIBERATION with the final mounting of the Cardinal Cross.

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8. The significance of the key words for the modes of progress through the signs.

9. The underlying theme of any specific zodiacal sign, covered by the ideas of **re-creation, regeneration, reorientation and renunciation.**

Before taking up these matters in connection with Pisces, there are one or two points upon which we would like to touch. We have to take up certain problems as they may arise in the consciousness of the enquirers and the students, because it is impossible to handle them all at once in the introductory remarks. The confusion would then be well nigh insuperable in the mind of the enquirer. Little by little, we will deal with the various debatable points, and if you will have patience and hold back partisan conclusions, the picture of the new astrology will begin to emerge more clearly in your minds. **At present, the readjustment of your ideas leads to inevitable temporary bewilderment.**

One of the questions which normally arises might be expressed as follows, and was so expressed by an interested astrological student. It involved the following inquiry: *Granted the inevitability of a man eventually reversing the mode of his/her passage through the twelve signs, at what time and in which sign does the Sun reverse? At what point in the swing of the zodiac can this reversal in the Sun itself be seen taking place?*

Unless you have some grasp of the nature of the great illusion of the constitution of the Sun, it will be hard for you to understand the significance of our reply. The sun to which you are referring is the physical Sun and its apparent path in the heavens. This "appearance" will not outwardly change and_ here is the statement of importance_ the real Sun under which our planetary life will eventually function and to which response will be made is the Heart of the Sun. When that is controlling, the spiritual man will then live a dual life simultaneously (which is ever the problem of the man who is illumined by the soul as well as by the light of day) and this dual life will consist of our apparent experience and situations and our inner spiritual soul awareness. The personality will still respond to **influences** coming to it from the physical Sun but the motivated life activity and

The subjective experience of the inner man will be conditioned by energies coming to him from the "Heart of the Sun."

We would here recall to your minds the teaching of the Ageless Wisdom as given by [---] in [---] and elaborated by us in our later books, that the Sun has to be discovered and known in its triple nature which is threefold as is the Trinity. The tabulation below may serve to make this idea somewhat clearer:

1. **Physical Sun Form Personality . . . Influencing Mutable Cross.**
2. **Heart of the Sun Soul Consciousness. Influencing Fixed Cross.**
3. **Central spiritual Sun Life Influencing Cardinal Cross.**

By the word "influencing" we here refer to the energies pouring from these three aspects of the Sun through the three Crosses to our planet. Ponder on this and remember also that our Sun is travelling through space (carrying our solar system along in its sphere of influence) around our own central and **conditioning star** which it has been rightly presumed exists in the constellation TAURUS, the Bull, being found in the Pleiades. At the same time it appears, from the standpoint of our planet, to be passing through the twelve signs of the zodiac; this is a symbol macrocosmically considered, of the dramatic centralised point of view of the individual human being, the microcosm. It is interesting to compare the symbolism and the underlying truth connected with the lesser and the greater zodiacs and with their twelve month and their 25,000 year cycles. They bear out much that we have given you anent the soul, influenced by the esoteric planets eventually, and the personality, influenced by the orthodox planets. The greater zodiac is symbolic of the soul and the lesser of the personality. In the personality cycle, the lesser zodiac conditions the personality career and the twelve planetary houses are of dominant importance. Later the influence of the twelve signs supersedes the influence of the planets.

We would like also to emphasise_ perhaps unnecessarily_ that **Sirius**, the **Great Bear** and the **Pleiades** work through the medium of the twelve constellations, pouring their influences through nine of them in particular, but that these major constellations are not part of the zodiac with which we are concerned. They, with the seven solar systems of which ours is one, are

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the ten constellations connected with a still greater zodiac which is not conditioned by the numerical significance of the number twelve. Hence ten is regarded as the number of perfection. There is confusion in the minds of some of the less learned students (astrologically considered) on this point.

