

GLAMOUR

A WORLD PROBLEM

BY

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Section Three

The Ending of Glamour – Part 1

Pages 161-221

Techniques of the Presence and of Light

Dissipating Individual Glamour

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“Reality is none of these, but only the One and the Other in relation with each other”

CONTENTS 2

GLAMOUR A WORLD PROBLEM: SECTION THREE

THE ENDING OF GLAMOUR

It is right here that religion has, as a whole, gone astray

- The balance is being adjusted by the humanitarian attitudes now coming more into control, irrespective of any theological trend
- These attitudes take their stand on the belief of the innate rightness of the human spirit, in the divinity of man, and upon the indestructible nature of the soul of mankind
- This inevitably brings in the concept of the PRESENCE, or of God Immanent, and is the result of a needed revolt against the belief in God Transcendent (only, Ed.)
- This spiritual revolution was a balancing process; it need cause no concern, for God Transcendent eternally exists - but can only be seen, known and correctly approached by God Immanent—immanent in individual man, in groups and nations, in organised forms and in religion, in humanity as a whole and in the planetary Life Itself

The role of the world war and of the United Nations

The work being done by those who see the ‘world stage’ as the arena for the conflict between the Dweller on the Threshold and the Angel of the PRESENCE might be itemised as:

- 1. Producing world conditions in which the Forces of Light can overcome the Forces of Evil**
- 2. Educating humanity in the distinction between:**
 - **SPIRITUALITY and materialism, by pointing to the differing goals of the combatant forces**
 - **SHARING and greed, by outlining a future world wherein the Four Freedoms will be dominant and all will have what is needed for right living-processes**
 - **LIGHT and dark, by demonstrating the difference between an illumined future of liberty and opportunity, and the dark future of slavery**
 - **FELLOWSHIP and separation, by indicating the difference between a world order where racial hatreds, caste distinctions, and religious differences form no barrier to international understanding ... and the ‘Axis order’ of ‘master races, determined religious attitudes, and enslaved peoples’**
 - **The WHOLE and the part, by pointing to the time which is approaching (under the evolutionary urge of spirit) wherein the ‘part’ or the point of life assumes its responsibility for the ‘whole,’ and the ‘whole’ exists for the good of the ‘part’**
- 3. Preparing the way for three spiritual energies that could and will sweep humanity into an era of COMPREHENSION, clarifying all men's minds**
 - The energy of the intuition will gradually dispel world illusion, and greatly augment the ranks of the Initiates
 - The activity of light will dissipate world glamour by the energy of illumination, and bring thousands on to the Path of Discipleship

- The energy of inspiration will bring about devitalisation or removal, as by a wind, of the attractive power of maya or substance. This will release many thousands on to the Path of Probation

4. Releasing new life into the planet through the medium of every possible agency

5. Bringing home to the nations of the world the truths taught by the Buddha, the Lord of Light, and the Christ, the Lord of Love

The work of the Christ and the Buddha in the field of world glamour

If the lives and teachings of these two great Avatars can be comprehended and wrought out anew

- **In the lives of men today**
- **In the world of human affairs**
- **In the realm of human thinking and**
- **In the arena of daily living,**

Then the present world order (which is today largely disorder) could be so modified that 'a new world and a new race of men' can gradually come into being

Renunciation and the use of the sacrificial will should be the keynote for the interim period after the war, prior to the inauguration of the New Age

Remember - all manifestations and every point of crisis can be symbolised by the ancient symbol of a point within the circle, the focus of power within a sphere of influence or aura

Disillusioned and de-glamoured (if I may use such a term), humanity awaits the coming REVELATION

This REVELATION will be brought about by the combined efforts of the Buddha and the Christ

All that we can foresee anent that revelation is that some potent and far-reaching results will be achieved by the merging of light and love, and by the reaction of "lighted substance to the attractive power of love"

It might be added that when an appreciation of the meaning of the words "transfiguration of a human being" is gained, the realisation will come that when "the body is full of light" then "in that light shall we see LIGHT"

This means that when the personality has reached a point of purification, dedication and illumination, then the attractive power of the soul (whose nature is love and understanding) can function, and fusion of these two will take place

This is what the CHRIST proved and demonstrated

When the work of the BUDDHA (or 'THE EMBODIED BUDDHIC PRINCIPLE') is consummated in the aspiring disciple and in his integrated personality, then the full expression of the work of the CHRIST (THE EMBODIED PRINCIPLE OF LOVE) can also be consummated

At the June Full Moon, 1942, the first test as to the directness of the communication between the Centre where the Will of God holds sway, the Centre where the Love of God rules, and the Centre where there is intelligent expectancy was made

You may feel, though wrongly, that not enough people know about or understand the nature of the opportunity or what is transpiring

Ponder on that statement

I have made this practical application and immediate illustration of the teaching anent glamour, illusion and maya because the whole world problem has reached a crisis and because its clarification will be the outstanding theme of all progress—educational, religious and economic—until 2025 A.D.

Always we begin with the unity of life, the Microcosm

Then, having grasped process and progress in connection with the individual, the idea can then be extended to the group, organization, nation, and then humanity as a whole.

Thus gradually we shall approach the great Idea to which we give the name of God, the Macrocosm.

1. The Technique of the Presence

By means of this technique, the soul assumes control of the integrated personality and of its relations, horizontal and vertical.

The intuition is the applied power of transfiguration

2. The Technique of Light

By means of this technique, the illumined mind assumes control over the astral or emotional body and dissipates glamour.

Illumination is the applied power of transformation

3. The Technique of Indifference

By means of this technique, maya is ended; for the control of the purified astral vehicle is consciously and technically brought into activity, producing the freeing of the energies of the etheric body from the control of matter or force-substance, and bringing men in large numbers on to the Probationary Path.

Inspiration is the applied power of transmission

1. THE TECHNIQUE OF THE PRESENCE

ILLUSION is related to the whole process of REVELATION

ILLUSION is concerned with the reaction of the mind to the unfolding revelation, as the soul registers it and seeks to impress it on the highest aspect of the personal lower self

ILLUSION is the failure of the mind correctly to register, interpret or translate that which has been transmitted and

Progressive unfoldment of human awareness down the ages has depended on two major related factors:

1. **The factor of the gradual development of the human mind through the processes of evolution itself**
 - BECOMING is revealed through the medium of the *intellect*
 - BEING, through the medium of the *intuition*
2. **The factor of the method whereby humanity is made aware of ‘that which is not immediately apparent’**

Two paralleling processes have produced humanity and its civilisation:

1. **The process of revelation**
2. **The fact of the Presence**
3. **The influence of the Angel**
4. **The reaction of the intuitives throughout the world to that revelation**
5. **The response of the thinking world to the presented truth**

A. INTUITION DISPELS INDIVIDUAL ILLUSION

The stage of illusion is a necessary one, for it is one of testing and training in order to develop powers of discrimination

It is essential that : -

- **the public is taught the significance of illusion**
- **the public is trained to ‘see’ and choose the kernel of pure truth in any presentation of truth with which they may be confronted**
- **world intuitives learn to use, control and understand the faculties of spiritual perception, divine isolation and appropriate response, which characterises the intuition**

This they can do through the practice of the Technique of the Presence, but not as it is usually taught

STAGES OF THE TECHNIQUE OF THE PRESENCE

Three Preliminary Stages

1. **Evocation of the stage of tension**
2. **Achieving a state of fusion with the soul - the Angel which guards the approach to the Path of the Higher Evolution**

3. Holding the mind steady in the light of the soul, which remains the attitude of the lower self for the entire remaining period of work, held at the point of tension by the soul and not by an effort of the personality

The soul undertakes this holding when the personal self has done its utmost to achieve the desired tension

Next six stages in the Technique – a new meditation attitude

They form the basis of prolonged brooding and intelligent reflection, carried on whilst the daily avocations and duties are being performed and not carried out at certain set times.

4. Definite, sustained effort to sense the Presence throughout the Universe in ALL forms and in ALL presentations of truth

This means: "Making the effort to isolate the germ or seed of divinity which has brought all forms into being"

It means making the effort primarily to 'see' in *the light which the ANGEL radiates*, the point of light behind ALL phenomenal appearances

As the light of the Moon is guarantee that the light of the Sun exists, so the light of the Sun is the guarantee, did you but know it, of A STILL GREATER LIGHT

5. After having sensed the PRESENCE—not theoretically, but in vibrating response to its Existence—comes the stage of ascertaining the PURPOSE

6. He then carries some world problem, or some design (which his mind has evolved or his heart desired for the helping of humanity) into what is esoterically called "the triple light of the intuition"

7. The next few stages are called (in preparation for the REVELATION):

- 1. The relinquishing of the Higher Way**
- 2. The return to the Angel (or a refocussing in the soul)**
- 3. A pause or interlude for constructive thinking, under the influence of the Angel**
- 4. The turning of the mind to the formulation of those forms of thought which must embody the revelation**
- 5. Then again a pause, which is called "the pause preceding presentation"**
- 8. The PRESENTATION of the revelation or imparted truth, and its precipitation into 'the world of illusion' comes next**

In that 'world of ILLUSION,' it undergoes the "fiery ordeal" wherein: -

- Some of the FIRE within what is revealed 'wings its way back to the source from whence it came'
- Some of it 'serves to destroy the revealer,' and
- Some of it 'serves to burn those who recognise the revelation'

THIS IS A PHASE OF AGNI YOGA which, as you can see, is only for those who can penetrate beyond the Angel into the place "where fire dwelleth," and where God, the PRESENCE, functions as 'a consuming fire' and waits for the hour of TOTAL REVELATION

This is a *symbolic* rendering of a great truth

In the case of the individual initiate, the third initiation, the Transfiguration, marks the consummation of the process

- Only 'glory' then is seen
- Only 'the voice of the Presence' is heard and
- Union with the past, the present and the future is reached

9. The succumbing of the REVELATION to the prevailing ILLUSION, its descent into 'the world of GLAMOUR,' and its subsequent 'disappearance as a revelation' and its emergence as a DOCTRINE

Some of the FIRE within what is revealed 'wings its way back to the source from whence it came'

Some of it 'serves to destroy the revealer'

Some of it 'serves to burn those who recognise the revelation'

An example of the descent of REVELATION into the worlds of ILLUSION and GLAMOUR – the story of the books, the Secret Doctrine:

Even the neophyte on 'the way of the INTUITION' can begin to develop in himself the power to recognise that which the lower mind cannot give him

There must be training of 'the exact intuitive'

Paralleling their INTUITIVE RESPONSE and their effort to precipitate their INTUITION into the world of human thought, there must also be steady development of the human mind, so that it can apprehend what is projected, and in this too lies the hope of the race

B. GROUP INTUITION DISPELS WORLD ILLUSION

Is there, in the sum total of the world's wishful thinking, enough ESSENTIAL DYNAMIC LIVINGNESS to carry it down into physical demonstration and thus truly meet human need?

- a. The cause of all human suffering is DESIRE and personal selfishness. Give up desire and you will be free**
- b. There is a way of liberation and it leads to ILLUMINATION**
- c. It profits a man nothing to gain the whole world and lose his soul**
- d. Every human being is a Son of God**
- e. There is a way of liberation; it is the way of LOVE and SACRIFICE**

The lives of these Revealers were symbolic representations of what They taught

The rest of Their teaching was an extension of Their central themes

A major task of the Hierarchy is to seek and find those who are sensitive to revelation, whose minds are trained so that they can formulate the emerging truths in such a way that they reach the ears of the world thinkers relatively unchanged

All basic revelations are presented in the simplest forms, yet...

The vast cathedrals and pompous ceremonies of the orthodox are far removed from the humble way of the life of the Christ, 'the Master of all the Masters and the Teacher alike of angels and of men,' and from the simplicity of His present way of life as He watches and waits for the return of His people to THE SIMPLE WAY OF SPIRITUAL REALISATION

Much of the true REVELATION since the time of Christ has come to the world along the line of science

The presentation, for instance, of material substance (scientifically proven) as essentially only 'a form of energy' was as great a REVELATION as any given by the Christ or the Buddha

It completely revolutionised men's thinking

It was—little as you may think it—a major blow struck at the GREAT ILLUSION.

It related energy to force, form to life, and man to God and held the secret of transformation, transmutation and transfiguration

Ways for Revelation to come:

- A. REVELATION can come through the effort, aspiration and achievement of ONE so close to the Hierarchy and so imbued with conscious divinity that he can receive the message direct from the central divine Source**
- B. REVELATION can come through the effort of A GROUP of seekers, such as the scientific investigators in every country, who together are searching for light on the problems of manifestation, or for some means to alleviate human suffering**

The disciple and initiate work ‘from above downwards’ – reasons to use the Technique of the Presence

- This point is to be most carefully remembered
- For this reason the Technique of the Presence must be employed prior to *all* other techniques

Forms in the outer WORLD OF PHENOMENA (‘outer’ from the angle of the soul and therefore encompassing the three worlds of our familiar daily living) are then seen to be but ‘symbols of an inward and spiritual Reality’

2. THE TECHNIQUE OF LIGHT

The key to the Technique of Light (of 'bringing light into dark places') is found in the words:

In that Light shall we see LIGHT

Here is a paraphrase of these apparently abstract and symbolic words:

BRINGING LIGHT INTO DARK PLACES - THREE STAGES

- a. The stage wherein the beginner and the aspirant endeavour to eradicate glamour out of their own life by the use of 'the light of the mind'
- b. The stage wherein the aspirant and disciple work with 'the light of the soul'
- c. The stage wherein the disciple and the initiate work with 'the light of the intuition'

You have therefore

- The light of knowledge
- The light of wisdom and
- The light of the intuition,

These are three definite *stages or aspects* of the One Light

They correspond to

- The physical Sun
- The Heart of the Sun, and
- The Central Spiritual Sun

*** In this last sentence you have the clue and key to the relation of man to the Logos

Just as the result of innate reaction to environment produces the apparatus needed to contact that environment, so the unfoldment of the powers these techniques serve, produces modes of contact with soul and spiritual environments

- Each of these techniques is related to a new environment
- Each of them eventually develops power in the initiate or disciple which can be used in the service of humanity and in higher spheres of divine activity
- Each is related to the other techniques
- Each releases the disciple into a conscious relationship with a new environment, new states of awareness and new fields of service

1. THE TECHNIQUE OF THE PRESENCE, successfully followed, enables the INTUITION: -

- To flow in and supersede the activity of the rationalising mind; and
- To dispel illusion, substituting for that illusion divine ideas, formulated into concepts we call ideals

2. THE TECHNIQUE OF LIGHT is more closely related to the mind, and signifies the method whereby the ILLUMINATION which flows from the soul (whose nature is 'light') can irradiate not only ideals but life, circumstances and events, revealing the cause and the meaning of the experience

3. THE TECHNIQUE OF INDIFFERENCE renders ineffective (or neutralises) the hold of substance over the life (or spirit), functioning in the three worlds, for 'soul' is 'the evidence of life'

'THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD'

Light is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen

'Light' and 'substance' are synonymous terms

'Soul' and 'light' are equally so

In this equality of idea—

Light = substance = soul

You have the key to fusion, and the at-one-ment which Christ expressed so fully for us in His life on Earth

THE INTUITION, the Light of the Soul and the light of the personality contrasted: -

- **PROGRESS IN SOUL CONTACT represents an important step towards COMPREHENSION OF LIGHT and its uses**
- **Do not confuse 'the light you can bring to bear on life, circumstance, events, and on environment' with the INTUITION**
- **The LIGHT with which we are concerned**
- **Expresses itself in the three worlds and**
- **Reveals form and forms, their reaction and effects, their glamour and attractive appeal, and their power to delude and imprison consciousness**
- **The LIGHT concerned is 'SOUL LIGHT'**
- **SOUL LIGHT illuminates the mind and REVEALS 'the world of forms' in which that life is immersed**

