# World Peace COSMIC INTELLIGENCE By Han Marie Stiekema

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Evil

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# Evil

Originally, people lived in harmony with "Heaven, Earth and the Community". Then Christianity came, destroying this existential foundation. After centuries of terror (Inquisition) people had no other choice but to fall back on the only faculty left untouched: the ego. The Church thus being responsible for "secularization", materialism and individualism. Ever since Western "civilization" is dominated by the ego. Ego thus can be defined as a isolated entity, alienated from its original Wholeness. This being alienated from the Whole is potentially harmful, it is the "proto-stage" of evil. Having lost contact with Reality - "thrown upon itself" - means being left to existential angst. Deep down it realizes that it hasn't any foundation, therefore, it clings to objects from within (concepts, ideas, ideals, convictions) and without (money, relationships, power). Because of its inner vulnerability, the eqo considers identification with the "objects" a matter of "life and death". You think that without this your "identity", you are lost. That's why "the other" is considered a threat towards one's individual existence. Harming others is then justified as a necessity to "defend" oneself. It is the first stage of actual evil. One step further and the ego starts blowing itself up in order to thicken its "protective wall" against its environment. So people start accumulate more "inner and outer objects" (see above) than is strictly necessary for their survival. It is the second stage of evil. Often, the gap between oneself and all others is then widening further and further. One way to keep all others "out" is to consider oneself as "superior", while the others are "inferior". Or, by categorizing people as "believers" and "non-believers". Or, by dividing the world in "good" (oneself) and "evil" (the others). Still one step further is denouncing these others as Untermenschen, criminals, offscourings or even "animals".....Please realize: in these cases the underlying mechanism is an ego that deep down feels itself alienated, inferior and vulnerable!!! Once this last step is made, the ego considers this a license to persecute, terrorize and kill without any pangs of conscience. It is the ultimate stage of evil. Summarizing: evil is the last consequence of the ego separating itself from the Whole. Having lost its existential context and thus its inner balance, it knows no limits, blowing itself up more and more. Increasingly, it considers all others as "standing in their way", eventually resulting in destroying the Whole Earth. Evil thus proves to be an ego- problem. The solution: to give up the ego, while becoming part of the Whole: "Heaven, Earth and the (New) Community", once again. These reborn humans we call "Green Men" and "Wise Women".

## Ego-Overcompensation

**Originally, people lived in harmony with "Heaven, Earth and the Community".** Then came Christianity and destroyed this existential foundation. After centuries of terror (Inquisition) people had no choice but to fall back on their ego as the only dimension that had been spared. The Church is thus responsible for "secularization", materialism and individualism. Since then, Western "civilization" is dominated by ego. The ego can thus be defined as an isolated entity that is alienated from its original Wholeness. This being alienated from the Whole is potentially harmful; it is the preliminary phase of evil. To have lost contact with Reality - "being thrown back on yourself" - means to be at the mercy of existential Angst. For deep inside the ego feels to have no real roots. Moreover, the ego is formed through a process of exclusion. What it likes becomes part of its identity ("me"), what it doesn't like is rejected ("not-me"). The "personality" is thus a rather random entity. Instead of real roots in existence, it is built on an arbitrary set of identifications. This creates an additional inner sense of existential insecurity. The deeper this vulnerability is felt, the greater the need to overcompensate it. Weakness turns into strength, fear into aggressiveness, and pain into ruthlessness. The way the ego does this is through clinging to inner (concepts, ideas, ideals, beliefs) and outer "objects" as a matter of "life and death". Without this "identity" you are "lost". That's why the other is regarded as a threat to its own existence. Violating others is justified as a

"need" to "defend" itself. It is the first stage of actual evil. One step further and the ego puffs itself further up, so as to enhance its defensive armor against its environment. Thus people accumulate more internal and external objects as strictly necessary for their survival. It is the second stage of evil.

The gap between itself and others widens further. One way to keep everyone else out is to consider itself as "superior" while the others are "inferior", "mean" or "low" or as "believers" in contrast to "infidels", to ultimately dividing the world in "good "(itself) and" evil " (the others). One step further and the "others" are subhuman, criminals, scum, even "animals". Please, remember: in all these cases there is an ego that feels deeply insecure, inferior and vulnerable from within! Once this above step has been made, the ego regards this as a license to persecute, terrorize and murder without a trace of remorse. It is the ultimate level of evil. Summarizing: Evil is the ultimate consequence of an ego, which seceded from the Whole. It has lost its existential context and therefore its equilibrium. It feels no bounds, so it inflates itself more and more. Increasingly, it considers all others as "standing in its way," ultimately resulting in the destruction of the whole earth. While history changed face, the underlying ego-complex remained the same. Today, the elite are purposely uprooting people in order to reduce them to "zombies", willing slaves. Evil thus proving to be an ego problem. The solution: give up your ego in order to become part of the Whole: "Heaven, Earth and the (new) Community" once again. I have called these hopefuls "Green Men" and "Wise Women".

At this stage, the ego has definitely disintegrated into a pathological entity. It is like a sinking Bismarck, which out of sheer despair shoots all his guns out. This can be an entirely unconscious process. Fear and aggression are two sides of the same coin, a lifelong identification with the ego with the result that the whole system "is set to ego". The ego even sits deep in our cells. Therefore it affects the entire body mind. As I said above, ego is overcompensation to our inner vulnerability. It does everything in order to survive and can therefore not let go. Because of the lack of Being it has sought refuge in having. It blows itself up, through which inner peace and balance are blocked. It cannot share, it only tries to get. (The ego has many tricks to pretend the opposite). This means that at the various levels - thoughts, metabolic waste, money - things are piling up, eventually culminating in some chronic disease. Ego is always part of physical syndromes. As indicated above: because ego is lacking resonance with the Whole, it "is thrown upon itself". It is an isolated entity, without feedback with Life, unlike the "old times", where it was part of the Whole: "Heaven, Earth and the Community". It has nothing to do with anybody and that is the pathology of it. Without resonance with the Whole, ego blows itself up, knowing no limits. An inflating, overcompensated ego destroys all that stands in its way, in matters large and small. A person becomes cold, indifferent, calculating, and reckless while fighting its way through at the expense of others. An ego-career messes everything up. The ego-society has become a cancer growth that exploits cultures, peoples and resources mercilessly ("globalization").

## ZOMBIES or COSMIC INTELLIGENCE 85% of (wo)mankind is ignorant 10% belongs to the "Money & Power" elites (MEGA-Ego's), exploiting the masses 5% has realized some stage of Cosmic Consciousness

How these figures can be explained? In order to bring transparency into a complicated situation I use the model of the brain. (Later to be put in diagrams). Our brain has a bipolar function: it is an antenna and a sender, it has a right and a left brain, it has an ego and its shadow, it has cognitive and vital functions and a bipolar vegetative nervous system. These polarities are balanced by Cosmic Space. The latter is the Unity that makes the opposite poles complementary. When Cosmic Space is blocked the dynamic poles lose their coherence. They become separate entities. Instead of a meaningful Whole the poles start a life of "everybody for themselves". Balance has turned into chaos.

