

## The Morya Federation

# Lifecycle of the Soul

Walter D. Pullen  
Course 320

*“You don't have a soul. You are a soul. You have a body.”- C.S. Lewis*

*“Love is the beauty of the soul.” - Saint Augustine*

The soul is perhaps the most important concept on the Path for the seeker to understand and work with. Many esoteric meditations have us align with the soul, and the work of Discipleship involves soul integration and fusion. The soul is effectively immortal, in that it spans all human lifetimes. However the soul also changes over time, in that it had an original beginning, grows over time, and eventually reaches a transcendent state. Considering this lifecycle of the soul can help us understand what the soul is and how to most effectively develop it.

To begin, the seeker may come across several different terms related to the soul, such as Ego, Higher Self, Causal body, Egoic Lotus, Solar Angel, and Angel of the Presence. Frequently these terms are used interchangeably, however each one refers to a slightly different aspect of the soul, which is important to distinguish:

**Soul:** Ultimately soul is a blending of Spirit and matter, which creates a third energy of loving consciousness through their interaction. The immortal Spirit seeks experience in matter, and starts by projecting soul as its reflection. Soul is primarily associated with the higher mental plane, between the three planes of the personality and the three planes of the Spiritual Triad. However soul is also strongly associated with Buddhi, the Buddhistic plane being the fourth or middle of the seven. (TWM page 44) The nature of soul is light, power, and especially love, which expresses as service. Knowing that we are the soul, and behind that Spirit, can be seen in the line from DINA meditation #2, *“I am the soul. And also love I am. Above all else I am both will and fixed design.”* (DINA II page 123)

**Ego:** The Ego is basically the same as the soul, however it tends to focus on the concept of our “individual” soul as a unit of consciousness that’s developed through evolution, even though ultimately there is no “my soul or thy soul”. Just as the Spirit projects soul, so does the Ego or soul project incarnations into the three worlds of the lower mental, astral, and physical planes to grow. Less formally, the Ego is sometimes called the “Higher Self”, especially in popular New Age culture. Ego in this context is, of course,

very different from the common words “ego” and “egotism” meaning separative personality arrogance.

**Causal body:** Soul consciousness is centered within the Causal body that vibrates on the higher subplanes of the mental plane. The Causal “body” stores one’s virtues between incarnations, where this body gradually accumulates experience and improves over time, becoming ever more pronounced and vivid. The Causal body contains the Egoic Lotus described below. Within the higher subplanes of the mental body are also contained the permanent atoms, such as the mental permanent atom and mental unit, and even the lower astral and physical permanent atoms that are withdrawn into the Causal body at the conclusion of each lifetime. In other words, the Causal body persists between incarnations, unlike the lower personality bodies that are reconstructed for each incarnation.

**Egoic Lotus:** The Egoic Lotus is the contact point of the soul within the Causal body. To use an analogy, if the Causal body is a cell, the Egoic Lotus is the nucleus. As the soul evolves, its increased radiation and developing quality expresses as opening petals. The Egoic Lotus features nine petals that are organized, vitalized, and unfolded in turn. At the center of the Egoic Lotus lies three central petals of synthesis, ultimately making twelve petals total. These synthesis petals are associated with the three aspects of the Spiritual Triad, and conceal the “Jewel in the Lotus”, the reflection of the Monad.

**Solar Angel:** The Solar Angel is an advanced Deva that overshadows and looks after a human Ego. It (quoting the Solar Angel meditation) “infuses your Ego on the higher mental plane with its presence, love, intelligence and power”, and assists until that Ego becomes evolved enough to act as an effective middle principle between the Monad and personality, and can take over the Solar Angel’s responsibilities. The evolved Ego increasingly acts as the heart center or an accurate expression of the Monad. On unified soul levels of consciousness, the Solar Angel tends to feel as less an external entity, and more an aspect of ourselves. Alignment with soul energies inevitably aligns one with their Solar Angel, who is (quoting the meditation again) “the first Master Whom I contact as I begin to meditate occultly”.

**Angel of the Presence:** As the “Angel” keyword indicates, this is effectively the same as the Solar Angel, although it focuses on the goal of alignment with Monadic “Presence”, or that great identity, living Unity, and spiritual Oneness that “my soul and thy soul” seems to be a part of. In other words, “Angel of the Presence” represents the evolved soul oriented toward the Presence, which isn’t truly glimpsed until the Third Initiation. This Angel (like the soul itself) can be experienced to different degrees, as well as in individual and group forms. For example: *“In the earlier two initiations, the Angel of the Presence stood between the disciple-candidate and the Presence. At the later initiations, the Angel of the Presence is the Christ Himself, one with the soul of the candidate (the individual Angel of the Presence).”* (RI page 176)

