Meditation Monthly International

Seed Thoughts For Daily Planting

gathered from Brotherhood, 1937

1. Let us consider a concept which has become extremely overburdened. Amidst daily life people assimilate with difficulty an understanding of cooperation, yet much more difficult and inaccessible to them is the concept of Brotherhood. Bodily heritage,

that is, blood relationship, impedes the acceptance of the concept of Brotherhood. It is simpler for people to disclaim altogether any understanding of World Brotherhood. They would rather call it a utopia than reflect about the possibility of applying it in life.

If even in the narrow domain of domestic life people do not find within them-

selves the affirmation of brotherhood, then in the wider sense it may seem to them to be impractical. Besides, people read carelessly the ancient Covenants, which speak about great numbers of Brothers and Sisters.

Likewise, people's recollections of the Subtle World have become clouded. Only there is it possible to encounter the expanded realization of Brotherhood. The body impedes the way to many broad ideas. Only by going beyond the limits of the bodily understanding is it possible to recognize brotherly cooperation. Let us gather the signs of such an expanded state of consciousness. (Verse 1)

2. People have attempted to seal the union of brotherhood with blood. They have given up their most precious substance for the purpose of attaining the status of Brotherhood. Harkening to all the songs about Brotherhood one perceives a wondrous poem of the dreams of humanity. If one assembles

all the customs which have been accumulated around the concept of Brotherhood one arrives at an extraordinarily touching testimony about the aspirations of peoples. The manifestation of achievements in the name of Brotherhood reveals that self-renunciation has

> been always linked with these endeavors of the pure heart. Yet precisely the concept of Brotherhood is especially desecrated and debased. (Verse 2)

> 3. Even the best additions to the concept of Brotherhood have only lowered it and made it difficult to attain. It has been linked with liberty and equality, but this trinity was conceived

in the earthly meaning, that is to say, under conditions in which neither freedom nor equality do exist.

The loftiest freedom can be realized in the Supermundane World, where laws are understood as a beautiful and immutable reality. There, too, equality of the seed of the spirit is understood, it being the sole measure of liberality and balance. Usually the earthly statues depicting liberty are furnished with wings or torches, thus

About images representing equality there is this anecdote: When a sculptor once received an order to execute a thousand statues depicting equality, to be used to decorate a triumphal avenue, he made one statue and proposed casting all the others from it. (Verse 3)

reminding us about the higher spheres and conditions.

4. Perhaps Brotherhood does exist? Perhaps, as an earthly anchor, it maintains equilibrium? Perhaps in the dreams of humanity it has remained as an unalterable reality? Let us recall certain dreams and visions, so



The Most Sacred by Nicholas Roerich, 1933

W H W

White Mountain Education Association Meditation Monthly International VOL. XXX ISSUE NO. 3

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Networkers Letter

Dearest Friends,

This issue of Meditation Monthly International is filled with inspired ideas from the Teaching. Our keynote article shares a richness of information regarding the virtue: enthusiasm. The Master M. says of enthusiasm: "Raj-Agni—thus was called that Fire which you call enthusiasm." And, "Let us affirm the enthusiasm of the spirit. To be filled with the spirit means to place oneself in direct communion with Hierarchy."

So here is something to consider as an esoteric student of the Ageless Wisdom: let us all establish a personal keynote for this year—that of enthusiasm. In his book *The Psyche and Psychism*, Torkom Saraydarian writes: "Enthusiasm is called the king fire. It is will energy expressing itself through the heart center and charging each thought, each motion, each action with the element of fire. Those who have this energy are fiery in all their expressions; they are radioactive and magnetic. This can be possible only when a [person] puts himself under the service of the Hierarchy and tries to harmonize his life to the Plan of the Hierarchy in all his motives and expressions."3

The energy of will is the energy of one's inner Real Self. When a person has access to this energy, it gives him or her the power to make specific decisions and stand by those decisions, knowing that the choice made was made for the highest good of all existence. We must learn how to connect our will with the king of fire-enthusiasm. When we express the king of fire, when we express the will energy of our inner Self, our life direction will follow the will of the Solar Logos. Such a will cannot be defeated by outside forces nor by the forces within a human being; it is the urge-to-do-good no matter what. It is so beautiful. Ralph Waldo Emerson, a great disciple, said "Nothing great was every achieved without enthusiasm."



