

Appendix 4

## **The Law of Mutual Self-Preservation, The Uniting Aspect of the Three Annotations**

The Law of Self-Preservation, having been transmitted by the "Masters of Wisdom", from ancient times grouped in the "Sarmun Brotherhood" of Central Asia, is all-encompassing. It is wrongly simplified as "Self-Preservation" only, for, as will be shown, this concept cannot exist alone. The correct rendering, then, is: Law of mutually beneficent Self-Preservation, or: Law of Mutual Self-Preservation.

Within the Law of Three it was shown that all Beings, even "God", as the "Primal Creative Force", participate in "Mutual Self-Preservation". The symbolism of the Pentead shows how each Being, from the "barely created", mindless, material states to the highest evolved ethereal states, participates. Thus mineral goes to plant, plant to animal, both to Man, all four to higher Beings, which in turn evolve ever higher, transmuting the energies of the lower planes to "feed" the ever higher Beings of ever higher planes. This is described in the Addendum 4: [Trump 5: The Pentead](#). The whole scope of Self-Preservation is based on an alternate, "uncommon", view of Creation, which combines the Law of Three, the Pentead, and the Law of Seven. It employs a symbolism, which is too divergent from normal, occidental, even from oriental symbolism, to have been included in the analysis of the Tarot. Its use, which nevertheless was introduced through inclusion of certain Nordic elements and through a "primal" interpretation of Hermes Trismegistos' Emerald Tablet, is based on a twelve-fold view of the Universe, where Man – interestingly concordant with the symbolism of Trumps 6, 8, 14 and 16 – occupies "stage 8".

Thus, Creation is composed of:

1. First stands "Warmth". This, as first direct emanation or manifestation of Akasha, is analogous with Yod, Fire. Also, with the first "split of Akasha", the four Ethers. The most material Ether, the Chymic Ether, may be seen as Heat. Why? Because the most dense manifestation possible is the crystal structure, the diamond and quartz. Quartz is so dense, that it vibrates at a speed, where it is no longer possible to define it as either solid or fluid. As "captured light", the densest attribute of Chymic Ether, it is the opposite of the absolute cold pervading space, where light cannot coagulate to form a "spark" of primal heat.

2. Second stands "Simple Elements". By this is meant either the combination of the four Ethers, creating a first dynamic flux of energy, or the material elements Air, Water and Earth. These, together with Akasha and its first manifestation, Yod or Fire, form the basis for all physical manifestation. The ruby crystal is symbolic of this stage.
3. Third stands "Crystal or Crystallisation". This is the dense form of element Earth, inclusive of primal actions of the other elements, yet binding the mineral world in a largely static, lifeless form. The Topas is distinguished by acting as a central element within crystallisation.
4. Fourth, we find "Earth", or "Terrestrial Manifestation". This refers in particular to the vital, most dynamic Earth-crust, the uppermost layer of the physical planet. It is here that the influences of the Sun, the planets, the galaxy and the universe "hit" planet Earth. It is not single, in fact it stands for the binary Earth-Moon sphere, and its dynamic interplay with the rest of Creation. This is the first "level" that is dynamic and moving, in accordance with the cosmic movements. Jasper, in its orange form, aids the beauty of manifestation, which is the inherent quality of this stage.
5. Fifth stands "Plants". This is logical, for from the elements and the cosmic interplay of waves, particles, emanations of all kinds, stems the "fertility" of the elements, which, by themselves, are life-less. Plants are therefore seen as the first "users of energy", and their source of energy is five-fold: the four manifestations, all life-less, brought to life by cosmic radiation or emanation, primarily through the rays of the Sun. The green emerald is the "synthesis of all plant life".
6. Sixth stand the "Simple Animals". These are the Amoebae, Bacteria, Lichen (as animal forms), Funghi (as animal forms), and all "animals" that have no spinal column (snails, insects, etc.). Here the symbolism makes a first intervention. Now living Creation is called "One-Brained". It implies a consciousness, be it as limited as possible, still reflex, instinct, movement, reaction to stimuli, and "accordance with sense-inputs" now enters. Plants do not share this, though in this case newer research has shown plants to react to stimuli. Perhaps the old thought would not accord the word "brain" to the reflexes plants are capable of. Rose-quartz is the crystal of form-giving emotion, the central quality of "one-brained" animals.
7. Seventh stand "Animals", i.e. with spinal column, all: from the frog to the whale or elephant. These are called "Two-Brained", and this is fitting, for a certain intelligence

