

need to listen to ourselves in silence, in order to get an effective level of syntony with the voice of our spiritual soul.

Every student can only make progress by deserving it, in the first place. How can he, then, deserve the awakening of the higher qualities in himself?

By producing good karma. All things will depend on his individual merit. As to the voice of the teacher, it can be found not only in his dialogue with himself. It can speak from every small incident in daily life. Sermons can be given even through stones, a Mahatma wrote in "Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom". The voice of the master can be (silently) heard also in the passages of sacred and theosophical scriptures which resonate within the soul of the student in an especially luminous way. There must be real attention, therefore, as one studies valuable texts, and this fact leads us to the next shelter.

The Law

The second refuge is the Law, the Teaching, and his sense of ethical Duty as taught by sacred scriptures. As we saw above, through the second refuge, the teaching, one can find the first one, the teacher.

Wherever we are along the path, and however neophyte we may be, we have a Sense of Direction and Duty. This inner sense is our Master right now, from a practical point of view. By listening to our sense of direction and spiritual duty, and by acting accordingly, the learning process will improve, together with our discernment and our loyalty. It is the duty of every learner to reject false teachings and to calmly warn others about the illusions and illusionists who fight the true teachings. They "do not know what they are doing". They are our brothers and sisters. Their self-destructive actions are largely subconscious.

The Community

The third refuge is the community of truth-seekers. It is the theosophical group or lodge, and often one's family. Like the other refuges, the community must bring us karmic tests, uncomfortable lessons, and sources of disappointment. It will offer us temptations to destroy our spiritual journey through pride, fear, envy, ill-will, competition and every negative feeling.

Regular interaction with other truth-seekers constitutes a laboratory for us to transform ourselves. It is a unique source of blessings as it stimulates self-responsible liberation from ignorance.

Therefore the duty of the student is not to expect benefits from this refuge. "Deserve, then desire", says Helena Blavatsky. He doesn't have to fight others, for his enemy is his own accumulated subconscious ignorance, or "dweller of the threshold".[1]

Progress will come to him like the dawn dew, in silence, in natural and spontaneous ways. His duty is to selflessly try to help the community. As he helps, he will be helped, one way or another.

John Garrigues writes about all kinds of lodges or safe-havens:

“A ‘lodge’ is a place of shelter, of refuge, of habitation, of assembly, of discussion and council, of work for communal need and benefit. It may range from a hole in the ground, a cave natural or artificial, a mere hut, to a permanently adopted or adapted series of structures, with their natural environment, which together constitute the maximum of co-ordination for common aims and objects.”

Mutual help is the law:

“Like a center and its circumscribing boundary it implies unity, fraternity, and the continuous flow of mutual activity from within outward and from without inward - a self-sustaining inter-relation of all the units and elements, animate and inanimate. A cell is such a lodge, as is a hive, a grove, a colony, a family, a community, a nation - Humanity, or any other Hierarchy in manifested Life. The basic nature, the basic need, the basic fulfillment of the individual, can only be reached and developed by means of a Lodge and lodges.”

Lodges, seen as communities of souls, can be found everywhere in space and time. John Garrigues proceeds:

“The idea of the Lodge is imperishably impacted in the very center of every man’s heart and mind, and so is found among outcasts and savages quite as universally as among the more highly civilized peoples. Voyagers in the South Seas have uniformly found it fundamental among the myriad islands where dwell the survivors of the lost Lemuria. Among the ancient mutations from the ruins on the shores of Titicaca, through to the Incas, the Mayas, the Mound Builders, and amongst the red Indians, the Lodge principle of being has been paramount. Europe, through endless epochs, shows the same feudal stronghold of this fundamental conception. It holds among the Africans, in the jungle as on the parched sands where the degraded aborigines of Australia still maintain this tribal bond. In Asia, mother of races, the village ryot, the mergence of the individual in the family, the patriarchal system, has survived throughout all eras. Even the terrible great cities of all time are but testimonies to the blind instinct of communal life.” [2]

The higher source of such a widespread communal feeling, says Garrigues, is “the powerful and impregnable LODGE of the Masters of Wisdom”.

There is a section or level of consciousness in the theosophical movement which has common sense and a correct perception of its Duty. That is not a large section. It is rather very small. It belongs to a sort of Outward Circle of the Lodges of the Masters. [3]

If seen in depth, the three refuges available to theosophists are in reality Interconnected Doors leading to the One Refuge, *id est*, Eternal Wisdom.

By living as much as possible in the presence of the Teacher or Teachers (first refuge), and by working every day according to the Original Teaching (second refuge), theosophists can form an Inner Community of souls (third refuge). This federation of independent and self-responsible individuals - however small - can help expand on the planet the Active Intention towards Universal Brotherhood.

The inspiration and transmission occur largely by subtle osmosis.[4] In other words, they take place through the invisible power of example.

Superficial minds cannot understand reality in depth. Surprising as it may be, the fact is that right actions do not need to be seen in the outward world, in order to influence mankind.

Every correct action is silently recorded by the One Law and becomes an effective part of humanity's good karma. It will unfailingly flourish in due time. Moreover, unseen and unrecognized good actions are usually among the most effective. A few examples of that may be useful.

- 1) Both the parents and their caring actions are unseen and unrecognized by the children, until the children have the necessary discernment.
- 2) The highest effects of the good work of a theosophical lodge are silent. They cannot be easily described in words; and photos will never show them.
- 3) Almost all of the work of the Masters for mankind - including their regular disciples, lay disciples, and aspirants to lay discipleship - is, today, and so it has been for a long time, absolutely unseen and unrecognized, from the point of view of outward appearance.

And this is no problem, for silence is good.

The higher levels of Truth can only be experienced in the eternal territory of Unlimited Noiselessness.

(CCA)

NOTES:

[1] See the article [The Dweller on the Threshold](#), by Robert Crosbie.

[2] From the article "Lodges of Theosophists", in "Theosophy" magazine, Los Angeles, June 1933, p. 374. The article itself was anonymous. On the criteria to identify J. Garrigues as its author, see [Life and Writings of John Garrigues](#).

[3] See the article [The Seven Principles of the Movement](#).

[4] Examine [The Process of Occult Osmosis](#).

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If you want more hints to understand the unseen aspects of the theosophical movement, read the article "[The Invisible Monastery](#)".