THE INTUITION is concerned with nothing whatsoever in the three worlds of human experience, but only with the perceptions of the Spiritual Triad and with 'the world of ideas'

The INTUITION is to 'the world of meaning' what the mind is to 'the three worlds of experience'

It produces UNDERSTANDING just as 'the light of soul' produces 'KNOWLEDGE, through the medium of that experience'

On a higher turn of the spiral, the INTUITION is the expression of the threefold Spiritual Triad, placing it in relation to the higher levels of divine expression

The INTUITION is a result of the life of the Monad—an energy that carries REVELATION OF DIVINE PURPOSE

TERMS FOR STUDENTS TO DISTINGUISH CAREFULLY

Various 'worlds'

Various forms of knowledge

RULES FOR THE TECHNIQUE OF LIGHT

The rules for the Technique of Light have been adequately laid down in the Raja Yoga system of Patanjali, the five stages of which are: -

- Concentration
- Meditation
- Contemplation
- Illumination
- Inspiration
- Concurrently following the Five Rules and Five Commandments must accompany this

They produce many results in psychic sensitivity, such as: -

- Hierarchical contact
- Illumination
- Service
- Discipline and, finally,
- The stage of "ISOLATED UNITY," (the paradoxical term Patanjali used to describe the inner life of the initiate)

What concerns us here is how this LIGHT is recognised, appropriated and used in order to dispel glamour and render a deeply esoteric service to the world

The light of the soul as it dissipates glamour in the three worlds

Groups will be formed of those working at the dissipation of glamour in their individual lives and who are doing so not so much in order to achieve their own liberation but with the special objective of ridding the astral plane of its significant glours

It is interesting to note that the most ancient prayer in the world refers to the three aspects of glamour

LEAD US, O LORD,

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT

FROM THE UNREAL TO THE REAL

FROM DEATH TO IMMORTALITY

"Lead us from the unreal to the Real" has specific relation to the astral plane and its all-encompassing glours

In the dissipation of glamour, sixth, fourth, and second ray disciples and aspirants can play a significant role

In time and space, this task will be first instituted and controlled in group formation only by aspirants whose soul or personality rays are the sixth ray, or by those whose astral bodies are conditioned by the sixth ray

I emphasise this as disciples frequently undertake tasks for which they are not particularly fitted and whose rays do not aid them in accomplishment - and sometimes *prevent* that accomplishment

GLAMOUR is caused by the RECOGNITION of that which man has himself created

The whole subject is related to CONSCIOUSNESS, to the second aspect, and concerns the forms through which mankind becomes progressively aware

1. Forms of very ancient origin which are the result of human activity, thinking and error

They embrace all 'the forms the desire nature of man has created down the ages'

They are what provides 'the incentive behind all striving and activity upon the outer plane as man attempts to satisfy desire'

2. Forms that are ceaselessly produced in response to the aspirational nature of humanity

These forms provide the 'enticements' that lead the man along towards high personal achievement in the first instance, and spiritual achievement later

They are *indicative* of the Real and yet often mistaken for the Real

They provide (in times of crisis) the great testing for all aspirants and disciples, evoking the subtlest kind of discrimination

1. They will be composed of sixth ray ASPIRANTS AND DISCIPLES, aided by second ray SPIRITUAL WORKERS

2. They will be formed of those who:

➤ Are learning or have learnt to dissipate their own individual glammers, and can bring understanding to the task

➤ Are focussed on the mental plane and have, therefore, some measure of mental illumination. They are mastering the Technique of Light

➤ Are aware of the nature of the glammers they are attempting to dissipate and can use the illumined mind as a searchlight

3. They will count among their numbers those who (occultly speaking) have the following powers in process of rapid development – skill in recognition of glamour, discrimination between them, appropriation and absorption of light, projection and right direction of that light, and right innovation:

A. THE DISSIPATION OF INDIVIDUAL GLAMOUR

GLAMOUR arose when man recognised and registered **DESIRE AS AN INCENTIVE**, thus

- **Demonstrating his humanity and his distinction from the animal, because it is the MIND which reveals the existence of DESIRE**

4 STAGES IN DISSIPATION OF INDIVIDUAL GLAMOUR

1. The stage of RECOGNITION of the glamour (or glammers) that hide the Real

These glammers depend, in any particular life crisis, upon the ray of the personality

2. The stage of focussing the disciple's consciousness on the mental plane

This includes gathering the light to a point of focus so that the illumination is clear, the work to be done plainly seen, and the searchlight of the mind is directed onto the glamour which it is intended to dissipate

3. The stage of DIRECTION

This involves steadily pouring the light (under intelligent direction) into the dark places of the astral plane Remember, the light enables the disciple to do two things:

- Dissipate the glamour—a satisfying experience
- See the Real—a terrifying experience, brother of mine

4. The stage of IDENTIFICATION WITH THE REAL as it is contacted after the dissipation of the glamour.

In the added light now available, there will be further RECOGNITION of even subtler glammers which in their turn must be dissipated

This process of

- **Recognition**
- **Focusing**
- **Dissipation and**
- **Consequent revelation**

Will go on continually, from the time a disciple treads the Path of Accepted Discipleship until the third initiation

The clue to all success in this process is connected with meditation and holding the mind steady 'in the light'

The Path of Evolution is the path of RECOGNITIONS, leading to REVELATION

The whole process of evolution is 'initiatory' in character, leading from one expansion of consciousness to another until the worlds of both the formless and of form stand REVEALED in 'the light which the initiate generates and in which he walks'

These lights are varied and variously revealing; there is:

1. The light of matter itself, found in every atom of substance
2. The light of the vital or etheric vehicle—a light which is the reflection of the One Light because it unifies the three types of light within the three worlds
3. The light of the instinct
4. The light of the intellect or the light of knowledge
5. The light of the soul
6. The light of the intuition

From light to light we pass, from revelation to revelation until we pass out of the realm of light into the realm of life which is, as yet to us, pure darkness

This 'increasing light' brings with it a series of developing revelations which (like all else in the world of human experience), unfolds before the eyes...

1. First of all 'the world of forms'
2. Then 'the world of ideals'
3. Then the nature of the soul, of ideas and of divinity

'The light of the personal lower self' reveals to man the world of form, of matter, of instinct, of desire and of mind

'The light of the soul' reveals the nature of the relation of these forms of life to the world of the formless and of the conflict between the real and the unreal

'The light of the intuition' unfolds before the vision of the soul within the personality, the nature of God and the unity of the Whole

WORKING ON THE ASTRAL PLANE

First, the individual learns to use 'the light of the mind, generated by the soul as it becomes closely related to the personality and impelled by the intuition'

Story of the conflict - between the pull of the soul and the pull of glamour

1. The attempt to focus 'the light of the mind and of matter' in the mental vehicle

There is no peculiar or specific light in or of the astral body itself

The astral body is only an aggregate of forms, created by individual man, by nations and by races, and these in their entirety constitute 'the astral plane'

They possess no 'inherent light' as do other forms

ASTRAL FORMS are **not created as a form of expression for some dynamic life by the planetary Logos** - and this is the real meaning of what I have earlier told you that 'the astral plane in REALITY does not exist'

2. The second stage of the focussing process is produced through the effort to meditate

3. The third stage is that in which 'the light of matter', 'the light of the mind' and 'the light of the soul' (as a channel for the intuition) are consciously blended, fused and focussed

All this has to be understandingly and consciously carried forward as a PRELIMINARY to the technique proper

The process I am developing for you now is for rapid and effective dissipation.

It is based

- On acceptance of the hypothesis of 'light'
- On recognising that the astral plane has no true existence
- On trained use of the creative imagination
- On the unquestioning following of instructions, individually and as a group

First: Those participating in the eradication of glamour must be able to distinguish between glamour and REALITY

They must be in a position to recognise that an emotional or astral condition constitutes a veil over the truth and is a distortion of the presentation or the appearance of the individual's or the group's expression of divinity

They must be capable of

- Vision,
- Clear thinking, and
- Prompt recognition of what is preventing that vision materialising, and the accurate reception of the truth

They must also be able to distinguish between a major and a minor glamour

an emotional/astral condition constitutes

a veil over the truth

it is a distortion of the presentation (or appearance)

of the individual or group's

expression of divinity

Second: Those participating in the eradication of glamour must be able to recognise that the three stages of focussing, referred to above, constitute a PREPARATORY process

Disciples and aspirants must cultivate THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF COOPERATION and realisation that in service such as is proposed, they are definitely PARTICIPATING IN A HIERARCHICAL ACTIVITY

They are, therefore, in a position to render help even if they could not—alone and unaided—achieve the desired results

- The power of 'unified thought' is little grasped as yet; the power inherent in 'the light of many minds', rendering them effective instruments in world affairs, penetrating and dissipating glamour and proving creative on the physical plane, will become a part of the new modes of work employed in the new age

***** I suggest that no aspirant attempt to tackle the problem of glamour as a whole or seek to dissipate all the glammers to which he is susceptible**

These habits of glamour are closely connected with aspects of his daily living, his sex life, his ambitions, his relations to other people, his pet ideals and ideas, his dreams and visions

FORMULA FOR DISSIPATION OF GLAMOUR

For the Individual

1. Preparatory Stages
 2. The three stages of FOCUSING outlined must be undertaken (See pp. 208-210)
 3. The RECOGNITION of two aspects of preparedness:
 4. A pause in which the whole man braces himself for the work to be done
2. The Technique or Formula proper
 5. By an act of creative imagination the worker endeavours to 'see' and 'hear' THE SOUL (the source of light and power in the three worlds), breathing out the OM into the mind of the attentive waiting personality
 6. The 'retained light and power', combined with 'the dual light of the personality' (focussed as we know on the mental plane) is seen generating an 'intense light', which can be visualised as 'a searchlight of great brilliance and strength'

7. When this act of visualisation has been satisfactorily accomplished, a PAUSE then ensues wherein the aspirant focuses all the WILL he has behind ‘the light thus created by the fusion of the three lights’

This use of the will—soul-personality will—is DYNAMIC, but at this stage ‘QUIESCENT’ and not ‘MAGNETIC OR RADIATORY’

8. Next follows a process wherein the glamour to be dissipated and the searchlight of the mind are brought into relationship by the power of thought

The glamour and its quality, and the searchlight and its power, are recognised to be as they are, and the effect(s) to be brought about by that relationship are carefully thought out

This must not be done in such a way that the mind process, light and power will strengthen the already powerful glamour.

It must be done in such a way that at the close of the process the glamour will be appreciably weakened and eventually dissipated

9. Having, as far as possible, achieved the needed CONCENTRATION, REALISATION AND RELATIONSHIP, the aspirant then (by an act of the will and creative imagination) turns on ‘the searchlight’ and sees a vivid beam of light stream forth and PIERCE the glamour

He must visualise a ‘broad brilliant beam,’ pouring forth from the illumined mind **ON TO THE ASTRAL PLANE**

He must believe that this is so

10. Then comes an important and difficult phase of the work. The worker names the glamour and sees it in process of dissipation. He aids the process by saying with tension and inaudibly:

- The power of the light PREVENTS THE APPEARANCE OF THE GLAMOUR (*Naming it*)
- The power of the light negates the quality of the glamour from affecting me
- The power of the light destroys the life behind the glamour

Saying these three sentences constitutes an affirmation of power and purpose, and they must be enunciated at a point of tension, with the mind held in steadiness and with a POSITIVE orientation

11. The Sacred Word is sounded again with intent to produce what in occult parlance is called an "ACT OF PENETRATION"; the light is then seen accomplishing three things:

- a. Making a DEFINITE IMPACT upon the glamour
- b. Penetrating the glamour and being absorbed by it
- c. DISSIPATING it slowly; as time elapses the glamour will never again be so powerful and will eventually disappear altogether

12. This is followed by a process of withdrawing, wherein the aspirant consciously and deliberately WITHDRAWS THE BEAM OF LIGHT and RE-ORIENTS HIMSELF UPON THE MENTAL PLANE

OUTLINE OF A FORMULA FOR DISSIPATION OF INDIVIDUAL GLAMOUR

1. The four Preparatory Stages:

- A. RECOGNITION of the glamour to be dissipated
- b. The stage of FOCUSSING the light of the personality, a dual light
- c. The stage of MEDITATION and the recognition of the greater light
- d. The UNIFICATION of the dual light of matter and the light of the soul, creating thus the searchlight of the mind

2. A process of ALIGNMENT and of recognised integration

3. A deliberate turning of the searchlight of the mind to the astral plane

The Formula:

1. Soul activity and the retention of the light

2. The generating and visualising of the searchlight
3. The evocation of the will behind the searchlight of the mind
4. The generated unified light is turned upon the glamour by the power of thought
5. The naming of the glamour and the triple affirmation
6. The Act of Penetration
7. The Process of Withdrawing

You will see, brother of mine, that I am teaching the coming generation how to destroy the forms of thought which hold the race in bondage

In the case of GLAMOUR they are the forms which desire, emotion, sensitivity to environment, developing aspiration and old ideals have taken and which prevent 'the light of the soul' from illuminating the waking consciousness

When 'the descending forms of thought' (which are a REFLECTION in the three worlds of that vast "cloud of knowable things" in process of perception, as Patanjali calls it, and which hovers upon the buddhic plane, awaiting precipitation) and 'the ascending mass of instinctual demands from the lower aspect of the human unit and from humanity as a whole', meet at a point of tension then you have THE APPEARANCE OF WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE ASTRAL PLANE — which is a man-created sphere of activity

- The subhuman kingdoms of nature know no 'astral plane'
- The superhuman kingdoms have surmounted it and discovered the secret of its delusion
- They no longer recognise 'the astral plane' except as 'a temporary field of experience wherein man lives'
- In that 'sphere' man learns the fact that

"Reality is none of these, but only the One and the Other in relation with each other"

The energies taking form on the astral plane are the instinctual desires, evoked by the evolving substance of the physical plane, and (or interacting with) the descending thought-forms that the developing human being is always creating and drawing down into manifestation, by clothing them with the substance of desire

GLAMOUR: A WORLD PROBLEM: SECTION THREE

THE ENDING OF GLAMOUR

We are in the midst of the most concentrated expression of world glamour (the worst the world has ever seen), because glamour, incident to centuries of greed, selfishness, aggression and materialism, has been focussed in a triplicity of nations¹. It is easily seen and most effective in manifestation.

Three nations express the three aspects of world glamour (illusion, glamour and maya) in an amazing manner, and their powerful assault upon the consciousness of humanity is dependent not only upon the response of Germany, Japan and Italy to this ancient miasma, but also upon the fact that *every* nation—United Nations as well as Totalitarian Nations—are tainted with this universal condition.

The freedom of the world is consequently largely dependent upon those in every nation who (within themselves) have moved forward out of one or other of these "glamorous illusions and mayavic impressions" of the human soul, into a state of awareness wherein they can see the conflict in its wider terms, i.e., as that existing for them between the Dweller on the Threshold and the Angel of the PRESENCE.

These people are the aspirants, disciples and initiates of the world.

They are aware of the dualism, the essential dualism, of the conflict

They are not so pre-eminently conscious of the threefold nature and the differentiated condition of the situation underlying the realised dualism. [Page 162]

Their approach to the problem is therefore simpler and, because of this, world direction lies largely in their hands at this time.

It is right here that religion has, as a whole, gone astray

I refer to orthodox religion.

It has been *preoccupied* with the Dweller on the Threshold; the eyes of the theologian have been *held upon the material, phenomenal aspect of life through fear and its immediacy*; the fact of the Angel has been but a theory and point of wishful thinking.