It is rather difficult for you also to grasp that the involutory process for all the kingdoms of nature is related to the passage of the soul (this time the anima mundi or world soul) from **ARIES** to Pisces, via TAURUS and not vice versa. The anima mundi on the involutory arc proceeds this way and not as the personality proceeds. The anima mundi passes to Pisces at the close of every great cycle and not to TAURUS. It emerges into outer manifestation in Cancer, the sign of mass or group life, of mass or group activity; its diffused consciousness has not yet been individualised as has the consciousness of man. When the world soul after having progressed around the Great Wheel, reached Cancer and the time came for the fourth Creative **Hierarchy** to manifest through the fourth kingdom in nature, a reversal took place and then proceeded as now. It should be remembered with emphatic care that it is only man, individualised man whose progress we are studying, plus his/her reactions to zodiacal and planetary influences;

We are dealing with his/her reactions, mental and emotional, to the great illusion and to spiritual reality as these two work in his life, objective and subjective. We have, in the larger issue, to consider the influence of the zodiac and the planets upon:

1. **The SPIRIT of the EARTH**, the embodiment of the physical planet and the sum total of the form life in all the kingdoms of nature. These are the expression of the anima mundi or of the world soul.

2. **HUMANITY**, the individualised and finally **initiated** man. This is the embodiment of the human soul or ego, a differentiation of the world soul, which expresses itself as a personality (a correspondence to the spirit of the planet) and finally as a spiritual soul (a correspondence to the planetary **LOGOS**).

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3. The **LORD of the PLANET**, one of the great Lives or Sons of God, at present regarded as "an imperfect God" as far as our planet is concerned and yet, from the angle of humanity, perfect indeed.

The above triple division expresses the three major aspects of the ancient and esoteric **Science of astrology** and its three divisions as the **Hierarchy** today studies them. Humanity, having lost the consciousness which permits contact with the spirit of the planet (sub-human consciousness, and which was the basis of animism) and having not yet developed the consciousness which permits him/her to enter into the Life and Mind of the planetary **LOGOS**, has dealt only with the second division and that in its lowest aspect.

Two other points might here be touched upon, and for their understanding you will have to accept our statements as temporary hypotheses at least, for you are in no position to know them as truth for yourselves. Exoteric astrology has said and it is widely accepted that Vulcan, **URANUS**, Pluto and Neptune do not govern signs but only have affinity with them. We are touching upon this here because we are going to consider the planet Pluto in relation to Pisces. This affinity has only stated a partial truth and is only temporarily true from the standpoint of the modern astrologer. Their existence has only been inferred or discovered within the last two or three centuries though it has always been known to the **Hierarchy**. We have indicated to you the signs of which they are the rulers and the astrology of the future will accept our statement and work with these planets. Much earlier in human history, they had to accept the fact of Mars and Mercury as rulers of zodiacal signs in a hypothetical manner, and then start to prove the accuracy of the hypothesis. Ancient astrology was obviously incomplete but until man became patently responsive to the influences which come to him from **URANUS** or Pluto, for instance, which affect the soul life far more than they do the personality life, they remained undiscovered except by trained esotericists. Today, humanity is rapidly responding to the higher spiritual influences and, therefore, we can look for the discovery of increasingly subtle forces.

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The Call

We call you, therefore, everyone, to a great service of demand and of invocation on behalf of humanity_ a demand for the inflow of light upon the decisions of men. We would ask you to request and expect the needed **ENLIGHTENMENT** for those who have to make decision on behalf of men everywhere. Your individual **ENLIGHTENMENT** has nothing to do with this demand. It is a selfless motive which is required and which must lie behind your individual and group demand. You are demanding **ENLIGHTENMENT** and **ILLUMINED PERCEPTION** for those who have to guide the destiny of races, nations and world groups. On their shoulders lies the **responsibility** to take **wise action**, based on **world understanding**, in the interests of **international cooperation**, and in the establishment of **RIGHT HUMAN RELATIONS**.

*Throughout the month of APRIL, until MAY first, the realisation of this is a major duty. To the support of the **FORCES of ENLIGHTENMENT** we call all today. As individuals, you must work for an open and receptive mind, free from prejudice or national bias; as individuals, you need to think in broader terms and of the one world and the one humanity. The mass of right-thinking and convinced demand which you, who seek to serve the Christ, can throw behind the men legislating for the world, can bring great results and can release the **FORCES of ENLIGHTENMENT** in a new and potent manner.*

You know about the **NEW GROUP OF WORLD SERVERS**. The work of the **MEN and WOMEN of GOODWILL** has been presented to you. The request for the forming of triangles of light and of goodwill has been placed clearly before you. The need for clear thinking is plain. The Hierarchy asks for your aid and your support in the arena of world affairs. We have ourselves laid our plans before you. There the programme must be left to be carried out by you if you choose. For a quarter of a century (since 1910) we have taught you. We ask now for your cooperation in our mutual responsibility_ the helping of humanity.

