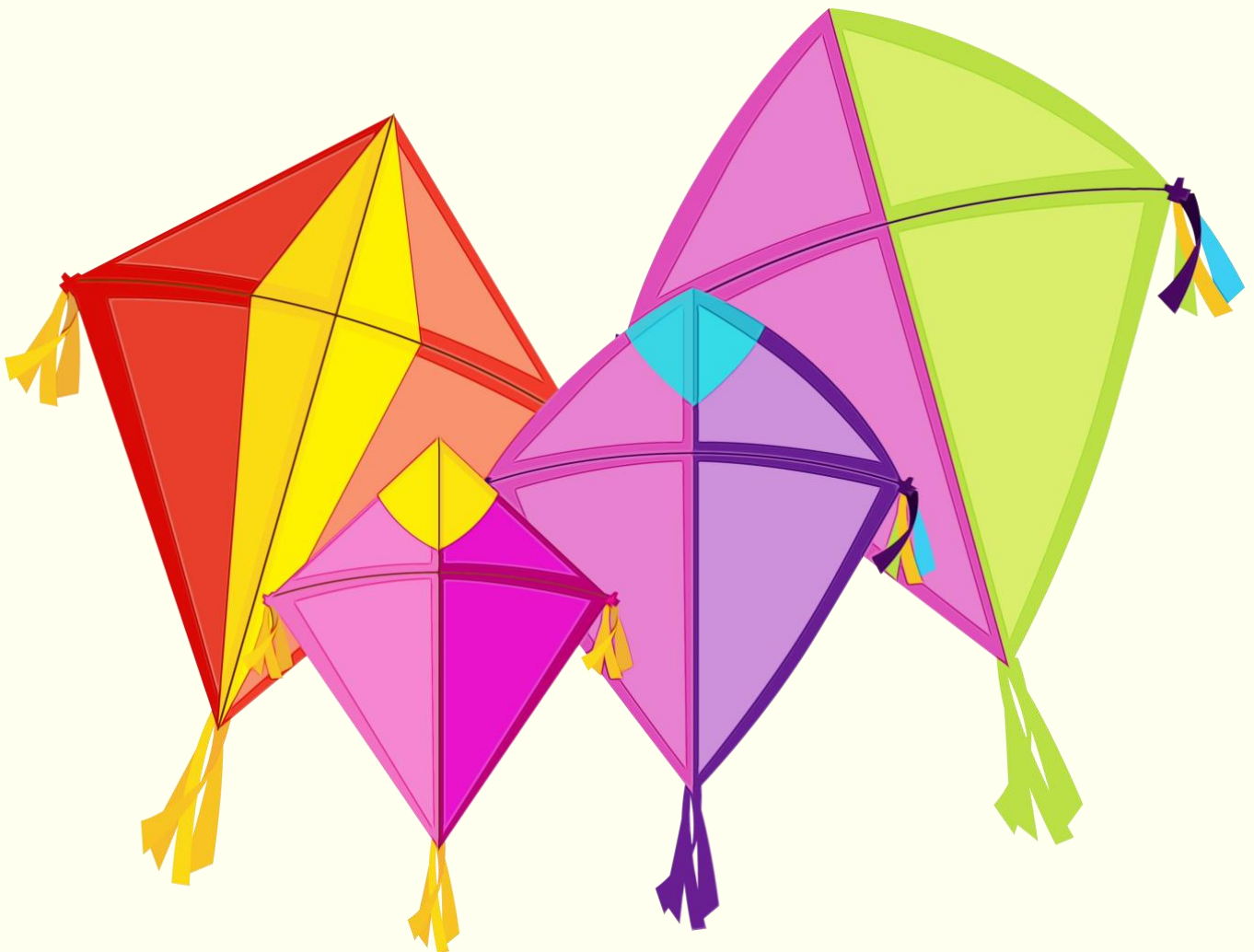


*Madame Blavatsky's open
letter to fellow Theosophists*



Introductory Note by Boris de Zirkoff

From *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (TO THE THEOSOPHISTS) VI pp. 412-13.

The following statement by Madame Blavatsky exists in manuscript form in the Adyar Archives. The main body of the text is in a handwriting that has not been definitely identified, but may be that of Bawajee.¹ The title, the words “Gentlemen and Brothers,” and a notation above the title containing the two words, “in Correspondence,” are in Blavatsky’s own handwriting. At the conclusion of the statement, “Fraternally yours,” Blavatsky’s signature and the date are also in her own handwriting. It may be that this letter was intended for the Correspondence Section of *The Theosophist*, but was not published therein, and, as far as is known, has never appeared in print since.

