

## Trump V or 5:

### **The Hierophant (The Pope)** **Mars as Stimulus to Alchemy** **Man as Pentagram** **The Guardians of the Occult**



Akasha, the fifth element, the Ether necessary for any alchemical work, manifests in Man as the prophet, the blind "seer", the unknown keeper of secrets. The Hierophant is also called The High Priest, the true Initiate. By the fiery forces of Mars he may transmute material substances through the medium of Water. Therefore Trump 5 is associated with the Hebrew Vau: Water. This, in our view of the unfolding Tetragrammaton, is correct, for Fire by itself serves nothing (but for light). Now, through the intermediary effect of Air, Fire can be put to use. This is a deep mystery. An alchemist is a quabbalist who works with the material elements. In Chinese astrologic association, this corresponds to Metal, which is both fluid (hot) and crystallised (cold). It has been associated with Akasha (Ether), in its material manifestation. The four ethereal agents of Akasha, the Chymic, Vital, Luminous and Reflective Ethers, combine. (Addendum 4: [Trump 5: The Penteade](#))



As Alchemy is here at least theoretically implied, it should be stated right at the start that the modern symbol for Mars does not accord with the oldest symbolism. Mars always used to be designed as an upturned Venus: ♀. This is highly satisfying, for in this way the limitative "male", masculine view is eradicated from a planetary symbol. No planet is sexually "oriented", it is a false view to ascribe only female powers to Venus, and only male powers to Mars. As can be seen from the other planetary symbols, they are simply indicative of a certain quality of their sphere, not at all limited to a "sexual" approach. For a more profound exploration of these aspects, see Appendix 7: [Alchemy](#).

The authority symbolised by Hierophant-High Priest-Pope is far removed from the temporal power of The Emperor. It is the invisible power that has led faith to manifest itself as terrestrial power, symbolised by The Emperor. The proper astrologic association is therefore Scorpio, Fire of Water. Mars can be violent and dangerous, if the "martial" side is evoked.

The Hierophant has passed through Invokation and Evokation. He should be capable of discerning the merits of both. The student of the Book of Wisdom must bear in mind here, that the true or "complete" forces of Mars, difficult to master, will be magnified through Trumps 15 and 16. Here only the dynamics of the alchemy Fire-Water is revealed, the initial transmutation of substances. Form slowly takes shape, it does not yet represent perfection in a universal sense. It does approach perfection within a human being having passed to this stage. What is represented by the "alchemic wedding", the subject of Trump 6, is here within the astral sphere, just short of physical manifestation. The forms or objects have already astrally taken shape, it is Man's intervention that will give them physical shape. The mental image has descended and is now "closer at hand", discernible to the clairvoyant, physically blind or not.

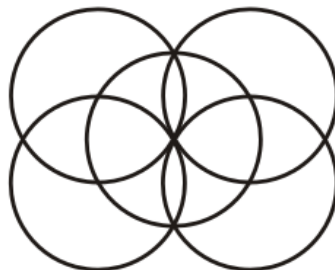
The Hierophant is associated with the prophets and seers, as Tiresias in Greece, yet more apt as Sanjaya, the sage who reports on the battle of the Bhagavad Gita to the blind king. Another sage, Vyasa, bestowed him with supernatural sight after the blind king had refused it himself, fearing the suffering involved should he visibly witness the death of his 100 sons at the hands of the "divine agents", the five Pandava brothers, whose leader in battle is Arjuna (with Krishna as his charioteer). A relevant chapter of the Bhagavad Gita, the Song of the Lord, states: "With sins destroyed, doubts dispelled, senses controlled, and devoting themselves to the welfare of all beings, the sages attain freedom."

The Hierophant, as shown in A. Crowley's card deck, is interesting insofar as the central figure stands surrounded by the masks of men and animals. Thus is emphasised the theoretic aspect of Magic, Occultism and Alchemy, their outer facade, not their inner core. Thus an individual should be conscious that he or she is only dealing with possibilities, the theory underlying later practice. This, although the later practice is pointed out in analogy to the first 9 Trumps, must be born in mind. Therefore the "lessons" of the Book of Wisdom apply only later. The Alchemy suggested within Trump 4 must be returned to after having studied Trump 14, as is also the case with Trump 5, after consideration of Trump 15. Both are different in scope, yet the whole scope only shows itself later.

The Pentagram, as five-pointed symbol , shown as a star, pervasive all over the world today, is only one way of showing number 5. The 5 should normally be shown as the Pentagon, or as the Penteade, whose great symbolism is given in detail by Addendum 4: [Trump 5: The Penteade](#). Within the Occult, the realm of the "hidden masters", the symbolism of the Grail is more appropriate. This is the chalice, the pointed cup , reminiscent of the sign Aries. It is more appropriate due to its symbolism of "descending" from left to right, "reaching the bottom" and ascending towards the right, following five points on the way, turning oneself into a true "receptacle of God": the Grail.