**Guardian Angel:** A guardian Angel is a general term for any Deva who overshadows or otherwise assists other lives. Less formally it can also refer to any spiritual guide, even if they’re not a Deva. One’s ultimate “guardian Angel” is their Solar Angel, although there are many lesser “invisible helpers” who assist one in evolution. A Guardian Angel is

described as a *“dim reflection of the Angel of the Presence... which walks with each human being from the moment of birth until death.”* (EP II page 357) Devas are of many colors, where concerning the white Devas of the air and water: *“From among them, at a certain stage in their evolution, are gathered the guardian angels of the race when in physical plane incarnation. Each unit of the human family has his guardian deva.”* (TCF page 913)

**Dweller on the Threshold:** An important projection or shadow of the soul is the Dweller on the Threshold. The Dweller is the sum total of the personality, that becomes apparent when the disciple is nearing soul fusion. Every human has a personality and soul, although they may both be unevolved. However, *“only when man is an integrated personality does the problem of the Dweller truly arise, and only when the mind is alert and the intelligence organized is it possible for man to sense - intelligently and not just mystically - the Angel and so intuit the PRESENCE.”* (GWP page 152) The goal of soul fusion is when the personality and soul (the Dweller on the Threshold and the Angel of the Presence) have been brought together, or more accurately when the lower Dweller on the Threshold is merged into and is blotted out by the radiance of the higher Angel of the Presence.

The journey of evolution begins in the mineral Kingdom of Nature. Such lives are so primitive they are only responsive on physical levels, and have no capacity yet for thought or qualities that manifest on the soul planes of being. How then is the link between Spirit and matter maintained? Other more evolved lives coordinate this role, by creating a “group soul” to which multiple lives are attached. These group souls for earlier Kingdoms are basically unconscious to the lives in them, and are very different from the conscious Group Souls that seekers in the human Kingdom form together and “identify with and identify as” on the Path.

Individualization is the point when a life breaks away from a group soul and acquires its own “individual” soul. This event happens to those in the animal Kingdom, who are developed on astral levels (able to express emotion) and starting to develop on lower mental levels (able to express intellect). Once the animal expresses a quality on higher mental levels (such as abstract thought, non-emotional love, or non-instinctual sacrifice) that level of vibration is enough to break away (causing it to individualize through intellect, emotion, or will). The being will acquire a new Causal body (which starts out effectively empty), with a new Egoic Lotus (initially appearing as a closed bud). Since the new soul is only beginning its development, it also receives at this time contact with a Solar Angel to assist in its evolutionary process. Individualization also marks the graduation from the animal to the human Kingdom, although the start of human incarnations may not commence until a future world cycle. Solar Angels are highly developed entities, so it is a great sacrifice for them to assist even on what (to us at least) is the high level of the soul.

All matter, whether dense physical or the highly spiritualized “matter” of higher planes, has Devas stewarding and watching over it. On dense personality planes, the matter is infused by relatively primitive elementals and under the dominion of “lunar lords”. For example, the seeker should realize the matter of their astral body has its own elemental life independent of the personality, where this “desire elemental” needs to be properly

managed lest it run amuck and result in actions that need to be karmically balanced. A similar concept takes place on the Causal plane and above, except here the lighted spiritual matter is “solar” in nature and very beneficent. The Solar Angels coordinate this “matter”, and hence the vibration of the human Causal body.

The evolution of the soul can be seen in the petals of the Egoic Lotus. The first nine petals are divided into three groups or circles of three (a trinity of trinities). The first circle to be opened is the Knowledge petals, which are mostly orange when seen clairvoyantly, and primarily represent qualities expressed “on the physical plane”. The second circle is the Love petals, which are mostly rose colored, and represent qualities “on the physical and astral planes”, along with the development of one’s inner center and positive social relations. The third and final circle to be opened is the Sacrifice petals, which are mostly yellow, and represent qualities “on the mental plane”.

Within each group of three petals, the first petal is influenced by knowledge, the second by love, and the third by sacrifice. For example, petal #2 (a Knowledge petal) is also influenced by love (but not as much as the three Love petals themselves in positions #4 through #6 are). These qualities and subqualities are analogous to Rays and subrays of an individual. The colors of petals are determined by these qualities. For example, the first petal in each group of three has some green and violet along with the primary color, the second petal has some blue and rose, and the third petal some indigo and yellow. In addition, each petal contains all the colors of the previous type. For example, the first Knowledge petal is orange, green, and violet, the first Love petal is rose plus the three colors of the first Knowledge petal, and the first Sacrifice petal is yellow plus the four colors of the first Love Petal. (TCF page 822-824)

Petals of the Egoic Lotus			
Petal	Type	Colors	Quality (TCF page 822-824)
1	Knowledge	Orange, Green, Violet	Knowledge on physical plane
2	Knowledge	Orange, Rose, Blue	Love on physical plane
3	Knowledge	Orange, Yellow, Indigo	Sacrifice on physical plane
4	Love	Rose, O, G, V	Knowledge applied through love
5	Love	Rose, O, R, B	Higher intelligent love
6	Love	Rose, O, Y, I	Loving intelligent sacrifice
7	Sacrifice	Yellow, O, G, V, R	Will to sacrifice through knowledge
8	Sacrifice	Yellow, O, V, R, B	Will to sacrifice through love
9	Sacrifice	Yellow, O, R, B, I	Utter sacrifice of all forever!
10	Synthesis		Reflection of Manas / Activity aspect
11	Synthesis		Reflection of Buddhi / Wisdom aspect
12	Synthesis		Reflection of Atma / Will aspect