In the "Original State" the human Mind (True Self) is part of Cosmic Intelligence. It is like a fish swimming in the Cosmic Ocean. In order to be able to participate in Cosmic Intelligence the brain should be open, receptive. "Normally", this should be the case: The brain as an antenna for "Higher Wisdom". Unfortunately, in the West, through the dominance of the ego, identifying itself with its self-image, contact with Cosmic Space has been blocked. Our materialistic, individualistic, ego-addicted society denies the Reality of Cosmic Participation. It rejects the idea that we are part of the Whole. The consequences are dire: (Wo)Mankind deprived of the Source of its Higher Intelligence. I call it Deprivation Stage 1. Normally, the antenna function of the brain receives its information from the Cosmos benefitting all other brain functions. If it is blocked, the brain is like a dried out desert. It has to solely rely on its "own" psychological e.g. mind functions: the self, the collective unconsciousness, the personal unconscious and the ego. Contrary to what psychologists claim (C.G.Jung) these functions are NOT identical with Cosmic Intelligence. They are experiences of the human mind living as the CONTENT of Cosmic Space. They manifest themselves as images, ideas, emotions, concepts, thoughts, fears, "experiences". Cosmic Intelligence, on the other hand, manifests itself through Divine Revelation, Cosmic Insight, Higher Wisdom, Supernatural Intuitions, Wholeness Experiences, Selfless Love, Absolute Truth and Justice. Instead of receiving these Cosmic Values, benefitting all other levels of human experience, thinking has no choice but to rely on its active function, the will-full production of thoughts (sender function) by the ego. To rely solely on this self-effort e.g. self-generating thinking sooner or later leads to stress, fatigue, exhaustion and burn-out. Because the brain is not able to receive information from the Cosmos humans are "thrown upon themselves". The irony: while the ego thinks to be the "crown of creation" the everyday level of functioning does not exceed that of an intelligent animal. With many animals having more "human traits" (intelligence, intuition, interconnectedness, compassion, care) than humans. Why? Animals live in Cosmic Space without an ego obstructing direct contact with the Origin.

Starting point of Deprivation Stage 2 is thus a human mind deprived of its Cosmic Source of Intelligence. The underlying Unity of the Cosmos which makes a dynamic balance of polarity possible, is blocked. Upon a mind that is already dramatically limited the next blow is handed out. Through lack of a "higher" Source of equilibrium each pole is "claiming" dominance over the other. In our patriarchal society (or what is left of it) it is the left brain that oppresses the right. The rational, reductionist, one-dimensional, exclusive "male" pole is ruling over the intuitive, direct insight, feeling and inclusive "female" pole. This one-sidedness is responsible for the dominance of the death pole over the life pole in society. Instead of women being the foundation of life, male fear of life, overcompensated through addiction to power, control and violence has made society a madness, leading to ultimate disaster. It emphasizes the desperate need for a society led by feminine (holistic) qualities: inclusivity, interconnectedness, compassion, peace, justice, love, care as DOMINANT values. It makes clear that our "Cosmic Mother Healing the Planet e.g. We are Cosmos Initiative" is not just a nice new idea, sprouted from the human mind, but a reflection of the Saving Activity of the Cosmos. What we call our mind is an amputated brain with only the left brain functioning. How pitiful are those who boast about the unlimited possibilities of the mind. In reality they have never been outside of the world of their own thought-processes! At the moment the world is still a MESS. What is left of us humans at this stage - Deprivation Stage 2 - is a left (cognitive) brain together with vital and vegetative functions. It corresponds with what A.Einstein once said: that humanity lives with only 10% of its intellectual capacity. I think the situation is much worse.

Deprivation Stage 3 emerges though being exposed to 2 harmful environmental factors. First it is the brainwash imposed upon us by an oppressive ego-system consisting of a dominant minority (10% see above) that exploits the masses for its own enrichment. It is fair to say that the world in which we live comes very close to a Big Brother hegemony, with a non-democratic state rule, rude capitalism and a total surveillance of the masses. Through media and education these "masses" are brainwashed with mechanical thinking, indifference of feeling and an addicted consumerist behaviour as a result. Its consequences: the already limited cognitive brain becomes conditioned to a set of one-dimensional "values": working, shopping and the addiction to the digital world. A "dream world" is replacing reality. Not the dream world of Cinderella, but one in the hands of ruthless exploiters. (Sean Parker, former president of Fakebook: "From the beginning Facebook has purposely used the vulnerability of the people"). If the brain (that what is left of it) loses it contact with reality, in exchange for addiction of the illusionary world of virtual reality, if the left brain is drawing virtual circles around a non-existent phantom, if real feedback and resonance with the real world are pushed to the periphery, then atrophy of the brain is unavoidable. And indeed, 15% of the Western population suffers (already) from "Mild Cognitive Brain Disorder" (the erosion of concentration, memory and clear thinking), another common trick to hide the underlying disaster by giving the condition a separate "clinical diagnosis". What is really going on is the degeneration of the (Western) world!

Secondly, as if this not enough, society, lifestyle and environmental factors together have created a toxic brew of harmful factors which all interact with each other. I call this brew the "Multi-Etiological SumTotal Syndrome" or MESS. What comes together is a mixture of unhealthy eating habits, toxic additives, insufficient drinking, drugs, smoking and alcohol, excess of coffee, sitting lifestyle, chronic indigestion, self-poisoning through the bowel and impaired eliminations (bowel, kidney, skin, lungs, menstruation), a toxic environment, the toxic effects of medicines, electro-magnetic radiation, relational problems, social alienation, angst, loneliness and meaninglessness and stress in the workplace or through unemployment. Finally, a world full of angst, violence, injustice and war. These factors are part of a pool. They interact with each other in a way that cannot be traced. Their common effects exceed by far the effect they would have if they acted alone (Accumulation, Interaction, Synergy etc.). One example is Alzheimer. Why "suddenly" this explosion of degeneration of the human brain? Answer: toxic influences have reached the top of the food chain. Since the food chain culminates in humans, it is us who "suddenly" face the consequences. Toxins and radiation damage the blood-brain barrier. Through the leaks all kinds of large molecular (protein) substances manage to enter the brain. Through our eating habits (overconsumption of animal protein, excessive coffee) all kinds of intermediairy protein break-down products ("amyloid") accumulate. Alzheimer is NOT an isolated "clinical syndrome". It is the culmination of Deprivation Stage 3. It is a sign that the brain (the human mind) is degenerating. Compared to its full potentiality of the Original State of Being, not only an amputated piece of brain is left, but even that little piece is (irreversibly?) damaged. Collectively we have entered the zombie-stage.

