

Illusion, Revelatory Light and the Intuition

MF – QU3 - 310 Course Paper

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“Illusion imprisons man upon [the] mental plane and surrounds [him] entirely with man-made thoughtforms, barring out escape into higher realms of awareness or into that loving service which must be given in lower worlds of conscious, manifested effort.” GWP 135

Master DK's statement about illusion will be our primary guide in the approach to this paper. We have here the concise relationship between man's problem and goal, if man could understand it. Illusion and its' opposite, the intuition, are linked by ever greater revealing light. This consideration focuses on illusion on the mental plane in reference to a disciple who is on the threshold of the Path of Initiation and his need to develop the intuition that will eventually allow him to “see through illusion” by the third initiation. (GWP 173) Between the disciple's illusion as an intelligent man and his full competence in use of the intuition at the sixth initiation, the Way of Initiation is that great learning curve related to the symbolism that hides and veils the Nature of God from man. It is the way upon which a personality struggles to know himself as a human soul under tutelage of his divine Solar Angel and begins to discern the real meaning of life, correlating it with humanity's role in God's Plan, and releasing him into the higher realm of God's Purpose or into loving service to humanity upon the Way of Revelation.

In defining illusion and its direct relationship to the “whole process of revelation,” DK cautions that we not confuse illusion with glamour. (GWP 172) We can best become correctly oriented to the topic of revelation as a whole through introducing and first understanding the term “light” in its relatively simpler relation to both glamour and illusion. To begin with, DK states that “Illusion is frequently misinterpreted and misapplied mental perception of truth” (GWP 175) while “Glamour can be and often is related to the distortion of that which has been revealed.” (GWP 172) Illusion is a problem of the untrained mind as it touches the world of ideas and glamour is a problem of the evolutionary force of desire working through the feeling life on the astral plane. For a simpler discussion of light, let us basically say that glamour is related to the substantial nature of light on the astral plane and illusion to the substantial nature of light on the mental plane.

Light's Hidden Relationship to Glamour and Illusion

Evolution of the subhuman and human Kingdoms of Nature touches only the lowest eighteen subplanes of the Cosmic Physical Plane (seven of both Physical-Etheric and Astral, and four of the lower Mental Plane), although man is not conscious on all of these levels. The manifested world is a total of forty-nine subplanes of graded levels of matter, ranging from the lowest dense matter to the highest subtle substances. The material aspect, as well as the soul or

consciousness aspect of all spirit-matter substance, is living energy (the fires) embodied and built into form by the Deva Kingdom, and set in motion through the ideation of the Universal Mind of God. Within each atom is hidden a divine spark (Electric Fire) which carries the Purpose of the Divine One Who animates all L/life. In our world of time-space, Greater Devic Life embodies the Purpose of God as soul gradations (true forms) of radiant light (Solar Fire). Lesser devic and elemental lives embody the Kingdoms of Nature, including the human kingdom, and the forms of man's thought world; they embody gradations of lunar light, that dark light of lower matter (Fire by Friction). Master DK confirms our association of concepts here, saying that "the three words: electricity, light and life, express divinity, and their synthesis is God." (EPI 182) He states, "light is substance" and "substance is [the] energy" of the planes. (DNAII 437) Thus, the grade of light in all spirit-matter substance, and therefore at any level of consciousness, varies according to the place of an atom in the evolution of the Kingdoms of Nature, this being guaranteed through the energy embodiment by hierarchically ranked elemental and devic L/lives composing the planes and subplanes. It is upon these facts that graded revelation is built.

Ordinary evolving man is blind to the "dark light" within himself and the lower objective world and here his problem begins. Nor is he conscious that his feelings, thoughts, speech and actions are causal directives related to the hidden elemental lives that automatically carry out his intent, producing correlated effects in the outer worlds. When blind, all men naturally build up glamored self-images on the astral plane and construct in their thought life, on the mental plane, untruthful stories (illusions) about the ways of the world. At the point when man begins to evolve awareness in relation to these matters, it is devic life that consciously builds the human soul's causal body under direction of his divine Solar Angel; this allows him to slowly become cognizant of those necessary karmic adjustments which are justly balancing the effects he causes, whether for good or ill. The whole progress of an advancing man as a powerful personality will then depend upon the rightness of his motives, hidden in the heart. In all relationships and events he is presented with learning opportunities and tests that address his willingness to rein in glamorous desire and adjust his individual, illusory and selfish thought life in relation to his fellowmen. To eventually become en rapport with the Divine Purpose and Beneficent Plan of this world cycle, the rapidly advancing man on the Way of Initiation must then come to recognition of the veiled realities of the Deva Kingdom and willfully choose the loving service and sacrificial responsibilities that will place him in proper selfless relationship to all lives. Only this will eventually bring an end to his glamour and illusion.

