

Hare Worship



The hare stands for androgyne Logos

Sakshi is the name of the hare, who in the legend of the “moon and the hare” threw himself into the fire to save some starving pilgrims who would not kill him. For this sacrifice Indra is said to have transferred him to the centre of the moon.¹

The hare was sacred in many lands and especially among the Egyptians and Jews. Though the latter consider it an unclean, *hoofed* animal, unfit to eat, yet it was held sacred by some tribes. The reason for this was that in a certain species of hare the male suckled the little ones. It was thus considered to be androgynous or hermaphrodite, and so typified an attribute of the *Demiurge*, or creative Logos. The hare was a symbol of the moon, wherein the face of the prophet Moses is to be seen to this day, say the Jews. Moreover the moon is connected with the worship of Jehovah, a deity pre-eminently the god of generation, perhaps also for the same reason that Eros, the god of sexual love, is represented as carrying a hare. The hare was also sacred to Osiris. Lenormant² writes that the hare

. . . has to be considered as the symbol of the Logos . . . the Logos ought to be hermaphrodite and we know that the hare is an androgynous type.³



¹ H.P. Blavatsky, *Theosophical Glossary*: Sakshi

² [François Lenormant, 1837–1883, French assyriologist and archaeologist]

³ H.P. Blavatsky, *Theosophical Glossary*: Hare-Worship; [and quoting from F. Lenormant’s *Monographie de la Voie Sacrée Éleusinienne*, etc., Paris 1864, pp. 387-88]