



NEWS & UPCOMING ONLINE EVENTS

News

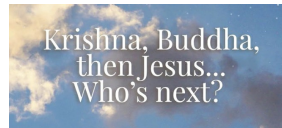


The Spiritual Freedom Show with Richard Lawrence

We're thrilled that international bestselling author and spiritual teacher, [Richard Lawrence](#), will be hosting a twice-monthly podcast bringing you the wisdom of some of the greatest spiritual teachings ever given to Earth: [The Nine Freedoms](#).

[Learn more](#)

Online Event



The Next Master Is Coming!

with Lesley Young and Paul Nugent

Saturday, June 12, 3:00 pm PDT

\$15 (\$10 for Members and Friends)

[Learn more](#)

King Yoga – Spiritual Path of The Aetherius Society

Change the world and open the door of enlightenment

If you are a genuine seeker searching for truth, you can change the world and open the door of enlightenment through King Yoga.

King Yoga is the spiritual path of The Aetherius Society, which was started in 1955 by Master of Yoga Dr. George King. The main purpose of this Society is to help as many people as possible to prepare themselves for the coming New Age. We do this by improving world karma and using spiritual energy to help others – often in direct cooperation with advanced alien intelligences.

King Yoga is your opportunity to live every day with greater meaning and purpose, to selflessly serve others in the light of truth, and to know that you are God – because God is all!

The Quest for Spiritual Truth

If you are genuinely searching for spiritual truth, you know that an "ordinary" life will never be enough for you. You are looking for something more: real answers to fundamental questions about why we are here, what life is really about, and where we are going.

Perhaps you're searching for the key to your spiritual destiny; your mission in life...

Perhaps you feel a calling to help people – to make the world a better place; a calling to *do something* about the suffering of others, not just talk about it.

But what?

Humanity as a whole is failing to solve the biggest challenges that we face on this planet: disease, poverty, violent crime, war, pollution, possible ecological collapse, and a lack of real leadership and collective vision.

We need a radically new – spiritual – understanding of ourselves and our living universe.

Master of Yoga Dr. George King





Master of Yoga Dr. George King directs spiritual energy into a spiritual power battery at Lake Powell, USA, in 1973.



It is said that when the student is ready the Master appears. This Master would serve as a source of truth, guidance and universal love; someone who can help us on our journey to God-realization.

Dr. George King (1919-1997) was a Master of Yoga able to enter the highest state of consciousness attainable on Earth – Cosmic Consciousness, also known as *nirvana* or *nirvikalpa samadhi*.

For more than a decade he had devoted himself to the intense practice of yoga for an average of 8-10 hours per day. Not so much yoga for physical fitness, wellbeing or relaxation, but the higher forms of yoga – for the mastery of psychic abilities and ultimately enlightenment.

Dr. King believed, like it says in the ancient mystic Upanishads, that the greatest gift that anyone can give to anyone else is wisdom. And, conversely, that the greatest crime is to cause confusion by giving people the wrong teaching.

For 43 years (1954-1997) he dedicated himself to his mission of helping the Mother Earth and helping humanity as a whole navigate this period of great change. This mission was in essence to spread, and act upon, the teachings of advanced alien intelligences known as the "Cosmic Masters".



Dr. King practiced the higher forms of yoga for an average of 8 to 10 hours a day for 10 years.

Just prior to entering a yogic samadhi trance condition to serve as a channel for the Cosmic Masters to speak through him.

In a radio studio circa 1960, giving one of his many interviews on TV and radio to help spread the message of the Cosmic Masters.

This photograph was taken on Mt. Ramshead, immediately after the mountain had been charged through Dr. King in Operation Starlight. The original negative shows an energy beam flowing down to Dr. King's head and shoulders.

The Cosmic Masters



The most spiritually advanced planet in this solar system is Saturn. The great masters of Saturn, who exist on a higher vibratory plane invisible to our current technology, work ceaselessly for the good of all life in the Solar System. Image credit: NASA/JPL/Space Science Institute.

The Cosmic Masters come from civilizations, ancient beyond conception, which exist on higher planes of existence on other planets in our solar system.

They are millions of years ahead of us technologically and spiritually, which means that they have evolved to a higher frequency of vibration as yet undetectable by terrestrial science. In other words, if NASA landed an astronaut on Mars tomorrow, for example, that astronaut would not see the intelligences who live there, unless those intelligences specifically chose to lower their vibration and make their presence known.

The Cosmic Masters are termed "Masters" because they have mastered *themselves* – they have made contact with the God-Spark within. This contact with their own Higher Selves gives them true wisdom and great spiritual powers, which they use to help others.

They have been helping humanity for thousands of years, and sometimes have even been born among us in terrestrial bodies. For example, the Master Jesus, the Lord Buddha, Sri Krishna, St Peter, Confucius, Lao Zi and Moses, to name a few, were in fact extraterrestrial in origin.

They came here to give us spiritual teaching and perform certain other metaphysical tasks vital to the survival of our civilization on this planet.

In more recent times, the Cosmic Masters have used Dr George King as a channel for their teachings to Earth. Dr King was able to enter at will a trance state of meditation known as *samadhi*, enabling these beings to speak through him, giving hundreds of messages to our world.

The priceless, profound and practical wisdom of these extraterrestrial messages is available for you to experience, and judge, for yourself.

You can read – or even listen to – these teachings, exactly as they were originally recorded and let them expand your consciousness, just as they have for thousands of other spiritual seekers. Even just hearing these teachings will change your vibration for the better – all you have to do is let it.

Using logic, intuitive realization (inner knowing), and sense perception (what you experience through your physical and psychic senses), you will be able to determine for yourself the genuine quality of these teachings. These are the ways to know something, which anyone can apply.

The New Age



In the New Age, our planet – the Mother Earth, a highly evolved conscious intelligence – will be changing with an intense quickening of vibration.

The Cosmic Masters have revealed profound, timeless truths about God and the living universe, describing our evolutionary journey through experience – and beyond Earth – back to God.

Their messages offer hope to a world living on a knife-edge.

The Cosmic Masters have urged us to change – to selflessly serve others and realize the God-Spark within.

They have also revealed that our time is running out.

In the New Age, our planet – the Mother Earth, a highly evolved conscious intelligence – will be changing with an intense quickening of vibration. If we do not raise our vibrations to be in harmony with this change, we will no longer be able to live here.

It is for this reason that the Cosmic Masters, including Dr. King, have given us the most potent path on Earth to change the world and open the door of enlightenment: King Yoga.

The Aetherius Society and the Path of King Yoga



Reading from The Nine Freedoms – one of the most important sacred texts on Earth.

Truth

Wisdom including real answers to the most fundamental questions about the meaning of life.



Practicing the pranayama yoga breathing exercises as taught by Dr. King.

Advancement

Potent practices to develop yourself spiritually and attain God-realization.



Invoking spiritual energy to charge a spiritual power battery in Operation Prayer Power.

Service

Powerful ways of helping others – including, at the highest level, the most potent ways of

The Aetherius Society was started in 1955 by Dr. George King. Its main function is to help as many people as possible to change so that they can remain here on Earth in the New Age.

We do this by improving world karma and using spiritual energy to help others – often in direct cooperation with the Cosmic Masters.

The spiritual path of The Aetherius Society is now called King Yoga, in deference to Dr. King. King Yoga has three main aspects:

Truth: wisdom including real answers to the most fundamental questions about the meaning of life.

Advancement: potent practices to develop yourself spiritually and attain God-realization.

Service: powerful ways of helping others – including, at the highest level, the most potent ways of changing the world in cooperation with the Cosmic Masters.

Truth

“

“Indeed, truth is the greatest and the most beautiful expression of God that you will ever find on this planet.”

– Saint Goo-Ling, an Ascended Master, speaking through the trance mediumship of Dr. George King

The teachings given by, and through, Dr. King are in simple, concise, understandable language, and comprise the holiest and most complete body of spiritual teaching available on Earth.

Free from the outdated dogma of much of traditional religion, these teachings reveal our true cosmic history, the meaning of life and our spiritual destiny.

They serve as a guide – a manual for how to live a better life, and, most importantly, how to help others.

Dr. King said:

“The sages from the East have a profound philosophy which governs the student’s acceptance of all their teachings. It is: first, read the theory; second, apply this to the mind; and third, act upon that which is acceptable to the consciousness.”

Advancement

“

“When you are ready, great enlightenment will come, an answer to all your problems will be revealed in such a way that you will become your own teacher, the student of your Higher Self.”

– Master of Yoga Dr. George King

Logical thought is essential, but it cannot fully reveal to you the universal oneness of Divine Spirit – for that you have to go within and develop your own powers of intuitive realization.

This journey within is the quest for God-realization; knowledge of what you are – of your Real Self – and of the very nature of God itself.

There are many ways to go within, and all true spiritual practices will take you within to some degree.

The spiritual practices taught by Dr. King are extremely powerful, but also very balanced. They will change you from the inside out so that you begin to experience a rise in consciousness.

You can realize your own Divine potential: psychic powers, intuition, more potent spiritual healing abilities, and most important of all: wisdom.

Service

“

“The greatest Yoga is – SERVICE. The greatest Religion is – SERVICE. The greatest act is that act done in – SERVICE... Serve – and you will become enlightened. Serve – and you will be practising true selfless Love.”

– Mars Sector 6, a Cosmic Master, speaking through the trance mediumship of Dr. George King

Dr. King described wisdom as “love in action” – and love in practical action is selfless service.

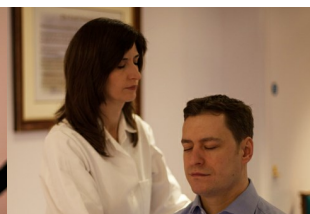
You can use simple techniques to pray effectively and heal others by becoming a better channel for spiritual energy.

You can teach others about their own Divinity – not from blind faith, but from experience.

You can help raise global consciousness and improve world karma – by cooperating directly with the Cosmic Masters in The Aetherius Society’s Cosmic Missions.

In short: you can literally help to save the world and open the door to enlightenment!

Discover King Yoga for Yourself





Radiating spiritual energy from Mt Wakefield (New Zealand) – one of the 19 Holy Mountains charged in Operation Starlight.



Radiating spiritual energy for world peace and enlightenment.



Giving spiritual healing to a patient using the King Technique.

Most people are looking for happiness. The realization of your unique spiritual destiny will bring you something greater than happiness: spiritual fulfilment and lasting inner joy – your true heritage.

King Yoga is an exciting, thriving, spiritual movement of like-minded seekers who are working together to prepare humanity for a New Age of lasting peace and enlightenment on Earth.

King Yoga will help you to realize your inner potential and rise above negative conditioning, ignorance, and materialism.

This is your opportunity to live every day with greater meaning and purpose, to serve others in the light of truth, and know – that you are a Spark of God!

“”

I always realized we were here for something greater. I just couldn't put my finger on it. I thought it was materialism but that was just my ego. When I started to internalize the path to enlightenment, and the works of Dr. George King I knew this was it... I want to thank you with every fiber of my being. The path to enlightenment is everything my soul has ever desired from life.

– Richard, USA

“”

All of the teachings resonate with my beliefs and focus... I've been searching and studying many different paths for TRUTH, and take comfort in knowing I have found it... I get the most joy out of helping others in any way I can, but mostly when I can help someone find enlightenment... I firmly believe the only way out of the darkness our planet is experiencing at this time is to send love and compassion out to the universe.

– Renee, USA

Introductory email series

If you are interested in learning more about King Yoga, subscribe to our introductory email series – 17 days of spiritual wisdom that will change your life...!

- Will I find spiritual truth? A tale of two seekers...
- Why isn't my life better?
- Does God love me?
- What happens after death?
- Can I become a great Spiritual Master?
- Do I need a spiritual guru?
- How do I choose a spiritual guru?
- What can I do to help the world?
- Why aren't my prayers always answered?
- How can I become more spiritual?
- Is it possible to communicate with people after they have died?
- What is life like elsewhere in the universe?
- Spiritual Aliens – why are they here?
- How can I raise my consciousness and change the world?

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the 17-day series you shared. It is an excellent introduction for those taking their first tentative steps... I love by the way, the term 'spiritual pioneers.'" – Marlene, UK

"I've found reading these emails has made a lot more sense to me than most things in life with regard to "what's the point" of life... I'm finding reading and listening to the society's history extremely interesting and there is a spark that is growing inside me spiritually that burns more brightly daily. Thank you for the opportunity to access the wonderful information that is made available..." – Christian, UK

"I would like to thank you for the great email series. It was unbelievable to learn so much from the great man Dr. George King..." – Jerry, USA

"Can I just say how interesting it has been reading the Aetherius emails this week, and learning about things I had never thought about. My view of creation has changed completely and I wonder about any lives we may have had and how we may have lived them... I look forward to the emails each and every day and read them continuously. Many thanks." – Ken, UK

You will receive your first email in the next few minutes.

“”

I am forever grateful to learn the truth – nothing but the truth – from Dr. George King.

– Sonia, USA

“”

I'm so glad I've found The Aetherius Society as it has a sense of 'coming home'.... I have started to become more spiritually aware and I have now reached the point where I want to find a deeper level of spirituality. I know my purpose here is to serve and I am happy that I can do this in so many ways....

– Jill, UK

Discovery Guides

Explore King Yoga – The Spiritual Path of The Aetherius Society

Enlightenment

Service

God and the Meaning of Life

**UFOs and the Extraterrestrial
Message**

Prayer Energy

**The Mother Earth and Our
Future**

Karma and Reincarnation

**Intuition and Psychic
Powers**

Spiritual Healing

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Contacts With The Gods From Space

***PATHWAY TO
THE NEW AGE***

GEORGE KING, D.D., TH.D.

WITH

RICHARD LAWRENCE, TH.D.



Contacts With The Gods From Space
Pathway to the New Age

George King, D.D., Th.D.
with
Richard Lawrence, Th.D.

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Contacts With The Gods From Space
Pathway to the New Age

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Other books by George King, D.D., Th.D.

THE NINE FREEDOMS

THE DAY THE GODS CAME

THE TWELVE BLESSINGS

VISIT TO THE LOGOS OF EARTH

OPERATION SPACE MAGIC – THE COSMIC CONNECTION

OPERATION SPACE POWER – *The Solution to the Spiritual Energy Crisis*

CONTACT WITH A LORD OF KARMA

YOU TOO CAN HEAL

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE!

THE THREE SAVIOURS ARE HERE!

THE FIVE TEMPLES OF GOD

THE AGE OF AETHERIUS

THE HOLY MOUNTAINS OF THE WORLD

OPERATION SUNBEAM – GOD'S MAGIC IN ACTION

WISDOM OF THE PLANETS

LIFE ON THE PLANETS

COSMIC VOICE, VOLUME NO. 1

COSMIC VOICE, VOLUME NO. 2

KARMA AND REINCARNATION

BECOME A BUILDER OF THE NEW AGE

THIS IS THE HOUR OF TRUTH

JOIN YOUR SHIP

A COSMIC MESSAGE OF DIVINE OPPORTUNITY

MY CONTACT WITH THE GREAT WHITE BROTHERHOOD

THE FESTIVAL OF "CARRYING THE LIGHT"

DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE OF DEATH *and* RESCUE IN SPACE

JESUS COMES AGAIN

THE HEATHER ANGEL STORY

SPACE CONTACT IN SANTA BARBARA

THE ATOMIC MISSION

A SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

CONTACT YOUR HIGHER SELF THROUGH YOGA

BOOK OF SACRED PRAYERS

THE PRACTICES OF AETHERIUS

THE FLYING SAUCERS

THE TRUTH ABOUT DYNAMIC PRAYER

IMPORTANCE OF COMMEMORATION *and* SPIRITUAL HAPPINESS

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UFOS AND THE EXTRATERRESTRIAL MESSAGE

Published by CICO Books

Books, CDs and DVDs by George King, D.D., Th.D. and Richard Lawrence, are obtainable from The Aetherius Society, American Headquarters, 6202 Afton Place, Hollywood, California 90028, U.S.A., Tel: (323) 465-9652; or from the European Headquarters of The Aetherius Society, 757 Fulham Road, London SW6 5UU, England, Tel: (020) 7736-4187. www.aetherius.org

Cover design and illustration by Rodney D. Crosby.

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to
our Cosmic Saviours
Who have watched over us
through the centuries.

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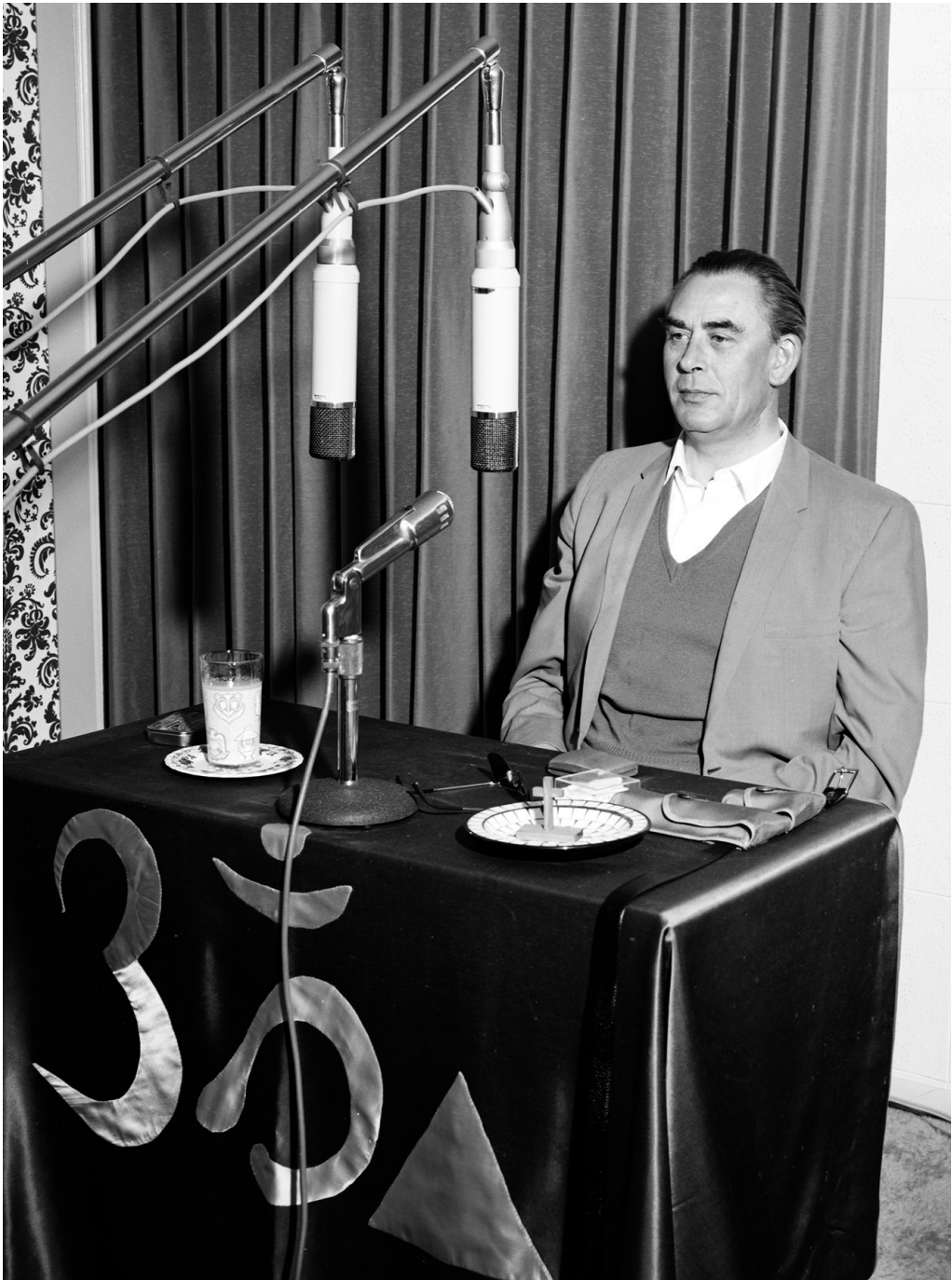
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[Dr. George King during Operation Prayer Power Energy release](#)

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Dr. George King receiving a Cosmic Transmission

Foreword to the Second Edition

In the Summer of 1995 I was staying with Dr. George King at his home in Santa Barbara, California. One day, out of the blue, he turned to me and said: “You seem very prolific—why don’t you write a book with me?”

I had written two books, one of which had been declared by its publisher to be an international best-seller. But, that amounted to nothing when compared to the body of works published by Dr. King, which will surely go down in history as classics of new age metaphysics. The thought, never mind the privilege, of co-authoring a book with Dr. King had never occurred to me until he spoke those words.