The learning curve is steep for man at this juncture. The next three Higher Mental Subplanes of the Abstract Mind constitute an electrical energy barrier that bars men "imprisoned" in the dark light of the material world from free access to those more potent and greater lights of spiritual consciousness: the Buddhic-Intuitional Plane, the Atmic-Spiritual Plane, the Monadic

Plane and the Logoic Plane. The barrier is embodied by solar devic life and guarded by that greater solar light of the Solar Angel (of the Presence) on the atomic mental subplane. This Angel also directs the work of transmutation in the man's causal body according to the progress he is making. All human evolutionary progress in his lower bodies and in his consciousness is measured by light; every word and action produces its results in the changing and enhanced grades of light within the man. According to his efforts to purify his lower bodies, the dark light within him will be transmuted by solar fire in his causal body into the higher consciousness of higher mind and soul. Positive efforts on man's part evoke precipitation of a greater revelatory light from his soul; this is the next increment of knowledge needed to bring him one more step closer to attainment of soul consciousness. The Solar Angel bars man's full escape into the Kingdom of Souls, that higher realm of pure knowledge, love-wisdom and spiritual will-to-good, until his soul and personality have learned to work as one. Through this partnership the man elevates his astral desires into the love of all souls, evolves his powers of mental perception into conscious recognition of symbolically veiled facts, and bends his will toward realization of an enhanced group life in all Kingdoms. The final way on the Path of Initiation makes this possible only as initiated disciple willfully releases all of his individual limitations in order to join his group in the channelling of revelatory light to those on the Way behind him and thus he enters the Divine Way of Light, Love and Power. (DNAII 437-438)

Divine Revelation and the Storehouse of Revelatory Light

Mindful of the grades of light and consciousness within man as well as the manifested world, we can now link light and revelation. Divine Revelation refers ultimately to the Hidden Glory of a Transcendent God Whose Purpose and Power, Love-Wisdom and Supreme Light is incomprehensible to human beings; it only begins to be revealed to those who are Masters in the Kingdom of Souls at the sixth Initiation. (DNAII 435-436) This Supreme Light of the Universal Mind of the Divine is "that impending, overshadowing and revelatory storehouse of [living] energy which is the immediate cause of all events on Earth and which indicates the emergence of that which is new and better and progressively *right*." (DNAII 160) Patanjali calls this storehouse a "raincloud of knowable things" and "the source of all revelation and of all human realizations – cultural and leading to what we call civilization." (DNAII 161) From this one supply point of the Divine Principles and Archetypal Ideas behind all forms, the human being is ultimately provided with the only supply that really matters. It is up to man, however, to develop his mind into an instrument of penetration that will allow him access to it and take advantage of the regular Divine Impulses that precipitate the flow of revelatory light of Divine Sustenance.

The Revelation of Light, the Lower Concrete Mind and Illusion

We have seen how revelation is linked to the evolution of spirit-matter substances through the gradations of light within it. Master DK confirms this in another way, saying that “The whole theme of revelation is the revelation of light, and that implies many different interpretations of the word “light”. . .” (DNAII 436) We first noted the dark light hidden within the subhuman forms and the composition of the human form, graded according to physical, etheric, astral and mental subplane levels that constitute the objective world. For advancing personalities, the influence of the light substance of the lower concrete mind is the next most important development as the lower mind’s “perception, apprehension, analysis and interpretation” allows a man to become integrated and powerful on the physical plane. (GWP 175) Although his separative, discriminating thinking initially may allow him to make better choices, the question then arises whether or not he will weigh his choices in terms of the higher values of the heart. (EPI 281) This is at the core of the deepest illusion of the mental plane and presents every disciple and new initiate with the most challenge.

The mental substance of the man has evolved, allowing him to partially touch the world of ideas for the first time, but his lower mind as an instrument for revelation is untrained and undisciplined in its attempt to apprehend the whole of divine ideas, to interpret the world of ideas and thought correctly, and then apply even correct interpretations usefully and effectively on behalf of all of humanity. (GWP 175) To the extent that the inner intentions of his heart are not yet pure and his soul does not yet guide his life, the powers of thought developed by a man will be used for selfish ends, leading him to justify his own decisions and dramas in ever more elaborate, illusive ways. In addition to that, groups of people as well as the whole of humanity overlay their contribution to each individual’s problem en masse through group attachment to partial ideas, idealisms and wishful thinking, whether for good or ill. (GWP 184) As DK states, the powerful and illusory thought life of men, both individually and collectively, then “enters upon a career of deception, of crystallization and of misinformation,” and stubbornly lives on, powerfully controlling groups and the masses of men through dogmas, idealisms, “mental dissertations” and complexities of all kinds. (GWP 175, 186)

The Revelatory Light of the Soul and Meditation

For the earnest seeker, the way of the lower concrete mind and its gradations of light in the personality only lead a man so far. The way of the mind must be blended with the way of the human heart and together, these two lights then invoke the greater light-energy of the soul. When a man can think in his heart and feel in his mind, he is invoking soul attention and involvement in his life. This evokes the greater light of his soul that will assist him to learn the ways of the soul as a rightly oriented man. He may or may not recognize his soul contact at this point, but if he has begun to organize his mind and learn to steadily focus his mind in some fashion, he will eventually be a good candidate for meditation.

