EGOIC LOTUS WEBINARS, VIDEO COMMENTARY – 26, Michael Robbins

**Abstract:**

Analysis of Petal 6.

This webinar is about 2 hours, 16 minutes long and covers *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire* pages 540-541. Analysis of Petal 6: According to the Tibetan’s Statement: "The Petal of Sacrifice for the astral plane; unfoldment is brought about by the attitude of man as he consciously endeavors to give up his own desires for the sake of his group. His motive is still somewhat a blind one, and still colored by the desire for a return of that which he gives and for love from those he seeks to serve, but it is of a much higher order than the blind sacrifice to which a man is driven by circumstances as is the case in the earlier unfoldment. As this threefold enlightenment or unfoldment proceeds, again a dual result is seen: The astral permanent atom comes into full activity and radiance, as regards five of its spirillae, and the two atoms of the physical and the astral planes are equally vibrant. The three petals of the central ring of the egoic lotus come also into full unfoldment, and the heart center of the Monad is seen as a wheel of fire with six of its spokes in full display of energy and rapidly rotating."

Content for EGLWC Program 26: close attention is paid to the astrological, rayological and chakric implications related to the organization and unfoldment of Petal 6. This is in preparation for wider correlations to be attempted in relation to all petals after what DK has said about them specifically is analyzed.

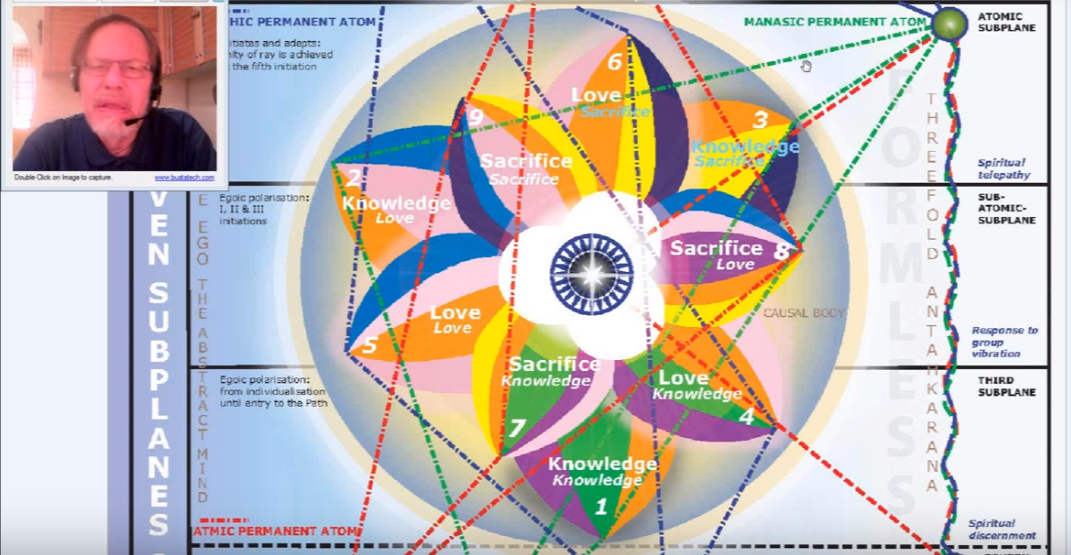
[Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 26](http://makara.us/04mdr/webinars/eglwc/2014-05-20-1650-EGLWC-26.wmv) 477 MB .wmv file  
Video of Egoic Lotus Webinar Commentaries 26 by Michael D. Robbins.

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**Transcript.**

Hi everybody:

… the Virgo petal, number six, has a continuation of the orange of the fifth ray and Venus and the continuation of the rose color which was found throughout the second tier and as we would expect in the sacrifice tiers we have the fourth ray and the second ray the yellow and the indigo. Now yellow is connected with the buddhic plane and with Mercury and interestingly enough with the law of sacrifice.



Interesting that the fourth ray comes in there with Mercury, where there is the ability to hold one's position and yet extend oneself below simultaneously just as the solar angel does. So one stands as the observer and also in the way of a participant and then with a great synthetic ray of indigo we have the love-wisdom aspect identifying with *naught is but me and* such is the degree of identification and compassion to sacrifice is a natural thing. So all the sacrifice petals, interesting we enough we have indigo and yellow.

01:45 ***3. The petal of sacrifice for the astral plane***

We remind ourselves that every knowledge petal relates in a way to the third ray, and every love petal to the second, and every petal of sacrifice to the first. This has to do with the tiers as well, the entire third tier to the third ray, the entire second of love here to the second ray, and the entire sacrifice tier to the first ray.

So the petal under discussion can be considered the sixth petal overall, if we start numbering in a counter-clockwise motion, counter-clockwise motion from the first petal. And by numerical affinity it would be associated with the sixth ray. And the first ray, because it's a sacrifice petal even though it’s a love tier, and with the second ray because all the love petals are associated with the second ray. Can it also be associated with the monad whose number is six? I think so because when the sixth petal is unfolded then a special resonance with the monad is set up and then it is possible after all and I think not before, to enter the ashram of a chohan, at least it seems to be the case with the second ray group. I believe before the second initiation is completed in the six petals completely unfolded I think it is possible to be a member of a Master, subsidiary to chohanship.

When the number six is accomplished then it seems possible to … enter that type of ashram. Also at that time such is the control of the astral body that one can, slip in and out of the body and it makes it possible for a higher initiate to use the vehicle of his chela. Of course when the Master Lord Maitreya used the vehicle of the initiate Jesus, who was already an initiate of the third degree. I suppose that was the case when the initiate Jesus of the fourth degree used the vehicle of Apollonius of Tyana, who was probably then a third degree initiate. That's a whole interesting story about Apollonius being born before the initiate Jesus was crucified. So they say, well then how can Jesus take incarnation as Apollonius of Tyana, but simply through this business of using the vehicle. Once the second degree is passed this becomes a possibility at least to be used by one of higher degree and to impersonally stand out of the way on to let that be done.

04:58 We will begin to first gather our general impressions. That's how we have been going. Unfoldment. This is a general term. Unfoldment is brought about. We don't mean necessarily the exact phase of unfoldment we mean *unfoldment* is covering all the phases and the attitude of the man as he consciously endeavors to give up his own desires for the sake of the group. I think a *conscious* endeavoring. The idea that this is not a blind sacrifice at all but it is a willing conscious act. The disciples know that this is desirable and necessary and desires and wills to do so. It is very different than being swept along by circumstances in the third petal where you can't help but to be sacrificed, it's not so much a willingness to make the sacrifice.

Sometimes, maybe on the altar of desire, the body is broken and one does desire, you know to defend one's country, one does desire to feed one's family and care for one's family against all odds. We see that. Talk about sacrifice, I saw a documentary of a little boy who had to wake up at three o'clock in the morning to walk four hours to school and then four hours back and only arrive rather late at night and of course he was always falling asleep in school and the teacher was scolding him for that. But just imagine what one will do if the desire is keen enough. I hope his case improved with the spreading of his story.

07:19 Unfoldment is brought about by the attitude of the man as he consciously endeavors to give up his own desires for the sake of the group. Let’s just say that with developments in the second tier, group consciousness is entering. Of course since the soul the higher pairs of opposites is entering naturally the group will mean more and more, not just as protection but as something one cares for, not just because of taboos and laws, but because one has love. Not only the protective aspect of the group as seen in the first tier.

So we see that those passing through sixth petal processes are having a definite spiritual orientation even if they are still unconscious of the actual spiritual realities. So it's a cultivated selflessness not entirely successful, but by the end of the sixth petal process there will be the first major blow struck against inherent selfishness. The early stages of real group consciousness are appearing, not just sort of tribalism in the herd instinct, they are appearing and it may not be a spiritual group consciousness of the kind we study in the ageless wisdom teaching, at least in relation to the path of initiation, but it does promote the relinquishment of selfishness and attempt to advance the welfare of others. This is a deliberate conscious act.

So it's an ongoing battle all through these love petals between the heart and the solar plexus, and the heart is gaining the upper hand. If you think about Virgo, in relation of the sixth petal, even Pisces, you realize how much of the second ray is coming in through Virgo at this time. It is the major conduit for the second ray at this time, although I think in a larger sense Pisces is a more powerful donor of the second ray being a cosmic decanate related to the second ray.

10:50 It’s an ongoing battle between the heart and solar plexus all through the second tier process. His motive is still somewhat a blind one so there is still the *through the glass darkly* but something is seen. Something of the looming spiritual realities is sensed or seen and his motive is still colored by the desire for return. Remember how unlike the eighth petal …

If we go to *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire* page 542,



… ***through about conscious, steady application of all the powers of the soul to the service of humanity with no thought of return nor any desire for reward for the immense sacrifice involved.***

13:05 That's different from the sixth petal isn't it? Even though in a the way the two *M's* are related, the Virgo and Scorpio maybe more the path of real discipleship, and Virgo more the path of probationer discipleship, though you cannot make a generalization because obviously there are Virgo people on the path of real discipleship and Scorpio people on the path of probationary discipleship. So it's still colored his motive by the desire for a return of that which he gives and for love from those he seeks to serve. If it was simply a question of serving the plan there would be no expectation for that kind of return.