Concentration upon the work to be done is of such importance and will call for such practical activities that we will write no more at this time. We desire to keep the immediate issue clear. We will deal later with the **FORCES OF RECONSTRUCTION**. We would like to close this message with

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some words which we wrote many years ago. They express the needed attitude and orientation:

"WE ASK YOU TO DROP

a) YOUR ANTAGONISMS AND

b) YOUR ANTIPATHIES,

c) YOUR HATREDS AND

d) YOUR RACIAL DIFFERENCES, **AND ATTEMPT TO THINK IN TERMS of**

e) **THE ONE FAMILY,**

f) **THE ONE LIFE AND**

g) **THE ONE HUMANITY."**

May He Whom we all love and serve, the Master of all Masters and the undying Friend of Mankind shed His light upon your way and evoke your trust, your understanding and your help in His task_ climaxing this year_ of leading humanity into the light of a new day.

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The Twelve Festivals: TriFesta and the Nines

As we look ahead into the world of tomorrow and begin to question what structure the faith of humanity should assume and what building the skill of the knowers will erect to house the religious spirit of man, three more fundamental truths appear to be emerging as necessary adjuncts to the revealed body of truth:

1. The demonstrated existence of a **Spiritual Hierarchy**, the life-purpose of which is the good of humanity. The Members of the Hierarchy are seen to be the Custodians of the divine Plan and expressions of the Love of God.

2. The development of the **Science of Invocation and Evocation** as a means and method of approach to divinity. This will grow out of the ancient habits of prayer as used by the masses, and the practice of meditation as developed by the mystics and occultists. Prayer and meditation are the preliminary steps to this emerging science, and what is vaguely called "worship" is the group effort to establish some form of united approach to

the spiritual Hierarchy, functioning under the guidance and control of the Christ and related to the highest spiritual centre, **Shangri-Lha**, through its most advanced individuals, just as humanity is related to the Hierarchy by its spiritually minded people.

3. The realisation that the starry heavens, the solar system and the planetary spheres are all of them the manifestations of great spiritual Lives and that the interrelation between these embodied Lives is as real and effectual as is the relation between members of the human family.

The spiritual Hierarchy of the planet, the ability of mankind to contact its Members and to work in cooperation with Them, and the existence of the greater Hierarchy of spiritual energies of which our tiny planetary sphere is a part_ these are the three truths upon which the coming world religion may be based.

Relationship to God, through Christ, has ever been the teaching of the spiritual leaders of the world, no matter by what name they called Him. In the future we shall draw closer and more intelligently to the living substance of Reality and be more definite in our apprehension of this hitherto vaguely sensed relationship. We shall know and see and understand. We shall not just believe, have hope and try to comprehend. We shall speak openly of the Hierarchy and of its Members and Their work. The hierarchical nature of all spiritual Lives, and the fact of the great "chain of hierarchies" stretching all the way up from the mineral kingdom through the human and the kingdom of God to apparently remote spiritual groups, will be emphasised. Then there will open for the spiritual Lives what has been called "the Way of the Higher Evolution." Much along these lines has been given out during the past two centuries. The fact of the existence of the Hierarchy is consciously recognised by hundreds of thousands today, though still denied by the orthodox; the general public are familiar with the idea of the existence of the Masters, and either gullibly accept the mass of futile and idiotic information handed out by many today or fight furiously against the spread of this teaching. Others are open-minded enough to investigate whether the teaching is true and to follow the techniques suggested, in the hope that hypothesis may turn to fact. This last group is steadily increasing in number and upon their accumulating evidence belief can be translated into knowledge. So many know the truth today; so many people of integrity and worth are cooperating consciously with Members of this Hierarchy that the

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very foundations of the ecclesiastical antagonisms and the belittling comments of the concrete minded are of no avail. What the orthodox theologian and the narrow doctrinaire have to offer no longer satisfies the intelligent seeker or suffices to answer his questions; he is shifting his allegiances into wider and more spiritual areas. He is moving out from under doctrinal authority into direct personal, spiritual experience and coming under the direct authority which contact with Christ and His disciples, the Masters, gives.