As DK counsels, an aspiring man must learn that, "Revelation is a progress of penetration: first into the Mind, then into the Heart, and lastly into the Purpose of the One in Whom we live and move and have our being." (DNAII 435) Meditation eventually trains and disciplines the lower mind of the spiritually inclined man to focus upon and cooperate with his soul, for the greater revelatory light it can bring. As a seeker nearing pledged discipleship progresses in holding his lower mind steady in the light of his soul, he can then learn how to use soul light to dissipate glamour and how to organize his mind, thereby taking a serious step toward dispelling some illusion. Additionally, he begins to penetrate his higher abstract mind, that level of mind that must next become the "transmitter" of intuitive knowledge. (GWP 175) Even as progress comes and the way opens, there is a new appreciation of what it means and how difficult it is to sustain, day by day, a right orientation to his soul and the Kingdom of Souls, Whose nature is love-wisdom, unity and group consciousness.

For the evolving seeker approaching the Path of Initiation, his human soul is the "agent of revelation" upon the way of the first two initiations of the threshold. (DNAII 435) And further along the Path as we have noted, the revelation "accorded is, in reality, related (until the sixth Initiation) to God Immanent, to God in form, to God in the human heart, and to that veiled and hidden supreme Reality which motivates all existence and which is for ever consciousness aware of itself." (DNAII 435) As the disciple discovers his own inner divinity and gains unfolding awareness of and sensitivity to the energies that live within the different parts of his being, he realizes not only that the Glory of the Divine is living in him, but that his own soul also connects him to the soul in all of L/life. He senses he has only begun to discover what the journey upon the Path of Initiation will bring. What opens before him first is Hierarchical service to the Plan of God for humanity on earth, and he now senses how demanding it will be to approach it, for it will and must end all illusion for him.

The Revelatory Light of the Intuition Ends Illusion

Persisting in his meditative endeavors, the pledged disciple is trained in controlled, graded mental approaches toward the revelatory light of the intuition (Buddhic plane.) The intuition is the light of pure reason; it will finally assist the disciple-initiate to dispel all mental illusion as he proceeds upon the Path of Initiation. It is direct knowledge of the spiritual realm and it brings to initiates the power to 'know' with certainty the higher essential and basic truths: *The Fact of God, Immanent and Transcendent . . The Fact of Immortality and Eternal Persistence . . Christ and the Hierarchy . . The Brotherhood of Man.*" (PH 141, 142, 144, 147) For the initiate-disciple, the lights of the Spiritual Triad appear ahead, pointing the way to the ever greater light of Monadic realization. These lights serve to expand human consciousness into the full planetary awareness characteristic of the Kingdom of Souls.

In terms of revelation, the intuition is that “imposed revelation” which is known as solar “subjective, vital impression.” (GWP 173) It can only be revealed to the initiate who has patiently trained and learned, with the help of his Solar Angel, to control his three aspects of mind. The initiate first organized and steadied his lower concrete mind in order that it could become an accurate reflector of revelation to the brain. He made contact with his soul and used its light to gain access to the light of the abstract mind, to learn to meditate, and to train all aspects of his personality to cooperate with the Plan. And, he learned to use his abstract mind as a transmitter of revelation from higher realms. The Masters of the Hierarchy (fifth initiation and above) are those whose minds are capable of receiving impressions through the intuition, those precipitating “ideas, beings, plans and purposes which exist behind the scenes, so to speak and which are, (in the last analysis) the factors which determine and condition the world process.” (GWP 173) Lesser initiates progress into the ranks of the Hierarchy in order that, cyclically through meditation, he too will serve as a channel for reinterpreting the Divine Plan through the New Group of World Servers to humanity.

In conclusion, Master DK states that an “emerging guide to the spiritual life is hope of *revelation.*” (PH 140) It has been the intent here to demonstrate how a man aspiring to the spiritual life will systematically learn to progress into ever greater light, dissipating glamour and dispelling illusion along the way by relying in great measure on the abundant precipitation of revelatory light that ever pours forth from the Divine storehouse. The work of a human being is to come to psychological knowledge of himself; he must come to realize his view of the world is only “partial and particular” in contrast to universal view that is ever wholly inclusive in the spiritual realm. (EPI 249) In these closing words, Master DK gives all aspirants and disciples hope on the long road ahead, affirming that our work with the lower concrete mind is well worth the effort and vitally pivotal to our expectancy of that revelatory light that flows ever so abundantly through the intuitional realm from the Divine Storehouse above.

Never before has man's need been greater and never has the surety of revelation been more certain; never has the spirit of man been more invocative of divine aid than it is today and, therefore, never before has a greater revelation been on its way. What that revelation will be, we cannot know. The revelation of the nature of God has been a slow unfolding process, paralleled by the evolutionary growth of human consciousness. It is not for us to define or limit it with our concrete thinking but to prepare for it, to unfold our intuitive perception and to live in expectation of the revealing light. (PH 140-141)

References:

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3. Bailey, Alice. Glamour: A World Problem.
4. Bailey, Alice. Problems of Humanity.