## THE NINE DIMENSIONS OF COSMIC REALIZATION

Religions are the collective effort to NOT experience God This is how IT has been Revealed to me

**My major concern is the authenticity of my writings**. It means that the words I use should directly come from my Innermost Core. Without interference of my mind. This is only possible by continuously being open to my Depth. This Dimension is silent, limitless and timeless. By waiting, words come to the surface. These words aren't stirred by other words as is commonly the case. On the contrary, they originate from Emptiness! Hence they are

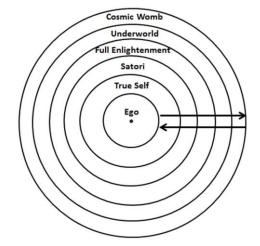
always original, authentic and full of surprise. "Behold, I make everything new". Only when the words exactly mirror the underlying Truth, resonance occurs. Only then the Essence is pouring itself out. Even through the slightest aberration, words don't reflect the Deep within. In those cases the latter will not reveal itself. Therefore, an authentic spiritual teacher will always be in touch with his/her Essence. He/she may ask you to do the same. For in order to receive his/her wisdom you should be equally unbiased. If your own thoughts, expectations, desires, comments, judgements are in between, the message will certainly be distorted, according to your own pre-conceived ideas. Nothing new will happen to you, nothing fresh will enter your Being. You will miss the point. A true spiritual communion on the other hand happens, when both teacher and readers tune in into their Innermost Core.

**Even after decades of "spirituality" reaching many people, there appears** to exist a lot of misunderstanding about it. One factor is its popularization e.g. commercialization. Magazines publish articles with titles like "how empty are you?", "did you already realize the divine spark in yourself" and the like. The Depth of Spirituality has turned into a supermarket, where you chose those things that "suit" you. Hardly anybody realizes that these are only mind-games with no underlying Reality, whatsoever. Isn't it an irony that the movement that is supposed to be a successor to the empty concepts of Christianity displays exactly the same pattern? Not to mention the intentional abuse of spirituality in favour of the effectiveness of companies. The Spirit as the driving force behind profit-making!

The longing to return to the Origin, to once again being part of the Whole - ultimately the Whole itself - that is where it is really all about. It is the most primordial drive in humans. Nowadays it is more actual than ever. Because of our addiction to the ego, "returning Home" has become a matter of life and death. Either our ego "dies" or the planet will die. Let's analyze the ego. In order to thrive, "the ego has to make a difference". It is comparing itself with others to confirm its "uniqueness". It means that the ego is ALWAYS excluding others. Deep within it (unconsciously) senses its fragility, a house without a foundation; therefore it is constantly seeking to boost its identity. This happens at the expense of the Whole. This need for personal identity is subsequently projected into religion. Ego becomes "God". Now "God" says: "I am the Almighty, the All-Powerful.\* My religion is the only true one". It is the root of religious intolerance.

\* Although criticizing patriarchy, feminists are seeking the "Divine Feminine" with the aim of boosting "women empowerment", using it (however justified their cause!) rather than surrendering to it. Do we ever really learn?

In order to save the planet - to become part of the Whole, once again - the ego stands in the way. It is selfcentred, rather than being related to the Whole. Because of 2000 years of spiritual ignorance, the ego has blown itself up to enormous proportions. It has reached all corners of the Earth, destroying the latter's foundations. With the ego in command for another decade or so.....the planet will stop being a safe haven for humans. So, what to do? Going out to join an activist group? If you truly feel like that, you should obviously do it. Digging deeper you come to understand that your actions originate from your ego. However noble your objectives, very soon you will be trapped in all kinds of ego-games. You may then realize that fighting the ego with the ego is counterproductive. It's even strengthening it. You then start searching for the beyond, the dimension in yourself that is promising oneness and unity. "There isn't a way to peace, peace is the way". In practice, you may start searching for the Divine Spark within you. You find it by "stepping back", by becoming the observer of your thoughts, emotions and desires.



Life is uninterruptedly taking place between ego on one side and the Cosmic Womb on the other and everything in between

## HERE ARE THE NINE STEPS

You can only achieve Wholeness, if you first find Wholeness in yourself. You then create "concentric circles" around you. Step by step you work toward "Healing the Planet". Now, because of the reasons given above, the

Truth about spiritual Realization has been blurred. Moreover, a new generation is emerging that isn't very familiar with spirituality. Thus, the first question is how to achieve Oneness in yourself. It is important to have some idea about the Road ahead of you. Contrary to popular belief this is not a matter of "visualizing the light". It is not an easy mind-trick at all. In fact, finding Wholeness is a life-long mission. It is based on a deep longing to give up your ego and to surrender to the Whole.

#### 1. THE OBSERVER

You discover it by becoming the observer of your thoughts, emotions and desires. You "do" this by making an inner step back. There appears an inner distance between the two. "I am here and my thinking is there" (in front of you). The observer is the first step towards Realization. It is silent, unmoving, peaceful and empty. Rather than be at the mercy of thinking, it has stepped back in such a way that you are free from thinking and the thinking is free from you. While you are resting in your True Self, thoughts are floating freely, unhindered by your ego interpretations, comments etc. Just relax, while first making feeling contact with your body, e.g. through feeling your feet in contact with the floor, your back in contact with the chair. Then close your eyes, while watching the inside of your eyelids in a very gentle stress-free way. This watching is your New Self, your "Third Eye". For the first time you are "master in your own house", instead of being taken in tow by your thinking. The result is living in the Here Now. How simple is this. It is nothing less than (a first) awakening! After having done this for a while (days, weeks) you may then deepen your commitment to your liberation by choosing your favourite way of meditation. The result should be stabilization of your Inner Observer, in such a way that it will stay where it is, even when confronted with (strong) emotions. The criteria for the authenticity of your New Self is - while thoughts, emotions and desires come up and pass by - that you watch the latter SIMULTANEOUSLY e.g. in the selfsame moment of appearance "on your screen" and this without any effort. Everything happens in One Undivided Moment. You watch uninterruptedly, while resting in yourSelf, while thoughts etc. are coming and going. This first step is the most crucial one. All further steps are an extension of this. Therefore, pay a lot of attention to it. Only when firmly rooted, you move to Level Two, the Heart.