I think that one of the main reasons we lose enthusiasm in our daily life is because we have lost gratitude for our life; for the Teaching, for our Teacher, for Hierarchy. When we first found the Teaching, when we first found our Teacher, we affirmed Hierarchy and brought Them into our heart and mind; our spirit burned with enthusiasm. What was once a miracle became common to us. Sometimes I find that those who once burned with the enthusiasm of the spirit now take it for granted, take the Teacher for granted, take Hierarchy for granted, and in doing so, what was once a miracle is now simply mundane—it really doesn't excite them anymore.

Enthusiasm increases our capacity to love and care about other people and, yes, also our capacity to not be afraid. In enthusiasm we are able to keep our eyes open, our heart open, and our mind open. In enthusiasm we no longer continue to sow those negative seeds, and we begin to think of our life as offering endless opportunities to start to do things differently.

In closing, I offer an open invitation for all of our readers to attend the annual WMEA Living Ethics conference from March 25th to 29th. The theme of the conference is "Continuity of Life and Consciousness." To learn more about the conference, go to the WMEA

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Enthusiasm

(Raj-Agni)

References compiled from the Books of the Agni Yoga Teachings

INTRODUCTION

ENTHUSIASM: Gr. *enthousiasmós*, fr. *enthousiazein* to be inspired or possessed by a god, fr. éntheos, énthous.

Although our modern dictionaries give the derivation of the word, its original and obvious meaning they relegate to the past.

One gives the following definitions: "1) Inspiration by a divine or superhuman power; divine possession or frenzy. Obs. exc. Hist.; 2) A state of impassioned emotion; transport; elevation of fancy; exaltation of soul; ecstasy. Archaic; 3) Strong excitement of feeling on behalf of a cause or a subject; ardent and imaginative zeal or interest; fervor; 4) An instance, manifestation, object, or cause of such excitement of feeling; as over-mastering enthusiasm."

Another says: "The old meaning of enthusiasm implies a pseudo-inspiration, an almost frantic extravagance in behalf of something supposed to be an expression of divine will. This sense remains as the controlling one in the kindred noun *enthusiast*. Enthusiasm has now chiefly the meaning of an earnest and commendable devotion, an intense and eager interest."

In the following pages, gleanings from the Agni Yoga Teaching show that the ancient meaning is not obsolete, but retains its full force. Indeed, it is profoundly augmented by Hierarchical interpretation.

Fiery World II, 1934

Fiery World II, 22. Raj-Agni—thus was called that Fire which you call enthusiasm.

Fiery World II, 236. Let us affirm the

enthusiasm of the spirit. To be filled with the spirit means to place oneself in direct communion with Hierarchy.

Brotherhood, 220. The embryo of enthusiasm grows into a beautiful inspiration.

Letters of Helena Roerich I, 1935, 8 May. In our threatening times we need spiritual, self-sacrificing workers, we need enthusiasts, we need heroes!



She Who Leads by Nicholas Roerich, 1934

ENTHUSIASM (RAJ-AGNI)

Leaves of Morya's Garden II: Illumination, 1925

Leaves of Morya's Garden II

Of course, We rejoice when the builder is aflame with enthusiasm. (153)

New Era Community, 1926

New Era Community, 74. It is needful to preserve personal enthusiasm.

Agni Yoga, 1928

Agni Yoga, 290. Did the heroes of ancient times resemble today's heroes? Did the heroes of antiquity need an inexhaustible store of enthusiasm? Their achievements were brief, and one ex-

plosion of fire was enough to feed their energy. Now, the extended duration of achievement, with the complete depletion of forces in the earthly atmosphere, puts an unbearable strain on the energy. The most powerful stroke, the sternest call, can flash out from but a single explosion; but continuous and repeated action requires a whole sequence of currents of energy.