Adepts of Grail-mystery have always been considered the highest and purest, having passed through purification, returned love into human circumstances, resisted all temptation. The "Grail-king" is an alchemist, a high adept of the "White Brotherhood", the representative of the high and lofty beings who observe and sometimes supervise Man's evolution - a traveller between the spheres, a man or woman whose "name was written in the book of fate", purified of previous Karma or at least on the best way to achieve this.

Another dynamic symbol is the circle, in which coincide four outer circles at a central point:



The association with the sign Taurus, as found in many Tarot decks, or even with Aries in older cards, would mean the introduction of an Earth-sign. This is probably reminiscent of the time that the oracles developed in eastern Europe and the Middle East - the age of Taurus. Everywhere the "state oracles" were functioning, the "mystery oracles" were developing, the first mystery-schools emerged from the debris of ancient Egypt (whose older profound wisdom had by then fallen into ruin). Of course, the Hierophant may be seated on a "bull-throne", indicative of his might over the elements. But this is not his correct station: The Hierophant is the master of occult knowledge, not of terrestrial power. Therefore, if an Earth-sign is appropriate, then it should be Capricorn. If Taurus reflects the age of Taurus, then today - again - Aquarius, an Air sign, is appropriate. The secret, shrouded

nature of Pisces though, the time when the oracles and mystery-schools reappeared, is the most appropriate. The older symbolism, The Pope, is the master of the "fish-throne", ruler over Christianity, which stands for the fish and its age. Pisces in any case accords to the Hebrew Vau, Water, of the Tetragrammaton. Thus, following all manner of symbolism, we see that Alchemy, related to Mars, unites all elements. The transmutation of elements, into whose hidden mystery The Hierophant is trying to enter, is guided by Fire, Water and Air. Thus Scorpio rules over Mars as the sphere where Water is coalesced with Fire, using the Air of Jupiter as vector. Such mystery is emblematic of Trump 5, which takes the Tetragrammaton into application. We will, as pointed out above, take Scorpio as the "major" sign among its "results", namely Capricorn, Taurus, Aquarius and Pisces. The Tattwas thus should take all combinations into account, based on a "double-water/fire" basic symbolism.



On a horizontal scale, Trump 5 should ideally show the three factors governing human life, elemental might, rank or station and step or elevation equalised. The factors of vital-emotional, physical might or strength should at this stage be harmonised, and thus lessened, if proved obstructive to development. The rank or station, the intrinsic position in life, related to the psychic-astral components of Man, should be balanced, so as not to stand too tall among the masses of humanity. The step or elevation, the inner quality of the Soul, of the mental sphere, should have developed to an appreciable degree. If this was hindered by an excessive outlet and stirring of the emotions, then now is the time to correct this, seeing that all vital-emotional aspects must perpetually be kept under watch. Otherwise knowledge cannot translate to wisdom, and the fool of the 5th chapter of the Dhammapada (mentioned below) may be confronted with the following saying: "If ever to his harm the fool increases in cleverness, this only destroys his own mind and his fate is worse than before."

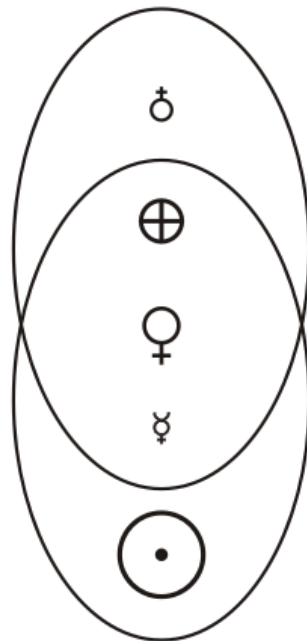
The searcher for truth is now closely approaching Tipheret, he/she is already in close contact with this sphere, yet the intellectual-mental work must now show concrete fruit. This

"concreteness", the result of alchemic fusion, is symbolised by the number 5. It is symbolised by the Pentagram, the five fingers and toes, the five elements. Trump 5 owes his power to the great "gift of God", which is that the fifth Chakra, Visuddha-Chakra, the "throat-centre", here already partially manifests as the "form-giving" attributes of correct speech and verbal transmission of ideas. The whole sphere of imagination and ideas is analogous to Trump 5. The Sino-Tibetan symbolism of the Skandhas places the 5th Skandha, Vijnana Skandha, at a point of coagulation, uniting in itself all previous Skandhas to create a heightened consciousness. Thus we have all bodily functions, the senses and sense-organs, the sense-objects and all resulting feelings, both physical and spiritual, united within the unfolding discriminative awareness, the development of will and character. This is "spiritual alchemy", as applied to the physical human being. Thus the lower three Chakras are here united. This is the ideal state, for Trump 6 is at least symbolic of the 4th Chakra, Anahata Chakra, the Heart Centre (though all Skandhas and Chakras have unlimited scope within an intermingling dynamic flux).

