

LESSON 40

THIRTY-FIRST PATH

'The Thirty-first Path is the Perpetual Intelligence, but why is it so called? Because it regulates the motions of the Sun and the Moon in their proper order, each in an orbit convenient for it.'

This Path lies between the Sephiroth of Hod and Malkuth and is called 'Perpetual Intelligence...because it regulates the motions of the Sun and Moon'. To make sense of this one has to look at the Sun and Moon from a magical viewpoint, and to look at the principle of both positive and negative and their various associations. In addition the Moon's orbit is the closest to us and acts like a sort of filter trap of the planetary rays which are of course in turn influenced by the Sun. It is a combination of both these energies that gives us life for the Moon receives the Sun and we receive their mixture by their emanations cojoined. The Moon in fact shelters us from the Sun's harshness by use of a barometer effect which are called the Lunar tides. These produce an ebb and flow of the Sun's emanations.

The letter of the Hebrew alphabet associated here is Shin, which means "tooth" and has a numerical value of 300. Other words of the same value are SMR "to stand upright", QR "spring out" or "emanate" and RQ "evacuate" or "draw out". The value of the word Shin is 360 and equates to other words such as ROMIM "thunders",

KMSh "swift" or "penetrating", NShGBH "attaining to higher knowledge", TzRAa "smite" and QRS "shoot forth". The first group of words relate to something that is emanating and is drawing forth in much the same way the Holy Guardian Angel will draw us forth at death. The second group relates to attainment but also cautions us against the negative aspect which after death will be the karmic wheel of rebirth and retribution for those who need it.

The Tarot card associated here is called Judgement which shows the angel which some have associated to Michael who blows his trumpet through the triangle of fire causing the growth of the seven stages of development. Below are bodies rising out of the earth at the sound from the trumpet which also heralds the beginning of a new age. Here man does not have to rise from the clay of earth but meets, through evolution, the stage of development when the karmic ties are no longer needed. This card strongly shows rebirth and regeneration into a higher echelon of development than ever before.

The Egyptian myth relating to this Path is the legend of Mau the cat goddess (a variation of Ra), who fought with Neb-er-tcher which is another version of the battle of night against day, with the victorious Mau rose the first rays of the dawning light. Taken to a deeper level it shows the birth of a new era of knowledge that drives away ignorance. Other associations here are Thoum-aesh-neith, Kabeshunt, Horus and Tarpesheth. All of these are variations of the solar theme and hence a strong rela-

tionship to the fire element.

The Roman association here is Pluto who was the son of Saturn and Ops and is the Greek counterpart of Hades (who has been discussed in previous lessons). His kingdom was hell and anything beneath the earth. Legend has it that Pluto sat on a throne of sulphur and had the hound of hell, Cerberus, as his watchdog. During the fight between the gods and the Titans the Cyclopes made an invisible helmet for Pluto to wear so that he could strike unexpectedly. It is Pluto who is often deemed the one responsible for winter when he carried away Proserpine and made her his wife for six months of the year.

The astrological association to this Path is that of Pluto which effects things on a grand scale. The effect of Pluto on us here on earth is very much like the seasons as it germinates slowly and gradually until a crop is harvested. This harvest in the spiritual sense is deeper awareness. Its energies in the human race will be deeply rooted and highly concentrated which could cause possible explosive effects.

This Path also has a dual association to the fire element which is ruled by the Governor Seraph. The cardinal point which is associated here is the South and is ruled by the Archangel Michael due to his association to fire. The angel under Michael is Arael (ARAL) and is from the root AR meaning "strong and vigorous".

The magical weapon of this Path is the Universal Fire which is utilised in both the practical and esoteric sense, and is symbolised by the pyramid. In the ritual of the 31st Path the Hierophant says: 'The Solid Triangular Pyramid is an appropriate hieroglyph of Fire. It is formed of three triangles, three visible and one concealed, which yet is the synthesis of the rest. The three visible triangles represent Fire, Solar, Volcanic and astral while the fourth represents the latent Heat - AUD, active-AUB, passive-AUR, equilibrated-while ASCH is the name of Fire'. The spiritual aspect it relates to is the divine power called down by the adept which is the astral and then in turn activates the latent which in turn becomes active. The three visible aspects of fire are then brought into play by practical work with the element itself utilised for magical purposes. Fire in its practical usage is heat applied to an external impetus over a gradual period to bring about transmutation which then in turn impregnates the matter with the said Universal Fire. This is not actually charging an object but more in line with the tool one uses so this end can be accomplished. The fire provides the means to accomplish the task while the source of the accomplishment must come from higher spiritual essences.

The virtue of this Path is reformation, and is not to be confused with rebirth for this is a type of change that is total. Here the individual who reforms himself places himself outside normal concepts, for reformation of the self is done under conscious direction while the rebirth process, though natural, is done on a far deeper level. To reform is a complete turnabout in

direction and requires a tremendous source of will power that stimulates the intellect to direct its vast energies in a channelled format.

