

*The master key to all
imponderables of the nebular
theory is the Cosmogony of
the Archaic Doctrine.*



*Contents and central ideas*¹

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¹ Frontispiece by Nicholas Daily.

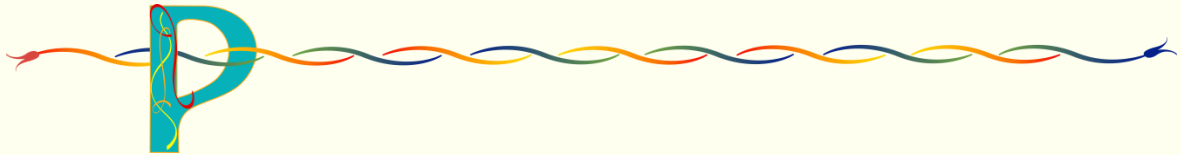
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The master key to all imponderables of the nebular theory is the Cosmogony of the Archaic Doctrine. ¹

Madame Blavatsky responds to a question from F.W.H. Myers, English F.T.S.,² arising from A.P. Sinnett's "Esoteric Buddhism."³

From *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (Question I – DO THE ADEPTS DENY THE NEBULAR THEORY?) V pp. 150-55.

No; they do not deny its general propositions, nor the approximate truths of the Scientific hypotheses. They only deny the completeness of the present, as well as the entire error of the many so-called "exploded" old theories, which, during the last century, have followed each other in such rapid succession.

Like bricks already baked, of various qualities, shapes and colour, that are no longer formless clay but have become fit units of a future wall, the cloud of dust and gas between stars is the store-house of the materials from which new stars, planets, and other celestial bodies are produced.⁴

It is thus that star-clusters are destroyed by the Architects of the visible Universe, but to be rebuild and fashioned into new Worlds.

For instance:

- While denying with Laplace, Herschel, and others, that the variable patches of light, perceived on the nebulous background of the galaxy ever belonged to remote worlds in the process of formation;
- And agreeing with modern science that they proceed from no aggregation of formless matter, but belong simply to clusters of "stars" already formed; →

¹ [The nebular theory of Modern Science, with all its mysteries, is solved in the cosmogony of the Archaic Doctrine; and the paradoxical though very scientific enunciation, that "cooling causes contraction and contraction causes heat; therefore cooling causes heat," is shown as the chief agency in the formation of the worlds, and especially of our sun and solar system.

From *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (HERMETIC AND KABALISTIC DOCTRINES) XIV p. 87 — ED. PHIL.]

² [Fellow of the Theosophical Society]

³ [Students to consult "Early theosophical doctrines expounded by H.P. Blavatsky," in our Theosophy and Theosophists Series, and "Related titles for deeper study," on page 10 of this study. — ED. PHIL.]

⁴ [Question: *Is it to be supposed that the Milky Way is composed of matter in a state of differentiation other than that with which we are acquainted?*

I thoroughly believe so. It is the store-house of the materials from which the stars, planets and other celestial bodies are produced. Matter in this state does not exist on earth; but that which is already differentiated and found on earth is also found on other planets and *vice-versa*. But, as I understand, before reaching the planets from its condition in the Milky Way, matter has first to pass through many stages of differentiation. The matter, for instance, within the Solar system is in an entirely different state from that which is outside or beyond the system.

From *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (TRANSACTIONS OF THE BLAVATSKY LODGE) X pp. 373-74. — ED. PHIL.]

- They [the Adepts] yet add that many of such clusters, that pass in the opinion of the astro-physicists for stars and worlds already evolved, are in fact but collections of the various materials made ready for future worlds.

