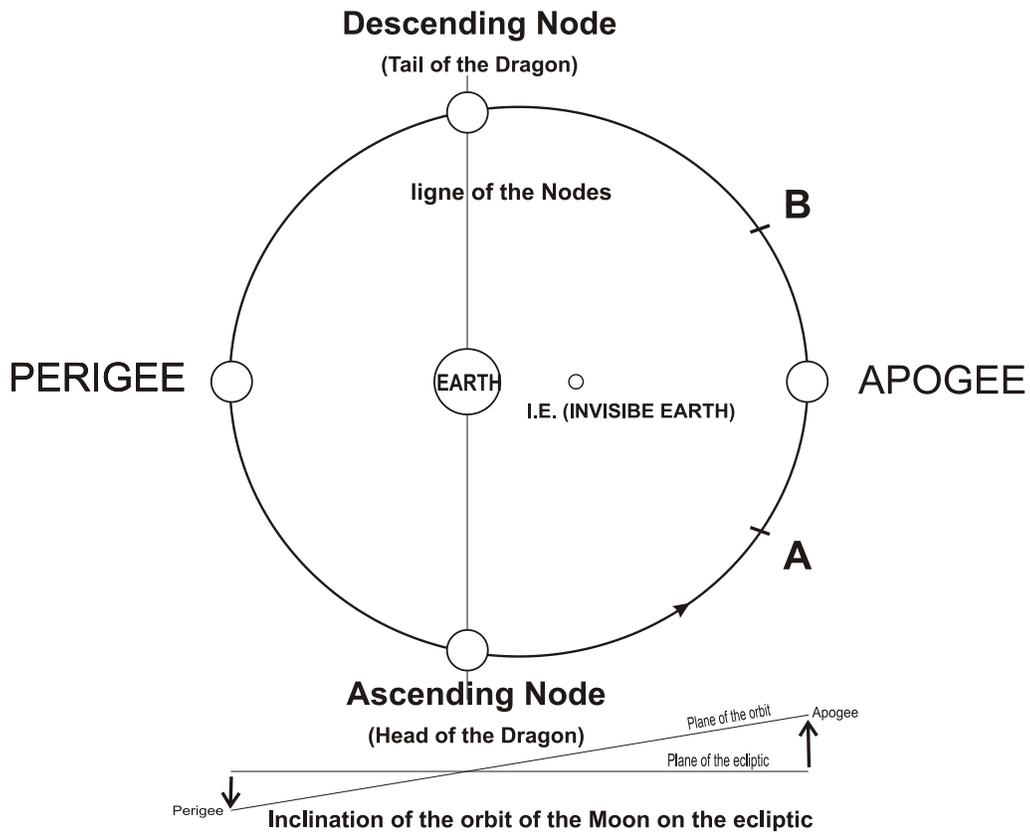


Study and Imitate Nature

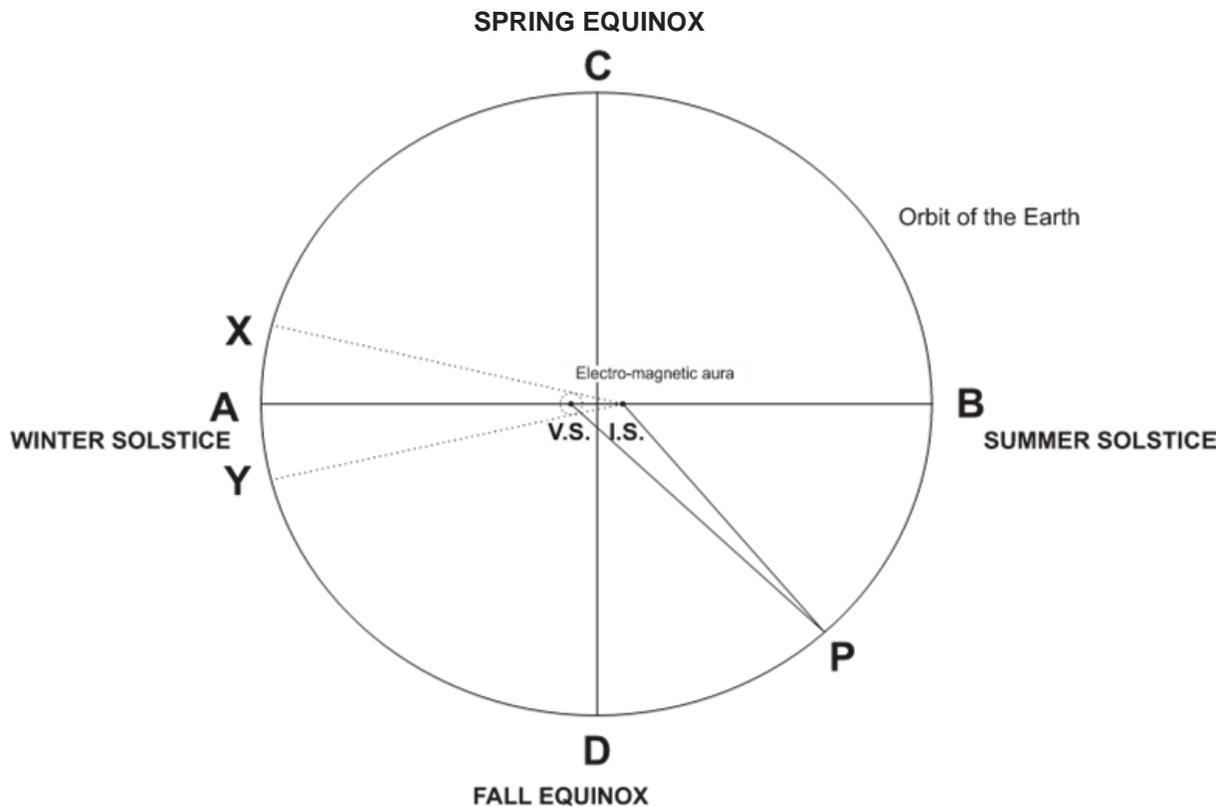
From time immemorial, it was said that the Adept must study and imitate Nature.