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The Secret Doctrine:
H.P. Blavatsky Warns About
The Danger of Atomic Bombs

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While discussing John Keely’s discoveries
 in the field of etheric (or astral) force, Helena
 Blavatsky writes in her book “The Secret Doctrine”:

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If the question is asked why Mr. Keely was not allowed to pass a certain limit, the answer is easy; because that which he has unconsciously discovered, is the terrible sidereal Force, known to, and named by the Atlanteans MASH-MAK, and by the Aryan Rishis in their *Ashtar Vidya* by a name that we do not like to give. It is the *vril* of Bulwer Lytton’s “Coming Race”, and of the coming races of our mankind. The name *vril* may be a fiction; the Force itself is a fact doubted as little in India as the existence itself of their Rishis, since it is mentioned in all the secret works.

It is this vibratory Force, which, when aimed at an army from an *Agni Rath* fixed on a flying vessel, a balloon, according to the instructions found in *Ashtar Vidya*, reduced to ashes 100,000 men and elephants, as easily as it would a dead rat. It is allegorised in the *Vishnu Purana*, in the Ramayana and other works, in the fable about the sage Kapila whose *glance* made a mountain of ashes of King Sagara’s 60,000 sons, and which is explained in the esoteric works, and referred to as the *Kapilaksha* - “Kapila’s Eye”.

And is it this Satanic Force that our generations were to be allowed to add to their stock of Anarchist’s baby-toys, known as melenite, dynamite clock-works, explosive oranges, “flower baskets”, and such other innocent names? Is it this destructive agency, which, once in the hands of some modern Attila, e.g., a blood-thirsty anarchist, would reduce Europe in a few days to its primitive chaotic state with no man left alive to tell the tale - is this force to become the common property of all men alike?

(Helena Blavatsky)

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Reproduced from [The Secret Doctrine, volume I](#), page 563. See the whole Section number X, “The Coming Force”, from page 554 through 566.

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Study more: [Old Prophecies and Atomic War](#).

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Swami Sivananda: **Third World War**

The Third World War is threatening.
It will quell the pride of the nations.
Where is Hitler now?
Where is Mussolini now?
Both parties are now counting their atom bombs.
Atom bombs are their asset and strength.
Everybody wants to be a leader.
Everybody wants to rule over others.
Everybody wants power.
Everybody wants to be a President or Dictator.
Everybody wants to rule over the whole world.
Nobody wants to tap the source by looking within.
Ignorance is the cause of war.
Passion and greed excite the man,
And make him forget his divine nature,
Universal brotherhood, oneness of humanity,
The teachings of Prophets, and the truth of Scriptures.
He develops headstrong and weak hearted nature.
He hates and kills others ruthlessly.
How overwhelming is delusion!
It hurls down even mighty intelligent persons
Into the dark abyss of ignorance.
O Man! Wake up from the slumber of ignorance.
Know thyself and be free.
Understand the oneness of life and consciousness.
Learn to discriminate and become wise.

(Swami Sivananda)

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Reproduced from the book "World Peace", by Swami Sivananda, published by The Divine Life Society, India, 2007, 167 pp., see pp. 145-146.

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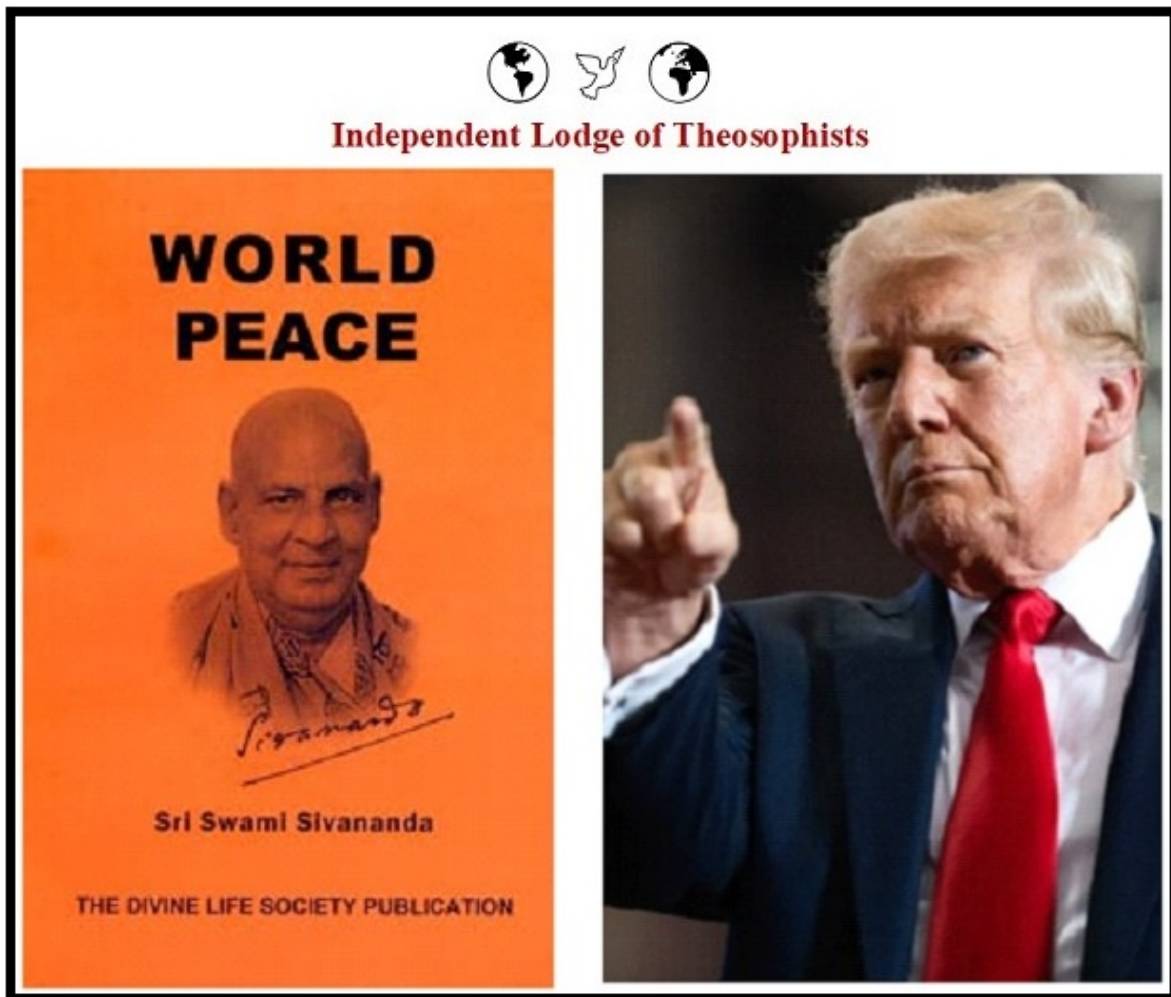
Read more:

- * [The World War in Our Minds.](#)
- * [A Prayer for Our Planetary Community.](#)

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Stop War

Swami Sivananda



War is the highest barbarism.
It is the most horrible crime.
It is monstrous and horrible villainy.
It is man's crowning stupidity.
It leads to disaster and destruction.