This means that the man, although oriented towards something higher and more spiritual. Oriented, because in the second tier one really is – a man still subject to personality energy. He’s not yet an initiate of the second degree. Even if he were, there would still be personality energy, but since Mars is the planet both of selfishness and of personality, a major blow against Mars is struck at that point and thus against selfishness and thus again personality. So this will mean that in relation to the sixth petal. The center through which the sixth ray pours, the solar plexus center, expressive of personality, will still be active and there is still a rising of the energy of the solar plexus to the heart and it is not complete.

I think even Alice Bailey … she herself was still engaged with this and we certainly know that as time passed she became a world disciple and a true initiate of the third degree. The quote ***desire for a return of that which he gives and for the love from whom he seeks*** is a solar plexus desire … it is not of the heart. Now think about Virgo, brings to us the solar plexus, the second ray and the sixth ray.

16:10 So notice here that because we are dealing with a sacrifice petal, the man is relinquishing something, giving up something of lesser value for something of greater value, even though the pain may be involved in the process. … It looks like it is the physical body when it's the first tier, and the first sacrifice petal, which is the third petal, but it seems that which he is giving up is more related to the astral body and not so much the physical body, as in the first petal of sacrifice.

That doesn't mean that in the attempt to offer something for others, by giving up his own desires for the sake of his group, it could be also the desire for a life and onecannot say that there will be necessarily no physical sacrifice involved at this petal. But this is much more physical tier and for that reason the sacrifice is likely to be more material. But this sacrifice is of a much higher order than the blind sacrifice to which a man is driven by circumstances, as in the case of the early unfoldment. We do see that all the sacrifice petals are related, no matter what the tier. So there is one petal of sacrifice in the knowledge tier, and one petal of sacrifice in the love tier, and of course the three petals of sacrifice. All have something in common. They are on the mental tier so it is not blind, he is understanding something of the reason and he doesn't have to question, Why must this happen to me?” because he understands something of the deliberate offering of an aspect of the self even though it may be a painful offering for the welfare of others, maybe not purely clear and free in motive, but heading in the right direction.

19:00 So we are contracting the approach to sacrifice as expressed through two petals. The sacrifice petal of the knowledge tier and the sacrifice petal of the love of the sixth petal process, then he is much more conscious one does not suddenly find oneself simply losing one's life and not knowing why – or losing all kinds of things and not knowing why … Maybe at the third petal we would have to say it is simply the will of God, and inscrutable. Maybe at the sixth petal we will understand, I have a part in ordaining sacrifice.

Let's just say at the third petal, the sacrifice is usually less willing than at the sixth, but of course there are exceptions. Sometimes the willingness, will and desire are closely related so there is that driving desire which is sometimes called will. Even if a third petal, but still much less consciousness. Think of how much consciousness has unfolded during the processes in which the love petals have been organized and are beginning to unfold. We are dealing possibly with a million years difference. I haven't really sat down to calculate that, but that that's certainly possible, at least a long, long period. Working in the third petal and working to the sixth petal can be separated by a very long period.

When I say *working in the petal* I mean working in the experiences of the type of life activities related to the processes of that petal. So to be driven by circumstance and sacrifice is of a lower order than to consciously choose sacrifice for the sake of others. In the first instance the will is far less involved and one must simply acquiesce. …

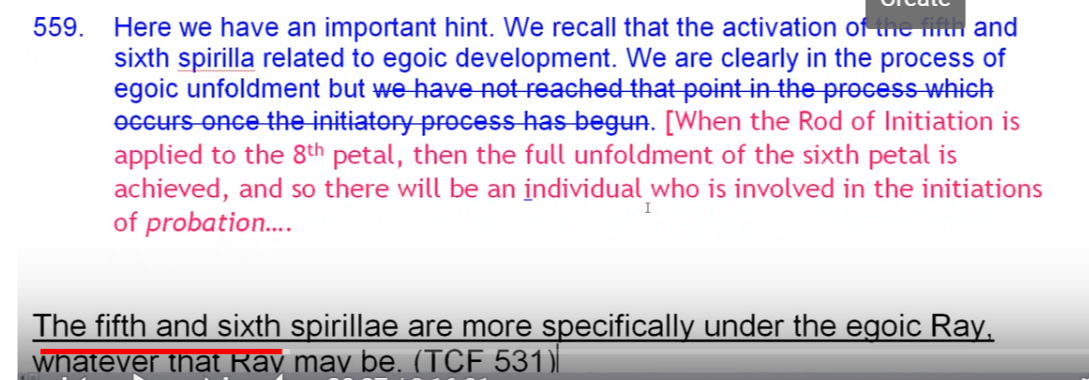
21:40 Saturn as a planet of choice is active at the sixth petal. It’s a planet of compulsion and fate at the third petal. I think we see the difference and … Saturn is active at every sacrifice petal. Because of the third ray of Saturn and each sacrifice petal is a third petal when dealing with the first and second tier.

Also Saturn has much of the first ray associated, and the *will to die* or give up can be connected. With the fourth ray and also with the first ray. The willing separation of oneself from what had been previously desired is of the first ray, so the willing separation of oneself from what had been previously desired is of the first ray.

As this threefold enlightenment or unfoldment proceeds, again a dual result is seen, the unfoldment of the three love petals is called a threefold enlightenment, because … in the hall of learning light does enter in and … the light of the soul … not just the light of the lower worlds, which also has its own type of light.

24:15 … Whenever we have passed through the unfoldment of three petals in the same tier, the Tibetan also offers us a summary of the process. … with respect to the second tier ***the astral permanent atom comes into full activity and radiance as regards five spirillae.*** We're not told how many spirillae are involved when the physical permanent atom comes in. But when the soul is affecting the permanent atom the number of the soul is five, so it is likely to be five and the two atoms of the physical and astral plane are equally vibrant and this seems to be telling us something about the conclusion of the second initiation – though not without strenuous work within the eighth petal and the application of the rod of initiation to the eighth petal. I was wondering if the energy directed is that applied to … the particular petal. All of this will have to do with the science of initiation and will be of a technical nature and really at the moment the business of the bodhisattva and of the lord of the world.

We have an important hint. We recall that the activation of the fifth and sixth spirillae, related to ego and this is found in *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire.* The fourth spirillae relates to human development … once the initiatory process has begun. …



26:30 When the rod of initiation is applied to the eighth petal, then the full unfoldment of the sixth petal is achieved and so there will be an individual who is involved in the initiations and the initiations of probation (… it’s a danger to write things and to be incorrect. Master Morya has likened the errors in books to sores which must be somehow expunged. They lie there like little time bombs waiting to go off and create illusions, but one must do what one can with what one has at the time.)

So unfoldment of the fifth spirillae, when the sixth petal is completely unfolded is most definitely in the preparatory initiation process. Not what the masters call initiation, but what is called initiations of the threshold, probationary imitates, and so it indeed it has become. When there is simply work in the sixth petal, that type of initiatory work has not necessarily been done, but we're talking about working ahead in the eighth petal area and having unfoldment in the sixth petal where the astral permanent atom will be fully energized.

28:25 … I'm incorporating a quote here from *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire, page 531*: which is a good thing to do. ***The fifth and sixth spirillae are more specifically under the egoic ray, whatever that ray may be.*** What a gold mine of information. The problem with so many of us is we read and we forget and if we forget we cannot correlate and if we cannot correlate the light cannot break forth. Remember that in the right kind of correlation the light breaks forth, illumination arises from the arcing of correlation, if it's correct. If it's not correct then something will feel wrong about it, it will not conform to the law of correspondences and there will be no new light brought forth, in fact there will simply be confusion.

Anyway, this means that the fifth spirillae is activated during the processes which sees the unfolding of the love petals and that the sixth spirillae is activated during the initiatory process, when the planetary logos is stimulating spiritual group consciousness. At least this idea needs to be explored because the planetary logos himself, when Sanat Kumara himself was the initiator then perhaps the sixth spirillae is activated. But that is that's a speculation so far it needs to be further researched. Sometimes all I can do is throw out some speculations and people can hunt down the accuracy of it or not I haven't time to confirm everything I might think about and yet it might be worth mentioning.

30:22 So we are learning that egoic unfoldment is definitely part of the unfolding of the love petals. Indeed the solar Angel has looked in so of speak when there is organizing activity going on in the fifth petal and certainly in the sixth petal. So when attention is being given to the fifth and sixth petal the solar angel is there, it doesn't simply have to wait until there is complete unfoldment of the fifth and sixth because that would be initiation already and long before there is initiation there's the path of probationary discipleship and … the solar angel is assisting with that.

We are learning that the egoic unfoldment is definitely a part of the unfolding of the love petals but that such unfoldment is not sufficient. Well is not sufficient to indicate that the stage of initiation has begun a stage which begins with the unfoldment of the seventh petal.