The first principle that must be constantly in mind is that duality is omnipresent in Nature. It manifests itself everywhere, even where proof is lacking. It is the same for the visible-invisible duality (which is not visible) or visible-occult (which is hidden). To illustrate the mechanism of this rule, let's look at some lunar and solar phenomena for example.

On a clear day, the phases of the Moon are perfectly visible to any observer. They are the visible part of the lunar cycle which acts, among other things, on the physical activity of the plants: growth, flowering ... in fact, on what can be directly seen. Conversely, is more difficult to perceive the phenomenon of lunar nodes, which is the passage of the moon above and below the Earth's ecliptic. The activity resulting in the plant realm is not visible to the naked eye since it concerns germination; and its effect is hidden in the earth, it is occulted.



Concerning the Sun, although the case is different the analogy remains. The visible Sun (V.S.) essentially radiates visible material energies. Non-visible energies are radiated by the Black Sun, or Invisible Sun (I.S.). What is happening here? When Earth is at its closest point to the Sun (perihelion), it is winter (in our Northern hemisphere); at that time the effects of the Invisible Sun are overshadowed by our Sun and its influences do not reach us. The solar energies are therefore at their minimum. In summer, when Earth is at its furthest point from the Sun (aphelion), the energy effects are amplified, Invisible Sun and Sun have effects that complement.



The Earth's orbit is an ellipse, which as any ellipse has two "foci":

One is where the "Visible Sun" (V.S.) lies
the other is the "Invisible Sun" (I.S.)

(This diagram is not to scale: the real ellipse being closer to a circle, the gap between the two foci is much smaller.)

In addition, in lunar and solar phenomena the phase shift of energies is involved and that complicates the "reading" of their effects. As for the moon, if we take as origin of its cycle the point equidistant between the descending node (Tail of the Dragon) and the ascending node (Head of the Dragon), the point where the lunar energy begins to grow. But it is only when the Moon crosses the ascending node that its energy begins to act. As for the Sun, if we take for the origin of its cycle the Winter Solstice, that's when its energy begins to grow but it is during the Spring Equinox that the solar energy begin to manifest its action.

Because of the phase shift between the rising energy (lunar or solar) and its manifested action, the energy acts with a delay of up to a quarter of a cycle. Anyone who has studied electricity knows that the cyclic voltage therein has a quarter cycle advance on the current flowing in the coil. If we take account of this shift in the solar cycle, for example:

- At the beginning of the cycle, Winter Solstice, the energy begins to grow, its action is not apparent;
- Reaching the Spring Equinox, the energy continues to grow and begins to act;
- During Summer Solstice, the energy begins to decrease but its action continues to manifest itself;
- At the Fall Equinox, the energy continues to decrease and its action is weakened;
- Action and solar energy will continue to decrease until the Winter Solstice when the cycle begins again.

In summary:

- Any visible cause generally has visible effects,
- Any cause not easily visible or invisible or hidden, also has invisible actions (psychic effects of the Moon and the Sun);
- The cycle of effects is always lagging behind the cycle of energy.

It is with this knowledge that alchemists and occultists have set the start of their operations at the Vernal Point or at the Head of the Dragon.

A theoretical explanation, global or partial, is only an aid. Each of us must study the problem through a constant search for reconstituting the puzzle of Nature. We must also make parallels in rules and principles, which at first glance may seem distant. This is why similarity can be found by the adept in the alchemical, qabalistic or mystical phenomena or experiences.

Jean DUBUIS