## 2. THE HEART/THE DANCE

The first step is the (temporal) separation of your Inner Observer and the content of your mind (thoughts, emotions and desires). In the Heart the Observer is extending. It becomes your Inner Space, this time located in your Heart "Chakra". You perceive your Heart to be your Centre. This Inner Centre has an inner distance to the body-mind as a whole. While the Centre appears to be silent, unmoving, peaceful, bright and empty, your body is overflowing with energy. Inside is your Cool Heart, while your periphery is ecstatic. This can be illustrated by the "Dancing Shiva" (Nataraj). In this well-known sculpture Shiva's Heart is the unmoving Centre, while his periphery is overflowing with energy (flames). It may happen, while e.g. walking/running. Many people report, that sometimes, especially when they become tired, suddenly! "Something within" is taking over. It is not them that run anymore. It happens always suddenly, within a split second, proof of the fact that you made a leap into a new inner Dimension. It is a discontinuous leap, not an extension of your previous experience. It is new, fresh, powerful yet empty, indefinable yet very present. "Not me, but Christ in me" (St.Paul). This New Dimension is like the Observer - part of Great Consciousness, manifested within you. It is not limited to a small spot ("between your eyes") anymore, but is perceived as a spacious area. While walking/running the leaps may occur more often. In my case I walked for many years every day and that again for many hours spontaneously in that condition. No effort on my part at all. Once the Innermost Core is breaking through your ego-control has disappeared. Your Within determines the events. It also means that there isn't any concern about social conventions. You walk the way your Essence "wants to walk". This often leads to VERY humoristic situations. Because without ego-control previously unconscious "archetypes" will be released, highly charged psychological complexes. Thus, you suddenly may walk like a fool, making all kinds of odd movements. With the Source "behind it", providing limitless energy, this is often a very powerful act, indeed. Other people may notice it, staring at you with amazement. In this way I walked like a goose, a roaring tiger, like a soldier marching, any moment on the brink of laughing for no reason. This experience of having limitless energy is the Source of ongoing joy. Once this inner track is open you may experience it in other activities as well. One of my favourites: cycling. After conscious contact with the pedals and the handlebars, while "letting my behind down into the saddle", suddenly the Silent Power is breaking through. It exerts such a tremendous speed, such a strain on the bicycle that you fear it may collapse any time. The same Realization may happen during washing the dishes, dancing or making love. The emphasis is not on "making" though, but on body-awareness. More about the latter in Book "Origin", subchapter "Tantra".

## 3. TRANSCENDING THE BODY

**E.g. while cycling something else may happen. It is the next stage of Realization**. Rather than the experience of (limitless) energy, your body suddenly becomes empty. And not only your body. The Silence is everywhere, in and around you. It is very gentle and sweet. Through it, you feel connected with everything around you. To such an extent, that "you love the grass like yourself". I often spontaneously fell on my knees kissing the green. Everything is so precious, nothing excluded. For the first time you realize the sacredness of existence. Not through a concept or idea, but through becoming all-inclusive Space. All faculties of the mind are still active, though. It means that while being Space you may simultaneously have comments on it. "My God" (Mother!) how beautiful this is. However, these thoughts do not dominate you. They do not originate from thinking. They are

precious gems that praise the glory and the beauty of life. In case of cycling, you only move very gently, subtle and slow. Nowhere to go, everything is perfect Here and Now. You may want to develop this quality to such an extent that it becomes your "First Nature". It is easy. The foundation is "feeling (body) awareness". In all situations of life you start feeling your foot soles in contact with the floor, your back in contact with your clothes, chair or mattress, while feeling and watching your breathing, always with emphasis on the breathing-out, the moment it disappears into the emptiness! of your pelvis. Watching while simultaneously feeling is essential. Only then there can be a feedback between the two. Awareness raises the energy level; the latter in turn promotes clarity of mind. So, very soon, while sitting in a chair, you will transcend your body, including your direct surroundings: the chair, the carpet, the table, the vase with flowers and the cat winking at you. Contact with everything around you is direct, without any interference of your mind. For the first time, you see things as they really are. Seeing this way is seeing everything for the first time. Everything is equally precious. Your surroundings have become part - content! - of your extended Space. Space is all-inclusive; it is the foundation of Love and Compassion: "you love everything like yourself". This No-Mind is the precondition for "enlightened Action". "Without any thinking on his/her part, he/she jumped into the water and saved the child". It is proof of the fact that supreme action doesn't need thinking. Awareness is the Master, thinking is its servant. Clarity of Mind determines the quality of your life.

PS. I didn't mention the necessity of additionally integrating unprocessed contents of the mind, this in order to achieve true Wholeness. Because there are many other places in this book, where I have elaborated on this important! issue e.g. it is a crucial step ("Personal Integration") in **"The Universal Way"** (39) Retreat.

#### 4. ONENESS/SATORI

Everything that happens suddenly, unexpected and discontinuous has the potential of coming from your Depth. That is particular true in this and subsequent Stages. To be One with the All is traditionally called Moksha, Samadhi or Satori. Suddenly! another Dimension has taken possession of you. Usually provoked by a random event, like a noise, a sun ray though the trees, or a (Zen) Master shouting at you. Suddenly, a Totally Different Quality replaced common perception. This Dimension is everywhere, in and around you. It is transcending all of existence, making everything New. It is the Otherness that has lifted the world up to a thus far unknown level, everything exalted to a "higher" Dimension. Everything, including yourself is part of it. You realize that this is the Truth, your True Homeland. You may laugh for no reason. "How simple this is", "this is IT", "how stupid I have been" etc. The difference with Step Three is that this time Oneness is not an extension of your Inner Space. Instead, a Totally Other Dimension has taken possession of all and everything. A Totality with Numinous Quality, indeed the Divine Itself, making itself known to the world. This world appears as Totally NEW, Unique and Precious. Everything is "Prisoner" of Eternity. Nothing stands on its own, but is interconnected with everything else. Again, exercise may pave the way in order to invite Satori to happen. A reminder: It was in 1981 that I opened my "Living Zen School". Later, this resulted in "The Integral (Universal) Way", a basic spiritual training for every sincere seeker. Especially the (unique!) "Heaven & Earth Exercises"\* prove to be "highly effective" in opening the gate to the Divine "within".

\*See chapter 4 (Tiendi Qigong).

#### 5. FULL ENLIGHTENMENT

While in Satori your consciousness has become Silent Space, in Full Enlightenment the former has completely dissolved into Great Consciousness, together with all faculties of the common mind. In Satori your awareness e.g. True Self can still perceive, think, comment - although in a much reduced mode - in Full Enlightenment it is all gone. There appears to Be only One Eternal Light, only THAT exists. You haven't become PART of Eternity, YOU ARE IT. It is a State of Utter Fulfilment, empty of Self, but full of Otherness. In Dutch: "Vol-Ledigheid", empty and full at the same time. A permanent State of Utter Bliss and Joy that is how it can be described. This Lightness of Eternal Being is everywhere. Being Nothing, you are everything! It is embracing the Whole universe.

Actually, my Great Realization was fivefold: Absolute Nothingness, Full Enlightenment, the Underworld, Birthing Enlightenment, Empty Enlightenment.

It is not an Experience, like in Christian Mysticism, an Experience of Oneness with the Beloved. No, while the latter is temporary, giving rise to endless new longings for Unity, True Enlightenment is existential. It means that in that One Moment your whole Being is transformed and with it your identity. Deep down You Are Divine. It is your True Nature. To me it happened in 1977 and lasted the whole day. Ever since it never left me, ever. It has become my True Nature. Its intensity may vary, but its Essence is always there. Deep within I Am Immortal. Joy, gratefulness! However, it wasn't the end of the story (see below). How you know you Are It, since there is no you anymore? Give Enlightenment another name and you will come closer to it. E.g. "Cosmic Intelligence". You KNOW, because you ARE IT. Being INTELLIGENCE itself, in order to KNOW you don't need the mind. The latter is a derivative of the former, not the other way round. You are in a State of Knowing, you also might say. Thus, not your small self (because that has disappeared) but KNOWING KNOWS what happened, without the need of knowing e.g. memorizing it with your small self. It is something that is often a considerable hurdle to share with other people. Especially nowadays, where everybody tries to be smart(er). Isn't "to make a difference" a

cornerstone of our ambitious ego's? Before you know, jealousy creeps in. Sometimes I am so discouraged in "working with other people" that I wished I was forever a hermit..