The present-day hero is sustained by the realization that from no earthly quarter can he expect cooperation. When he says, "I will not abandon the field of battle," he already finds new strength. We are ready to provide the strengthening current in accordance with the firmness of his decision not to abandon the battle. We do know, however, how difficult it is to carry light in the darkness, because this light is seen by others, but not by the one who carries it. Besides, those who sleep cannot stand the light.

Agni Yoga, 303. Essaying investigation into everything, we must agree on the methods of research. We will know the direction of our action, but will not put obstacles in our way by making premature decisions about enemies. Let us combine insight with real action. When any aspect of the unknown becomes familiar, that will be a conquest without astonishment, without a shudder, and even without excessive enthusiasm. For each hour, even the most inactive, may bring us closer to the unknown.

Agni Yoga, 426. Let us take things as they are. Let us remember not to destroy enthusiasm, no matter whence it comes. Let us not hide the truth, but let us find a place for each exaltation. Can exaltation hinder great measures? Everything will find its place. To build upon exaltation is easier and more lasting. As does love, so also does enthusiasm kindle the fires. Let

us gather all those who carry the fire, and remember how precious is each spark. Light and darkness—let us not forget anything created of Light!

Agni Yoga, 467. "And with His staff He wiped away all the designs in the sand." In this action we see all the generosity of the Teacher, all His riches, all the dismissal of the past and the striving into the future. But people, as I said, turn everything into the ordinary, so that all their actions, whether personal or national, whether material or spiritual, are deprived of enthusiasm. But if our daily labor is consecrated in the Name of the Teacher, it cannot be ordinary or tiresome.

Agni Yoga, 546. Fundamental and irreplaceable is the element of fire. Similarly without substitute is psychic energy. The most self-sufficient, the most refined, the most upthrusting energy is the true Daughter of Fire! Not without reason do We call you to the Fiery Conqueress. Every manifestation of enthusiasm precipitates a particle of the treasure. Each exaltation before nature and Beauty gathers the seeds of light and creates a ray of victory. Long ago I said, "Through Beauty thou hast Light." Is it possible that We say this only to give pleasure? Each Indication has undeniable and urgent importance. Thus, enthusiasm will be the shortest way to the accumulation of psychic energy.

Heart, 1929

Heart, 133. Spread Good by all means. It is a pity to see how sometimes a speck of dust stops an entire wheel. A great heart contains much, but a small heart fills itself above all with small things. Evil must not be permitted to spread unimpeded. The example of a garden and weeds is sufficient. Invite the dulcet singers to walk among the weeds and they will lose all their mel-

lifluent phrases. But the enthusiasm of the warriors of Good will not cool while following the path! Thus let the heart judge where Good begins!

Fiery World I, 1933

Fiery World I, 582. Can one ignore the emanation created by sorrow? Can one rest ignorant of the fact that a depressed spirit cannot inspire enthusiasm?

Fiery World I, 666. True human cognizance will always be in harmony with the One Truth. All human developments should be compared with the Teaching of Light, and one can rejoice when world



Queen of Heaven by Nicholas Roerich, 1931

understanding continues to follow the one possible Truth. But for this purpose one must constantly compare the Fundamentals with human actions. Of course, true science cannot be contradictory to immutable laws. Consequently, in new researches the Tablets of the Fundamentals must be kept constantly in mind and in heart. They will give an invincible enthusiasm to the scholar who, freed

of egoism, with honesty continues his researches for the benefit of humanity. He will sense the waves of Light and detect new energies amongst the vibrations. Fire, the Great Agni, is the manifest Gatekeeper of the Ineffable. Light has the power of attraction, and he who enters it will not turn back. What traveler would willingly descend into darkness.

