

ANTHROPOSOPHY - MAN'S HOLISTIC SCIENCE

THE WORLD AXIS

Anthroposophy (Anthropos + Sophia, meaning the holistic approach to man), which was developed by Rudolf Steiner at the dawn of the 20th century, is a holistic scientific approach to man's existence that enlarges the common view of man's constitution and cosmic and earthly evolution.

There is only one humanity which, obviously, has only one biography. Each earthly people, through its myths, its legends, its religion, has retold this story according to its own soul characteristics. Its myths and religion formed its culture. And the cultural diversity in the world testifies the immense variety, the various angles through which world's creation as well as man's creation can be seen.

But there isn't but one history of mankind. It is up to us, life's investigators, to decode those myths, tales and beliefs in order to reach their unique essence.

Rudolf Steiner, through all his life (1861–1925), developed an enormous activity of lecturer and investigator. In hundreds of lectures and courses he presented man's evolution in an intelligible and comprehensive way to modern western mentality which, opposite to oriental mentality for example, requires a rational explanation to everything. Besides that, centuries of individual consciousness development in Europe allows him today to approach man's constitution in such a way that the fundamental values of individual freedom and evolution of consciousness can be accepted as the inner core of man's evolution. Anthroposophy is, therefore, an updated explanation of man's constitution and his role in earth's as well as cosmic evolution. An explanation that allows man to understand his origins, the meaning of all his civilization path through the ages and make him aware of the tasks that the future set him as an actor, not only as a spectator in the world's evolutionary drama, so that in total freedom of consciousness and decision he may fulfill the destiny that he, himself, set forth in order to reach perfection.



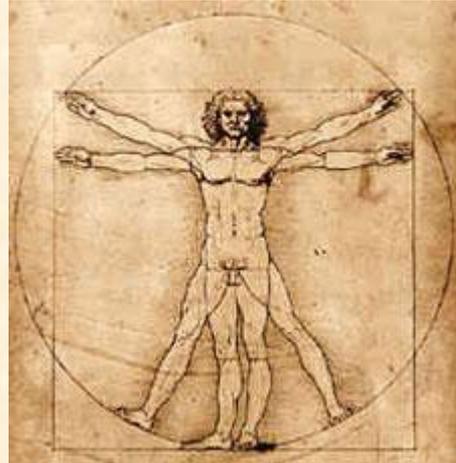
By Cosmos, we mean everything that has to do with us, human beings. All that we can feel, perceive and do. Many forces acting in the Cosmos are subtle forces, unperceived by our sense organs, but we can perceive their effects. And all those forces that act outside us, have an effect in us as well. Man is, therefore, a Micro cosmos, a mirror image of the Macro cosmos. To know the cosmic laws and rhythms leads him to self knowledge, to his inner world as a

reflexion of the outer world. Therefore, to know Nature and its acting rhythms, to experience it as well as all its living organisms is a task that humanity has set forth long ago. In order to accomplish it, man created the Natural Sciences which are meant to bring light to all that exists. But to know himself, is also a task to which man has dedicated important and formidable efforts. Today, as man is becoming increasingly aware of his spiritual nature and of his own unique individuality, Anthroposophy becomes a powerful beacon shedding light over world's mysteries and bridging clarity over the dichotomy of inner and outer worlds. The harmonizing of these two existences, the acquisition of the consciousness of the self, that mankind lives through at the present moment, is the touch stone of man's existence and, therefore, of Anthroposophy.



MAN'S CONSTITUTION

According to Anthroposophy (Spiritual Science as Steiner called it), man has not only a physical body, ephemeral and perishable, he has also a spiritual organization which is immortal and eternal. But he also has a Soul mediating between body and spirit, with its attributes: thinking, feeling and will. It is in the soul that man knows himself but also the world around him. The physical body is permeated by life forces without which, it is nothing but a corpse and endowed with an emotional structure, an inner, subtle structure with which he builds his inner world. And he builds it with the life experiences and perceptions of the outside world. It is through the soul that man leaves his mark in the world but it is in his feeling life that he is truly human and acquires wisdom.

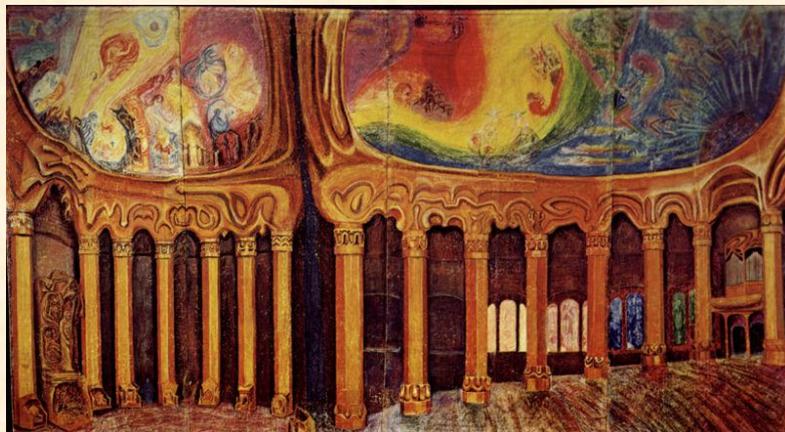


Each person's individuality, **the I**, has thus several interconnected tools that allow him to fulfill his mission: acquire, in total freedom, consciousness of his self and transform in himself all the world's wisdom in eternal love.

HUMAN EVOLUTION

Human life unfolds in cycles, in which evolution asserts itself alternating between periods of awakening consciousness and life experiences and periods of revision and reflexion of those experiences.

In each epoch in the history of mankind, there were personalities who brought new impulses to civilization and to the development of human consciousness, personalities who created new cultures. Greeks, Egyptians, Aztecs, Incas, Hindus, Buddhists and many others brought contributions to the development of human evolution, building step by step the necessary conditions for each soul to reach, at the present moment, the consciousness of his individuality with his unique destiny. These personalities were always people ahead of their time. Acting by divine inspiration, these men made it possible the unfolding of the creator's plan that wants that each human soul, by the end of the times, has been built according to his image and resemblance.



THE ANTHROPOSOPHICAL MOVEMENT

Rudolf Steiner (1861 - 1925) through his activity of lecturer and spiritual investigator renewed western culture. Bringing to western rational minds the Universal Tradition, enabled them to understand in an intelligible manner all its mysteries.

Rudolf Steiner also enabled the development, based on renewed concepts, of Science, Art, Religion and all human activity.

Answering to the requests of his followers, Rudolf Steiner lectured on Pedagogy (Steiner schools), Medicine and Therapies, Agriculture (Biodynamics), Economy and Social Issues (Three folded social organism), Arts (Drama, Painting, Sculpture, Eurythmy, Architecture, etc.), Religion (Christian Community) and Philosophy (Anthroposophical Society).

Today, all these activities are practiced all over the world and contribute to the renovation of world culture.

