

UNKNOWABLE FIRST CAUSE

The Breath (Heat) of the One Existence is Force or Energy, an ever-acting Cause (Karana). It is that Force or Deity that underpins Cosmic Motion.¹ The One Eternal Element, or element-containing Vehicle, is Abstract Space, (Chaos) dimensionless in every sense; not a void but “the container and the body of the universe” (SD I 342) co-existent with:²

Noumenon of Matter

Origin and root of Nature’s intelligent operations. (SD I 16)

Endless duration

Primordial (hence indestructible), giving rise to Succession or Time.

Motion

Absolute “perpetual motion” which is the “breath” of the “One” Element.

YUGAS³

KARMA⁴

YAJNA⁶

2 Mulaprakriti

“First, diffused Cosmic Matter.” (SD I 22, Stanza V)⁷
A Veil over Parabrahman.

1 Kama-Eros-Pothos

It’s Flame descends into primordial matter. The Heat produced “causes its particles to move.”⁵ The active Power, the “Perpetual motion of the great Breath” awakens Kosmos at the dawn of every new Period, setting it into motion by means of the two contrary Forces, and thus causing it to become objective on the plane of Illusion.⁸ For, Eternal vibration in the Unmanifested changes to vortical motion in the manifested. (SD I 118 fn)¹⁰

3 First Logos

“It is Motion which begets the Logos, the Word, in occultism.” (SD I 67 fn)⁹

Motion Unmanifested

Eternal Vibration is the spiritual term for Motion Unmanifested, Unconscious, Innate, Noumenal. It is the “Great Breath” of the One Eternal Element (Existence) or Absolute “Perpetual Motion.”²

Motion Manifested

Vortical Motion is the material term for Motion Manifested, Conscious, External, Phenomenal.¹¹

CONSCIOUSNESS

Energising, Differentiating, Individualising, Motivating All

Motion or Deity becomes the One Whirlwind or Heat.⁵ “Motion . . . assumes an evergrowing tendency . . . to circular movement.” Wheels are centres of Force, around which primordial Cosmic Matter expands, becomes spheroidal, and ends by being transformed into globes or spheres.¹⁶

Left Contrary Force

Centrifugal - Evil¹²
Expansion¹³
Terrestrial Attraction
Spirit evolving through Matter¹⁴
All Nature¹⁵

Right Contrary Force¹⁷

Centripetal - Good
Contraction
Spiritual Attraction
Spirit redeeming itself from Matter
Differentiated Spirit

Integrative Theosophical Studies

The Secret Doctrine’s Second Proposition Expanded

For the superscripted annotations and further analysis, see “Proposition 2 – Notes to Diagram” in the same series.

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Revision 5.43 presented 8 June 2010

Only Consciousness’ Descending Path is illustrated here. The direction of Force is reversed in the Ascending Path.