The vice of this Path is entanglement and relates to an individual who actually begins to start reforming but cannot complete the process or return to how he once was. His spiritual and mental faculties then become bogged down because not enough energy is available to carry him through. He finds himself in a semi permanent state of change which can only have disastrous consequences. This constant state of unbalance is a no growth no win situation with one merely marking time.

The magical power or experience associated here is that of evocation (not to be confused with necromancy or raising of the dead) which gives one the power to assert oneself in another dimension, then contact a force required and bring it through the veil to the triangle and command of it a service. Experience of this type also applies as well to the spirits of our animal and vegetable kingdom and archangelic and demonic spirits. Though almost anyone can perform the mechanics of evocation the real feat is to be able to do it.

One mineral drug associated here is Selenium Dioxide and relates heavily to the metabolic process. It partners with vitamin E and helps keep ones elasticity as an antioxidant. It helps keep the red blood cells from being destroyed too quickly by oxidation. This is a drug that could well help solve the

ageing' process. Another mineral drug that applies here as well is Sodium in its varying forms and helps prevent nervous disorders and general weakness.

A vegetable drug of this Path is Atropine and is an alkaloid obtained from plants such as Belladonna. Atropine is a stimulant to the nervous system working those nerves primarily above the neck.

The Tattva associated to this Path is Tejas (Agni) and is a red triangle with its apex pointing upwards which relates to its upward lifting vibrational characteristic which is allied to the principle of expansion. This relates to the fire principle and by breaking Tejas down into five subdivisions one can pinpoint the different degrees of heat and expansive energy that this tattva produces.

One gemstone associated to this Path is Almadine which is dark red in colour and is said to provide energy to those lacking in energy. It also reduces fevers. Other attributions associated to it are that it cures impotency and brings down inflammation. The stone is said to transfer its energies back and forth to the wearer and will only give out its rays when called on to do so. Other stones related to this Path are bloodstone and red agate which cut across associations to other paths.

The plant of this Path is the Hibiscus (Hibiscus spp.) which has red coloured flowers. This flower is said to produce passion

and lust and as such relates to the fire element due to the sexual state of arousal it is said to bring one to. This will also share a dual association to Venus and the water element as well but it is more fiery in instigation and watery in application. Any aromatic that is fiery in nature relates here which also cuts across associations to other paths.

The Salamanders are the Fire Elementals (sometimes called Jinni in Arabic) and are said to be seen as beings comprised of a smokey hue. Their king is called Djinn and it is said that there are over 5,000 divisions of them over the earth and according to Arabic mythology they live in a realm called Qaf, which is an invisible kingdom which surrounds the earth. The Supreme Elemental King of this Path is Ohooohatan.

The Archangel of this Path is Uriel which means "fire of God" and is the Archangel who gave both alchemy and an understanding of the kabbalah to man. The Intelligence is Abaddon which means "destroyer" and according to legend is the angel of the bottomless pit. The Spirit is Arkhas "firm heavy and red" who commands division and from this division came the birth of creation itself. Paimon is the Demonic King of Fire and his name is derived from POMN meaning "tinkling sound" while the root POM means "to strike". Paimon is directly under Lucifer and answers only to him and has 200 legions under him. The animal of this Path which also cuts across other associations is the Lion.

The Holy River related here is Pishon. In Gen.ii.11 it

says; 'The name of the first river is Pishon: and that is it which compasseth the whole land of Havilah where there is gold'. This relates to the essence of pure spirit which circles the elements.

ASSOCIATIONS

YETZIRATIC TEXT:	PERPETUAL INTELLIGENCE
HEBREW LETTER:	SHIN
TAROT:	JUDGEMENT
EGYPTIAN DIETY:	MAU
GREEK DIETY:	HADES
ROMAN DIETY:	PLUTO
PLANET:	PLUTO
ELEMENT:	FIRE
MAGICAL WEAPON:	UNIVERSAL FIRE
VIRTUE:	REFORMATION
VICE:	ENTANGLEMENT
MAGICAL POWER:	EVOCATION
MINERAL DRUG:	SELENIUM DIOXIDE
VEGETABLE DRUG:	ATROPINE
TATTWA:	TEJAS
GEMSTONE:	ALMADINE
PLANT:	HIBISCUS
AROMATIC:	ANY OF FIERY NATURE
ORDER OF BEINGS:	SALAMANDERS
ANGEL - ARCH:	URIEL

ANIMAL:	LION
CARDINAL POINT:	SOUTH
SUPREME ELEMENTAL KING:	OHOOOHATAN
DEMONIC KING:	PAIMON
ELEMENTAL RULER:	SERAPH
HOLY RIVER:	PISHON

