

ELEMENTAL BEINGS



**THEIR ORIGIN, ACTIVITIES
TRANSFORMATION, and
THE ROLE OF MAN**

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THEIR ORIGIN, ACTIVITIES AND TRANSFORMATION

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PART 1

ELEMENTAL BEINGS

Foreword

The purpose of this work is to consider the spiritual beings and entities¹ that work behind the phenomena and processes of Nature, and to raise as far as possible the veil that keeps the interconnections and work of these entities invisible to our eyes.

The only two ways to recognize their existence and work is to find as many tracks of their 'footprints' on the physical plane as one can, or to develop our higher organs of perception. Otherwise it will be impossible to achieve any objective results, and one either will be lost in idle fantasy or be in denial of their existence and influence.

In the distant past and to varying degrees, everybody was clairvoyant. Nowadays most people have lost their clairvoyant faculties and have to rely solely upon their physical senses. The loss of clairvoyance was a necessary step for mankind, so that we could be fully immersed in the material realities and the kind of thinking that goes with this perspective – one with no spiritual hierarchies. Humanity's task is to metamorphose this attitude into one that recognises the etheric soul and spiritual planes, and to develop the forces and faculties that allow the evolution of the kingdoms below him (animal, vegetable and mineral).

The gradual immersion of humanity in the darkness of matter reached its nadir about 150 years ago, with the advent of techniques to distance the ego from the human body with an unnatural process (anesthesia). During the temporary drug-induced absence of the ego, the most powerful anti-evolutionary beings, the Asuras², took this opportunity to occupy the physical human body. These beings can only be redeemed by the direct intervention of the spiritual world, and this allows us to understand how deeply we have fallen into materialistic human thoughts, which has led science to invent a "vehicle" for the anti-Christian asuric forces.

From approximately the middle of the last century the darkness began to retreat. Thanks to the advent of a new force of Light new spiritual faculties begin to open for humanity that have been brought by the Highest Entity of Christ with His influence on the etheric plane, the plane of life. The first higher organ of perception than is intended to awaken in us the new etheric brain, that will work in new ways. In olden times, the etheric brain far exceeded the extent of our physical head. As we lost the higher faculties the etheric brain came ever closer to coinciding with our physical brain. This process is accurately represented in the episode of Odysseus blinding the Cyclops Polyphemus: rational Man who has conquered the logic of the material plane (Ulysses was called "shrewd", "the man with the multifaceted genius") has the better of the giant clairvoyant cyclops (the previous lunar man) because Ulysses was evolving apace with the times. From that distant era (the Lemurian epoch linked to the forces of the Old Moon), the men began to be "blind" to the spiritual worlds. As their

¹ An *entity* has evolved to the point at which it can undertake self-directed or autonomous activity. A *being* is identifiable as separate from its surroundings but is not yet autonomous.

² Just as there is the holy trinity (Father Son and Holy Spirit) there is a trinity of evil of the angels bound to Lucifer (the seducers), the archangels linked to Ahriman (the abusers of power, the violaters) and of Archai connected with the Asura (those against life, the Antichrist.)

blindness became more profound, they developed their tactile sense, *con-tact*, to be able to orientate themselves in and via the material. This capability, in the course of time, has developed to enable full manipulation of matter itself, peaking in nuclear fusion and genetic engineering. But now the etheric brain is slowly re-emerging from the forehead of man through the *chakras* of two petals (the "third eye") and gives us an opportunity to develop the *living* thought / metamorphosis that can *capture the spirit through images* (which corresponds development of so-called "imaginative consciousness".³) Through this new faculty of vision and thanks to the skills acquired by prolonged contact with substance, Man has the opportunity (and responsibility) to help the evolution of the lower realms back to the spiritual world.