The most ethereal of the Ethers, the Reflective Ether, also mingles and blends, "reflects" the denser Ethers of the physical body, astral body and mental body. Here, the psychic-astral body is seen as a living impulse, and is thus in its aspect of the vital-emotional body. Mars symbolises heightened vitality, and so the emotions are inspired. They will tend to manifest. It is important not to let emotions turn into passions. One may, up to a certain degree, let them manifest loosely, thus freeing them of all inhibitions. But emotions must be controlled, so as not to turn into obsessive passions, which then may very well harm the individuals' further development. Thus the fifth Skandha can only manifest when its inherent potential for pure, unqualified form-manifestation is not curbed in any way. It is the carefully weighing quality of the mind that is called upon to release or restrain the emotions. The manifestation of the vital body is a boost to any undertaking, by keeping an equanimous guard on the expression of the senses and emotions, this will then purify the intent behind the action to be undertaken.

The Buddhist Dhammapada, in chapter 5, "The Fool", says: "If on the great journey of life a man cannot find one who is better or at least as good as himself, let him travel joyfully alone: a fool cannot help him on his journey." Thus we see that Trump 5 has much in common with Trump 9, The Hermit. Here also, the individual may find him/herself alone, and only the intuitive inspiration arising from the knowledge of higher spheres to be attained will provide a stimulus to proceed further.

The ancient oracles, not their residing deities, were the result of the invocation of this sphere, whenever the subject of the oracle concerned societal dynamics, politics, the use of force or any act of aggression and war. That, by analogy, this corresponds to the invocation of the sphere of Mars is or rather was a highly guarded secret. But the symbol for Mars, as mentioned above, was then generally benevolent. Mars here is shown as more close to Thoth-Hermes-Mercury and to his Greek version, Ares, than what modern astrology has made believe. He is the instigator of the alchemical work, "his Fire" can be constructively used, put into motion with Water. The whole scope of Alchemy is slowly unfolding, liquid becomes crystal and vice-versa, molecules change places, liquid substances can become waves and vice-versa, "cosmic rays" manifest through interaction with Air, which "unites" Fire and Water. The Sun manifests its powers through interaction with Fire, "liquid Fire": Mars. This will become clearer when Mars reappears again within Trump 15, the "higher Hierophant". There the influences of the Sun and the other planets are much closer, more tangible.



Graphically, Trump 5 may be shown as an impulse coming from without the inner planets around the Sun, thus adding a stimulus.

The whole secret of this lies in the attribution of Hebrew Vau to planet Mars. A correlative Hebrew letter, interestingly, is Hé, which carries the numeric values of 5 and 15 and symbolises a window. This is a satisfactory association, as we have placed Trumps 3, 4, 5, and 7 in correspondence with the Tetragrammaton. A similar situation will arise concerning Trumps 13, 14 and 15, which are all higher aspects of their lower correspondences.

The name "The Hierophant" is appropriate to Trump 5, for the complexity arising from coupling the basic elements Fire and Water is not within the range of understanding by anyone who has not delved deeply into the hidden wisdom, who has not in fact become an "initiate" (by consequent individual striving or by other means, human or "trans-human"). Therefore, as this is within the scope of a few people only (but will become more widely accessible through the expanding light of Aquarius), the Tarot, in their divinatory sense, speak of "protection and guidance by the invisible masters", thereby evoking the Occult, the realm of highly developed human beings who act from higher astral and mental spheres. The tradition of "the Occult" is not new at all. At all times Man has evoked "divine protection", thereby putting him in contact with human beings higher advanced than himself. Therefore, within Trump 15, the world of ethereal Beings will be inspected more closely. The fact that Trump 5 relates to spheres which include non-human Beings is the domain of occult science. In Europe and America, the Occident, this had been largely swept aside with mounting materialism, indeed forgotten. It was due to the Theosophical Society in the 19th century that modern occidental men and women were again made aware of the psychic, mental and occult sides of life. The "hidden occult masters", most of them oriental (Indian, Tibetan and Mongol), were invoked to guide an increasing number of students of the occult. A great amount of literature issued forth, concerning all types of initiation, from the Earth-Moon-Belt-Zone to Mercury, Venus and the Sun. Some of this search was true, retrieved from the oriental sources slowly becoming known in the occident, some was misguided. The Hebrew-Jewish Quabbala, also being slowly uncovered at the same time, proved difficult to integrate. From there stem the misguided concepts of Lucifer as light-bringer, associated with the Sun, the exaggerated attention put on the "Elementals", especially those of the element Fire, and the list of unbalanced and misguided views can go on much longer. Suffice it to say that the greatest benefit of the "rediscovery of the occult" was the rediscovery, or rather the stress and importance laid on the fifth element: Akasha or Ether.