I have to be very very careful here. The unfoldment of the fifth petal and the sixth petal can have begun. But not the full unfoldment. So we have to be careful whether unfoldment indicates a process, or whether it indicates the complete act. Because when there is unfolding going on in the fifth and even the sixth petal, it does not necessarily mean the initiate of the first or second degree. But it certainly can indicate one who is on the path, and it would be a greater amount of unfoldment of the fifth and when unfoldment is beginning in the sixth petal it would tend to mean movement during that long phase of work between the first and second initiation and perhaps the master looking in on the sixth petal could tell how far one had progressed in this this process of moving from the first to the second initiation.

Then of course there would be organizational work going on in the area related to the eighth petal and when the rod of initiation by the Bodhisattva was touching a petal, probably a great deal more unfoldment would occur in the sixth petal and to some degree even the eighth petal.

Like so many of us, I wait to see these things in all clarity and accuracy. …

33:33 Vision can come from the astral plane and it will be full of error if we don't have the mental training as the foundation then when we see something we're just going to believe it because we've seen it, but there can be a problem there and a good solid grounding in the academics of what's really transpiring will help us discriminate between a vision which may be false and something that is much truer.

Anyway the three petals of the central ring of the egoic lotus comes also into full unfoldment … not just unfoldment but full unfoldment, I think that is an important phrase. I want to go back and … let's see if I can find important information on the organization opening the petals … DK uses the word vitality and … TCF 541, … It seems like a lot of reference gathering I know … it is a slow process, but if we trust Master DK … Many people want to immediately become white magicians without really studying in an academic way white magic, but DK advises how important it is to study academically first because then when the actual secrets of mantrams and so forth are put into the hands of the student he will progress much more rapidly. So in many ways through His mental work we are saving time in the long run.

35:50 So [the petals] come into full unfoldment and to me this indicates the second degree and the heart center. The monad is seen as a wheel of fire with its spokes in full display of energy and rapidly rotating and this six corresponds to the monadic six; the monad is 24, Shamballa is 24, and thus a 6, and the monad is six as well as it has a 12 connected with it. I wonder if it has a 24 connected with the structure of the monad. Obviously has not been very thoroughly discussed by DK. He is having us concentrate on the soul of course it makes sense and on its structure and that's what we're doing here and he said it would be a widely read section of *A Treatise of Cosmic Fire,* more widely read than the other sections concerning the material aspect in the beginning and the brief section at the end with the Will aspect. Tantalizing material however I must say.

When two tiers and six petals are fully unfolded and a human being stands on the periphery.

I've changed my mind as I go through this and this has been eye opening for me, stands on the periphery of the processes of true initiation per se. That's to say, if initiation occurs after the third initiation but he is a part of the initiations of the threshold. So the overlapping is now much more emphasized than when I wrote this seven years ago, it shows how one can change one's points of view.

It’s not simply working in one petal and then into the next, there's always organizing work going on ahead and the organizing work is real work and it does give capacity though not the fullness of capacity that comes with opening and unfoldment. So I hope you understand what I'm saying that the process of initiation is really occurring when six petals are fully unfolded. And I need to see that error corrected.

38:40 To the next point then, the view of the egoic lotus as a wheel is here put forward and we remember as a wheel, a lotus is an angel. So this wheel is increasingly in rapid rotation as the process of evolution advances and rapidly rotating. I guess rotation is beginning maybe even from the time … the earliest tier comes open. That will have to be checked but certainly at this point we have six spokes in rapid rotation and we are reminded of an important consideration that the egoic lotus is the heart center of the monad.

From the counter-clockwise perspective, which is what we consider the normal progression of the signs, beginning with Aries, the sixth petal is ruled by the sixth sign, Virgo. We know that in Virgo the Christ consciousness is deliberately cultivated and that man begins to learn and consciously serve a will higher than his own.

So Virgo, like Pisces, is a sacrificial sign and the ancient saying in Pisces is, *Father not my will but thine be done*. It’s a very similar in Virgo, to relinquish one's own self will for a still higher will. Even later to relinquish one’s soul will for a will still higher, namely the monadic will. So the relinquishments do progress.

In Virgo one learns, often because one has little choice in the matter to put others first. That would certainly be the case in the third petal here there is more choice, but oftentimes people are put, often when there is a strong Virgo in the chart, in a situation where everything indicates they must serve. Oftentimes they are perhaps making up for excesses which were perpetrated when they had the strong Leo energy.

So significant lessons in humility are brought forth in Virgo, and even in Pisces. We might call it self-effacement which is even more than humility, it's really … *forget the good self and the bad self and let only Christ be seen and heard.* That is the saying, something like that it's not exact but it's close.

42:04 From the clockwise perspective, we have Scorpio if we begin with Aries and go to the sixth petal. … and then Libra if we begin with Pisces. When counting backwards or going against the stream, it’s easy to make mistakes in counting, and I've discovered some mistakes that I have made so it makes me happy that I've gone over this.

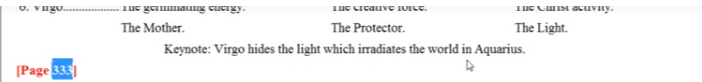
Scorpio, a sign of sacrifice and relinquishment, losing your life to find it. It fits well with this particular sacrifice petal in which a man finds himself slowly and painstakingly winning the battle with selfishness. Of course with every battle there is Mars and Scorpio brings Mars forward. And eliminations, elimination in both Virgo and in Scorpio (related to Pluto) casting away that which is no longer needed.

The water signs have a lot to do with sacrifice and relinquishment, and especially Scorpio and Pisces. Both are ruled in different ways by Pluto, the planet of *discard.* The planet of ejection, where one throws away that which is no longer really needed.

Libra accords well with processes which place the group and its needs before the individual and his desires. Again, wherever there is requirement that one balance competing objectives, Libra serves competing objectives between the individual and the group. It is that conscious attitude of the aspirant. It all was working within a petal, it’s not the same thing as working in a later petal and finding the first petal unfolding.

So organizing the petal and then later working on ahead and seeing the fruits of that organization really begin to develop. These are two different things. One is full of effort and the other is perhaps more a natural result of later and more difficult work attempted. For example you've all had the idea have the experience of lifting a heavy object and then you go to another object which you think is equally heavy and suddenly it almost flies up in your hand because you've applied the same force to it; it seems much lighter for having done the work on ahead which is more difficult. So that's the way I think unfoldment often is, there's a certain momentum to it and once we start working in more difficult areas, the areas we were working in before really develop its own natural momentum and start unfolding rapidly.

We might also say that the unfoldment process of this sixth petal will see the beginning of Aquarian attitudes. It's interesting because we leave the Leo petal behind. And see we leave the fifth petal or Leo petal behind, so the opposite of the Leo work is the Aquarian work. It’s interesting. I'm going to again bring in *Esoteric Astrology* and page 333 or so and it says *Virgo hides the light which radiates the world in Aquarius* and then later, *Aquarius releases Virgo from her load.* Virgo and Aquarius are intimately related. They are different kinds of Christ's manifesting.



47:00 There is such a burden in Aquarius, but it needs to be born into such a burden of Virgo. But it needs to be born into Aquarius where a higher type of burden is carried. They are both carriers of burdens, the first in pregnancy and the other here in increasing world service and carrying heavier and heavier loads on behalf of others, for the sake of the group. Those are the words given here and they are important. It’s an Aquarian ideal.

Libra also brings forth altruism which is required for the development of true group consciousness. I think that's what we've seen here in the petal of sacrifice, the man is driven by circumstances as in the case of the earlier three petals and his motive is still somewhat a blind one and still colored by return, but it’s a much higher order, here he consciously endeavors to give up his own desires for the sake of the group.

So many aspirants at this stage are attempting to do exactly that; they are working between the first and the second initiation and they know that the cultivation of group consciousness is important. So this work is going on in the eighth, the seventh, and the sixth petal, and more and more they are successful at actually – not just going through the motions, but because they feel the heartfelt impulse which is the sole impulse to give up their own desires for the sake of the group. In the beginning it's simply a deliberate effort because they want to follow in the footsteps of the Christ, or they know that there will be some kind of achievement for them if they do so.

Remembering that the water signs have been hypothesized as related to the love tier we will assign Pisces, a sign of service, relinquishment and sacrifice, and the opposite of Virgo. It works out somehow very well; it's the opposite of the sixth sign, and it fits, in terms of being the opposite and it fits in terms of being the proper water sign to assign to this point of relinquishment which is helping us when we are working in that petal to pass off the path of probationary discipleship into true discipleship and the first initiation.

50:00 Pisces is the sign most useful in overcoming selfishness and introducing the dynamic of self-effacement. Later with the world savior to be developed in the greatest measure to be a world savior. This impulse is developed in the fullest measure. But here in this particular petal the work is simply to overcome some of the most obvious aspects of selfishness and whenever there is true group consciousness developed then selfishness all subsides.