The matter within our Solar system is in an entirely different state from that which is outside or beyond the system.¹

Like bricks already baked, of various qualities, shapes and colour, that are no longer formless clay but have become fit units of a future wall, each of them having a fixed and distinctly assigned space to occupy in some forthcoming building, are these seemingly adult worlds. The astronomer has no means of recognizing their relative adolescence, except perhaps by making a distinction between the star-clusters [151] with the usual orbital motion and mutual gravitation, and those termed, we believe, irregular star-clusters of very capricious and changeful appearances. Thrown together as though at random and seemingly in utter violation of the law of symmetry, they defy observation; such, for instance, are 5 M. Lyræ, 52 M. Cephei, Dumb-Bell, and some others. Before an emphatic contradiction of what precedes is attempted, and ridicule offered, perchance, it would not be amiss to ascertain the nature and character of those other, so-called “temporary” stars, whose periodicity though never actually proven, is yet allowed to pass unquestioned.

- What are these stars which, appearing suddenly in matchless magnificence and splendour, disappear as mysteriously and unexpectedly without leaving a single trace behind?
- Whence do they appear?
- Whither are they engulfed?

In the great cosmic deep — we say. The bright “brick” is caught by the hand of the Mason — directed by that Universal Architect *which* destroys but to rebuild. It has found its place in the cosmic structure and will perform its mission to its last *Manvantaric* hour.



¹ [Consult “Kosmos and Cosmos,” in our Confusing Words Series. — ED. PHIL.]

Since the three dimensions (length-breadth-thickness) belong only to one characteristic of matter, i.e., extension, common sense justly rebels against the suggestion that there can be more than three.¹

The Septenary Constitution of Space will become visible when the so-called “fourth dimension of space,” i.e., the Sixth characteristic of matter and harbinger of the Sixth Sense, is fully awakened.²

The turn of a four-dimensional plane of the world (the realm of atoms)³ is near, but till then the puzzle of the astronomer will continue until his concepts reach the natural dimensions of visible and invisible space in its septenary completeness.

Another point, most emphatically denied by the “Adepts,” is that there exist in the whole range of visible heavens any spaces void of starry worlds. There are stars, worlds and systems *within*, as *without* the systems made visible to man, and even *within our own atmosphere* for all the physicist knows. The “Adept” affirms in this connection that orthodox, or so-called official science, uses very often the word “infinite” without attaching to it any adequate importance; rather as a flower of speech than a term implying an awful, a most mysterious Reality. When an astronomer is found in his Reports “gauging *infinitude*,” even the most intuitional of his class is but too often apt to forget that he is gauging only the superficies of a small area and its visible depths, and to speak of these as though they were merely the cubic contents of some known quantity. This is the direct result of the present conception of a three-dimensional space. The turn of a four-dimensional world is near, but the puzzle of science will ever continue until their concepts reach the natural dimensions of visible [152] and invisible space — in its septenary completeness. “The Infinite and the Absolute are only the names for two counter imbecilities of the human (*uninitiated*) mind”; and to regard them as the transmuted “properties of the nature of things — of two subjective negatives converted into objective affirmatives,” as Sir W. Hamilton puts it, is to know nothing of the infinite operations of human liberated spirit, or of its attributes, the first of which is its ability to pass *beyond* the region of our terrestrial experience of matter and space. As an absolute vacuum is an impossibility *below*, so is it a like impossibility — *above*. But our molecules, the infinitesimals of the vacuum “below,” are replaced by the giant-atom of the Infinitude “above.” When demonstrated, the four-dimensional conception of space may lead to the invention of new instruments to explore the extremely dense matter that surrounds us as a ball of pitch might surround, say — a fly, but which, in our extreme ignorance of all its

¹ [For an in-depth analysis, consult “Chaos to Sense, Latent Deity to Reason,” in our Secret Doctrine’s First Proposition Series. — ED. PHIL.]

² [Water, one of four primordial Elements, was transmitted to us by the Fourth Race, as we shall transmit Ether, the Fifth Element, to the Sixth. Then our sixth sense shall be awakened. “The fourth dimension” is an unfortunate verbalism. Space and time are often viewed outside mental perceptions and experiences rather as what they truly are, fanciful generalizations of lower minds. Giving reality to abstractions is an error of realism. The next characteristic of matter or “permeability” (spiritual sight) will correspond to the sixth sense or “normal clairvoyance,” for, any perception must be related to senses. Then, those who have been seeking a “fourth dimension” to explain the passage of matter through matter shall find what they sought, the sixth characteristic of matter. Cf. “The last three Root-Races,” *op. cit.* — ED. PHIL.]