The letter deals with the book entitled *Man: Fragments of Forgotten History*. By Two Chelas, in The Theosophical Society (London: Reeves and Turner, 1885, Second Edition, 1887). It was written by Mohini Mohun Chatterji, the “Eastern Chela,” and Mrs. Laura Langford Holloway, the “Western Chela,” apparently at the house of the Arundales in London. From a letter Blavatsky had written to William Quan Judge, dated January 27th, 1887, as well as from her letter to Col. H.S. Olcott, dated July 14th, 1886, it would appear that she had nothing to do with the writing of this book, and indeed was opposed to the whole venture.

Madame Blavatsky made copious notes embodying a large number of corrections to be incorporated in the Second Edition of *Man*. The MS. of these corrections was in A.P. Sinnett’s hands, and its transcription is included in *The Letters of H.P. Blavatsky to A.P. Sinnett*, pp. 254-61. However, these corrections did not become incorporated in the Second Edition of the book, as careful comparison of the text plainly shows. Further information concerning this book can be found on pp. 93, and 245 of the above mentioned *Letters*.



¹ [A probationary chela of Mahatma K.H., also known as Babaji. Look up Introduction to *Mahatma Letter* 84, p. 253 in Chronological edition. — ED. PHIL.]

Man: Fragments of Forgotten History

Book review by Madame Blavatsky.

Gentlemen and Brothers,

Having received and still receiving a number of letters from Theosophists asking me for the meaning of the great discrepancy between the doctrine of *Rings* and *Rounds*¹ in *Esoteric Buddhism* and *Man* — and enquiring which of the doctrines I approve of and accept, I take this opportunity to declare the following. [413]

There is a mystery connected with the writing and publication of *Man* which I am not at liberty to make public in all its details. But since my name is in it and that the book is inscribed to me — I become indirectly responsible for its contents. Therefore shall I try to explain as much as I am permitted to.

Man is the production of two “Chelas,” of whom one, the “Eastern Chela,” was a pukka disciple; the other, the “Western Chela,” — a candidate who failed. I could *certainly* never recommend the book as a *standard work* on Theosophy as it *now stands*, but ask the Theosophists to have patience and bear with it until it comes out in its second corrected edition. The “Western Chela” left it in a chaotic half-finished condition and went away from London, leaving the “Eastern Chela” in a very perplexed state. Those who had ordered the book to be written *to try the psychical developments* of *Chela* and *Candidate* — would have nothing more to say about it. Finding himself alone and left to his own resources, unwilling to meddle more than he could help with the MS. of his ex-colleague, the “Eastern Chela” did the best he could. It was found *impossible* to publish it as it stood: he finished those portions he had undertaken, rewrote many of the passages from the pen of the other *amanuensis* and left it to stand or fall upon its own merits. In justice, we must say that, with the exceptions of those portions that relate to the Rounds, Root-races and *Sub-races*, in which there is a most terrible confusion, there is nothing incorrect in the book. On the contrary, there is much of very important information in it, but on account of the confusion above described, it cannot be recommended as a book of reference. In *The Secret Doctrine*, all the errors and misconceptions shall be explained away and corrected, I hope.

Fraternally yours,

H.P. BLAVATSKY

November 7th, 1885



¹ [Impulses of Spiritual Consciousness evolve wave-like in a 7-fold pattern along a chain of 7 man-bearing Globes (*i.e.*, Planets or Spheres) plus 5 arūpa-loka or unmanifested, re-visiting each one 7 times. A single passage through e-very Globe is termed Planetary Round or Ring, in the course of which 49 Root-Races of Humanity emerge, each one progressing through 7 Sub-Races. Every Round repeats on a higher scale the evolutionary work of the preceding Round. Cf. *Secret Doctrine*, I p. 187. Consult “Drawing 1 - Our Planetary Chain of Seven Rounds,” in our Planetary Rounds and Globes Series, herein presented overleaf. — ED. PHIL.]



Globe Z

Duration of each Round

Round 1	154,285,714
Round 2	308,571,428
Round 3	462,857,142
Round 4	617,142,856
Round 5	771,428,570
Round 6	925,714,284
Round 7	1,079,999,998
Total	4,319,999,992

(BCW XIII 303)

1 2 3 **4** 5 6 7

Globe A

Globe G

Globe B

Globe F

Globe C

Globe E

We are here! On Globe D, Round 4, Root-Race 5, our Beautiful Earth, fulcrum of the Great Kalpa, with its Seven Root-Races.