manifests. This can be simple, but also intricate. In fact, it represents the purely physical "first brain" with the emotional, psychic, vital, perhaps even astral "second brain" added, to form one single Being. So-called "higher animals", finally to integrate even the primates, have emotions, are prone to "states of mind", in a way, which certainly shows that there is more than one force at work. We, the compilers of this study, due to more progressive analysis, would like to say that the higher animals may even be considered as "four-brained", for every dual aspect is necessarily also quadruple, thus showing a dual "outer side", to which corresponds a dual "inner side". It is left to the reader to follow this logic or not, for it is not based upon any older traditions, but simply reflective of today's level of research. Amethyst, as signifying the mental impulses which now enter creation, to be further transformed by the "two-brained" animals, is symbolic of this stage.

8. Eighth, Man. Man is here called a "Three-Brained" Being. Due to the above remarks concerning the higher animals, Man could also be 4, 5, 6, or even more correctly, 7-Brained. But these are only symbols. The inner, "initiated" sense, may reflect these thoughts anyway. Man is placed on the 8th level of Creation. This, in the Tarot, is where it is remarked that Man, as a first complete mirror-image, as a double-luminous Being, is complete at Trump 8. It is the "lower Man", but it is a "whole Man" nonetheless. Definitely, Man uses all previous energies. In "digesting" them, integrating the mental impulse of Akasha, better exemplified by Prana, vital breath, Man integrates and transmutes all five elements, plus a diffuse "Prana-Ether"; inspiration and intuition link him, more or less consciously, with the higher spheres. Man has the capacity to see the higher spheres. If he or she, through the circumstances of Kali Yuga, through the burden of limitative Karma, or through other influences which do not allow Man to live his or her true station, does not have tangible contact with these higher levels of Creation, then still: Man is only at "8th place" within the whole, there remain at least 4 higher levels, and their living Beings also.

So, in this view, Man is forcefully pushed to admit that he is not the "Crown of Creation". This is the conscious impulse coming from Central Asia, to force Man to admit his humbleness, to show unequivocally that Man is just one station beyond the animals, thus breaking his pride and other nonsensical attitudes right at the start. Three-Brained Beings have the duty of self-preservation, not only for themselves and for the lower life-forms, but also to emanate their transmuted energies for the uses of the higher evolution. This is seen as a duty, otherwise it is said, that "Man will die as a

dog", thus having failed his duties, having failed Creation, having not accomplished even the minimal requisite, which in fact was the reason for Man's creation to begin with. If the basic duties are disregarded, Man is a miscarriage, an error of evolution. As before the dinosaurs, that also will then be the end of this trait of evolution, at least for those who consciously disregard the simplest, most common precepts. For, in Central Asian philosophy, Man still serves, be it simply by unconscious action-reaction, irrelevant to all, as to himself, totally ignorant. He serves by emanating psychic-emotional-astral energies, which serve some living entities, by the compost he produces, by the "soul-energy" released at death. And death then also marks the last adjunct for planetary compost. "As a dog", like the Sufis say. At this point, we, as students of the Tarot, may remark that the number 8, here the "number of Man", refers to Mercury. Of the previous numbers, this did not seem relevant, except that all of Creation except Man is positioned within the 7 rays of evolution. Now, however, it becomes of interest, for the ancient knowledge was related to Mercury, or Hermes Trismegistos, on purpose, fully conscient with the symbolism.

Man, as a Three-Brained Being, but not serving as direct "food" to the immediate level above, is called to serve the plant-kingdom, not the animals. Animals may be susceptible to human influence, but this is not the aim. Animals serve the Demiurgic Beings. Man must therefore serve the plants. Thus the dynamic vision of the Law of Three is to "serve the level below" in order to "serve the level above". As the Demiurgic Beings are not the total aspiration of Man, who strives, ultimately, to "unite with God", Man must serve the energies of the higher evolution, and therefore the mineral and plant kingdoms. If this seems paradoxical, then it is only the more true. For it were absurd to serve any intermediate state, seeing as Man aspires to the highest: Man in God.