³ [For an in-depth analysis, consult “Adventures and Peregrinations of the Metaphysical Atom,” in our Secret Doctrine’s Third Proposition Series. — ED. PHIL.]

properties save those we find it exercising on our earth, we yet call the *clear*, the *serene*, and the *transparent* atmosphere. This is no psychology, but simply occult physics, which can never confound “substance” with “centres of Force,” to use the terminology of a Western Science which is ignorant of *Maya*. In less than a century, besides telescopes, microscopes, micrographs, and telephones, the Royal Society will have to offer a premium for such an *etherscope*.

Gravity is an obsolete law in starry heaven.

Among the materialists, gravity is the summit of the all-potent imponderables. But among the students of the Sacred Science, gravity in one of the attributes of differentiation manifested as the Law of Attraction and Repulsion between various states of matter.¹

It is also necessary in connection with the question under reply that “An English F.T.S.” should know that the “Adepts” of the Good Law, reject gravity as at present explained. They deny that the so-called “impact theory” is the only one that is tenable in the gravitation hypothesis. They say that if all efforts made by the physicists to connect it with Ether, in order to explain electric and magnetic distance-action have hitherto proved complete failures, it is again due to the race ignorance of the ultimate states of matter in nature, foremost of all the real nature of the solar stuff. Believing but in the law of mutual magneto-electric attraction and repulsion, they agree with those who have come to the conclusion that “Universal [153] gravitation is a weak force,” utterly incapable of accounting for even one small portion of the phenomena of motion. In the same connection they are forced to suggest that Science may be wrong in her indiscriminate postulation of centrifugal force, which is neither a universal nor a consistent law. To cite but one instance; this force is powerless to account for the spheroidal oblateness of certain planets. For if the bulge of planetary equators and the shortening of their polar axes is to be attributed to centrifugal force, instead of being simply the result of the powerful influence of solar electromagnetic attraction, “balanced by concentric rectification of each planet’s own gravitation achieved by rotation on its axis,” to use an astronomer’s phraseology (neither very clear nor correct, yet serving our purpose to show the many flaws in the system),

- Why should there be such difficulty in answering the objection that the differences in the equatorial rotation and density of various planets are directly in opposition to this theory?
- How long shall we see even great mathematicians bolstering up fallacies to supply an evident hiatus! The “Adepts” have never claimed superior or *any* knowledge of Western astronomy and other sciences. Yet turning even to the most elementary text-books used in the schools of India, they find that the centrifugal theory of Western birth — is unable to cover *all* the ground. That, unaided, it *can* neither account for every spheroidal oblate, nor explain away such

¹ [For an in-depth analysis, consult “Gravitation is the Law of Attraction and Repulsion,” in our Planetary Rounds and Globes Series. — ED. PHIL.]

evident difficulties as are presented by the relative density of some planets. How indeed can any calculation of centrifugal force explain to us, for instance, why Mercury, whose rotation is, we are told, only “about one-third that of the Earth, and its density only about one-fourth greater than the Earth,” should have a polar compression *more than ten times greater than the latter?*

- And again, why Jupiter, whose equatorial rotation is said to be “twenty-seven times greater, and its density only about one-fifth that of the Earth,” has its polar compression seventeen times greater than the earth?
- Or, why Saturn, with an equatorial velocity fifty-five times greater than Mercury for centrifugal force to contend with, should [154] have its polar compression *only three times greater than Mercury?*

To crown the above contradictions, we are asked to believe in the Central Forces as taught by modern science, even when told that the equatorial matter of the Sun, with more than four times the centrifugal velocity of the earth’s equatorial surface, and only about one-fourth part of the gravitation of the earth’s equatorial matter, has not manifested any tendency to bulge out at the solar equator, nor shown the least flattening at the poles of the solar axis. In other and clearer words, the Sun, with only one-fourth of our earth’s density for the centrifugal force to work upon, has no polar compression at all! We find this objection made by more than one astronomer, yet never explained away satisfactorily so far as the “Adepts” are aware.