In many traditions (Buddhism), this is considered the most exalted Experience, available to humans. Which is not. In my life two more Dimensions were revealed to me. I will tell them in the sequence of the Nine Dimensions (although in my experience Step number Seven actually came first).

#### 6. THE UNDERWORLD

Again, totally unprepared, which, as you may know now, is one of the trustable signs of Divine Interference, in the night directly following the Day of Light; I suddenly woke up, finding myself in an Ocean of Horror. Usually, fear is in you, but this time it was in and around me. I was embedded in a hyperactive "sucking and pulling" Grey Wave, that seemed to include me from all sides. Together with it, my body-mind, everything that belongs to my common identity had disappeared in this All-Present Angst. Within a split second my energy was gone, while deep electric currents pervaded me. I was chilled to my bones, while getting a flash of an image in which worms were eating my flesh, accompanied by death smell. I felt totally hopeless, the faculties of my mind also having dissolved into this Ocean. No thoughts, feelings, no emotions or reflections. The Horror had an incredible "sucking" quality, devouring everything. Fortunately, my response was almost as quick. Intuitively I realized that this was a situation of life and death. Thus, in a reflex I took the position of Zen-meditation, vertically sitting on the ground. Realizing that one thing wasn't destroyed: my Clear Awareness, I clutched at straws, since this tiny Light inside was the only thing left. This way I sat the whole night. The frightening thing was that if I just moved a few centimetres to the front or the behind, the Angst immediately jumped on me. So, I kept sitting in the exact vertical position. (The Zen instructions given to pupils, namely to sit unmoving in an upright position must originally come from experiences like this). My endurance paid off, the more my inner Space extended, the more the Angst subsided. In the early morning the latter had gone. Thus, totally joyful and relieved I greeted the early (Indian) sun. I realized that this was the true Experience of Death and Resurrection. It serves the destruction of the ego, while giving birth to your True Self. Curious that after a Day of dissolving into the Eternal Light, the Cosmos considered it necessary to confront me with this, the greatest Angst possible! The size of my ego must have played a decisive role.... If so, my gratitude is even greater, the Compassion of the Mother is indeed limitless. In history e.g. mythology this event is really rare. Only a few teachers have experienced it (e.g. Tibetan Delogs, often females! like Nangsa Obum, furthermore Ramana Maharshi, Teresa of Avila, Bede Griffiths). It is nothing less, but the descent into the Underworld. In my case the pendulum went from one extreme to the other. Enlightenment (Heaven) and the Underworld being two sides of the same coin! This isn't phantasm, an allegory or a fairy tale, but is Reality, that is a thousand times more real than common life. It can be translated into scientific categories. Creation (the Light) and Destruction (the Horror) being the two Great Forces in the Cosmos. They oppose each other, maintaining a dynamic equilibrium, the latter making life possible. Two opposing Forces should have an Origin, though. In physics this Ultimate Dimension is called the Vacuum. In ancient times people called it Cosmic Womb or "Great Mother" (See Step Seven below). Death and Resurrection has been claimed by Christianity as being the attributes of Christ only. I, on the other hand, confirm that they constitute the common spiritual heritage of (wo)mankind. It is the Core of Regeneration, Rejuvenation and Renewal of all people. It belonged to the Great Mother Religion. There Inanna descended into "Hell" to find Her Son/Lover Dumuzi (Tammuz). The deeper meaning was to mirror the change of seasons, in which the hero died in autumn and was reborn in spring, thus "strengthening" the powers of nature, guaranteeing the success of the next harvest. Later, in the Hellenistic Mysteries people of all ranks had themselves initiated, this time to undergo spiritual Transformation.

Last but not least. Both Buddha and Christ had the Greatest Fulfilment at the end of their lives. On his death bed Buddha went into Nirvana, while Christ died on the cross. I, on the other hand *started* my spiritual life with it. This insight troubles me until this very day.....

## 7. THE COSMIC MOTHER

I already indicated it. My spiritual Path started with Cosmic Realization e.g. a supernatural Lightning destroying not only my body- mind, but my entire Being as well. For a split Second I wasn't there anymore. It was a Moment of Absolute Nothingness, Blackness. This has nothing to do with the ego disappearing into (relative) Emptiness (Enlightenment), but with the total annihilation of Consciousness. Something the Buddha called "Nirvana", of which he *hoped* he would enter at his death bed. This is what physics calls the Vacuum, it is equal to the Cosmic Womb of the Mother Religion. Isis said: "nobody will ever lift my veil". The meaning is that nobody will survive if directly confronted with the Ultimate. Even Judaism says the same thing. Buddhism talks about the "Womb of the Buddha's", however, meaning "just" Enlightenment, causing confusion about the true Nature of the Cosmic Womb\*. Not to mention all those who just identify with images, ideas, concepts and experiences, subsequently claiming that they have "realized".

\* The Buddhists also talk about "Emptiness beyond Emptiness". However, I until now didn't come across anybody claiming that he/she "realized" it, except one: Nangsa Obum. (See the wonderful book of T.Allione "The Women of Tibet", Snow Lion Publications) See also: "Great Mother Buddhism" (Website).

In 1977 the "Mother" revealed Herself to me. For the first time in history the Bottomless Depth of the universe - recognized as Cosmic Womb - has made Herself known to humankind. The Revelation of "Something" beyond

"God" (the Light, Buddhahood) is THE religious revolution for the 21st century! The survival of the planet depends on it, for only Absolute Nothingness can destroy the ego; the latter is responsible for the global crisis. Existing religions have failed to curb the ego. The mind always found ways to find an escape. Instead of actually undergoing spiritual death, it invented symbolic ways, imitating, manipulating God to its own benefit. Only the confrontation with Absolute Nothingness - Cosmic Mother inviting you - is able to do that. That doesn't mean that everybody has to go naked before Her like it happened to me. A truly, honest and authentic intention is for most people the maximum realizable. If continuously practised, the Mother will grant you Renewal of your entire Being. In my experience, immediately after my Cosmic "Black-Out" the Eternal Light was born. Light is born out of Darkness! It proves that Enlightenment is NOT the Ultimate. To the contrary, it is the "Son", born out of the Womb of the Cosmic Mother. I instantly dissolved into this Light; I AM THE ETERNAL LIGHT, something that lasted the whole day. While that same night I descended into the Underworld, the Ocean of Horror that stripped me of all faculties. (See above). Cosmic Realization, the highest possible Attainment thus consists, not only of Enlightenment (as Buddha said), but includes three Dimensions that are all intimately interconnected. This "Trinity" includes the Cosmic Mother, together with Her two Cosmic Forces (Dimensions): Creation (the Eternal Light) and Destruction (the Underworld). These Two Forces oppose, while complementing each other. Together they make life possible. This is the core of my Teaching. As said above, the Mother has revealed Herself to (wo)mankind in order to restore Cosmic Balance. In order to do so, She destroys the ego (in rare cases even Consciousness!), while giving birth to the Light (within). It has given me an abundance of unsurpassed insights until this very day. Insights, which during my last years of solitude and writing, I have shared for free in my website. 2016 will be a turning point in the sense that I long for sharing wisdom with all of you personally: through talks, teachings, healing, guiding, and training. Everything in the Name of the Mother.

