

Ascension Notes



Fostering Spiritual Evolution

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Eventually we humans will recognize that spiritual growth, both individually and collectively, is the heart of our existence. When that occurs, social organization will be consciously structured to reflect the reality that every being is valued in the spiritual economy of the Universe. The society that allows the average citizen to flourish will achieve a slow but steady material evolution and maximize the greatest cumulative development of spirit. Unique talents and abilities will arise spontaneously from the citizenry in response to the needs of the times.

Let's try and define spiritual evolution. It has to be an experience so universal to all people that it is readily understood and agreed upon. Something so simple can then be the root of a wide variety of significantly different social institutions and yet those societies can live in tolerant harmony with one another.

I'll propose that we are a composite balance of physical, mental and spiritual attributes. In the physical realm beauty, harmony, durability and utility are desirable qualities. Manifesting such characteristics in physical work provide emotionally satisfying results for the practitioner and increases the sense of being. Mentally, a similar result is found in the search for truth. That exploration may be directed outwardly toward science to increase our knowledge of the universe around us. We gain increased freedom from material want and the fears of ignorance. The mind may be applied inwardly toward a study of qualities and values. That's our entrance to the world of the spirit resulting in goodness. It is the reality of the religious experience.

In each of us the balance of body, mind and spirit is constantly fluctuating as the attention of our personalities is variously captivated by our emotions, elevated into our minds or quickened by spiritual experience. In fact, all three are inseparable though one or the other may be in ascendance at any given moment.

Individual evolution starts with birth and the necessary focus on material reality. With curiosity the mind starts to function and eventually entry into spiritual realms begins with decisions based on value judgments. Human society is a collective reflection of the body-mind-spirit balance. The spiritual shift begins with mental appreciation of morals, is loosely codified in ethical systems that keeps our animal nature from running amok. That's particularly important as our mental development provides an increased capacity to manipulate the physical world. Societies or even worlds that achieve some degree of spiritual maturity discover goodness resides in individual hearts and that service to others is the real practice of that attribute.

For any social institution to be durable it has to understand and reflect this balance. Fostering spiritual evolution beyond merely physical wants and needs supports this goal directly. Peculiarly, individual freedom is the most conducive strategy for promoting social stability. Each individual is then charged with the responsible initiative for creating the society in which they live.