And so was born *Contacts With The Gods From Space*, which turned out to be the last book by Dr. King to be published in his lifetime. With the advice of International Directors of The Aetherius Society from London and Los Angeles, the synopsis of the book was developed, the manuscript completed and approved by Dr. King and it was launched at London’s Festival for Mind Body Spirit in May 1996.

For the next year a major promotional campaign ensued involving talks in dozens of towns and cities in the U.K., U.S.A., Canada, Australia and New Zealand. In the U.K. the first lecture in Leicester was heralded by a widely reported UFO sighting just two hours before the lecture, and the last in Torquay was preceded by a headline in the local press on the day of the meeting that a UFO had been seen heading for Torbay. Neither report was made by anyone connected to our campaign, but it is not unusual for such “synchronicity” to occur when promoting the cosmic message.

The campaign was a triumphant success, enthusiastically supported and encouraged by phone calls and faxes from Dr. King who, in view of his health and other commitments, could not participate physically. One such fax sent to us in London simply read: “Your current Campaign in the British Isles is: WONDERFUL! WONDERFUL!! WONDERFUL!!! WONDERFUL!!!! WONDERFUL!!!!! I send my most sincere Blessings to all those concerned in this magnificent Campaign.”

In a matter of months, it was necessary for the book to be reprinted with sufficient stocks for the future. These have now finally run out and this second edition has been published with the agreement of the Board of International Directors of The Aetherius Society. I should add that neither Dr. King nor I have taken royalties from this book, nor will I ever do so.

Foreword to the Second Edition

Much has changed since 1995, especially in the field of scientific research, but the timeless Truths remain the same. The subtitle has been changed from “Pathway to the New Millennium” to “Pathway to the New Age”, since, prior to the year 2000 “new millennium” was often used to indicate “new age”, which is no longer the case. There are a few minor edits, but the text is essentially exactly as it was in 1996.

On July 12th, 1997, Dr. King passed from this earthly realm at his residence in Santa Barbara. When this book was launched, Dr. King asked me to convey his blessings to readers and now, as it enters its second edition, I am honoured to do so again.

Dr. Richard Lawrence

Preface

The latter part of the second millennium A.D., has seen an abundance of metaphysical knowledge of all kinds being made available, for the first time, to humanity as a whole. Numerous Sanskrit texts have been translated into modern languages, often deciphered from obscure, codified systems into understandable, practical philosophies. The Theosophical movement, originally led by the much maligned but inspired Madame H.P. Blavatsky, has produced a wealth of complex but invaluable revelations from the Spiritual Hierarchy of Earth (the Great White Brotherhood). The doors of western mystery schools have been opened to reveal advanced magical rituals based on natural forces. Yogis and mystics have left India, Tibet and other parts of the world to visit the west and teach hitherto unknown practices in higher consciousness and Spiritual transformation.

At the same time as this ancient, formerly secret knowledge has become available to the world as a whole, an apparently new phenomenon has also emerged, namely UFO's (Unidentified Flying Objects). On June 24th, 1947, Kenneth Arnold, when flying his private plane in Washington State, U.S.A., saw nine disc-shaped objects in the sky which he described as being like saucers skipping over water. The term "Flying Saucer" was coined, and so the UFO movement was born. Nowadays, any informed person is aware of this phenomenon and knows something about it. No longer is it regarded as an eccentric belief, but rather as a perfectly logical and consistent recognition of a phenomenon which has been with us throughout history.

Into this maelstrom of philosophical change stepped Dr. George King. Born on January 23rd, 1919, he was to combine a mastery of the mystical and Yogic sciences, which he had attained by a highly disciplined regime of intense practice in the ten years after the Second World War, with a unique series of close encounters with extraterrestrial sources spanning over 40 years. In his person, this movement of ancient knowledge from east to west and from secret ashrams to modern bookshops, was to take on a new, Cosmic dimension. In 1955, The Aetherius Society was formed to propagate the Flying Saucer message as delivered by and through Dr. George King.

Nowadays, it is fairly commonplace to hear of claimed close encounters with UFO's. The shelves of bookshops around the world display a whole variety of supposed messages from all over the Galaxy and beyond. So-called UFO abductions are being studied in universities and former government officials, who had previously discounted UFO claims, have changed their approach and, in one case, even written a book advocating their existence. Most people, according to

opinion polls, believe in life on other Planets. It is not so much whether they exist, but who can you believe? Sadly, there have been fakes, hoaxers and, to be frank, deluded people who have misled others. But there have also been a few genuine UFO contactees. Of these, Dr. George King stands head and shoulders above all the other modern day contactees. There is simply no one to compare with him. Independent researchers have stated categorically that there is no organization in the world like The Aetherius Society, which has remained consistent in its beliefs over a period of over 40 years, has steadily grown into a highly respected, international organization and, above all, offers proof of its claims.

That is why I was delighted to be invited by Dr. King to co-author this book with him. In my view, he has written the most advanced and important works of metaphysical teaching available in modern literature. They provide the key to understanding the New Age and how to build it. They are written in easily understandable English, and yet go into uncharted territory of practical, mystical thought. Despite this and probably because they deal with such advanced Cosmic concepts, none of these books could be described as introductory or giving a broad overview of The Aetherius Society's work and philosophy, which has continually evolved up to and including the present day.

This book is based entirely upon Dr. King's contacts and personal wisdom as a Master of Yoga in his own right. I have written the book as a result of over 20 years as his student and friend and the many discussions we have had. I will also include excerpts from his lectures and writings throughout the book. Additionally, extracts from some of the numerous messages he has received from extraterrestrial sources will be included. In short, the concept of the book is his—the overall format we have agreed together—the writing is mine.

If you are wondering what exactly The Aetherius Society is, I hope you will find your answer here. If you want to know the Spiritual aspect of the UFO phenomenon and to come into contact with the most outstanding series of close encounters with Interplanetary Beings in modern times, then you will do so in this book. I am not out to convert you to anything. That would be a futile exercise. I know that if you are interested in what I say, you will investigate for yourself. I also know that if you do so, you will find your own proof in your own way. I invite you to examine all the facts and test all the claims you will read about for yourself. I believe that if you do, it will be the most profitable thing you have ever done. At least that is what I found twenty-four years ago when I first came across The Aetherius Society.

Dr. Richard Lawrence

CHAPTER ONE

Science and Religion

“Science, by itself, is like the soul-less wanderer of the realms of night.”

—the Master Jesus.

HISTORICAL ROOTS

At one time in ancient Greece, there were no divisions between science and religion. Both were seen as essential aspects of the only real study: the search for Truth. Sharp divisions were not made then, as they are now, between the physical world and the Spiritual world. They were both seen as parts of one great whole. Their educational system encouraged a breadth of learning, in which, for example, mathematics, music and astronomy were seen as being interrelated, since there are parallels between the harmony of numbers, sounds and celestial bodies. All studies were only stepping stones for the student to move onto the most important fields of, first philosophy and then, the even higher field of theology.

In the ancient east, science and religion were also seen as coming from the same root—that of Yoga, which means “Union with God.” Those ancient Yogis, known in the Hindu Vedas as Rishis, applied their brilliant powers of scientific analysis to the internal human condition in order to develop a workable system of personal Spiritual evolution. From this sprang the great eastern wisdom which was written down thousands of years later by Vedic scribes and has never been more accessible than it is today.

Gradually through the centuries, science has become separated from religion. The scientific discoveries made since the Renaissance have changed our whole concept of the Universe. Our knowledge of the physical world has been revolutionized in comparison with the relatively superstitious beliefs of the middle ages. We have felt the benefits of this in too many fields to enumerate, from transport to medicine to communication to construction and so on. But we have also seen the indiscriminate development of science for warfare and we are faced with a threat that the people of the middle ages never faced: that of complete obliteration through a nuclear holocaust. Science has been developed too much for its own sake, instead

of purely for humanitarian purposes. The nightmare scenario has occurred. Science when used for atomic warfare is indeed the “soul-less wanderer of the realms of night.”

Religion cannot escape its share of the blame. Divisions have permeated the world religions, both between religions and within the religions themselves. How many wars have been fought between different sects of the same religion, never mind different religions? And yet, the basic tenets of all the major religions are similar in essence. They each gave their own individual emphasis for the time and place in which they emerged, but it is amazing just how much they all have in common. Buddhism sprang out of Hinduism and the Christian and Moslem faiths have their roots in Judaism. The Old Testament itself shares common ground with Hinduism. For example, the God of Abraham is referred to as “I Am That I Am,” which is very close to a translation of an ancient Mantra contained in Sanskrit writings, and used for centuries by both Hindus and Buddhists.

SCIENCE IN THE NEW AGE

A time of change is now upon us. The Age of Aquarius, which will start to dawn in the new millennium, will be an Age of science, but a science tempered by love. The barriers between different religions will gradually be broken down and there will be a return to oneness which is the very essence of Spiritual expression. More than this, the barriers between religion and science will be broken down and they will be seen again as two essential aspects of the one search for Truth.

If you consider this concept impossibly optimistic, just look at the massive changes which have occurred in our perception of the Universe in a few hundred years. From the time of Aristotle in the 4th century B.C., until the theories of Copernicus in the 16th century A.D., the Universe was considered by scientists and theologians alike to be entirely centred around the Earth. There was a virtual lone voice in the 3rd century B.C., namely the Alexandrian astronomer Aristarchus of Samos, who boldly maintained that the Earth moved around the Sun. But it was 1800 years before the visionary findings of this inspired individual were confirmed by Copernicus, Galileo and others. This proves absolutely that the view held by the religious and scientific establishments of the day, and often the vast majority of thinking people, is not necessarily correct. Even in the 16th century, when Galileo supported the Copernican findings that the Earth was not the centre of the Universe, it was too much for the establishment to stomach and he was forced to recant after appalling treatment at the hands of the Catholic Church.

Albert Einstein compared scientific discoveries to looking at a watch. You can observe the movement of a watch and deduce from that how it may work, but you will only ultimately know by removing the back of the watch and looking inside. Scientists, he said, have not looked inside, they are only making deductions based upon looking at the watch. After 1800 years of science accepting the Aristotelian concept that Planets were embedded in a crystalline sphere which moved in a uniform circular motion around the Earth, scientists such as Galileo, Newton and Kepler started to understand concepts of planetary motion, the laws of gravity and so on. Once their discoveries were accepted, so the religious and scientific establishments and the views of most thinking people changed.

Dr. George King could be likened to Aristarchus of Samos in being centuries ahead of his time. As with Aristarchus, orthodoxy has rejected his views, but a change will come as it always does. The New Age will see science and religion draw closer together and the Spiritual Sciences, now being championed by Dr. King and a few others, will eventually emerge as the established approach of the Aquarian Age. This time it should not take 1800 years though.

As scientists have moved into studying the minutiae of subatomic physics, they have found that the predictable fixed laws which they had come to assume were universal to all matter, no longer apply at the sub-atomic level. This discovery in the early years of the 20th century shook the very foundations of physics. Subatomic particles were not behaving as they should do. Since the Greek philosopher and scientist Democritus, who lived in the 5th century B.C., had introduced the concept of atoms and space as the only certain elements in the physical world, up to the discoveries of Sir Isaac Newton and the Newtonian physicists who followed him, a vision of a perfectly ordered Universe which conformed to known laws and never deviated from them had evolved. Suddenly in the 20th century came the discovery that sub-atomic particles appeared to behave haphazardly.

Despite the apparently haphazard behaviour of particles of matter, they nevertheless cooperated with the Newtonian laws of physics when acting in combination together, which raised a very fundamental question. Why should they cooperate en masse with the laws of wave motion, gravity and so on, if there is no predictable law governing the behaviour of an individual particle? What force causes them in combination to work predictably and perfectly, when they do not do so when analyzed individually? This paradox has perplexed the theoretical physicists of the 20th century.

Other startling facts have also come to light recently. Biophysicists are staggered by what their research tells them about the Planet on which we live. The apparently

coincidental composition of the atmosphere of Earth, which had succeeded in keeping surface temperatures constant despite the unpredictable effects of Sun and time, made it look more like an artifact than an accident—something created and maintained by a higher Power.

Increased scientific knowledge was pointing inexorably towards a force beyond matter guiding and controlling the function of the Universe. Scientists have stated that we do not know why natural qualities, such as the strength of gravity, the speed of light, the electrical charge on the electron and so on have the values they do. They point to the fact that the slightest variation of their values would result in a barren Universe without Stars or light and question why they are so precisely adjusted as to give rise to life. Questions such as these indicate a religious dimension to science—the two are no longer separable.

LIFE ON OTHER PLANETS

It is now generally accepted that the likelihood of life on other Planets is overwhelming. Scientists speculate that the odds of no Planets existing in the Cosmos which could sustain physical life as we know it on Earth are minuscule. Current estimates are that there are 400,000,000,000 Suns in the Milky Way Galaxy, and that conservatively at least one out of ten of these Stars is orbited by Planets—in other words, has its own Solar System. Assuming that each of these Solar Systems contains approximately ten Planets, there are at least 400,000,000,000 Planets in this Galaxy alone. These Planets may also be orbited by large satellites which are capable of sustaining physical life as we know it. If one in a hundred of these Planets or satellites is physically habitable, there would be billions of them which could support organic existence.

But this only deals with physical life as we know it; it does not deal with higher vibratory realms of existence. As science and religion come closer in the Aquarian Age, the existence of higher frequencies of matter will be seriously examined. What is the soul, for example, and on what frequency level does it exist? What is the astral body which so many have experienced in near death and out of body experiences? What exactly happens when you die and where do you go? Metaphysicians believe that all life is contained in a sea of energy which vibrates at different levels. There are many realms around this Earth, all dovetailed into each other and by understanding the concept of higher frequencies of matter, all these questions can be answered. This is arguably the most important step for science to take in the New Age.

Once you accept that there are many realms of existence around this Earth, new possibilities are opened up for the Universe as a whole. You start to see the whole Cosmos as being permeated by energy levels of existence. Ideas like this are not new—other planetary realms are referred to in Buddhist writings, for example, as “lokas” (heavenly spheres). But they need to be taken out of the domain of purely religious belief and into the field of practical experience. Beliefs are, of course, essential to all of us. We all have them, not least the dedicated skeptic who can be the most dogmatic individual of all. But the amalgamation of religion and science will bring the application of belief to experience and hence produce knowledge.

There are higher frequency levels of existence not only on this Earth, but also on Mars, Jupiter, Venus, Saturn and other Planets within this Solar System and throughout the Galaxies. Space probes to other Planets in this Solar System will only discover what they are permitted to discover by the inhabitants of those worlds. They do not use the same basic frequency of physical existence as us, since they vibrate at higher rates caused by their greater Spiritual advancement. Their science includes the ability to travel through the levels—they have a control over different frequencies of energy which causes them to be invisible on this level. This explains the ability of UFO’s to disappear and re-appear, a phenomenon which has been reported by thousands of people around the world. UFO’s have often been described as virtually blinking in and out of existence.

THE NATURE OF THE UNIVERSE

Current science says that the Universe will always expand. Scientists believe that billions of years ago the Universe contained matter and energy of extraordinarily high density and temperature which exploded in the so-called “big bang.” As the gas expanded and cooled, protons and neutrons were formed, and some of these built helium nuclei. Eventually, complete hydrogen and helium atoms formed; the gas condensed into Galaxy-sized clouds which broke up into Stars. Contrary to the views of earlier astronomers that Stars were tranquil and unchanging, it is now believed that they are born, lead violent lives and die. After the last Star has faded, scientists believe that even protons may decay into much lighter particles and the Universe may end as a sea of electrons, neutrons and forms of radiation.

This idea of creation, followed by expansion, followed by dissolution is the very essence of not only modern physics, but also ancient Yoga philosophy. The yogis depict it in the following way: Out of Potential came the “Outbreathing,” which brought about Creation and Manifestation. This was followed by the “Inbreathing,”

which dissolved Creation and returned Manifestation back to Potential again. As science advances, so it returns inevitably to fundamental religious concepts. Many studies have been made of the remarkable parallels in thinking between eastern wisdom and modern physics.

We are familiar from science fiction with the concept of “black holes” in Space. These are considered to be collapsed Stars which have shrunk to minute sizes due to the phenomenal gravitational forces upon their mass. Scientists describe a “black hole” as an ultra-dense cauldron of matter and energy which has such gravitational force that even light cannot escape from its vicinity. They theorize that “black holes” will gradually absorb other matter within their gravitational fields, drawing Stars and Planets gradually into their frozen interiors and bringing about an absorption of the Universe as a whole.

As scientific models have been drawn up to calculate the structure of the Universe, theoretical physicists have discovered that, according to the known laws of gravity, there is not enough mass present in the Universe to hold Galaxies together. They should theoretically be separating apart from each other because there is not enough mass to exert sufficient gravitational force to hold them together. To explain this, they postulate that the force must be exerted by “dark matter”. This assumption raises several questions, the most fundamental of which is whether our understanding of the laws of gravity in Space is complete enough to make such a deduction in the first place. But it also indicates that there is some kind of force at work at the macrocosmic level, just as sub-atomic physicists found at the microcosmic level, which is keeping in being the Universe as we know it. Something is causing the Galaxies to hold together, just as something is causing particles to cooperate with the natural law of physics. Even if it is “dark matter,” as physicists speculate, it is exactly the right amount to achieve the balance required throughout the Cosmos. Too much, they say, would have caused disintegration through the absorption of planetary bodies into “black holes,” and too little would have caused the separation of Galaxies leading to unknown consequences. The more science makes progress, the closer it moves towards religion.

TIME TRAVEL

During the mid-1980’s, theoretical physicists turned to the possibility of the existence of “Cosmic worm holes.” These would be interstellar passageways through which it would be possible to travel to another part of the Galaxy and even another part of the Universe in a very short space of time. In fact, an increasing

number of scientists believe that through a “Cosmic worm hole,” time travel would be possible. As fanciful as this may sound, it has gone way beyond the realm of science fiction and is now being studied very seriously in universities around the world.

The fact that time is the fourth dimension and only exists relative to velocity has been proved many times. In 1972, four of the most accurate atomic clocks available were put on board an aircraft and flown around the world. They were flown each way, east and west. At the end of the trip they were found to be slightly behind their stationary earthbound counterparts with which they were synchronized before the flight. This proved that time slows down at velocities relative to a stationary point. Through a combination of exceptional physical forces, many theoretical physicists now regard time travel as a possibility. For time travel to take place, there must be some kind of distortion in the parameters of Space and gravity. After all, we measure time in terms of the movement of bodies in Space which are governed by fixed gravitational fields, e.g. the Earth revolving round the Sun. Such a distortion could be caused by the existence of so-called “Cosmic worm holes,” which would be even more extreme combinations of mass, energy and gravity than a “black hole.”

Of course, all this is pure hypothesis and based upon certain preconceptions which may well turn out to be wrong. One such preconception which is being increasingly rejected is the fact that the speed of light is the ultimate velocity. Physics is moving into metaphysical territory. The two can no longer be completely separated. Time travel raises moral issues. If you can theoretically alter your past or future by time travel, what effect would that have on your present? If you can travel forwards or backwards in time, do you retain all the knowledge you currently have and how does this affect your capacity to experience? And so on. If you deal with such concepts, you have automatically moved into the sphere of metaphysics and religion.

Much of the current thinking in science was foreshadowed by an outstanding experience enjoyed by Dr. George King on December 6th, 1957. Of all the close encounters with extraterrestrial Intelligences which have been recorded in history, this will rank as one of the most significant in changing the parameters of future scientific and metaphysical thought. The following description of this amazing happening, in which he visited a Satellite from Mars, is related in the words of Dr. George King.

A CLOSE ENCOUNTER IN SPACE

“I entered the shield of invisibility surrounding the Vessel. This invisibility is caused by the rotation of photons in a 360 degree arc on the fringe of the magnetic protective shield itself. Then a thin greenish ray, hollow inside, formed a magnetic tunnel through the protective force shield, through which I entered the Satellite.

“The Operations Room was the same as I had seen it in a previous visit. This time a purple glow filled the large semi-circular room. I could see the great flawless crystal window, which extended over one quarter of the ceiling surface, was charged by violet coloured energies. These energies impose whatever conditioning is desired by the operators of the Satellite upon the Solar rays which flow through the large crystal window. The three great prismatic crystals beneath the window transmitted the energy into a large, egg-shaped crystal in the middle of the semi-circular floor. This crystal seemed to glow with an inner fire as did the multi-shaped ones which floated around it like miniature Planets silently moving around a central, oval-shaped Sun. In turn, the vibrations produced, by the reaction of this specially prepared Solar energy upon the other crystal formations, were projected into the series of transmitting crystals and from there to every life-stream on Earth who needed and used this Spiritual Energy.

“A wonderful perfume filled the air, seeming to caress my subtle body and imparting a gentle stimulation which heightened my awareness.