\* See "Threefold Cosmic Realization", chapter 34..

## 8. IT IS AS IT IS

**Frequent question:**"how do you feel nowadays?" Well, eh, just "normal", I think. Prove of that is, that it rarely occurs to me, that I "am different". I can honestly say that I consider people to be the same like me. We all live in the same sacred Space. E.g. it took many, many years (33), before I started to make myself known. Until very recently I didn't start any "spiritual talk" of my own. If people don't ask me questions, I just keep silent. Decisive is my life in the Here Now, which means I am (mostly) my Clear Awareness. This Inner Space is empty, cause of the fact that I am rarely occupied with thinking. The only desire left is to serve the Mother and contribute to the wellbeing of all "beings". So I moved from a "writing hermit" to making mySelf public. "The messenger is the message". Eventually, I overcame my reluctance. The Here Now is giving me direct contact with the surrounding world. Seeing/feeling a tree without interference of the mind is a unique experience. You not only see it as it is, but it is part of your extended Space as well. Hence, my life is filled with joy and gratitude. In order to be optimally there for you, I do some exercise every day, which just for me wouldn't be necessary.

But is goes further. The irony is this. While most people use "spirituality" to become "special", I returned to the marketplace, nothing special, and nothing holy..... "To be special" is NOT the outcome of the spiritual Path. But.... confronted with the necessity of spreading my message - Cosmic Mother Healing the Planet - I am forced to show my "Original Face". I have to tell people about "my" "Threefold Cosmic Realization", not because I want to be special, but as a precondition to share my Message. Without that, no recognition by people (being mySelf is so subtle, that nobody recognizes IT), no impact on the course of events, no power behind my Mission. It is a wellknown problem e.g. Maitreya Buddha's descent to Earth. Reluctantly, because he had to give up paradise in the Tushita Heaven....Yes, I worship the Cosmic Mother, Origin of All Life, of both the Divine - granted to me through Enlightenment, which is Her Light Body, Her first Birth or Emanation - and the entire universe. What is extremely important: my existential fear (of Nothingness, Death) has completely disappeared. I enjoy the "small things in life" more than ever before; continuously grateful to what is bestowed upon me. Cosmic Life ranges from Ultimate Surrender to the Whole on the one hand, and being identified with the ego on the other, and everything in between, like it is elaborated in this essay. To say YES to every Moment, without the slightest desire to change it, is true liberation. If the sun is shining fine, if it is raining equally fine. It is the only way to experience Life As It Is. Inner Emptiness guarantees a Lightness of Life, regardless the circumstances. Because, ultimately, everyone and everybody are content of ("my"...) Divine Space, I love all "like myself". It includes a feeling of "responsibility" to the entire planet. My hope is that this website will give you guidance on your spiritual Path. In my best Moments I Am dissolved into Nothingness, enjoying Peace within and without. In the mean time I help my wife with cooking, cleaning the home and shopping. A very sacred activity, indeed!

## 9. DEATH

**Physical death is the ninth step**. It is the only stage, obviously, that I haven't experienced. However, I know about the spiritual Dimension "beyond" it. Its stages are described above and can also be compared to those of meditation\*. First there is disappearance of thoughts e.g. cognitive functions; then of emotions; then of body awareness. In this sequence. It means that thinking is the most superficial function, followed by emotions and body-awareness. Subsequently your inner watcher is born, everything totally natural, provided you don't block it. You have to let everything go. Consciousness spontaneously expanding itself further. Thus, you move from your Third Eye to Satori or Small Enlightenment, the realization of limitless Clarity. Through further extension of Space your Satori enters Full Enlightenment. You ARE the Eternal Light. There proves to be only THAT. Enlightenment continuously returns to the Cosmic Womb, though, while being reborn in the same Eternal Moment. Because it is

dying and reborn in the SELFSAME Eternal Moment, the quality of the Divine remains the same. It seems "unchanging" and therefore "absolute". Yes, death thus means to become immortal. This Ultimate Stage is so transparent, though, that it is questionable that you will ever "realize" it. You ARE IT, but you don't know it. The Ultimate Forgetfulness! Also - for reasons mentioned above - "you" will never experience the underlying Vacuum directly. "Nobody will ever lift my veil" Mother Goddess Isis said. In our entire history, only VERY rare cases report about Absolute Nothingness "experienced" during earthly life (see above).

\*Death and "Near-Death" are opposites! See end of this chapter..

**My gratitude is limitless.** The deepest possible Cosmic Realization has been granted to me. At the same time, I realize the responsibility that this "gift" is giving me. To me "We are born to make manifest the glory of God" (the Mother!) (M.Williamson) has become acute. Indeed, "our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure". However, it is not us (our small self) but the Divine within that shines. I must confess, for a very long time I have been playing small. I did not serve the world as it should be. So, there is regret but also a renewal of commitment. This time there is no way back. The (self-induced) crisis within and without has put (wo)mankind with the back against the wall. We have no choice, but to stand up. Everything in the Name of the Mother.

Thanks to the Great Mother I was granted All Eight/Nine Dimensions of Cosmic Realization

JAI MATA DI! (May the Mother prevail)

# URGENT MESSAGE to SPIRITUAL and RELIGIOUS LEADERS WORLDWIDE

We are part of society Society is part of the earth The earth is part of the universe The universe is part of the Eternal Light The Eternal Light is part of Absolute Nothingness

As you know, in these most desperate of times, the crash course humanity has inflicted upon itself, is rapidly accelerating. Society you may say is in decay. The cause as I see it is alienation from "Heaven, Earth and the Community". Being cut off from the Source we are "thrown upon ourselves". Because of our inability to Be, we have taken refuge in having. Hence, the forces of the ego - materialism and individualism - have totally overpowered us. Society therefore is in the grip of collective self-addiction. Because having can never compensate Being, our greed for more is unstoppable. It is resulting in accumulation on the one hand and deprivation on the other. E.g., 5% of the world population (USA) is consuming one third of the total energy, available on earth. The interests of science, technology and capitalism (STC-complex: prof.dr. E.Vermeersch)\* have become (too) closely intertwined. It has become a cancer growth, with science inventing, technology applying and capitalism making profit. The sad thing is that multinational corporations are deliberately and ruthlessly promoting egoism, greed and addiction, thereby destroying the fabric of life: local communities, cultures, economies, traditions, religions and ("above all") nature, exploiting resources, markets and cheap labour, to the benefit of the few, creating huge masses of uprooted, hungry, oppressed, desperate, angry, violent, sick and displaced people.

