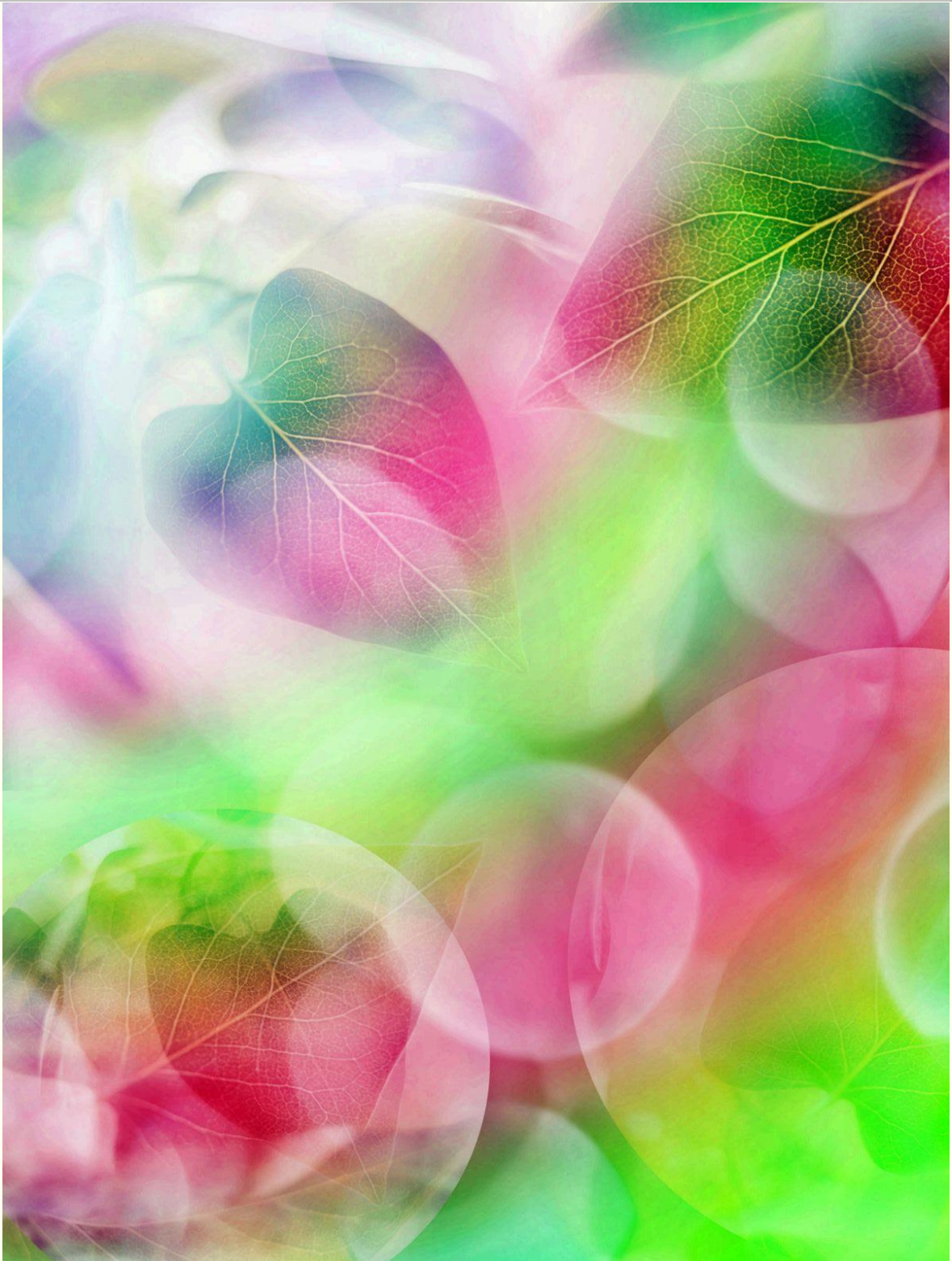


*Madame Blavatsky
On Occult Development*



Madame Blavatsky on Occult Development.

First published in *Lucifer*, Vol. V, No. 27, November 1889, pp. 254-59. Republished in *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (FOOTNOTES TO “MY EXPERIENCES IN OCCULTISM AND OCCULT DEVELOPMENT”) XII pp. 31-32.

[A.F. Tindall, having been an investigator of the occult for some sixteen years, relates some of his experiences in that realm, and the teachings which he has received from various occult agencies. H.P. Blavatsky appends a number of footnotes to several of his statements.]

[I cannot but feel that the Agencies of the Adepts are not confined in their manifestations to the Theosophical Society.]