Pisces is also a sign critical in the aspirants movement from the mutable cross to the fixed cross and when they do move to the fixed cross they are going to be taking the first initiation. So there's going to be work done in this petal even as the fifth petal is unfolding and as the rod of initiation is touching the seventh petals. It's almost like the work is done in relation to three petals. Perhaps the work can be considered in relation to three petals, the one farthest ahead in this case, the one which the rod of initiation touches the one which is furthest behind and is unfolding and the one in the middle where serious effort is being expended to support the achievements promised in the petal furthest ahead. It seems like a one, two, three and this strikes me as *avant garde*, and then a petal opening and in the middle a petal for continued work, prior to unfoldment. Because as the fifth petal with unfolding and the work is being done in the seventh petal, it seems to me that some degree of readiness for unfoldment or slight unfoldment would be shown in the sixth petal, but maybe simply the organizational work which is immediately preceding unfoldment.

54:00 … I don't think a petal unfolds all at once I tend to think the opening of a petal is not a sudden process but gradual. And until proven that this is incorrect, I'll hold to that idea that petals can be seen at different stages of unfoldment as in the case of the primary lotuses, second petal is shut. But the first petal and the third petal are opening. How much? Well we can't know that. The idea is just to avoid that idea of suddenly the tier opens, all three petals open simultaneously. I think they've been opening in different measures and then when the tier does indeed open to its fullest extent, then whatever there is to make up for in the opening of any one of the earlier petals is completed. When the last petal of the tier is also completed when the last petal of the tiers also completed. I suspect the previous two petals sort of come along with it into a stage of fullest possible opening. They may be very nearly there but until we can really see these things for ourselves we have to use our imagination, use our reasoning, and do the best we can to imagine.

Pisces is also a sign critical in the aspirant’s movement from the mutable cross to the fixed cross, and we may hypothesize that the sixth petal is the area of activity in which the transition is made. In other words, work is going on in the seventh petal, the rod of initiation touches all kinds of important finishing processes are occurring in the sixth petal and without the pains taken in the sixth petal, the rod of initiation could not be applied because we're seeing the readiness for the application of the rod in the seventh petal from the work that's done in relation to the sixth petal where all of the little details in the obstacles and the parts of our nature which stand in the way are painstakingly taking care of. I think a lot of correction. I might call the sixth petal the petal of correction in a way. We can call it here anyway, but the petal of correction.

57:00 So we know that it's a petal of probationary discipleship, assuming that probationary discipleship ends at the first initiation, but some consider that it goes on until the middle of the period between the first initiation and the second initiation. That the only kind of discipleship there really are is probationary discipleship, other than accepted discipleships. In which case, work would continue there and between the first and second initiation. Absolutely, because if we go by the assumption that only when the second tier is completely unfolded, with the sixth petal completely unfolded, is the second degree taken, then obviously after the first initiation a lot of work has to continue with reference to details to be taken care of in this petal of correction, so there's still a lot of perfecting of the character and one's adaptation to the world that has to be dealt with in terms of the sixth petal process.

Here is a quote that I pulled in and I think it's really relevant.

***Then the second series of petals are opened during a period of time covering his participation intelligently in world affairs until he enters the spiritual kingdom at the first initiation and a final and briefer period where in the higher or inner ring of petals are developed, are opened.* TCF 543**

Now there can be no question that at times references are hard to reconcile. From the first reference that we have here it would seem that the second series of petals are completely open by the time of the first initiation, then the second series of petals are opened during a period of time covering his participation intelligently in world affairs. We might say that that occurs in relation to the fourth petal until he enters the spiritual kingdom at the first initiation, and a final and briefer period wherein the three higher or inner ring of petals are developed and open. I think we have no trouble seeing that by the time the third degree is taken the inner ring of petals is completely open.

Now I want to point out another couple of references, so ***On the buddhic plane when flashing forth at initiation, this number signifies the full development of the fifth principle or quality. The completed cycle of the ego upon the five rays of the Mahachohan.*** So I put here the Brahmic cycle is completed, personality completed, Vishnu cycle beginning … Christ enters as the initiator at the beginning of the Vishnu Cycle … ***and the assimilation of all that is to be learned upon them, and the attainment—not only of full self consciousness but also of the consciousness of the group wherein a man is found. It infers the full unfoldment of five of the egoic petals, leaving four to open before the final initiation.* TCF 696**

In this case. What is the final initiation? It has to be the third initiation, because we have references to confirm that at the third initiation the third tier of petals are completely open. So this flashing forth I assume to be the first initiation. As well I have interpolated another sentence, this is all about the five pointed star and the number five. It comes right after page 696, ***the five pointed star at the initiations on the Mental Plane flashes out above the head of the initiate. This concerns the first three initiations which are undergone in the causal vehicle.***

So it cannot be that four egoic petals remain before the final initiation, if the final initiation is the fifth, because the causal body doesn't even exist. So the final initiation, it seems to me, has to be the final in the group of nine petals, which can be experienced in the group of nine petals and is the third degree leaving all nine petals open.

***On the buddhic plane, when flashing forth at initiation, this number, signifies the full development of the fifth principle or quality, the completed cycle of the Ego upon the five rays of the Mahachohan, and the assimilation of all that is to be learned upon them, and the attainment – not only of full self-consciousness, but also of the consciousness of the group wherein a man is found. It infers the full unfoldment of five of the egoic petals leaving four to be opened before the final initiation. TCF 696***

1:02:30 ***On the buddhic plane, when flashing forth at initiation, this number,*** the number five, ***signifies the full development of the fifth principle or quality, the completed cycle of the Ego upon the five rays of the Mahachohan, and the assimilation of all that is to be learned upon them, and the attainment*** … because it's right at the first degree that we can begin to switch into the first ray soul, or the second ray soul. It’s there, pretty much as a central point that the egoic lotus moves its principal focus onto the second subplane. So it ***infers the full unfoldment of five of the egoic petals leaving four to be opened before the final initiation.*** Notice he says *full unfoldment.*

***Then the second series of petals are opened;*** ***during a period of time covering his participation intelligently in world affairs until he enters the spiritual kingdom at the first initiation.*** ***Until a period of time covering participation during a time covering his participation in world affairs, until he enters the spiritual kingdom at the first initiation, and a final and briefer period wherein the three higher or inner ring of petals are developed and opened.*** (TCF 543)

Here we simply have the petals are open ***during a period of time covering his participation intelligently in world affairs until he enters the spiritual kingdom at the first initiation.*** But this word *open* it need … Then the second series of petals are opened but are they *fully open?* ***Until a period of time covering participation during a time covering his participation in world affairs, until he enters the spiritual kingdom at the first initiation.*** And let’s just say ***a final and briefer period wherein the three higher or inner ring of petals are developed and opened.***

With the term *opened* we can ask*,* does it mean *fully open?* To me with what is said immediately below it seems quite clear that at the first initiation five of the petals are fully open. Certainly we can say at the second initiation, no, it begins at the first of the three initiations which are undergone in the causal vehicle.

Then he goes on to explain that they're all undergone in the causal vehicle, the first three, and not on the astral plane. That is simply an effect, as He says.

***The first two initiations take place upon the astral plane and this is correct, but has given rise to misunderstanding. They are felt profoundly in connection with the astral and physical bodies and with a lower mental and effect their control The chief an effect being felt in those bodies, The initiate may interpret them as having taken place on the planes concerned, for the vividness of the effect and the stimulation works out largely in the astral body. TCF 696***

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That's most of it but it must ever be remembered that the major initiations, he's counting them from the first. He changes what is major, but it must ever be remembered that the major initiations are taken in the causal body or dissociated from that body on the buddhic plane.

1:06:10 So at least the fourth would be taken I suppose on the buddhic plane. We have to question the third. At the final two initiations which set a man free from the three worlds and enable him to function in the logoic body of vitality and to wield the force which animates that logoic vehicle, the initiate becomes the five pointed star and it descends upon him, emerges in him, and he is seen at its very center.

This is just wonderful material. I am wishing I had the chance to go over my commentaries on *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire,* which of course is a very long book, and to discuss them verbally and in real time with the new thoughts that are coming to me at this time. … So that's one of the sentences which make me think at the first initiation, five of the egoic petals are in full unfoldment, whereas what's talked about over here the second series of petals are open, but it doesn't say how fully opened. As if they were all entirely open, the sixth included before the first initiation, I don't think so. But we have to interpret this in terms of our present mentality and in terms of our interpretation of what Master DK said.

Let's see what the next one says, hopefully it is useful.

***The fifth or spiritual kingdom is entered when the units of the fourth kingdom have succeeded in vitalizing the fifth spirillae and all the atoms of the threefold lower man. Does he mean permanent atoms or all atoms within the vehicles? When they have unfolded three of the egoic petals, and are in process of unfolding the fourth and fifth and when they are becoming conscious of the pranic force of the Heavenly Man. TCF 697-698***

***The fifth or spiritual kingdom is entered when the units of the fourth kingdom have succeeded in vitalizing the fifth spirillae and all the atoms of the threefold lower man. Does he mean permanent atoms or all atoms within the vehicles? When they have unfolded three of the egoic petals, and are in process of unfolding the fourth and fifth and when they are becoming conscious of the pranic force of the Heavenly Man*** – whichcould be the prana of the higher ethers. … So then they are entering the Kingdom of God.