Globe D

Impulses of Spiritual Consciousness evolve wave-like in a 7-fold pattern along a chain of 7 man-bearing Globes (i.e., Planets or Spheres) plus 5 arupa-loka or unmanifested, re-visiting each one 7 times. A single passage through every Globe is termed Planetary Round or Ring, in the course of which 49 Root-Races of Humanity emerge, each one progressing through 7 Sub-Races (see Diagram 2). Every Round repeats on a higher scale the evolutionary work of the preceding Round. (Cf. SD I 187)

Integrative Theosophical Studies
OUR PLANETARY CHAIN OF SEVEN ROUNDS
 Diagram cum Emblem
 After *The Divine Plan*, pp. 218, 342

A Day of Brahmā (Maha Brahmā) equal to 1,000 Maha Yugas, or 4,319,999,992 terrene years, followed by the Night of Brahmā, or Naimittika Maha Pralaya, of an equal duration. For an in-depth analysis of the Caduceus of the Spheres, see "Keys to the Mystery Language" in our Theosophy and Theosophists Series.

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Suggested reading for students.



From our Theosophy and Theosophists Series.

- A DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO LORD LYTTON
- A LAY CHELA ON OCCULT STUDY
- A LAY CHELA ON THE SECRET DOCTRINE
- A THEOSOPHICAL LOVE FEAST IN FRANCE
- ALETHEIA IS OUR GOD AND DOGMA
- ANCIENT ETHICAL WORSHIPS
- ARCHAIC THEOSOPHY IS PRE-BUDDHIST WISDOM-RELIGION
- BLAVATSKY DEFENDS BLAVATSKY
- BLAVATSKY DEFENDS THE KEY TO THEOSOPHY
- BLAVATSKY ON ANNA KINGSFORD
- BLAVATSKY ON THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SOUL AND SPIRIT
- BLAVATSKY ON THE THEOSOPHY OF DR. N.I. PIROGOV
- BLAVATSKY REFUTES ARGUMENTS AGAINST THEOSOPHY
- BLAVATSKY REFUTES THE ASSERTIONS OF A FRENCH THEOSOPHIST
- BUCK ON THE NATURE AND AIM OF THEOSOPHY
- COLD METAPHYSICS VERSUS DIVINE WISDOM
- CONDUCT AND DUTIES OF A TRUE THEOSOPHIST
- CORY'S ANCIENT FRAGMENTS (1832)
- COSMOPOLITANISM IS FAR HOLIER AND NOBLER THAN GRASPING GREEDINESS CLOAKED IN PATRIOTISM
- DE ZIRKOFF ON CHARLES JOHNSTON
- DE ZIRKOFF ON EDWARD DOUGLAS FAWCETT
- DE ZIRKOFF ON FRANZ HARTMANN
- DE ZIRKOFF ON GERALD MASSEY
- DE ZIRKOFF ON HP BLAVATSKY COLLECTED WRITINGS
- DE ZIRKOFF ON SUBBA ROW

THEOSOPHY AND THEOSOPHISTS SERIES
SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS

- DE ZIRKOFF ON THE COUNTESS OF CAITHNESS
- DE ZIRKOFF ON THE DREAM THAT NEVER DIES
- DE ZIRKOFF ON THE SECRET DOCTRINE
- DE ZIRKOFF ON THE SIBYLLINE ORACLES
- DE ZIRKOFF ON THE THIRD VOLUME OF THE SECRET DOCTRINE
- DE ZIRKOFF ON THREE EMINENT THEOSOPHISTS
- DE ZIRKOFF ON WILHELM HÜBBE-SCHLEIDEN
- DE ZIRKOFF RECALLS HIS FORMATIVE YEARS IN RUSSIA
- EASTERN LIGHT SHINES ON WESTERN MINDS
- EASTERN OCCULTISM IS THE PARENT STREAM OF INNER WISDOM
- EASTERN THEOSOPHY IS NEITHER A CREED, NOR A RELIGIOUS BODY
- ESSENTIAL THEOSOPHICAL DOCTRINES
- HARTMANN ON HOW TO ENTER THE PATH TO INFINITE LIFE
- HARTMANN ON THE HARMONICAL SOCIETY
- HOW THEOSOPHY REKINDLED TRUE BROTHERHOOD IN INDIA
- HUMANITY SEEMS TO PROGRESS BY INVENTING ONE DISCOVERY AFTER THE OTHER
- IMPORT AND POTENCY OF NUMBERS AS SYMBOLS
- IN THE EARLY DAYS OF THE THEOSOPHICAL MOVEMENT
- ISIS UNVEILED IS THE MAJESTY OF TRUTH UNVEILED
- JUDGE AND DE ZIRKOFF ON GEORGE MEAD
- JUDGE ON THE HEART DOCTRINE
- JUDGE ON THE THEOSOPHICAL MOVEMENT
- JUDGE ON THE TRUE THEOSOPHIST'S PATH
- JUDGE ON THEOSOPHICAL STUDY AND WORK
- KEYS TO THE MYSTERY LANGUAGE
- LET THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY PERISH, THAN FORSAKE THE CAUSE OF TRUTH
- MYSTERY IS NOT UNREVEALED KNOWLEDGE
- OCCULT TRUTH IS NATURE WITHOUT THE ILLUSORY VEIL OF THE SENSES
- OUR GOD IS HUMANITY AND OUR CULT THE LOVE OF OUR FELLOW-MAN
- OUR ONLY DELIVERER AND SAVIOUR
- PLEDGED STUDENTS' PRESCRIBED GUIDE FOR CONDUCT
- PREREQUISITES TO MEMBERSHIP OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
- SPURNED THE SUBSTANCE AND CLUTCHED THE SHADOW

