



O my Divinity! thou dost blend with the earth and fashion for thyself Temples of mighty power.
O my Divinity! thou livest in the heart-life of all things and dost radiate a Golden Light that shineth for ever and doth illumine even the darkest corners of the earth.

O my Divinity! blend thou with me that from the corruptible I may become Incorruptible; that from imperfection I may become Perfection; that from darkness I may go forth in Light.— *Katherine Tingley*

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ARE LIFE AND DEATH THE SAME — OR DIFFERENT?

FRRIENDS near and far: I have told you frequently of the source whence our wonderful Theosophical doctrines come; but at each new meeting in this our Temple of Peace undoubtedly there are those who have not attended previous meetings or who have not 'listened in' before, and for these I want to say again that our Theosophical doctrines are no man's invention; they are as old as thinking humanity. Furthermore, they represent in a fully coherent, consistent shape, as a formulation of teachings, the processes and operations and consecutive forms which the Universe contains and takes, which in their aggregate make

[Stenographic report of the thirty-eighth of a series of lectures on the above subject. These were delivered at the request of Katherine Tingley (the then Theosophical Leader and Teacher) in the Temple of Peace, International Theosophical Headquarters, Point Loma, California, at the regular Sunday afternoon services. Others will be printed in THE THEOSOPHICAL PATH in due course. The following lecture was delivered on November 4, 1928, and broadcast, by remote control, over Station KFSD San Diego — 600-500.]

OUR POSITION IN TIME ON GLOBE D

HANS MALMSTEDT

IN view of my great interest in trying to solve the riddles of cyclical time, I was advised two years ago to study the *Sûrya-Siddhânta*, an extremely old astronomical work. The only copy available in Sweden of this wonderful book* belongs to the library of Uppsala University.

This work would certainly not be taken very seriously by a modern astronomer, but I leave more able writers than I am to tell what they know about it. My own humble opinion of it may be expressed thus: If a little boy asks his father for a watch to play with, does the father give to the boy a genuine, expensive watch with a mechanism inside? Would the boy understand it and handle it carefully? No. The child looks at the dial and the hands of his toy-watch, compares it with the watch of his father, and everything is fine.

The *Sûrya-Siddhânta* with its geocentric system was a most perfect dial of time for the early races of last Tretâ-yuga, and still it works. The revolutions of the planets are so correctly stated in it, that their places can be determined with great accuracy.

The work is a dialog between a man partaking of the nature of the Sun, and a Demon, mostly called Maya but also in chapter xii Maya-asura, evidently the same one as Asuramaya in *The Secret Doctrine*. This dialog, it says, took place at the end of Krita-yuga in the present twenty-eighth Chatur-yuga or Mahâ-yuga of the seventh Manvantara, and consequently it took place 2, 165,034 years ago.

But nobody knows who put this dialog into verse or the date of this versification. People believe that it is the production of some Muni, and many are of the opinion that it is the oldest of eighteen ancient astronomical works. Its style is easy, and the reading of it, as of the Purânas, is considered to be meritorious. Every subject is treated more fully in this than in any other of the ancient *Siddhântas*.

Listen to its beautiful language. I am quoting only the Invocation, the Introduction and the Conclusion of it:

*Translation of the *Sûrya-Siddhânta* by Pandit Bâpû Deva Sâstri and of the *Siddhânta Siromani* by the late Lancelot Wilkinson, Esq., c. s., revised by Pandit Bâpû Deva Sâstri, from the Sanskrit. Calcutta: Printed by C. B. Lewis, at the Baptist Mission Press, 1861.

Invocation. 1. Salutation to that Supreme Being which is of inconceivable and imperceptible form, void of properties (of all created things), the external source of wisdom and happiness, and the supporter of the whole world in the shapes (of Brahmâ, Vishnu, and Śiva).

Introductory. 2 & 3. Some time before the end of the Krita-yuga, a great Demon named Maya, being desirous of obtaining the sound, secret, excellent, sacred, and complete knowledge of Astronomy, which is the best of the six sciences subordinate to the Veda, practised the most difficult penance, the worship of the Sun.