\* E.Vermeersch "Through the Eyes of a Panda", 1994 Brugge.

The effects on Mother Nature are devastating. Major threats are loss of biodiversity, pollution, climate change and water shortages. Moreover, environmental scientists warn us for immanent catastrophic events. They talk about a "new extinction wave", putting an end to the world as we know it. Governments - it seems - are not going to help us. They are serving the interests of big business, instead of taking care of the well-being of their people. They increasingly tighten the grip on people through global control, militarism and oppression. "Freedom and democracy" more and more degenerate to hollow rituals. The result is a disintegration on all levels of society. Both individuals, as well as society, have become burn-out. Hence, we are confronted with our own helplessness. The only option left is to return to the Source - to die to the old - in order to become reborn as A New Self. Transformation of Self and Society consists of subsequently fitting in into "Heaven, Earth and the (new) Community", once again. I have been working on this for quite some time now. It ran into the "Healing the Planet" initiative, to begin with A New Spirituality. Many will recognize the elements that are proposed. That is great. My aim is not to invent the wheel once again, but to bring people together. The sooner this will take place, the better.

**Even the critics (journalists, historians, politicians) of "empire"** stay thinking in the same categories: f.i. after the American Empire there will be the Russian or the Chinese Empire. They tend to forget that these new empires are still based on the ego: an authoritarian state, a capitalist economy and surveillance/control of the "masses". It will neither stop the further destruction of the earth, nor the destruction of the soul. It doesn't occur to them that

when a major civilization (not just a political system) has come to its end, the beginning of a new stage is brought about by a new religion (A. Toynbee). A (much) deeper transformation is thus urgently needed. That of the human ego and its devastating effects on the world. This cannot be achieved by politics. Only a Movement that aims at A New (Wo)Man and A New World can do that. Like our "We Are Cosmos!" initiative with the possibility of culminating into a universal Cosmic META Religion. In my books I frequently elaborated on this concept. Time and again I emphasized that META means "beyond". "Cosmic META Religion therefore is NOT a religion as we know them. It is BEYOND all religions. The reason is our insight that the Origin isn't God but the Dimension BEYOND God: Absolute Nothingness or Cosmic Womb. Still some people didn't seem to grasp the difference. Hence, to avoid any future misunderstandings we call our initiative: "**The Original Tradition of the Universal Cosmic Mother**". Tradition in fact is a better word anyway, because it includes all aspects of life. (Not to be mixed up by worldly traditionalists or conservatives). We represent the COSMIC Tradition.

#### Cosmic Tradition, not Religion

**One of the painful facts of modern life** is that we have become objects. To the political system we are just a repository of votes, while to big business we are only "consumers". Through this, our original subjectivity - our inherent Self-sovereignty - has been destroyed. We have been cut off from our Divine Spark within. The same is true with regard to the Community. The latter is the reflection of the God-given "Web of Life". Both state and economy have been degrading it into a reservoir though, which they can draw from randomly. It has contributed a great deal to the de-humanization of (wo)mankind. As said above, "To have as the inability to Be". This includes a special responsibility to all those, who in the name of the Divine are guiding other people. Obviously, this guiding of people has become a total failure. It is the main reason, why materialism could have developed in the first place. Too long we have been thinking that a compromise would be acceptable, often because of our own material self-interests. In the context of a world, that is rapidly deteriorating, this cannot be carried on anymore. The saying of Jesus: "It will be easier for a camel to go through the needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven" has indeed to be taken literally. We all have to understand, that unbridled greed and solidarity are excluding each other.

It is of utmost importance to realize, what opposes spirituality and religion. The true adversary is not a "competing" religion or sect. What threatens spiritual life is materialism and individualism (Unless you cherish the cynical view, that "at the end of the day", the latter will impoverish life to such an extent, that it will favour religion). Hence, it will be crucial to existing spiritual e.g. religious individuals and groups to define their common denominator. Talking with each other is certainly an important first step. The next has to truly create a base of action, with which everybody can identify. I call this common base "Existential Consciousness"\*. It consists of "(Wo)man being rooted in Heaven, Earth and the Community". Whether you are a Christian, a Muslim, a Hindu, a Buddhist, a Jew, an Agnostic or belonging to an Indigenous Faith or some New Religion, everybody shares the same context of life: our spirit as part of the "Great Spirit" (God, Allah, Cosmos, Consciousness, Intelligence, Nothingness), our body as part of nature and our psyche (soul) as part of the community. It is existential. I therefore want to make an appeal to all spiritual people worldwide to discard differences, accepting this our existential situation as a starting point - Unity in Diversity - in order to cooperate in turning the tide: to transform having into Being.

\* See "Existential Consciousness"

A surplus value in this regard is the "Maternal Dimension of God". We all know that our image of God is hopelessly one-sided. It is one of the major reasons, why people become disinterested in organized religion. Patriarchy, like it functions until this very day, still stresses an intellectual approach toward the Ultimate. Something that will prove to be catastrophic. A way out is to start including the "feminine" aspect of the Divine. This doesn't come as a surprise. Aren't the Madonna, Kuan Yin, MatriDevi, Shekinah (and Allah in his Aspect of the Merciful) far more "popular" with the people, compared to Her male counterparts? People are longing for "feminine" values, like interconnectedness, peace, tolerance, reconciliation, respect, love, joy of life, justice and harmony with nature. Hence, we are inviting you to support our interreligious and multicultural initiative, consisting of emphasizing the "Maternal Dimension of God" as revered in the various traditions. In order to bring people, groups, centres and organizations together, we initiated the Worldwide Campaign. It is an umbrella network. Those who join, share their interest in a "feminine" world view, while keeping their own spiritual/religious identity. We kindly invite you to participate. We don't have too much time anymore.

The answer to hatred - for which we ourselves are responsible a great deal - is not increase of State control e.g. violence, but empowerment of the Community. The true cause of chaos lies in the fact, that society has been built on the State on the one hand, and unorganized masses on the other. More State control will not change this. On the contrary, the spiral of violence, both within and without will be unstoppable. Why? Because it is based on a wrong concept of the structure of society. In Reality, we are part of the universe. Hence, "As Above, so Below". Everything is "organically" interconnected. Translated to society, it means, that the Community is the Living Body of humanity. It constitutes the foundation of society. Hence, the Community should regain its original rights and responsibilities. It should be based on Self-sovereignty e.g. Community Democracy. It should consist of bottom-up organized multi-layered echelons of Self-ruling bodies, to start with the individual, the family (group), the street, the neighbourhood, the commune, the city, the county....up to the State and the Commonwealth, all having a close relationship with each other, based on cooperation, consensus, subsidiarity\* and solidarity, itself exercising control over major aspects of social life. By bringing back Self-rule to the Community, modern life will

"automatically" being steered in the right direction. It is the only way to achieve multi-ethnic integration, tolerance and respect. Self- and mutual help will flourish, "re-inventing" e.g. ways of basic health care, environmental protection, decentralized economic activity, a new educational system, care for the elderly, law and justice, peace, security and last but not least: meaning of life.