From one point of view we have the kingdom of God even before the fourth and fifth petals are completely unfolded. That means before the first initiation. From another point of view the kingdom of God looks like the path of probation and we are told that advanced man and those upon the probationary path (I think it's in connection with advancement man particularly) can have the egoic lotus move up to the second subplane, maybe even before the first initiation. But it's all a fairly short period as we contemplate the overall development of the human being. … let’s look further ...

1:09:45

***The period between egoic cycles. Herein is hid the mystery of the 777 incarnations and concerns the relation of the unit to his group on the egoic plane prior to the unfoldment of the fifth petal. It concerns man in the period between the savage state and that of the disciple, when he is an average man, but is still in the two Halls.*** **TCF 738**

***The period between egoic cycles. Herein is hid the mystery of the 777 incarnations and concerns the relation of the unit to his group on the egoic plane prior to the unfoldment of the fifth petal.*** This is interesting, ***it concerns man in the period between the savage state and that of the disciple, when he is an average man, but is still in the two Halls.***

After the 777, the fifth petal unfolds the 777 still concerns the path of probation as normally considered. So 777 is prior to the unfoldment of the fifth, and seven is the path of probation which precedes the first initiation. So the 777 is related to the man prior to the unfoldment of the fifth petal, meaning that after the fifth petal you have to at least have an initiate of the first degree.

Now the initiate may be, from one angle, still considered to be a probationary disciple … he is a probationary initiate at the first degree but he's also considered to be on the path of probation often times until accepted discipleship is achieved. This is another reference pointing to the importance of the fifth petal in what takes a man off the path of probation onto the path of probationary initiation … so that’s a good one, let’s see … any others … I've been sending these out to people … I’d like to send them to you too, if you're interested and if you get this far in the book and you hear me say it, then you've earned the sending of all these references …

1:12:10 The solar angels do look down as the fifth petal is beginning to open. Pranic force of the advanced man coming to consciousness at the fourth and fifth petal. I guess the buddhic plane is there, that's where the real pranic forces are, the ethers of the Heavenly Man. Yes the ego is interested in man of the fifth petal. It is beginning to open, the fifth kingdom entered. When? With the unfolding fourth and fifth petal. But I think I've already looked at that, yes then they're becoming the fifth kingdom is the fourth and fifth petals. The fifth, the spiritual kingdom is entered, so maybe a little bit earlier and then we thought, we cannot miss it is a first initiation into the kingdom of God. Fifth level.

That's it, that if there's a fluidity going on here … What I mean you really have to read between the lines and carefully. I wonder if I look up the term *sixth petal* what we will see? Second initiation, sixth petal, and two tiers.

***Through the action of the rod is wielded at the first two initiations, the two outer circles unfold, the energy of the two is set free and the two sets of force embodied in the six petals are coordinated and become interactive. The stage of petal adjustment succeeds upon that earlier “unfoldment”, and has to do with the simultaneous action of two tiers of petals.* TCF 883**

1:14:00 So the second degree involves a special relationship of the two tiers of petals and certainly the complete unfoldment of the second tier which is necessary before it is possible to have that interactivity.

Let's see what this says … sometimes I have repeated these quotations because I can then find them more easily.

On the taking of the body:

***This is only possible in the case of a chair who has brought all three lower bodies into alignment and necessitates the unfolding of the sixth petal so by an act of conscious will he renders up his body and stands aside for a specific length of time.* TCF 757**

So there is the sixth petal, allowing the higher initiates to come in and I assume that relates to the second degree and also through some sort of coordination with the monad.

Looking further, sixth petal unfolded … the same reference …

***Sixth petal overshadowing kingdom of souls entered early on the unfolding of the fifth and sixth petals that's what that's is the fifth. The spiritual kingdom is entered when the units of the fourth kingdom have succeeded in vitalizing the fifth spirillae in all the atoms. In all of the spirillae. I have read this I think, when they have unfolded three of the egoic petals that are in the process of unfolding fourth and fifth and they are becoming conscious of pranic force of having them.***

I guess this does not have so much to do with the sixth petal per se. So anything else here.

***If etheric web, separating the lower and higher man begins to occur. The first rents in the web occur.*** **TCF 864**

So with the fifth and sixth petal are opening and thus before the first initiation. Somewhere this must tell us about the fifth and sixth petals. If we go to *Cosmic Fire* page 864, you go look it up and see if you find it.

Anyway, for the moment given these statements by the Tibetan, I am continuing to believe that the complete unfoldment of the fifth petal means the first initiation; and the complete unfoldment of all the nine petals means the third initiation, and the complete unfoldment of the sixth petal, complete, and its special relationship of that tier with the first tier, signifies the second initiation, and that there is unfoldment of the seventh petal at the first degree, and some unfoldment of the eighth petal at the second degree and complete unfoldment of all the tier of sacrifice by the third degree.

1:17:30 I suppose we could continue to look this up … let's see what it says, third tier of petals unfolding correspond with the opening of the third eye. That makes sense, it occurs at the third initiation. Circle of petals, third tier opening before the third initiation.

***Only when the “jewel in the Lotus” is about to be revealed, or the third circle of petals is about to open up, does the initiate begin to have a realization of the true meaning of the word “life” or spirit.* TCF 876**

So there is a gradual unfolding of this last tier. Each petal opening up as much as it has to before the third initiation.

Let’s see further, third tier opening before the third initiation to organized at the portal of initiation. Well that makes sense.

***In this fashion the work of the disciple is carried forward, and his testing and training carried out until the two circles of petals are unfolded, and the third is organized. This he is brought, through right direction of energy and wise manipulation of force currents, to the portal of initiation, and graduates out of the hall of learning into the great hall of wisdom, that hall wherein he gradually becomes “aware” of forces and powers, latent in his own ego and egoic group.* TCF 867**

… It depends on what do we mean by initiationand egoic group. … There we go. So two circles of petals are unfolded and the third is organized and the question is, to what degree unfolded? That is always the question.

What else? Third tier organized before the portal of initiation, because they would have to be organized and then some unfolding will begin once the rod is applied. Two tiers unfolded and before to organize before the second initiation. And the third organized before the second initiation. Is that the same? …

We'll go further and see if there's anything else. Third tier is awakened through the curious and abnormal process of initiation, that's a very important one, the third initiation and the third tier. Let's see what it says:

***This inner circle of petals is organized and vitalized in the hall of wisdom and simultaneously the middle circle unfolds, so the two rows of petals are duly opened.* *and only the third remains to be unclosed. The final opening is affected during a period of treading the stages of the path of initiation and in this round it is hastened by the rites of initiation and ab normal efforts of the man himself, aided by the electrical work of the initiator, wielding the rod of power.* TCF 824.**

1:20:50 So you've entered the hall of wisdom. That's very important. … This inner circle of sacrifice petals is organizing and vitalized in the hall of wisdom. Now you've entered the hall of wisdom at the first initiation. That is very important to understand. Maybe a little before, but basically it's at that time. The fifth kingdom a little before and the hall of wisdom is entered at the time of the first degree ***… and simultaneously the middle circle unfolds so the two rows of petals are duly opened*** (which means as opened as they should be) ***and only the third remains to be unclosed. The final opening is affected during a period of treading the stages of the path of initiation and in this round it is hastened by the rites of initiation and ab normal efforts of the man himself, aided by the electrical work of the initiator, wielding the rod of power.***

I assume that when the rod of power is applied to the seventh petal, some unfoldment occurs, but not really what we call the final opening, not by any means. You have to be so careful in reading DK. With the eighth petal, the rod of initiation I assume is applied at the second initiation, but the final opening is not yet achieved and with the ninth petal all three petals are completely open.

Let’s see if there's anything remaining … I know it's a bit of a digression but it's good to assemble these references … nine petals open? Is there anything? … the opening of petals eight and nine let's see what that says,

***The opening of the remaining two reveal the glowing threefold flower which lies at the center of egoic manifestation.* TCF 546**

1:25:00 Well that's good but not entirely the reference that I was looking for. Is there anything further? Nine petals, here we go that's the one I want … I always have to reconvince myself when I'm trying to make a point to convince others so …

***By the time the third initiation is taken, the inner circle of petals is opened and the full-blown lotus in all its beauty can be seen.*** ***At the fourth initiation the inner bud bursts open through the effect of the electrical force of the Rod, which brings in the power of the synthetic ray of the solar system itself; the inner jewel is revealed.* TCF 830**

***By the time the third initiation is taken, the inner circle of petals is opened and the full-blown lotus in all its beauty can be seen.*** Now I suppose we have to ask because, do we mean fully open? Because we can't use the word *opened* meaning partial at some times and at other times meaningfully. … So ***at the fourth initiation the inner bud bursts open through the effect of the electrical force of the rod.*** So the rod must be applied to the causal body ***which brings in the power of the synthetic ray of the solar system itself; the inner jewel is revealed.***

So this fourth initiation the rod may be wielded on the buddhic plane but then be the jewel in the Lotus is found in that interim space between the higher mental plane and the buddhic plane … whatever that really means.