Nor was it ever claimed by us. On the contrary, the hitherto very esoteric doctrine of the *Nirmānakāyas* was lately brought forward as a proof and explained in the treatise called *The Voice of the Silence*. These *Nirmānakāyas* are the *Bodhisattvas* or late Adepts, who having reached Nirvana and liberation from rebirth, renounce it voluntarily in order to remain invisibly amidst the world to help poor ignorant Humanity within the lines permitted by Karma. These are the *real* SPIRITS of the disembodied men, and we recognize no others. The rest are either *Devachanīs* to whose plane the spirit of the living medium must ascend, and who therefore; can never descend to our plane, or *spooks* of the first water. But then no *Nirmānakāya* will influence any man for the benefit of the latter for his own weal, or to save him from anything save death, and that only [if] the man’s life is useful. By the fruit we recognize the tree. Units are as the leaves of that tree for them; and they look forward to benefit and save *the trunk*, not to concern themselves with its every leaf, whether good, bad, or indifferent. Even living Adepts have no such right.

[Our passions must be burnt out.]

Not on the physical plane, as it would come then to a deliberate gratification of all our passions, in order to get rid of them by satiety, and this is an abomination.

[The experience must be gained, and the Soul must rise superior to them, by acquiring a love for higher things.]

“Experience must be gained” of every evil as good passion *mentally*, and *overcome* in thought, by reflection. Love and longing for higher things on a Spiritual plane will thus leave no room for the lower animal longings.

[. . . certain signs to be used accompanied by a sort of prayer . . . such Magic must only be exercised when the Soul is wishing for nothing but the Will of the All-good Intelligence to be done . . .]

Whether this teaching agrees with Theosophy depends on the meaning given by the mystic to “the All-God Intelligence.” If this is a Being or “Intelligence” *outside* of us, then it would point to either a personal God or a spirit, which is no part of the Theo-

sophical teachings. But if it refers to our *Higher Self*, then we are at one with the writer. Only in this case IT (*Ātman*) has no *Will of its own*, as It is no conditioned thing. The expression is faulty.

[I call the Spirits of the Living, and then see a simulacrum of them and hear them speak.]

Theosophists would call this *necromancy* and *unconscious black magic*.

[. . . on seeing the form of an Adept prior to receiving a letter.]

Surely no “Indian” nor any other adept, would go to the trouble of disturbing himself to announce such a trifling event as the one mentioned! Especially when a letter to that effect came “an hour later” and was all that was required. This was simply a case of the writer’s own natural clairvoyance. What would an *adept* have to do with this?

[There is a good and loving Intelligence pervading Nature.]

Why “loving”? If *absolute*, it can have no attributes either of love or hatred.

[Thy will be done.]

We recognize no Being to whom such a phrase may be addressed.



Suggested reading for students.



On the soul of the spiritual man lit by its own light.

Insights to our divine ancestry and human nature may be gleaned from the following titles in the same series:

- A CONGENITAL PREPONDERANCE OF FIRE ELEMENTALS
- ANCIENT BELIEFS IN THE IMMORTALITY OF SOUL
- ANCIENT OPINIONS UPON PSYCHIC BODIES
- APOLLONIUS COMFORTS A BEREAVED FATHER
- ASTRAL BODIES OR DOPPELGÄNGERS
- ATMAN IS A RAY FROM A SPARK OF UNCREATED RAY
- BLAVATSKY ON AETHROBACY AND FAKIRS
- BLAVATSKY ON THE DUAL ASPECT OF WISDOM
- BLAVATSKY ON THREE ESSAYS BY É. LÉVI
- BLOOD IS THE FIRST INCARNATION OF UNIVERSAL FLUID
- CHINESE BELIEFS ABOUT THE HUMAN SOUL
- CICERO'S DREAM OF SCIPIO AND MACROBIUS' COMMENT
- CLASSIFICATION OF THE PRINCIPLES IN MAN
- COMMON-MISCONCEPTIONS-OF-THEOSOPHICAL-DOCTRINES
- CONCERNING THE DOCTRINES OF THE THEOSOPHISTS
- CONSTITUTION OF MAN - DRAWING
- CONSTITUTION OF MAN - ESOTERIC
- CONSTITUTION OF MAN - OVERVIEW
- COSMOS AND DEITY IN MAN - DRAWING
- DAS' SCIENCE OF THE EMOTIONS (1908)
- DEATH AND IMMORTALITY
- DEATH AND POST-MORTEM STATES
- DEATH HAS NO TERRORS
- DEVACHAN, DREAM REALM WHERE PURE SOULS ARE REWARDED

CONSTITUTION OF MAN SERIES
SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS

- DREAMLESS SLEEP
- ELIPHAS LEVI ON DEATH AND SATAN
- EMOTIONS' TRIUNE NATURE
- EVOLUTIONARY TRANSMIGRATION OF MATERIAL PARTICLES IN NATURE
- FACING SEVEN VIRGINS IN THE HALL OF JUDGMENT
- FROM THE STRONGHOLD OF YOUR SOUL, CHASE ALL YOUR FOES AWAY
- HAIR IS THE RETAINER OF PRANA
- IN DEEP SLEEP WE DREAM NO MORE AND CONFABULATE WITH THE STARS
- IS SUICIDE A CRIME
- JUDGE ON THE INNER CONSTITUTION OF MAN
- JUDGE ON THE OCCULT NATURE OF MAN
- LÉVI ON DEATH BEING THE BIRTH-PANG OF LIFE
- LIFE IS AN INDESTRUCTIBLE UNIVERSAL FORCE
- LOW BUFFOONERY AND MOCKING LAUGHS
- LYMPH IS A MASQUE FOR NYMPH
- NEED OF A SPIRITUAL VOCABULARY
- NO NEED FOR EXPENSIVE FUNERALS
- NOUS AUGOEIDES OF THE NEOPLATONISTS
- NOUS MOVES MAN
- OEDIPUS AND SPHINX UNRIDDED
- OSIRIS AND TYPHON, HIGHER TRIAD AND LOWER TETRAD
- PLATO ON THE APPLE OF THE EYE
- PLATO'S TWO HORSES
- PLUTARCH COMFORTS APOLLONIUS
- PLUTARCH COMPARING PASSIONS AND DISEASES – TR. WHITE
- PLUTARCH ON BOASTED WISDOM, FORTITUDE, MAGNANIMITY, AND TEMPERANCE
- PLUTARCH ON EXERCISES PROPER FOR A SCHOLAR
- PLUTARCH ON PLATO'S PROCREATION OF THE SOUL
- POST-MORTEM WANDERINGS OF THE WICKED SOUL
- PREMATURE AND PHENOMENAL GROWTHS
- PSYCHOLOGY LACKS ENTIRELY KNOWLEDGE OF THE SOUL
- PSYCHOMETRY IS THE NATURAL BUT LATENT FACULTY IN US
- REAL DREAMS ARE ACTIONS OF THE TRUE SELF

CONSTITUTION OF MAN SERIES
SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS

- RELEASING THE ASTRAL SOUL FROM ONE'S ASHES
- SEPTENARY IS THE CONSTITUTION OF MAN
- SIXTH SENSE IS REASON OVER INSTINCT
- SPECULATIONS ABOUT REINCARNATION AND MATERIALIZED SPIRITS
- SPIRIT AND PERISPIRIT
- SPIRIT PHOTOGRAPHS ARE OBJECTIVE COPIES FROM SUBJECTIVE IMAGES
- SUBBA ROW ON KAMA-LOKA
- SUBBA ROW ON THE SEVENFOLD PRINCIPLE IN MAN
- SUBBA ROW ON THOUGHT TRANSFERENCE
- SYNESIUS CONCERNING DREAMS
- THE AQUILINE NOSE IS ROYAL AND NOBLE
- THE DEVOTIONAL LOVE AND NOBLE ASPIRATIONS OF LOWER MANAS
- THE ESOTERIC PHYSIOLOGY OF MAN
- THE HEART IS THE ORGAN OF SPIRITUAL CONSCIOUSNESS
- THE IMAGE-MAKING POWER
- THE KARMIC EFFECTS OF INVASION, CIVILIZATION, AND VULGAR SPECULATION
- THE LIFE PRINCIPLE
- THE MOON REGULATES THE PRANA OF NATURE AND MAN
- THE OCCULT INFLUENCE OF MAN'S ACTIVE WILL
- THE PERISPIRIT OF ALLAN KARDEC
- THE PROPHECY OF GENERAL YERMOLOV
- THE SUTRATMAN OF THE UPANISHADS
- THE TWO VOICES OF LORD TENNYSON
- THE VOICE OF THE WILL IS THE ATOMIC POINT
- THEOSOPHICAL JEWELS - MAN, THE JEWEL OF THE UNIVERSE
- THEOSOPHICAL JEWELS - SEPTENARY ANTHROPOS
- THEOSOPHICAL JEWELS - THE CYCLE OF LIFE
- THEOSOPHICAL JEWELS - THE PATH OF ACTION
- THEOSOPHICAL JEWELS - THE PATH OF RENUNCIATION
- THEOSOPHICAL JEWELS - THE SUTRATMAN OF THE UPANISHADS
- THREE CUBITS OF THE EAR, FOUR OF THE STALK
- TIBETAN TEACHINGS ON AFTER-DEATH STATES
- TROUBLES FROM UNDISSOLVED EX-DOUBLES

**CONSTITUTION OF MAN SERIES
SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS**

- TWO SPIRITS UNITED IN THE ELYSIAN FIELDS
- WHEN INNER AND OUTER MAN ARE OFF-KILTER
- WHEN THE GREEN IS OVERCOME WITH AZURE
- WHEN THE SERPENT SLOUGHS OFF HIS SKIN
- WHY SECLUDING WOMEN DURING THEIR MENSTRUAL PERIOD
- WOE FOR THE LIVING DEAD

