



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.

Sagittarius

Putting the Bridle on the Horse

The man at the beginning of the spiritual path is compared with a jumping horse running around as it fancies, like the wind takes it. His interests go into many directions: For some time he orients himself by Jesus Christ, then again by the Hierarchy, by Baba, by diverse esoteric teachings. His thoughts revolve around the light and he acts with good intentions. However he lives in concepts and is not yet on the path, even if he might fancy so. He is lacking inner stability. Stability only comes when we commit ourselves to a task. As long as there is no task which we set to ourselves, our aspiration goes to and fro. Like a horse which isn't on the path we cannot reach a goal. In order to bring the horse onto the path we put the bridle on his nostrils. When we set foot on the path we make willingly and voluntarily the decision to work for the welfare of others, of the greater whole and to pursue less and less personal goals. We submit ourselves to the inner law and make the related sacrifices. We do this because we have realized the path as being right and not in order to derive benefits for ourselves. Great possibilities are coming up for a disciple to acquire material well-being, admiration or power, but he refuses all this in order to go the path. If we come on the path for other reasons than because of the light, we will fall when we grow.

The Path of Transformation

The fiery sign of Sagittarius corresponds with the ninth house of the horoscope. It governs long jour-

neys, dreams and aspirations. For the disciple it is the eternal journey of the soul on the upward path. Each year in the month of Sagittarius the time offers a great possibility to enter into the higher circles; Sagittarius is regarded as the door to initiation. Particularly during the first 13 degrees of the sign the doors to the spiritual are wide open. Here we stand at a bifurcation, where one way leads further down, into objectivity, to experience the grosser side of creation. The other path allows us to enter into the subtle side of creation. It is the path of transformation leading us upwards, to the light, to pure existence. This path lies hidden in the centre at the base of the spine. Through the power of Sagittarius the energy resting there coiled-up can be lifted up to ascend through the spine to the throat and to the head. Thus Sagittarius is not a month of winter sleep, but a time of intensified spiritual practice and increased inner wakefulness. We are expected in this month to be more awake even during the night than in other months, since the time between 4 and 6 o'clock a.m. is ruled by Sagittarius. It is very good for spiritual work, to work out a synthesis between the soul and the mind. Sagittarius as well as the 11th ascending moon phase are full of healing energy. Especially good is the 11th ascending moon phase in Sagittarius (this year the 14th/15th of December). It is also called the day of synthesis.

For the ascent the matter of the subtle bodies has to be cleaned and purified. This is done by the purifying fire of Sagittarius, which is also called the fire by friction. It releases matter from its heaviness and makes it magnetic and radiant. Impurities in the body matter cause tendencies to

inertia and laziness. Our problem is a gap between what we know and what we do. We know so many things of which we are aware that we should do them, but our mind says: "Oh lets postpone it to tomorrow." Often we do things of which we know that we shouldn't do them, and we create problems for ourselves by doing too much, too little or the wrong thing.

The only way to free us from the inertia of matter is to rearrange the material activity of life in ourselves. By rearranging the atoms an iron piece becomes a magnet, a rearrangement of our life causes a magnetisation. If we tell an iron piece, "become magnetic", nothing however happens at all. But if we put the same iron into the presence of a magnet, it transforms into a magnet by itself. The magnet doesn't do anything, it is just there, and the iron gets magnetised. In the same way the presence of a magnetic person gets the energies in us reorganised to a higher order. Our concrete mind cannot accept this transformation, but in this lies the importance of the help of an enlightened teacher. By his spiritual presence - not his physical nearness - he helps the aspirant along on the path. Magnetism is a state of being, not of doing.

Kindling the Inner Fire

Jupiter, the ruler of Sagittarius, represents the teacher. The means by which he brings about the rearrangement are sound, rhythm and ritual. The place of the ritual is the body. The use of rhythmic utterances of holy sounds kindles the fire inside. This purifies the matter of the body cells and removes the inertia. In a very natural way it transforms the inner bodies and makes them lighter and more transparent. Therefore Sagittarius recommends to us to work with the Holy Word inside and to serve the fellow beings outside. A mystical description of a Sagittarian is that he should keep his head in the realms of Light and his hands in the realms of worldly service.

In a candle there is fire, but we don't see it, when it isn't lighted. When we lighten the candle, it is the matter of the wax which sets the fire free and maintains the flame. Sagittarius helps us to kindle the fire in matter and to burn our low, uncontrolled thoughts. As long as the mind is continuously connected with the fire it remains pure and keeps the fire burning. Then the pure mind reflects that which is above. We don't distort any longer our perceptions by our habits ; we don't see any longer as we think, but that what is. Thus Sagittarius releases us from our limitations and leads us beyond the mind into the realms of Light.

The Symbolism of Ganesha

In Eastern wisdom Sagittarius is related with the cosmic Jupiter principle. The qualities of it are worshipped in the symbol of the elephant-headed deity Ganesha, the Lord of wealth and of wisdom. Incomprehensible to an unenlightened mind this elephant god at that is depicted as riding on a rat and ruling the base centre. Behind this is hidden a profound symbolism: Visualised in light the form of our head, our ears and the spine look like the head and trunk of an elephant - Ganesha. His big ears symbolically stand for deep listening. A man of wisdom has big ears and hears not only what we say, but also our motives and intentions. The rat teaches us swiftness and skill in movement. Without wisdom however skill is dangerous, just as wisdom without skill remains ineffective. So riding on the rat of personality we have to learn to intelligently express the big wisdom of the soul in daily life, in order to rise from the depths of matter to the Light.

2002. Sources used: K. P. Kumar: *Hercules: The Man and the Symbol* / 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)*.



Synthesis

Our newsletter is published in English, French, German, and Spanish. On request we will include you in our mailing list: guter-wille@good-will.ch . Further information on www.good-will.ch . If you do not want to receive the newsletter anymore, please notify us briefly.

Circle of Good Will