Let’s look here, the quote we really need:

***By the time the third initiation is reached a wondrous transformation has transpired. The outer sphere is palpitating with every color of the rainbow and is of wide radius. The streams of electrical energy circulating in it are so powerful that they are escaping be on the periphery of the circle resembling the rays of the sun.*** T***he nine petals are fully unfolded”.*** ***So the nine petals are fully unfolded forming a gracious setting for the central jewel and their orange hue is now of a gorgeous translucent shot with many colors that of the egoic ray predominating. The triangle at the base is now quickened and scintillating and the three points are small blazing fires, showing to the eye of the clairvoyant as sevenfold whorls of light, circulating their light from point to point of a rapidly moving triangle.* TCF 830**

1:27:25 ***By the time the third initiation is reached a wondrous transformation has transpired. The outer sphere is palpitating with every color of the rainbow and is of wide radius. The streams of electrical energy circulating in it are so powerful that they are escaping be on the periphery of the circle resembling the rays of the sun.*** And here we go, and this is like ***“the nine petals are fully unfolded”.*** Fully unfolded not just unfolded but fully unfolded so we've answered our question … Do we mean fully open and the answer is yes, we do mean that according to the reference below. ***So the nine petals are fully unfolded forming a gracious setting for the central jewel and their orange hue.*** Basically all the petals have this prevailing orange hue, ***are now of a gorgeous translucent shot with many colors that of the egoic ray predominating.*** So even the red would be there presumably even the red of the first ray. ***The triangle at the base is now quickened and scintillating and the three points are small blazing fires, showing to the eye of the clairvoyant as sevenfold whorls of light, circulating their light from point to point of a rapidly moving triangle.***

Maybe the mental unit would not be a sevenfold whorl, maybe it would be a fourfold whorl. Can the mental unit be a sevenfold whorl, because it only has four spirillae.

1:29:10 I think we have in a sense answered this question. It’s been a bit of research and I guess that's how I go through it myself, and I hope it hasn't been too boring for you.

Starting from the point where one could wonder whether all the second series of petals are fully opened at the first initiation, we go to references which seem to confirm that they are not, but in fact are opened, even opened at the first initiation to some degree with the with the fifth petal fully opened. It's the five of the four petals infers the unfoldment of five of the egoic petals at this first degree. There have been a number of things, the opening of the final grouping under what is called ***the strenuous and abnormal efforts of the man and the electrical work of the initiator*** (TCF 824)

That’s the final opening. So at least we have proven this much that the final opening of the sacrifice petals *does* relate to what the initiator does with the rod. … it's always good to gather the references. How else can we confirm this except by direct, accurate, clear clairvoyant sight and who is to trust himself with the accuracy? I think a Master has to see this pretty well I think a Master can be trusted.

We have a little bit more to go .. 16 points to go …

1:31:45 We should be reminded that both Virgo and Pisces are associated with the process of service.

It is in relation to this sixth petal that the human being is learning conscious service, sixth petal consciousness. And not the enforced servitude which prepares the way for later service. … Further Pisces is the sign associated particularly with a lot of service.

The third law of the soul, in *Esoteric Psychology* to so learning to serve precedes the first initiation. … I wonder if this is red or what color this is? I guess there's no hope with these colors, it's some kind of fourth ray nightmare going on here but I hope you keep the continuity of the thought. This is not about enforced servitude at all, this is really about learning the way of service and so much of this is done during the period between the first and second initiation, so work is going on in the eighth petal, continuing in the seventh, and a lot of refining work … if we're talking about before the first initiation then there is strenuous work going on in the sixth petal and advanced work going on in the seventh petal and the fifth will be the one by reflex unfolding.

From the planetary perspective that which the moon, the esoteric group of Virgo represents that is the lunar vehicles, is continually purified in relation to this Virgo petal. Virgo plan of purification and the personal tendencies induced by Mars, the planet of selfishness, are overcome. There is some selfishness when one is just organizing this petal but later when one is putting the finishing touches on this petal and it is the one that is being opened by reflex, shall we say, then the major blow against selfishness of a preliminary kind is being struck.

Neptune is a sacrificial planet and one of the rulers of Virgo esoterically veiled by the moon. So the giving up of one's own desires is Neptunian. It is part of relinquishment leading to self-effacement, eventually. … Neptune in this respect opposes Mars in relation to the solar plexus and its dual points a lower and higher point. Mars rules the lower, Neptune the higher.

In a way they do oppose one having to do with higher desires and the other with lower desires. Mars is being defeated here and Neptune is doing the defeating. Neptune in this respect opposes Mars, both of them planets of the sixth ray and related to the astral body but related to different dynamics of the astral body, one more to the selfish dynamics, Mars the planet of selfishness particularly, earth torn between selfishness and selflessness, and Neptune more the self-less dynamics.

The ongoing drama between the solar plexus center and the heart center, and the heart is beginning to win. It doesn't completely win, not completely. When had the heart really win? At the fourth initiation. … When the heart really wins it will signify the emergence of the power of Jupiter ruler of the heart center for advanced humanity, aspirants and disciples. and also interesting leave the hierarchical ruler of Jupiter.

So we can find a way to relate Jupiter to this sixth petal and the continuous growth of the Christ consciousness. So somewhere during the sixth petal processes the individual is definitely becoming an aspirant and I want to say even more so the probationary disciple. He aspires to that unfoldment which will be consummated at the first initiation. That's during the organizing phase.

1:38:30 The birth of the Christ in the cave in the heart. The sixth petaled processes are therefore spiritually pre-natal. When organization is going on when there is unfoldment when there is final unfoldment of the sixth petal, then we will have the second degree.

Now we paid attention closely to the idea that the unfoldment of the fifth petal gave us the first initiation. It only makes sense that the unfoldment of the sixth will give us the second initiation. But what is confusing about this is that there's always organizational work going on ahead, and even though the rod of initiation is applied to the seventh petal, it takes the abnormal strenuous effort of a man and time for that petal fully to unfold. It induces an unfoldment to the application of the rod. But only a partial unfoldment. It's only when the Lord of the world touches the ninth petal that everything unfolds.

We have seen just before …

***By the time the third initiation is reached the nine petals are fully unfolded,*** so the application of the rod and then nine petals fully unfolding and really the complete opening of the sacrifice petals may be a still better sacrifice of knowledge. A still better sacrifice of the astral body occurs, and so forth, occur, when the third initiation has been achieved.

It's a little complicated and like I say our only final confirmation is to watch this process actually occurring before our own inner eye and confirm for ourselves exactly what happens right now we piece together as best we can the indication from Master DK, approaching this in a somewhat academic manner and trusting that as the third eye is continually to developing from the time of the first initiation to the third and probably beyond that more and more as we will be seeing into the inner worlds and we will have the exact confirmation of the process.

1:41:25 The influence of the solar angel continues to grow. It’s been the downward-gazing soul as the fifth petal begins to unfold. She what we don't have is the exact moment in time and in terms of human experience when organization becomes vitalization, becomes preliminary opening. We cannot trace that exactly, but we assume that before any final opening there must be preliminary opening and we cannot imagine that a petal just *whoosh* just like that, suddenly. Because what it really signifies is skill and quality in the outer world, and skill and quality just don't grow overnight, they grow progressively, so the petal which is the sign of their growth the indication of the growth will also unfold gradually until in the outer world a certain measure of full scale and quality is reached and the petal is fully unfolds. The initiate is initiate it before he is initiated, and the application of the rod is a confirmation.

So the influence of the solar angel continues to grow the angel has looked down with attentiveness from the time the fifth petal has been the individual's focus and that it is somewhat unfolding, DK seems to say and from the time that it is somewhat unfolding and is now gaining a greater grip upon the personality and this will signify the continued importance of the planet Venus, which is not only the emblem or symbol of the solar angel it is the *power* of the solar angel. The planet Venus which works against the selfishness of the personality ruled by Mars.

In the sixth the petal where Venus falls, and in the eighth petal, where in Scorpio Venus is in detriment, both petals need the development of Venus. Venus falls and is in detriment, Venus is sacrificed and gives of its power and quality so that these processes and skills and attitudes can be better developed … Venus falls in Virgo so it cannot be active in the sixth petal. Of course we have to remember that if Pisces is connected with the sixth petal Venus is exalted there. We cannot look to the eighth petal and say well Venus is in detriment in the Scorpio petal we already talked about the illumination that may be coming there in relation to Taurus: Venus is the ruler of Taurus. and Scorpio in the meditative process gives illumination, which is directly related to Venus.

1:45:00 So the standard falls and detriments and all that have to be esoterically interpreted. Let’s just say solar angelic power continues to grow and solar angelic power is of Venus.