“The Martian whom I had met previously, smiled in greeting. His golden-brown skin—completely hairless—was without a wrinkle. I already knew his age to be over 300 years and marvelled at his youthful appearance.

“The Martian picked up my thoughts and smilingly answered, ‘Control of mind, my friend, brings as one of its inevitable results the control of matter.’

“I noticed that this time he wore a wide belt, studded with jewel-like crystals, over his one-piece, tightly fitting suit.

“‘Come,’ invited the Martian, as he led the way across the Operations Room towards an aperture in the opposite wall between two banks of dials and rows of different coloured push-buttons.

“We entered a short tunnel about seven feet high and five feet across. This was illuminated by concealed lighting which threw a diffused but shadowless pink glow upon the walls and floor. The pink glow exerted a steadying influence upon my auric bodies and became absorbed into them, thus causing a swift movement of the molecules which sounded like a high pitched trilling noise, as molecule rubbed against molecule. I could feel a gently stimulating warm tingle throughout my whole structure. A most pleasant and refreshing feeling.

“The tunnel ended abruptly and I was led into a long, low, oblong-shaped room. Upon the walls were what appeared to me to be maps and charts of Constellations and Galaxies. Many symbols unknown to me appeared here and there as though to pinpoint the different Star systems. Each Sun radiated its own particular colour changes, as did the clusters of Planets which surrounded that Sun. The Planets in the Solar System were also shown as large, glowing balls of colour with their attendant satellites, some lighted by the reflected rays of the Sun revolving around them. A complete chart of the Heavens in moving picture form, took up the full length of the walls of the room. I marvelled at the wonder of the magnificent pictures of the Heavens.

“Why, they are three dimensional!

“No, my dear friend. These charts are at least seven dimensional,’ telepathed the Martian. ‘As you already know, the fourth dimension is time. If you regard those projections with care you can denote certain changes taking place, which are caused by the movement of the satellites around their Suns and so on. Such basic changes are accurately predictable, therefore these changes take place within a measurable time sequence. Now, manifestation could not exist without a power which is capable of creating the tension necessary to hold the particles of matter in a certain state which constitutes the nucleus of sub-atomic and atomic structure. This power utilizes energy and is capable of imposing certain limits upon the energy of motion. The power which imposes direction upon motion is—mind! Now, mind by itself is an all-pervasive energy which, for the sake of simplicity, you could term as a pattern of potential. A pattern which to all intents is static until pressures are applied from outside, which dictate direction to it. *Therefore, even basic matter exists within this*

framework. Will, Mind, Motion, Time, Length, Breadth and Height. The Divine Will imposes those conditions upon mind which bring its potential into manifestation as directed motion in a time-frame of length, breadth and height. Of course this is but a simplified version of a profound concept, as you no doubt see. Divine Will cannot Itself be measured, for It is above and beyond its own manifestations, but we do have some idea of the basic function of this Power. There are even “sub” states, such as feeling, which I have purposely avoided in order to simplify your explanation of the subject.’

“Thank you for that!” I spluttered. ‘It’s going to be difficult enough to put that much over.’

“I have no doubt that you will find a way,’ replied the Martian, with a twinkle in his blue eyes.

“He spoke with such an easy grace about a subject which has baffled some of Earth’s most profound thinkers, that it seemed easy for me to understand him while I was in his presence. I can now only hope that I have done his explanation the justice it undoubtedly deserves.”

SEVEN DIMENSIONS OF CREATION

This staggering but simply expressed summation of the dimensions in which all life exists will become the basis of the science of the future. Scientists realize today that the mind of the researcher can have a definite effect on the outcome of an experiment. No longer are they able to apply the principle of physical objectivity as the only means of proof, an idea which dominated scientific thinking for so long. Length, breadth, height and time are generally accepted as the first four dimensions. Since time exists only in relation to velocity, it is becoming gradually clear to thinking people that, as this great Martian revealed to Dr. King, the fifth dimension must be motion. The next step for scientists to realize is that the sixth dimension is mind. Once they have grasped this they will see that behind the behaviour of even celestial objects there is another power at work operating through mind-controlled energy. This controlling force is the seventh dimension: Divine Will. Call it God, Brahma, Allah, Jehovah, Great White Spirit, or by any other name, it is Divine Will operating through mind. When science realizes this, it will have moved firmly into the territory of religion. There will be a return, certainly much the wiser, to the old idea of the ancient Greeks that the highest study of all must be theology, the study

of the God-given laws of the Universe.

This can all be summarized in a simple but profound aphorism stated by Dr. George King:

“There is no science without religion and no religion without science.”

It will no longer be good enough in the New Age for religions to hide behind the concept of a “leap of faith.” Certainly faith is essential in all major endeavours, but it is not good enough when asked a searching question to merely call for a leap of faith. Any religion worth its salt can be tested. The fact that the Roman Catholic Church in the 17th century was not able to accept the scientific findings of Copernicus and Galileo was an indictment of that religion at the time. By the same token, in these days, all religious organizations should be able to explain the existence of UFO’s, what exactly happens when you die, the meaning of parapsychological events and so on.

The quotation which headed this chapter was delivered by the Master Jesus through Dr. King in Samadhic trance at the Caxton Hall in London on September 14th, 1957. The full statement made by this Great Master at that time encapsulates many of the points made in this chapter. You are recommended to use it as a meditation, for if you do, you will gain a profound and lasting realization from it:

“The Age which is breaking now, brings with it great possibilities and is the Age of Science. Science, by itself, is like the soul-less wanderer of the realms of night. Yet a warmth will come out of Love, to fashion it into a tool, so that it becometh as a wise man, finding his home. Warm it with that Love, my brothers. Let that wondrous, everlasting Power from your hearts fall upon this Science, so that it becometh as a tool in the hands of Everlasting Divinity, and not that soul-less thing which you have made of it.”

CHAPTER TWO

A Master for the Aquarian Age

“Judge a man by results.”

—Mars Sector 6

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS IN HISTORY

There is an illogical tendency among some people to assume that all truly great, miraculous events happened in the past, but could not possibly happen now. Such people think that the Bible, Hindu scripts, Greek legends, Celtic myths and so on, are one thing, but nothing like this is ever going to happen in their lifetime. This view is all the more absurd when you consider the exceptional times in which we live. We now have the capacity for mass salvation or destruction. We have the potential either for diabolical warfare or to build a new world of peace and brotherhood. Despite this, there are still many who meticulously scour over ancient texts for signs of Divine Intervention, but blatantly refuse to believe in such things happening in these days.

One example of extraordinary Divine Intervention is the close encounters which have occurred with Dr. George King. He has a unique record of extraterrestrial contacts and has demonstrated it beyond doubt. But just because he is contemporary, some refuse point blank to accept his claims. They may seem strange, unlikely and even preposterous to some, but those are emotional reactions and have no bearing on whether they are true. The Teachings of Jesus were regarded in the same way by the Romans and many Jews, but are now the beliefs of hundreds of millions, including many who would not describe themselves as Christians.

Why should the great Spiritual happenings of man's history be confined to the past? Common sense suggests that, in this age of Space travel, mass communication and more potential for good or evil than ever in the past, such Spiritual events should be more frequent in these days, not less. There is nothing surprising in the fact that Intelligences from other Planets, who have been in contact with individuals on Earth throughout our history, should choose this time to make such an important series of contacts with an apparently ordinary man.

A popular myth is that UFO's are a new phenomenon. They are not. UFO's

have been with us throughout history. They are referred to in the most ancient documents on Earth and have, significantly enough, often been connected with religious activity. Before looking at the claims and the evidence of Dr. King's contacts with Interplanetary Beings, it is important to put them into the right context—the context of a history of cooperation with people on this Planet by advanced Spiritual Intelligences from other worlds.

This is not a UFO book per se, both because there are numerous books already available on this subject, and also because the most important and unique aspect of the contacts of Dr. King are the close encounters with the inhabitants of other worlds which he has experienced, not so much their craft. However, it would be as well to describe briefly some of the revelations which have been made to Dr. King about extraterrestrial Spacecraft by their controllers.

Two of the most commonly sighted UFO's have consistently been the cigar-shaped object (Mother-Ship) and the so-called "Flying Saucer" (Scout Patrol Vessel). Both these types are reported in ancient records and many other sources up to the present day. The following information compiled by Dr. King, after receiving many contacts, offers a very useful guideline about these types of craft. Many of the points also apply to UFO's of other shapes and sizes.

MOTHER-SHIPS

These are shaped like cigars, fairly blunt at both ends. They vary in size from 1,000 yards to 5,000 miles in length. The small ones carry seven to nine Scout Patrol Vessels; the large ones up to 7,000 Scout Patrol Vessels. The very large ones make deep Space probes outside our System into Galaxies beyond. The Mother-Ships come to within 500 miles of Earth. Sometimes, according to the position of the Moon and magnetic forces emanating from the Sun, they approach nearer to the Earth's surface than that.

They are propelled by a magnetic device which exerts an equal thrust upon every atom of substance within the ship, thereby cancelling out any effects of gravitational weight which may be caused by high acceleration within the gravitational pull of a planetary body. The Carrier Vessels are made of organic metal which is susceptible to a concentration of thought waves emanated by their operators. This substance is thought to be self-reproducing. They are protected by a force field which is intensified in direct relation to the velocity of the craft. This force field is magnetic in nature and it causes a compass needle to oscillate and has a pronounced effect upon radio reception. The degree of this radio interference is

determined by the intensity of the force field (i.e., the velocity of the Mother-Ship), as well as the position of the radio apparatus and shape of the aerial. This force field reflects and refracts light and causes a fuzzy effect on photographic plates. These radiations are not harmful to Earth people unless they come very near to a Mother-Ship in motion, that is, to within the outer edge of the force field itself. Obviously, no material body could actually come into contact with the hull of the vessel, while the force field is in operation. The force field protects the vessel and the occupants from atmospheric friction while travelling near to a planetary body, counteracting the otherwise disastrous effects which could be caused by severe magnetic fluctuations which are contacted while passing through the terrestrial ionospheric and heavy side layers, at the extremely high velocity of which these craft are capable.

SCOUT PATROL VESSELS

There are many types of Scout Patrol Vessels. The ones most often seen in the skies of the world are circular vessels with a dome on top, looking rather like an up-turned saucer, with half a smallish ball on top. There are four major types of this kind of craft, which vary in size and shape in keeping with the particular job on which they are engaged. Some of the large Flying Saucers carry a crew of five and others a crew of four. The most commonly used vessel carries a crew of two, with extra accommodation for several passengers if required. It has a diameter of 35 ft. 6 inches. The remote controlled vessels, for certain kinds of freighter usage, seem to be more bell-shaped, having a small flange at the bottom.

All these vessels have magnetic propulsion units and are protected by smaller editions of the same type of force screens which protect the Mother-Ships. The propulsion units of these craft are so designed as to be able to attract the great tides of energy which flow freely through the ether, which is wrongly called "empty space." The attraction of the power from these energy tides produces a reaction, i.e. energetic release. The forces so generated are controlled and are used for the motive power of these vessels.

The system of control of the natural fields of magnetic energy enables the operators of Scout Patrol Vessels to use the energy potential of existing gravitational fields, which may be used as a secondary propulsion unit, to enable easy landings on to and ascents from any planetary mass. They know that gravity is a dual-poled magnetic force and they are able to reverse these poles at will.

Some of these craft have been seen to perform a reciprocal pattern of flight at

fantastic speeds. Such aerobatics would only be possible if the force of gravity were known and controlled.

Some vessels from Interplanetary Parliament can be dematerialized at will by their operators and the vibratory octave of their existence so changed as to become invisible to our eyesight. This phenomenon has been noted on certain occasions by aircraft which have been pursuing these Flying Saucers.

Invisibility can also be brought about in another way. At times the operators of Scout Patrol Vessels and Mother-Ships choose to rotate the streams of photons around their craft in a 360° arc, thereby rendering themselves invisible to the ordinary eye.

ANCIENT RECORDS

According to the Roman poet Catullus, who lived from approximately 87 to 54 B.C., the writings of Homer refer to a time when the Gods from Space dwelt among the heroes of old. As he said in his Poem 64:

**“For then, before religion was despised,
The Sky-dwellers in person used to visit
The stainless homes of heroes and be seen
At mortal gatherings.”**

There are many references in a variety of native tribal groups from different parts of the globe who had contact with and belief in advanced Beings from other worlds. But probably the two most accessible ancient sources which show these contacts in a religious context are the Holy Bible, which could virtually be described as a UFO compendium, and some of the Hindu texts.

THE HOLY BIBLE

The Bible is not completely accurate as an historical document. Numerous scholarly researchers have shown that not only has it been through different translations, but several different scribes have worked on it, some with political motivations of varying kinds, thereby introducing considerable potential for inconsistency. This does not make it worthless—far from it. It is a very valuable document, but it cannot be regarded as completely accurate. Everything which follows in this section should be read in the light of this.

The most often quoted account of a Biblical UFO occurs in the book of Ezekiel. This description, which is dated by scholars as occurring in approximately 600 B.C., took place when Ezekiel was among the captives in Chaldea by the Chebar River. Ezekiel, Chapter One, Verse Four, reads as follows:

“And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire.”

This beautiful description of a UFO continues with what is commonly described as “a close encounter of the third kind.” A close encounter of the first kind is a UFO sighting. This type of close encounter has been reported by hundreds of thousands of people around the world. A close encounter of the second kind includes some kind of physical evidence of a UFO sighting, such as a photograph or some physical substance from the craft. This type of close encounter is much rarer than the first, but there have been photographs taken of extraterrestrial Spacecraft. A close encounter of the third kind is a meeting with one or more occupants of UFO’s who are visitors from other Planets. After studying the abundance of evidence for UFO’s, there is no doubt that UFO’s do exist and have been seen through the ages in a multitude of different countries and cultures. What many people do not realize is that according to opinion polls, believers in UFO’s are in a majority, not a minority, as the media often like to imply.

The important thing about UFO’s is not so much the craft itself, but the people who man and control these craft. Ezekiel’s account is therefore very revealing. He witnessed four Interplanetary Beings stepping out of this UFO and received information and instructions from them. He referred to them as “living creatures.” Later in the same chapter, there is a more detailed description of the Spacecraft which is described as “a wheel in the middle of a wheel” and having “eyes round about them four.” This last description is taken to refer to portholes which have often been seen in UFO sightings. A wheel within a wheel could be an inner superstructure revolving whilst an outer one remains stationary. This type of phenomenon has also been witnessed.

After the exodus of the Jews from Egypt led by Moses, there are numerous descriptions of UFO’s which seem to have often accompanied them. Of course, the scribes writing the Bible did not use the kind of terminology that we use. They would refer to clouds and Stars with the properties of high speed movement and

flight control, as well as fiery chariots and so on. The following extract from the Book of Exodus, Chapter 13, Verses 21 to 22, is a typical example:

“And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud, to lead them along the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night: He took not away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.”

This description of pillars of cloud and fire is very close to the cigar-shaped description of a UFO. In fact, the Biblical description of a pillar is preferable to the far less evocative one of a cigar! In the 20th century we have become more mundane in our descriptive terminology. Compare, for example, “wheel in the middle of a wheel,” with the rather facile term, “Flying Saucer.” The Prophet Elijah was taken to Heaven in a Space vehicle; his follower Elisha was with him at the time and witnessed this, and II Kings, Chapter 2, Verse 11, reads as follows:

“And it came to pass, as they (Elijah and Elisha) still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.”

Obviously the chariot and horses represent a vehicle to the Biblical scribes and the whirlwind suggests an apparent vortex of energy which is often described in UFO sightings.

The prophet Zechariah gave a very precise description of a UFO, in Chapter 5, Verses 1 to 2:

“Then I turned, and lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a flying roll. And he said unto me, “what seest thou?” And I answered, I see a flying roll; the length thereof is 20 cubits, and the breadth thereof 10 cubits.”

A roll, of course, would be a similar shape to the cigar-shaped type of object.

Examples from the Bible of UFO activity is not the main purpose of this book. The only reason for including them at all is to put the contacts of Dr. George King in their correct historical context. However, we cannot leave the Judeo-Christian UFO legacy without referring to possibly the most significant and famous Biblical sighting of them all, namely, the Star of Bethlehem. An excerpt from the Book of

Matthew, Chapter 2, Verses 9-11, reads as follows:

“And, lo, the Star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the Star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him.”

It is staggering to think that for centuries it was believed that a Star had led the three wise men to a stable in Bethlehem. If a Star were to come near enough to this Planet, assuming that gravity allowed it to do so in the first place, and then pinpointed a country, never mind a city, never mind a young child in a stable in an inn, there would be a dire, Cosmic catastrophe. All the laws of science prove that Stars cannot possibly do that. No, this was a classic example of a UFO, leading three advanced men to a great Interplanetary Master who had been born on this Planet to perform a specific mission.

Dr. King's contacts revealed this kind of vessel is only used by the great Cosmic Masters and is made visible or invisible in accordance with the wishes of the Masters who control them. These Beings are called the Ancient Ones and They control, in an advisory capacity, all humanoid life in the Solar System, as well as that on some Planets in other parts of the Milky Way.

The Star of Bethlehem was one of these great Vehicles of light, in which certain of the Ancient Ones came near to Earth so that They could carry out complicated metaphysical operations, the result of which was the virgin birth of Jesus.

It is worthy of special note that the Avatar Jesus Christ was a Venusian Who came to Earth in answer to a call for help. He saw the dire need of mankind and made the great sacrifices demanded of a compassionate Master in such an exalted position upon the ladder of evolution.

These Vehicles are also used for “Spiritualizing” this Earth. They can change the rate of vibration of every molecule of matter, whether organic or inorganic, in any area they so desire. Whether it be large or small is of no consequence. The existence of all life upon Earth owes its continuance to this type of Divine Intervention. These Vehicles come mainly from Saturn but some come from Jupiter and Uranus. Uranus is referred to as the Great Mother of the System, while the Sun is the Father of our little Planetary System.

The Master Jesus was not, and never claimed to be the one and only Son of God. Such a belief denies the validity of all other religions and is the kind of

dogmatic teaching which will gradually disappear as the Aquarian Age dawns in the new millennium. This does not mean to say that Christianity will disappear—far from it. It is a wonderful, living philosophy introduced by a great Master Who originally came from Venus. His origins are referred to in the Book of Revelations, Chapter 22, Verse 16, as follows: “I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning Star.” The bright and morning Star is, of course, Venus.

Conditioning is a very strange thing. We are used to the idea of Jesus being the one and only Son of God. No matter what our own religion may be or where we were born, we know that this is a view held by millions of people around the world, and one which has been held for hundreds of years. Therefore, it seems very familiar. But just for a moment take a detached view, free of conditioning, and look at two possible concepts. One is that God chose to have a Son born in a physical body, in one part of the world, and live for 33 years until He was killed by the Romans. In the whole of our history, God has only seen fit to do this once, thereby providing the one and only way to Truth. Those many people born in other parts of the world, some before His incarnation on Earth, and who therefore will never in their lifetime receive this Truth, are automatically denied the opportunity of the only true religion. That is one view.

Another view is that Interplanetary Beings have been born on this Earth at certain times in our history to bring about Spiritual change in many ways. Jesus was one of these great Cosmic Masters Who, with the help of a Spacecraft that we refer to as the Star of Bethlehem, was born onto this world 2000 years ago, in order to teach the message of Love. He died to manipulate Karma, not to forgive us our sins, which is Karmically impossible, but to bear Karma for the world as a whole. These two concepts are both points of view, but an impartial observer looking at them both would have to admit that, of the two, the idea that He came from another world, and was not the only one to do so, is far less radical from a theological point of view than the idea that He was the one and only Son of God in our entire history.

This is not said to decry anyone’s religious beliefs, but to illustrate a point regarding conditioning. If you told an anthropologist, who had never heard of Christianity, that a certain tribe practise an ancient rite in which they drink wine which is symbolic of the blood of God, and eat bread which is symbolic of the body of God, he would label this as a primitive culture with the possibility of cannibalistic tendencies. So let none of us be judgmental in examining beliefs which may appear strange only because they are unfamiliar to us.

THE VEDAS

When you look at other religious scripts you find a very similar pattern of UFO involvement in the Spiritual revelations of our history. The Hindu texts known as the Vedas are a good example of this. As with the Holy Bible, there is no guarantee of the complete accuracy of these writings which, in some cases, were passed down for thousands of years orally before being written down at all. There is therefore a definite margin for error and the chronology may have been incorrectly altered along the way.

Texts like the Ramayana use the Sanskrit word, vimana, which means “flying celestial vehicle.” The following is an extract from the Ramayana which is typical of the descriptions of vimanas:

“When morning dawned, Rama, taking the vimana Puspaka had sent him by Vivpishand, stood ready to depart. Self-propelled was that car. It was large and finely painted.”