The balance is being adjusted by the humanitarian attitudes now coming more into control, irrespective of any theological trend

¹ This book was first published in 1950, but it was presumably written during and towards the end of World War II. It is interesting that the phrase "United Nations" is used here – perhaps even before it became a manifested public institution? Ed.

These attitudes take their stand on the belief of the innate rightness of the human spirit, in the divinity of man, and upon the indestructible nature of the soul of mankind

This inevitably brings in the concept of the PRESENCE, or of God Immanent, and is the result of a needed revolt against the belief in God Transcendent (only, Ed.)

This spiritual revolution was a balancing process; it need cause no concern, for God Transcendent eternally exists - but can only be seen, known and correctly approached by God Immanent—immanent in individual man, in groups and nations, in organised forms and in religion, in humanity as a whole and in the planetary Life Itself

The role of the world war and of the United Nations

Humanity is today (and has been for ages) battling illusion, glamour and maya.

Advanced thinkers, those upon the Probationary Path, upon the Path of Discipleship, and the Path of Initiation have reached a point where materialism and spirituality, the Dweller on the Threshold and the Angel of the PRESENCE, and the basic dualism of manifestation can be seen clearly defined.

Because of this clear demarcation:

- The issues underlying the present world events
- The objectives of the present world-wide struggle
- The modes and methods of re-establishing the spiritual contact so prevalent in Atlantean [Page 163] days and so long lost, and
- The recognition of the techniques which can bring in the new world era and its cultural order

Can be more clearly noted and appraised.

All generalisations admit of error, however, that said, in general terms:

- **Germany** has focussed in herself world *glamour*—the most potent and expressive of the three aspects of glamour
- **Japan** is manifesting the force of *maya*—the crudest form of material force
- **Italy**, individualistic and mentally polarised, is the expression of world *illusion*
- **The United Nations**, with all their faults, limitations, weaknesses and nationalisms, are focussing *the conflict between the Dweller and the Angel*, and thus the three forms of glamour and the final form of the conflict between the spiritual ideal and its material opponent are appearing simultaneously.

The United Nations are, however, gradually and decisively throwing the weight of their effort and aspiration on the side of the Angel, thus restoring balance and slowly producing on a planetary scale those attributes and conditions which will eventually dispel illusion, dissipate glamour and devitalize the prevalent maya

This they are doing

- By the *increased clear thinking of the general public of all the nations*, bound together to conquer the three Axis Powers
- By growing the ability to *conceive ideas in terms of the whole*
- By growing the ability to *conceive ideas in terms of a desirable world order or federation*
- By growing the capacity to *discriminate between the Forces of Light and the potency of evil or materialism*

The work being done by those who see the ‘world stage’ as the arena for the conflict between the Dweller on the Threshold and the Angel of the PRESENCE might be itemised as:

1. Producing world conditions in which the Forces of Light can overcome the Forces of Evil

This they do by the weight of their armed forces, plus their clear insight. [Page 164]

2. Educating humanity in the distinction between:

- **SPIRITUALITY and *materialism*, by pointing to the differing goals of the combatant forces**
- **SHARING and *greed*, by outlining a future world wherein the Four Freedoms will be dominant and all will have what is needed for right living-processes**
- **LIGHT and *dark*, by demonstrating the difference between an illumined future of liberty and opportunity, and the dark future of slavery**
- **FELLOWSHIP and *separation*, by indicating the difference between a world order where racial hatreds, caste distinctions, and religious differences form no barrier to international understanding ... and the ‘Axis order’ of ‘master races, determined religious attitudes, and enslaved peoples’**
- **The WHOLE and the *part*, by pointing to the time which is approaching (under the evolutionary urge of spirit) wherein the ‘part’ or the point of life assumes its responsibility for the ‘whole,’ and the ‘whole’ exists for the good of the ‘part’**

The ‘dark aspect’ has been brought about by ages of glamour

The 'light' is being emphasised and made clearer by those world aspirants and disciples who by their attitudes, actions, writings and utterances are 'bringing the light into dark places'

3. Preparing the way for three spiritual energies that could and will sweep humanity into an era of COMPREHENSION, clarifying all men's minds

[Page 165] The action of these three imminent energies are:

- *The energy of the INTUITION will gradually dispel world illusion, and greatly augment the ranks of the Initiates*
- *The activity of LIGHT will dissipate world glamour by the energy of ILLUMINATION, and bring thousands on to the Path of Discipleship*
- *The energy of INSPIRATION will bring about devitalisation or removal, as by a wind, of the attractive power of maya or substance. This will release many thousands on to the Path of Probation*

4. Releasing new life into the planet through the medium of every possible agency

The first step towards this release is proving that the power of materialism is broken

- By the complete defeat of the Axis Powers and (when this has been done)...
- By the ability of the United Nations to demonstrate the potency of spiritual values by constructive undertakings to restore world order, and to lay the foundations which guarantee a better and more spiritual way of life

These 'constructive attitudes and undertakings' must be assumed *individually by every person, and by nations as collective wholes*

The first is being undertaken at this time

The second remains as yet to be done

5. Bringing home to the nations of the world the truths taught by the Buddha, the Lord of Light, and the Christ, the Lord of Love

Basically:

- a. The Axis nations need to grasp the teaching of the BUDDHA as He enunciated it in the Four Noble Truths; they need to realise that the cause of all sorrow and woe is *DESIRE — DESIRE* for that which is material.
- b. The United Nations need to learn
 - To apply the Law of Love as enunciated in the life of the CHRIST
 - To express the truth that "no man liveth unto himself" and no *nation* either; and that the goal of all human effort is LOVING UNDERSTANDING, prompted by a programme of LOVE FOR THE WHOLE

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THE WORK OF THE CHRIST AND THE BUDDHA IN THE FIELD OF WORLD GLAMOUR

If the lives and teachings of these two great Avatars can be comprehended and wrought out anew

- **In the lives of men today**
- **In the world of human affairs**
- **In the realm of human thinking and**
- **In the arena of daily living,**

Then the present world order (which is today largely disorder) could be so modified that 'a new world and a new race of men' can gradually come into being

Renunciation and the use of the sacrificial will should be the keynote for the interim period after the war, prior to the inauguration of the New Age

Remember - all manifestations and every point of crisis can be symbolised by the ancient symbol of a point within the circle, the focus of power within a sphere of influence or aura

So it is today with the problem of ending the world glamour and illusion which fundamentally lie behind the present acute situation and world catastrophe

The possibility of such a dispelling and dissipation is definitely centred in the two Avatars, the Buddha and the Christ

Within the world of glamour—the world of the astral plane and the emotions—appeared a 'point of light'

The Lord of Light, the Buddha, undertook to focus in Himself the illumination that would eventually make possible the dissipation of glamour

Within the world of illusion—the world of the mental plane—appeared the Christ, the Lord of Love Himself, Who embodied in Himself the power of the attractive will of God

He undertook to dispel illusion by drawing to Himself (by the potency of love) the hearts of all men, and stated this determination in the words, "I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto Me." (John 12:32)

From the point they *then* will have reached, the world of spiritual perception, truth and divine ideas will stand revealed

The result will be the disappearing of illusion

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The combined work of these two great Sons of God, concentrated through world disciples and through Their initiates must and will inevitably shatter illusion and dispel glamour—the one by THE INTUITIVE RECOGNITION OF REALITY by minds attuned to it, and the other by the pouring in of THE LIGHT OF REASON

The Buddha made the first planetary effort to dissipate world *glamour*; the Christ made the first planetary effort towards the dispelling of *illusion*.

Their work must now be intelligently carried forward by humanity wise enough to recognise its dharma.

Men are being rapidly ‘disillusioned’ and will consequently ‘see’ more clearly.

The world glamour is being steadily removed from the ways of men.

These two developments have been brought about by the incoming new ideas, focussed through the world intuitives, and released to the general public by the world thinkers.

It has been also largely aided by the well-nigh unconscious, but none the less real, recognition of the true meaning of these Four Noble Truths by the masses.

Disillusioned and de-glamoured (if I may use such a term), humanity awaits the coming REVELATION

This REVELATION will be brought about by the combined efforts of the Buddha and the Christ

All that we can foresee anent that REVELATION is that some potent and far-reaching results will be achieved BY THE MERGING OF LIGHT AND LOVE, and BY THE REACTION OF "LIGHTED SUBSTANCE TO THE ATTRACTIVE POWER OF LOVE"

In this sentence I have given those who can understand a profound and useful hint as to the method and purpose of the undertaking staged for the June Full Moon, 1942. [Page 168]

I have also given a clue to the true understanding of the work of these Avatars—a thing hitherto quite unrealised

It might be added that when an appreciation of the meaning of the words "transfiguration of a human being" is gained, the realisation will come that when "the body is full of light" then "in that light shall we see LIGHT"

This means that when the personality has reached a point of purification, dedication and illumination, then the attractive power of the soul (whose nature is love and understanding) can function, and fusion of these two will take place

This is what the CHRIST proved and demonstrated

When the work of the BUDDHA (or 'THE EMBODIED BUDDHIC PRINCIPLE') is consummated in the aspiring disciple and in his integrated personality, then the full expression of the work of the CHRIST (THE EMBODIED PRINCIPLE OF LOVE) can also be consummated

Both these potencies—light and love—will then find radiant expression in the transfigured disciple

What is true of the individual is true also of humanity as a whole

Today humanity (having reached maturity) can "enter into realisation" and consciously take part in the work of enlightenment and of spiritual, loving activity

The practical effects of this process will be the dissipation of glamour and release of the human spirit from the thralldom of matter

It will produce, also, the dispelling of illusion and the recognition of truth as it exists in the consciousness of those who are polarised in the "awareness of the Christ"

This is necessarily not a rapid process; it is an ordered and regulated procedure, sure in its eventual success but relatively slow in its establishment and sequential process

This process was initiated *upon the astral plane by the Buddha, and on the mental plane when Christ manifested on Earth*

It indicated the approaching maturity of humanity. [Page 169]

The process has been slowly gathering momentum as these two great Beings have gathered around Them Their disciples and initiates during the past two thousand years

It has reached a point of intensive usefulness as the channel of communication between Shamballa and the Hierarchy has been opened and enlarged, and as the contact between these two great Centres and Humanity has been more firmly established.

At the June Full Moon, 1942, the first test as to the directness of the communication between the Centre where the Will of God holds sway, the Centre where the Love of God rules, and the Centre where there is intelligent expectancy was made

The medium of the test was the united effort of the Christ, of the Buddha, and of those who responded to Their blended influence

This test had to be carried out in the midst of the terrific onslaught of the powers of evil and was extended over the two weeks beginning on the day of the Full Moon (May 30th 1942) and ending on June 15th 1942

There was a great concentration of the Spiritual Forces at that time, and the use of a special Invocation (one which humanity itself may not use), but the success or failure of the test was, in the last analysis, determined by mankind itself

You may feel, though wrongly, that not enough people know about or understand the nature of the opportunity or what is transpiring

But the success of such a test is *not dependent upon the esoteric knowledge of the few*, the relatively few, to whom the facts and information have been partially imparted

It is *dependent upon the tendency of the many – such as those: -*

- Who unconsciously aspire towards the spiritual realities
- Who seek for a new and better way of life for all
- Who desire the good of the whole and
- Whose longing and desire is for a true experience of goodness, right human relations and spiritual enterprise among men

Their name is Legion and they are to be found in every nation. [Page 170]

When...

1. The Will of God, expressed in Shamballa and focussed in the Buddha
2. The Love of God, expressed in the Hierarchy and focussed through the Christ, and
3. The intelligent desire of humanity, focussed through the world disciples, the world aspirants and the men of goodwill

Are all brought into line—either consciously or unconsciously—then a great re-orientation can and will take place

This event *is* something that can happen.

- The first result will be illumination of the astral plane and the beginning of the process that will dissipate glamour
- The second result will be irradiation of the mental plane and the dispelling of all past illusions, and the gradual revelation of the new truths of which all past ideals and so-called formulations of truth have only been the ‘signposts’

Ponder on that statement

The 'signpost' indicates the way to go; it does not reveal the goal
It is *indicative* but not conclusive.
So with all truth up to the present time

The demand is, therefore, for knowers and for those; -

- Whose minds and hearts are open
- Who are free from preconceived ideas fanatically held, and
- Who are free from ancient idealisms which must be recognised as only partial indications of great unrealised truths—truths which can be realised in great measure and for the first time IF the lessons of the present world situation and the catastrophe of the war are duly learned and the sacrificial will is called into play

I have made this practical application and immediate illustration of the teaching anent glamour, illusion and maya because the whole world problem has reached a crisis and because its clarification will be the outstanding theme of all progress—educational, religious and economic—until 2025 A.D.

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We now consider ways in which illusion, glamour and the power of maya can be brought to an end in the life of the individual, and eventually in the life of nations, and finally in the world.

Always we begin with the unity of life, the Microcosm

Then, having grasped process and progress in connection with the individual, the idea can then be extended to the group, organization, nation, and then humanity as a whole.

Thus gradually we shall approach the great Idea to which we give the name of God, the Macrocosm.

We shall deal with techniques, summarised as follows:

1. The Technique of the Presence

By means of this technique, the soul assumes control of the integrated personality and of its relations, horizontal and vertical.

This technique involves the unfolding of the flower of the **INTUITION**, dispelling illusion, revealing the Angel, indicating the Presence, and opening up to the disciple the world of ideas and the door of the higher initiations.

Through the disciple's grasp and application of these divine ideas or seed thoughts, he becomes initiate and the third initiation becomes possible as an immediate goal.

The intuition is the applied power of transfiguration

This technique is related to the little known yoga called **AGNI YOGA** or the yoga of fire.

2. The Technique of Light

By means of this technique, the illumined mind assumes control over the astral or emotional body and dissipates glamour.

When light pours in, glamour fades out.

ILLUMINATION dominates and the vision of reality can be seen.

This technique is related to **RAJA YOGA** and its goal is the second initiation; it produces ability to tread the Path of Discipleship, and enables the man to "live a life, enlightened by divinity."

Illumination is the applied power of transformation

3. The Technique of Indifference

By means of this technique, maya is ended; for the control of the purified astral vehicle is consciously and technically brought into activity, producing the freeing of the energies of the etheric body from the control of matter or force-substance, and bringing men in large numbers on to the Probationary Path.

Where there is "divine indifference" to the call or pull of matter, then **INSPIRATION** becomes possible.

This technique is related to **KARMA YOGA** in its most practical form, and the use of matter with complete impersonality.

The goal of this technique is the first initiation, which enables man to "live a life, inspired by God"

Inspiration is the applied power of transmission

1. THE TECHNIQUE OF THE PRESENCE

The student has three things to bear in mind:

1. The existence of the Intuition
2. The fact of Illusion, and
3. The overshadowing Presence

This Presence is revealed by the intuition through the medium of the Angel; when revealed and recognised, it brings illusion to an end

ILLUSION must not be confounded with GLAMOUR

ILLUSION is related to the whole process of REVELATION

GLAMOUR can be and often is related to the distortion of what has been revealed, but...

ILLUSION is concerned with the reaction of the mind to the unfolding revelation, as the soul registers it and seeks to impress it on the highest aspect of the personal lower self

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ILLUSION is the failure of the mind correctly to register, interpret or translate that which has been transmitted and

ILLUSION is consequently a 'sin' (or 'error' if you prefer that word) of the intelligent and highly developed people, of those who stand on the Path and are in process of becoming rightly oriented

ILLUSION is also a 'sin' of accepted disciples as they seek to expand their consciousness in response to soul contact.

When disciples have "seen through illusion" (and I use this phrase in its esoteric sense) then they are ready for the third initiation.