So the soul’s grip upon the personality is represented by Vulcan, also a ruler of Virgo veiled by the moon. We’re getting the form into pre-initiatory shape under moon, Virgo, Vulcan and the tiers of Neptune. So whether we're organizing in the sixth petal or whether it's the stage of vitalization or whether some unfolding is going on there is a purification occurring. The path of purification is underway in all six petal processes.

Let's look at Pluto, the esoteric ruler of Pisces and the ruler of Scorpio, both signs associated with this petal, remember we counted backwards and found Scorpio from the Aries beginning, and we found Pisces is the third of the water signs. So Pluto cuts the ties between the mutable cross and the fixed cross. The man is preparing to leave behind, that is Pluto, the life of the personality, and Pluto is a planet of sacrifice and relinquishment.

The concrete mind wants everything cut and dried and sequential, e.g. the sixth petal is this, it moves into the seventh petal, which is this, the eighth petal is this, but let us say … across three petals work is going on. Simultaneously we have two and maybe the majority of work is going on in the middle-most petal, somewhere before the application of the rod at the seventh petal, and somewhere before the opening of the fifth petal which gives the first initiation, a lot of work is going on in the sixth petal.

I believe Virgo is laborious sign and as much as there's so much of a space in terms of lives between the first and second initiation I believe a lot of work continues in that sixth petal. And in the seventh gathering knowledge which can be used, and in the eighth petal through strenuous and abnormal labor preparing for the second initiation preparing to sacrifice ever more purification continues into sixth petal, the growth of knowledge in the seventh, sharing and learning how to really sacrifice in the eight petal all going on simultaneously. Life is not simply one sequential concrete-minded process, there's a lot of fluidity and one moves from circumstance to circumstance and sometimes does several things at the same time.

It’s conceivable that one can purify, gather knowledge, and sacrifice all at the same time, or in close proximity so we cannot lose the sense of the fluidity of life and it's in a sense it's non-sequentiality of simultaneity that seems really important. I hope whoever listens to these can develop a fairly fluid mind and try to get the picture of things without hoping that we can nail it down concretely one step after the other, because the overlap principle is with us. The principle of overlap is real and with us.

1:50:05 The influence of Saturn should also be discussed. Saturn in its higher expression as duty and responsibility is the opponent of the selfishness of Mars. We have to remember that Saturn in Pisces, connects with this petal. It’s high spiritual responsibility.

I looked at Saturn in Pisces in the Virgo house of the Dalai Lama … there's an example of incredible spiritual responsibility. So where the man consciously disciplines himself to give up that which stands in the way of the welfare of the group, Saturn is involved. We have to have this sense of how the higher and lower aspects of any planet manifests. It is also one of the rulers of Aquarius the energy which begins to have some importance because the group begins to be considered of more importance than the individual and man is seeking to sacrifice for the sake of the group and that is a big discipline so that the relationship of Saturn to group support is very strong.

Saturn is doubly potent in Libra the sign of altruism. So the needs of the aspirant’s brother – well perhaps are not yet of greater moment than his own unless he's past the first degree and even then maybe not – but those two forms of need are being balanced and the trend is in the direction of altruism. Always Libra is involved in divine love and understanding, and altruism. It’s always the other with whom one seeks a deeper relationship with. So in this case Saturn is the disciplinarian that is compelling in the sixth petal, altruistic response.

One day the inconsistency of what I say will all be ironed out. Sometimes when I read the Tibetan I wonder if he knows that he has presented indications which to lesser minds like ours will appear inconsistent. Maybe he doesn't know all those things. Sometimes I think it's just a question of how fully he will elaborate something. He leaves something partially elaborated, and you think it's a contradiction then he goes on and fully elaborates the matter and you see it's no contradiction at all.

1:52:55 That sixth petal is definitely a petal of preparation for initiation and the disciplic treading of the path. That means he's active in the sixth petal before the fifth fully unfolds.

Whenever you're purifying yourself and sacrificing your own idiosyncrasies and things about your nature which just stand in the way, there's a lot of the Virgo, sixth petal operating. And the growing intelligence of Virgo indicated by Mercury, regarding those adaptations, which are demanded in the personality nature, we have to change ourselves. Our personality nature has to change its part of the probationary path. It’s part of the light that is shed upon the personality in the (aclary? Or, act or?) or process, regarding those adaptations which are demanded in the personality nature if it is to fit itself to respond as required to the higher self.

So there's a lot of work to do before the first initiation, and although the rod touches the seventh petal, where the forcing process is really going on, so much preparation is going on in the sixth petal. When I say sixth petal I don’t mean we are manipulating the sixth petal but we are working in those areas of life which correspond to the development of the sixth petal.

Intelligence is needed for purification and Mercury, especially in Virgo where it's exalted, provides that intelligence. We know that Mercury is the orthodox ruler of Virgo and the sign most prominently associated with the sixth petal and let's say what about the exaltation of Mercury in Virgo, which the Tibetan gives? It's very powerful. Intelligence in matter. … Mercury in Virgo, Mercury in Gemini may not be so much intelligence and matter, maybe intelligence in the world of thought and ideas – which is not to say that Virgo has no relationship to that, but Mercury in Virgo really knows how to handle matter.

1:55:25 I think at some point DK talked about the sympathetic handling and understanding of matter.

From the ray perspective we have a growing second ray as the soul looms as a factor increasing the real. It's already become the downward-gazing soul in the fifth petal and the second ray is associated with Virgo, it's the major sign which the second ray comes in. Pisces. It’s the major cosmic decanate of the second ray. Even Libra esoterically at, least divine love and understanding, Prince of Peace, spirit of peace, all second ray. All of these are signs which we have associated with the sixth petal processes.

I hope I can remember some of this when I come to the final synthesis, my purpose here is for you to gather many relations between energies and forces which make sense to you. Every time they make sense to you they are lit up. If we have connections between things that don't make sense they just stay dull and don't form a part of any coherent network. But every time there's a lighted relationship created between two energies, an energy and force, two forces, rays, astrology, whatever – then a part of the network of significance and meaning is lit up, and it stays lit, and then you can associate new lighted strands with that which is already lit. Before you know it there will be a coherent network of lighted meaning, and we will have a soul vision leading eventually to pure reason, when the whole thing stands forth intuitively evident.

1:57:25 Because the sixth petal is a petal of sacrifice and purification, the sixth ray is necessarily involved. It comes in through Virgo anyway, along with and through Pisces, along with the aspirational aspect of Mars, not the selfish aspect of Mars. Mars is many things, let's remember these are all great planetary deities. If we react to them badly it doesn’t mean that they are not worlds and worlds beyond us in their understanding and capability. You say, “Oh, xyz is a non-sacred planet”, as if to somehow demean the fact that they are gods. But to be non-sacred as a god is to be many mahamanvantara ahead in development of the human being.

Each of the sacrifice petals is a kind of a burning ground, which anticipates entry into the next higher tier. When I say entry, well there already is organization, entry, but focus is what he's meant, into the next higher tier.

So the sixth ray, related to fiery Mars is always part of the burning ground process. It can be war in the third petal, it can be sacrifice of many aspects of the astral nature in the sixth petal, and there's a burning ground process in the ninth petal, too. Let us remember if Sagittarius rules, Mars is the hierarchical ruler, if Aries rules, then Mars is also a ruler in the orthodox sense.