The naturally formed Pearl, also named "luminous planetary spirit", is symbolic for the energies that place Man as a care-taker of the planet, thus leading to the further stages of evolution.

9. Ninth are the "Demiurges", a multiple of "Demiurgos", which stands for "Half-Gods" or, applied to planets, the "Planet Rulers". It is a simplification to call these Beings of higher intelligence the heavenly legions or the Angel-legions. They are Four-Brained Beings. As conscious and highly evolved Beings of the higher dimensions, the fourth, fifth, sixth or seventh dimensions are hardly symbolic of what they really are. In the "terrestrial" Earth-Moon-Belt-Zone, these Beings correspond to the Pricipalities, the

Angels or Archangels. This also is a simplification, for there are more Beings involved, than is expressed by these words. Just the Devas, Dakinis, or Elves and Ghandarvas, are a class of their own, distinct from Man, and also distinct from "Earth-Moon-Belt-Beings". Thus the ninth level is not satisfactorily described as simply the realm of higher angelic Beings. It must be pointed out that here also applies the Law of Seven, thus creating seven groups or "species" of Beings within this sphere. If not more, for the tenth plane already refers to "Divine Will". We would class here all Beings below the planetary rulers, which then, instead of "Divine Will", would appertain to the tenth plane.

In any case, the Beings of the ninth plane "feed" on all impulses, energies and emanations of the lower planes, except for the human plane. This point is stressed, as is also shown within the Penteade. Man appertains to "God's Will" or, alternatively, to the planetary rulers, which are beyond the stage or plane indicated.

The Fire-Opal, symbolising "awakened consciousness in the emanations of the Sun", reflects the inherent qualities of the Beings of this stage. The number 9, as readers of the Tarot will be aware, refers to the Moon, just as Man, by the number 8, was made to refer to Mercury. The symbolism of number, and this symbolism is not different in either Central Asia, the Americas or in Australia, points to the astral Moon-Sphere. This is not emblematic of Higher Ethereal Beings, in fact its analogy is limitative. We therefore subsume that "level or plane number 9" is simply an abstract simplification of higher invisible spheres. Were we to include within this sphere all Beings more or less known to Man, we would have to say: "The 9th plane of Creation extends from the Sun to Saturn, and is thus seven-fold. This makes plane nine actually correspond to "planes from 9 to 15", in concrete, tangible Creation (at least: within the solar system). But if the hermetic principle applies universally, "as above so below", then any further Creation continues on the 16th plane, thus moving beyond the realm of the solar system.

10. This, in fact, is borne out by plane 10: "Cosmic Individuality". This necessarily extends into the galaxy, into the Universe. In this analogy, the entire solar system is seen to "feed" the galaxy, and beyond. Corresponding to Divine Will, the Cosmic Individuality has no limits. In the logic of this classification, it "feeds" upon the lower planes" and supports the higher 11th and 12th planes, with which this analogy closes. But, applied to Man, the Cosmic Individuality "is" Man, perfect Man, the Body of Light. Therefore, in the symbolism of the Penteade, Man "feeds" the Cosmic

Individuality, and thus himself.

As proposed, if this corresponds to the 16th plane, and if this plane also follows the Law of Three, as Man (not to speculate on a higher Law of Seven), then this Creation refers to Beings of the 16th, 17th and 18th plane.

The Turmalin crystal, which symbolises the relationships between the "inner sphere" of the solar system towards the "outer sphere" extending towards Sirius in the Orion-arm of our spiral galaxy, corresponds to this plane.

11. As the 11th plane is called the "Universal Self-Supporting Entity", still a Being, a living entity, yet removed from the highest plane of Manifestation only by one more step, we may correspond it to the primal principle of Polarity. Being(s) of the 11th plane correspond(s) to: "The spiritual Weaving, through which Creation is sustained". This, in the words of the "hermetic" Tarot, is Polarity, which creates the primal weaving, the primal interplay of forces, waves, emanations, etc.