4. The self-delightful Sun, being gratified at such (difficult) penance of Maya, bestowed on him the knowledge of the science of Astronomy which he was inquiring after. The illustrious Sun said:

5. (O Maya), I am informed of your intention (of attaining the knowledge of the science of Astronomy) and am pleased with your penance. I, therefore will grant you the great knowledge of Astronomy which treats of time.

6. (But since) nobody can bear my light and I have no time to teach you (the science), this man who partakes of my nature will impart to you the whole of the science.

7. The God-Sun, having thus spoken to, and ordered the man born from himself (to teach Maya), disappeared. That man spoke to Maya, who stood bending and folding his hands close to his forehead, in the following manner.

8. (O Maya), hear attentively the excellent knowledge (of the science of Astronomy) which the Sun himself formerly taught to the great saints in each of the Yugas.

9. I teach you the same ancient science, which the Sun himself formerly taught. (But) the difference (between the present and the ancient works) is caused only by time, on account of the revolution of the Yugas.

Conclusion. 22. O superior Maya, I declared this secret and surprisingly excellent (knowledge) to you. This (equivalent to) the holy knowledge is exceedingly meritorious and the destroyer of all sins.

23. Having known this excellent divine knowledge of the stars and the planets which is (just) imparted to you, man acquires a perpetual place on the spheres of the Sun, etc.

24. Having properly imparted this to Maya and said this (the meaning of the preceding two verses) and being worshiped by him, the man who partakes of the nature of the Sun ascended to heaven and entered the disc of the Sun.

25. Then having learned the divine knowledge from the Sun himself, Maya considered himself as one who had done his duty, and free from sins.

26. Then having known that Maya had obtained a blessing of the Sun (some) saints approached and asked of him respectfully the knowledge.

27. He (Maya) being delighted gave the great knowledge of the planets to them (the saints) which is very surprising in this world, secret and equivalent to the holy knowledge.—End of the fourteenth chapter, of the Second Part, and of the work.

And now I come to the main subject of this article. By careful study of the *Sûrya-Siddhânta* we shall find the following statement to be true:

The time that has elapsed since the beginning of the present Kalpa on Globe D, our Earth, is longer than the time that has elapsed from the 'beginning of cosmic evolution' on that same globe, the difference being 47,400 years of the Gods or 17,064,000 solar years.

In order to prove this we shall first have to quote the necessary ślokas from the ancient astronomical work:

Chapter I, 24. 47,400 years of the Gods have elapsed in the creation of the God Brahmâ, of animate and inanimate things, of the planets, stars, gods, demons, etc.

Chapter I, 45, 46 & 47. Collect together the years of the six Manus, with their six Sandhis, and the Sandhi which lies in the beginning of the Kalpa, those of twenty-seven great Yugas of the present Manu named Vaivaswata and those of the Krita-yuga; and subtract from the sum, the said number of years of the Gods, reduced to solar years, required (by the God Brahmâ) in the creation of the universe, (before the commencement of the planetary motions), and the remainder 1,953,720,000 is the number of solar years before the end of the Krita-yuga.

What abysses of time, compared with the few thousands of years of the last 'historical' period, have passed, since that calculation was made! It was in last Tretâ-yuga, between 2,165,034 and 869,034 years ago, as neither Tretâ-yuga nor Dwâpara-yuga are mentioned above!

And let us now do it again, but this time proceed up to the present year, 1933.

The six Manus	1,840,320,000	years
The seven Sandhis	12,096,000	"
The twenty-seven great Yugas	116,640,000	"
The Krita-yuga	1,728,000	"
The Tretâ-yuga	1,296,000	"
The Dwâpara-yuga	864,000	"
The time of Kali-yuga up to 1933	5,034	"
The total is	1,972,949,034	years,
being the number of years passed since the beginning of the present Kalpa of 4,320,000,000 years on Globe D, our Earth.		