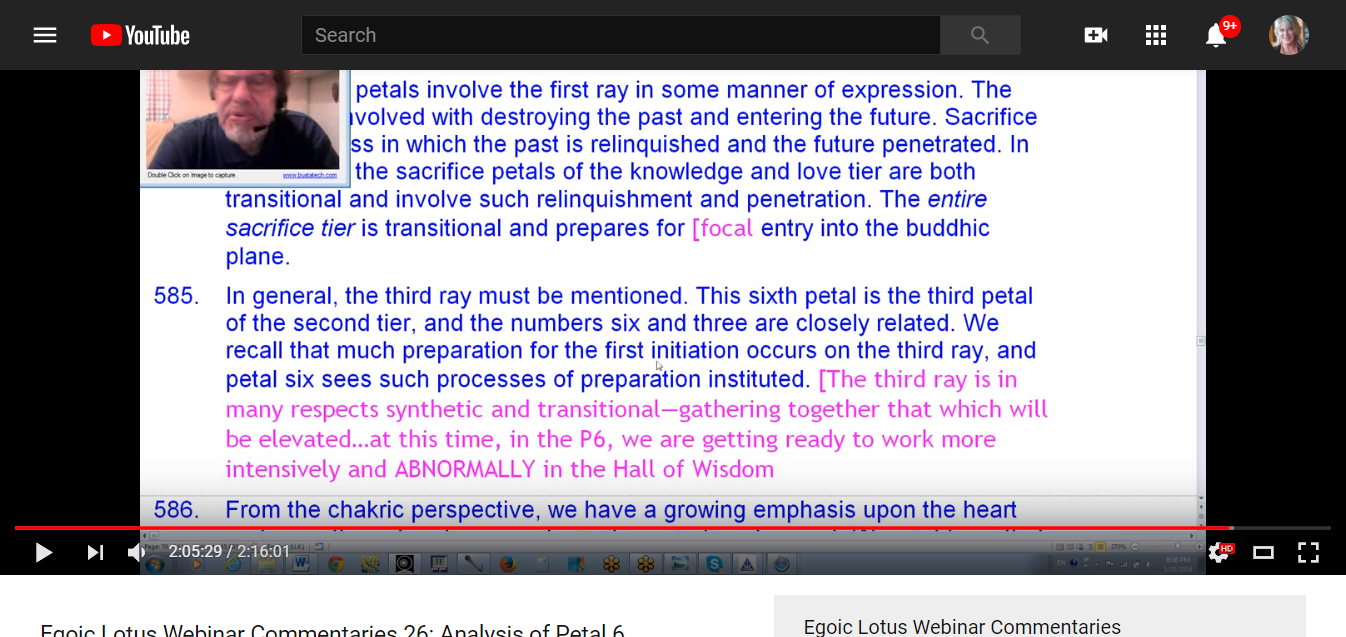
1:59:15 Mars is there every time we want to move ahead into a new and more intensified focus beyond our present focus, we're going to have a burning ground. So burning ground is intimately related to sacrifice … The sixth ray related to fiery Mars is always going to be part of the burning ground processes, at least the earlier ones, and Uranus is involved in the final burning ground and the final burning ground … could be taking place before the fifth initiation, and has to do with the final consumption by flame out of the egoic lotus or causal body. So it has to clear the way for the revelation and Uranus in that case is the servant of Leo which will, being the fifth sign rules the fifth initiation and the revelation of the fifth initiation. We know that Uranus is already connected with revelations when in the night sky the lightning flashes you see even if only for a moment what you did not see before. Uranus is revealing that which is hidden.

All the sacrifice petals involve the first ray in some manner of expression where we've seen it in connection with Vulcan, first ray and Pluto the purifier. Mars has its first ray component, the first ray is involved with destroying the past and entering the future hence of course.

Aries being the preeminent first sign sacrifice is the process in which the past is relinquished and the future penetrated, in this respect the sacrifice petals of the knowledge and love tier are both transitional and involve such relinquishment and penetration the entire sacrifice tier is transitional and preparatory for entry into the body plane. I want to say *focal entry* because if we have the sort of three petal theory which seems to have been evolving more consciously in my mind as I've gone through this discussion, then we're always working on a bit ahead. So when working on the ninth petal the factor of synthesis is important to us and some attention to what buddhi is and some attention to the synthesis of knowledge and the synthesis of love in the synthesis of Will has at least to be in the consciousness before the monad really applies itself at the third degree and becomes a conscious factor in the development of the man.

In general, in relation to these third petals, the third ray must be mentioned. The sixth petal us the third petal of the second tier, and the number six and three are closely related. As DK tells us, we recall that much preparation for the first initiation occurs on the third ray. Inasmuch as at that initiation one may even have a third ray personality, interestingly enough maybe a seventh ray brain, and a seventh ray mental, and I suppose a sixth or astral body. Except of course in those cases where one is a third ray soul and that would be a special circumstance.

We recall that much preparation for the first initiation occurs on the third ray and petal six sees processes of preparation instituted. The third ray is in many ways synthetic and transitional … gathering together that which will be elevated. It does that. So we are getting ready at this time in petal six, we are getting ready to work more intensively and abnormally in the hall of wisdom. This is a preparation for that elevation.



2:05:00 When does the abnormal work really begin? Well I suppose you mean the approach to the first initiation when work is being done in the seventh petal. Things get abnormal and the closer you get to the second degree the more abnormal they get. I suppose as we approach the third degree so much has to be sacrificed. So much cast aside for objectives which others think are not even real, that what the individual does is certainly considered to be abnormal.

From the chakric perspective, which we have been also examining, we have a growing emphasis upon the heart and upon the solar plexus center in its aspirational aspect. Because now we have no real aspiration towards what initiation promises, we might say that the higher solar plexus, related to Neptune, is stimulated in its reach towards the heart center. Well we know that before the second initiation there is much transformations of solar plexus to heart. Let’s say maybe quite a bit of work in petal eight is required to see this occur. It's not an immediate and one-time thing, all spanning what we call time and a number of lives can pass in these transfers as we've already seen that the unfolding of the petals is not a rapid progress.

We looked at the nice good people in the lotus of passion and desire and so forth and saw that only two-fifths of them who were individualized on the moon chain might be on the path by the end of our sixth round in this chain, but that others would have to wait until the sixth root race in this round. The others would have to wait until the next round to be, on the fifth round, to be on the path of probation even.

So we study things and DK describes how things work and our sense of time becomes compressed. But in fact it's really a slow process. Later when we take things more in hand consciously and the study of esotericism is just such a taking in hand if we do our best to apply what we know. The big test for everybody things will move faster, and the asymptotic curve approaches the vertical axis more rapidly. The main interplay is between here, solar plexus and the heart, negating of the lower solar plexus and stimulating the higher. So obviously what we say a movement from Mars to Neptune and the two signs Virgo and Pisces both emphasize the heart and solar plexus through the second and sixth ray and they both are related to Neptune.

2:08:34 Mars does not have a place in either one of them except maybe in a decanaterelated to Pisces. So they are ideal for stimulating this higher aspirational quality, this Neptunian quality. Naturally there will be a growing intelligence. As the third aspect with the systems of the throat center is integrated and prepared for submission to the soul and a growing sense of spiritual direction through the ajna center as the personality continues to reach towards the higher self.

All rays, all signs, all planets, can make their contribution. We're just trying to isolate a few and when we go into this more systematic synthesis, you'll see more things together, and you'll know what they mean instead of just gathering terms … because I think a more systematic synthesis is coming but you will have the preparation of thinking about it so that when we use shorter terms.

2:10:00 It's important to realize that all chakras are active to a specific degree at all times and ours is the task of discerning the chakric emphasis and relationships at any particular time. Solar plexus and heart are much involved here and since the birth of the Christ in the heart is going to occur with the complete opening of a fifth, and the rod at the seventh. I suppose a degree of opening of the sixth movement is really towards the heart in this petal and wherever there is Mars there is selfishness and because we haven't taken the second initiation completely. There's going to be selfishness here but the more we move towards the heart the less selfishness there will be, and we will be setting ourselves up for the first initiation which is really a stimulation of the heart. The birth of the Christ within the heart.

I'm realizing of course that my treatment of these different petals is a little bit uneven if not something that one with a great fifth and seventh ray would maybe appreciate. I don't know it's all about into relationships between things it's all about lines of energy connecting dots, or lines of light, connecting forces energies so that the network of relationships stands clear. It’s a step towards pure reason. When under the spell of pure reason, driving while under the influence of pure reason I suppose just as dangerous but when one is under the influence of pure reason one just sees it all. The network of relationships stand before one and DK talks about standing on top of the mountain of initiation and the astonished disciple, the astounded disciple, I forget whether it's astonished or astounded, he looks into the sky and he sees all the lines of connection as rivers of energy connecting all of these great stellar and planetary beings. And then understands and I think that kind of connection which is archetype we found in the sky can be seen between all things which are simply reflections of that which is in the sky.

We're not going to know everything but we're going to know something about this development which is historical in man. And now we get into areas where many of us are working when we're back in petal one and two, and even petal three, well we would be interested in the things we are interested we were just working there, but now in this fifth and sixth petal which involve preparation for various initiations of the threshold. We are working there and so it should be of particular interest to us and knowing exactly what to do and the next step ahead is really a big thing.

So this is the end of egoic lotus webinar commentary program 26 and we are on *Cosmic Fire* 541 and if I'm not mistaken this program also will be about 2 hours and 15 minutes. Well the only reason that it is, is because I went on that big search for the confirmatory references that the fifth petal does indeed mean the first initiation unless I had done this kind of meticulous work in *Cosmic Fire* which is just a drop in the bucket. Anyway I wouldn't have registered these references and be able to put them together. You have to earn your synthesis and so many things I've left out and I know they are hiding there, lurking. Some confirmatory reference and so forth until the study is so close that the intuition appears and DK promises for those who work upon the second ray ensuring that such a close study of the material is given that eventually it becomes more than just study but a rule of life and the intuition appears and confirms

… [next] will be the beginning of egoic webinar commentary program 26 and it will be *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire* 541 again, or 542 for this first petal. All right then that's what we will do as we go forward in this rather non-linear method of study if you can stand it. Hopefully. But like I say pure reason is not linear, absolutely not. Pure reason is seeing one thing and seeing everything all at once and seeing all relations before, behind, and within simultaneously, and that's what we're working for inclusive reason, pure reason, if the Mercury thing is finally a Jupiter thing. Mercury and Jupiter together, it's buddhic, and hopefully it will begin to dawn upon us. Okay friends, we’ll go on to program number 27 as soon as I can catch my breath.