Fiery World II, 1934

Fiery World II, 22. Raj-Agni—thus was called that Fire which you call enthusiasm. Truly this is a beautiful and powerful Fire, which purifies all surrounding space. The constructive thought is nurtured upon this Fire. The thought of magnanimity grows in the silvery light of the Fire of Raj-Agni. Help to the near ones flows from the same source. There is no boundary line, no limitations for the wings radiant with Raj-Agni. Do not think that this Fire can be kindled in an evil heart. One must develop in oneself the ability to call forth the source of such transport. At first one must prepare in oneself the assurance that the heart is offered to the Great Service. Then one should reflect that the glory of the works is not one's own, but belongs to the Hierarchy of Light. Then it is possible to become uplifted by the infinitude of Hierarchy and affirm oneself in the heroic attainment needed for all worlds. Thus not for oneself, but in the Great Service is kindled Raj-Agni. Understand that the Fiery World cannot stand without this Fire.

102. In contrast with confidence there is depression. Precisely distrust begets this awful viper. But trust awakens the most fiery, the most divine instincts of the spirit. Beings of the Fiery World can approach people in hours of trust, and the miracle of enthusiasm creates the most beautiful approaches.

Fiery World II, 236. Let us affirm the enthusiasm of the spirit. To be filled with the spirit means to place oneself in direct communion with Hierarchy.

Fiery World II, 303. Let us look at those who come demanding only the new. Take one who so demands but who is even ignorant of harmonization of the centers—can he possibly be given the new? Take one who lacks enthusiasm—can he be given the new?

Aum, 1936

Aum, 548. It is rightly judged that contemporary teachings of Yoga devote much attention to man's moods. It would seem that this statement is known and intelligible to all, but reality shows that people do not understand the significance of enthusiasm or dark depression.

Let scholars investigate thought transmission under the most diverse conditions. Apart from psychic states, conditions of temperature can also be studied. High temperature results in augmented receptivity.

Of course I am speaking about heightened temperature of the organism. Not illness itself, but the combination of fiery waves weaves the thread of contact and reaction.

Aum, 565. You have heard that a person suffering with defective speech suddenly was able to deliver a beautiful and inspired address. The personal will alone could not achieve this; there was required the participation also of another energy. Someone has sent His Shielding Force. It may be that such a Force will cure the defect forever. It is possible that the nervous spasm may depart forever if the same degree of enthusiasm which filled the speaker when he rendered the beautiful speech can be retained. Let him observe the rhythm

of his heart. Let him remember how his successful speech, which so inspired his listeners, was harmonized. To retain the manifested harmony will already be an achievement. Many examples may be cited when the rhythm of psychic energy uplifted a man and helped him surmount all nervous spasms. Many cases may be named when people, under the influence of higher energy, forgot forever their defects.

Brotherhood, 1937

Brotherhood, 18. On the paths to Brotherhood self-renunciation also will be



Yaroslav the Wise by Nicholas Roerich, 1941

needed. It is most likely that many will find such a condition difficult to fulfill. They do not realize how often people manifest this quality even in everyday life. In each inspiration, in each burst of enthusiasm, self-renunciation infallibly will be included. One should very precisely perceive the significance of words.

Self-renunciation is nothing else but inspiration; faint-heartedness cannot be inspiration. Brotherhood, 90. People willingly aspire to a Brotherhood with a ready-made form. But if they are forewarned that quarreling is not permitted, a substantial number of them will lose their enthusiasm.

Brotherhood, 220. Each phase of the Teaching answers a particular need of humanity. The present time is distinguished by the shattering of morality. The help of the Teaching must be directed to the affirmation of moral foundations. The findings of science pursue a path different from the way of life; there results a particular kind of savagery, which is in possession of scientific instruments. A minority of highly enlightened workers stand out as rare islands in an ocean of ignorance. Literacy is by no means enlightenment; therefore, the advice is given to reinforce the heart as the focal point of enlightenment. Scientific and medical indications are given; they ought to help to restore the bodily and spiritual health. The more directly these counsels are accepted, the stronger will be their action. The embryo of enthusiasm grows into a beautiful inspiration. A drop of goodness is transformed into effective good. A grain of love grows into a beautiful garden. Who then would censure a desire to help a neighbor?

Letters of Helena Roerich, Vol. I, 1929–1935

Letters of Helena Roerich, Vol. I, 11 February 1929. If the heart burns with love and enthusiasm for the Teacher and for the beauty and breadth of the Teaching of Life, these sparks could so easily be fanned into the flame of unquenchable striving which carries us above all and everything. Strive, my friends! It is so difficult if you have before you the Image of Beauty? Is it not the highest joy to bring every bit of yourself to the service of the General Good? (15–16)

Letters of Helena Roerich, Vol. I, 17 August 1930 With all my heart I agree with the Teacher's Edict about the pressing necessity to commence a new step. What does this new step mean? Not just exclamations and enthusiasm about the wisdom and beauty of the Teaching, not just assurances of devotion and a new understanding, but action according to the new comprehension of the Teaching. Thus, let us apply the Teaching in life, let us honor the Hierarchy and let us begin a friendly and sensible cooperation. (34)

Letters of Helena Roerich, Vol. I, 3 June 1931. My friends, please realize upon what firm ground you are standing when you are defending all the achievements of culture. Therefore, keep high your spirits, and find the necessary fiery words! Do not forget that only enthusiasm, faith, and ardent striving can inflame and inspire the spirit of people whom you contact. Kindle the creative fire in your hearts. (84)

Letters of Helena Roerich, Vol. I, 28 February 1935. You noticed that some of the members are tired because most of them are working people. I think the main reason is that most of them have already been through the first steps of enthusiastic approach to the Teaching and, according to the occult law, they now begin to show their real nature. Always remember that on the first steps and in the first months of approaching the Teaching, each one burns with eagerness and hopes for the immediate development of his dormant spiritual powers. Many do not realize, or forget, that only in extreme tension of all forces does the awakening of the inner man, and the further degrees of transfiguration, take place. Such people, in most cases, do not find in themselves enough spiritual strength to resist the plungings of the spirit, which inevitably follow every transport of enthusiasm. The law of alternation of rhythm is everywhere the same.

From experience, I know that at the first

touch of the spirit's depression many people lose their enthusiasm and often give up the Teaching entirely. All such people are souls with small spiritual accumulations. (395)

Letters of Helena Roerich, Vol. I, 25 March 1935. At the time of America's Declaration of Independence, when preparing to separate from England, a remarkable incident took place. During the proceedings at this historic convention there came a moment of hesitation and uncertainty. Suddenly, a tall stranger stepped out from amid the Assembly and delivered a fiery speech, which he ended with the words "Let America be free!" The enthusiasm of the Assembly was kindled, and the Declaration of Independence was signed. But when the delegates sought to greet the person who had helped them to make the great decision, the stranger had disappeared. Thus, through the whole of history is seen the Helping Hand of the Great Community of Light. (422–23)

continued from page 1 Seed Thoughts for Daily Planting

clearly engraved upon the memory, visions of walls and towers of the Brotherhood. The imagination is but a memory of that which exists.

Perhaps someone will remember also in reality the tower of Chun? (Verse 7)

5. The spark of Infinity must be expressed in everything. Each concept must include presupposition of its development into Infinity. There may be noted whole series of concepts which succeed each other. Neither friendship nor cooperation can be terminal. Between them and the Subtle World there must be still another something that can equally belong to the two worlds. This something is called Brotherhood.