As one 'year of the Gods' is 360 solar years, 47,400 years of the Gods are 17,064,000 solar years:

subtracting from the	1,972,949,034	years
this number of	17,064,000	"

the remainder is 1,955,885,034 years
being the number of years passed from the beginning of cosmic evolution.

Before going any further, some remarks are due. In my article on the same subject in the July issue of THE THEOSOPHICAL PATH, 1931, a small mistake, among other great errors, was made by me in counting the number of years elapsed from the beginning of last Kali-yuga up to 1931. This period I considered then to be $3102 + 1931 = 5033$ years, and this was 1 year too much. It ought to have been 5032 years. An example: The time from any date of the year 1 B. C. to the same date of the year 1 A. D. is not 2 years but 1 year, and the formula for any time, say the year X B. C. to the year Y A. D., will be:

$$X + Y - 1 = Z \text{ years}$$

and $3102 + 1931 - 1 = 5032$ years. This year, 1933, the time that has elapsed since the beginning of the last Kali-yuga is consequently 5034 years.

I ask forgiveness for this mistake, as I am not the only one who made it. Exactly the same mistake was made by the writers of the Tamil calendar, referred to by H. P. B. and also by the Pandit Sarasvatî; and I shall now and here show how this happened.

Let us turn to *The Secret Doctrine*, Volume II, page 68, and compare the following three numbers of years given on that page, and the two first of them taken from the Tamil calendar and the third one from Sarasvatî:

1,955,884,687 years
 1,664,500,987 "
 1,960,852,987 "

And further, let us look at the three last figures in these three numbers of years:

687
 987
 987

The first of these three numbers, 687, must be wrong. They should all be the same, or 987, and why? Because they all are a part of the odd number of years passed since the beginning of last Kali-yuga, the only odd number of years in the addition of periods above, all the other periods ending with even numbers of thousands of years. How did this mistake occur? Who knows? It is possible, however, that a compositor in setting up 987 turned the 9 upside down and made a 6. This is the first and worst mistake.

I now come to the second one, the same as I made myself. In *The Secret Doctrine*, Volume I, page 650, we read: "The Hindûs date their Kali-yuga from a great periodical conjunction of the planets thirty-one centuries B. C." The calculation was evidently done in this way:

$$\begin{array}{r} 3100 \\ + 1887 \\ \hline 4987 \end{array}$$

but it ought to be:

$$\begin{array}{r} 3100 \\ + 1887 \\ \hline 4987 \\ - \quad 1 \\ \hline 4986 \end{array}$$

and according to this correction the three last figures of the three numbers above ought to be:

$$\begin{array}{r} 986 \\ 986 \\ 986 \end{array}$$

There is, however, a third mistake made and this will become clear to us, if we turn to *The Secret Doctrine*, Volume I, page 662, where we read the following sentence: "Starting from the solar epoch determined by the rising of the sun on February 18th, 3102 (B. C.), and tracing back events 2d. 3h. 32m. 30s., we come to 2h. 27m. 30s. A. M. of February 16th, which is the instant of the beginning of Kali-yuga." Consequently the last Kali-yuga started 3102 B. C. instead of 3100 B. C., and our calculation will become the following:

$$\begin{array}{r} 3102 \\ + 1887 \\ \hline 4989 \\ - \quad 1 \\ \hline 4988 \end{array}$$

With all these corrections taken into consideration the three numbers of years ought to be respectively:

1,955,884,988	}	up to 1887 A. D.
1,664,500,988		
1,960,852,988		

and

1,955,885,034	}	up to 1933 A. D.
1,664,501,034		
1,960,853,034		

46 years later than 1887 A. D.

In order to make our calculations clearer and more comprehensible, let us from all the numbers of billions and millions of years temporarily take away the odd numbers of years from the beginning of last Kali-yuga, whether they are counted up to 1887 A. D. or up to 1933 A. D.

The number of years passed since the beginning of the present Kalpa or Brahmâ's Day on Globe D of our planetary chain up to 1933 A. D. is, according to our calculation above 1,972,949,034 years.
The time of last Kali-yuga up to 1933 A. D. is 5,034 "

The remainder is 1,972,944,000 years.