O Scientists! Abandon bomb manufacturing.
Try sincerely to make peace among nations.
O Dictators! O Presidents!
Attempt to effect world peace.

You will not gain anything through wars.
You have rejected the Sermon on the Mount.
You preach against religion and God.
This is indeed a grave blunder.

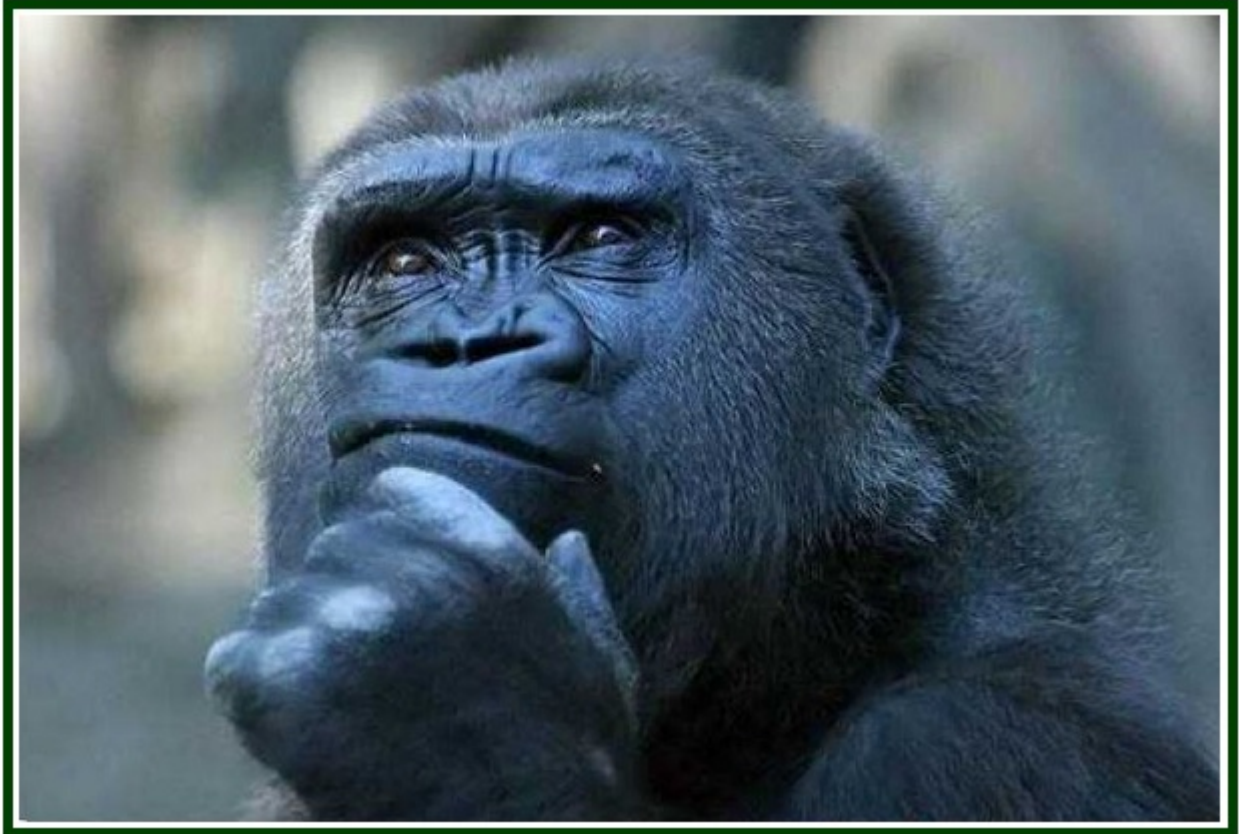
Establish Yoga-Vedanta Centres everywhere.
You have too many scientists;
You have too few men of God.

Invite Yogis and Sannyasins from India;
They will guide you and show you the way to PEACE.

(Swami Sivananda)

[From the book "World Peace", by Swami Sivananda, published by The Divine Life Society, India, 2007, 167 pp., see p. 141.]

The Victory of Life and Good Will



The defeat of authoritarian globalism - an enemy of moral values but a close friend of nuclear war danger and projects of collective mind control - such a defeat, or implosion, is a decisive victory for all human beings around the world.

Respect for the family is now hopefully being reborn; and respect for the spiritual path, for children, for life in general.

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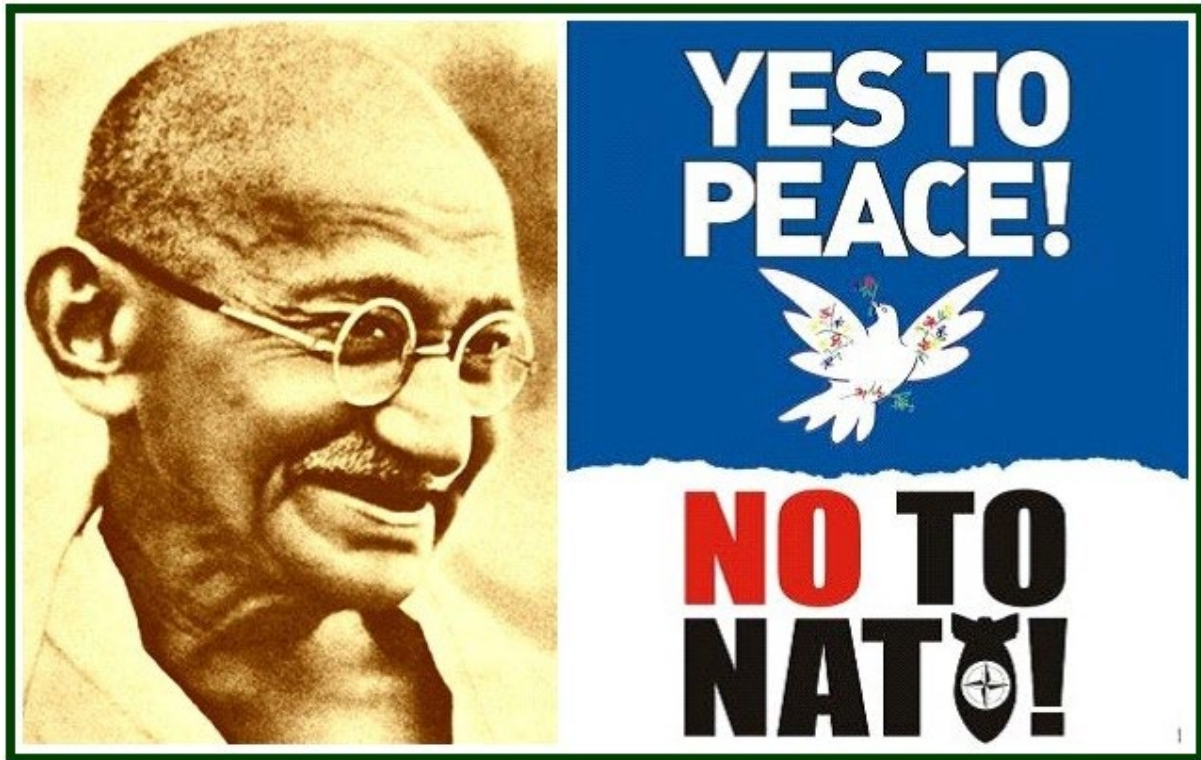
[Read the ground-breaking article](#)