The Solar System is as much the Microcosm of ONE MACROCOSM, as man is the former when compared with his own little solar cosmos.

The arrangement of the nebulae suggests that some other force than gravitation was the active agent.¹

Therefore, do they say that the great men of science of the West knowing nothing or next to nothing either about cometary matter, centrifugal and centripetal forces, the nature of the nebulae, or the physical constitution of the Sun, stars, or even the moon, are imprudent to speak so confidently as they do about the “central mass of the sun” whirling out into space planets, comets, and what not. Our humble opinion being wanted, we maintain: that it evolves out but the *life* principle, the *soul* of these bodies, *giving and receiving it back* in our little solar system, as the “Universal Life-giver,” the ONE LIFE gives and receives it in the Infinitude and Eternity; that the Solar System is as much the *Microcosm* of the ONE *Macrocosm*, as man is the former when compared with his own little solar cosmos.

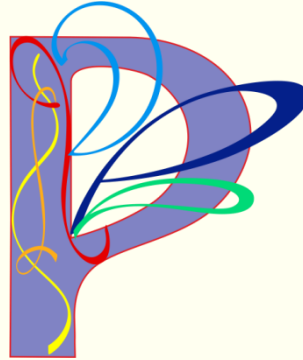
¹ [Additional corroboration of occult teaching is given in a pamphlet entitled *Materialism, Agnosticism, and Theosophy* issued by the Pacific Coast Committee for Theosophical Works: “In connection with this very point (*i.e.*, nebulae), some three years ago, Madame Blavatsky, that *bête noire* of both religion and science, declared that if scientists could perfect instruments sufficiently powerful to penetrate these nebulae, they would perceive the falsity of this assumption of the universal action of gravitation. It passed without notice.

But quite recently a California scientist has most unexpectedly confirmed this seemingly idle statement. One of the first results of the inspection of the heavens through the great Lick telescope was the cautious announcement by Professor Holden that the arrangement of matter of the nebulae would seem to point directly to the conclusion that some other force than gravitation was the active agent.”

From *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, (QUERIES AND ANSWERS) XII p. 327 *fn.* — ED. PHIL.]

- What are the proofs of science?
- The solar spots (a misnomer like much of the rest)?
- But these do not prove the solidarity of the “central mass,” any more than the storm-clouds prove the solid mass of the atmosphere behind them. Is it the non-co-extensiveness of the sun’s body with its apparent luminous dimensions, the said “body” *appearing* “a solid mass, a dark sphere of matter confined within a *fiery* prison-house, a robe of fiercest flames”?

We say that there is indeed a “prisoner” behind, but that [155] having never yet been seen by any *physical*, mortal eye, what he allows to be seen of him is merely a gigantic *reflection*, an illusive phantasma of “solar appendages of *some* sort,” as Mr. Proctor honestly calls it. Before saying anything further, we will consider the next interrogatory.¹



¹ [Question II — IS THE SUN A MERELY COOLING MASS? See title No. 2, overleaf. — ED. PHIL.]

Related titles for deeper study.

Being Madame Blavatsky's replies to questions by an English F.T.S., arising from A.P. Sinnett's "Esoteric Buddhism," excerpted from "H.P. Blavatsky Collected Writings," Vol. V, and edited by Philaletheians UK.

① DO THE ADEPTS DENY THE NEBULAR THEORY? (BCW, pp. 150-55)

— by H.P. Blavatsky, in our *Planetary Rounds and Globes Series*, under the title "The master key to all imponderables of the nebular theory."

② IS THE SUN MERELY A COOLING MASS? (BCW, pp. 155-63)

— by H.P. Blavatsky, in our *Planetary Rounds and Globes Series*.