Proceeding in the same way with the three numbers of years taken from *The Secret Doctrine* we get:

1,955,880,000 years
1,664,496,000 "
1,960,848,000 "

These three numbers represent:

The first, the time from the beginning of cosmic evolution up to the beginning of last Kali-yuga,

The second, the time from the first appearance of 'Humanity' (on our planetary chain) up to the beginning of last Kali-yuga,

The third is a date given by the school of the late Pandit Dayânand Sarasvatî, founder of the Ârya Samâj, this third number of years supposed by H. P. B. to be a contradiction of *the first* number of years above.

These three numbers of years are all correct, as the following additions will show to us.

Add to the first number of 1,955,880,000 years
47,400 years of the Gods, each of the length of

360 solar years	17,064,000 "
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and we get our calculated total of 1,972,944,000 years.

Add to the second number of 1,664,496,000 years
 the full period of 1 Manvantara or 308,448,000 ”
 and we get our calculated total of 1,972,944,000 years.
 Add to the third number of 1,960,848,000 years
 7 Sandhis, each of the length of 1,728,000 years, 12,096,000 ”
 and we get our calculated total of 1,972,944,000 years.

At this point in our investigation we are able to make the following statements:

(a) In *The Secret Doctrine* our beloved H. P. B. gave us the main periods perfectly correct although

(b) in the calculation of the additional period from the beginning of last Kali-yuga some smaller mistakes appeared.

(c) The beginning of cosmic evolution started 17,064,000 years later than the present Kalpa of 4,320,000,000 years on Globe D.

(d) The first appearance of ‘Humanity’ on our planetary chain occurred a whole Manvantara of 308,448,000* years after the beginning of the present Kalpa and 291,384,000 years after the beginning of cosmic evolution.

(e) The date given by Sarasvatî is the time elapsed since the beginning of the present Kalpa but it is incomplete. All the seven Sandhis, each counting 1,728,000 years and appearing before the beginning and after the close of each one of the six past Manvantaras, each counting 306,720,000 years, are excluded in his calculation.

We are now able to give a complete answer to H. P. B.’s quotation in her footnote number 128 on p. 68 in Vol. II of *The Secret Doctrine* where she writes:

This difference and the change of ciphers in the last three triplets of figures, the writer cannot undertake to account for. According to every calculation, once the three hundred millions are subtracted, the figures ought to stand, 1,655,884,687. But they are given as stated in the Tamil calendar above-named and as they were translated. The school of the late Pandit Dayânand Sarasvatî, founder of the Ārya Samāj, gives a date of 1,960,852,987. See the *Ārya Magazine* of Lahore, the cover of which bears the words: “Āryan era 1,960,852,987.”

The difference she is referring to is the difference between the following numbers of years taken from the Tamil calendar called the *Tiruk-kanda Pañchanga*:

*A full or whole Manvantara is a Sandhi-period plus one Manvantara: $308,448,000 = 1,728,000 + 306,720,000$ years.

1,955,884,687
 300,000,000
 1,664, 500,987

Two of these numbers are already familiar to us. The third, the 300,000,000 years, is supposed to be the evolution-period of the (astral) mineral, vegetable, and animal kingdoms up to Man.

ANSWER TO H. P. B.

The ancient *Book of Dzyan* gives a round number when it says: "The Wheel whirled for thirty crores. It constructed rūpas." One crore being 10,000,000 years this would mean 300,000,000 years, but by thirty crores a period of 291,384,000 years was meant, this being the difference between a full period of one Manvantara, or 308,448,000 years, and the period for the divine activity which, according to the ancient *Sūrya-Siddhānta*, began at the beginning of the Kalpa on Globe D and lasted for 17,064,000 years. The period of 291,384,000 years is hardly 3% shorter than the period of 300,000,000 years.

The time from the beginning of last Kali-yuga up to 1887 A. D. is wrongly calculated in the Tamil calendar and also by Sarasvatī, the correct number of years being 4988.