**‘On the Historical Unity of Russians
and Ukrainians’, by Vladimir V. Putin**

**The True Sovereignty of Ukraine Is
Only Possible in Partnership With Russia**

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Stop All Wars Swami Sivananda



War is due to ignorance,
Delusion, and lust for power.
War is brutality, bestiality, barbarism.
War is moral and spiritual bankruptcy.
Abandon war-mongering.
War is destruction and hell.
Cultivate love, understanding and compassion.
Become a lover of peace.
Establish peace and goodwill on this Earth.
Practise Ahimsa or non-violence.

(Swami Sivananda)

[From the book "World Peace", by Swami Sivananda, published by The Divine Life Society, India, 2007, 167 pp., see pp. 141-142.]

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Recommended Reading:

How We Fabricate Scapegoats

<https://www.carloscardosoaveline.com/how-we-fabricate-scapegoats/>

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Swami Sivananda: **Find the Ultimate Peace**



The Atman is one, absolute, indivisible.
It is pure Consciousness.
It shines in its captivating splendour,
In the secret chamber of the heart,
In the Infinite universe within the heart,
In the cave of the Vijnanamaya Kosha. [1]
By the light of this Atma this world is revealed.
Purify the mind and meditate on this Atma.
Know that you are the Atman,
Ever blissful, one without a second
And find the ultimate peace.
Remain absorbed in the joy which is silence.

(Swami Sivananda)

NOTE:

[1] Vijnanamaya Kosha. “Vijnanamaya” encompasses intuition and intellect (buddhi-manas). It means both wisdom and knowledge. Kosha, on the other hand, signifies a shell. “Vijnanamaya Kosha” is then the Wisdom-shell of Atma, the wisdom-level vehicle of Atma.(CCA)

[Reproduced from the book “World Peace”, by Swami Sivananda, published by The Divine Life Society, India, 2007, 167 pp., see p. 156.]

Speed and Patience Are Both Necessary



I like to move quickly, but if a situation requires patience, I will be patient. The speed depends on the circumstances, and I keep my objective in mind at all times. This alone can be a patience pill. I've spent from five minutes to fifteen years waiting for a deal.

(Donald J. Trump)

[From the book "How to Get Rich", by Donald J. Trump, with Meredith McIver, BBC Books, Penguin House, London, UK, Copyright 2004, 252 pp., see p. 133.]

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Independent Lodge of Theosophists

[Click and See the Articles of the Section](#)

Planetary Change and The Civilization of the Future

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Russia is Not the Bogeyman

And Western Politicians Should Not Be Afraid of Dialogue. Kissinger Explains Trump's Foreign Policy.



Kissinger visits Trump in the White House, some seven years ago

For propaganda purposes, enemies of peace use to suggest that Donald Trump is a superficial and thoughtless person in international matters. Yet propaganda cannot replace reality.

There is a most solid foundation - theoretical, historical, and philosophical - beneath Trump's foreign policies.

His view of world affairs happens to be the most authoritative and reasonable that exists. It is extremely well-documented, and it points to Peace. It is clearly expressed - and in scholarly terms - by Henry Kissinger in his books.

Trump's worldview, shared by Kissinger, is based on the idea of mutual respect among nations - starting of course with nuclear superpowers.

Kissinger is the brain and the statesman behind the end of the Cold War.

Henry Kissinger was also a personal friend to both Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump. Putin is not the bogeyman: Putin agrees with the Westphalian view of the world community, proposed by Kissinger since the close of the Cold War days.

Donald Trump is a practical winner in terms of producing peace through strength.

The ideal of mutual respect was not created last week. It is present in every religion. It is both ancient and Christian. It emerged more recently in the seventeenth century during the Westphalian Conferences in Europe.

Henry Kissinger writes:

“The Westphalian peace reflected a practical accommodation to reality, not a unique moral insight. It relied on a system of independent states refraining from interference in each other’s domestic affairs and checking each other’s ambitions through a general equilibrium of power.” [1]

That means something practical:

* Our present nuclear superpowers must respect each other, and actively cooperate.

The honest adoption of such a basic principle is an Existential Duty for each and every part of our humanity.

In order to avoid Mutual Assured Destruction, MAD, we need to build Mutual Assured Respect.

There is no other path to go. It makes no sense trying to boycott Donald Trump, as he paves the way to Peace. In fact, every friend of mankind must help peace to be born again.

And childish minds should stop repeating - decade after decade - that “Russia is the Bogeyman”.

(CCA)

NOTE:

[1] “World Order”, by Henry Kissinger, Penguin Books, 2014, 420 pp., see p. 03.

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Watch a White House video with Trump saying (in the first minutes) that Kissinger is his long-time personal friend and a man of great knowledge:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u9AC17Bshrc&ab_channel=TrumpWhiteHouseArchived

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Read and watch: [Eisenhower Denounces Military-Industrial Complex.](#)

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Thoughts Along the Road

War Is a Form of Psychosis, but Making (True) Peace Has a Healing Effect



* In June 1936, the monthly magazine “**Theosophy**” published a ground-breaking note relating modern War to Psychosis. [1]

* The note says:

* “It is with true courage, and must be with some true sense of spiritual responsibility for the results of scientific progress, that 339 of the leading psychiatrists of the world signed a manifesto calling war exactly what it is - no normal human activity but a true ‘psychosis’ - a literal insanity such as in the individual results in his being deprived of the control of his personal affairs. (*Science News Letter*, Oct. 26, 1935, Nov. 9, 1935).”

* Subsequently, says “**Theosophy**”, many others who read the manifesto sent in their names to be added.