Interestingly, there are seven different colors present across the petals, which are exactly the colors commonly assigned to the seven Rays: 7th Ray = Violet, 6th Ray = Rose, 5th Ray = Orange, 4th Ray = Yellow, 3rd Ray = Green, 2nd Ray = Indigo. That leaves the 1st Ray and Blue unaccounted for, which ordinarily aren’t associated with each other. However that may give hints to the Egoic secret symbolically expressed as “a closed lotus bud with seven blue rays” (EP I page 239), or the Blue Lodge of Initiates.

Also, twelve petals total implies a relation to the twelve signs of the zodiac. MDR suggests the outer Knowledge petals can be conditioned by the Earth signs: Capricorn, Taurus, and Virgo. Similarly, the Love petals are conditioned by the Water signs: Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces. Such assignments make sense, with the Earth signs associated with the outer Knowledge petals aligned with the material plane, and the Sacrifice influenced petals (#3 and #6) associated with Virgo and Pisces, which have sacrificial energies.

A clear way of measuring human evolution is how many petals in one's Egoic Lotus have been opened. The unfolding of a petal is a process, where each is organized, vitalized, and finally opened. Petals unfold roughly in sequence, although by the time one is fully opened others are usually in process. There are exceptions, and even "many cases of uneven or unequal unfoldment". (TCF page 546) For example, *"the order of the development of the petals and the stimulation of the fires depends upon the Ray of the Monad, and the subray upon which the causal body finds itself."* (TCF page 543)

The three circles of petals are associated with the Halls of Ignorance, Learning, and Wisdom. There is a correspondence between the three circles of petals and the first three Initiations, i.e. at the First Initiation the Knowledge Petals are revealed, at the Second Initiation the Love Petals are revealed, and at the Third Initiation the Sacrifice Petals are revealed. (IHS page 116) However, this correspondence is rough, where MDR mentions the complete unfolding of the 5th petal, the middle Love petal, signifies the First Initiation (instead of the 3rd petal, the last of the Knowledge petals, as one might think). However, it is true that the complete unfolding of the 6th petal (the last of the Love petals) signifies the Second Initiation, and the 9th petal (the last of the Sacrifice petals) the Third Initiation.

The journey of the soul concludes at the Fourth Initiation of Renunciation or "Crucifixion". At this point the innermost three petals fully open, revealing the "Jewel at the center of the Egoic Lotus". This complete opening effectively reveals the Monad, and means the components of the Egoic Lotus have been perfected. Having been perfected, they have served their purpose, and are no longer needed by the Arhat who is now just one Initiation from becoming a Master of the Wisdom. At this point a great, positive, electric force from the revealed Monad descends, stimulates, and helps consume the fires of the three lower permanent atoms along with the elements of the entire Causal body. In other words, the Causal body and permanent atoms are dissolved and effectively cease to exist, form is dissipated, and life is truly liberated from form. (TCF page 830-831) The Solar Angel is no longer needed, and departs the enlightened seeker at this time as well: *"By the time the fourth initiation has been reached, the work of destruction is accomplished, the solar angel returns to his own place, having performed his function..."* (IHS page 137)

The Arhat and Master no longer need the soul aspect of Ego as an intermediary between Spirit and matter, just as they are no longer required to physically reincarnate. They may still manifest what amounts to a Causal body, just as they may manifest or otherwise acquire personality bodies, in order to serve. However such bodies are tools consciously chosen and employed, as opposed to requirements for their evolution. Just as the personality (and the personality Ray) blends into the soul (and the soul Ray) on the Path

of Discipleship, so for the Initiate the soul Ray increasingly blends into the Monadic Ray. *“The higher initiate is therefore a dual and not a triple expression.”* (EP II page 18)

For further reading about the soul see:

- Soul essence: Bailey, Alice A., “The Soul and its Mechanism”, New York: Lucis Publishing Company, 1930, chapter IV “The Nature of the Soul and its Location”.
- Egoic Lotus petals: Bailey, Alice A., “A Treatise on Cosmic Fire”, New York: Lucis Publishing Company, 1925, section 2.D.II.3.d “On the Building of the Causal Body”.
- Soul Initiation: Bailey, Alice A., “The Rays and the Initiations”, New York: Lucis Publishing Company, 1960, Section 2.B “The Rays and the five Initiations confronting Humanity”.
- Individualization: Powell, Arthur E., “The Causal Body”, Manila: Philippine Theosophical Foundation, 1992, chapter XIII-XIV “Individualization: Mechanism and Purpose, Methods and Degrees”.
- Solar Angel: Nash, John: <http://www.uriel.com/knowledge/articles-presentations/Nash%20articles/Beacon030401--Solar%20Angel.pdf>
- Morya Federation Course 320 materials.