In considering our second point, the **Science of Invocation and Evocation**, we are also moving forward into the area of mental understanding. The grasping nature of many of the prayers of men, based as they are upon desire for something, has long disturbed the intelligent; the vagueness of the meditation taught and practised in the East and in the West, and its emphatically selfish note (personal liberation and personal knowledge) are likewise causing a revolt. The demand today is for group work, group good, group knowledge, group contact with the divine, group salvation, group understanding and group relationship to God and the Spiritual Hierarchy. All this indicates progress.

At this point it should be useful to repeat part of what we said elsewhere concerning future developments along this line. (TRotC, pages 152-159.)

This **new invocative work** will be the keynote of the coming world religion and will fall into two parts. There will be the invocative work of the masses of the people, trained by the spiritually minded people of the world to accept the fact of the approaching spiritual energies, focussed through the spiritual Hierarchy, and to voice their spiritual demand for light, liberation and understanding. There will also be the trained, scientific work of appeal and invocation as practised by those who have trained their minds through right meditation, who know the uses of sound, of formulas and of invocation, and who can work consciously, focussing the invocative cry of the masses and at the same time using certain great formulas of words which will later be given to the race, as **The Lord's Prayer** was given by the Christ and **The Great Invocation** has been given in this day and age.

This new religious science (for which prayer, meditation and ritual have laid the foundation) will train its students to present, at certain stated periods throughout the year, the voiced demand of the people of the world for

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relationship with God and with each other. This work, when rightly carried forward, will evoke response from the waiting Hierarchy; through this response, the belief of the masses will gradually be changed into the conviction of the knowers. In this way humanity will be transformed and spiritualised. Then will begin, as the ages pass away, the regeneration of material nature, with the two spiritual centres_ the Hierarchy and Humanity_ working together in full consciousness and understanding. The Kingdom of God will be functioning on Earth.

It will be apparent to you that we can indicate only the broad general outlines of the new world religion. The expansion of the human consciousness which will take place as a result of the coming great Approach will enable man to grasp not only his relation to the spiritual Life of our planet, the "One in Whom we live and move and have our being," but will also give him a glimpse of the relation of our planet to the circle of planetary lives moving within the orbit of the Sun, and the still greater circle of spiritual Influences which contact our solar system as it pursues its orbit in the Heavens (the twelve constellations of the zodiac). Astronomical and astrological investigation has demonstrated this relationship and the influences exerted, but there is still speculation and much foolish claiming and interpretation. Yet the churches have ever recognised this relationship, and the Bible has testified to it. "The stars in their courses fought against Sisera"; "Who can withstand the sweet influences of the Pleiades?"; and many other passages bear out this contention of the Knowers. Many church festivals are fixed by reference to the moon or a zodiacal constellation. Investigation will prove this to be increasingly the case, and when the ritual of the new world religion is universally established this will be one of the important factors considered.

The establishing of certain major festivals in relation to the moon, and in a lesser degree to the zodiac, will bring a strengthening of the spirit of invocation and the resultant inflow of responsive influences. The truth lying behind all invocation is based upon the power of thought, particularly in its telepathic nature, rapport and aspect. The unified invocative thought of the masses and the focussed, directed thought of the New Group of World Servers constitute an outgoing stream of energy. This will reach telepathically those spiritual Beings Who are sensitive and responsive to such impacts. Their evoked response, sent out as spiritual energy, will in turn

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reach humanity, after having been stepped down into thought energy, and in that form will make its due impact upon the minds of men, convincing them and carrying inspiration and revelation. Thus has it ever been in the history of the spiritual unfoldment of the world and in the procedure followed in writing the world Scriptures.

Secondly, the establishing of a certain uniformity in the world religious rituals will aid men everywhere to strengthen each other's work and enhance powerfully the thought currents directed to the waiting Spiritual Lives. At present, the Christian religion has its great festivals, the Buddhist keeps his different set of spiritual events, and the Hindu has still another list of holy days. In the future world, when organised, all men of spiritual inclination and intention everywhere will keep the same holy days. This will bring about a pooling of spiritual resources and a united spiritual effort, plus a simultaneous spiritual invocation. The potency of this will be apparent.