* The magazine then reproduces the opinion of one who signed the manifesto:

* “I am in full accord, and feel that there should be as much publicity as possible given to this statement. The one paragraph, ‘*We psychiatrists declare that our science is sufficiently advanced for us to distinguish between real, pretended, and unconscious motives, even in statesmen*’, should be brought to the attention of all intelligent peoples.”

* Final commentary from the editor of “Theosophy”: “This is a hopeful and heartening sign that modern psychology is progressing, even though erratically, in the right direction.”

* When the note was published, Hiroshima and Nagasaki had not been destroyed yet. The world was still free from the nightmare of nuclear weapons. Nazi Germany was preparing to provoke a world war. Life is cyclic, and another generation of *friends of death* may be trying to do the same now.

* If non-nuclear wars are arguably psychotic, one must wonder about the diagnosis for the constant building up of nuclear arsenals, which has taken place since Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Insanely large investments were made in preparing (and planning) an explosive end of all life as we know it.

* Theosophists have no reason to applaud the warlords who increased the danger of a nuclear conflict with Russia. This was done, first, by irresponsibly expanding NATO, step by step, since the 1990s; second, by wasting fortunes in undercover propaganda against Russia in Western media; and third, by provoking the conflict in Ukraine since 2014, in order to use Ukrainian population as cannon-fodder against the fabricated “enemy”. War is lucrative, especially for the [Military-Industrial Complex](#).

* Wrong ideas move life and karma in the wrong direction. Failed notions must be corrected and replaced with correct ones. Right ideas pave the way to lucidity. The new president of the United States wants peace in Ukraine and in other parts of the planet.

An Agreement of US, Russia and China to Reduce Nuclear Weapons

* In February 2025, Donald Trump announced that he wants to make a Trilateral Agreement with Russia and China for the three countries to reduce in 50 per cent their military budgets, and to specifically downsize their nuclear arsenals in drastic ways.

* An enduring peace is not easy to obtain. There will be a long path full of obstacles, until it is built. For centuries, Napoleon Bonaparte, Adolf Hitler, Joe Biden and many other Western militaristic leaders have dreamed of destroying Russia, and did make vast propaganda against Russia. A gradual cultural change is needed. In recent weeks, a few steps have been taken in the right direction.

* The US intention of reducing nuclear weapons constitutes in itself a significant progress towards sanity. [2] On the other hand, the start of a search for peace has caused fear, anger and panic - among the friends of death and the clients of war.

* Everyone can understand that organized bloodshed is a lucrative activity for some, including journalists. Influential groups which control much of Western media persistently try to convince us that destroying Ukraine and provoking a nuclear war could be “an effective way to defend democracy”. Their “Intelligence” has become Artificial. They wanted to hypnotize Western populations and failed.

* After three years of destruction and death in Ukraine and a worldwide asymmetric war, we have good news. A respectful dialogue between the US and Russia was re-established, the censorship of Western media fails, and populations slowly awaken to the facts.

* Theosophists know that Life deserves respect. Honest dialogue among nuclear powers is essential for our global community. Using smaller countries as mere weapons to provoke a world war against a nuclear superpower is not an acceptable trick.

* Peaceful societies make it easier for everyone to live, but hate and wars have no future. Common sense is the bridge to the future. The whole world deserves sane leaders.

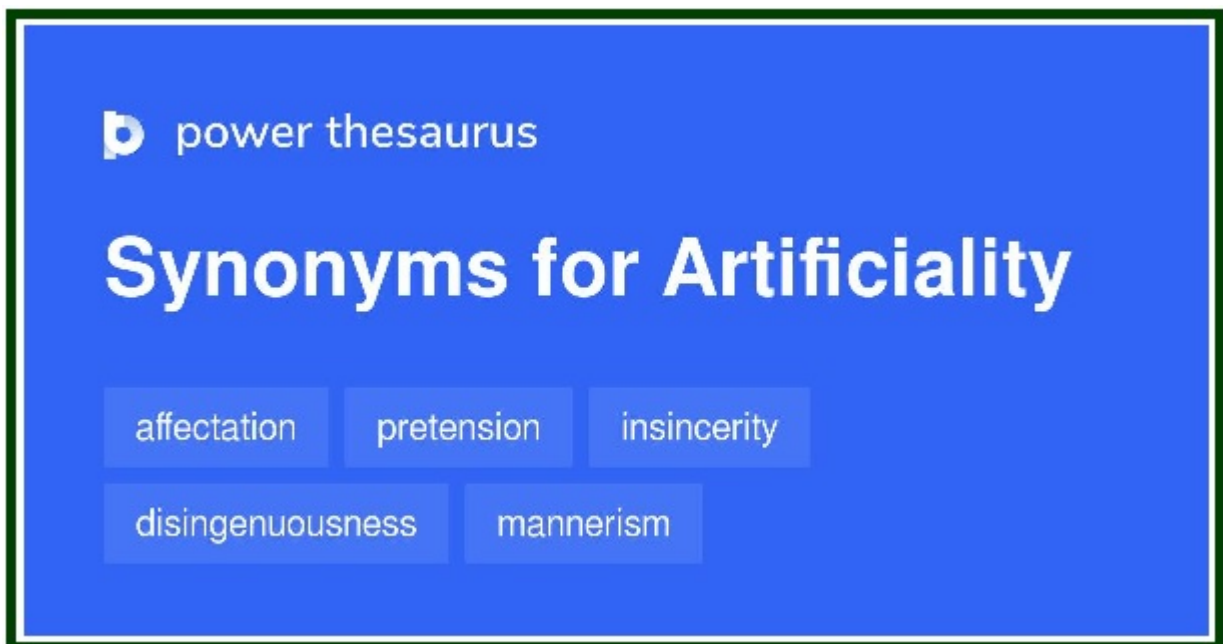
** May we, as well as our readers and friends, add our constructive thoughts to the work of those who are working for world peace. Let us make the sincere power of our thoughts contribute to the reduction of nuclear arsenals, and the destruction of social and ideological mechanisms that generate any form of organized hate.*

* World peace is among the basic needs of mankind in our century and in future ones. For that, we need to expand and strengthen our constructive intelligence. This is not a simple task.

Real Intelligence is Never Artificial

* If we put propaganda aside for a moment and wash our hands from the blind worship of machines, weapons, money and automatic technocracy, we may come to suspect that the acronym **AI** really means “Authentic Idiocy” - for machines have no soul.

* Machines cannot think. They cannot replace human beings. They can only simulate thought while blindly obeying orders from some Big Tech company - or worse. [3]



* Collective mental laziness wants to reign supreme in our lives, but we have the power to say No. Let us remember that the obsessive search for “comfort”, “high speed” and “quickness” is just one symptom among others of a serious disease called Anxiety.