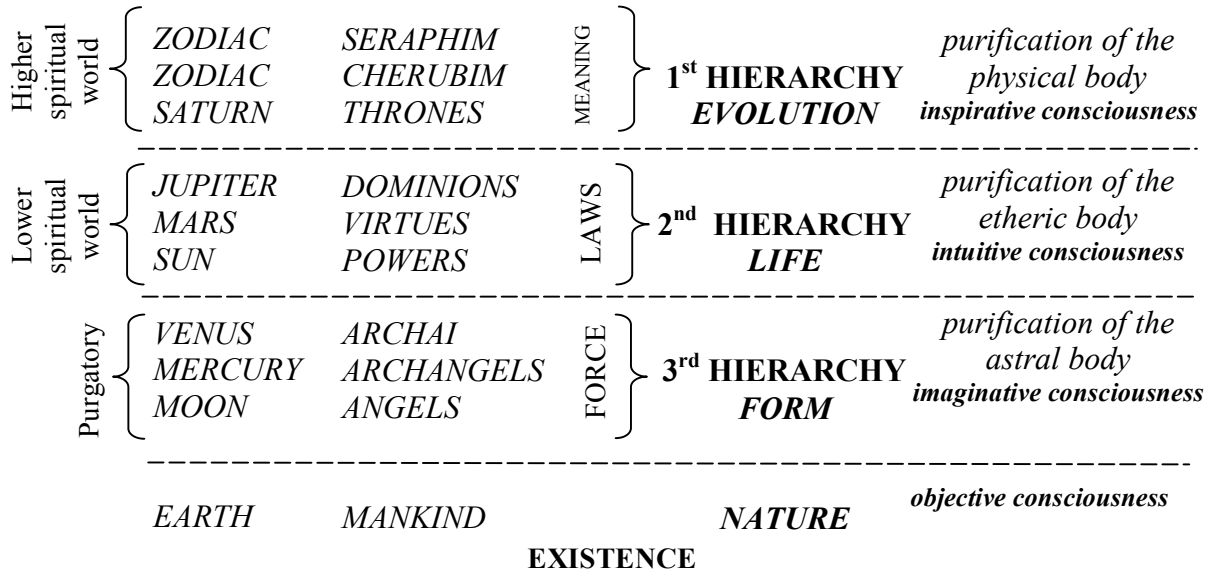
Now there's an opportunity to learn about the spiritual worlds not through direct vision, but through a renewed thinking that is related to the process of initiation. A clairvoyant person has the ability to see in the spiritual worlds, but if they have not developed the necessary knowledge they cannot recognize exactly what is seen. When we cross the threshold of the spiritual world usually the first being to appear is a beautiful angel. Because of its beauty it is difficult to identify this as a negative entity, but this is none other than Lucifer whose characteristic attribute is his dazzling beauty. Similarly, when we fall asleep, the first beings we encounter are the Gnomes, but normally we are not able to distinguish the regressive from the progressive Gnomes. For this reason such clairvoyance is always accompanied by risks. In ancient times, when Man was clairvoyant, he was so to speak "in the arms of God", that is protected from the spiritual worlds. In the process of conquest of the self however, Man had to depend increasingly upon his own discernment and exercise his freedom, so the protection of the spiritual worlds has gradually receded into the background to make room for the full consciousness that must be developed by anyone who now seeks the spiritual worlds. The more one cultivates and develops ones familiarity and knowledge of the Spirit, the more the same higher worlds reciprocate to give him - at one point - *new* conscious faculties of clairvoyance. The new knowledge gained does not in any way preclude clairvoyance but is its protection and the premise. However, on the path of initiation those people who are still connected to the atavistic clairvoyance may experience the disappearance of their previous "supernatural" faculty. This should be seen as a gift that will allow us to walk towards a new Christianized clairvoyance.

The nine hierarchies

Now we will return to our main topic, namely the elemental beings and the other beings and entities that weave unseen behind the manifestation of Nature. Each of the Nine Celestial Hierarchies residing in the solar system and Zodiac have contributed to the creation but, due to the fall to the material world and the consequent expulsion of Man from the spiritual worlds, none of them can act directly on the physical plane, the realm of luciferic and ahrimanic forces. To influence the Earth the hierarchies must act through intermediaries: Man, the elemental beings, the Spirits of cyclical periods and other entities that we now know. The realm of these entities is extraordinarily rich and wide and, like all things, has both good or evil aspects.

³ For more on the terminology used in the texts of Rudolf Steiner see his 'Theosophy'. See also 'A Practical Guide to Anthroposophical Terminology' by the present author (www.moodie.biz)

The world of these entities is the means for the hierarchies to be active in the creation and the world of men, but the same entities and beings can act as connections between men and the spiritual worlds. The elemental beings do not die but when they have completed their tasks are actually, as it were, "reabsorbed" by the spiritual worlds and in their ascent, they carry with them the experiences they had on Earth. Man is responsible for the messages that these entities bring to the hierarchies, especially in light of the fact that these messages are nourishment for the spirits of heaven.