In another extract, a vimana is described as follows:

“That aerial and excellent vimana, going everywhere at will, is ready for thee. That vimana, resembling a bright cloud in the sky, is in the city of Lanka.”

It is interesting to note here the reference to “at will” which suggests a stupendous science involving thought control by the occupants, exactly as Dr. King has been informed in his contacts. The Vedas, and indeed the Buddhist scripts, have a concept of life throughout the planetary realms. They fully accept the existence of life on other worlds and life on higher spheres as being part of the same belief in universal consciousness.

One Vedic script describes the liberation of a Maharajah (King) named Dhruva from material bondage into high Spiritual consciousness. This is often referred to in metaphysical writings as the state of Ascension. This amazing experience, which takes on a Cosmic dimension, is described in the Bhagavata Purana, Book 4, Chapter 12, as follows:

“As soon as the symptoms of his liberation were manifest, he saw a very beautiful vimana coming down from the sky, as if the brilliant full moon were coming down, illuminating all the ten directions...”

He was then picked up by this vimana, or UFO, and the following is a description of his journey:

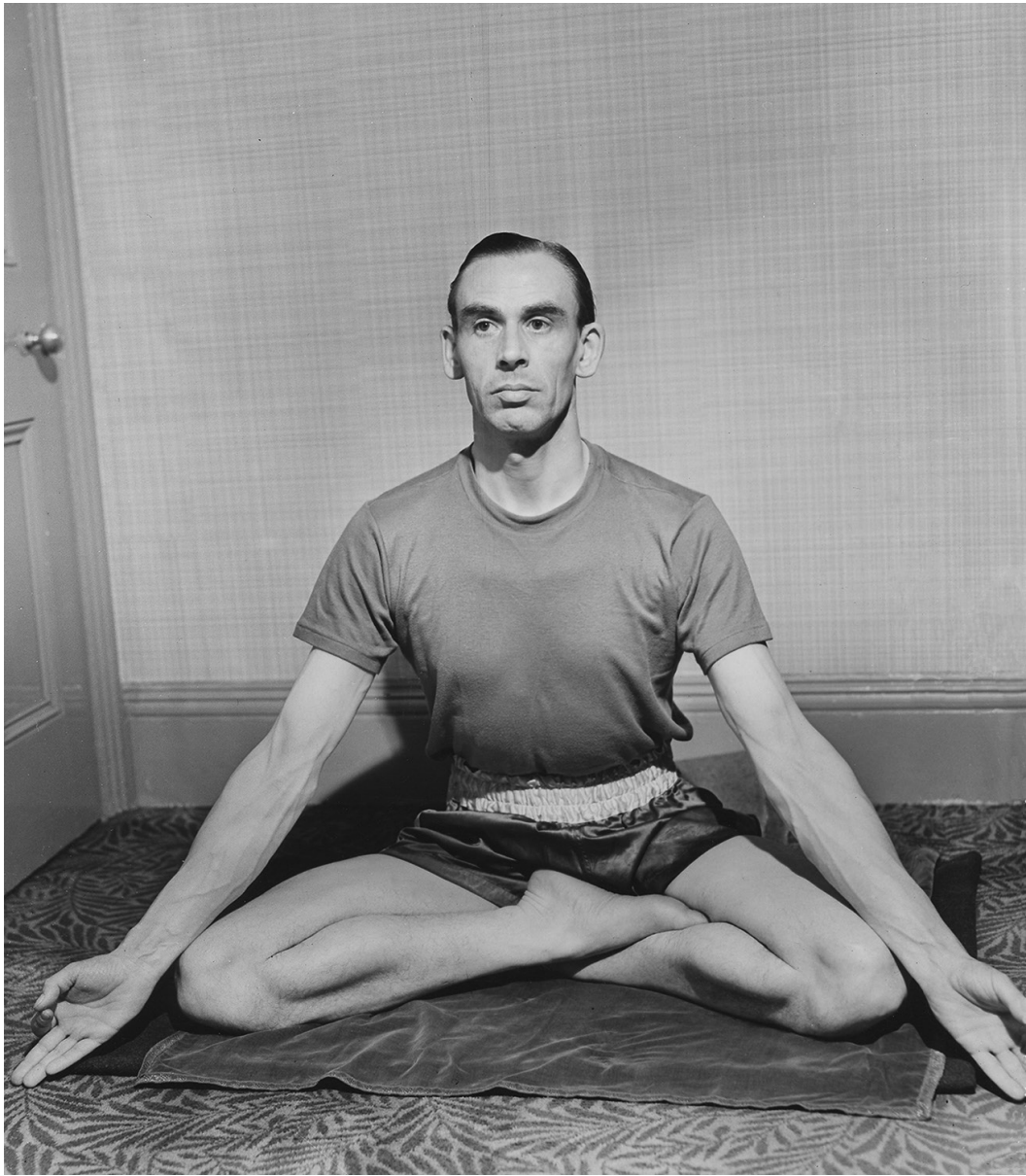
“While Dhruva Maharajah was passing through Space, he gradually saw all the Planets of the Solar System, and on the path he saw all the demi-gods in their vimanas showering flowers upon him like rain...

“Beyond that region, he achieved the transcendental situation of permanent life in the Planet where Lord Vishnu lives.”

Not only does this description detail a truly beautiful close encounter of the third kind which took place thousands of years ago, it also indicates that it is possible to attain such a high and elevated state of consciousness, that one is liberated from the need to reside on Earth and can go to other worlds for continued existence. This belief is fundamental to The Aetherius Society, and this example illustrates that such views are not completely new, but have been around for thousands of years before even the Lord Buddha, the Master Jesus or Socrates were heard of. Indeed, scholars do not know exactly how old the Vedic scripts are.

WHY DR. GEORGE KING?

Just one or two examples from both eastern and western religious records have been selected to put into context the extraordinary experiences of Dr. George King. It is absurd to study these wonderful records and then ignore the fact that such things could be happening in our lifetimes. It is only conditioning that makes people think that all the great Spiritual and Cosmic events must have occurred in some dim and distant time in the past. If you have ever held that view then this is an opportunity to put the record straight by bringing you up to date with happenings which are even more significant than these few examples from history, namely, the contacts of Dr. George King.



Dr. George King in Siddhasana, 1955

One of the questions The Aetherius Society is often asked is why advanced extraterrestrials should pick this one man, Dr. George King, as their sole channel? In answering this, it is first necessary to correct the question. We have never claimed

that Dr. King is the sole channel for Beings from other worlds. What we do claim is that he is Primary Terrestrial Mental Channel. In other words, he is the most important channel for communications from other worlds in these days. It would be illogical to give an important communication to one person here, another person there, and so on, when they could use a single source to put their main messages and instructions through for the world as a whole and thereby avoid confusion.

There have, of course, been other people in the lifetime of Dr. King who have had close encounters of various kinds with UFO's and their inhabitants. There have also been many secret communications with advanced Masters in Retreats which were not intended to be revealed to the world as a whole. But he does stand, in this period of history, as an unparalleled source of extraterrestrial contacts.

Independent research shows that there is no other well known claimant who has been in consistent contact with Intelligences from other worlds for over 40 years. There is certainly no one else we know of who has built up a worldwide organization which, for 40 years, has propagated interplanetary communications and cooperated directly with those who gave them in such a potent manner. There has been no extended break in the Mission of Dr. King; no period of years, months or even weeks, when he has taken a sabbatical or a rest from his position as Primary Terrestrial Mental Channel. And, in all this time, during which he has received thousands of communications, there has been no case of contradiction or conflict between the communications delivered by Interplanetary Beings. These facts, even his critics and disbelievers admit, make him completely unique.

He was not chosen for this task because Interplanetary Beings particularly favoured or liked him, but because he was in the right position to receive these communications. For one thing, he had the necessary abilities to do so. In all the hundreds of lectures and broadcasts he has given around the world about UFO's and related topics, Richard Lawrence has often issued a challenge which, to this date, has never been met. The challenge is to name another person in the west, other than Dr. King, who even claims to have devoted themselves for ten years to the practice of advanced Yoga systems for eight to ten hours a day, as well as doing a job. Dr. King did just that, starting in 1945 after the Second World War. During the war he had served as a section leader in the Fire Service where he and his fellow fire workers played a vital and dangerous role during the Blitz. As soon as the war finished, at the age of 26, Dr. King devoted himself to advanced Yoga practice.

Many stories have been written in the press about this period of Dr. King's life. They generally choose to highlight the fact that, at certain times during this period, he drove a taxi cab, as if something like this could never happen to a taxi

driver. Indeed he did drive taxis during this period, as well as other jobs, including running a chauffeur car hire company and working in an oil company. Dr. King is very happy to acknowledge any or all of these professions, but what is so absurd about these press reports is that they highlight a profession which was taken to earn money to live, and not the Yoga training which qualified him for his life's Mission as Primary Terrestrial Mental Channel. It would be just as absurd to entitle the Gospels, which feature the life of the Master Jesus: "God's Son is born as a carpenter"; or the Bhagavad Gita, which features the Teachings of Shri Krishna: "Cowherd teaches liberation from materialism"!

The important thing about the 10 years between the war and his first contact with a Master from another world was that he devoted himself, on top of his jobs, to the practice of Raja, Gnani, Kundalini, Mantra and other forms of the ancient science of Yoga which lead inevitably, if practised diligently enough, to higher states of consciousness. By the time he was first contacted by a Cosmic Master on May 8th, 1954, during an event now known as "The Command," he was already a Master of Yoga. He had gone beyond psychic development and was capable of raising his consciousness to a very high level, which made it possible for Interplanetary Beings to communicate with him telepathically. Just as the people who had close encounters in the Holy Bible and the Vedic scripts were generally people of noted Spiritual calibre—prophets, sages and Masters—Dr. King was chosen because of his level of Spiritual attainment. He could enter Samadhi, the highest state of meditation known on Earth, in which he received hundreds of communications from the Cosmic Masters.

The scene was set for "The Command" by a massive spate of reported UFO sightings following the war. This was partly because of a far greater awareness of Space travel, and partly because of much more sophisticated ways of viewing the skies. There were, in fact, many sightings during the war from both allied and axis pilots who reported seeing strange metal-like objects which they called "foo-fighters." These performed controlled flight patterns around their planes and were never satisfactorily explained by officialdom. They were, in fact, UFO's. In 1946, just after the war, there were many sightings in Europe, especially Scandinavia, where there were mass sightings of silent "ghost rockets," which were never satisfactorily explained either. In the 1950's there were numerous reports of UFO sightings by people from all walks of life. Specifically, there were waves of sightings over France and Italy in 1954. It was into this climate that the first contact by an Interplanetary Master with Dr. King took place.

THE COMMAND

The following is a description, in his own words, of this extraordinary event, known as “The Command,” which was to shape Dr. King’s Mission and thereby change the world.

“It was about 11:00 am. on a Saturday morning, early in 1954. As is my usual practice on a Saturday morning, I was busily engaged in household chores. Not that you could call my present domicile a house—for if you wanted to swing a cat around within the yellow papered walls, then it would have to be a manx cat, and a little ‘un at that. I was performing a tricky feat at that time, trying to dry four plates by shuffling them about rather in the same way that one shuffles a pack of cards. May I warn any ‘independent-bachelor-and-proud-of-it-laddie,’ that such a procedure—when you come to consider the frequent breakages—costs almost as much as a wife. And this, chaps, without the other amenities which are part of matrimonial union. If it is any consolation, however, I will say that sweeping up the pieces of broken china can be a very good exercise.

“My window was open, and the pale sunshine streamed through. The noise from the busy street below, blended with the tinkling of the plate against plate in such a way as to form a symphony of materialistic activity. The type of activity, the type of noises you could hear in any town or city on the globe on a Saturday morning.

“It all stopped. It stopped with the startling suddenness of a pistol shot.

“‘Prepare yourself. You are to become the Voice of Interplanetary Parliament.’

“This was the alien sound which struck my ear drums with a somewhat gentle firmness. The ensuing silence was broken only by the shattering of plates as they slipped from my useless fingers to the floor. I cannot describe the tonal qualities of the voice which uttered this Command. It came from outside of myself—from the empty space of that tiny room—into my mind with a numbing suddenness which made me grasp a chair for support.

“I may have sat there for one, or two hours—I do not know. The room did not seem to exist during that period—neither did time itself. My world of awareness revolved upon a central axis and that axis was a vital, living, vivid memory of the Command which had been given and the way it had come.

“‘Prepare yourself! You are to become the Voice of Interplanetary Parliament’ . . .

Just that, nothing else! No explanation—which I needed, for I had never heard of Interplanetary Parliament.

“Dear readers, I will never forget the week of hopeless frustration which followed. I could not confide in any but a selected handful of acquaintances—none of whom could offer an enlightened explanation. I had not read any books before that time about Flying Saucers, and knew nothing about them save the trifling information which was sandwiched between the sickly layer of sarcasm in the popular press. I would return to that room at night, and almost weep in my terrible loneliness. Something had been there—something which had spoken to me one sentence and departed, leaving turmoil and bewilderment in its wake.

“It is a well-established metaphysical fact—that the Initiate must experience terrible loneliness just before a great event occurs. Though, to a chap like myself, this knowledge did not bring much comfort. I am one of those somewhat unique individuals, who fortunately are not afraid of what they cannot understand. The more difficult the solution appears to be, the more I yearn to work on the problem. Especially does this apply to the metaphysical problems occurring in the higher vibratory frameworks.

“It is a strange thing that most of us leave the obvious till we have tried all the lesser channels. It was eight days after this event, when I decided to listen to the most eloquent voice of all—the educating voice of Silence.

“After very careful practice of ‘Pranayama’—a system of Yogic breathing control—I settled down with a firm determination to stay there until some further explanation was forthcoming. I did not have to wait long. For the second time, during that short period, I was shaken to the core by an amazing happening.

“A man walked THROUGH my locked door, across the creaking boards beneath the faded grey carpet, and sat down opposite to me! The battered old chair creaked as it supported his weight! He was dressed in spotless white robes, which seemed to gleam in the green meditative light I was using. But they were real enough. I had heard the faint swish they made as he crossed the room. I recognized my visitor immediately as a modern leader of Spiritual thought in India. He is very much alive at the moment—living in a somewhat rotund physical body in the Himalayas.

“I am not permitted to give the name of the Saint, but I feel sure those of you who study the all-embracing philosophy of the east, will have guessed it easily. After all, the world is one unit of experience, and a study of a part of its philosophy is incomplete. It takes two halves to make a whole.

“My Yogi visitor smiled and I was submerged in a sea of peace which cleansed

the wounds of frustration.

“It is not for you to judge whether you are worthy to be chosen, my son!”

“Oh, my dear friends, and those of you who have read this narrative of my unique experience so far, I trust are included in the category of my friends—how can I explain the joy in my simple heart at that moment? My mind was stripped naked and read and understood by this ... Saint! My unworthiness for what was obviously a great task, had troubled me all the week. But there were greater Beings than I Who had pronounced judgment upon this. It was as though I was a living pawn positioned upon the checker board of life, and some master chessman had gained my consent before making his move. Submerged as I was in that still, deep lake of peace, my soul signified consent to the move. A move, which—in those days—was hidden by the opaque curtain of my simple ignorance. Despite myself, or because of my real self, tears of joy and gratitude trickled down my cheeks.

“His voice was gentle, but held a peculiar penetrating property, as he continued:

“The real necessities of the Age—brought about by the unfeeling march of science into the realms of the atom, and the wrong thought and action of the masses—can be met only by those few who are ready to tune in to those emanations now being sent to this Earth, and become the servants of the Cosmic Masters. You are one of the many called upon to prepare yourself for the coming conflict between the materialistic scientist—who has arrived at his conclusions by the cold application of mathematics and the occult ‘scientist,’ who has arrived at his conclusions through the recognition that God is All. Pray, be still, meditate, and open the door of your heart and mind to the precious waters of Truth.”

“After delivering this wonderful message, my Yogi visitor gave me detailed instructions in certain practices. He also told me that those people best equipped to help me would be brought into my orbit.

“The Swami, having imparted this information, bowed with the politeness of a race which enjoyed an advanced culture when ancient Britons still painted themselves with woad. Then he made his exit by walking straight through my locked door! I jerked it open immediately, but the long corridor beyond was deserted. My Initiator from the Himalayas had departed into invisibility.

“The rest, some of you know. A group was formed and Yoga was practised very diligently—until I was able to lift my mind into a higher framework of vibration, and in order to tune into the mental relay being radiated by the great Master Aetherius.

“I know now that “The Command” was given by Aetherius Himself, in such a way as to leave no lingering doubts in my mind as to its authenticity. Also, I know that my visitor from the east—coming as he did with instructions soon afterwards must have been in communication with Venus. It must be very clear to all my readers that Flying Saucer research is really an investigation into the real unchangeable Cosmic Laws which constitute the Absolute Itself. And further, I know that the researcher who divorces himself from what may be termed the Spiritual approach, may never learn the important facts concerning our visitors from other Planets.”

The Master Aetherius is a very advanced Master from Venus, whose pseudonym “Aetherius” literally means “one who travels through the ethers of Space.” It was a name derived from ancient Greek. Subsequent research showed that in the 8th century B.C., the Greek poet, Hesiod, included in a list of celestial Gods one by the name of “Aether.” Ether is the mystical element within which all matter exists. Contrary to orthodox belief, there are not four elements, but five—earth, fire, water, air and ether. Ether has mystical properties in that it contains different levels of matter, which are not limited to the purely physical realm of existence. The concept of life on higher planes, as well as higher Planets, is fundamental to The Aetherius Society, which was named after the Master who made this first historic contact.

PRIMARY TERRESTRIAL MENTAL CHANNEL

Everything you are going to read in this book depends upon your acceptance of Dr. King as a genuine contactee with people from other worlds. We do not expect you to believe this just because it is written here. The Aetherius Society is not a “converting” organization. We are not out to convince people that we have a one and only way, because no such thing exists. We certainly do not use persuasive methods to recruit anyone. Sadly, the media tends to characterize any new organization that puts out beliefs which appear to be New Age as some kind of a cult. According to the current usage of the word, The Aetherius Society is not a cult. There are some reprehensible organizations who have debased people’s concept of a religious movement and understandably caused mistrust towards anything new. Having said that, it is worth remembering that Christianity was regarded by the Romans as a bizarre and dangerous religious cult. Indeed, virtually all religious movements were

regarded as cults when they first started. The Aetherius Society is an extremely open organization, with a leader who has set an exemplary pattern, living very modestly and sticking, in a completely dedicated manner, to what he knows to be true, namely, his contacts with Masters from other worlds.

He was born on January 23rd, 1919, and was psychic as a child. He was born in an agricultural community and his training was in dairy farming. Following the war and his ten years of intensive Yoga practice culminating in “The Command,” he founded The Aetherius Society in 1955 in London, England. In 1959 he went to the United States of America, and settled there in the early 1960’s. The Society was incorporated as a non-profit religious, scientific and educational corporation on November 22nd, 1960. It has flourished all over the world, publishing numerous books, tapes and CDs by Dr. King and, above all, performing Missions in cooperation with the Cosmic Masters for the salvation and enlightenment of the world.

Dr. King was born under the sign of Aquarius—fittingly, since one of his tasks has been to pave the way for the Aquarian Age. To assess his true merit and thereby discover exactly why he was chosen for this unique task, you need to examine his life’s works in detail. In doing so, you can do no better than to follow the advice given at the beginning of this chapter: “Judge a man by results.” That statement, made by an advanced Martian communicator, Mars Sector 6, in 1956, continued in the following way:

“Judge a man by his detachment.

“Judge a man by his love for all.

“Judge a man by his acceptance and knowledge of Oneness.

“Judge a man by his wisdom.

“Judge a man by his Cosmic logic.

“Judge a man by his sacrifice—not for himself, not for his wife, not for his family—but for the whole world, YOUR world.”

“These are the ways to judge. Judge well, ye men of Terra, and when ye find one who passes the test of your judgment, then follow such a one even to your death.”

Next Steps

Thank you very much for downloading this extract. If you wish you continue reading the book you can [purchase the book](#) online, or [become a Friend of The Aetherius Society](#) for USD10/GBP7 and receive the PDF ebook for free.

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Learn more about [King Yoga](#), the spiritual path of The Aetherius Society.

If you would like to get involved, you can:

- Tune in to our live [online services of The Twelve Blessings](#) to radiate spiritual energy for global healing, or
- Visit us at one of our centers around the world where we host spiritual talks, workshops and mystic services including mantra, prayer and global healing.

If you have any questions or wish to get in touch for any reason, please [contact us](#) at one of centers. We look forward to hearing from you!

