

The Knowledge and the Knowing

Gradually, as we progress on the path of initiation, or Inner Contact, the problem of study - and therefore knowledge - becomes more and more difficult. Indeed, intellectual curiosity and the thirst for knowledge, if used as a guideline in our research (if not well guided) may lead to a cerebral indigestion and confuse the mind at the expense of real experience.

It is possible to consider several qualities of knowledge: encyclopedic, scientific and philosophical. In general, encyclopedic requires only reading and memory and is the most practiced. It is certainly useful and necessary to the extent that it defines the framework of our Becoming. But if the practice becomes bulimia, it results in intellectual overload. We have often noticed in esoteric circles a number of people studying various cosmogonies to find Revelation. However, a satisfactory cosmogony can only come through inner revelation. Obviously, until this point, we must seek a framework, or map, offering one or more possible routes. But it is best to study and practice one method, and only one, to put firmly in place structures that will guide, not to knowledge but to Knowing. A study like that of the Qabala can help this inner awakening and, accordingly, bring about its own revelation. In this case, Qabala is identical to a kind of structure on which everyone can build their personal construct.

On the path of esotericism, the most profitable readings are not those that fill the mind but those that refine the mental mechanisms. It is the same with exercises that result from study. Incidentally, at the practical level, the game of chess, for example, is more beneficial to the meditative perspective than the study of a cosmological text, because chess is carrying a powerful symbolism that helps the inner awakening and sharpens the mind's analytical skills and intuition. That is why in the inner development that leads to knowledge, we must look for what brings us a result and stick to it. Do not disperse in many ways especially if they are not complementary. Note that as part of "Les Philosophes de la Nature" Association we are not opposed to a simultaneous study of Qabala and Alchemy. This is because we know that both techniques lead to the same result and help each other.

We place a lot of emphasis on this because we believe it useful early in the esoteric path to take a good mental attitude and not to confuse utility and curiosity. It is true that we sometimes feel we trample and are chomping at the bit because our esoteric work does not seem to trigger inner resonance. It is possible that our mind is saturated and, without showing it, we became enamored of our ideas. Therefore, we have closed the door to any new idea (which still needs to be examined) and also to any progress. We must from time to time, do some mental laundry and throw everything out that hinders our Becoming even if this affects our sensitivity. You have to permanently have a mental vacuity, a certain faculty of reception so that subtle messages from our Inner Self can be accepted by the little king of this world, our intellect.

Once a certain Inner Contact is established, the field of Knowledge opens. When this happens, do not use this awakening for idle curiosity, but ask your Inner Contact strictly that which concerns your Becoming or your initiation. This is imperative. If other knowledge is helpful, your Inner Self will forward it without you asking for it. Experience shows that free or indiscreet curiosity breaks the conversation with the Inner Guardian. In fact, it's a bit like using a tool for the wrong purpose. To restore the role it was to fulfill, it will take some time, even a long time, as required for the re-harmonization of the various inner levels.

We wish everyone to move from knowledge to Knowing. We often say that whoever Knows sees in himself the birth of what IS, for all eternity. This is true for each of us.

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