

Awakening to Community

Hello friends.

Recently I read the book "Awakening to Community", by Rudolf Steiner.

Steiner was the originator of the Anthroposophical movement, which was one of the attempts of various advanced souls to initiate spirituality during the 19th and the 20th centuries. The Anthroposophical movement sprang from the Theosophical movement, which was directed by the Masters, as an attempt to counteract materialism, which reached its height during the 19th century. One of his major projects was to build the Goetheanum, a place for gathering of spiritually oriented people from all over Europe and world-wide. The structure meant to give the person an experience of spirituality in the physical realm.

http://wn.rsarchive.org/Lectures/GA257/English/AP1974/AwkCom_index.html

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goetheanum>

The Goetheanum was burnt down during the night of December 31st, 1922. After that Steiner gave a series of talks to his associates, using unusual harsh language at the people, not in a sense of condemnation, but as an attempt to direct the focus of the people towards true spiritual goals. He hints that the peripheral projects which were initiated through his teachings, like education, agriculture, arts, investigating the sciences in the light of spiritual science, etc., were actually deviation from the core. They meant to be the spokes of the central wheel. Our main objective is to create a hedge, a spiritual fence which will protect the core.

After reading it I was prompted to write a short summary of what I have absorbed in this life span:

The problem which was presented in that book is the cooperative work of individuals in the service of spiritual ideal.

The mystery of creation is the emergence of individual beings from the all-embracing Infinitude. In order to understand why all this is happening, we have to traverse all the stages of evolving consciousness, processes which can be enabled only here on Earth. During these processes impressions are being accumulated in our subconscious mind and affect our continuous actions – this storage of impressions actually enslaves us. In order to act with true freedom we have to unload the burden of these impressions. Spiritual Science gives us many tools to solve this problem. It is possible to name this load of impressions as the individual ego. The role of spiritual people on earth is to generate spiritual energy, and this energy can be generated only through the unified actions of individual people whose consciousness is focused on the purpose of creation – there are many names for this, as is the number of the spiritual groups is in this world. Some call this God in His endless names. Others use the name of a person through whom the purpose of creation was fulfilled perfectly. We can call it Divine Love, love which is beyond any personal consideration and is not dependent on anything. Ordinary humans don't have such Love, it can be invested as a Divine boon, or as a gift from a person whose consciousness is fused with Divine Love. It is a magnificent experience of supreme bliss which cannot be described by any human language. All the suffering in the universe is not enough as a payment for one moment of such an experience. Actually union with Divine Love is the purpose of creation.

It is possible to say that each person must construct his own inner pyramid: to build his/her internal constitution – body, mind, spirit and the higher Self, and thus a healthy constitution is being formed. Such a person provides a miniature compass which radiates to the surroundings, a compass which suggests a different approach for true living.

The spiritual literature is full of explanations how to form the inner pyramid: this is the personal responsibility of each one of us. There are endless ways towards that, but the result is one – a stable, reliable person from the spiritual standpoint. This is a very long process which takes many life-times, but still we can reach a certain minimum which will allow us as a collective to function successfully.

A basic group is a triangle of three such stable persons who function together with perfect accord, under any circumstance. This has been the aim of all spiritual movements at all times. A Spiritual Circle consists of four such

basic groups – twelve men and women, of course. In order to participate in a spiritual triangle the members must achieve a basic stage of self work, where each one cleans and arranges his subconscious mind, a responsibility which is being placed on each one individually. Such Circles suppose to go on forever – it is a fractal Universe, this model functions throughout the entire Creation.

The proper and easy way of dismantling the load of sanskaras (binding impressions) will be through the coordinated work of such advanced people.

The goal is to reach a stage where the members know how to forgive each other, to be flexible and to keep on working in spite of disagreements and failures which are being caused due to human error.

Even three such persons who are willing to work this way are bound for failures, since their combined states of consciousness is not sufficient to cover the scope of all circumstances. Even twelve men and women who function perfectly together don't have the sufficient collective vision in order to foresee all the problems intertwine with the directions of complicated life. Actually life is infinitely complicated, since infinite numbers of beings participate in the ongoing creation at every given moment. However, the scope of a group is always wider than that of a single individual, no matter how wise and experienced he might be – he is always bound for failure. Failures are actually an indication for the lack of such Spiritual Circles. Since that the binding impressions which enslave the consciousness must to be exhausted, a demand caused by the very nature of evolving Universe, unfortunately these impressions must to be erased by suffering.

The purpose of a Spiritual Circle is to generate spiritual substance in the physical realm.

This energy meant to raise the human state of consciousness and to direct the scope of consciousness to the entire aspects existing in the creation. The universe is not comprised of mere physical objects. There is no justification for only physical existence. The creation has a definite purpose. The confusions, struggles and conflicts between human beings, which very often result in blood-shed, due to increasing burning hatreds in the hearts of humans, without a way of extinguishing them, are all the result of the non-existence of such Spiritual Circles. The Spiritual Circles are actually meant to establish the nervous system, or the control system, in the body of humankind.

Such Circles which were established many times by the great Masters were destroyed again and again by the members who didn't succeed in reaching above their limited egos. The most amazing phenomenon which characterizes all spiritual movements is the rise of the spiritual-ego. This is the worst kind of an ego, and here the person lives in an illusion of spiritual advancement, while his entire advance is merely intellectual, to takeover of the group and directs it towards his personal goals. It is easy to watch it on others, very difficult to see it on ourselves. I participated in such a show in the past; the frustration and the pain caused by such failure are immense, but we must keep on trying.

It is interesting to view the phenomenon of war between human beings in light of the fact that this spiritual compass doesn't exist upon earth. In war humans must rise above themselves and be ready to sacrifice themselves for their fellow beings, which otherwise they would never do during times of peace. It seems that the great Masters take advantage of war in order to cleanse the karmic dirt of this world; those who suffer in war, a great portion of the residues in their subconscious minds is being erased, and others who accept this with gratitude move onwards on the Spiritual Path.

Something guided me to view a few spiritual movements – I was never inclined to be a member of one group or another for personal comfort, or for the feeling of safety. All of them sprang from the same Source: All the spiritual Masters who are known since the 19th century worked together harmoniously in order to help humanity. All of them worked in order to promote spiritual awakening and to restore the shattered body of humanity. The followers of each of these Masters think that their Master is the only true one, and all must follow him. Yet they cannot construct the Spiritual Circles, since the construction of the inner personal pyramid seems rather trifle to most of them.

All the religions are tombstones of former spiritual movements which acted in the past, all of them meant to function along the lines which were portrayed above; it is well described throughout the spiritual literature over the ages. All of them are busy with fear, creating divisions between humans and controlling the masses. All of them lost the way.

Purposefully I didn't include names of spiritual leaders who influenced humanity. The work of some of them enables us to keep on functioning on earth, since that most probably the stupid, cruel human actions on earth throughout history would bring about the extinction of life on earth. Their work enables us to tread the Spiritual Path while holding each other's hands tightly - a responsibility which rests solely upon us.

Etzion Becker, December 25th, 2010

p.s. This is what I was prompted to write to my friends here in Israel. I tried to condense the core spiritual teachings in one page – the amount of words in all spiritual movements which I viewed is endless, and the people are lost between the words. In Hebrew I wrote actually half a page, and later on I added more comments, till one A4 page was full. In English it is longer, since Hebrew is a very economic language, and maybe my English command is not sufficient to find the proper expressions.