NOTES:

[1] “Theosophy”, Los Angeles, June 1936, p. 373. The magazine was then edited by Mr. John Garrigues, one of the founders of the United Lodge of Theosophists in 1909.

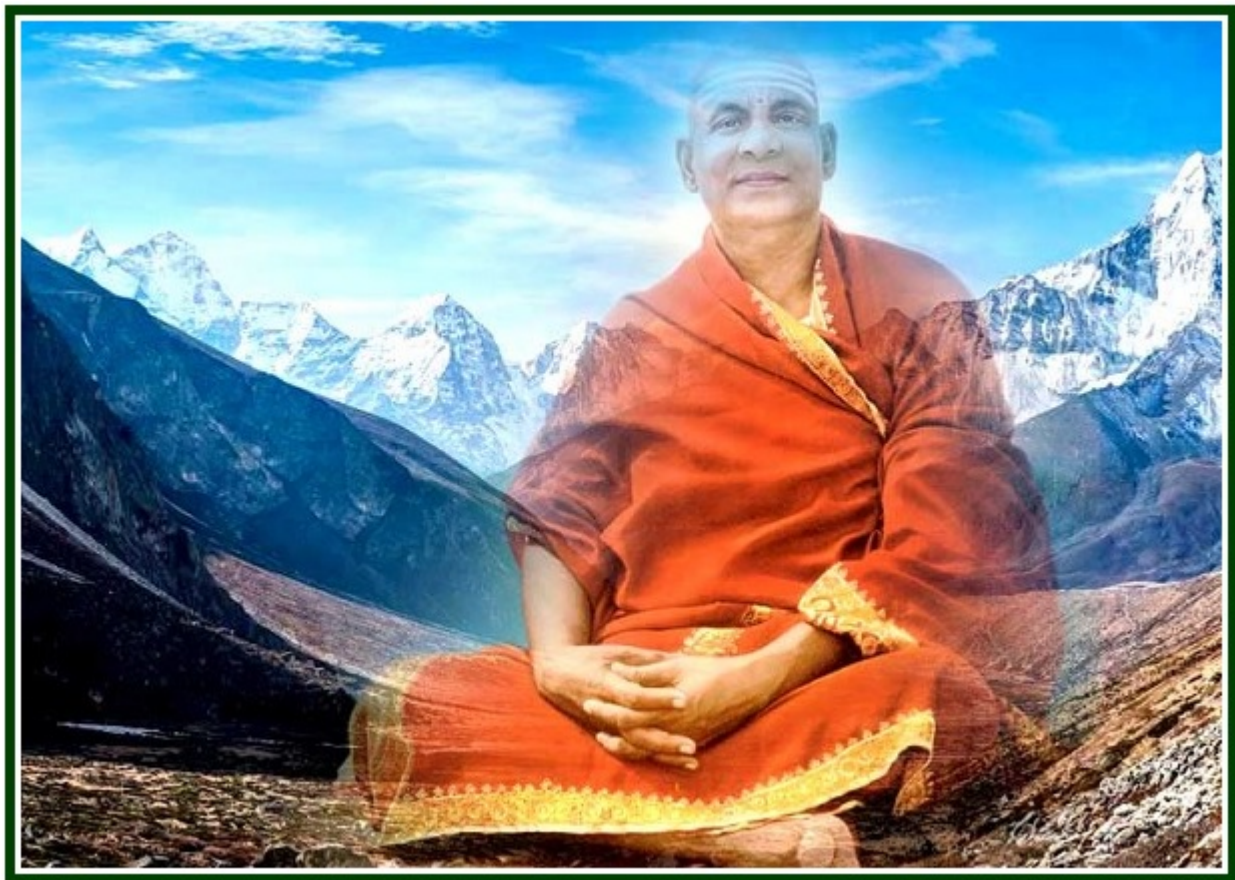
[2] See the news in [The Guardian, 13 February 2025](#), and [Associated Press](#), AP, on

[14 February 2025](#). The [AP link has also a video with D. Trump explaining his intention](#).

[3] Read the article [Authentic Intelligence is Better than Artificial Intelligence](#).

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Swami Sivananda:
Now I Abide In Peace
A Mantramic Meditation for
Good-Willing People to Practice



First I abandoned desires, then attachment. Now I abide in supreme peace.

I do not mix much. I do not move. I meditate. Now I abide in eternal peace.

I controlled the senses and the mind. I cultivated dispassion. Now I abide in everlasting peace.

The world is an illusion. Brahman [Supreme Cosmic Consciousness] is the only Reality:
Knowing this, now I abide in peace that passes all understanding.

I am all-pervading, immortal Atma. Knowing this, now I abide in immortal peace.

I have renounced both action and renunciation of action. I live happily in any state now. So I abide in perennial peace.

The sense-objects are the robbers. I have annihilated these robbers. I am quite safe and happy. Now I abide in unalloyed peace.

(Swami Sivananda)

[From the book “**World Peace**”, by Sri Swami Sivananda, The Divine Life Society, India; first edition, 1957; second edition, 2007, 167 pp.; see page 134.]

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Does Theosophy Ignore Politics? **The Epistemology of Fragmentation**



H.P. Blavatsky (1831-1891)

Uninformed souls use to say - as if it were an unquestionable truth - that “Theosophy has nothing to do with social or political issues”.

Theosophy is universal knowledge: it includes the essential substance of all fields of knowledge.

There is however an academic delusion according to which true knowledge can be gained by fragmenting or “specializing” separate views of reality. The idea results from a baseless epistemology of fragmentation. The notion is both untrue and anti-theosophical.

In an article published by H.P. Blavatsky in 1882 in her journal “The Theosophist”, a Paramahansa of the Himalayas makes a number of interdisciplinary definitions of Theosophy.

Among them:

“Theosophy is that branch of politics, which unites past and future into one present, and establishes peace with the most tumultuous off-shoots of debased nature.” [1]

Blavatsky repudiated short-term politics in her writings. She could not and would not deny the fact that politics is the art of collectively deciding the next steps in the creation of common Karma on the level of a community. Politics must be liberated from short-term propaganda campaigns and recognized as a branch of philosophy and theosophy.

There is no separation among the different fields of knowledge, or lines of thought, feeling and action. Everything is in unity in the universe. All thoughts, feelings and forms of knowledge are in constant interaction and they change and influence one another all the time. The article “Doing What Depends on Us” makes the following statement regarding the 21st century:

“Economic, political and social life now undergoes a high speed change whose end results are yet to be known.”

It is time to reason with common sense:

“Every aspect of the present civilization is going through a transmutation which causes multiple positive and negative effects. There are no mere spectators.”