Our theme is, therefore, the theme of REVELATION and I would like to make some general remarks upon this subject, because thereby the problem of world and individual illusion can be clarified

Progressive unfoldment of human awareness down the ages has depended on two major related factors:

1. The factor of the gradual development of the human mind through the processes of evolution itself

This refers to the innate capacity of what we call the mind, the *chitta*, or mind stuff, to become more and more sensitive to the impact of the phenomenal world, and to impression from the higher worlds of being

The mind is the INSTRUMENT that registers the process of "BECOMING," but it is also (during the later stages of human unfoldment), capable of registering the nature or function of "BEING"

➤ **BECOMING is revealed through the medium of the *intellect***

➤ **BEING, through the medium of the *intuition***

In all study of illusion, remember: -

- The 'instrumental nature' of the mind and
- Its power to accurately register, interpret and transmit knowledge coming from the world of phenomena, and also wisdom from the realm of the soul

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2. The factor of the method whereby humanity is made aware of 'that which is not immediately apparent'

This is the process of what has been called "imposed revelation" - or the impression conveyed to minds capable of reception of those ideas, beings, plans and purposes which exist 'behind the scenes,' so to speak, and which are the factors which condition the world process.

These REVELATIONS (or subjective, vital impressions) are revealed by the INTUITION

- They have nothing to do with the knowledge, impressions and impacts related to the three worlds of human evolution
- However, (when duly grasped), they *have* steadily transformed man's way of living, revealing to him his goals, and indicating his true nature.

The REVELATIONS, given throughout the ages and impressed on the minds of those trained to receive them, deal with the great universals

- They are concerned with the WHOLE, and
- They lead to a developed appreciation of the oneness of life and with hylozoistic expression

Two paralleling processes have produced humanity and its civilisation:

1. One is the evolutionary process itself, whereby the mind of the individual has been gradually unfolded until it became the dominant aspect in the personality; and
2. A graded, wisely imparted series of REVELATIONS, which have led humanity as a whole nearer the inevitable apprehension of BEING

They have led him steadily *away from identification with form and into states of consciousness which are super-normal from the ordinary human angle but entirely normal from the spiritual*

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Putting this concept specifically into occult terminology:

INDIVIDUALITY has led to the steady perfecting of the mind with its perception, apprehension, analysis and interpretation whilst

INITIATION, through the growth of the INTUITION, brings about (when the mental perfecting process has reached a relatively high degree of development): -

- The apprehension of the world of spiritual values, of unified being and of intuitive understanding

This involves a consequent moving of the point of individual focus out of the world of phenomena into the world of reality

- The lower use of the mind and its processes of unfoldment have produced ILLUSION whilst
- The unfoldment of the higher mind and, later, its use as the transmitter of the intuition and of the higher revelation, will produce the TRANSFIGURATION of the three worlds of phenomena in terms of the world of being

Illusion is frequently misinterpreted and misapplied mental perception of truth. It has naught to do with the mental phase of glamour, though illusion can be carried down into the world of feeling and become glamour.

When this happens, its potency is exceedingly great because a thought-form has become an entity, with vital power, and the magnetic power of feeling is added to the cold form of thought.

*** Ponder on this.

But at the stage with which we are now dealing, which is that of pure illusion, a revelation has precipitated upon the mental plane and—owing to failure rightly to apprehend and interpret it or to apply it usefully—it has developed into an illusion and enters upon a career of deception, of crystallisation and of misinformation.

The theme of this technique is, therefore, concerned primarily with:

1. The process of revelation

This process has been and today is the main testimony and guarantee of the existence, [Page 176] behind the scenes of the phenomenal life, of a revealing Group or Agency whose task is of a triple nature:

- a. To gauge the unfoldment of the human consciousness and to meet its constant appeal and demand for further light and knowledge.
- b. To judge what is the next needed revelation and what form it should take, through what medium it should emerge, and where and when it should appear.
- c. To ascertain with what obstructions, hindrances, and preconceived ideas the new incoming revelation will have to contend.

2. The fact of the Presence

This Presence is the impelling force behind all revelation and is in reality God Immanent, striving ever for recognition and Itself impelled thereto by the fact of God Transcendent.

3. The influence of the Angel

The Angel is the individualised seed of consciousness through whom, after due growth and response of the personal lower self, will come the revelation of the Presence. All true revelation is concerned with the unfolding glory of divinity in some field of expression, thereby testifying to the latent hidden Presence.

4. The reaction of the intuitives throughout the world to that revelation

The reaction of the intuitives throughout the world to that revelation and the form in which they present it to the world thinkers. These latter are ever the first to appreciate and appropriate the new truth. The intuitives present the next phase of truth in a relatively pure form even though at the time of presentation it may be symbolically veiled.

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5. The response of the thinking world to the presented truth

It is at this point that illusion appears and misinterpretation and misrepresentation take place. These untrue interpretations of revealed truth, when they have lasted long enough and have acquired momentum, add to the general illusion and become part of it and thus feed and are fed by the world illusion. This is the built-up illusory form of thought, developed down the ages, which controls so much of the mass belief. When the revelation reaches this stage, the mass of men become involved; they recognise the illusion as the truth; they regard this illusion as reality; they fail to grasp the significance of the veiled, symbolically presented revelation but confuse it with the

illusory presentation, and thus the intuitively perceived revelation becomes a distorted, twisted doctrine.

Theological interpretations and dogmas fall into this category and there ensues a re-enactment of the ancient drama of the blind leading the blind, to which Christ referred as He faced the theologians of His time.

The above statements are true of all revelation as it comes forth from the emanating centre of light, whether they concern so-called religious truth or scientific discoveries or the great standard of spiritual values whereby advanced humanity of both hemispheres seek to live and which, from time to time, move on a step in significance and in importance

A. INTUITION DISPELS INDIVIDUAL ILLUSION

We have reached a crisis in the field of human apprehension.

We enter an era wherein illusion can be dispelled and ‘thinkers’ can begin to register accurately and without misapprehension what the ‘intuitives’ convey to them

This statement does not as yet apply to the general public. [Page 178]

It will be a long time before they will respond without illusion, because illusion is based upon the thought-form-building activity of the lower mind.

The masses are just beginning to use that lower mind and for them...

The stage of illusion is a necessary one, for it is one of testing and training in order to develop powers of discrimination

All must pass through it or they much valuable experience is lost, leaving undeveloped the powers of discrimination.

This is a point all teachers of occultism should have in mind

It is essential that :-

- **the public is taught the *significance* of illusion**
- **the public is trained to ‘see’ and *choose* the kernel of pure truth in any presentation of truth with which they may be confronted**
- **world intuitives learn to use, control and understand the faculties of *spiritual perception, divine isolation and appropriate response*, which characterises the intuition**

This they can do through the practice of the Technique of the Presence, but not as it is usually taught

This technique falls within certain scientific lines of work for which training in schools of true meditation and Raja Yoga systems have prepared the aspirant

These stages begin where the ‘usual formulas’ leave off, and pre-suppose facility in approach to the Angel or soul, and an ability to raise the consciousness to a point of soul fusion

I list the processes or stages as follows:

STAGES OF THE TECHNIQUE OF THE PRESENCE

Three Preliminary Stages

1. Evocation of the stage of tension

This is basic and essential.

It is a tension brought about by complete control of the personal self so that it is "fitted for contact with the real"

2. Achieving a state of fusion with the soul - the Angel which guards the approach to the Path of the Higher Evolution

3. Holding the mind steady in the light of the soul, which remains the attitude of the lower self for the entire remaining period of work, *held at the point of tension by the soul and not by an effort of the personality*

The SOUL undertakes this holding when the personal self has done its utmost to achieve the desired tension

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These are three preliminary steps for which the practice of ALIGNMENT should have prepared the student of the higher mysteries

These steps must precede all effort to develop the intuition

This may take several months (even years) of careful preparation.

'Fire' is the symbol of the mind and these are the first three stages of the AGNI YOGA discipline or of 'the yoga of fire' for which RAJA YOGA has prepared the student

Next six stages in the Technique – a new meditation attitude

These steps must be thoroughly understood

They form the basis of prolonged brooding and intelligent reflection, carried on whilst the daily avocations and duties are being performed and not carried out at certain set times.

The TRAINED INTUITIVE OR DISCIPLE lives ever the dual life of mundane activity and of intense and simultaneous spiritual reflection

This will be the outstanding characteristic of the Western disciple (in contradistinction to the Eastern disciple who escapes from life into the silent places and away from the pressures of daily living and constant contact with others)

The task of the Western disciple is harder, but what he will prove (to himself and to the world as a whole), will be higher.

This is to be expected if the evolutionary process means anything

The Western races must move forward into spiritual supremacy, *without obliterating the Eastern contribution*, and the functioning of the Law of Rebirth holds the clue to this and demonstrates this necessity

The tide of life moves from East to West as moves the sun, and those who in past centuries struck the note of Eastern mysticism must strike, and are now striking, the note of Western occultism.

Therefore, the following stages must follow upon the three earlier.

We will continue with the numbering as given, for what I here suggest is a formula for a more advanced ‘meditation attitude’

I said not ‘form’

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4. Definite, sustained effort to *sense the Presence throughout the Universe in ALL forms and in ALL presentations of truth*

This means: "Making the effort to isolate the germ or seed of divinity which has brought all forms into being"

I would point out that this is not the attainment of a loving attitude and a sentimental approach to all people and circumstances

That is the mystical way and (though not intended to be negated in the disciple's life), is not used at this time in the process of effective approach

It means making the effort primarily to ‘see’ in *the light which the ANGEL radiates, the point of light behind ALL phenomenal appearances*

This is, therefore, the *transference* of the mystical vision to the higher levels of awareness

It is not ‘the vision of the soul’ but ‘the vision or *spiritual sensing of that which the light of the soul aids in revealing*’

The ‘flickering soul light in the personal self’ has enabled the disciple to see ‘the vision of the soul’ and in that ‘light’ to reach union with the soul, even if only temporarily

Now ‘the greater light of the soul’ becomes focussed like a radiant sun and it reveals in its turn a still more stupendous vision—that of the PRESENCE, of which the Angel is the guarantee and promise.

As the light of the Moon is guarantee that the light of the Sun exists, so the light of the Sun is the guarantee, did you but know it, of A STILL GREATER LIGHT

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5. After having sensed the PRESENCE—not theoretically, but in vibrating response to its Existence—comes the stage of ascertaining the PURPOSE

Hope of *identification* with the PURPOSE lies too far ahead, even for the average initiate, under the status of Master

With that unattainable stage (for us) we are not concerned.

But we are concerned with the effort to achieve an understanding of that which, through the medium of form, is seeking to embody the high PURPOSE at any particular point in the evolutionary cycle

This is possible

Down the ages those who have rightly approached and duly reflected upon the Way of the Higher Evolution have achieved this

This Way is *revealed* to the disciple, e'en though it may not concern the intuitive message he may bring back from his high adventure

6. He then carries some world problem, or some design (which his mind has evolved or his heart desired for the helping of humanity) into what is esoterically called "the triple light of the intuition"

The 'triple light of the intuition' is formed by blending these three 'lights': -

- The 'light of the personal self,' focussed in the mind
- The 'light of the soul,' focussed in the Angel, and
- The 'universal light' the Presence emits

This, when done with facility through concentration and long practice, will produce two results:

- a. There will dawn on the disciple's waiting mind (which still remains the 'agent of reception')
 - The answer to his problem
 - The clue to what is needed to bring relief to humanity
 - The information desired which, when applied, will unlock some door in the realm of science, psychology or religion

This door, when opened, will *bring relief or release to many*

As before I have told you, the INTUITION is *never concerned with individual problems or enquiries, as so many self-centred aspirants think.*

It is purely *impersonal* and *only applicable to humanity in a synthetic sense.*

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- b. The "intruding agent of light" (as the Old Commentary calls these 'adventuring intuitives') is recognised as one to whom can be entrusted some REVELATION, a new IMPARTATION OF TRUTH, or a SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION FROM A SEED OF TRUTH already given to the race.

He then 'sees a vision,' 'hears a voice,' 'registers a message,' or (the highest form of all), he 'becomes a channel of power and light to the world,' a 'conscious Embodiment of divinity,' or a 'Custodian of a divine principle'

These forms constitute true REVELATION, imparted or embodied

They are still rare but will increasingly be developed in humanity

7. The next few stages are called (in preparation for the REVELATION):

- 1. The relinquishing of the Higher Way**
- 2. The return to the Angel (or a refocussing in the soul)**
- 3. A pause or interlude for constructive thinking, under the influence of the Angel**
- 4. The turning of the mind to the formulation of those forms of thought which must embody the revelation**
- 5. Then again a pause, which is called "the pause preceding presentation"**

8. The PRESENTATION of the revelation or imparted truth, and its precipitation into 'the world of illusion' comes next

In that 'world of ILLUSION,' it undergoes the "fiery ordeal" wherein: -

- **Some of the FIRE within what is revealed 'wings its way back to the source from whence it came'**
- **Some of it 'serves to destroy the revealer,' and**
- **Some of it 'serves to burn those who recognise the revelation'**

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THIS IS A PHASE OF AGNI YOGA which, as you can see, is only for those who can penetrate beyond the Angel into the place "where fire dwelleth," and where God, the **PRESENCE**, functions as 'a consuming fire' and waits for the hour of **TOTAL REVELATION**

This is a *symbolic* rendering of a great truth

In the case of the individual initiate, the third initiation, the Transfiguration, marks the consummation of the process

- Only 'glory' then is seen
- Only 'the voice of the Presence' is heard and
- Union with the past, the present and the future is reached

9. The succumbing of the REVELATION to the prevailing ILLUSION, its descent into 'the world of GLAMOUR,' and its subsequent 'disappearance as a revelation' and its emergence as a DOCTRINE

But, in the meantime, humanity has been helped and led forward

The intuitives continue to work and the inflow of that which is to be revealed never ceases.

**Some of the FIRE within what is revealed
'wings its way back to the source from
whence it came'**

Some of it 'serves to destroy the revealer'

**Some of it 'serves to burn those who
recognise the revelation'**

This basic technique underlies both 'primary' and 'secondary' REVELATIONS
In the case of 'primary' REVELATIONS (from Shamballa), the time cycle is long
In the case of 'secondary' REVELATIONS (from Hierarchy), the time cycle is short

An example of the descent of REVELATION into the worlds of ILLUSION and GLAMOUR – the story of the books, the Secret Doctrine:

A very good instance of this process is demonstrated by one of the ‘secondary points of revelation’ in connection with the teaching which emanated from the Hierarchy (the Custodian of ‘secondary revelations’, as Shamballa is of ‘primary’) fifty years ago

It took the form of The Secret Doctrine.

H.P.B. was the "penetrating, sensing, appropriating intuitive"

The REVELATION she conveyed followed the accustomed routine of all ‘secondary revelation’ from the Source to the outer plane

There the minds of men, veiled by ILLUSION and clouded by GLAMOUR, formulated it into an ‘inelastic DOCTRINE,’

They recognised no further REVELATION and many theosophical groups steadily held that The Secret Doctrine was a ‘final revelation’ and that *naught must be recognised but that book and naught deemed correct but their interpretations of that book.* [Page 184]

If they are correct, then evolutionary revelation is ended and the plight of humanity is hard indeed...