Therefore the priestly, very Christian, orthodox and rigid "The Pope" was renamed appropriately The Hierophant: Master of Hidden Knowledge. Further removed into the unknown, occult, than the Quabbalist, though not of a higher station, the Hierophant can be associated with The Occultist. He may evolve and become an alchemist, yet this depends on his further development. Theory is not practice. Practical Alchemy will emerge as Trump 14: Alchemy put to use. Here, in Trump 5, the concept and scope of Alchemy is explored, the ground-work laid for the alchemic wedding. Only after Trump 7, when the solar system has been researched up to the level of Saturn, can this knowledge be properly weighed and the actual person, the Alchemist, make his appearance. At Trump 14, it should be noted, the

Tarot of the "descending path" have passed by the Sun and the whole aspect of Mars, symbolised by Trumps 19 and 15 respectively. In fact, Trump 15 "is" The Hierophant, or Trump 5, again, on a higher level, inclusive of the psychic-astral and mental-noetic spheres.

Mars is associated with all life-forces, the vital body, the instincts of self-preservation and their associated impulses. Thus Mars is said to be impulsive. In our analogy, Mars gives the impulse for the alchemic transformation. In Man, Mars is further associated with the formation of character and the development of his talents. The Vital Ether, abstractly, can be said to be symbolised by Mars. As this is the Ether that allows the Luminous Ether to manifest tangibly the ideas and thought-forms, it may be said to be the "alchymic ether".

It is a sign of the violent times during the last 2.000 years that the ancient oracles, who could evoke the intelligences of Mars with confidence, fell into ruin and Mars himself primarily associated with violence, war and strife. This is not true, as has been pointed out above. Yet the impulsive, strong forces of Mars should not be evoked, their use lies in invocation, bidding them to manifest as accrued virility, a stronger body and personality (if so wished), as the agents towards change, beneficent change. An evokation, without very profound preparation, should not be attempted. This only the accomplished Quabbalist and Alchemist may do, for any residue of disequilibrium, any slight lack of inner harmony may not resist the "wild and fiery", impulsive forces of Mars (For a true example of synchronicity as to the possible evokation of Mars, please see Addendum 3: [Trump 5 \(Mars\)](#)).

The Tattwas associated with the Hierophant are "double-Water"/Fire and Akasha (as Air), as described above.

The appearance of this card in a spread of the Tarot urges the questioner to closely observe and analyse his or her inner motives and purity. Man is yet "one-handed", the 5 is but a "semi-aspect" of the total human being. He or she is all alone, there seem to be no associates or companions to guide or advise. Thus the accent is laid on "invisible advice and protection from the Occult". This may be invoked and requested with full confidence, if he or she is sufficiently pure and innocent. The questioner is called upon to maintain maximum calm. It may therefore signify retreat, holding back ones' actions, staying put within strong outward events. It is here not the station of the questioner to actively intervene, indeed he/she is called to restrain his actions. This has been stressed above, namely regarding the vital-emotional components. The actions of Alchemy are very slow. If the questioner finds him/herself as an active participant of strife and war, then The Hierophant will guide him and the necessary power and courage will be forthcoming. Then the strength and power of an

inspired vital-emotional body comes to the aid, this may be faithfully expected. By following an original, spontaneous impulse, extraction or immunity from violence is possible.

Scorpio, united with Mars, gives the numeric equivalent of Hebrew letters as 6 and 16, plus the 5 and 15 of the Tetragrammaton letter Hé. Scorpio by itself, though it may be coupled with Aries, as suggested, is symbolised by number 24, thus giving an abstract value for alchemy (14).

As an agent for beneficent change, Mars can be invoked by 5 candles or petroleum lights. The surrounding colours should be orange and violet, thus symbolising the wedding of fire and water. The appropriate incense speaks for itself: ground onion or the seeds of *Cannabis sativa*. In this sense it were probably wiser to use the ground seeds of the Opium poppy or another "calming" incense with a "fiery" character.

Corresponding to the Chinese symbol Metal, Mars is associated with Iron. Water in a chalice should be present during this invocation, for water purifies and neutralises any violent forces. It is the filled cup which stands for the innocence of the person invoking this sphere.