This plane is symbolised by Azurit, the "crystal of universal compassion".

As Polarity, profoundly an expression of universal love and compassion, then, we may ascribe numbers 19 and 20 to this plane. Beyond, relevant to the Tarot, lies the 12th plane, "Eternity", corresponding to the "Highest Creative Will" – an abstract term – symbolised by Tarot Trump 21 (and Zero and 22, as symbolic of "All and Everything").

The crystallised Aconit, which eventually dissolves, thus returning the energies involved in material manifestation to "Nothing", is symbolic of this "plane". As all energies emanated from the divine "Central Universal Sun" are simply transformed through the different stages of materialisation, so they simply must return, to "re-emanate" in ever evolving cyclic "spirals of consciousness". "God" is the word given to the totality of "All and One".

In this short explanation of the Universal Law of Mutual Self-Preservation it is shown that even this tradition corresponds to the "logic" of the Book of Wisdom.

We will still regard the more subtle aspects of the Central Asian "system". Especially the Pentead shows that the interrelationship of the Beings of differing levels or planes is not only vertical, it is much more subtle. This, as a system of philosophy, must not only be expected, but is even necessary, otherwise the wisdom from ancient times does not interconnect.

The major commentators in the occident, although this philosophy essentially stems from Central Asia (not even from the "Muslim world"), were P.D. Ouspensky, G.I. Gurdjieff, and J.G. Bennett (before 1992). They all did not interrelate this fundamental knowledge with the rest of the world (or only superficially, tentatively). It is J.G. Bennett, who says: "The World was brought to life, because Being and Time destroy each other mutually. Everything must disintegrate, if there is not a principle of renewal, of rejuvenation. Complete renewal demands full reciprocity. Through universal giving and receiving the cosmic harmony is upkept."

According to Bennett, it is the universal function of the Law of Three that keeps the perpetual interchange of self-preserving energies in motion. The assumption is, that without Malkuth-Yesod (Earth-Moon-Sphere, the fundamental binary system), and the living Being of their elements, crystals, plants and animals, which necessarily include the photosynthesis and other energies derived from the Sun (thus a triple system), there could be no higher evolved Beings. In the last resource, even "God" and the highest imaginable Beings, depend for their very existence on the lower "Penteade", the "lowest", five-fold Creation.

Here we may ask: Creation? If Creation cannot sustain its dynamic motion without the necessarily "created" lowest, densest planes, is it not rather Creation that was materially created? That God stems from static energy, coupled with molecules and simple atomic combinations, ever more complex systems, then plants, animals, men, ethereal beings, demi-gods, etc.? That would be atheistically, agnostically perfect. In fact, the intellectual reasoning is not without its merits. But: merits? Therefore, is it the basest, material, elemental might and power, that gives rise – as a disposable by-product – to the development of the soul, of deeper and higher emotions, of character and purity? The disintegrating involutory cycle, by being more dynamic than the evolutionary cycle, takes precedence. This is logic turned upside down, but it has its reason. Instead of having maintained the perfect symbolism of simply "within-without", with no mention of higher, lower, vertical, horizontal, consuming, rejecting, attracting, repulsing, etc., symbolism, that is of giving more than two "form-components", Man fell into the trap of not being able to define accurately anything at all. Man, in his or her second body, is simply form (vital-emotional or psychic-astral), form.

Nothing attaches to form. This is also the case of the Second Creation, mentioned within the Law of Three. It is an aspect of Creation, the first manifestation within Polarity. That is all. There is no complex, intellectual reflection appertaining to this state, level, plane or stage.

In this sense, J.G. Bennett is correct to refer back to primary sources, namely the Laws of Three and Seven. The Law of Mutual Self-Preservation can probably not be completely understood by Man. It is logical, acceptable, if one remains within the simple precepts of the Logos. If seen from dualistic Polarity, it is a paradox. Man's energetic "feed-back" towards the plants and animals is difficult to understand, at least today. It may, probably correctly, be assumed, that Man at a higher stage in his development, "before his fall", was able to "feed back" towards the lower Creation by his capacity to influence and direct the geodesic currents, to influence the atmosphere, make rain and sunshine, subdue violent geodesic currents, further harmonious currents. Thus, Man was actually able to influence the course of lower evolution. By self-preserving himself, he also helped advance the plant and animal kingdoms. Even the mineral world, through consciously directed geodesic and planetary currents, could be brought to emanate its most beneficent forces, vivifying whole landscapes, making the geodesic earth-currents coil and meander as harmoniously as possible. The conscious use of activated crystals to influence terrestrial development in all its forms is a last remnant from these times.

