



For the spiritualist, the path of the zodiac forms an important course of his theoretical and practical study. The zodiac is the limitation of man when he is in the lowest and at the same time it is the path of his liberation when he is on the higher plane.

These lines are from "Spiritual Astrology" by Dr. E. Krishnamacharya. Spiritual astrology deals with the relationship between man and cosmos. It is one of the six keys to the secrets of wisdom whose centre is the consciousness of man. Through study and continuing meditation on the human and animal forms of the zodiac, he discovers that he is a small image of the cosmic man. He eventually realizes within himself all the planets, the solar system, and the cosmic plan to which he devotes his life. This wisdom reveals itself to the person who lives in the soul consciousness. Whoever is firmly anchored in the personality will never find the subtle dimensions.

The "Letters on Spiritual Astrology" contain thoughts from the wisdom teachings. Their purpose is to give encouragement to explore connections and correspondences and to elevate oneself to the level of Oneness which is found beyond the riddles of creation.

Leo

THE MOVEMENTS OF TIME

The creation is the network of time, which segregates and aggregates things. However independent man may think of himself, his life moves in time and according to time. The wise ones observe the moving life and adjust their plans accordingly, tuning up to time. If we want to understand and experience the patterns and laws it follows, we have to learn to attune to the qualities of time and work with the time key. For this we need an elementary understanding of the planets, the sun signs and their aspects. Certain exercises help to understand the message of the planetary combinations for the day, for example to observe daily during the time of sunrise the phases of the moon and the position of the planets and to visualize their correspondences in the body. An inner attentiveness stimulates the corresponding energies in us. A little hint for this meditative work: In its higher functions the zodiacal sign of Leo rules over the heart as the seat of love. Full moon in Leo means that the sun is in the heart centre and the moon in the opposing sign Aquarius, whose higher correspondence is at the top of the forehead. With this we imagine that the moonlight radiates from this centre at the hairline into our beings and that the sunlight rises from the heart centre upward, and then the two lights meet and fill us with the One Light.

SELF-CONTROL

Leo is the royal sign of the zodiac, the second fixed and the first fiery sign. Fixed signs stand for the firmness and stability of the man who walks the spiritual path with determination, while fire represents illumi-

nating power and expansion. Leo fights for law and justice, for the protection of his fellow men. He is upright and has high expectations of himself and demands of others. He also thinks very highly of himself and his capacities. His weaknesses are that he wants to win others' hearts and greatly enjoys praise; as a result he loses his sense of proportions. He falls through flattery, Shakespeare writes about Leo-born Julius Caesar. Gold is the metal of the sign, its colours are honey and gold; rock crystal, topaz and diamond are considered favourable for him.

Leo is the 5th sign of the zodiac, the 5th house stands for the relation between father and child, while the 4th house governed by Cancer governs the close relation of the child with his mother. The love of the father protects the children and leads them to independence. Leo is the sign of self-control and of establishing an inner and outer order through discipline. While the lower Leo-individual tries to control others, the advanced one says: "I rule over myself, I let others rule themselves." The recognition of free will is deeply respected in the higher spiritual circles and bases on the realisation, that essentially the other is the same as oneself.

The awakening of man into group consciousness is also called the "birth of the son" in us, of the Christ consciousness or of the Master in the Heart. The moment we start thinking in the heart, we replace criticism by loving understanding and grow more and more into synthesis. When we think in the head, we tend to become more and more analytic and critical. Brain thinking creates scholars, heart thinking leads to the way of initiation. The preparation for this takes place in the cave temple of the heart. Therefore the symbol of Leo (♌) looks like a cave.

THE GOLDEN DISK OF THE SUN

Focussing the thinking on the breathing turns the mind inwards and leads to a neutralisation of thoughts. In deep meditation breathing and all secondary thoughts cease. Even the pulse is feeble and only a subtle pulsation remains. If we go into the pulsation, we enter the cave, where only the original thought "I am", "I exist", remains, no other ripple of thought exists. It is like a stilled water lake in existence, full of light and with a humming sound. The light is like the illumined disk of the sun globe, it radiates, because there is the truth on the other side. An age-old prayer says: "May the door open. May the disk veiling the golden light be unveiled, so that the true spiritual sun unveils himself and we can do our whole duty as we journey back to him." If we consciously try to visualize the golden light in form of a sun disk in the heart, the personality is withdrawn through this endeavour from objectivity into subjectivity, and the soul descends into the heart centre. With the activity of Leo the light of the spiritual sun shines via the soul consciousness through the sun disk like through a door. With this we can imagine that the golden light radiates and we ascend to it. This should be done for a certain time, the thinking remaining centred in the heart. Thus the heart centre is a doorway between the finite and the infinite. "The heart is the bridge between the worlds." (Supermundane § 22)

LISTENING TO THE SOUND OF SILENCE

Leo full moon stands for the heart force of the year and is related with the spiritual Hierarchy, the planetary heart centre. It is considered to be the festival of the initiates and the future festival of those who

devote themselves to the spiritual work of receiving the energies of Love-Wisdom from subtle sources. Slowly it will take the place of the Wesak festival of Taurus full moon. The esoteric wisdom teaches that the energies of love and of synthesis come down via Sirius, the brightest star in the sky. Sirius is called the Dog Star. The dog has very good ears and hears sounds which are hidden to the ear of the ordinary man. In the East the heart centre is called *Anahata* centre. *Anahata* is the soundless sound inextricably linked to the Leo energy. The initiates tune into it entering into the "cave of the heart", which is physically the hollow in between the ribs of the bones above the diaphragm. Thus the initiate is like a watch-dog, keeping alert to listen to the silence, and through silence and through symbols he is communicated. Some adepts have dogs around them, for the presence of a dog hastens the stimulation of consciousness into the higher vibrations of sound. Dattatreya, worshipped in the East as the brother of Maitreya, as the lord of the science of yoga and as the cosmic teacher principle, is always depicted with four dogs.

Let us not fancy of contacting such sublime planes without having realised the fundamental principles and expressed them in our life. This is not done by reading books for years or by speaking about them, but by entering the cave, conquering our lower nature and coming again out of the cave transformed.

2001. Sources used: K.P. Kumar: *Hercules: The Man and the Symbol / The Aquarian Cross / Time the Key / seminar notes* - E. Krishnamacharya: *Spiritual Astrology. The World Teacher Trust / Dhanishta, Visakhapatnam, India* (www.worldteachertrust.org) - A. A. Bailey: *Esoteric Astrology, Lucis-Trust, London.* (www.netnews.org / www.lucistrust.org). "Supermundane". *Agni Yoga Society, New York.*



Synthesis

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Circle of Good Will