



Inner Constitution of Man



Celebrating the 140th Anniversary of the Theosophical Society

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Colours of the Inner Constitution of Man

Semi-exoteric order of man's seven wavelengths after AP Sinnett's Esoteric Buddhism

From *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (E.S. INSTRUCTION No. I) XII p. 529.

In Drawing 1, we see that ĀTMAN is no “principle,” but stands separate from the Man, whose seven “principles” are represented as follows:¹

7	AURIC EGG, coloured Blue.
6	BUDDHI, coloured Yellow.
5 b	The UPPER MANAS, represented as a triangle with its apex pointing upwards, coloured Indigo-Blue.
5 a	The LOWER MANAS, represented by a triangle with its apex pointing downwards, coloured Green.
4	KĀMA, represented as a five-pointed star, with the “horns of evil” upwards, embracing the LOWER MANAS, coloured Blood-Red.
3	LINGA-ŚARĪRA, coloured Violet as the vehicle of PRĀNA (Orange), and partaking of KĀMA (Red) and occasionally of the AURIC ENVELOPE (Blue).
2	PRĀNA, Life, coloured Orange, the hue of the ascetic's robes.
1	STHŪLA- ŚARĪRA the Physical Body of Man, represented by the māyāvic contour of the large five-pointed star within the AURIC EGG.

Students should add to the exoteric enumeration of the order in Drawing 1, the secret one as given in Diagram 2.

From *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (E.S. INSTRUCTION No. II) XII p. 546-47.

Then, again, it will be well to point out that the numbers attached to the psychic principles in Diagram 1 appear the reverse of those in Drawing 1. This, again, is because numbers in this connection are purely arbitrary, changing with every school.

¹ [“Thus man functions on, and responds to, seven distinct yet correlated *wave-lengths*, each of which corresponds to a specific plane or world of being while the One Cosmic Life-Consciousness, binding and permeating everything flows through all of them. . . . While man is built of ‘materials’ or ‘stuffs’ drawn from the Cosmic reservoir, yet he is not a mere bundle of substances and energies merely gathered together. Man is an intimately correlated *series of consciousness-centres*, and these are termed Monads. The essential or supreme Spiritual-Divine Monad is our ultimate source or root. It is continuously pouring forth streams of intelligence and life-substance which produce by their interacting energies the various ‘knots’ or foci of consciousness that are its children-monads, as it were.” Note by Boris de Zirkoff, Editor of *H.P. Blavatsky Collected Writings*, Vol. XII (E.S. INSTRUCTION No. I) pp. 530-31.]

Some schools count three, some four, some six, and others seven, as do all the Buddhist Esotericists. In Drawing 1, the numbers of the principles disagree with the numbers used in Diagram 1, simply because the first are those hitherto used in the semi-exoteric teachings of Theosophy, for instance in *Esoteric Buddhism*. As said in *The Secret Doctrine*,¹ since the fourteenth century the Esoteric School has been divided into two departments, one for the inner Lanoos, or higher Chelas, the other for the outer circle, or lay Chelas. Mr. Sinnett was distinctly told in the letters he received from one of the Gurus that he could not be taught the real Esoteric Doctrine given out only to the pledged Disciples of the Inner Circle. Therefore, it would perhaps simplify matters if each student would add to the exoteric enumeration of the order in Drawing 1 the secret one as given in Diagram 2. But even that would require special study. The numbers and principles do not go in regular sequence, like the skins of an onion, but the student must work out for himself the number appropriate to each of his principles, when the time comes for him to enter upon practical study. The above will suggest to the student the necessity of knowing the principles by their names and their appropriate faculties apart from any system of enumeration, or by association with their corresponding centres of action, colours, sounds, *etc.*, until these become inseparable.

The old and familiar mode of reckoning the principles, given in *The Theosophist* and *Esoteric Buddhism*, leads to another apparently perplexing contradiction, though it is really none at all. In Drawing 1, it will be seen that the principles numbered 3 and 2, *viz.*, Linga-Śarīra and Prāna, or Jīva, stand in the reverse order to that given in Diagram 1. A moment's consideration will suffice to explain the apparent discrepancy between the exoteric enumeration, as printed in Drawing 1, and the esoteric order given in Diagram 1. For in Diagram 1, Linga-Śarīra is defined as the vehicle of Prāna, or Jīva, the life-principle, and as such must, on the esoteric plane, of necessity be inferior to Prāna, not superior as the exoteric enumeration in Drawing 1 would suggest.

The coloured part of the Drawing is profoundly esoteric, but the old and more familiar exoteric enumeration has been used to force upon the attention of the student the fact that the principles do not stand one above the other, and thus cannot be taken in numerical sequence, their order depending upon the superiority and predominance of one or another principle, and therefore differing in every man.

The Linga-Śarīra is the double, or protoplasmic antetype of the body, which is its image. It is in this sense that it is called in Diagram 2 the parent of the physical body, *i.e.*, the mother by conception of Prāna, the father. This idea is conveyed in the Egyptian mythology by the birth of Horus, the child of Osiris and Isis, although, like all sacred Mythoi, this has both a threefold spiritual, and a sevenfold psycho-physical application. To close the subject, Prāna, the life-principle, can, in sober truth, have no number, as it pervades every other principle, or the human total. Each number of the seven would thus be naturally applicable to Prāna-Jīva exoterically as it is to the Auric Body esoterically. As Pythagoras showed, Kosmos was produced not *through* or *by* number, but geometrically, *i.e.*, following the proportions of numbers.

¹ Vol. I, p. 122

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COLOURS OF THE INNER CONSTITUTION OF MAN

Order of Principles in Drawing 1, now adjusted as instructed above.

Semi-Exoteric	Esoteric	Sound	Metal	Planet	Solar Day
7. Auric Egg	1. Kama-Rupa	Do	Iron	Mars	Tuesday
6. Buddhi	2. Prana or Jiva	Re	Gold	The Sun	Sunday
5. Dual Manas	3. Buddhi	Mi	Mercury	Mercury	Wednesday
4. Kama-Rupa	4. Lower-Manas	Fa	Lead	Saturn	Saturday
3. Linga-Sharira	5. Auric Egg	Sol	Tin	Jupiter	Thursday
2. Prana or Jiva	6. Upper Manas	La	Copper	Venus	Friday
1. Sthula-Sharira	7. Linga-Sharira	Si	Silver	The Moon	Monday





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