Even the neophyte on ‘the way of the INTUITION’ can begin to develop in himself the power to recognise that which the lower mind cannot give him

For example: -

- Some thought of revealing potency, to be used for the helping of the many, may drop into his mind
- Some new light on an old, old truth may penetrate, releasing the truth from the trammels of orthodoxy, thus illumining his consciousness
- This he must use for ALL and not for himself alone.
- Little by little, he learns the way into the world of the intuition
- Day by day, and year by year, he becomes more sensitive to divine Ideas and
- Day by day, and year by year, he becomes more apt in appropriating them wisely for the use of his fellowmen

The hope of the world and for the DISPELLING OF ILLUSION lies in *the development of intuitives and their conscious training.*

There are many ‘natural intuitives’ whose work is a blend of higher psychism with flashes of true intuition

THERE MUST BE TRAINING OF ‘THE EXACT INTUITIVE’

Paralleling their INTUITIVE RESPONSE and their effort to precipitate their INTUITION into the world of human thought, there must also be steady development of the human mind, so that it can apprehend what is projected, and in this too lies the hope of the race

B. GROUP INTUITION DISPELS WORLD ILLUSION

The world is full of ILLUSIONS, many of them veiled under the form of IDEALISMS

The world is full of WISHFUL THINKING AND PLANNING

Even though much of this is rightly oriented and expresses the fixed determination of the intelligentsia to create better living conditions for the entire population of the world, the question arises:

Is there, in the sum total of the world's wishful thinking, enough ESSENTIAL DYNAMIC LIVINGNESS to carry it down into physical demonstration and thus truly meet human need?

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I point out that the two greatest 'REVEALING AGENTS' Who have ever come to Earth (within the range of modern history) made the following SIMPLE REVELATIONS to humanity:

- a. The cause of all human suffering is DESIRE and personal selfishness. Give up desire and you will be free**
- b. There is a way of liberation and it leads to ILLUMINATION**
- c. It profits a man nothing to gain the whole world and lose his soul**
- d. Every human being is a Son of God**
- e. There is a way of liberation; it is the way of LOVE and SACRIFICE**

THE LIVES OF THESE REVEALERS WERE SYMBOLIC REPRESENTATIONS OF WHAT THEY TAUGHT

The rest of Their teaching was an extension of Their central themes

Their contribution was an integral part of the GENERAL REVELATION OF THE AGES, which has led men from the primitive state of human existence to the complex state of modern civilisation

This GENERAL REVELATION can be called THE REVELATION OF THE PATH which leads out of form to the Centre of all life

THE PURITY OF THIS REVELATION has been preserved down the ages by a small handful of disciples, initiates and true esotericists

These have always been present on the Earth—defending the simplicity of that teaching, seeking for those who could respond to and recognise the germ of truth, and training men to take Their place and to tread THE WAY OF INTUITIVE PERCEPTION

A major task of the Hierarchy is to seek and find *those who are sensitive to revelation, whose minds are trained so that they can formulate the emerging truths in such a way that they reach the ears of the world thinkers relatively unchanged*

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However, let us always remember that all revelation, when put into words and word forms, loses something of its divine clarity

Much of the REVELATION of the past has come along the lines of the religious impulse and, as the ILLUSION has deepened and grown in time, the original SIMPLICITY (as it was conveyed by its Revealers) has been lost.

All basic revelations are presented in the simplest forms, yet...

Accretion after accretion crept in

The minds of men made the teaching complex through their mental dissertations until great theological systems were built up which we call, for instance, 'the Christian Church' and 'the Buddhist system'

So great is 'the mantle of illusion' which has been thrown over the SIMPLE pronouncements of the Christ and of the Buddha, that They would have much difficulty in recognising THE TWO OR THREE FUNDAMENTAL AND DIVINE FACTS OR TRUTHS WHICH THEY SOUGHT TO REVEAL AND EMPHASISE

The vast cathedrals and pompous ceremonies of the orthodox are far removed from the humble way of the life of the Christ, 'the Master of all the Masters and the Teacher alike of angels and of men,' and from the simplicity of His present way of life as He watches and waits for the return of His people to THE SIMPLE WAY OF SPIRITUAL REALISATION

- So great has been the illusion that in the West today men talk of the "temporal power of the Catholic Church"
- The Protestant Churches are split up into warring factions
- The Christian Science Church is known for its ability to amass money and to teach its adherents to do so and to achieve temporary good health
- The Greek Orthodox Church was corrupt throughout, and
- Only the simple faith of the uncultured and the poor has preserved any semblance of the truth in its original simple form
- The uncultured and the poor have no ability for high sounding theological discussions, but they do believe that **GOD IS LOVE**—just simply that—that there *is* a way which leads to peace and light, and that if they deny their own material desires they are pleasing God. [Page 187]

I am, I know, widely generalising, brother of mine, for I do know also that there are wise and good Christians and churchmen within the theological systems

These, however, spend not their time in theological discussions but in LOVING THEIR FELLOWMEN, and this they do because THEY LOVE CHRIST AND ALL FOR WHICH HE STANDS.

They are *not* interested in building great churches of stone and marble, nor in gathering together the money needed for their support

They *are* interested to gather out ‘those who form the true Church upon the inner spiritual plane’ and in helping them to walk in the light

The ILLUSION of power, the ILLUSION of superiority, taints them not.

After the world crisis is over, Churchmen everywhere will not rest until they can discover how to penetrate through THE ILLUSION OF DOCTRINE AND DOGMA WHICH ENGULFS THEM, and find their way back to Christ and His simple message – a message which has in it the power to save the world, *if recognised and practised*

Much of the true REVELATION since the time of Christ has come to the world along the line of science

The presentation, for instance, of material substance (scientifically proven) as essentially only ‘a form of energy’ was as great a REVELATION as any given by the Christ or the Buddha

It completely revolutionised men's thinking

It was—little as you may think it—a major blow struck at the GREAT ILLUSION.

It related energy to force, form to life, and man to God and held the secret of transformation, transmutation and transfiguration

The revelations of science when basic and fundamental are as divine as those of religion, but *both* have been prostituted to meet ‘human demand’

The era is close at hand when science will bend every effort to heal humanity's sores and build a better and happier world. [Page 188]

The REVELATIONS of ‘science,’ though focussed often through one man or woman, are more specifically the result of *group endeavour and of trained group activity* than are the REVELATIONS of ‘religion,’ so called.

Revelation, therefore, can come in two ways:

WAYS FOR REVELATION TO COME:

a. REVELATION can come through the effort, aspiration and achievement of ONE so close to the Hierarchy and so imbued with conscious divinity that he can receive the message *direct from the central divine Source*

- He has joined the ranks of the Great Intuitives
- He works freely in the world of divine Ideas
- He knows His mission clearly
- He chooses His sphere of activity with deliberation
- He isolates the truth or truths He deems *appropriate to the need of the time*
- He comes forth as a Messenger of the Most High
- He leads a dramatic and arresting life of service and
- He SYMBOLISES IN HIS LIFE-EVENTS certain basic truths which have already been revealed, but which He pictorially re-enacts
- He epitomises in Himself the REVELATIONS of the past, and
- To them he adds His Own contribution of the new REVELATION it is His specific function to present to the world.

b. REVELATION can come through the effort of A GROUP of seekers, such as the scientific investigators in every country, who together are searching for light on the problems of manifestation, or for some means to alleviate human suffering

The effort of such a GROUP often lifts upon the wings of its unrealised aspiration some one man who can then penetrate into the world of divine Ideas and there find the longed for cure or key, and thus he intuitively discovers a long sought secret

The discovery, when of the first rank, is as much a REVELATION as the truths presented by the World Teachers. [Page 189]

Who shall say that the statement that ‘God is Love’ is of more value than the statement that ‘All is Energy’?

The route the REVELATION then follows is the same in both cases, and ILLUSION overtakes both forms of REVELATION but—and here is a point upon which I would ask you to reflect—there is *less* illusion gathered around the revelations of science than has gathered around the revelations of what humanity calls the more definitely ‘spiritual’ truths

One reason lies in the fact that THE LAST GREAT SPIRITUAL REVELATION, given by the Christ, was given two thousand years ago, and *the development of man's mind and his responsiveness to truth has grown greatly since that time*

Again, the REVELATIONS OF SCIENCE are largely the result of GROUP TENSION, (even if) eventually focussed in one intuitive recipient, and *the revelation is thereby protected*

Today, as humanity awaits the REVELATION that will embody the thoughts, dreams and constructive goal of the New Age, the demand comes for the first time from *a large group* of intuitively inclined people.

I said not 'INTUITIVES,' brother of old

This group is now so large, its focus so real, and its demand so loud that it is succeeding in focussing the massed intent of the people

Therefore, whatever REVELATION may emerge in the immediate future will be better "protected by the spirit of understanding" than any previous one

This is the significance of the words of the New Testament, "every eye shall see Him"; humanity as a whole will recognise the revealing One

In past ages the Messenger from on High was only recognised by, and known to, a mere handful, and it took decades and sometimes centuries for His message to penetrate into the hearts of humanity.

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The stress of the times also and *the development of the sense of proportion, plus an enforced return to simplicity of living and requirements* may save the coming REVELATION from too swift and quick submergence in 'THE FIRE OF THE GREAT ILLUSION'

The disciple and initiate work 'from above downwards' – reasons to use the Technique of the Presence

It will be apparent from the above that the disciple and initiate work 'from above downwards' in their handling of world affairs, states of consciousness and conditions in the three worlds

This method is *a repetition of the involutory arc* in which—like the Creator, from a vantage point of exterior direction—energy, force and forces are directed *into* the world of phenomena and produce effects on the substance of the three planes

- **This point is to be most carefully remembered**
- **For this reason the Technique of the Presence must be employed prior to *all* other techniques**

The Technique of the Presence establishes contact with the directing spiritual Agent and enables the disciple to assume the attitude of THE DETACHED OBSERVER and AN AGENT OF THE PLAN

When this technique is correctly followed, it brings the INTUITION into play; the WORLD OF MEANING (lying behind the WORLD OF PHENOMENA) stands revealed, thereby DISPELLING ILLUSION

Truth, as it IS, is seen and known

Forms in the outer WORLD OF PHENOMENA ('outer' from the angle of the soul and therefore encompassing the three worlds of our familiar daily living) are then seen to be but 'symbols of an inward and spiritual Reality'

2. THE TECHNIQUE OF LIGHT

We now consider how service can be rendered through a different technique

This theme is vast; there is so much literature in the world Scriptures, commentaries and theological [Page 191] dissertations on the subject of 'LIGHT' that the simple truth and a few basic principles can get lost in a welter of words.

In my various books I have given much anent this subject and in the book, *The Light of the Soul*, which I wrote in collaboration with A.A.B., an effort was made to indicate the nature of THE LIGHT OF THE SOUL.

The key to the Technique of Light (of 'bringing light into dark places') is found in the words:

IN THAT LIGHT SHALL WE SEE LIGHT

Here is a paraphrase of these apparently abstract and symbolic words:

When the disciple has found 'that lighted centre within himself' and can 'walk in its radiating light,' he is then in a position (or state of consciousness, if you prefer) wherein he becomes aware of 'the light within all forms and atoms'

The 'inner world of reality' stands visible to him as 'LIGHT-SUBSTANCE' (a different thing to 'the Reality, revealed by the INTUITION')

He can then become an efficient co-operator with the Plan, because THE WORLD OF PSYCHIC MEANING becomes 'real' to him and

He then knows what should be done to DISPEL GLAMOUR.

The process of 'BRINGING LIGHT INTO DARK PLACES' falls into three stages:

BRINGING LIGHT INTO DARK PLACES - THREE STAGES

a. The stage wherein the beginner and the aspirant endeavour to eradicate glamour out of their own life by the use of ‘the light of the mind’

The ‘light of knowledge’ is a major dispelling agent in the earlier phases of the task and effectively eliminates the various glammers which veil the truth from the aspirant

b. The stage wherein the aspirant and disciple work with ‘the light of the soul’

This is ‘the light of wisdom’ that is the interpreted result of long experience

This streams forth, *blending* with ‘the light of knowledge’

c. The stage wherein the disciple and the initiate work with ‘the light of the intuition’

It is through the blended medium of ‘the light of knowledge’ (personality light) and ‘the light of wisdom’ (soul light) that ‘THE LIGHT’ is seen, known and appropriated.

This ‘light’ puts out’ the lesser lights’ through THE PURE RADIANCE OF ITS POWER.

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You have therefore

- **The light of knowledge**
- **The light of wisdom and**
- **The light of the intuition,**

These are three definite *stages or aspects* of the One Light

They correspond to

- **The physical Sun**
- **The Heart of the Sun, and**
- **The Central Spiritual Sun**

***** In this last sentence you have the clue and key to the relation of man to the Logos**

***** These stages and their corresponding techniques are apt to be misunderstood if the student fails to remember that *between them there lies no real lines of demarcation but only a constant overlapping, a cyclic development and a process of fusion***

This can be most confusing to beginners.

Just as the result of innate reaction to environment produces the apparatus needed to contact that environment, so the unfoldment of the powers these techniques serve, produces modes of *contact with soul and spiritual environments*

- **Each of these techniques is related to a new environment**
- **Each of them eventually develops power in the initiate or disciple which can be used in the service of humanity and in higher spheres of divine activity**
- **Each is related to the other techniques**
- **Each releases the disciple into a conscious relationship with a new environment, new states of awareness and new fields of service**

For instance:

1. THE TECHNIQUE OF THE PRESENCE, successfully followed, enables the INTUITION: -

- **To flow in and *supersede* the activity of the rationalising mind; and**
- **To dispel illusion, *substituting for that illusion divine ideas, formulated into concepts we call ideals***

The Masters, remember, only use the mind for two activities: [Page 193]

- a. To reach the minds of Their disciples and attract aspirants through the medium of an instrument similar to the disciple's mind
- b. To create thought-forms on concrete levels which can embody these divine ideas

The directing Agent, the Angel of the Presence, produces the power to create in this manner,

This we call THE RESULT OF THE INTUITION: 'idea or truth,' its perception and reproduction

2. THE TECHNIQUE OF LIGHT is more closely related to the mind, and signifies the method whereby the ILLUMINATION which flows from the soul (whose nature is 'light') can irradiate not only ideals but life, circumstances and events, *revealing the cause and the meaning of the experience*

When the power of the disciple to ILLUMINE is grasped, he has taken the first step towards dispelling glamour

Just as the technique of the Presence becomes effective upon the *mental* plane, so this technique produces powers which can become effective on the *astral* plane, and eventually bring about the dissipation and disappearance of that plane

3. THE TECHNIQUE OF INDIFFERENCE renders ineffective (or neutralises) the hold of substance over the life (or spirit), functioning in the three worlds, for 'soul' is 'the evidence of life'

In connection with this second technique, I would like to take some words out of the Bible, substituting the word "light" for the word "faith."

I give you this definition:

'THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD'

**Light is the substance of things hoped for,
the evidence of things not seen**

This is perhaps one of the most occult definitions of 'the light of the world' that has yet been given

Its true meaning is intended to be REVEALED in the next two generations

The word "faith" is a good instance of the method of rendering "blind" some of the ancient truths so that their significance may not be prematurely revealed.

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'Light' and 'substance' are synonymous terms

'Soul' and 'light' are equally so

In this equality of idea—

LIGHT = SUBSTANCE = SOUL

**You have the key to fusion, and the at-one-ment
which Christ expressed so fully for us in His life
on Earth**

THE INTUITION, THE LIGHT OF THE SOUL and the LIGHT OF THE PERSONALITY contrasted: -

- **PROGRESS IN SOUL CONTACT represents an important step towards COMPREHENSION OF LIGHT and its uses**
- **Do not confuse 'the light you can bring to bear on life, circumstance, events, and on environment' with the INTUITION**
- **The LIGHT with which we are concerned**
- ***Expresses* itself in the three worlds and**
- ***Reveals* form and forms, their reaction and effects, their glamour and attractive appeal, and their power to delude and imprison consciousness**
- **The LIGHT concerned is 'SOUL LIGHT'**
- **SOUL LIGHT illuminates the mind and REVEALS 'the world of forms' in which that life is immersed**

THE INTUITION is concerned with nothing whatsoever in the three worlds of human experience, but only with the perceptions of the Spiritual Triad and with 'the world of ideas'

The INTUITION is to 'the world of meaning' what the mind is to 'the three worlds of experience'

It produces UNDERSTANDING just as 'the light of soul' produces 'KNOWLEDGE, through the medium of that experience'

- KNOWLEDGE is not a purely mental reaction
- KNOWLEDGE is something found on all levels
- KNOWLEDGE is instinctual in some form in *all* kingdoms

This is axiomatic.

- The five senses bring PHYSICAL PLANE KNOWLEDGE
- Psychic sensitivity brings KNOWLEDGE OF THE ASTRAL PLANE
- The mind brings INTELLECTUAL PERCEPTION, but

All three are aspects of ‘the light of KNOWLEDGE’ (coming from the soul) as it informs its vehicles of expression in the vast threefold environment in which it chooses to imprison itself for purposes of development

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On a higher turn of the spiral, the INTUITION is the expression of the threefold Spiritual Triad, placing it in relation to the higher levels of divine expression

The INTUITION is a result of the life of the Monad—an energy that carries REVELATION OF DIVINE PURPOSE

It is in ‘the world of this divine REVELATION’ that the *disciple* learns eventually to work and in which the *initiate* consciously functions

Of this higher experience, the active life of the three worlds is a distorted expression. but it constitutes also the training ground in which capacity to live the initiate life of INTUITIONAL PERCEPTION AND TO SERVE THE PLAN is slowly developed

These distinctions (in *time and space*, because ALL DISTINCTIONS ARE PART OF THE GREAT ILLUSION, though necessary and inevitable when the mind controls) must be carefully considered

Disciples will reach a point in their development where they will know whether they are reacting to ‘the light of the soul’ or to ‘the intuitional perception of the Triad’

They will then come to the point where they will realise that ‘intuitive perception’—as they call it—is only ‘the reaction of the illumined personality to the identification tendency of the Triad’

But these concepts are beyond the grasp of average man because *fusion* and *identification* are by no means the same

TERMS FOR STUDENTS TO DISTINGUISH CAREFULLY

Related to the INTUITION, LIGHT OF THE SOUL and LIGHT OF THE PERSONALITY

Various 'lights'

- 'The light you can bring to bear on life, circumstance, events, and on environment'
- 'The power of thought and mental light'
- 'The light that REVEALS form and forms, their reaction and effects, their glamour and attractive appeal, and their power to delude and imprison consciousness'
- 'Intuitional perception and service of the Plan'
- 'Intuitive perception'
- 'The reaction of the illumined personality to *the identification tendency* of the Triad'
- 'The intuitional perception of the Triad'
- 'The light of the intuition'
- 'The light of knowledge'
- 'The light of the intellect or the light of knowledge'
- 'The light of the instinct'
- 'The inner light'
- 'Light as a dissipating agent'
- 'The nature of the soul is light'
- 'The light of the soul,' and 'Soul light'
- 'The light engendered within the vehicles' by 'the light within the atomic substance of the body'
- 'The light of matter'
- 'The light of matter itself, in every atom of substance'
- 'Soul light and material light blended'
- 'The purified light of matter and the light of the soul blended and focussed'
- 'Focussed light as it dispels individual glamour''
- 'The higher light'
- 'The light of the other group members'
- 'The light of the vital or etheric vehicle—a light which is the reflection of the One Light because it unifies the three types of light within the three worlds'
- 'Holding the mind steady in the light'
- 'The mind held steady in the light'
- 'The light that the initiate generates and in which he walks'
- 'The light of the personal, lower self'

'The light of the mind, generated by the soul as it becomes closely related to the personality and impulsed by the intuition'

'The light of the mind'

'The light in the head'

'The blended light of soul light and personality light'

'The light of matter and substance (dense material and etheric light)'

'Inherent light'

'False light'

'The positive light of the mind'

'The negative light of the brain'

'The lesser light'

'The first focussed light'

'The two material lights'

'The inherent light of the mental body'

'The light of the mind and of matter'

'The light energy of matter itself'

'The lesser light of matter'

'Aspects of the One Light'

'False light of the astral plane'

'The triple blended light'

'A powerful light that can obliterate a lesser light and dissipate a fog'

'The light within'

'The light of many minds'

'The light breaks in on the astral plane through the medium of his astral body'

'The retained light and power', combined with 'the dual light of the personality'

'The mind held steady in the light'

Various 'worlds'

'The world of divine revelation'

'The world of ideas'

'The world of ideals'

'The world of meaning'

'The world of forms'

'The three worlds'

'The three worlds of experience'

'The world of the individual'

'The world of humanity as a whole'

'The world of glamour and human struggle'

Various forms of knowledge

'Physical plane knowledge'

'Knowledge of the astral plane'

'Intellectual perception'

'The light of knowledge'

RULES FOR THE TECHNIQUE OF LIGHT

The rules for the Technique of Light have been adequately laid down in the Raja Yoga system of Patanjali, the five stages of which are: -

- Concentration
- Meditation
- Contemplation
- Illumination
- Inspiration
- Concurrently following the Five Rules and Five Commandments must accompany this

I would ask you to study all of these

They produce many results in psychic sensitivity, such as: -

- Hierarchical contact
- Illumination
- Service
- Discipline and, finally,
- The stage of "ISOLATED UNITY," (the paradoxical term Patanjali used to describe the inner life of the initiate)

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Most of what I have said above is well known to all aspirants whether they study

- The Raja Yoga teaching of India or
- The life of practical mysticism as laid down by such mystics as Meister Eckhart and the more mentally polarised modern esotericist

These latter went beyond the mystical vision by arriving at fusion. I need not enlarge on this. It is the higher stage of at-one-ment to which all true mystics bear witness

What concerns us here is how this LIGHT is recognised, appropriated and used in order to dispel glamour and render a deeply esoteric service to the world

The 'inner light' is like a search light, swinging out into 'the world of glamour and human struggle' from what one Master has called "the pedestal of the soul and the spiritual tower or beacon"

These terms convey the idea of 'altitude' and of 'distance,' which are so characteristic of the mystical approach

Power to use this light as a dissipating agent only comes *when these symbols are dropped and the server begins to regard himself as the light and as the irradiating centre*

Herein lies the reason for some of the technicalities of the occult science

The esotericist knows that in every atom of his body is to be found 'a point of light'

He knows that 'the nature of the soul is light'

For aeons, he walks by means of 'the light engendered within his vehicles,' by 'the light within the atomic substance of his body' and is, therefore, guided by 'the light of matter'

Later, he discovers 'the light of the soul'

Later still, he learns to fuse and blend 'soul light and material light'

Then he shines forth as a Light bearer, 'the purified light of matter and the light of the soul being blended and focussed'

Then he learns the use of this 'focussed light' as it dispels individual glamour

It teaches disciples the early stages of the technique that will dispel group glamour and eventually world glamour, and this is the next point with which we will deal

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The light of the soul as it dissipates glamour in the three worlds

The theme of the light of the soul as it dissipates glamour in the three worlds is the most practical, useful and needed subject for study to be found today

It concerns the astral plane, and the service to be rendered is vital and timely

Ridding 'the world of the individual' and 'the world of humanity as a whole' of the all-enveloping glamour that holds humanity in thrall is essential for the race

The new era opening up before mankind at the close of the war will be distinguished by its mental polarisation and consequent (*greater*) freedom from GLAMOUR, but...

Then ILLUSION will for a time control until the INTUITION is more fully developed

This ILLUSION will produce vastly different results to those that follow when men live and work in the midst of GLAMOUR

The second characteristic of the new era will be THE SCIENTIFIC APPROACH TO THE ENTIRE PROBLEM OF GLAMOUR that will then be recognised for what it is

It will be *scientifically dissipated by the use of the illumined minds of groups, working in unison for just that purpose.*

The proposition I am laying before you (the aspirants and disciples of the world) is the possibility of a definite world service...

Groups will be formed of those working at the dissipation of glamour in their individual lives *and who are doing so not so much in order to achieve their own liberation* but with the special objective of ridding the astral plane of its significant glammers

They will work unitedly on some major phase of world glamour by the power of their individual illumined minds

Unitedly they will

“Turn the searchlight of the mind, reflecting the light of the sun but at the same time radiating its own inner light upon the mists and fogs of Earth, for in these mists and fogs all men stumble.

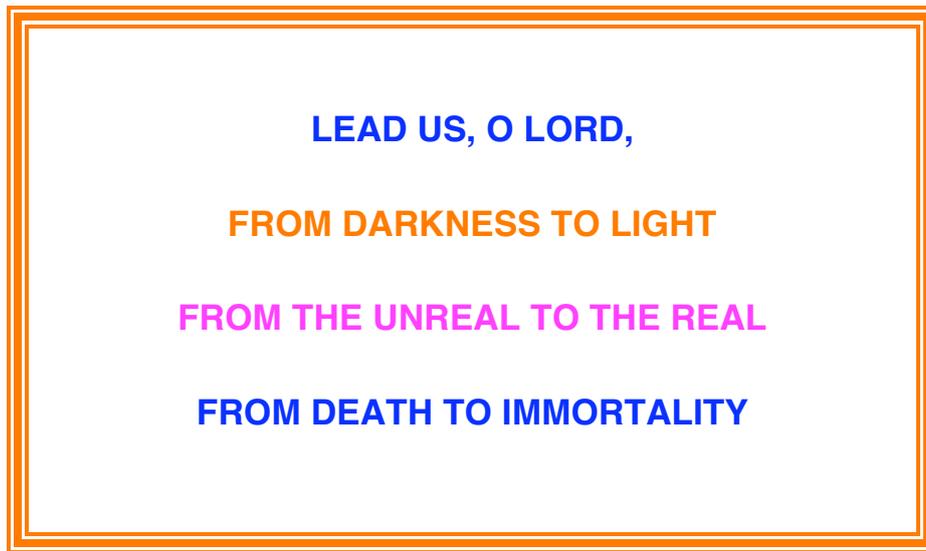
Within the lighted sphere of the focussed radiant light, reality will issue forth triumphant.”

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It is interesting to note that the most ancient prayer in the world refers to the three aspects of glamour

It is for these that the three techniques must be used to make release and progress possible.

As you know, this prayer runs as follows (*Brihadaranyaki Upanishad I, 3, 28*): -



"Lead us from darkness to light"

"Lead us from darkness to light" refers to the mind becoming illumined by 'the light of the intuition' (*buddhi, Ed.*)

This ILLUMINATION is brought about by the means of the Technique of 'the Presence from Whom the light shines'

This is the mediating factor producing the Transfiguration of the personality, and 'a centre of radiant light upon the mental plane'

This statement is true whether one is speaking of an *individual* or of that focal point of light formed by the mental unity and the clear thinking of *advanced humanity*

These ('*points of light, Ed.*'), through the power of their unified minds, will succeed in ridding the world of some aspects of the Great Illusion

"Lead us from the unreal to the Real"

"Lead us from the unreal to the Real" has specific relation to the astral plane and its all-encompassing glammers

These glammers embody the unreal and present them to the prisoners of the astral plane, leading them to mistake the glammers for the Reality

This imprisonment by glamour can be ended by the activity of the Technique of Light, utilised by those who work—in group formation—for the dissipation of glamour and for the emergence in the consciousness of men of a clear conception and recognition of the nature of Reality

In the dissipation of glamour, sixth, fourth, and second ray disciples and aspirants can play a significant role

The particular work of dissipation (*of glamour, Ed.*) is our immediate theme.

It is of vital importance that those who recognise the open door to the future through which all men must pass should begin to carry forward this work. [Page 199]

Only thus can humanity be helped to leave behind the errors, the glammers and the failures of the past.

It is the Technique of Light which brings freedom from glamour and which can transform human living, and so bring in the new civilisation and culture

This dissipation can be carried forward by disciples in all parts of the planet, aided by the world aspirants

It will, however, be primarily the work of those whose ray focus makes astral living the line of least resistance and who have learnt or are learning to dominate it by 'the power of thought and mental light'

These are the sixth ray people in the first instance, aided by aspirants and disciples upon the second and fourth rays

In time and space, this task will be first instituted and controlled in group formation only by aspirants whose soul or personality rays are the sixth ray, or by those whose astral bodies are conditioned by the sixth ray

When they have grasped the nature of the work to be done and "fanatically adopted the technique of light in the service of the race," their work will be COMPLETED BY SECOND RAY DISCIPLES, working from the Ashrams of those Masters Who take disciples

The work done by these two groups will be finally REVEALED (and at a much later date) by aspirants and disciples who will swing into astral activity when the FOURTH RAY again begins to manifest

Therefore, the work of dissipating glamour is carried forward by those who come out into manifestation along the lines of energy which embody THE SECOND, FOURTH AND SIXTH RAYS

I emphasise this as disciples frequently undertake tasks for which they are not particularly fitted and whose rays do not aid them in accomplishment - and sometimes *prevent* that accomplishment

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GLAMOUR is caused by the RECOGNITION of that which man has himself created

The whole subject is related to CONSCIOUSNESS, to the second aspect, and concerns the forms through which mankind becomes progressively aware

Glamour is caused by the recognition of that which man has himself created and, as has occultly been said,

"Man only becomes aware of reality when he has destroyed that which he has himself created"

These forms fall into two major groups:

1. Forms of very ancient origin which are the result of human activity, thinking and error

They embrace all ‘the forms the desire nature of man has created down the ages’

They are ‘the nebulous substance of glamour’ — nebulous from the physical angle, but dense from the angle of the astral plane

They are what provides ‘the incentive behind all striving and activity upon the outer plane as man attempts to satisfy desire’

From these forms the individual aspirant has ever to rid himself, emerging after so doing through that gate which we call THE SECOND INITIATION INTO A WIDER CONSCIOUSNESS

2. Forms that are ceaselessly produced in response to the aspirational nature of humanity

These forms provide the ‘enticements’ that lead the man along towards high personal achievement in the first instance, and spiritual achievement later

They have in them the indications of the new and the possible

Strange as it may seem, these do constitute a GLAMOUR, for they are *temporary and illusory* and must not be permitted to hide the Real

That Reality will precipitate itself at the right moment once ‘the higher light’ pours in

They are *indicative* of the Real and yet often mistaken for the Real

They are in conflict with the old thoughts and desires of the past and must eventually give place to the factual presence of the Real

They provide (in times of crisis) the great testing for all aspirants and disciples, evoking the subtlest kind of discrimination

But once that testing has been triumphantly passed, then can the task of dissipating both these types of glamour be given to the disciple and aspirant, with the emphasis upon the immediate need or any particular and current world glamour. [Page 201]

CHARACTERISTICS NEEDED BY GROUPS WORKING AT THE SERVICE OF DISSIPATING GLAMOUR

It will be apparent to you, therefore, that groups working consciously at the service of dissipating glamour will have the following characteristics:

1. **They will be composed of sixth ray ASPIRANTS AND DISCIPLES, aided by second ray SPIRITUAL WORKERS**

2. **They will be formed of those who:**
 - **Are learning or have learnt to dissipate their own individual glammers, and can bring understanding to the task**

 - **Are focussed on the mental plane and have, therefore, some measure of mental illumination. They are mastering the Technique of Light**

 - **Are aware of the nature of the glammers they are attempting to dissipate and can use the illumined mind as a searchlight**

3. **They will count among their numbers those who (occultly speaking) have the following powers in process of rapid development – skill in recognition of glamour, discrimination between them, appropriation and absorption of light, projection and right direction of that light, and right innovation:**
 - a. The power not only to *recognise* glamour for what it is, but to *discriminate* between the various and many types of glamour

 - b. The power to *appropriate the light*, absorbing it into themselves and then consciously and scientifically project it into the world of glamour. The Masters, higher initiates and ‘world disciples’ can do this alone, if need be, and they do not require the protection of the group or the aid of ‘the light of the group members’ [Page 202]

 - c. The power to *use the light not only through absorption and projection but also by a conscious use of the will, carrying energy upon the beam of projected light.*

To this they add a *persistent and steady focus*.

This beam, thus projected, has a twofold use:

- It works expulsively and dynamically, much as ‘a strong wind blows away or dissipates a dense fog,’ or as ‘the rays of the sun dry up and absorb the mist’

- It acts also as a beam along which that which is new and a part of the divine intention can enter

The new ideas and the desired ideals can come in "on the beam," just as the beam directs and brings in airplanes to a desired landing place (*As in: navigational radio beam, Ed.*)

A. THE DISSIPATION OF INDIVIDUAL GLAMOUR

Let us now consider how the individual aspirant can dissipate the glammers that have for ages conditioned his life in the three worlds

He has been dominated by DESIRE for four-fifths of his incarnated experience.

He has begun to TRANSMUTE HIS DESIRE INTO ASPIRATION and to seek—with all the devotion, emotion and longing of which he is capable—for REALISATION

It is then he becomes aware of the appalling nature of the glammers in which he automatically and normally walks

GLAMOUR arose when man recognised and registered DESIRE AS AN INCENTIVE, thus

- **Demonstrating his humanity and his distinction from the animal, because it is the MIND which reveals the existence of DESIRE**

The instinctual effort to satisfy DESIRE—innate and inherent in the lower nature—gave place to *planned efforts* to meet DESIRE, involving *the directive use of the mind*. [Page 203]

The line of demarcation between the animal and the human became increasingly apparent, and the first and basic expression of ‘pure selfishness’ appeared aeons ago

Later, as evolution proceeded, and as DESIRE shifted from one planned satisfaction to another, it began to take on a less ‘physical’ aspect and men sought ‘pleasure in emotional experience and in its dramatisation’

This led to the establishment of ‘the drama’ as the first artistic expression of DESIRE

By means of this, down the ages, man supplemented individual emotional and dramatic living with a *vicarious submergence* in it

Thus he *exteriorised* himself and supplemented his personal dramas, DESIRES, and objectives with those *developed by means of the creative imagination*

This laid the foundation for the RECOGNITION—intelligent and real—OF THE PART IN RELATION TO THE WHOLE

Thus from earliest Atlantean times the foundation was laid for the unfoldment of ‘the sense of mystical duality’ - through the various stages of

- An anthropomorphic recognition of deity to
- The recognition of ‘the real in man himself,’ until finally we arrive at
- The proposition which faces the disciple - when the Dweller on the Threshold confronts the Angel of the Presence and the last and major conflict is fought out

This DUALISTIC CONSCIOUSNESS culminates at the time of the third initiation in the final fight between ‘the pairs of opposites’ and the triumphant ‘victory of the Angel’ — the embodiment of the Forces of Good in the individual, in the group and in humanity

Then DUALISM and the DESIRE for that which is *material* and not ONESELF (AS IDENTIFIED WITH THE WHOLE) dies out

UNITY and the "life more abundantly" is achieved.

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FOUR STAGES IN DISSIPATION OF INDIVIDUAL GLAMOUR

The process followed by the disciple who is consciously working at the dissipation of glamour in his life can be divided into four stages to which the following definitions can be given:

1. The stage of RECOGNITION of the glamour (or glammers) that hide the Real

These glammers depend, in any particular life crisis, upon the ray of the personality

2. The stage of FOCUSING THE DISCIPLE'S CONSCIOUSNESS ON THE MENTAL PLANE

This includes GATHERING THE LIGHT TO A POINT OF FOCUS so that THE ILLUMINATION IS CLEAR, THE WORK TO BE DONE PLAINLY SEEN, AND THE SEARCHLIGHT OF THE MIND IS DIRECTED ONTO THE GLAMOUR WHICH IT IS INTENDED TO DISSIPATE

3. The stage of DIRECTION

This involves steadily POURING THE LIGHT (UNDER INTELLIGENT DIRECTION) INTO THE DARK PLACES OF THE ASTRAL PLANE Remember, the light enables the disciple to do two things:

- Dissipate the glamour—a satisfying experience
- See the Real—a terrifying experience, brother of mine

4. The stage of IDENTIFICATION WITH THE REAL as it is contacted after the dissipation of the glamour.

In the added light now available, there will be further RECOGNITION of even subtler glammers which in their turn must be dissipated

This process of

- Recognition
- Focusing
- Dissipation and
- Consequent revelation

Will go on continually, from the time a disciple treads the Path of Accepted Discipleship until the third initiation

The clue to all success in this process is connected with meditation and holding the mind steady 'in the light'

Only through steadiness can 'the beam of light' be formed, intensified, focussed and projected and then—at the right moment—withdrawn. [Page 205]

I cannot here elucidate of the process of meditation, based on right understanding of the nature of concentration. I have written much on the subject and the Raja Yoga discipline is well known.

Mental concentration and control is now the ordinary theme of all instructions given by educators and enlightened parents.

It is difficult for the average person today to realise that there was a time when such phrases as "Use your mind" or "If you will only think" or "A little mental control on your part would be useful" were *totally unknown* because the mind was so little developed.

It was then *only* recognised as a functioning factor *by those with initiate consciousness*.

The Path of Evolution is the path of RECOGNITIONS, leading to REVELATION

The whole process of evolution is 'initiatory' in character, leading from one expansion of consciousness to another until the worlds of both the formless and of form stand REVEALED in 'the light which the initiate generates and in which he walks'

These lights are varied and variously revealing; there is:

- 1. The light of matter itself, found in every atom of substance**
- 2. The light of the vital or etheric vehicle—a light which is the reflection of the One Light because it unifies the three types of light within the three worlds**
- 3. The light of the instinct**
- 4. The light of the intellect or the light of knowledge**
- 5. The light of the soul**
- 6. The light of the intuition**

**FROM LIGHT TO LIGHT WE PASS, FROM
REVELATION TO REVELATION UNTIL WE PASS
OUT OF THE REALM OF LIGHT INTO THE REALM
OF LIFE WHICH IS, AS YET TO US, PURE
DARKNESS**

This ‘increasing light’ brings with it a series of developing revelations which (like all else in the world of human experience), unfolds before the eyes...

- 1. First of all ‘the world of forms’**
- 2. Then ‘the world of ideals’**
- 3. Then the nature of the soul, of ideas and of divinity**

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I am choosing but a few of the words that embody the REVELATION and are *symbolic* of its character

But, all these REVELATIONS constitute ONE GREAT UNIFIED REVELATION that is slowly unfolding before the eyes of humanity

‘The light of the personal lower self’ reveals to man the world of form, of matter, of instinct, of desire and of mind

‘The light of the soul’ reveals the nature of the relation of these forms of life to the world of the formless and of the conflict between the real and the unreal

‘The light of the intuition’ unfolds before the vision of the soul within the personality, the nature of God and the unity of the Whole

The restlessness of material DESIRE, seeking its satisfaction in the three worlds, eventually gives place to ASPIRATION towards soul contact and soul life

ASPIRATION in its turn is recognised as a step towards those great fundamental experiences to which we give the names of THE FIVE MAJOR INITIATIONS

These reveal to man the hitherto unrealised fact of his NON-SEPARATENESS and of THE RELATION OF HIS INDIVIDUAL WILL TO THE DIVINE WILL

THE LIGHT OF THE: -	REVEALS OR UNFOLDS: -
Personal lower self	Reveals the world of form, matter, instinct, desire and mind
SOUL	Reveals the nature of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The relation of these forms of life to the world of the formless ➤ The conflict between the real and the unreal
INTUITION	Unfolds before the vision of 'the soul within the personality,' the nature of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ God and ➤ The unity of the Whole

WORKING ON THE ASTRAL PLANE

We are now going to study the mode whereby these phases of work on the astral plane are carried forward:

First, the individual learns to use 'the light of the mind, generated by the soul as it becomes closely related to the personality and impelled by the intuition'

By means of this 'light' the disciple learns to dissipate his personal and private glammers

***** Therapists please note what follows, Ed.:**

I mention this because I would have you appreciate the extent of the task a man undertakes when he *consciously sets about ridding himself of glamour, preparatory to extended service*

He is *in conflict then with the whole glamour of the entire plane* and is apt to be overwhelmed by a realisation of what he is facing

This is one of the causes of the deep depression and those profound inferiority complexes that render some people completely futile or lead eventually to suicide

Their own *personal glammers tie them in to national or planetary glamour* and thus condition their life expression and their thinking

I would ask you to remember this as you deal with people and find them set in their ideas and unable to see the truth as you see it

They are as they are *because their individual glamour is fed by the greater glammers, and this is as yet too much for them*

Story of the conflict - between the pull of the soul and the pull of glamour

It is not my intention to deal specifically with particular glammers, but to give you a *formula*, which (with slight changes and additions) can serve the individual and group in the task of eradicating glamour

A man first needs to realise: -

1. That his reactions, ideas, desires and life experience (as far as his *emotional* nature) is concerned, are almost certainly conditioned by one or more glammers
2. That he is victim of several glammers engendered over many lives, deeply rooted in his past history, and to which he *instinctually* reacts

The time, however, comes when the probationary disciple becomes aware of these *instinctual* glammers and recognises them on appearance, even when reacting to them

He seeks to free himself, working at first spasmodically, trying to use the mind to rationalise himself out of them

He alternates between temporary success, when he can with deliberation act as if free from glamour, and long periods of defeat when he is overwhelmed, can see no 'light' anywhere and acts like a blind, bewildered person

This indicates a stage wherein he is drawn as if by a magnet (the force of accumulated ancient glamour with its karmic effects), into the midst of the very glamour he would seek to avoid

Later comes the stage (a *result* of this alternating process) when the pull of the soul begins to offset the pull of these glammers

He aspires to free expression and to liberation from astral plane control.

The balancing process then takes place. [Page 208]

It is during this stage that MEDITATION is instituted so that the man becomes aware of 'soul light' as it blends with 'the inherent light of the mental body', and

This 'blended light' steadily intensifies as he persists in the meditation work

A point then comes where the aspirant discovers that this 'inner light' can be used

He begins tentatively and with uneven success to turn that light upon the problems of his particular glamour

It is also at this point that we now carry forward the Technique of Light, employing it so that the vague unscientific technique of the past comes to an end

The indicated technique is of use *only* to the man who knows something of 'the light of the mind', of 'the light in the head', and of 'the light of the soul'

'The light in the head' is produced by the definitely planned bringing together of 'soul light' and 'personality light', focussed in the mental body and producing an effect in the brain

This focussing process falls into three stages:

1. THE ATTEMPT TO FOCUS ‘THE LIGHT OF THE MIND AND OF MATTER’ IN THE MENTAL VEHICLE

This signifies a bringing together of ‘the light of matter and substance (dense material and etheric light)’ and ‘the light of the mind’ itself.

**THERE IS NO PECULIAR OR SPECIFIC LIGHT
IN OR OF THE ASTRAL BODY ITSELF**

**THE ASTRAL BODY IS ONLY AN AGGREGATE OF FORMS,
CREATED BY INDIVIDUAL MAN, BY NATIONS AND BY
RACES, AND THESE IN THEIR ENTIRETY CONSTITUTE ‘THE
ASTRAL PLANE’**

**THEY POSSESS NO ‘INHERENT LIGHT’ AS DO OTHER
FORMS**

ASTRAL FORMS are not created as a form of expression for some dynamic life by the planetary Logos - and this is the real meaning of what I have earlier told you that ‘the astral plane in REALITY does not exist’

The ‘astral plane’ is the phantasmoric creation of HUMAN DESIRE down the ages
Its ‘false light’ is a REFLECTION of either ‘the light of matter or of the mind’

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This process of focussing is undertaken through ALIGNMENT and by the effort to bring to a point of ILLUMINATION ‘the positive light of the mind’ and ‘the negative light of the brain’ and is carried forward through mental control, developed in MEDITATION

When these two opposite poles (‘the positive light of the mind’ and ‘the negative light of the brain’), are in relation then (by an act of the personality will) these two aspects of ‘the lesser light’ can form ‘a pin point of light’ (like a small torch light) revealing a phase of the glamour to which the aspirant most easily responds

This 'first focussed light' is not of such a nature that it can do more than REVEAL
It has no DISSIPATING POWER, nor can it render existing glamour ineffective
It can only make a man AWARE IN HIS WAKING OR BRAIN CONSCIOUSNESS that glamour holds him.
This is related to the stage of CONCENTRATION in the meditation process.

2. THE SECOND STAGE OF THE FOCUSING PROCESS IS PRODUCED THROUGH THE EFFORT TO MEDITATE

In the previous stage, the blending of 'the two material lights' was entirely a *form* process and the aspirant is actuated entirely by his personality forces and expediency

An illustration of this and its effectiveness can be seen in the man who, from purely selfish motives and through an intense concentration, focuses his mind and brings about the gratification of his desires and the achievement of his goals

He kills out all emotional reactions and actually goes a long way towards dissipating glamour

He develops the ability to draw on 'the light of matter' itself (physical matter and mental substance) and thus he generates a 'false light' from which 'soul light' is rigorously excluded

It is this power which eventually produces a black magician

He has developed the capacity to draw upon 'the light energy of matter itself' and to focus it so powerfully and effectively that it becomes a great destructive force [Page 210]

It is this that has given Hitler and the six evil men associated with him their power to destroy upon the material plane

But, in the case of the aspirant, the power to meditate upon spiritual reality and to contact the soul offsets the dangers inherent in focussing on and using solely the light of matter

To 'the lesser light of matter' is added 'the light of the soul' and then these two 'blended lights,' or 'aspects of the One Light,' are focussed upon the mental plane through the power of the creative imagination

This enables man eventually to dissipate glamour and liberates him from the astral plane

3. The third stage is that in which 'the light of matter', 'the light of the mind' and 'the light of the soul' (as a channel for the intuition) are consciously blended, fused and focussed

The man then turns this 'blended light', under soul direction, upon the world of glamour and upon the particular glamour with which he is at any one time pre-occupied.

The 'false light of the astral plane' *disappears* in this 'triple blended light' just like a fire can be nearly put out if subjected to the full rays of the sun; or a burning glass, focussing the rays of the sun, can start a destructive blaze

It is the use of 'a powerful light that can obliterate a lesser light and dissipate a fog'

All this has to be understandingly and consciously carried forward as a PRELIMINARY to the technique proper

The work will be experimental at first, and scientifically applied eventually

It will be based on RECOGNITION OF TRUTH - TRUTH faced and accepted

This work is *not* a form of rationalisation (though that precedes the definitely scientific work I am outlining)

- It is *not* the cultivation of fresh interests of a mental and spiritual kind that gradually supersede DESIRE and drive out GLAMOUR

That is all *preparatory* in character and leads to an unfoldment that *prepares* the aspirant to work scientifically

- It is *not* a process of "killing out desire" (as some schools of thought teach), but

- It *was* a process of *gradually eradicating desire by stern discipline and hard trained work and this, incidentally, involved the dissipation of glamour*

Such were the slow techniques of the past

Today the process can be changed, because enough people are now the product of UNDERSTANDING and can work wisely and scientifically

[Page 211]

The process I am developing for you now is for rapid and effective dissipation.