Taking all this into consideration the three numbers of years which caused so much trouble should be altered to the following:

1,955,884,988
 291,384,000
 1,664,500,988

The difference between the first and second numbers of years is here equal to the third number of years.

The date given by brother Sarasvatī is not the time from the beginning of cosmic evolution but the time from the beginning of the present Kalpa on Globe D, 17,064,000 years earlier, and he does not include the seven past Sandhi-periods in his calculation.

His date was 1,960,852,987
 It should be 1,960,852,988
 Add 7 Sandhis 12,096,000

and we get 1,972,948,988 years, the time that has elapsed from the beginning of the present Kalpa of 4,320,000,000 years up to the 16th of February, 1887 A. D.

END OF THE ANSWER TO H. P. B.

In this connexion I cannot refrain from pointing to another small mistake appearing in *The Secret Doctrine*, Vol. II, p. 69, where we read, a few lines from the top of the page: "The year 1887 is from the commencement of Kali-yuga 4989 years."

The calculation giving this number of years is apparently the following:

$$\begin{array}{r} 3102 \\ + 1887 \\ \hline 4989 \end{array}$$

whereas it ought to be:

$$\begin{array}{r} 3102 \\ + 1887 \\ \hline 4989 \\ - \quad 1 \\ \hline 4988 \end{array}$$

for the same reason as mentioned above.

Finally I want to say something of the time that has elapsed since the Vaivasvata Manvantara — or the human period — started its cycles on our Globe D in this our Fourth Round. This time is up to the year 1887, just 18,618,728 years, according to *The Secret Doctrine*, Volume II, page 69.

Subtract from that number of	18,618,728 years
the time from the beginning of last Kali-yuga or	4,988 "
and from the difference of	18,613,740 years
1,075 periods of 1,728,000 years each or	18,576,000 "
the remaining number of years is	37,740 years.

This number of years has a certain relation to a far greater period, closely connected with the five globes above the seven manifested globes of our planetary chain.

CONCLUSION

The present Kalpa of 4,320,000,000 years on Globe D, our physical Earth, being on the seventh plane counting from above of the seven cosmic planes where the twelve globes of our planetary chain are living, started 1,972,949,034 years ago and at the same instant started a period

of 17,064,000 years of divine activity, closing 1,955,885,034 years ago.

Then followed during a period of 291,384,000 years the evolution of the (astral) mineral, vegetable, and animal kingdoms up to Man and when that great period closed 1,664,501,034 years ago, 'Humanity' for the first time appeared on the planetary chain.

The first planetary round closed, then the second, then the third, and after millions of years (not less than 1,645,882,260 years) had passed, the period of *dual* humanity began — in the Third Root-Race on Globe D in this our Fourth Round; and that happened 18,618,774 years ago.

The Third Root-Race perished, then the Fourth, and our Fifth Root-Race had lived millions of years when last Kali-yuga started. At that moment 18,613,740 years had passed since the Third Root-Race could be called human.

The last, our present, Kali-yuga opened its cycle 5,034 years ago and its 5,034th year expired on the 16th of February this year, 1933 A. D.

After 2,347,050,966 more years the present Kalpa of 4,320,000,000 years on Globe D will expire. There are still 187,050,966 years to come, before the midpoint of it is reached, but some millions of years ago we passed *our* midpoint of evolution at the middle of the fourth family-race of the fourth Sub-race of the Fourth Root-Race on Globe D in this our Fourth Round of the seven rounds of which the first one started on Globe A of our planetary chain hundreds of millions of years before the beginning of the Kalpa on Globe D.

CAGLIOSTRO

A Messenger Long Misunderstood

P. A. MALPAS, M. A.

IX

CAGLIOSTRO AND THE CARDINAL DE ROHAN

CAGLIOSTRO'S first meeting with the Cardinal Prince Louis de Rohan, Almoner of France and a man of fabulous wealth and state, was one of the fateful days of his life. The Cardinal was living at the time at his estate at Saverne, not far from Strasbourg, in almost royal splendor. Of this meeting Cagliostro himself said: