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| 1. **Title** | **New Years Observations – Looking back at 2020 and forward to 2021** |
| 1. **Stage of Forerunner** | D.K. said that the time of the Reappearance of Christ and Externalization of Hierarchy will be determined at the 2025 Conclave. Since 1925, the NGWS has been preparing for His Coming during the time that is called the “Stage of Forerunner”. This involves increased spiritual activity by them in an effort to negate the energies of selfishness, greed, and hate on the inner and outer planes.  As we are in the final stages and years of the Era of the Forerunner, we understand that the problems confronting Humanity are largely about Purification and the Right Use of Mind, such as with right thoughtform building and implementation.  When individuals or groups of people practice cooperation, goodwill and right human relations towards their fellow man / women then they are responding to Soul and Hierarchical impulses.  For 2020, we ask:   * *How are individuals and leaders using thoughtform creation to fulfill their ends?* * *How are people who are participating in Movements using thoughtform creation to fulfill their ends?*   Using a broad paintbrush, I am going to approach this retrospective by looking at the background Ray and Seed Group energies and influences by discussing major crises in the world in 2020 and continuing into 2021:   * **Pandemic**: For COVID-19 pandemic the US President showed virtually no Leadership…un-even at best, Caring and shunning of Presidential responsibly. * Lack of or poor **leadership** and concern for helping stabilize the economy and those hit by losing their jobs and their livelihood due to the COVID crisis * **Attack on Democracy**: Certain politicians **undermining of US Democratic norms** by lying, deceiving and misleading the American public * **Racial**: Issue of police brutality resulted in racial unrest US and Europe and continued expression of Black Lives Matter Movement. |
| 1. **What would a “Paradigm Shift” look like?** | From an understanding of the “Stage of the Forerunner”, ……Service Workers the world over are working 24/7 to facilitate mankind shifting from a mindset of “selfishness, and separation" towards a global consciousness of love, cooperation, and unity. With this focus, a paradigm shift in the social, religious, economic, scientific, and political spheres will eventually bring about an unfoldment of human consciousness towards practicing right human relations and establishing the Kingdom of God on Earth.  Needless to say, this is an enormous objective that no one individual or group can accomplish alone. We can describe in great detail many things that “should” and “need” to be done by each of the 10 Seed or Service Groups in our world to make this transition to the Aquarian Age. With a focused vision of *what’s possible* by those who love Humanity… a great transformation and paradigm shift IS possible. |
| 1. **Crisis and Need for Purification / Right Use of Mind** | **Dealing with Crisis and the Right Use of Mind**  Interestingly enough, the nature of crisis is about dealing with forms of purification. That is, clearing away anything in consciousness, i.e. glamours and illusion that keeps us from clear seeing, such as transcending all forms of selfishness, fear and resentment and coming to a greater understanding of the crisis. For those of us who practice the right use of speech and not using inflammatory rhetoric or deceptive forms of communication for being the prime motivation for communication…we should also demand the right use of mind from people in power.  **Whether from an individual or group level, as individual members of society, including our leaders, we ALL have the responsibility for practicing right guidance on physical plane through right action and right speech.**  To initiate healing and deal with crises, we need as a society, to learn to create new Intentionalityby making all of our lives’ activities that of Soul purpose through cooperation, goodwill, and compassion. |
| 1. **Ashramic influence through the Rays + Seed Groups** | **Ashramic influence through the Rays and 10 Seed Groups**  We know the rays are an influence on individuals and the group Humanity.  Lets briefly examine the most influential rays and Seed Groups through some of the events of 2020, and what they portend for 2021.  **Ray 1** (Will and Power): Governments (Seed Group 5 Political Organizes) around the world took center stage in their attempts to mitigate and manage the COVID crisis and contain protests in the wake of police brutality. People were influenced by the imposition of the 1st Ray Will aspect though physical plane action and upon the minds of men. They realize their ideas have a powerful impact and often result in a breaking up and destruction of old forms. We ask:   * Effect of Government on dealing with COVID: Was the knowledge of the virus suppressed or presented to people in full transparency?