Article

Planetary Consciousness, Witnessing the Inhuman, and Transformative Learning: Insights from Peace Pilgrimage Oral Histories and Autoethnographies

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Abstract: This article describes insights and consciousness transformations reported in several contemporary peace pilgrimage oral histories and autoethnographies, including my own. Autoethnography is a form of autobiographical writing that stresses the interpretation of experiences in their psychosocial, cultural, and historical contexts. Peace pilgrimages are typically self-defined journeys and projects which may be inward and metaphorical, or which may involve actual travel to destinations that memorialize historical events of mass killing and profound suffering, and places that envision, cultivate and educate for global or inner peace. The insights and learnings include (a) the call to journey and other out-of-the-ordinary communications; (b) understanding the transformative learning process; (c) glimpsing the meaning of planetary consciousness; and (d) bearing witness to the inhuman. These paradigmatic themes may be applicable to one's personal search for meaning, and as signposts for collective, societal healing from psychic and social wounding and traumas. The themes may be useful for educators and researchers in peace studies, religious studies, history, biography, philosophy, psychology and consciousness studies.

Keywords: peace pilgrimage; transformative learning; planetary consciousness; bearing witness; autoethnography

1. Introduction

Pilgrimage experiences are probably most valuable for the insights which lead to greater self-knowledge and to deeper understanding and connection with self, nature, society, and the eternal. In this article, I aim to describe four themes reported in peace pilgrimage oral histories and autoethnographic accounts, including my own: (1) The call to journey and distinctive out-of-the-ordinary communications are commonly highlight pilgrimage accounts; (2) The stages of the transformative learning process can serve as a model for following the insights and developmental learning on peace pilgrimages; (3) Pilgrimage narratives often describe the personal awakening to planetary consciousness and its widening definition; (4) Peace pilgrimage accounts often emphasize bearing witness to the inhuman and search for the deeper meaning of profound suffering. The themes reflect the universal search for identity and life's meaning, and they point a pathway toward collective healing from mass suffering, societal wounding and traumas.

Autoethnography is a form of self-narrative and autobiographical writing in which the writer-researcher's personal experiences are placed in their political, social and historical context. Rigorous self-reflection is applied to personal experience to find political and cultural meaning in the intersection between the self and social life. Autoethnographic research seeks to describe "people in the process of figuring out what to do, how to live, and the meaning of their struggles" (Bochner and Ellis 2006, p. 111). Describing the cultural and historical context in peace pilgrimage autoethnographies is valuable for the

underlying rationale, purpose and meaning of the pilgrimage. Peace pilgrimage autoethnographies are also distinctive in their quest for existential meaning.

2. What Are Peace Pilgrimages?

Peace pilgrimages are typically self-identified and named as such by individuals, groups or organizations. A peace pilgrimage may be defined on the one hand, as a project or event in an inward or metaphorical journey, such as meditation, self-study, research, psychotherapy, or self-examination process. This definition of pilgrimage as an inward journey applies to Hindu mystics and Sufis, for whom the “... sacred place is within themselves. Their pilgrimage may be a journey with no physical movement, but a personal seeking within mind and body” (Westwood 2003, p. 4).

On the other hand, the pilgrimage may involve actual travel with or without a geographical goal. Early Christians saw a pilgrimage as the search for a place of exile, reflecting the derivation of the word pilgrim from the Latin *peregrinus*, defined as a wanderer or stranger (Westwood 2003, p. 4).

Modern pilgrimages more typically involve actual traveling to historical sites, sacred spaces or other destinations associated with a search for meaning or for a purposeful mission like raising consciousness for global or inner peace (Cousineau 2012). Peace pilgrimages, like other kinds of pilgrimages, may involve the inner journeying or actual traveling with a spiritual or existential quest for self-understanding, wholeness, or wisdom (Morinis 1992).

Like religious pilgrimages, peace pilgrimages may involve traveling to historical sites, sacred spaces and other destinations associated with envisioning the sacred or advocating peace. But peace pilgrimages may involve travel to sites of atrocities or crimes against humanity, and other sites of profound suffering, sometimes referred to as “dark tourism” (Foley and Lennon 2000).

Peace pilgrimages may also depart from the meaning of religious pilgrimages where “the journey is defined and circumscribed by a particular society: a predetermined expedition laid out by those who have gone before for those who will come after” (Senn 2002, p. 132). While religious pilgrimages typically carry prescriptive imperatives or guidelines, peace pilgrimages are not usually bound by prescriptions from a society (Senn 2002, p. 131). For example, Satish Kumar’s four-year, 8000-mile peace pilgrimage began from the grave of Mahatma Gandhi in New Delhi (India) in 1962. His destinations were Moscow (USSR), Paris (France), London (UK), and Washington (USA), which were the nuclear capitals of the world at that time (Kumar 2015).

My “Coming Full-Circle Peace Pilgrimage” which commenced in 2015, was associated with the seventieth anniversary of the first use of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. The pilgrimage coincided with the fiftieth anniversary of my first, unacknowledged pilgrimage to Hiroshima. For me, the *call to pilgrimage* did not include specified destinations. In the first year, I traveled to 11 countries and 22 cities in Asia, North America and Europe. “Coming full-circle” meant I was revisiting memorial museums at sites of profound suffering, like Hiroshima and Nagasaki, massacres in Vietnam, Cambodia, China, and Korea and the death camps of the Holocaust. I spoke at commemoration services and academic conferences, and gave lectures, seminars and workshops for University students in the US, Japan and Korea. Initially the pilgrimage was associated with the symbolic birth of the Nuclear Age. Later in the journeying I realized that my assignment in pilgrimage was to highlight the personal and collective global awakening to planetary consciousness. The meaning of planetary consciousness as well as of bearing witness to the inhuman became clarified as I researched and engaged in dialogue with witnesses and observers at historical sites of mass violence, atrocities, and unimaginable cruelty and brutality.

Mildred Lisette Norman, who adopted the name Peace Pilgrim, defined her pilgrimage, which began in 1953, as purpose driven, arising from a spiritual quest. “A pilgrim is a wanderer with a purpose,” she explained, “A pilgrimage can be to a place... but it can also be for a thing. Mine is for peace, and that is why I am a Peace Pilgrim” (Peace Pilgrim 1994, p. 22).

For some, the journey is identified as a peace pilgrimage post hoc. For example, university students who visited the Son Mỳ Memorial, the site commemorating the 1968 Mỳ Lai Massacre in

Vietnam, assigned the word pilgrimage to their visit to Mỹ Lai when they realized the emotional and visceral impact of their experience. Professor Carol Becker described how undergraduate and graduate students responded.

“Of all the sites we visited over our three-week journey, no other had the psychological and emotional impact of Mỹ Lai. We absorbed the nightmare that had occurred there, and left transformed. Without thinking too much about the weightiness of the term, some of us began to call the visit to Mỹ Lai a ‘pilgrimage,’ probably choosing this word because of our awareness that we wanted to know the place not just through the mind, but more deeply, in the body. This is the type of secular experience many of us associated with pilgrimage”. (Becker 2003, p. 56)

In 1981, Paul Gessier participated in an intercontinental walk called “A Walk to Moscow”, which aimed to raise awareness for peace and nuclear disarmament. Gessier considered the walk a spiritual journey of self-discovery, political and social activism, and authored stage plays and poems about his transformative experience. Thirty years after the walk, he published a compilation of poems titled *Peace Pilgrimage: Sacred Journeys*, which he “dedicated to the courageous men, women, and children who participated in A Walk to Moscow in 1981 and to Peace Pilgrim 1908–1981; Poets and Prophets, All” (Gessier 2011, p. v).

The World Peace Pilgrimage (Aetherius Society 2017) is an example of an organization’s self-identified and self-defined peace pilgrimage. The Aetherius Society has organized an annual open-to-the public, interfaith gathering at the summit of Mount Baldy in the San Gabriel Mountains, near Los Angeles, California (USA). The event has been a walking, singing and praying ritual with the aim of sending “waves of love and light to the world” (Aetherius Society 2017).

3. The Call to Journey and Other Out-of-the-Ordinary Communications

The call to journey and other out-of-the-ordinary communications and transpersonal experiences are often highlighted in pilgrimage accounts. Senn (2002) explains “the potential traveller must decide whether to answer the call to adventure, mystery or unknown; or not to do so. By making this choice, the protagonist becomes a hero who ‘sets forth from mundane home and role in life, lured or called forth by desire or crisis. The departure is heightened by a call to adventure in which the hero accepts a challenge, and is changed forever’” (Senn 2002, p. 129).

Peace Pilgrim reported that her call to pilgrimage was a spiritual awakening following over 20 years of meditation practice. She describes this awakening as a direct, mystical experience of the creator’s love (Peace Pilgrim 1994, pp. 9–21).

The call to pilgrimage for Kumar was secular. It arose out of his moral outrage that 89-year-old philosopher Bertrand Russell was put in jail for the “breaching of peace” by participating in an antinuclear demonstration in London (Russell 1967, p. 157).

The call to pilgrimage I received in 2015, coming 50 years after my first visit to Hiroshima, was a cryptic transmission inviting me to embark on a “Coming Full-Circle Peace Pilgrimage,” to revisit Vietnam, Hiroshima, and other sites of profound suffering and the memorial museums associated with those sites. I questioned whether the voice I heard was merely my imagination, a hallucination, or other perceptual or cognitive malfunction.

The voice reminded me of my 1965 visit to Hiroshima as an adolescent, during the height of the American–Vietnam War. At the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and Museum, I was overwhelmed with the exhibits with images of violence, destruction, and death. The photos and reports of people screaming and burning, and with skin and flesh melting were horrifying and unbearable. The exhibits and their interpretive captions seemed to highlight the darkest side of human nature. I had an emotional meltdown. I shut down, numb and withdrawn, for about three days.

Mentally and viscerally, I kept recycling the profound and meaningless suffering, the never-to-be-recovered losses, the insanity, the hypocrisy, and the injustice of it all. I could not wrap

my mind around this in any rational way. When I emerged from the meltdown, I had only a vague awareness of what I experienced. Fifty years later, I realized that while in that altered state, I heard voices that whispered, “You were meant to come here to Hiroshima. Welcome. This is the culmination of your first peace pilgrimage. There will be many more in your lifetime.” These seemed to be the same voices that invited me to embark on the 2015 pilgrimage. (Tamashiro 2015).

I encountered the voices and other out-of-the-ordinary communications coming in various forms throughout the pilgrimage. The memories of atrocities seem to be held by the soil, the wildlife or the trees at the memorial sites. For example, I gave the title “gratitude of the souls” to a repeated experience in Hiroshima:

“Stepping off the *shinkansen* onto the train platform, a wave of feeling comes over me. I recognize that these are the souls of those who perished here. I feel their hurt, their pain, their cries. But also their gratitude, compassion, and hope. The souls say, “Thank you for coming to Hiroshima and remembering us.” (Tamashiro 2015)

The transmission implored me to honor Hiroshima is a sacred place.

The city of Hiroshima formally recognized its own specialness in 1947. On the second anniversary of the bombing, Hiroshima’s Mayor Shinzo Hamai announced the first Hiroshima Declaration of Peace that stated: “... on 6 August 1945 ... Hiroshima turned into a city of death and darkness ... But now, mankind shall remember August 6 as the day that brought the chance for World Peace ... We ... commemorate that day [with] a Festival of Peace, despite the limitless sorrow” (Hiroshima City 1947).

Hiroshima City proclaimed this insight as a “revolution in thinking” that can open pathways toward peace, reconciliation, and the restoration of dignity, despite limitless sorrow and continuing suffering (Hiroshima City 1947).

Another example of out-of-the-ordinary transmissions involves crows on Jeju Island in the Republic of Korea. “The Crows at Jeju” refers to a pilgrimage journal entry, about my leading a summer 2015 peace academy at the Jeju 4.3 Peace Park. The Park commemorates the Jeju 4.3 Massacre, in which over 30,000 islanders were killed in a seven-year nightmare (1947–1954). I wrote in the journal,

The tour guide points across the Park to five monuments, like gravestone sculptures: Bodies with no heads. “The monuments represent those who perished in the Jeju 4.3,” she explains. At that moment, five crows appear, circling above us, cawing loudly ... Later I reveal to the students: “The crows were cawing the enormous sorrow and horror of Jeju 4.3. But they were also bringing great strength, compassion, gratitude and affirmation. They were cawing: *Thank you for coming to Jeju and learning about what happened here.* They were happy to see you, young adults here, blessing you to go forward in your lives as peace envoys.” The students nod in quiet recognition.

At a pilgrim talk to a student assembly at an American public university, I learned how the memories of what happened in Nazi concentration camps were held in trees and in the soil and transmitted to visitors. A student reported:

“I was at Dachau last summer. Most of the buildings aren’t there anymore. It was mainly the museum with many photographs. I noticed one photo of the barracks with trees in rows. As we were leaving, I saw the same trees as the ones in the photos; only much bigger now.”

A flash of recognition came with knowledge that the original poplar trees were planted by the death camp inmates in the mid-1930s along the dirt road to the barracks. Like the prisoners who were exterminated, the trees did not survive. New trees were planted when the barracks were reconstructed for the memorial site. Nonetheless, the memory remained in the soil, and the new trees faithfully held the memory of what happened here. The student sensed the living remembrance in the poplar trees at Dachau. “For me,” she said, “visiting Dachau was rather dull and uninspiring. Except for those trees.”

Although out-of-the-ordinary encounters may be expected at sites of religious pilgrimages, they are not expected at memorial sites of mass killing and profound suffering. Visitors to these places

where unfathomable brutality and atrocities occurred, can sometimes “hear” or sense the cries of those who were tortured, assaulted, mutilated and killed and where the soil, the stones, the trees and the wildlife still hold memories of the death and destruction here.

Other voices were human, but which validated the extraordinary encounters. For example, several citizens of Hiroshima told me “When you go back to America, or wherever you go, be sure to tell those stories, because the voices you heard of welcome and of gratitude—that is what Hiroshima is really about.”

4. Peace Pilgrimage and Transformative Learning

Inasmuch as encounters with the sacred are characteristic of peace pilgrimages, encounters with the inhuman and the barbaric also contribute to transformative learning in and from the pilgrimage experience. Disorienting dilemmas, cognitive dissonance, emotional traumas, and existential crises are situated in a psychosocial, developmental stage framework for self-awareness, spiritual awakening and consciousness development. Psychosocial models like transformative learning theory (Mezirow 1991, 2009) and radical forgiveness (Tipping 2002) explain the developmental process that individuals (or groups) may journey through upon witnessing, surviving, or otherwise encountering mass suffering and the inhuman (See Table 1). They describe the inner journey and learning process in peace pilgrimage experiences, toward widening consciousness, social healing and wholeness.

Stage 1 in the transformative learning and the radical forgiveness models involves a disorienting dilemma—an experience in which one’s values and beliefs are challenged (Mezirow 1991; O’Sullivan et al. 2002, p. 18). For survivors and witnesses of wars, massacres, genocides and other mass traumas, the repeated replaying of memories compound the wounding. Disorienting dilemmas that are suppressed or remain unexpressed can progress to reoccurring traumas, as in post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or transgenerational trauma. For Kumar, reading about the unjust treatment of Bertrand Russell was the disorienting dilemma that inspired him to embark on his pilgrimage (Kumar 2015). For Peace Pilgrim, it was a growing discomfort in observing the social conditions in her US environment. “As I looked about the world, so much of it impoverished, I became increasingly uncomfortable about having so much while my brothers and sisters were starving,” she observed (Peace Pilgrim 1994, p. 7).

Table 1. Psychosocial models for transformative learning.

	Transformative Learning (Mezirow 1991, 2009)	Radical Forgiveness (Tipping 2002)	Description
STAGE 1	Disorienting dilemma	Telling the (victim) story	Recall and report traumatic, unexpected or dissonant experiences and memories.
STAGE 2	Questioning and deconstruction	Feeling the emotions	Feel and express painful emotions. Question and deconstruct long-held values, identities, and beliefs.
STAGE 3	Reframing and restructuring	Collapsing and reframing the story	Shift perception to consider the possibility that there may be deeper meaning behind what happened.
STAGE 4	Shift in consciousness	Integrating the new story	New integration in thinking becomes a catalyst for transformative learning in others.

In the second stage, one explores the disorienting dilemma by questioning oneself and deconstructing long-held values, identity, core beliefs and ways of thinking. (Mezirow 1991, 2009). It involves “feeling the pain” which usually arises as a result of telling the story in Stage 1 (Tipping 2002). Within the social constraints of everyday life, the opportunity for expressing the painful emotions are often self-censored, as they may be unbearable or they may be culturally and politically suppressed and silenced. In the context of a peace pilgrimage, however, one can be freer to experience, acknowledge and express the painful and difficult emotions, and allow self-questioning and deconstructing one’s belief system.

Stage 3 involves reframing and restructuring beliefs and ways of thinking (Mezirow 1991, 2009). Instead of seeing the situation only as a tragedy or oneself as victim, one is willing to consider the possibility that there may be a deeper meaning behind what happened. We come to know that what made us feel victimized was essential to our growth. Tipping explains, “It is a matter of giving up the need to figure it out and surrendering to the idea that the gift is contained in the situation whether we know it or not.” (Tipping 2002, p. 163) In this vein, Peace Pilgrim says, “I felt a complete willingness, without any reservations, to give my life—to dedicate my life—to service. ‘Please use me!’ I prayed to God. And a great peace came over me” (Peace Pilgrim 1994, p. 7).

In the fourth stage, there is a shift in consciousness that can alter one’s way of being in the world. One becomes a catalyst for transformative learning in others, where personal change becomes collective and global change. Reflecting on her transformative learning process, Peace Pilgrim explains,

“And so I went into the second phase of my life. I began to live to give what I could, instead of to get what I could, . . . I attained the great blessing of good health; I haven’t had an ache or pain, a cold or headache since . . . it’s a point of no return. After that, you can never go back to completely self-centered living”. (Peace Pilgrim 1994, p. 7)

5. Planetary Consciousness

The mindset resulting from the shift in Stage 4 of the transformative learning process could be called “planetary consciousness.” The meaning of planetary consciousness unfolded for me through conversations in the pilgrimage and the concurrent research. I came to define planetary consciousness as: “the awareness that everything is profoundly connected: All of humanity, all of nature, and all energies in the universe, where everything has meaning beneath what appears” (Tamashiro 2015).

Planetary consciousness is an epiphany that changes how one thinks of the world and oneself. It is an awareness that embraces the rational, logical, scientific, analytical—as well as the intuitive, emotional, spiritual, and aesthetic dimensions, which are embodied and deeply grounded (Tamashiro 2015).

Peace Pilgrim describes how consciousness ascends to the point through which she is able to view the universe with her own God-centered nature. She reports, “The feeling accompanying this is that of complete oneness with Universal Whole. One merges into a euphoria of unity with all life: with humanity, with all the creatures of the earth, the trees and plants, the air, the water, and even earth itself” (Peace Pilgrim 1994, p. 129). She further explains:

“[This is] the realization of the oneness of all creation. Not only all human beings—I knew before that all human beings are one. But now I knew also a oneness with the rest of creation. The creatures that walk the earth and the growing things of the earth. The air, the water, the earth itself. And, most wonderful of all, a oneness with that which permeates all and binds all together and gives life to all”. (Ullman and Reichenberg-Ullman 2001, p.150)

Kumar applies the awareness of the interconnectedness and interdependence in planetary consciousness to practice in daily living. “If we can have a holistic view of soil, soul and society,” he says, “if we can understand the interdependence of all living beings and understand that all living creatures—from trees to worms to humans—depend on each other, then we can live in harmony with ourselves, with other people and with nature” (Kumar 2013).

6. Bearing Witness to the Inhuman

In peace pilgrimages, the quest to know and cultivate personal and global peace includes bearing witness to the profane and inhuman, as well as to that which is the essence of humanness. “Bearing witness to the inhuman” in the context of pilgrimages is an unexpected, if not jarring theme: One might expect pilgrimages to be about connecting with divinity and with humanity, and not about facing the morbid or the inhuman. The philosopher Giorgio Agamben’s statement, “Human beings are human insofar as they bear witness to the inhuman” (Agamben 2002, p. 212), emphasizes the importance of facing atrocities and the inhuman as essential to one’s humanness. Agamben’s statement is from *Remnants of Auschwitz: The Witness and the Archive*, in which he looks at the literature of the survivors of Auschwitz and probes the philosophical and ethical questions raised by their testimony (Agamben 2002).

Agamben’s statement suggests that bearing witness to the inhuman is necessary and essential in the search for knowing what it means to be human. Bearing witness to the inhuman means coming to know or remember an experience in which the very humanness of one’s being has been assaulted and stripped away. The inhuman refers to violence, assault and trauma to the body, mind, psyche, and spirit. This dehumanization smashes the capacity to think, to feel, to speak, and to be conscious and aware at all, as exemplified by the numb state of the brutally tortured prisoners at Auschwitz (Agamben 2002).

Witness-bearers are both those who describe their first-hand experiences and memories, as well as those listening to and learning about the experiences. At peace pilgrimage sites that memorialize profound suffering, such as the Son Mĩ Memorial (Vietnam), the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park and Museum (Japan), and the Jeju 4.3 Peace Park (South Korea), witness-bearers include all those who were involved—villagers, the unarmed civilians, the aggressors who committed the mass killings alike—who could describe their experiences. In the peace pilgrimage itself, the pilgrim-protagonist who visits the site of mass suffering is a witness-bearer by “listening” to the memories told in actual testimonies and communicated through artifacts and exhibits. Testimonies include recorded oral history narratives or written journal and diary accounts, as well as remnants, artifacts, photographs and other evidence from the scene of the massacre.

From a critical philosophy viewpoint, there are no true witness-bearers to testify or report the experience of being killed in Holocaust, genocide or massacre. Those who survived the massacre are considered imperfect proxies to those who fully experienced the torture, mutilation and killing (Agamben 2002, pp. 33–35). The ones whose humanness was completely obliterated and ultimately killed have no voice. The proxy witnesses—the survivors and their descendants, the observers, reporters and scholars—carry the impossible responsibility to give testimony about an ultimate death experience which they did not have first-hand (Tamashiro 2018).

Knowing the imperfection of the testimony underscores the insanity and the incomprehensibility of the event. As the pilgrim-protagonist-observer, one is poignantly aware that one is indeed witnessing the inhuman. The witness narratives of the brutality, the atrocities and the “crimes against humanity” are of unconscionable, unbelievable and emotionally unbearable actions. The events, the experience, and the memories are literally unthinkable and unspeakable. Lederach and Lederach (2011) explain that these massacres and collective traumas are “violations that so destroy the essence of innocence, decency and life itself that the very experience penetrates beyond comprehension and words” (Lederach and Lederach 2011, pp. 1–2).

By bearing witness to the inhuman—as imperfect, unbearable and impossible as it may be to do so—one comes to know and accept the reality of the experience and memory, even though the narrative violates expectations and ethical imperatives of what should be. Authenticating and owning these truths give affirmation and bestow honor to the suffering and hurting as valid, albeit difficult, human experiences (Tamashiro 2018).

Bearing witness to the inhuman requires keen observation, mindful attentiveness, and empathic, non-judgmental listening. It involves holding space with quietude or silence that allows multiple channels of perception and knowing, including the cognitive, emotional, intuitive, sensual-physical,

aesthetic, spiritual and metaphysical, to open. With this approach, the traumatic experiences and memories can be seen, known and understood in the paradigm of wounding and healing. Through this process, bearing witness to the inhuman contributes to social healing (aka., collective healing), the process that enables individuals, communities and nations to at least partially relieve emotional, spiritual and interpersonal wounds and traumas.

“*Social healing* is a paradigm that seeks to transcend dysfunctional polarities that hold repetitive wounding in place. It views human transgressions not as a battle between the dualities of right and wrong or good and bad, but as an issue of wounding and healing . . . ”.
(Thompson and O’Dea 2012)

In witness bearing, the acknowledgement of the experience, including the suffering, can relieve deep wounds, soften transgenerational trauma, restore the dignity that was shattered, and return wholeness to self. Listening is a means of holding space that makes the pain and trauma gradually bearable and faceable. The emotional burden may be lightened and the dissolving of wounds may progress (Pikiewicz 2013). Like the peace pilgrimage itself, bearing witness to the inhuman turns into another out-of-the-ordinary encounter as it bestows existential legitimacy to the experience and supports personal as well as communal, societal healing. The witness-bearing process can deepen and fortify the soul (Kumar 2014) and claim one’s humanness per Agamben (2002) call.

7. Conclusions

As a variant of sacred journeys and religious pilgrimages, the peace pilgrimage genre involves self-defined odysseys associated with bearing witness to atrocities and the inhuman, as well as the cultivation of planetary consciousness that make it possible, per Agamben (2002) to claim one’s humanness. Oral history and autoethnographic accounts of peace pilgrimage reveal existential insights and world-view paradigm shifts, which may be valuable for educators or researchers in peace studies, religious education, history, biography, philosophy, psychology and consciousness studies.

Experiences involving out-of-the ordinary transmissions and encounters are instructive for self-knowledge and understanding of the unity of the tangible physical, natural worlds, and the less tangible psychic, social, intuitive, and metaphysical worlds. In peace pilgrimages, one has opportunities to glimpse the honor, respect and dignity that define the core of humanness, as well as to face the inhuman: the violent; the cruel, vicious, brutal and barbaric; the darkest side of human nature.

The meaning and value of insights and revelations from peace pilgrimages can be realized by being open to messages and voices from ordinary and extraordinary sources; by bearing witness to the inhuman; and by struggling through the stages of transformative learning to awaken to planetary consciousness. This process enables one to feel connected to the legacy of humanity and history and to taking ownership of one’s role as a global citizen. To know and appreciate profound suffering through a peace pilgrimage is to first question, and then freely choose whether or not to affirm faith in self and in life, despite darkness and unending suffering. In this way, we can cultivate the wholeness, honor, healing and the dignity we seek. This gives a new meaning and a redefined purpose to our lives as beings, whether human, inhuman, or something else.

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Aetherius Society

The **Aetherius Society** is a new religious movement founded by George King in the mid-1950s^{[1][2][3]} as the result of what King claimed were contacts with extraterrestrial intelligences, whom he referred to as "Cosmic Masters".^{[4][5][6]} The main goal of the believer is to cooperate with these Cosmic Masters to help humanity solve its current Earthly problems and advance into the New Age.^{[7][2][8]}

It is a syncretic religion, based primarily on Theosophy, but also incorporating millenarian, New Age, and UFO religion aspects.^{[9][10][11][12]} Emphases of the religion include altruism, community service, nature worship, spiritual healing, and physical exercise. Members meet in congregations not unlike a church. John A. Saliba states that unlike many other New Age or UFO religions, the Aetherius Society is for the most part considered uncontroversial, although its esoteric and millenarian aspects are sometimes ridiculed. The religion may be considered to have a relatively conventional praxis, and members come from mainstream society.^[13] The society's membership, although international in composition, is not very large. David V. Barrett suggested in 2011 that the worldwide membership was now into the thousands, with the largest number of members being in the United Kingdom, United States (particularly Southern California), and New Zealand.^{[14][15]}

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Aetherius Society

Motto	'Service is the Jewel in the Rock of Attainment'
Formation	1955
Type	Millenarian Plural UFO religion New Age Syncretic
Headquarters	Los Angeles, California and London, England
Membership	unknown
Founder/President	George King (1919–1997)
Website	www .aetherius.org (http://www.aetherius.org)

Overview

The theology of the Aetherius Society is regarded as firmly based in theosophy,^{[14][4][16]} the Aetherius Society combines UFO claims, yoga, and ideas from various world religions,^{[2][3]} notably Hinduism, Buddhism, and Christianity.^{[17][18]} The society asserts itself as a plural or liberal religion, stating "nor does God favor people of one religion over another – and certainly not people of one country or race over another".^[19] Stefan Isaksson notes that it has "become a complex religious belief system that includes an extraterrestrial hierarchy of various spiritual masters and such concepts as universal karma and religious healing."^{[20][21][22]} The religion's goal is to prevent worldly destruction by improving cooperation between humanity and various alien 'masters',^{[2][23][24]} and by using 'spiritual energy' to improve the spiritual calibre of the world.^{[12][23][25]} The society has claimed that various disasters may be prevented or relieved by prayer, often aided by "Spiritual Energy Batteries" meant to store healing psychic energy.^{[12][26][27]} The society also believes that it is to make the way for the "Next Master," a messianic figure who will descend upon Earth in a flying saucer, possessing 'magic' more powerful than all the world's armies.^{[28][29][30]} The society is named after Aetherius, a being King claims to have telepathically contacted and channeled. Aetherius is believed to be a Cosmic Master from Venus, as are Buddha and Jesus.^{[28][31][32]}

History

George King was born on 23 January 1919, in Wellington, Shropshire, England and brought up in a Christian family with strong occult interests.^{[20][33]} Before founding the Aetherius Society, King had been deeply involved in spiritual healing^{[4][34]} and had joined various theosophically-based metaphysical groups in London that were a marginal part of the religious scene.^{[20][35]} In 1944 he took up yoga, allegedly mastering bhakti, gnani and kundalini yogas and attaining the state of "Samadhi".^{[6][34]} and, according to the Aetherius Society, developed psychic powers that allowed him to learn many of the secrets of the universe.^[6]

King claimed that in 1954, a voice told him "Prepare yourself! You are to become the voice of Interplanetary Parliament." A week later, an unnamed but supposedly world-famous swami was reported to have entered King's locked apartment. King claims that the swami instructed him to form a group dedicated to helping the planet, and that the swami further taught him in yoga, prayer, and meditation. According to King, this training enabled him to receive telepathic messages from Venus, the first coming from Aetherius. King rented space in Caxton Hall in London, in which he allegedly channeled Cosmic Masters and recorded their messages. Based on his experiences and these messages, King founded the Aetherius Society.^{[6][36][37]} It appears that immediately prior to founding the Society, King was earning his living as a London taxi driver.^[38]

This version of events, however, is based solely on the Aetherius Society's hagiography, and not on external sources. Mikael Rothstein notes that a lack of objective, factual information is often a problem in studying religious leaders, even for new religious movements. The story of King, according to Rothstein, is part of an attempt (common to all religions) to portray their founder as an extraordinary individual to legitimize the religion.^[39]

According to the Aetherius Society, George King died in Santa Barbara, California, on July 12, 1997, at the age of 78.^[40] His death was not reported in major newspapers.

Belief and activities

In Aetherius Society teachings, various religious figures come from different planets,^[28] and throughout history Cosmic Masters such as Buddha, Jesus and Lao Tzu have come to Earth to teach mankind the right way of living.^{[41][42][43]} They are regarded by the society as Avatars.^{[44][45][46]} Krishna, for example, is from Saturn, which is the home of a "Cosmic Hierarchy" or "Interplanetary Council", while Jesus and Buddha are from Venus.^{[28][47][48]} The society therefore claims that these religions sprang from the same source and their principles were identical.^{[29][43][49]} These beings are, however, spiritual beings on another dimension or plane, as the idea of corporeal intelligent life on the other planets was known to be unlikely in the 1950s.^[50] The society's concept is that these beings exist on a 'spiritual level' by maintaining a 'higher vibratory rate' which can be lowered, and this explains the reported blinking in and out of UFOs.^{[43][50][51]} The society also refers to the vimanas found in Vedic and Hindu texts, and to the Star of Bethlehem, as UFOs and examples of peaceful aliens that have been visiting to teach humanity throughout our history.^{[29][51][52]}

King taught a belief in reincarnation based on the "Law of Karma" according to which we progress life by life towards the goal of perfection. Everyone is destined eventually to become a Master and to continue evolving from there.^{[18][49][50]} The society claims that evolution also includes planet Earth, which is regarded as a living entity at a much higher state of evolution and importance than its inhabitants.^{[17][49][53]} They allege that because of the backward evolution of humans, the Earth has been under frequent attacks from evil forces from other parts of the universe, and that the Cosmic Masters of other planets are fighting off a number of evil alien invaders.^{[54][55][56]} In Aetherius Society literature, the cosmic battles with evil forces or intelligences "bear some resemblance to the fundamentalist Christian concept of 'spiritual warfare', shorn of its imminent apocalyptic content."^[57]

As in other New Age religions, alternative medicine, spiritual healing, yoga, and dowsing are also accepted and practised by the Aetherius Society.^[58] It has also launched initiatives against pollution and nuclear power, and generally identifies with the ideals of the Green Movement. However, the society believes that environmental and societal problems are only symptoms of a much larger spiritual problem that, once solved, would cure all other problems. This is the 'spiritual energy crisis'.^[59] King designed many items of equipment intended to contain and redirect 'spiritual energy' for such purposes.^{[26][60][61]}

Probably the best known of these is the "Spiritual Energy Battery". Its precise design and composition are not in the public domain. Its purpose is to hold a 'charge of spiritual energy for an indefinite period'. When connected to a "Spiritual Energy Radiator" (again designed by King), it can be 'discharged'.^{[26][27][62]} 'Spiritual workers' pray and chant mantra, and 'focus the energy' into the battery where it is 'stored'. The society's belief is that in times of crisis the energy can be released in a concentrated form and manipulated by cooperating Masters to the area in need. King named this activity "Operation Prayer Power".^{[26][27][60]} The Aetherius Society claims that under the guidance of the Cosmic Masters and with the aid of Spiritual Energy Batteries, they have prevented wars, and relieved the effects of natural disasters. King taught that these spiritual exercises help to prevent worldly destruction.^{[26][27][63]}

To help with this, the Aetherius Society regularly engages in "Spiritual Pushes" in which they pray and meditate to draw Prana to Earth from an orbiting spaceship known as "Satellite Number Three" which increases the amount of spiritual energy available. They claim that this satellite is shielded from telescopes and radar.^{[23][27][64]} In "Operation Starlight", between the years 1958 and 1961, King and various members climbed eighteen mountains throughout the world, so that the mountains could be 'spiritually charged' by the Cosmic Masters using King as the link.^{[27][65][66]} Members often make pilgrimages to these mountains where they have painted the movement's symbol, believing they receive more power that they can send out to the world through prayer.^{[27][67][68]} They believe that service to mankind is the most essential yoga or religion in these days.^{[27][49]}

King is now regarded by the Aetherius Society as an Avatar and Cosmic Master, though he did not make any claim to being either in his lifetime.^{[1][45]} The Aetherius Society also believes that King was the only person in the society to receive mental transmissions.^{[69][70]}

Eschatology

King claimed to have been contacted by many aliens, including Venusians, Martians, Devas, and the Great White Brotherhood to spread a message to aid humanity. This message exalted the promising future humanity has should Earthlings turn to better ways of living, while warning of the possible consequences otherwise.^[71] King taught that humans had the choice of self-destruction or the enjoyment of a New Age that was coming to Earth. And that the Cosmic Masters had intervened via the Aetherius Society to help humanity into the New Age.^{[9][23][30]}

As Zeller notes in "End of Days", King believed there would not be a catastrophic end to the world, but that the planet is on the verge of a new millennium of peace and enlightenment and the Age of Aquarius. This will also require human effort.^{[29][71][72]} The Aetherius Society's teachings share the individualism of not only other New Age teachings of the era, but of the Protestantism King grew up in, i.e. individual humans face the decision of whether to join the millennial kingdom.^{[30][71][72]}

The society also predicts the coming of 'the next Master' from space at an indefinite time, which is said to depend on the advancement of humans and the balance of karma.^{[9][46][73]} It is claimed he will arrive in a spacecraft with great power, and present his credentials to the leaders of Earth.^{[29][30]} Those who engage in war or ignore the 'Divine Law', will be removed from the Earth and reborn upon another planet where they will continue their progress. Those who understand the law will be left on Earth to enjoy the new millennium.^{[29][74][75][76]}

Zeller also compares King's call to correct living (with threats of suffering otherwise) to many forms of Christian apocalypticism, with King's claimed mental transmissions replacing the Bible as the standard for what that moral living is.^[71] The Aetherius Society's eschatology is millenarian and, like Christian apocalypticism and Manichaeism, features a strong moral dualism in that the society seeks to follow the positive forces of the white magicians, rejecting the opposing evil forces.^[77]

King claimed that Aetherius enabled him "to speak all terrestrial languages"—although he seemed unable to respond when asked questions in Norwegian and French.^[78]

The Silence Group

The Society claims that the 'Space Beings' have contacted the leading Governments of the world in many ways but a rather sinister group of individuals called 'The Silence Group' (a pseudonym coined by UFO researcher Major Donald E. Keyhoe^[79]) have been deliberately suppressing this information so as to keep people uninformed, or misinformed, as to their true nature.^[80] According to King, the Silence Group uses fear and ignorance to control humanity.

Theology

The Aetherius Society's theology is theosophical^{[14][16][43]} and is also based on the continual evolution of all beings back to the source which is God.^{[17][49]} The society also refers to God as being "All in All, and All in All That," and the highest aspect of God as "The Absolute." The society believes that other beings exist that are so evolved compared to humanity that they are sometimes referred to as 'Gods' to distinguish them^{[4][81][82]} "There is nothing but God in the cosmos, in varying stages of evolution. Everyone will eventually become a Master and will continue evolving from there."^{[18][50]} The society regards itself as a spiritual path rather than a religious movement per se.^{[5][83]} Its path contains various stages of spiritual evolution from earthly to cosmic.^{[41][84]} Karma and reincarnation are accepted by the religion as laws of nature.^{[49][85][86]} The society claims it is "not out to change existing religions so much as to add a cosmic dimension to them".^{[29][84]} Its religious services use both Christian prayers and Eastern mantras.^{[50][87]}

Criticism

Many of King's claims, particularly claims to various titles and honors, have been shown to be questionable at best.^{[88][89]}

Simon Smith states that the Aetherius Society has to bridge a number of credibility gaps exacerbated by scientific and technological advances, and mentions some seemingly insurmountable problems facing its world view, such as the non-existence of life on the other Planets of the Solar System, and scarce evidence of spacecraft visiting Earth. The society uses the concepts of 'higher spheres of existence' to explain life on the other planets, and the 'lowly karmic position' of mankind to explain why extraterrestrials don't land openly.^[89] Hence the movement, while failing to keep pace with science and technology, has tried to explain consequent incompatibilities. However, explanation has become increasingly unnecessary for adherents due to their growing acceptance of King's charismatic authority.^[70]

Rothstein notes that while the Aetherius Society touts a television appearance of King's as a momentous event, contemporary media coverage of King was mostly negative.^[90]

On November 1, 1962, a nuclear test named Kingfish after Sir George King, was detonated as part of the Operation Fishbowl test of bombs. Other tests were named Bluegill and Starfish.

In 1958, the society's publication "Cosmic Voice" claimed to give details transmitted by the Cosmic Masters of an atomic accident in Russia, i.e. the Kyshtym Disaster, that was not known about in the West until 1976 when revealed by the New Scientist magazine.^{[27][91]} The magazine, after receiving a claim about the transmission from the Aetherius Society, entered a two paragraph item under the title "Scooped by a UFO!", next to other news items intended to be humorous, such as a report of a "Dolphin Embassy."^[91] The Aetherius Society, however, interprets the *New Scientist* coverage as recognition of King's integrity, and admission by the magazine that they had been scooped by a UFO.^[92] The Cosmic Voice reported, early in its history, that George King's mother was often a passenger in the flying saucers from various planets, was once in a Martian spaceship when she was introduced to a Venusian whom she recognized as "our dear Jesus", who solemnly declared of one of George King's books, "this book is now and forever will be - Holy."^[93]

George King's titles

King is referred to by the society "as an author, inventor, metaphysician, occultist, prophet, psychic, spiritual healer, spiritual leader, teacher, yogi and Aquarian master". He was also lavished with innumerable titles, degrees and honors^[1] from unorthodox sources. According to the society, the various honors were all given to King as a "token offer of gratitude" for his work.^[88] Rothstein observes that all of this hagiographical material is primarily aimed at believers who have special, 'esoteric' knowledge about King, whereas the society's communications during publicity campaigns are angled differently.^[94]

Accordingly, many of King's titles and awards stem from obscure sources. Barrett notes that amongst King's titles are listed a Knighthood in the Sovereign Military Orthodox Dynastic Imperial Constantinian Order of Saint Georges, which was from the Byzantine Royal House in exile, and was not recognised by the College of Arms in England, as the title "Sir" might imply.^[88] King received other chivalric titles and various degrees. Barrett states that neither the chivalric titles nor the degrees were recognised by any mainstream bodies.^[95]

The Aetherius Society usually refers to King as "Dr George King".^[96] The society does not, however, document where King received his doctorate. Barrett states that King received his doctorate from "...the International Theological Seminary of California, a degree mill with no accreditation..." King is also referred to as Metropolitan Archbishop of the Aetherius Churches. His consecration as a bishop was from the Theosophy-related Liberal Catholic Church.^[95]

In 1991 King was "presented Letters Patent of Armorial Bearings also known as a Grant of Arms, by Bluemantle Pursuivant, a Herald of Her Majesty's College of Arms in England."^{[97][98]} A Grant of Arms is applied for. Anyone can receive a Grant of Arms if they can satisfy one of several requirements.

According to one source,^[99] King's "proper title" was "His Eminence Sir George King, O.S.P., Ph.D., Th.D., D.D., Metropolitan Archbishop of the Aetherius Churches." The knighthood is not British but from "an unspecified foreign source." American radio personality Long John Nebel had King as a guest on his show and later wrote: " 'George King of England' - is what he calls himself, and you can't be sure whether he's pausing after 'George,' or after 'King,' but it doesn't really matter because after about three minutes you get the idea strong and clear." ^[100]

The society claims that King was a chaplain of the American Federation of Police.^[96] The organization's full name is "American Federation of Police and Concerned Citizens".^[101] Anyone who is a concerned citizen appears to be able to become a member for \$45.^[102] Charity Navigator gives this organization its lowest ranking (0 stars).^[103] Several police organizations have warned that solicitations by the American Federation of Police are possible scams.^{[104][105][106]} The site does not appear to have any official way to apply for a position as a chaplain and does not provide any list of official chaplains.

According to skeptic James Randi George King's titles of 'Reverend', 'Doctor' and 'Sir' are unverified.^[107]

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- *The Twelve Blessing*
- *Visit to the Logos of Earth*
- *A Book of Sacred Prayers*
- *The Practices of Aetherius*
- *Jesus Comes Again*
- *You Too Can Heal*
- *Cosmic Voice - Volume I*
- *Cosmic Voice - Volume II*
- *Wisdom of the Planets*
- *You Are Responsible!*
- *Karma and Reincarnation*
- *Contact Your Higher Self through Yoga*
- *Realize Your Inner Potential* (with Richard Lawrence)
- *Contacts with the Gods from Space* (with Richard Lawrence)

By Richard Lawrence:

- *UFO's and the Extraterrestrial Message*
- *Unlock Your Psychic Powers*
- *Prayer Energy*
- *The Magic of Healing*
- *God's, Guides and Guardian Angels*

Others:

- *The Holy Mountains of the World* by Rev. Charles Abrahamson
- *Operation Earth Light* by Brian C.Keneipp
- *Power Prayer* by Chrissie Blaze and Gary Blaze
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See also

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107. "An Encyclopedia of Claims, Frauds, and Hoaxes of the Occult and Supernatural" (<http://www.randi.org/encyclopedia/Aetherius%20Society.html>). *James Randi Educational Foundation*. 2007. Retrieved 4 August 2014.

External links

- [The Aetherius Society \(http://www.aetherius.org/\)](http://www.aetherius.org/) – official website of the movement
- [Page about the Aetherius Society at Religious Movements site \(https://web.archive.org/web/20050728092817/http://religiousmovements.lib.virginia.edu/nrms/aetherius.html\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20050728092817/http://religiousmovements.lib.virginia.edu/nrms/aetherius.html)
- A scholarly article by John A. Saliba in the *Marburg Journal of Religion*: [link to the article \(http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb03/ivk/mjr/pdfs/1999/articles/saliba1999.pdf?searchterm=Saliba\)](http://www.uni-marburg.de/fb03/ivk/mjr/pdfs/1999/articles/saliba1999.pdf?searchterm=Saliba)
- [Aetherius Society: Jesus, Venusians, and some bad astronomy \(http://www.skepticnorth.com/2012/01/toronto-aetherius-society-jesus-venusians-and-some-bad-astronomy-part-1/\)](http://www.skepticnorth.com/2012/01/toronto-aetherius-society-jesus-venusians-and-some-bad-astronomy-part-1/) - Skeptical look at the society's astronomy claims
- [Aetherius Society: A lack of proof \(http://www.skepticnorth.com/2012/01/toronto-aetherius-society-his-masters-voice-stuff-that-goes-boom-and-a-lack-of-proof-part-2/\)](http://www.skepticnorth.com/2012/01/toronto-aetherius-society-his-masters-voice-stuff-that-goes-boom-and-a-lack-of-proof-part-2/) - Skeptical look at the society claims of King's per-knowledge of certain historical events
- [Peakbagger.com \(http://www.peakbagger.com/map/BigMap.aspx?miny=-43.692774&maxy=58.4134&minx=-120.099011&maxx=170.124127&t=L&d=609&c=0&bl=0\)](http://www.peakbagger.com/map/BigMap.aspx?miny=-43.692774&maxy=58.4134&minx=-120.099011&maxx=170.124127&t=L&d=609&c=0&bl=0) (For a large map showing the locations of the Aetherius Society Holy Mountains)

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Campaigning for the RationalMedia Foundation 2019 board of trustees election has begun. Ask questions, read slogans, and (un)endorse candidates!

The Aetherius Society



The Aetherius Society is a *UFO* (sort of) based religion that was founded in 1955 by the late George King and operates in the [United States](#), [Canada](#), the [United Kingdom](#), [Australia](#), [New Zealand](#) and three [African](#) nations. It claimed about 650 members as of 1993. The UK *UFO News* suggested it had 10,000 people on its UK mailing list around 2000.^[1]

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Mostly harmless? [edit]

Interestingly enough, there has been little to no criticism of The Aetherius Society. While most who've ever heard of it consider it utterly ridiculous bollocks, and others note that before setting up the society, "Dr." King was a mere taxi driver, intent on berating and challenging passengers about their spiritual health, they seem quite nice people, and there has still never been a major event nor criminal action that can be attributed to The Aetherius Society. Though most people, no doubt, think it's pretty fucking weird. Despite the small number of actual members, they are quite active on Meetup.com promoting talks related to Aetherian topics.^{[2][3][4]}

The society preaches an easily-recognizable melange of [New Ageish](#) philosophy. Their blend of 1950s era [anti-nuclear](#) campaigning and [yoga](#) makes the group's message increasingly plausible in a post-[Fukushima](#) age where you can't swing a dead, irradiated Hello Kitty and not hit someone carrying a yoga mat.

George King [edit]

George King was born in Wellington, Shropshire to George and Mary King. His mother was said to be [psychic](#) and his family was "imbued with occult inclinations".^[5] In the 1930s, King belonged to a number of occult groups.^[6]

King was big on [meditation](#). Really big. In fact he studied yoga for 10 years and up to 12 hours a day until he became so in tune with terrestrial knowledge that he became a "Knower".

As King tells it, he was sitting alone in his [London](#) apartment one day, fooling around with god knows [what](#), when suddenly out of the blue a voice, using the pseudonym "Master Aetherius", commanded, *"Prepare yourself! You are to become the voice of Interplanetary Parliament"*. He states that although he was initially shocked by this statement, coming from thin air and all, he knew he had heard it due to his mastery of all terrestrial phenomena.



Several days later an unnamed yoga master, whom King knew was alive and well in [India](#), appeared by walking through the locked door of his apartment and taught King exercises in order to bring him closer in touch with the Cosmic Masters who would soon use King as the "Primary Terrestrial Mental Channel".^[7]

King's titles [\[edit\]](#)

Followers of King refer to him as Dr. George King. Followers also claim him as Reverend George King and Sir George King.^[8] There seems to be no evidence this former taxi driver^[9] ever received an accredited degree that would allow him to properly call himself "doctor". [Randi](#) notes "none of the three titles are verified".^[10]

Doctor [\[edit\]](#)

The official Aetherius Society seems to have dropped most title claims (notably Sir) except for the doctor title.^[11] The society does not document the source of King's doctorate, despite claiming to have carefully archived King's transmissions. David Barrett, in *A Brief Guide to Secret Religions*, states King received his doctorate from "the International Theological Seminary of California, a [degree mill](#) with no accreditation".^[12] An early version of the [Wikipedia](#) entry on King offers the unreferenced claim that "His followers address him as Dr. George King but the doctor's title was conferred to him not by any university on earth but by [spiritual](#) sources."^[13] For a time, King also seems to have claimed to have received a [Doctor of Letters](#)^W (D.Litt.) degree.^[14] In the USA, this is generally an honorary degree. However, in the UK it's usually considered a degree above Ph.D.

Knighthoods and nobility [\[edit\]](#)

A look at the society's site from the Wayback Machine has a rather richer list of titles and honours.^[15] The Society appears to have stopped making claims of knighthoods and princships around 2005.

Many online non-Aetherius Society sources still refer to King's official biography from the 1990s and early 2000s. The Aetherius Society page at The World Religions & Spirituality Project at Virginia Commonwealth University^[16] lists him as:

"Sir George King, OSP, PhD, ThD, DD, Metropolitan Archbishop of the Aetherius

Churches, Founder President of the Aetherius Society." He also boasted other honorary titles, including Prince Grand Master of the Mystical Order of St. Peter, HRH Prince George King De Santori, and Knight of Malta. Certificates of these various degrees and titles are displayed at the Society's Temple in Hollywood, California.

His Prince Grand Master title was awarded from the Mystical Order of St. Peter, which "was set up by Dr. George King after a Mystical Communion he had with no less a Being than Saint Peter."^[17] The Mystical Order of Saint Peter has a cherished past stretching back to the mystical epoch of 1981.^[18]

A UFO wiki claims "In 1980, King was also dubbed 'Sir George King' by His Royal and Imperial Highness Prince Robert Khimchiachvili, the 74th Grand Master of the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta."^[19] According to the New York *Sun*, "From 1970, Prince Robert M.N.G. Bassaraba de Brancovan-Khimchiachvili-Dadiani ran a bogus Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Knights of Malta from his faux-marble apartment (filled with equally genuine Louis XV furniture) at 116 Central Park South. If you had a passage fee, he had a gong for you, and hundreds of men and women with more money than sense each paid him up to \$30,000 for his phony knighthoods."^{[20][21]} Khimchiachvili and two associates were later convicted of wire fraud.^[22]

Prizes and honours [\[edit\]](#)

The Aetherius Society claims King won the "Prize of Peace and Justice" from The International Union of Christian Chivalry. The



Screen capture from a [short documentary](#) about George King

society notes "previous recipients of this prize include [Albert Einstein](#), [Mother Teresa](#), and Albert Schweitzer." This group does not appear to exist; only one other person in a Google search makes any claim of membership with the union. [Richard Quezada](#) claims "Member of the International Union of Christian Chivalry" and also lists himself as "A Mentor of The Aetherius Society".

The official Aetherius Society notes King received a "Grant of Arms by Her Majesty's College of Arms in London, England."^[23] The [talk section](#) of the Wikipedia article on King a user notes that a "Grant of Arms - is something you apply for, not conferred on you." Another user comments (on the "grant of arms" as well as some Freedom of the City title claim):

There have been some changes to the later years section which seem a bit biased - implying that being awarded the Freedom of the City of London or being Granted Arms are sorts of awards; both are things that anyone can apply for - although one might wonder about the kind of person who thinks it's worthwhile doing ...

The Aetherius Society journal *Cosmic Voices* claims in 1986^[24] "Freedom Of The City of London and Freeman of England - High Honours Bestowed upon Our Master". Another researcher on King's Freedom of the City of London award notes:^[25]

A photograph of Dr Sir George with other Society members: Commander Sir Watkiss, Dame Iris Lawrence et al standing outside the Guildhall bears witness to this. Curiously, like their Master, none of these dignitaries is listed in the current edition of Who's Who. And the nature of Dr King's services to humanity is least. What could he have done to have been made a Freeman of the City of London? A telephone call to a City librarian solved this mystery: not a lot. In fact, the charming young lady behind the information desk in the Guildhall Library informed the author that she too is a Freeman of the City of London, as no doubt is the local barber, the man behind the counter in the sandwich bar and Uncle Torn Cobbley and all.

Freemen apply for the Freedom themselves (and about 1800 per year so do) and usually pay a 'fine' for this.^[26] There is a Freeman title that can be bestowed and is considered an honour. However, it is not clear if King simply applied for the designation or it was given to him as an honour.

Another user in the talk section notes:

...I remember walking past the Aetherius Society "European

HQ" (a shop in the Fulham Road in the 1980s) where his photograph was labelled "Lord George King" - but that only lasted a few days, it may be that someone complained about pretending to be a Lord; only Lord Voldemort and Lord Darth Vader have got away with that!

Diana G. Tumminia's *Alien worlds: social and religious dimensions of extraterrestrial contact*^[26] provides much additional insight into the grandiose titles and honours followers claim were conferred upon King. Amusingly:

...King was crowned by His Royal and Imperial Highness Prince Henri III Paleologue (apparently King's cousin), who bestowed upon him additional orders and titles.

Religious honours ^[edit]

King claims in his book *The Age of Aetherius* that he received the 1981 "Minister of the Year" award from the International Evangelism Crusades. This group was started by the late [Frank E. Stranges](#)^[27], who also wrote *The UFO Conspiracy*^[28] — a UFO believing preacher would award "Minister of the Year" to another UFO believing preacher. In 2006 the group [awarded](#)^[27] Minister of the Year to Julie Stranges, Frank Stranges' wife.^[27] International Evangelism Crusades' standing in the US religious community seems to be lacking. Stranges was also the president of the International Theological Seminary of California,^[28] the diploma mill institution that awarded King his Ph.D.

The society's current King biography notes King was a Chaplain of the American Federation of Police. The organization's full name is "American Federation of Police and Concerned Citizens".^[29] Anyone who is a concerned citizen appears to be able to become a member for \$45.^[30] Charity Navigator gives this organization its lowest ranking (1 star)^[31]. Several police organizations have warned that solicitations by the American Federation of Police are possible scams^{[32][33]}: in 2004, it raised \$3.2 million from donations, spending \$2.25 million on their own expenses and \$521,803 on actual charitable services.^[34]

The site does not appear to have any official way to apply for a position as a chaplain and does not provide any list of official chaplains. The late Stranges, who awarded King the 1981 "Minister of the Year", appears to be one of the few people besides King to claim to be a Chaplain of the AFP.^[35] The AFP does have a National Chaplain position on its advisory board^[36]. According to private email correspondence with a spokesperson for the AFP "we only appoint and utilize one Chaplain". There is no chaplain title

awarded other than National Chaplain. The National Chaplain serves for one year and this position is automatically renewed until either party agrees to terminate the relationship. The last two national chaplains were Catholic priests. While it's possible that, at some point, the American Federation of Police decided a UFO cult leader would be make an excellent National Chaplain, it does seem implausible given their known track record of appointing Catholic priests. In correspondence, the AFP spokesperson indicated they did not maintain a list of past National Chaplains and the original founder had died, and institutional memory died with him.

The organisation did, however, operate a diploma mill.^[37]

"The [American Federation of Police] was a really sleazy outfit," says Nelson, now the Times's Washington bureau chief. "They had this thing, the National Law Enforcement Academy. They were giving out phony degrees all over the country. You'd pay some money, do some token course work, and be presented with this thing that was represented as some sort of great academic achievement. It was just bogus."

The Cosmic Masters [\[edit\]](#)

The Cosmic Masters are a group of spiritual beings from higher planes of existence on other planets. Only King may speak with them - which is unfortunate given he died in 1997. Buddha, Mohammed and Jesus^[38] (who now, according to the society, lives happily on [Venus](#)) were all connected to the Cosmic Masters. The Cosmic Masters tell us that the Earth is soon to go through a great transition. The following are quotes from Cosmic Master Mars Sector 6:^[39]

"Today you stand in the valley of decision..."

"The Goddess, Terra, must shortly take Her rightful Place in the Cosmic Scheme of evolution. This will mean a reduction in the intensity of the ionosphere around Terra and a resultant high rise in the potency of Cosmic Rays actually reaching the surface of this Planet. This will mean that only those of sufficient development will be able to withstand this Cosmic bombardment."

"Therefore it is obvious that Terrestrial man must sort the wheat from the involved chaff. This is logic."

"Terrestrial man faces many problems in the interim period. He faces the possibility of war brought about by the scheming few, who have successfully trapped the unthinking majority by their insidious conditioning campaign."

"He faces disease which is now prevalent upon the Planet."

"He faces the direct result of another's greed, another's lust for power, another's wrongful control..."

"These things do men face this night."

"These things can all be put right by man if he decides, this night, to throw his God given Energies into the channels of construction, away from the channels of destruction."

"SERVICE and CO-OPERATION are the keynotes which will enable mankind to put right these conditions. Indeed, mankind upon Terra has the greatest opportunities ever offered to any other lifestreams in the whole Solar System at any time since its inception;for man upon Terra has fallen so low that the climb back could be far more glorious than any yet accomplished since the inception of this Solar System."

Another Cosmic Master, known cryptically as You Are Responsible, states:^[40]

"Abandon nuclear energy completely... Nuclear energy should not be touched at all by you because on the whole the motives of the governments of Terra are quite wrong."

This is damning information straight from the ceiling and into King's frontal lobe. When asked about why the Cosmic Masters do not land openly and all of humanity can bathe in their collective intelligent, peace and wit King has a message, received from the Cosmic Masters, that explains all that away so there'll be no more questions, OK?^[41]

Operations [\[edit\]](#)

King has stated his ~~entire~~ religion is focused on the improvement of mankind. As the Cosmic Masters give him information about current events, upcoming disasters and whether he left the iron on or not, he is in a prime position to develop



A prayer team member directs prayer energy into a spiritual energy battery during Operation Prayer Power.^[42]

mankind's spirituality. Before it's too late. The three main operations the society is involved in are called:^[43]

- Operation Starlight
- Operation Sunbeam
- Operation Prayer Power

Operation Starlight [\[edit\]](#)

This operation was directed to King in 1958 and took three years to complete. King was commanded to climb 18 peaks so he could act as a channel in order to charge these peaks with spiritual energy using his elevated yogic state. These mountains are now free for all to climb and send out their own energies. However which peaks he actually climbed are not listed on the website.

Operation Sunbeam [\[edit\]](#)

Operation Sunbeam had grand design. The "logic" of this mission was that the energy already put into the 19 mountains of Operation Starlight (that is not a typo by the way, Operation Starlight states 18 while Operation Sunbeam [says 19](#). Go figure, eh) and shield it from Mother Earth so as mankind can take it for itself. King created a battery in which to store this energy and release at times of global trouble.

Operation Prayer Power [\[edit\]](#)

Operation Prayer Power is "truly Love in action" according to the society. After managing to modify the prayer battery from Operation Starlight, King was able to create a prayer battery. Every week, hundreds of people charge the prayer battery using powerful prayers and mantras. This collective energy is able to solve all the worlds ills.

Holy mountains [\[edit\]](#)

- Holdstone Down, North Devon, England, charged by Master Jesus
- Brown Willy, Cornwall
- Ben Hope, Sutherland, Scotland
- Creag-an-leth-choin, Strathspey, Scotland
- Old Man, Cumbria, England
- Pen-Y-Fan, South Wales
- Carnedd Llywelyn, Gwynedd, Wales
- Kinderscout, Derbyshire, England
- Yes Tor, Devon, England
- Mount Baldy, California, USA
- Mount Tallac, Northern California, USA
- Mount Adams, New Hapshire, USA
- Castle Peak, Colorado, USA
- Mount Kosciusko, New South Wales, Australia
- Mount Ramshead, New South Wales, Australia
- Mount Wakefield, New Zealand
- Mount Madrigerfluh, Switzerland

- Le Nid D'Aigle, France
- Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa, charged by Saint Goo-Ling^[44]

Total 19, 17 charged by Dr George King

Supposed evidence ^[edit]

Members of the Aetherius Society will occasionally give public talks where they claim to have irrefutable evidence of George King's claims.^[45] The so-called irrefutable evidence consists mostly of claims that King knew X before it was public knowledge. Since he could not have learned this from any conventional means, he must have learned it from space aliens. His alien sources ("cosmic intelligences"^[46]) are variously called Mars Sector Six and Aetherius (a kind of cosmic Gandalf the White). Four incidents are typically put forward:

The Windscale accident ^[edit]

In October of 1957, England's first nuclear power plant (Windscale) had a fire. The government claimed the accident was not serious. King, however, claimed the Cosmic Intelligences told him (on October 29, 1957^[47]) "the scientists were not in any way giving a true account of the results of the accident"^[48]. Documents released in 1989 showed the government, in fact, did not give a true account of the accident^[49]. The government's 1957 secret report was prepared the day before King's Cosmic Intelligences report. How could King have known the accident was worse? The report was secret. He must have gotten it via an alien transmission!

First, a bit of history. In the late 1950s, the UK wanted the US to see it as a responsible nuclear partner. It did not want to seem like a nation that doesn't know what it's doing with nuclear technology. And it wanted access to US research instead of having to recreate it from the ground up. It's key that all the Aetherius Society claims is King claims the government wasn't giving a true account. You don't need to be in contact with all-seeing space aliens to suggest any government in any nuclear disaster, especially relating to a weapons program, isn't going to tell the full story. Water is wet.

Was King (a decidedly anti-nuclear campaigner) the only one questioning the veracity of government claims? Would the British tabloid press not question the government account during the course of the accident?

This [page](#) gives a couple transcripts of contemporary news reports. The Whitehaven News on October 11 reported some troubling findings (18 days before King's "transmission"). The paper reported there "...came disturbing reports from the

monitoring vans which were touring the district testing vegetation and air “. This was 18 days before King’s supposed message from the Cosmic Intelligences.

It certainly sounds like there was enough alarming news to make anyone with a strong anti-nuclear stance consider the reality on the ground wasn’t matching the government account. King could easily have been repeating what he read in the newspaper. There is zero evidence King had special knowledge that was not being floated in the local press.

Members like to note the timing of King’s revelation and the government document seemed too close to be mere [coincidence](#). King's cosmic transmission came one day after the government report was secretly released. Unfortunately, members do not consider how many degrees of freedom are involved in suggesting a “hit” is too improbable to be coincidence. If King came up with it three days before or a month after, would they still be calling this a hit? If the publication date of the document wasn’t a good match, maybe the date the government experts first convened the panel is a hit. Or when they adjourned is a hit. It’s [very easy](#), retrospectively, to find any two data points that correlate in some loose fashion.

The Russian incident [\[edit\]](#)

On April 18, 1958, aliens called Mars Sector 6 and Aetherius informed King that there was a nuclear accident in the Soviet Union and hundreds of people were killed. It would have been worse but the aliens used some kind of technology to suck up large amounts of the radiation (enough to kill 17 million people). Below is the complete text of the transmissions from King's *You Are Responsible!*

'Mars Sector 6'

“Owing to an atomic accident just recently in the USSR, a great amount of radioactivity in the shape of radio-active iodine, strontium 90, radio-active nitrogen and radio-active sodium have been released into the atmosphere of Terra.”

'The Master Aetherius, from Venus:'

“All forms of reception from Interplanetary sources will become a little more difficult during the next few weeks because of the foolish actions of Russia.

"They have not yet declared to the world as a whole, exactly what happened in one of their atomic research establishments. Neither have they declared how many people were killed there. Neither have they declared that they were really frightened by the tremendous release of radio-active materials from this particular establishment

during the accident.

"Because this accident took place, we will most certainly have to use a tremendous amount of energy, which should be used in a very different way. We should not really have to expend this amount of energy clearing away dangerous radio-active clouds from the atmosphere of Terra.

"However, because of Divine Intervention, we are able to use enough energy in this direction to save about 17,000,000 lives, which otherwise would have been forced to vacate their physical bodies.

"Such were the far-reaching repercussions from this accident that we were given permission by the Lords of Karma to intervene! However, although we are at the moment intervening on behalf of Terra, in this direction, certain damage has already been done to large land and water masses!"^[50]

No one but those in the Soviet Union knew about the accident. The world did not find out until Zhores Medvedev defected to the west and exposed the story in the *New Scientist* in 1976. As it turns out in September of 1957 there was a [nuclear accident in the Soviet Urals](#). How could King have known about something the world was clueless about until a couple decades later?

You will note that in the two transmissions the society claims are remarkable hits no dates, times, or locations are given beyond an undated accident in the USSR. The USSR was a pretty big place. Is getting a hit on "at some point the Soviets had an accident" really a remarkable hit? It's a pretty safe bet the Soviets had a few nuclear disasters as they entered the atomic age.

The major problem is the *New York Times* and other papers carrying UP stories were abuzz on April 13-14, 1958 about a possible nuclear accident in the USSR:

Soviet Catastrophe Reported

Copenhagen, Denmark, April 13 UP — Berlingske Tidende, Denmark's biggest newspaper, said today the recent Soviet nuclear tests had to be broken off because of a "catastrophic accident". The newspaper, quoting information reaching Copenhagen through diplomatic channels from Moscow, did not define the nature of the reported accident, but said it caused radioactive fallout over the Soviet and many neighboring states to increase to the danger point.^[51]

King made his prediction April 18, 1958 (four or five days later). It seems plausible that King was simply able to read the day's

headlines^[52] about such speculation. Did King get this information from an alien or newspapers?

Chernobyl disaster [\[edit\]](#)

In April 1986, King was ostensibly told by the Cosmic Intelligences to take some unprecedented action in preparation for a disaster.^[53] He was told to activate a "special radionic apparatus" a bit less than 5 hours before the [Chernobyl](#) disaster began on April 26, 1986. Devotees operated these radionic devices at "an unprecedented level for several days".

The argument here seems to be "We were doing something we've never done before and something unusual happened in the USSR. So our unusual activity is evidence we knew that disaster was coming."

This is classic post-hoc reasoning. Something odd happened. So we look for something odd we might have done before, find something, and then make a connection. But we forget all the other times we were doing other odd things and nothing odd happened within some undefined space of time.

And, sure, doing something with this radionic device five hours before the accident seems like a hit but the society gives us no information how often they ran this device. Do they do it every other day? Every week at a regular schedule? One needs a lot more information before one can call it a "hit".

The society also seems to be impressed the device was used for an unprecedented length of time. More than a day was never done. Unfortunately, the times don't really add up. They started running the device two days before the Soviet announcement. However it was a day before the April 28 announcement that there were reports of unusual radiation that many assumed at first was a Swedish nuclear accident.^[54] So it seems they were not into their record activity until they knew about a possible nuclear disaster (day 2 people assumed Sweden, day 3 the USSR fessed up). Since they believed it would help, they'd keep it going.

One should also note the claimed transmission did not specifically mention a nuclear disaster or a specific time frame. Followers claims the transmission warned to "prepare for an imminent catastrophe"^[55] and "an emergency situation was about to occur upon Earth".^[56] King claims the transmission came 8:30 am PST on April 25th, 1986 while he was in Utah. Between April 24 and April 25, US newspapers like the *NY Times* carried worrying reports of volcanic eruptions in Alaska.^{[57][58]} Was King's vague transmission claim a guess that the Alaska volcano might be a repeat of the Mount St. Helens (1980) disaster? This [1977 BBC](#)

[documentary](#) has a portion about King. King has his followers "charging" a prayer battery. King states the "prayer power battery" was being charged because a transmission told him about a period of "emergency" from October 23 - December 11. This emergency period was presumably for 1977. Later King reveals the battery was being charged in advance of a looming earthquake. Clearly the society was concerned about natural disasters as well as nuclear disasters. As well, King states the prayer battery has an antenna and the released prayer "energy" can be guided to any part of the world. No source by the society notes the April 25-26 activity was directed at the Soviet Union.

There were eight significant quakes in the time frame indicated by King in the video.^[59] Although for all of 1977 there were about 3.75 significant quakes per month. So pretty much what one would expect for King's time frame. It is not a stunning claim.

Predictions about the depletion of the ozone layer [\[edit\]](#)

The Aetherius society claims King knew about the dangers of the depletion of ozone layer two decades before the problem was recognized in the 1980s.^[60] On an LA TV show on July 19th, 1960 King made the following "prediction":

"The ionosphere unit now surrounding your world which normally absorbs a large percentage of cosmic rays, will gradually be taken down so that the cosmic and ultra violet rays may bombard this earth in their full potency."

Members of the Aetherius society interpret this to be a prediction about the depletion of the ozone layer, which was detected in the 1970s (not the 1980s as alleged).^[61] However, the problem with this "prediction" is the cosmic intelligences that allegedly supplied King with advanced knowledge do not seem to know where the ozone layer is located. It's actually located in the stratosphere^[62], about 40km below the start of the ionosphere^[63]. As well, the ozone layer only protects us from UV rays, not cosmic rays.^[64] Given King's stance against nuclear weapons, it's not difficult to believe King was expressing fears about high-altitude nuclear tests the USA began in 1958, two years previous to King's "prediction".^[65]

In short, if you want to call this a prediction, you have to accept:

- It makes no actual mention of the ozone layer, despite it being known and monitored since 1928^[66]
- It gets the location of the ozone layer wrong.
- It gets the function of the ozone layer wrong.

- It makes no mention of the danger CFCs posed to the ozone layer.

If you want to call this a prediction, you ultimately have to accept the cosmic intelligences have a very, very poor understanding of the Earth's atmosphere and were actually unwilling to tell King what industrial chemical humans should curtail production of. Odd, given they were happy to tell King to curtail nuclear power.

Bad astronomy [\[edit\]](#)

Life on Venus and Mars [\[edit\]](#)

What will strike many as the most unbelievable claim made by the Aetherius Society is their belief that there are intelligent aliens on Venus and Mars (with Jesus being one of the more prominent citizens of Venus). The idea that planets within our solar system support advanced intelligent life seems quaint today. We know Venus is hot enough to melt lead and is not a jungle planet. Mars is not a Dune-like world with sword-wielding Amazons riding lizards. But in the 1950s, intelligent life within our solar system was a feature of sci fi literature, TV shows, and movies.^[67] The [contactee](#) movements of King and [George Adamski](#) well parroted it.

King and Adamski both had the same message: nuclear energy is bad, Venusian reincarnation, and both claimed to have been flown around the solar system on space ships. Adamski's contactee story, however, preceded King's by two years (1952 vs 1954). Both had a message contemporaneous with the times and, oddly, the plot of *The Day the Earth Stood Still* which came out in 1951. *The Day the Earth Stood Still* was about a representative sent by a parliament of different aliens to warn earth of the dangers of nuclear technology. King's claim is he met a representative sent by a parliament of different aliens to warn earth of the dangers of nuclear technology.

Ufology has largely moved beyond the [contactee](#) movement, probably somewhat embarrassed by their unsophisticated claims later proven false by real space exploration. Adamski today is the poster child for the silliness of the times.^[68] Modern contactees are largely shunned by "serious" ufologists. Even as early as 1965, ufologist [Jacques Vallée](#) commented "No serious investigator has ever been very worried by the claims of the 'contactees'."^[69]

In light of data obtained by actual space exploration (versus fabrications made up sitting in the lotus position) Aetherius Society members have had to somewhat retcon King's fanciful ideas about physical civilizations on Mars and Venus. They're kind of spirit beings now. They live on a different "vibrational" plane of

existence,^[70] whatever that means.

Examining King's book *You Are Responsible!* (1961) where he records many supposed conversations with these Martians and Venusians we see passages like:

“What is the temperature of those on Venus who use a physical body?”

“On Venus...some of our younger ones eat and drink the juice from certain berries and the juice that's given off by certain trees.”

The reader would be forgiven if he/she came away with the idea King claims Venus has aliens in physical bodies and there were trees and other plant life.

In *You Are Responsible!* King also claims to have traveled to Mars and described buildings, “longitudinal vegetation belts”, and Martian soil to be radioactive. No lander has found radioactive regolith on Mars.^[71] Astronomer [Stuart Robbins](#)^[71] has spent over five years staring at high resolution images of Mars and he's never mentioned seeing vegetation. Or buildings. None of the physical evidence from exploration of Mars or Venus supports King's claims of what he saw on these planets. King probably never went to Mars or Venus.^[citation NOT needed]

Origin of the Main (asteroid) Belt [\[edit\]](#)

The Aetherius Society believes humans came to earth from another planet that we destroyed with runaway nuclear technology. The planet was known as Maldek and became the [asteroid](#) belt after exploding.^[72] The idea that the asteroid belt was a destroyed planet (from a collision) was an early hypothesis about its origins but that hypothesis was abandoned as it is [not supported by the evidence](#)^[72]. The objects in the asteroid belt largely just accreted in place. The lines of evidence for this run:

- 1) The matter in the asteroid belt is about 4% of the moon's mass. Nowhere near a planet's size.
- 2) There's not enough mass to have accreted into a planet.
- 3) The gravity from Jupiter prevents the matter from further accretion.
- 4) Asteroid chemistry is inconsistent with having once been part of a planet.^[73]

Society members point to^[74] the work of the late Canadian astronomer Michael Ovenden as support for their claims of Maldek. Ovenden hypothesized in 1972 the asteroid belt is the remains of a planet.^[75] However, Ovenden's idea hasn't gained any traction in forty years and is not supported by the evidence.

King's Maldek claim oddly parallels the plot of a 1957 Japanese sci fi movie called [The Mysterians](#).^W The movie is about aliens who came from a planet that was in the current asteroid belt but destroyed by nuclear weapons! Familiar? The Maldek "revelation" was transmitted to King on April 7, 1960.^[76] The Mysterians had its US release May 1959. King moved to America in June 1959.^[77] It is possible he either saw this movie or was made aware of the plot by an adherent in the USA and this was the inspiration for the claimed April 7, 1960 transmission.

Planet X [\[edit\]](#)

King claims to have been told by his Cosmic Intelligences there is a 10th planet in the solar system.^[78] The Cosmic Intelligences seem not have been able to predict Pluto's demotion. This undiscovered planet will be a place for the "sorting of the wheat from the chaff".^[79] It's a way station for people not quite ready to enter Aetherian heaven. The head of the Toronto Aetherius society (on his [Cosmic Warrior page](#)^W) claims this [Planet X](#) has a "mass of about 5 times that of the Earth" and "is orbiting the Sun at a right angle to the known planets." This claim seems at odds with King's description in his book *The Nine Freedoms* where he states "this young primitive world is in the Solar System, orbiting behind the Sun following exactly the same trajectory as Earth and is thereby not visible."^[80]

King's notion that another planet can hide from us in an orbit that always places it behind the sun ignores the planet's gravity would have noticeable and unexplainable effects on the orbits of Venus and Mercury. The unseeable planet [Vulcan](#)^W was hypothesized as an explanation for the peculiarities of Mercury's orbit, which did not jibe with Newtonian mechanics. Einstein's theory of relativity solved the problem. If there was such a planet as King claimed, even if always exactly opposite the sun, astronomers would still be struggling today to explain the orbits of Mercury and Venus. These orbits are fully explained, however.

Aetherius society seem to take harbor in the notion of a 10th planet further out and the notion that the "irregularities in the orbits of Uranus and Neptune" give credence to the claim that such a planet exists. This is based on out of date knowledge. Measuring the mass of a distant planet isn't easy. A small error in the mass can lead to incorrect orbits. The Voyager 2 mission eventually gave us a better measure of Neptune's mass and therefore the orbits of Neptune and Uranus. This has been in the literature since 1993. Their orbits are [fully explained](#)^W. One does not have to invoke a Planet X.

The right angle claim seems to be used as an explanation why we

cannot see a planet in our solar system five times the Earth's mass. Planet X is simply in a strange orbit at a right angle to the solar plane. Since we can see the [full 360 degrees of the sky from Earth](#), there's no orbit where such a planet could remain hidden from optical telescopes, unless it were [extremely far away](#).

It would seem, unfortunately, that society members think they found scientific evidence to support their astronomy claims but failed to consider checking to see, thirty years later, if current data has overthrown previous hypotheses.

Pole shift [\[edit\]](#)

The Toronto branch of the Aetherius society claims "the Earth has begun to shift on its axis".^[81] As evidence the Toronto Aetherius society points to the well known phenomenon of the [magnetic declination](#):

The strength and direction of the Earth's magnetic field is being closely monitored and this is known as 'secular variation'. Since the discovery of the North Magnetic Pole in 1831, its position has moved 1,100km and is moving at an increasing rate of 40km per year. This phenomenon is altering the Earth's inclination on its axis.

The Toronto Aetherius society is trying to hammer various phenomena to fit two King predictions in 1960:

The Great Change will manifest in an exchange—a difference in the position of the axis of your world. The poles will change places with the equator.

Then, will the Earth (as you call it) move on Her axis, change Her place in relationship to the Sun, and the new day will dawn.

Unfortunately they conflate the expected change in the magnetic pole with a change in the Earth's rotational axis.^[82] This silly claim can easily be dispensed with by pointing out that thousands of amateur astronomers around the world have not noticed any change in the North Star's position.

Odd products [\[edit\]](#)

Radionic Pendulum [\[edit\]](#)

What the [e-meter](#) is to [Scientology](#), the [Radionic Pendulum](#)^[83] is to the Aetherius Society. The society claims the pendulum was

designed by King and he was "a world renowned expert in the field of radionics".^[84] The society supplies nothing to back that claim. If you are wondering how the device works, King explains [in an amazingly dull 82 minute lecture](#)^[84].

The society's official page on the pendulum does not make it clear what the device is used for other than wiggling it on the end of a string and getting yes/no answers. In 2010 the society published [a flyer](#)^[85] for the Mind, Body & Spirit festival in London that made claims that the pendulum was for use in:

1. Health diagnosis
2. Finding allergies
3. Selecting remedies and dosages
4. Dietary requirements
5. Developing intuition

A November 27, 2011 London meetup event listing^[86] offers a photograph that suggests how the device might be used to "Choose vitamin and mineral supplements". It would appear to be simple pendulum [dowsing](#). The society does not explain how its US\$16.95 pendulum is superior to one you can buy in a dollar store for, well, a dollar or just dangling a paperclip on the end of a string. The product page does note their pendulum is first lathed in the UK and then shipped to the other side of the world to be further lathed in New Zealand. That has to add some cost. It's not explained why this two-step, multi-country lathing arrangement is necessary.

The New Zealand branch has a workshop on its use.^[87] They proclaim the pendulum is a "great tool for health diagnosis". The society likens its operation to dowsing rods. At their \$50 a head workshop you can "learn to diagnose vitamin and mineral requirements" with the radionic device.

The American Cancer Society notes radionics is an older term for what is known now as "Electromagnetic Therapy". It states:^[88]

There is no relationship between proven medical uses of electromagnetic energy and the alternative devices or methods that use externally applied electrical forces. Available scientific evidence does not support claims that these alternative electrical devices are effective in diagnosing or treating cancer or any other disease.

Publications [\[edit\]](#)

You are Responsible! [\[edit\]](#)

You Are Responsible! is a book by King, based on his experiences in the late 1950s and early '60s as an alleged [UFO contactee](#). The

book contains many messages, which King claimed were telepathically transmitted to him from alien life on Mars and Venus.

The book is in two parts. Part 1 details King's claims of traveling to Venus and Mars and witnessing advanced civilizations on both planets as well as foliage and vegetation belts. King reveals Jesus was from Venus. Part 1 also touches on the subjects of Yoga and telepathy. The final chapter of part 1 recounts a claim by King that he took part in a space war between Martians and evil aquatic aliens on a world called

"Garouche". King claims Garouche is located on the opposite side of the galaxy.

Part 2 King recounts alleged "transmissions" he claims he received from space aliens, notably "Aetherius" and a space alien called "Mars Sector 6". Through recounting these supposed "transmissions", King alleges space aliens warned him about the dangers of nuclear technology, the need to educate Christians about the supposed truth of reincarnation, karma and reincarnation. Some of these transmissions followers have interpreted as prophetic and have attempted to match them with events known post hoc.

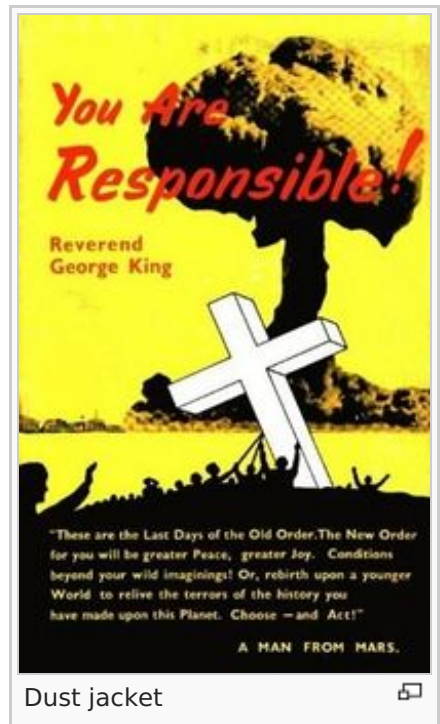
You might notice that, as with all claims by so-called contactees, they report that the aliens have told them things like how we should all get along, or gave warnings about things humans already know to be dangerous. Oddly the aliens rarely impart any information that's not already available on Earth—or, if they do, it's things like life on other planets that's subsequently proved false.

Unlock Your Psychic Powers [\[edit\]](#)

One of King's acolytes, Richard Lawrence (who was Executive Secretary for Europe of The Aetherius Society), wrote a fantastic book called *Unlock Your Psychic Powers*. It's a how-to for hearing voices in your head and doing what they say — how to induce something very like [schizophrenia](#) in yourself. Top stuff!

European headquarters [\[edit\]](#)

The society's "European Headquarters"^[89] is located in a small



storefront shop at 757 Fulham Road, London SW6, UK.

See also [edit]

- [Heaven's Gate](#), a not-so harmless UFO cult
- [Scientology](#) (all hail Xenu!)

External links [edit]

- [The Aetherius Society](#) [edit] - Thoroughly confusing home page.
- [A possible communication with the Cosmic Masters?](#) [edit]
- [Toronto Aetherius Society: Jesus, Venusians, and some bad astronomy](#) [edit] Part 1 of a skeptical look at King and his claims
- [Toronto Aetherius Society: His Master's Voice, stuff that goes boom, and a lack of proof](#) [edit] Part 2 of a skeptical look at King and claims of his foreknowledge
- [Mars and Venus Speak to Earth](#) [edit] 1959 30 minute BBC interview with George King
- [Oh No Ross & Carrie skeptical podcast infiltrates the Aetherius Society](#) [edit] Part 1
- [Oh No Ross & Carrie skeptical podcast infiltrates the Aetherius Society](#) [edit] Part 2



European HQ from Google street view [edit]

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