THEOSOPHY AND THEOSOPHISTS SERIES
SUGGESTED READING FOR STUDENTS

- STUDENTS HAVE A CHOICE OF TWO PATHS
- SUBBA ROW DEFENDS ESOTERIC BUDDHISM
- SUBBA ROW'S ESOTERIC WRITINGS (1895)
- THAT WHICH IS FALSE CAN ONLY BE KNOWN BY TRUTH
- THE AIMS AND MISSION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY FULFILLED
- THE CHALDEAN ORACLES OF ZOROASTER
- THE CROWN JEWELS OF THEOSOPHY (PHOTO ALBUM)
- THE POWER OF THE TRINITY OF KOSMOS MANIFESTS THROUGH THE FOUR PRINCIPLES OF MAN
- THE REVIVAL OF EASTERN OCCULT PHILOSOPHY
- THE SUN OF TRUTH FEARS NO LIGHT AND NEEDS NO LIES
- THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IS NOT A NURSERY FOR BUDDING ADEPTS
- THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL ARCANE TERMS
- THEOSOPHIA - FOUNTAIN, PERSPECTIVES, PRACTICE (DRAWING)
- THEOSOPHIA: INNER WISDOM
- THEOSOPHICAL MOVEMENT, THE GREAT MORAL BUT SILENT FORCE
- THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY - ESOTERIC SECTION (LETTERHEAD)
- THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY - MISSION AND FUTURE
- THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY - MONOGRAM 1 (LOGOTYPE)
- THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY - MONOGRAM 2 (LOGOTYPE)
- THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY - OBJECTS AND EARLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY - SEAL 1 (LOGOTYPE)
- THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY - SEAL 2 (LOGOTYPE)
- THEOSOPHICAL SYMBOLS (TRUE TYPE FONT)
- THEOSOPHIST IS WHO THEOSOPHY DOES
- THEOSOPHISTS DEFINED ATTITUDINALLY, ETHICALLY, PHILOSOPHICALLY (DRAWING)
- THEOSOPHY AND THEOSOPHISTS
- THEOSOPHY BRINGS THE WISDOM OF LOVE BEFORE THE EYE OF THE SOUL
- THEOSOPHY IS DEEPER MONISM THAN SECULARISM, AND MORE PHILOSOPHICAL
- THEOSOPHY IS RELIGION ITSELF AND SUBLIME CODE OF ETHICS
- THEOSOPHY IS THE SCIENCE OF TRUTH AND THE RELIGION OF JUSTICE
- TRIBUTES TO WILLIAM QUAN JUDGE
- TRUE THEOSOPHISTS ARE ALWAYS UNDER THE MASTER'S EYE

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- TRUTH IS ALWAYS MIXED WITH ERROR AND HINDERED BY TECHNOLOGICAL KNOWLEDGE
- TWO JOURNALS DEVOTED TO THE BROTHERHOOD OF MAN
- VERNAL BLOOMS BY WILLIAM QUAN JUDGE
- VISTAS OF VIRTUE AND TRUTH
- WADIA'S RESIGNATION FROM THE TS
- WHAT SORT OF MAN THE REAL PHILOSOPHER SHOULD BE?
- WHEN PURE LOVE IS PERVERTED, HUMANITY QUIVERS
- WHO CAN MEND THE BROKEN SOCIETY?
- WHO CAN READ THE RIDDLE OF THE SERPENT?
- WHO SHOULD BE INVITED TO THEOSOPHICAL MEETINGS?
- WHY A BRAHMIN ABANDONED HIS CASTE
- WHY PAGAN SYMBOLISM IS INDESTRUCTIBLE?
- WILDER ON THE WISDOM RELIGION OF ZOROASTER