Today, this is still practiced as a part of Vajrayana, a Tibetan variant of Mahayana Buddhism, in Central Asia, and among the last remaining tribes of North America. But, again, we arrive at the Golden Age of Sakhya Yuga. All profound systems of knowledge point there, and only there. Below this perfect stage, much becomes paradoxical, for reality is no longer aligned with what it should be, the precepts of old are no longer correlated with actuality, thus opening the infernal doors of doubt, paradox, conflict and desperation. If Man has no tangible "function" in the state he/she is in today, what then is the reason for his/her existence? By chance, as a dog, cat, bat, fish? To eat, fuck, shit, piss, scream, succumb? All philosophy takes a different view, but the distinguishing factors are indeed hard to pinpoint. The global spiritual confusion is not ended, it is only compartmentalised, "specialised", thus taking the "heavy material hit" off the individual research. It is only when all aspects are put together that the enormous discrepancies are laid bare.

There is no "specialisation" within the spiritual quest ! It is one: global, ancient, "self-preserving", mutually beneficent, good, generally and individually: Good. Kind and magnanimous, entirely self-less. Self-less? But what about mutual self-preservation, then? Fuck it! This "self" should go to hell, there is no "self" to be preserved ! Man is the entire

entity. Humanity. The "self" is irrelevant within philosophic systems, the individual does not exist.

Humanity exists. The Self exists, but the human Self does not care if it physically depends on lower life-forms or not. Creation willed it so, and thus it must be of beneficent intent: that is the logic of faith, of hope.

What the individual Self, the student and active searcher for truth, should understand, is that Man, within the cosmologic system proposed here (but only partially applied to the reading of the Tarot), should intensely meditate on how to "pay back" any ethereal, divine protection and help he or she receives. That, finally, is the only (or at least, the basic) reason for the in-depth inclusion of these ideas.

Are they out-dated? Maybe. Has "God" and the divine, ethereal "central agency" moved nearer, closer to Man? Hopefully. Then even more: how is Man to pay back the favors given? Within "Black Magic" and the "left-handed way", this is easy to answer: by serving the invoked entities. But that is a pact, and Man gives more, much more, than he or she ever "received". For material riches and elemental might are but a child's play for "anti-angelic", unphysical Beings. It costs them only a mental effort. No real energy. The material projections of astral Beings are easy, for they don't have to assume a physical countenance to "reap the fruit". They don't care. It is Man who compromises himself, who loses energy, but this then is not accounted for as a beneficial Mutual Self-Preserving act. It is simply a loss. Temporal, transient "gain" is only loss, the first degree of decomposition, disintegration.

So it is shown that the "Divine Spark of Intuition" is a primary cause for Man. The "Give and Take" is only possible with unminded, inspirational, intuitive action: Lila. The inner development is always and foremost "essential", otherwise only confusion and doubt arise. Essential here means: aimed directly, with total focus, towards inner attainment. Forget the outside world of appearances, Maya, it serves only to confuse. It is involutory. No benefit can be reaped from without. All riches lie within.

The Law of Mutual Self-Preservation is only spiritual, though its language and symbolism is material-physic-psychic. No higher Being can use Man's irrational, idiosyncratic, self-destructive "emanations". These must necessarily "feed" lower Beings, not higher. Among the lower Beings, in this view, we should include all negative Beings of involution, for a Demon, Rakshasa, Naga, Astral Quliphoth, or what their name may be, is below Man, even if it inhabits an invisible sphere. This is where Man, through his or her

inner step and elevation, distinguishes himself from static Beings, he or she has the choice to accede or to deny highly dynamic states, stages or levels of positive, constructive evolution.