③ ARE THE GREAT NATIONS TO BE SWEEPED AWAY IN AN HOUR? (BCW, pp. 163-71)

— by H.P. Blavatsky, in our *Atlantean Realities Series*, under the title "Like the Phoenix of lore, Arts and Sciences die only to revive."

④ IS THE MOON IMMERSSED IN MATTER?¹ (BCW, p. 171)

⑤ ABOUT THE MINERAL MONAD (BCW, pp. 171-75)

— by H.P. Blavatsky, in our *Secret Doctrine's Third Proposition Series*, under the title "Blavatsky on the Force of the Mineral Monas."

⑥ SRI SANKARACHARYA'S DATE AND DOCTRINE (BCW, pp. 176-97)

— by T. Subba Row, in our *Buddhas and Initiates Series*, under the title "Shankara was a contemporary of Patañjali and his chela."

⑦ "HISTORICAL DIFFICULTY" — WHY? (BCW, pp. 198-210)

Including LEAFLETS FROM ESOTERIC HISTORY (BCW, pp. 211-26)

— by H.P. Blavatsky, in our *Atlantean Realities Series*, under the title "Antiquity of the Atlanto-Aryan tribes in Europe."

⑧ PHILOLOGICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL "DIFFICULTIES" (BCW, pp. 227-41)

— by H.P. Blavatsky and Edward Pococke, in our *Hellenic and Hellenistic Papers Series*, under the title "India is the Mother of Greece."

SAKYA MUNI'S PLACE IN HISTORY (BCW, pp. 241-59)

— by H.P. Blavatsky, in our *Buddhas and Initiates Series*, under the title "Date of Gautama Buddha's disincarnation."

⑨ INSCRIPTIONS DISCOVERED BY GENERAL A. CUNNINGHAM (BCW, pp. 259-62)

— by T. Subba Row, in our *Buddhas and Initiates Series*, under the title "Date of Gautama Buddha's disincarnation."

⑩ BLAVATSKY REBUKES A SHAM THEOSOPHIST AND BIGOTED ASS! (BCW, pp. 329-34) — in our *Blavatsky Speaks Series*.

¹ [Comment from *Blavatsky Collected Writings*, V p. 171:

No "Adept," so far as the writers know, has ever given to "Lay Chela" his "views of the moon," for publication. With Selenography, modern science is far better acquainted than any humble Asiatic ascetic may ever hope to become. It is to be feared the speculations on pp. 104 & 105 of *Esoteric Buddhism*, besides being hazy, are somewhat premature. . . . — H.P. Blavatsky.]

Suggested reading for students.¹



From our Planetary Rounds and Globes Series.

- DIVINE HELIOLATRY IS NEITHER ASTROLOGICAL ASTROLATRY, NOR IDOLATRY
- DRAWING 1 - OUR PLANETARY CHAIN OF SEVEN ROUNDS
- DRAWING 2 - OUR FOURTH PLANETARY ROUND
- DRAWING 3 - BHAUMIKA OR EARTHLY MANVANTARA
- DRAWING 4 - HUMANITY'S FIFTH ROOT-RACE
- DRAWING 5 - CADUCEUS OF MERCURY
- DRAWING 6 - CADUCEUS OF THE SPHERES
- DRAWING 7 - THE ASHVATTHA TREE OF LIFE AND BEING
- GRAVITATION IS THE LAW OF ATTRACTION AND REPULSION
- IS THE SUN A MERE COOLING MASS
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- SKINNER'S KEY TO THE HEBREW-EGYPTIAN MYSTERY (1875)
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- SYMBOLISM OF THE CIRCLE DANCE OF THE PLANETS AROUND THE SUN-GOD
- THE ADEPTS ON THE NEBULAR THEORY
- THE END OF OUR WORLD IS NOT NIGH
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- THEOSOPHICAL JEWELS - OUR SEVEN PLANETS AND RACES
- WORSHIP OF PLANETARY SPIRITS IS IDOLATROUS ASTROLATRY



¹ Students should be fully conversant with the metaphysical concepts and learning aids set out in our Secret Doctrine's Propositions Series 1-3. — ED. PHIL.