No greater concept can be named, none which could so crown human relations and correspond to the essential nature of the Subtle and Fiery Worlds. Therefore the Brotherhood is called threefold. It extends between the three worlds as a firm bridge. It is almost impossible to imagine the contact of the earthly with the Fiery World, but under the panoply of Brotherhood such confluence is made possible. (Verse 8)

6. No one wishes to find himself in an enclosed field with no possibility of even looking over the fence. One needs to discover a crack, though it be but a small one, through which to perceive the possibility of approach to Infinity. Even in daily life let there be found the unifying principle, so that not only the very small but also the great can be generally accepted.

Perhaps on each planet there is a place for great encounters. (Verse 9)

continued from page 2 Networkers Letter

website: http://www.wmea-world.org or http://wmea-world.org/PDFs/2013-Conference-Schedule.pdf

The last day for registration is March 1st. Please contact the office if you have any questions or if you would like to register by telephone: 1.928.778.0638.

With love,

Jdeen D Du Bain

President and founder of the WMEA

¹ Fiery World II, 22. © 1946 Agni Yoga Society, Inc. ² Ibid., 236.

 $^{^3}$ Torkom Saraydarian, *The Psyche and Psychism*, 1089. © 1981 Torkom Saraydarian



The Florida (Sarasota) Group meets biweekly to study the Teachings. Please call Ginette Parisi at (941) 925-0549 for complete information. The Ohio (Marysville) WMEA group meets monthly for Sun Festivals and classes. Please call Kathy O'Conner at (937) 642-5910 for complete information. The Puerto Rico WMEA Group meets weekly to study the Teachings. Please call Jennifer Santiago at (787) 649-3817 for complete information.

The Colorado (Longmont) WMEA Study Group meets each month for Full Moon meditation gatherings. Please call Doreen Trees at (303) 651-1908 for complete information.

February

- Sun. 3 Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture "Agni Yoga and Solemnity" with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:30 a.m., Izvara Center
- Wed. 6 Class: *The Leadership of Disciples*, 7–8 p.m., Izvara Center
- Sun. 10 Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture "How to Engage in Right Human Relations" with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:30 a.m., Izvara Center
- Tues. 12 Paloria Study Group, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Izvara Center
- Wed. 13 Class: *The Leadership of Disciples*, 7–8 p.m., Izvara Center
- Sun 17 Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture "The Law of Renunciation: Is this a Spiritual Must?" with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:30 a.m., Izvara Center
- Tues. 19 Paloria Study Group, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Izvara Center
- Wed. 20 Class: *The Leadership of Disciples*, 7–8 p.m., Izvara Center
- Sun 24 Sun Festival of Pisces, Lecture and Group Meditation, with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:30 a.m., Izvara Center
- Wed. 27 Class: *The Leadership of Disciples*, 7–8 p.m., Izvara Center

March

- Sun. 3 Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture "A Practical Consideration: Purification" with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:30 a.m., Izvara Center
- Wed. 6 Class: *The Leadership of Disciples*, 7–8 p.m., Izvara Center
- Sun. 10 Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture "Punctuality and Discipleship" with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:30 a.m., Izvara Center
- Tues. 12 Paloria Study Group, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Izvara Center
- Wed. 13 Class: *The Leadership of Disciples*, 7–8 p.m., Izvara Center
- Sun. 17 Sunday Service: Meditation, Singing, and Lecture "Striving Toward the Heights" with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:30 a.m., Izvara Center
- Tues. 19 Paloria Study Group, 6:30–8:00 p.m., Izvara Center
- Wed. 20 Class: *The Leadership of Disciples*, 7–8 p.m., Izvara Center
- Sat. 23–Sun. 24 WMEA Annual Pre-Conference and Celebration of Master's Day
- Sun. 24 7:00 PM-8:30 PM WMEA Membership Meeting (*Members Only*)
- Mon. 25–Fri. 29 29th WMEA Annual Living Ethics Conference
- Sun. 31 Easter Service and Holy Communion with Rev. Joleen DuBois, 10:30 a.m., Izvara Center

Ask about Sunday classes for kids and teens.

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In Puerto Rico (787) 649-3817

In Marysville, Ohio (937) 642-5910

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