\*Subsidiarity is the key concept. It was first developed by J. Althusius (17<sup>th</sup> century), regained popularity in 19<sup>th</sup> century America, revived by Catholic social doctrine (1931), became the cornerstone of EU law (1992) (however, unfortunately already largely corrupted), valued by regional initiatives, promoted by the UN Development Program (1999), while increasingly favoured by socio-ecological thinkers. It is recognized, that through subsidiarity "systemic" collapse can be avoided; people are able to solve problems on basic levels; through greater coherence people start caring about each other and nature, while political involvement is stimulated. Cooperation and mutual help guaranteeing peace, stability, happiness and prosperity, in short, VERY urgent to become introduced by Communities worldwide. Spiritual and religious organizations are invited to take the lead!

#### Obstacles on the Road to World Peace

In these most critical of times, people increasingly become concerned about the spreading of conflict around the world. There is fear, that the situation becomes uncontrollable. Most of the time the "threat from outside" is held responsible. Thus, to the Western world "Islam" is the cause of all misery, while to the Islamic world the West is the big Satan. Although attempts are made to look at factors from within our own society, they rarely give insight into the true causes e.g. the interrelationship of phenomena (not to speak of elites that purposely promote conflict, in order to (eventually) benefit from the chaos). Isolated factors are emphasized, like discrimination, sexism, racism or religious intolerance, without elaborating the real causes of it. Not surprisingly thus, that in the end these approaches prove to be contra-productive. Despite all these efforts, society is as ever far away from peace as it was in the past. Hence, speaking of "international diplomacy", "conflict control", "tolerance" and "dialogue", or putting emphasis on "spiritual liberation", is not enough. We have to start a thorough investigation into the causes.

To realize your True Self - the Divine within – according to Christianity is a major crime. It was called blasphemy: to try to be equal to God. If discovered, only the severest punishment was considered "appropriate": to be burnt at the stake. For many centuries, people had to live without the insight, the inspiration, the love and the compassion of their True Self. With a few exceptions, people had no idea about their true identity. They had to live with an ersatz-identity: the ego. They were deprived of their contact with the Source, their wisdom, their inner peace, their self-respect, their inner security, their self-confidence, their joy and the possibility of inner regeneration. Our own culture had been spiritually deprived of its innermost core. Even pope Benedict has stated, that "the soul of Europe is dead". He only forgot to say, who is responsible. Being deprived of Being delivers one up to having. Lacking Reality, one identifies him/herself with the world of "thoughts, emotions and desires". One is constantly dominated by the world of the mind. (Unconsciously) identifying yourself with your "virtual world" within makes you an easy victim to the forces of the "virtual world" without. The latter easily manipulating e.g. exploiting you. Here the spiritual and the political come together.

In prehistoric times, the Cosmic Womb was considered the all-inclusive refuge to all "sentient and non-sentient" beings. It was the sacred Emptiness, from which everything was born and to which everything returned. Though their painful experiences with the Great Mother, men started to consider Nothingness as the ultimate evil. Hence, in the West it became a major taboo. Fear of Nothingness can be found with Aristotle, the Bible, St.Augustine to Torricelli (the inventor of the vacuum) and beyond. It was called "horror vacui". It reminded men of the dark, "chaotic", unstructured, "empty" experience of the maternal womb, his deepest fear. Confrontation has to be avoided at all costs; hence, our culture is dominated by relentless activity, "progress", "growth", expansion, control and distraction. The rat race is a direct consequence of it. The inability to trust the Source is the driving force behind modernity, with its emphasis on progress. Actually, "progress" is the fear to go back to the Origin. Hence, it has become an obsession. Thus, overcoming our existential fear is a conditio sine qua non, without which our culture will not survive.

We are at a stage in history, that the box of Pandora is wide open. All factors, mentioned above, have had longterm impact on all other cultures and civilizations, as well. Everybody has been infected by them. There seems to be no way back. Western expansion - the global "market" economy - has destroyed people, cultures, societies, beliefs, the land and the natural environment. It is a ongoing Holocaust. Usually, Holocaust has been identified with the extermination of the Jews. Obviously, rightly so, considering their unimaginable suffering. However, the Holocaust is not an isolated phenomenon.\* It rather can be considered as a potential consequence of our inherent destructive system. Fascism, seen in this perspective, is not the cause, but a symptom. Its characteristics - like authoritarianism, superiority complex, contempt for human dignity, the destruction of opponents, state violence, Gleichschaltung, racism, expansion ("Lebensraum") and war - can pop up any time, any place, again.

\* Actually, there is a permanent Holocaust going on e.g. the destruction of non-Western cultures and societies, rainforests, biodiversity, marine life, including the climate and the atmosphere. The trouble is that worldwide destruction is the outcome of "normality". Hence, the majority of people still deny this kind of Holocaust, since they consider their (Western) way of life as the norm. We then forget that the Germans during the Third Reich also considered their way of life as "normal".

Initially, decades of TV and other propaganda in favour of Western (American) way of life, seemed to bear the expected fruits: the entire world being one big place for cheap production, consumer market and resources. The PR had its effect to such an extent, that more and more people wanted to have access to the benefits of

modernity. However, large groups came to understand, that the West (and later others) primarily plundered their assets. Only local elite (supported by the West) could have entrance to the dearly desired goods and services. Hence, an increasing number of people from the Developing World refused to pay the price. They saw their beliefs; norms and communities disintegrate before their eyes. So they started saying Stop! In the mean time, many individuals, groups, organisations and even states (South America) have radicalized to defend themselves against further (US) dominance. Against the background of the current European-American gap, it is crucial to understand the difference between the two. Having escaped from the European oppression, Americans tend to lay emphasis on what they call their freedom. Lacking a major (cultural) framework, this "freedom" has deteriorated into an excuse to limitlessly enriching themselves at the expense of all others. Europeans on the other hand, have been able to maintain a slightly better balance between freedom and the community.

#### Summary

Crucial is to distinguish between cause and effects. Let's not evade the problem. In the world of today there are two forces, one that tries to exploit others and the ones who are exploited. The former doing everything to maintain and expand their privileged position. They ruthlessly plunder everything that comes in their way: human, cultural, social, economical, ecological resources. In fact, they - the combined forces of science, technology, capitalism, the banks, the media and the state (STCMS-complex) - pose the greatest threat to World Peace. If this goes on, then the future of the Earth is very questionable. Many attempts are made to turn the tide. Many courageous people – in particular also in America - even risk their life for it. Groups and organisations try to initiate new developments. It proves to be a very hard job, indeed. Apart from other things, what could help, is to see the interconnectedness of causes that has determined the disastrous outcome, we are facing today. My point of view is, that only by taking all relevant factors into consideration, true empowerment may arise. It is equal to overcoming the 7 Obstacles. Rather than looking at "factors from outside" we have every reason - and thus responsibility - to honestly and courageously investigate our own cultural background. Only then World Peace will have a chance.

"Unless there is a Spiritual Renaissance, the world will know no peace" Dag Hammarskjöld, former Secretary General of the United Nations

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