Let us indicate the possibilities of such spiritual events, and prophesy the nature of the coming world-wide Festivals. There will be three such major Festivals each year, concentrated in three consecutive months, and leading therefore to a prolonged spiritual effort which will affect the remainder of the year. These will be:

1. **The Festival of Easter.** This is the festival of the risen, living Christ, the Teacher of all men and the Head of the Spiritual Hierarchy. He is the Expression of the Love of God. On this day the Spiritual Hierarchy which He guides and directs will be recognised, and the nature of God's love will be emphasised. This festival is determined always by the date of the first Full Moon of spring, and is the great Western and Christian festival.

2. **The Festival of Wesak.** This is the festival of the Buddha, the spiritual Intermediary between the highest spiritual centre, Shangri-Lha, and the Hierarchy. The Buddha is the Expression of the Wisdom of God, the Embodiment of Light, and the Indicator of the divine Purpose. This will be fixed annually in relation to the Full Moon of May, as is at present the case. It is the great Eastern festival.

3. The **Festival of Goodwill.** This will be the festival of the spirit of humanity_ aspiring towards God, seeking conformity with the Will of God

and dedicated to the expression of right human relation. This will be fixed annually in relation to the Full Moon of June. It will be a day whereon the spiritual and divine nature of mankind will be recognised. On this festival, for two thousand years, the Christ has represented humanity and has stood before the Hierarchy and in the sight of Shangri-Lha as the God-Man, the Leader of His people and "the Eldest in a great family of brothers" (Romans VIII:29). Each year at that time He has preached the last sermon of the Buddha before the assembled Hierarchy. This will therefore be a festival of deep invocation and appeal, of a basic aspiration towards fellowship, of human and spiritual unity, and will represent the effect in the human consciousness of the work of the Buddha and of the Christ.

These three festivals are already being kept throughout the world, though they are not as yet related to each other, and as part of the unified spiritual Approach of humanity. The time is coming when all three festivals will be kept simultaneously throughout the world, and by their means a great spiritual unity will be achieved and the effects of the great Approach so close to us at this time will be stabilised by the united invocation of humanity throughout the planet.

The remaining full moons will constitute lesser festivals, but will be recognised to be also of vital importance. They will establish the divine attributes in the consciousness of man, just as the major festivals establish the three divine aspects. These aspects and qualities will be arrived at and determined by a close study of the nature of a particular constellation or constellations influencing those months. For instance, Capricorn (December) will call attention to the first initiation, the birth of the Christ in the cave of the heart, and indicate the training needed to bring about that great spiritual event in the life of the individual man. We give this one instance to you in order to indicate the possibilities for spiritual unfoldment that could be given through an understanding of these influences... and by expanding them into their larger undying relationships.

TriFesta

- 1) **Shangri-Lha** * the Will aspect of God * Wesak * May Full Moon (Taurus)

- 2) **Hierarchy** * the Love aspect of God * Easter * April Full Moon (Aries)
- 3) **Humanity** * divine Intelligence Goodwill * June * Full Moon (Gemini)

The NINES

The remaining nine Full Moons will be concerned with the divine characteristics and their development in mankind.

Thus the twelve festivals will constitute a revelation of divinity. They will present a means of bringing about relationship, first of all during three months with the three great spiritual centres, the three expressions of the divine Trinity. The minor festivals will emphasise the inter-relation of the Whole, thus lifting the divine presentation out of the individual and the personal into that of the universal divine Purpose; the relationship of the Whole to the part and of the part to that Whole will be thereby fully expressed.

Humanity will therefore invoke the spiritual power of the Kingdom of God, the Hierarchy; the Hierarchy will respond, and God's plans will then be worked out on Earth. The Hierarchy, on a higher turn of the spiral, will invoke the centre of God's Will, Shamballa or Shangri-Lha, thus invoking the Purpose of God. Thus will the Will of God be implemented by Love and manifested intelligently; for this mankind is ready, and for this the Earth waits.

... to be continued...