It is based

- **On acceptance of the hypothesis of 'light'**
- **On recognising that the astral plane has no true existence**
- **On trained use of the creative imagination**
- **On the unquestioning following of instructions, individually and as a group**

I intend to give you two formulas—

1. One for individual use
2. The other for use by groups as they contribute their united effort to the dissipation of glamour (either group glamour, or in relation to some aspect of the prevalent world glamour)

Two things will become apparent to you:

First: Those participating in the eradication of glamour must be able to distinguish between glamour and REALITY

[These can often closely resemble each other, on a superficial examination]

They must be in a position to recognise that an emotional or astral condition constitutes a veil over the truth and is a distortion of the presentation or the appearance of the individual's or the group's expression of divinity

They must be capable of

- **Vision,**
- **Clear thinking, and**
- **Prompt recognition of what is preventing that vision materialising, and the accurate reception of the truth**

They must also be able to distinguish between a *major* and a *minor* glamour

A *minor* glamour, a passing evanescent thought-form of an easily recognisable nature does not warrant the use of either of the formulas

Such a *minor* glamour would be a sense of SELF-PITY in an individual, or the GLORIFICATION of some notable individual by an individual, a group or a nation, Time and commonsense suffice to take care of such a situation

A *major* glamour in the world (prior to the war) was (*still is? Ed.*) THE EMPHASIS PUT UPON POSSESSIONS and THE BELIEF THAT HAPPINESS WAS DEPENDENT UPON THINGS AND UPON MATERIAL GOOD AND COMFORT.

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AN EMOTIONAL/ASTRAL CONDITION CONSTITUTES

A VEIL OVER THE TRUTH

**IT IS A DISTORTION OF THE PRESENTATION (OR
APPEARANCE)**

OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP'S

EXPRESSION OF DIVINITY

Second: Those participating in the eradication of glamour must be able to recognise that the three stages of focussing, referred to above, constitute a PREPARATORY process

These three stages must be somewhat developed before effective use of the formulas can be possible, and

Group work: Those intending to work at the task of ridding the world of glamour must subject themselves constantly to these phases in THE ART OF POLARISATION, if I might so call it

They must have an understanding of THE APPARATUS OF THOUGHT, of THE CREATION OF THOUGHT-FORMS, and of THE NATURE OF THE THINKER

They must be EMOTIONALLY POLARISED, yet, in group WORK RELATIVELY FREE FROM ASTRAL CONTROL

This ASTRAL LIBERATION *must to a certain extent control the choice of those who are to work at major dissipations*

Individual work: In the case of the individual who is seeking to break up glamour in his individual life, he should be MENTALLY POLARISED BY DECISION AND EFFORT even if the emotional nature is for him in any one life the line of least resistance

Those working in group formation will have achieved a measure of MENTAL FOCUS but for the purposes of the work to be done they will FOCUS THEMSELVES CONSCIOUSLY AND DELIBERATELY UPON THE EMOTIONAL PLANE THROUGH THEIR CONTROL OF THEIR NATURES [Page 213]

Workers must therefore have practised MEDITATION, have REFLECTED MUCH UPON THE NATURE OF THOUGHT AND ITS USES, AND MUST BE AWARE OF ‘THE LIGHT WITHIN’

When these three stages are established as related activities, habits and automatic reactions, and

- When the intention is fixed and
- When the ability to focus has become an almost instinctual reaction,
- To this work must be added persistence and patience

Then sound and effective work can be done

It is not necessary, I might add, to have achieved perfection in the process before starting this work and service

Disciples and aspirants must cultivate THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF COOPERATION and realisation that in service such as is proposed, they are definitely PARTICIPATING IN A HIERARCHICAL ACTIVITY

They are, therefore, in a position to render help even if they could not—alone and unaided—achieve the desired results

They can hasten the process by their combined help

- **The power of ‘united effort on the physical plane’** is being realised today on a large scale, and the war effort in all countries has greatly hastened this realisation
- **The power of ‘unified emotion’** (often expressing itself in what is called ‘mob psychology’) is everywhere recognised and feared as well as exploited
- **The power of ‘unified thought’ is little grasped as yet; the power inherent in ‘the light of many minds’, rendering them effective instruments in world affairs, penetrating and dissipating glamour and proving creative on the physical plane, will become a part of the new modes of work employed in the new age**

For this, the Hierarchy has planned and worked

It is now prepared to test the effectiveness of that work by organising a group or groups that will work on the problem of glamour

You can see, consequently, that what I am outlining is relatively new. [Page 214]

The faint impression of the coming technique (as far as the individual) is concerned has been registered.

Men and women everywhere are attempting to rid themselves of glamour by the power of clear thinking, stern discipline and commonsense, and by recording consciously their relation to the whole—which prompts them to eliminate out of their lives all that could hinder others or increase world deception through glamour

To this will be added (perhaps as an aspect of the new world religion now on its way towards externalising) the realisation that groups can successfully clear away the glammers which darken humanity's way to its goal, THROUGH THE POWER OF COMBINED AND PROJECTED THOUGHT

As a step towards united group activity along this line of service, I first present a formula (or group ritual) which—if employed by those whose lives are relatively free from glamour, who are realists and who are recognised by the group as thus relatively free, and who are animated by good intent—will do much to end certain aspects of world glamour

Their effort, combined with that of similar groups, will weaken the power of these ancient glammers so that the "DAY OF CLARIFICATION" will eventually come

First, let me offer for use by the INDIVIDUAL aspirant a formula to aid him in freeing himself from his particular glamour(s)

I tabulate the process, and the aspirant would do well to follow it as given: -

1. Having in his mind no sense of time
2. Being willing to do this work regularly for months, if necessary for years, until he has freed himself and 'the light breaks in on the astral plane through the medium of his astral body'

***** I suggest that no aspirant attempt to tackle the problem of glamour as a whole or seek to dissipate all the glammers to which he is susceptible**

He is dealing with very 'ancient evil' and with firmly established habits of glamour. [Page 215]

These habits of glamour are closely connected with aspects of his daily living, his sex life, his ambitions, his relations to other people, his pet ideals and ideas, his dreams and visions

He should choose the most apparent and hindering glamour at the time (and there is *always* one) and he should work conscientiously for its dissipation, if he would lay the foundations for effective service in the dissipation of world glamour

FORMULA FOR DISSIPATION OF GLAMOUR

1. For the Individual

1. Preparatory Stages

1. RECOGNITION of the glamour to be dissipated.

This involves:

- a. Willingness to cooperate with the soul in physical, astral and mental ways in order to aid in the more technical work. **Ponder on the implications in this sentence.**
- b. Recognition of the ways in which this glamour affects the daily life and all relationships – *(It is probably best to write some of this down, for reflection, revision and regular upgrading. Ed.)*

2. The three stages of FOCUSING outlined must be undertaken (See pp. 208-210)

- a. The stage of FOCUSING THE LIGHT OF THE MIND AND THE LIGHT OF MATTER IN THE MENTAL VEHICLE. This is done by a process of ‘lifting up,’ and of ‘blending and fusion’, and to do this the activity of the CREATIVE IMAGINATION is employed
- b. The stage of MEDITATION which in time brings about ‘THE FUSION OF THE LIGHT OF MATTER, THE LIGHT OF THE MIND AND THE LIGHT OF THE SOUL’ upon the mental plane [Page 216]
- c. The stage in which these THREE LIGHTS ARE REALISED TO BE ONE UNIFIED LIGHT — a searchlight, ready to be turned in the needed direction

3. The RECOGNITION of two aspects of preparedness:

- a. ALIGNMENT OF THE PERSONALITY, so that the three aspects of the lower nature are seen as constituting one functioning personality.
- b. An act of INTEGRATION in which THE PERSONALITY AND SOUL ARE SEEN AS A UNIT. This is done through the DEDICATION OF THE PERSONALITY TO THE SOUL and its ACCEPTANCE BY THE SOUL

These two lines of thinking produce ‘A FIELD OF MAGNETIC THOUGHT AND REALISATION’ in which all the work is done

4. A pause in which the whole man braces himself for the work to be done

From a profound pre-occupation with the stage of soul contact and initial preparation he now **FOCUSES HIS ATTENTIVE MIND UPON THE GLAMOUR TO BE ERADICATED**

This does *NOT* involve a consciousness of the glamour and its why and wherefore

It means a **TURNING THE ATTENTION OF THE INTEGRATED SOUL- PERSONALITY TO THE ASTRAL PLANE AND THE PARTICULAR GLAMOUR**

The attention is *not* turned to the astral body of the aspirant seeking to do the work

This is a statement of major importance because in destroying the peculiar type of glamour with which he is concerned, the aspirant or disciple **BEGINS TO DESTROY HIS SHARE IN IT — THAT IN HIM WHICH GIVES HIM CONTACT WITH THE GLAMOUR — and at the same time he is preparing himself for group service along the same line**

This will not prove an easy task

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2. The Technique or Formula proper

5. **By an act of creative imagination the worker endeavours to ‘see’ and ‘hear’ THE SOUL (the source of light and power in the three worlds), breathing out the OM into the mind of the attentive waiting personality**

There, ‘the light and power of the soul’ is **RETAINED AND HELD BY THE POSITIVE PERSONALITY** (for a *negative* attitude is not desirable)

6. **The ‘retained light and power’, combined with ‘the dual light of the personality’ (focussed as we know on the mental plane) is seen generating an ‘intense light’, which can be visualised as ‘a searchlight of great brilliance and strength’**

It must be seen as ‘a sphere of vivid brilliant light’ but not yet radiating out or projecting outwards

7. **When this act of visualisation has been satisfactorily accomplished, a PAUSE then ensues wherein the aspirant focuses all the WILL he has behind ‘the light thus created by the fusion of the three lights’**

This refers to the stage spoken of by Patanjali as that of the "MIND HELD STEADY IN THE LIGHT"

This use of the will—soul-personality will—is DYNAMIC, but at this stage ‘QUIESCENT’ and not ‘MAGNETIC OR RADIATORY’

- 8. Next follows a process wherein the glamour to be dissipated and the searchlight of the mind are brought into relationship by the power of thought**

The glamour and its quality, and the searchlight and its power, are recognised to be as they are, and the effect(s) to be brought about by that relationship are carefully thought out

This must not be done in such a way that the mind process, light and power will strengthen the already powerful glamour.

It must be done in such a way that at the close of the process the glamour will be appreciably weakened and eventually dissipated

This is an important realisation. [Page 218]

- 9. Having, as far as possible, achieved the needed CONCENTRATION, REALISATION AND RELATIONSHIP, the aspirant then (by an act of the will and creative imagination) turns on ‘the searchlight’ and sees a vivid beam of light stream forth and PIERCE the glamour**

He must visualise a ‘broad brilliant beam,’ pouring forth from the illumined mind ON TO THE ASTRAL PLANE

He must believe that this is so

10. Then comes an important and difficult phase of the work. The worker names the glamour and sees it in process of dissipation. He aids the process by saying with tension and inaudibly:

- **The power of the light PREVENTS THE APPEARANCE OF THE GLAMOUR (Naming it)**
- **The power of the light NEGATES THE QUALITY OF THE GLAMOUR FROM AFFECTING ME**
- **The power of the light DESTROYS THE LIFE BEHIND THE GLAMOUR**

Saying these three sentences constitutes an affirmation of power and purpose, and they must be enunciated at a point of tension, with the mind held in steadiness and with a POSITIVE orientation

11. The Sacred Word is sounded again with intent to produce what in occult parlance is called an "ACT OF PENETRATION"; the light is then seen accomplishing three things:

- a. **Making a DEFINITE IMPACT upon the glamour**
- b. **PENETRATING the glamour and BEING ABSORBED BY IT**
- c. **DISSIPATING it slowly; as time elapses the glamour will never again be so powerful and will eventually disappear altogether**

12. This is followed by a process of withdrawing, wherein the aspirant consciously and deliberately WITHDRAWS THE BEAM OF LIGHT and RE-ORIENTS HIMSELF UPON THE MENTAL PLANE

I point out that glamour is never immediately dissipated. It is of too ancient an origin.

But a PERSISTENT use of this formula will WEAKEN the glamour and slowly, and inevitably it will vanish and the man will walk free from that particular hindrance

This may seem like a very long formula but I have purposely detailed it in as full a manner as possible so that the aspirant may clearly apprehend what he is intended to do

After due practice and faithful following of the required conditions, the aspirant will follow it well-nigh automatically and all that he will then need will be the formula reduced to the following brief outline as follows:

OUTLINE OF FORMULA FOR DISSIPATION OF INDIVIDUAL GLAMOUR

1. The four Preparatory Stages:

- a. **RECOGNITION** of the glamour to be dissipated
- b. **The stage of FOCUSING** the light of the personality, a dual light
- c. **The stage of MEDITATION** and the recognition of the greater light
- d. **The UNIFICATION** of the dual light of matter and the light of the soul, creating thus the searchlight of the mind

2. A process of ALIGNMENT and of recognised integration

3. A deliberate TURNING OF THE SEARCHLIGHT OF THE MIND TO THE ASTRAL PLANE

The Formula

- 1. Soul activity and the retention of the light**
- 2. The generating and visualising of the searchlight**
- 3. The evocation of the will behind the searchlight of the mind**
- 4. The generated unified light is turned upon the glamour by the power of thought**
- 5. The naming of the glamour and the triple affirmation**
- 6. The Act of Penetration**
- 7. The Process of Withdrawing**

You will see, brother of mine, that I am teaching the coming generation how to destroy the forms of thought which hold the race in bondage

In the case of GLAMOUR they are the forms which desire, emotion, sensitivity to environment, developing aspiration and old ideals have taken and which prevent 'the light of the soul' from illuminating the waking consciousness

THE ENERGIES TAKING FORM UPON THE ASTRAL PLANE

THESE ARE NOT PURE EMOTION AND FEELING, clothed in pure astral matter, for there is no such thing

*THEY ARE THE INSTINCTUAL DESIRES, evoked by the evolving substance of the physical plane and this, in its entirety is being redeemed through the activity of the human family, being drawn upwards until some day we see THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THAT SUBSTANCE and the "Glorification of the Virgin Mary"— (*meaning*) of the Mother Aspect in relation to divinity*

THEY ARE ALSO THE DESCENDING THOUGHT-FORMS THAT THE DEVELOPING HUMAN BEING IS ALWAYS CREATING AND DRAWING DOWNWARDS INTO MANIFESTATION, CLOTHING THEM WITH THE SUBSTANCE OF DESIRE

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When 'the descending forms of thought' (*which are a REFLECTION in the three worlds of that vast "cloud of knowable things" in process of perception, as Patanjali calls it, and which hovers upon the buddhic plane, awaiting precipitation*) and 'the ascending mass of instinctual demands from the lower aspect of the human unit and from humanity as a whole', meet at a point of tension *then* you have THE APPEARANCE OF WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE ASTRAL PLANE — which is a man-created sphere of activity

- **The subhuman kingdoms of nature know no ‘astral plane’**
- **The superhuman kingdoms have surmounted it and discovered the secret of its delusion**
- **They no longer recognise ‘the astral plane’ except as ‘a temporary field of experience wherein man lives’**
- **In that ‘sphere’ man learns the fact that**

**“REALITY IS NONE OF THESE, BUT ONLY THE
ONE AND THE OTHER IN RELATION WITH EACH
OTHER”**

**This is one of the occult phrases the disciple has to
learn to understand, and which is descriptive of
manifestation**

**THE 'ASTRAL PLANE' IS BUT A
SPHERE WHEREIN MAN
LEARNS THAT REALITY IS
'THE ONE' AND 'THE OTHER'
IN RELATION WITH EACH
OTHER**

**The energies taking form on the astral plane are
the instinctual desires, evoked by the evolving
substance of the physical plane, and (or
interacting with) the descending thought-forms
that the developing human being is always
creating and drawing down into manifestation, by
clothing them with the substance of desire**