“The actions of one individual affect all. In other words, one must be aware of the *domino effect* or the law of interaction. The theory of complexity confirms the *butterfly effect*, which establishes the power of a small event to change the whole world.”

The law of reciprocity is unavoidable:

“It would be unintelligent and inefficient to pretend we don’t know of the *mirror effect*. The law of reciprocity operates in all interactions. Everyone is a psychological looking glass to each human being. Now is the right time therefore to act in peace and serenity so as not to expand the sources of trouble, in the first place, and to reduce them as far as possible through intelligent cooperative action.” [2]

The conclusion is unavoidable. The idea that “theosophy is separate from politics” makes no sense. Those who believe that “true esoteric philosophy has nothing to say about the need to choose between peace and war in our global community” have yet to learn the basic principles of theosophy.

Theosophy is a philosophy from whose study emerges a respectful love for Life as a whole. Theosophy is the Art of Peace. Theosophy includes all of Life in its field of knowledge. Regarding War, the above mentioned Paramahansa wrote these significant words:

“Theosophy is that warlike art, which teaches one how to subdue (subjugate) time and death, the two mightiest foes of man.” [3]

There is indeed a war to be fought by all people, and the enemy is each one's own ignorance. Once we understand this basic fact, we can see that there is no need for Western nations to fabricate any world war against Russia or China. The opposite is true: cooperation among nuclear powers is of the essence in the creation of a better future. (CCA)

NOTES:

[1] [On What is Theosophy.](#)

[2] See [Doing What Depends on Us.](#)

[3] [On What is Theosophy.](#)

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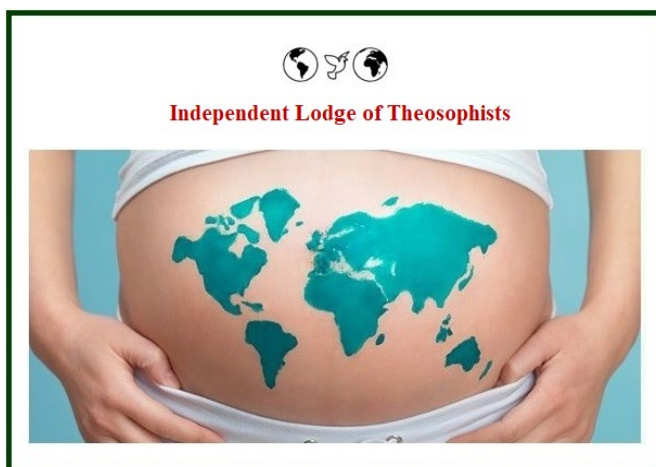
Study more:

* [The Philosophical Value of Democracy.](#)

* [Blavatsky on Communism, Socialism.](#)



* [Doing What Depends on Us.](#)



* [Two Karmic Fields in the Planetary Transition.](#)

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Swami Sivananda: **Money and Peace**



Money cannot give you peace.
You can purchase many things,
But you cannot purchase peace.
You can buy soft beds,
But you cannot buy sleep.
You can buy good foods,
But you cannot buy good appetite.
You can buy good tonics,
You cannot buy good health.
You can buy good books,
But you cannot buy wisdom.

(Swami Sivananda)

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Reproduced from the book “**World Peace**”, by Swami Sivananda, published by The Divine Life Society, India, 2007, 167 pp., see p. 159.

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Read this great article again:
A Lunatic Race?
by Radha Burnier

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truth. A silent mind only can receive the Divine Light. A peaceful mind only will be a proper vessel to hold the spiritual light. The spiritual experiences will be permanent if one possesses a quiet mind. Otherwise they will come and go.

As soon as you get up from bed in the morning, do some prayer, Japa and meditation from 4 to 6. Then make a firm determination: "I will observe celibacy today. I will speak the truth today. I will not hurt others' feelings today. I will not lose my temper today." Watch the mind. Have an iron will. Be resolute. You will surely succeed that day. Then you can continue the vow for the whole week. You will gain strength gradually. Your will-force will develop. Then continue the vow for the whole month. Even if you commit some mistakes in the beginning you need not be unnecessarily alarmed. Mistakes are your best teachers. You will not commit the same mistakes again. If you are sincere and earnest, the Divine Grace will descend upon your head. The Lord will give you strength to face difficulties and troubles.

He who has controlled his mind is really happy and free. Physical freedom is no freedom at all. If a man is easily carried away by his emotions and impulses, if he is under the grip of moods, cravings and passions, how can he be really happy? He is like a rudderless boat. He is tossed about hither and thither like a piece of straw in a river. He laughs for five minutes and weeps for five hours. What can wife, son, friends, money, fame, titles, powers, do for him when he is swayed by the impulses of the mind? A true hero is he who has controlled his mind. There is a proverb: "He who has controlled his mind has controlled the world." True victory is victory over the mind. Then only one can enjoy real freedom. Through rigorous discipline and self-imposed restrictions, you will have to eradicate all your desires, thoughts, impulses, cravings, etc. Then only you can free yourself from the thralldom of the mind. You should not give leniency to the mind. The mind is a mischievous imp. You should curb it by drastic measures. Then only you can become a perfect Yogi. Money cannot give you freedom. Freedom is not a commodity that can be purchased in the Crawford Market! It is a rare hidden treasure guarded by a five-hooded serpent. Unless you kill the serpent, you cannot get the treasure. That treasure is the Spiritual Wealth. The serpent is the mind. The five hoods are the five senses through which the mind hisses.

A Yogi Does Not Want to Change Things All the Time

Rajasic mind always wants new things. It wants variety. It gets disgusted with monotony. It wants change of place, change of food, and change of everything, in short. But a Yogic student should train the mind to stick to one thing. He should not be afraid of monotony. He should have asinine patience, adamant will and untiring perseverance. Then only he can succeed in Yoga. He who wants something new always, is unfit for Yoga. You should stick to one place, one teacher, one method, one system of Yoga. Then only rapid progress is possible. You should have real thirst for God-realisation. Then all obstacles will be obviated. Then only you can stick to the path of Yoga. Mere emotional bubbling for the time being out of sheer curiosity or for getting powers and Siddhis cannot bring any tangible results.

When you have made some progress in meditation, you cannot be carried away by surging emotions. Occasional irritability and undesirable cravings of various sorts may manifest, but you will have strength to control or repress them. You will not yield to them. Gradually these cravings will be completely burnt by the fire of meditation.

If you are careless, if you are irregular in your Yogic practices, if your dispassion wanes, if you give up your Sadhana for some days on account of laziness, the adverse forces will take

you away from the true path of Yoga. You will be stranded. It will be very difficult for you to rise up again to the original pinnacle. Therefore be very regular in your practices.