….mixture of both. SGs Political Organizers worked together scientists + Medical Professionals. * Police Brutality and Protests: how were the protests handled by the State and Federal government? What is the will or what message did the protesters of the Black Lives Matter Movement want to convey?   **Ray 2** (Love and Wisdom): Servers of this ray gather and assimilate ideas through, magnetic, and sympathetic love. In 2020 we saw the SGs Magnetic Healers, Political Organizers, Financial Services Groups working together to help people in their respective nation.  We saw the influence of this Ray playing out mainly in how the COVID crisis was handled. For those who are motivated by love and compassion, its primary influence was through education and the helping professions, e.g. doctors, nurses, through practicing right human relations, and cooperation. We also think about how the people were put out of work because of the COVID crisis, through no fault of their own, and how they are cared for economically through government programs and stimulus money.  **Ray 3** (Intelligent Activity): These servers influences by this ray worked in combination with other rays and seed groups:  1st Ray (Seed Group 5 Political Organizers) through gov’t legislation, economic stimulus  2nd Ray (Seed Groups 3 Magnetic Healers and Seed Group 7 Scientists) …working with Health Professionals to create a vaccine and distribute it to fight the COVID virus. Members from the scientific community came forth to develop the vaccine, educate and inform the public.  In this example, members of these SGs exemplify “Livingness” and “getting things done” mindset while also working with 7th Ray types. Overall, people of these rays, brainstormed, created ideas, and worked together for manifesting remedies on the physical plane.  **Ray 4** (Harmony through Conflict, Beauty, and Creativity): The 4th Ray influenced SGs 5 Politics + SG 4 Educators + SG 10 Creative Workers. The major task of these personalities involves beautification or creativity and manifesting the energy of harmony, i.e. peace in the environment.  We saw these Rays expressing through:   * Racial conflict resulting from Police Brutality ….people in communities protest and demand reconciliation of inbred and endemic racial problems. * There was a major conflict of ideas through US Election….Conservative vs. Liberal ideas   + Both sides exemplified Desire, Fear and Dark Thoughts through deceptive advertising or messaging * Ray 4 expressed through the Creative Arts and Education:   + Artistic Communities (Broadway, Performers and Movie Industry) put out of work due to COVID, many found creative outlets through Zoom technology….although people can’t meet in person safely, Zoom and streaming helps for people and community to continue to thrive.   + Also, since students in classrooms can’t safely meet yet in person, schools are teaching students through Zoom technology across nation.   **Ray 6** (Idealism and Devotion): During this time, mankind has been swayed by innumerable ideals. For the 6th Ray, idealism exists with the Black Lives Matter Movement and with the political platforms of political parties in the US, e.g. Conservative vs. Liberal viewpoints.  We can say that a major glamour of the 6th Ray influenced the US President and his Administration with a “Me Only” or selfish mindset of how politics played out in the US ….regarding the COVID crisis and dealing with protests across the nation.  **Ray 7** (Ceremonial Order and Magic): Again, through 7th Ray influence (in combination with other Rays), conscious skill in action was utilized. Members of this ray group helped focus and manage those forces to contain the COVID crisis in their community and nation through practical activity with right timing, and sensitivity towards time management. |
| 1. **The need for Practicing Right Human Relations** | **Commandments for Practicing Right Human Relations**  Finally, from Alice Bailey’s Light of the Soul, Book II, Sutra 30,, D.K. says:  *"Harmlessness and truth to all beings are energies that if practiced, the disciple would be “perfect” in his relationship with other people and for enabling right human relations in the physical and astral realms”.*  For 2021, we hold that Politicians, Scientists, Educators and Medical Professionals all practice:   * Harmlessness: This involves man's physical and emotional-mental acts as they related to the expression of force or the energy he generates through his physical plane activities, especially towards others. * Truth: This directly relates to the use of speech, and imparting truth and transparency in all that he expresses through the medium of the voice and the Media.   When the Service Worker embraces these values, rules, and commandments he becomes the caretaker of his own evolution and thus influences his environment. |