

## **Karma is not what you think**

Among the philosophical or esoteric concepts, Karma is one of the most poorly taught and therefore most misunderstood. In some cases, this misunderstanding is due to the misuse of secrecy, which allows would-be teachers to keep students ignorant and therefore dependent. Consequently, for many the acceptance of this concept leads to a certain fatalism. Recognizing freedom and evolution behind duress and the law demands a thorough knowledge of a philosophy such as Qabalah, which we use here as an example.

Good understanding of the law of Karma leads us not to accept it, but to neutralize and control it. Karma is the result of a fundamental law of creation, of the Seven Seconds Causes as expressed by Trithemius. This law is extensively explained in the Zohar, especially when it comes to equilibrium, or the law of balance of energies in the world.

### **Bringing the universe to the neutral state**

The law of Balance manifests in several ways: physical, spiritual, and energetic. On every level, the law always ensures the universe is brought back to a neutral state. In other words, there exists as much positive as negative in the universe. At the origin of everything, the pendulum passes in turn on each side of the neutral position of equilibrium. These oscillations are required for movement, the basis of evolution.

This law, in its application to conscious beings - humans in particular - shows a double aspect, which makes its mechanisms difficult for everyone to understand. The aim, the reason for this law is: the compelling of man to achieve the Becoming for which he has been created. To transform the Divine seed in man into fruit.

### **The involution, the first Good**

At its beginning, the law is manifested as a pressure of involution. Indeed, the Divine seed must come down, taking root step by step to the level of the denser matter until the umbilical cord is cut from the Father. As long as this is not achieved, the law sends man down. The Good is, for man, everything that materializes him, all that densifies him. This process lasts until the Initiation of the Nadir - symbolically opposite the Zenith - which defines the maximum density and the end of the descent into matter. This initiation, which by now the majority of people on our Earth possess, reverses the previously dominant values. The Good, the Becoming is now that which spiritualizes, that which frees man from the clutches of matter. It is not what destroys and brings man to deny and reject matter. The pressure of the law is therefore based on evolution. However, we must not forget that any attempt to return before completing the Initiation of the Nadir is a mistake that Karma will always prevent from occurring. Indeed, to undertake the Path of Return before it is time is simply a disguised way of going backwards.

## **Repairing structures**

Prior to the Initiation of the Nadir, under the effect of the law, the Higher Self pushes one towards involution. After the Initiation, this same Self drives one toward evolution. Problems arise because the structure of the being, the Tree of Life, suffered a lot during involution. His energy centers are disrupted, weakened and especially disharmonized. The Tree of Life is ill.

What happens when a body is sick? If, after many efforts a physical body is very much weakened, we must first stop pushing too hard. When the causes of destruction of the body have stopped, the doctor has two choices: let nature act alone, which, slowly but surely leads to recovery; or look for remedies that will help accelerate the natural healing process. Identically, the Tree of Life will be gradually rehabilitated over many incarnations. Here, this will happen, albeit gradually, because the poor state of the Tree of Life in the human hinders or prevents the transmission of the will of the Higher Self. Therefore one must first be enlightened on what has to be now defined as the Becoming. There are, however, two remedies that can quickly restore it to its former state: alchemy and magic.

## **Neutralize Karma**

The second effect of the passage of the Nadir is a liberation; because the Law of Thelema is then the law of the being, "Do what thou wilt is the whole law." In another form, Plato, Socrates' disciple said: "What is right is what suits each one." It is necessary to note that this crucial point of evolution transforms the Good into Evil and Evil into Good.

How can the law act on the present physical or material in each of us? Simply because everyone creates his own life, not through intellectual power but by the energies of his centers of consciousness. These centers have magical or divine powers, according to their position on the Tree of Qabala.

All our past actions are not accumulated in a cosmic bank account that tallies misfortunes or happiness under the rule: "Eye for eye, tooth for tooth" because this conception of justice is only relevant in the physical world. "My wisdom is not your wisdom, and your wisdom is madness in the eyes of the Eternal." The problem of Good, of evil, or of vengeance does not arise on the spiritual planes. There is only energy imbalance in the Sephirothic centers of humans. Restoring energetic balance immediately neutralizes all this so called Karma. Of course, the one who, in this world and after the Initiation of the Nadir does not act towards his evolution or his fellow human's, certainly imbalances his own energies and creates a disharmonious physical situation for himself, so physically painful as it prevents nature to undertake its remedial work.

What must we do to improve our "karmic circumstances"? After a serious study of the Qabala and of oneself, we must get to know the energy level of our Sephiroth; such as a tendency to anger, pride, should prompt us to review Geburah, the Sephira of Mars; an esoteric or religious skepticism refers to Chesed ... The study of seven double letters of the Qabala and their attributes in particular, is a powerful help in this area. This study is comparable, with regard to the healing of the Tree of Life in us to the doctor's diagnosis on the physical body.

## **Mastering Karma**

We must also understand that an imbalance in one Sephira (or energy center if you prefer) affects all, since everything is in everything. In addition, spiritual energy travels down following a fixed rule, and its transmission, or its materialization on the physical plane is made only through the lunar Sephira Yesod, Levanah, the Foundation. A repair of this center immediately fixes many problems.

It must be noted, first, that the moon governs our brain, the organ that performs material things; and, secondly, that its metal is silver\*, the metal that fixes many things in this world. The Sun, gold metal, and the Moon, silver metal, are symbols of subtle but powerful energies. Through the brain the energies of the Moon help us understand others. The energies of the sun awaken the perception of the heart. When these goals are met, man is the master of Karma.

## **Alchemy and Qabala**

If we do not have the tincture of silver that repairs Yesod, we can always improve this energy center through the use of lunar plants such as Veronica. But the alchemical or magical solutions will heal the mind only if the physical behavior is consistent with the desires of the Higher Self. Indeed, it is useless to ask nature for a special healing effort if the cause of the disease (mostly due to erroneous behavior) remain.

If tradition had been respected in contemporary philosophical schools, the initiation of the Lesser Mysteries would correspond to the rehabilitation of the three minor Sephiroth. Those Sephiroth of the world of Yetzirah: Yesod-Moon, Mercury-Hod, Netzach-Venus. The initiation to the Great Mysteries or Major Initiation would corresponds to the three Sephiroth of the world of Briah: Sun Tiphereth, Geburah, Mars, Jupiter-Chesed; this being the healing path of the magical way. In theory, the Small alchemical Circulation corresponds to the Lesser Mysteries, and the Great Circulation to the Great Mysteries. The symbolic initiations which are the majority of those given nowadays do not act on the centers; hence little effect can be expected when they are taken.

The asceticism of magical preparation must give man enough contact so the Higher Self can enlighten him before his healing. The asceticism of alchemical preparation has the same goal. True initiation is related to Karma, because it is the restoration of the inner Tree of Life. Contrary to some beliefs, initiation is not given: it is exclusively the result of our own efforts; otherwise there would be no Universal Justice.

Each being on earth is the son of his deeds.

Jean DUBUIS

\*Note: In French, the word silver means money as well as silver metal.