The restless mind must be rendered quiet by reducing your wants, by destroying useless earthly desires. Have one strong desire for liberation. Then you can open your mind to the higher spiritual influences. The Divine Light will slowly descend. You can actually feel the inner change and spiritual uplift. Gradually the personal consciousness will merge itself into the Cosmic Consciousness, the individual will is going to merge into the Divine Will or Cosmic Will. This is the state of Samadhi or Superconscious state. Man has become transmuted into God now. After many ages he has gone back to his original home or abode of Immortality and eternal Bliss.

You will have to squeeze out all Rajas from the mind. Rajas is passion. All worldly ambitions are the products of Rajas. Ambition renders the mind restless. If the ambition is not realised, the mind is filled with depression and anxieties. The ambitious man has no peace of mind. He worries himself: "Will I succeed in my attempt? Even if I succeed, will I be able to have the same influence and power which Mr. So and so possesses?" Ambition is a great obstacle in Yoga. You must try to get peace of mind first. Then only the superstructure of Yoga can be built up quickly. The Divine Light can only descend in a peaceful mind. If you have a peaceful mind, you will get flashes of higher vision.

A gloomy man radiates unpleasant and morbid vibrations all around. There is nothing more infectious than depression. Never come out of your room, if you are depressed, because you will spread the contagion to your friends and neighbours. Depression eats the very core of your being. It havoocs like a canker. It is a deadly plague. It may be due to some disappointment or failure, severe dyspepsia or heated debates, wrong thinking or wrong feeling, etc. Separate yourself from this negative feeling and identify yourself with the Supreme Purusha. Have an inner life. No external influences can affect you. You will be invulnerable. You will be proof against depression or any dark antagonistic force. Drive the feeling of depression at once by enquiry, singing the Name of the Lord, prayer, chanting of OM, Pranayama, a brisk walk in the open air, thinking of the opposite, viz., the feeling of joy. Try to be happy in all states and radiate joy to all around you.

Thought Works Wonders

This world is nothing but the materialisation of the thought-forms of Hiranyagarbha or God. You have got the waves of heat and light and electricity in science. There are also thought-waves in Yoga. Thought has tremendous power. Everybody is exercising the power of thought unconsciously to some extent. If you have a comprehensive understanding of the working of the thought-vibrations, if you know the technique of controlling thoughts, if you know the method of transmitting beneficial thoughts to others at a distance by forming clear-cut, well-defined, powerful thought-images, you can use this thought-power a thousandfold more effectively. Thought moves. Thought works wonders. Thought heals. Thought has weight, shape, size and colour. A wrong thought binds; a right thought liberates. Therefore think rightly and attain freedom.

It is not thought alone that determines an action. There are some intelligent people who think nicely on the pros and cons of a thing but when the time comes they are led astray by temptations. They do wrong actions and repent bitterly. It is the feeling that really goads a man to do action. Some psychologists lay much stress on imagination and say that it is

imagination that really determines an action. They bring the following illustrations in support of their statements: - Suppose a long plank one foot broad is placed on two turrets each 20 feet high. If you begin to walk over this plank you imagine that you will fall down and so you actually fall down; whereas you are able to walk nicely on the same plank when it is placed on the ground. Again, suppose you go on a bicycle along a narrow lane. There is a big stone on the way. You imagine that you will hit the cycle against the stone and so you actually run the cycle against the stone on account of your false imagination. Some other psychologists say that it is the will that determines an action and that will can do everything. To them will is Soul-force. Vedantins also are of this opinion.

Man is a complex social animal with a multiplicity of interests. He is a biological organism and so he is definitely characterised by the possession of certain physiological functions such as circulation of blood, digestion, respiration, excretion, etc. He is also definitely characterised by the possession of certain psychological functions such as thinking, perception, memory, imagination, etc. He sees, thinks, tastes, smells and feels. Philosophically speaking he is the image of God, nay, he is Brahman Himself. He lost his divine glory by tasting the fruit of the "Forbidden Tree". He can regain his lost divinity by mental discipline and the practice of Yoga.

Why do you weep, my child? Take away the bandage from your eyes and see. Lift up the veil of Maya. You are surrounded by Truth and Truth alone. Open your eyes and see clearly now. Wherever you see, there is the All-Full Light and Bliss only. The cataract of ignorance has blurred your vision. Have the cataract extracted immediately. Put on a new pair of glasses by developing the inner eye of wisdom through regular meditation.

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Reproduced from pages 388-392 of the book "Sadhana", by Swami Sivananda, The Divine Life Society, India, eleventh edition, 2019, 702 pages.

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The Meaning of Brahmakara Vritti

In *brahmakara vritti*, the mind is no longer filled with *citta vritti*, or "mind chatter". Yogic training in concentration, attention, breathing exercises and meditation can quiet *citta vritti* in order to help the yogi reach a more peaceful awareness and truer sense of self.

Brahmakara vritti is equated with *samadhi*, which is enlightenment and the mind's ultimate state of being. Samadhi is the eighth and final limb of Patanjali's eight-step path of yoga. The mind no longer perceives plurality and duality. Its existence has become limitless consciousness, both timeless and spaceless. Individuality no longer exists.

(From the Yogapedia: <https://www.yogapedia.com/definition/9491/brahmakara-vritti>)

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HPB Gives Us a Luminous Hint:
Theosophical Movement
Can Get Rid of Falsehoods



Helena Blavatsky wrote these words, regarding illegitimate secrets:

“... All efforts of the greatest craft [*to deceive*] are doomed to failure on the day they are discovered.” [1]

At the right time, Truth prevails.

If Blavatsky is right, every falsehood in the theosophical movement will implode in due time, thus opening the door of Karma to new blessings and making it easier for sincere theosophists to help mankind.

So be it. Om, Shanti, Om.

NOTE:

[1] “Collected Writings”, H. P. Blavatsky, TPH, USA, Volume XIV, p. 267.

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Reproduced from [In 2011, a Crisis in the Egyptian Rite.](#)

See also the article [The Fraud in Adyar Esoteric School.](#)

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Independent Lodge of Theosophists

“A group or branch, however small, cannot be a theosophical Society - unless all the members in it are magnetically bound to each other, by the same way of thinking at least in some one direction ...”.

H. P. Blavatsky

Image reproduced from the original manuscript of Letter C (100) in “Letters of H. P. Blavatsky to A. P. Sinnett”, TUP, Pasadena, California, USA, p. 222:

A group or branch however small, cannot be a theosophical Society - unless all the members in it are magnetically bound to each other, by the same way of thinking at least in some one direction

(The founders of the Independent Lodge obtained from the British Library a complete copy of the original of Letter 100)

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