1. Hierarchies, actions and consciousness

It may be confusing to speak of the "First", "Second" and "Third" hierarchy when, at the same time, we refer to a system of nine hierarchies (actually the tenth hierarchy is humanity). To be clear, each of the three hierarchies encompasses three different classes of spiritual entities, although sometimes for convenience we will speak of nine hierarchies and not nine classes.

Let's look at the roles and influences of the hierarchies in the process of Creation.

The first hierarchy has the power to *create worlds*. It has created the solar system with its laws, its rhythms, its organization and its logic. This whole world is the offspring of the first hierarchy, to whom we can attribute the control of evolution: the *Meaning of Nature*. The implication and meaning of the disappearance of the dinosaurs or the appearance of a new species is under the direction of the First Hierarchy, which includes within it the three classes of entities: the Seraphim, Cherubim and Thrones.

The Seraphim, also called the Spirit of Love, are absorbed in perpetual adoration of God, and their gaze is turned away from the solar system. These form that part of the Zodiac that has not succumbed to evil and so did not follow Man in the Fall.

The Cherubim, also called the spirit of harmony, are orientated toward the solar system. This part of the Zodiac has actually partially followed the man in the fall.

The Thrones, acting from the sphere of Saturn, are called Spirits of Will. They are

characterized by the desire to "make sacred", ie to implement the thoughts of God, for which they are linked to the element of *sacrifice*, "making sacred".

The outer planets of the solar system (Saturn, Jupiter and Mars) also the origins of the etheric formative forces⁴ and the etheric force that originates from the sphere of the planet Saturn is the warmth ether, and force that also gives rise to time.

The second Hierarchy includes in itself the entities called Dominions, Virtues and Powers. The Second Hierarchy presides over laws, and these laws are subordinate to the meaning from the first hierarchy.

What the Thrones brought forth from their sacrifice is now permeated by Wisdom on Jupiter, by the Dominions or Spirits of Wisdom. The sacred must be penetrated by Wisdom, and thus by the light of discernment, even into its least part. Since the light of wisdom comes to us as a gift the characteristic feature of the Dominions is just that – giving or *gift*. The etheric force which originates from the sphere of Jupiter is the Light ether and the dimension aroused by this ether is space.

At the sphere of Mars we meet the Virtues, the spirits of the movement. They put everything in motion. For example, in plants they trigger the momentum to the movement of sap and in humans they give the impetus to the movement of blood and activity that is *aimed* toward a purpose. In this sphere, during the Old Moon phase of Earth evolution, the forces of evil came forth and that which came down freely from heaven as a gift was rejected for the first time causing disharmony in the flow of cosmic forces. At this time *rejection* was born.⁵

The etheric force which originates from the Mars sphere is the ether of alchemy⁶, the force that "orders and separates whilst maintaining the relationship between the parts."

The Powers are based on the Sun. These 'Spirits of Form' are also called *Elohim* in Hebrew. All existing forms originate in the solar sphere which is the coordinating centre for all formative influences. This is the source of the Ether of Life, which maintains coordination throughout a whole organism.

The third hierarchy presides over the forces of Nature.

The Archai have established their base in the sphere of Venus. They are also known as the Principalities or the Spirits of Time. They brought the principle of the I to man and have the task of governing the historical eras. The Archai that is regent in the current era is Michael, who brings us the forces to initiate free conscious activity.

As the outer planets are the origins of the etheric formative forces, so the inner planets bring us the *four philosophical Elements*.⁷ The sphere of Venus is the origin of the fire Element.

Archangels, or the spirit of Peoples, are active from the sphere of Mercury, and each of them is the custodian of a different people united by a common language. From this sphere arises the air Element.

⁴ The etheric formative forces are forces that originate from the influence of the planetary forces upon the etheric plane which then mould the form of living things.

⁵ For more details of Earth's evolution see Dr Steiner's 'Occult Science'.

⁶ Translator's note: In the English speaking anthroposophical world the alchemical ether is more often known as the chemical ether but the concept is broader than chemical activity. It can also incorporate exchanges in the nucleus of the chemical atoms that are known as transmutations. It is also known as the number or tone ether.

⁷ See later in this publication for more details. The Greek philosopher's Elements have a capital 'E' to distinguish them from the chemical elements with their lower case 'e'.

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