

SPIRITUAL LEVELS OF HUMANITY

The existence of a deep spiritual reality escapes the awareness of general human population. Many people have been exposed to practices of various established religions and know that religion is a part of life for the majority. However, even if freely participating in religious practices, a person may not necessarily experience a genuine awareness of the spiritual reality. This fact is very difficult to prove, especially, when people have their own opinions to the contrary. Nevertheless, a highly developed spiritual practitioner can easily recognise other people's level of spiritual awareness by simply observing their conduct.

People like Carl Gustav Jung, Jean Gebser, Ken Wilber, Abraham Maslow, Sri Aurobindo, and many other authors have dealt with such a complex subject as the development of human consciousness in our historic times, and the reader is encouraged to study the insights of these writers. The intention behind this exposition is to make the understanding of the current humanity's various levels of spiritual development accessible to interested readers. The choice of terms such as kindergarten level, primary school level, etc., has been made for their simplicity.

Kindergarten level of spiritual development

General citizenship on our globe is at a kindergarten level of spiritual development. Such people's conduct in life is based mainly on the past collective development of consciousness restricted by the limits given by the state authorities, church, and cultural and other peer pressure groups. This scenario has been upheld as a necessary minimum for a safe conduct of civilisation's functions, its basic existence and continuation into the future. The levels of comprehension of the spiritual reality are so low that the dire situation we experience in the world today should not come as a surprise. Individually, people at the kindergarten stage of spiritual development have no or very little real connection with spiritual reality. The church authorities, tribal elders, imams and other people in the position of religious power have a task of interpreting the sacred texts for the attending masses. It would be a sacrilege (and it is certainly discouraged very vehemently by some church authorities) for anyone in a general community to interpret the sacred texts and give a personal meaning to them. The church authorities see themselves as the 'authorities' par excellence and some even think of themselves as infallible!

Children in the kindergarten have a lot to learn about the physical reality they have been born into. They have parents to guide them, teachers in the kindergarten and older members of their families and the community. They are not expected to enlighten the elders with their knowledge about life in the physical and communal environments; they have been just introduced to the world and they have much to learn from the people around them. The majority of people in the world live in a spiritual kindergarten and their development is guided in similar ways as that of children in kindergarten, but here by their religious and other authorities.

Primary school level of spiritual development

A time comes in the lives of a small minority of people, when they start to feel oppressed by the strong rules the community around them has accepted without questioning. They start to examine these rules, their applications in general, and their relevance to their own lives. Slowly, some more mature and stronger people become more comfortable in living their lives in their own, individual way, rather than by following the dogma and custom without questioning them. If luckily placed in an environment where such transitions are encouraged and even cultivated (for example, in the Western culture one may have access to a school of psychological analysis, or a 'Master' has appeared to give guidance, or there is a planned progression within some religious or spiritual groups), an individual has a chance to progress further, that is, to strengthen his or her own individuality and develop a healthy recognition of a boundary between his life and the life of the community. In the process of individuation people are developing their own, individual relationship with the community; the aim here is to consciously transform the original dependence-based into an independent relationship without severing it altogether.

This group of people creates the primary school level in spiritual development. They have begun differentiating themselves from the community at large, because their mental strength has developed to the point that now they can afford to have their own views. They can analyse the situation around them, formulate conclusions by themselves and live by those conclusions. Jung made a very good analysis of this stage of psychological development; he called it a process of individuation. At the beginning, the budding individuation may not be noticed or appreciated. And a soul may live many lives strengthening its individuation, before an appropriate environment is created for it to be granted an opening for further development.

Strong individuation is a necessary ingredient for a person to progress to the next levels of psychological and spiritual development. In the evolution of consciousness one has to fulfil very basic spiritual laws, which apply everywhere in the Universe. The higher the spiritual development of a being the higher the responsibilities toward the lower forms of life, and the higher the risk of

temptations, wrongdoing and breaking of the Cosmic Laws. A weak person cannot withstand the pressures from some strong negative forces which will inevitably appear, always ready for destruction of the effort and results secured so far in the individual's development. For example, if someone claims that God ordered him to kill another person—this is a perfect example of his total ignorance and of him being controlled by the forces of evil (temptation and destruction). Let us remember that God is beyond the concept of 'good and evil', God is life, God is our Universe, God is harmony and truth, God is a ground of being. God is not whispering into the ears of psychotics, fanatics and delirious maniacs of any kind—this is only their madness speaking.

People in the primary school of spiritual development become spiritually attuned; they start serious questioning of the spiritual dimension of life, and go deeper into these issues, beyond their former cultural and religious conditioning. At this level of development a slow maturation of the spiritual perception may occur, potentially leading an individual to the next stage in spiritual development. However, from the current observations it is very clear that a very small minority of this second group of humanity has prospects of moving beyond this stage in their current lifetimes. Most people will become arrested in the fascination with novelty of the situation, meaningful coincidences (synchronicities) or with freshly discovered psychic abilities, not present previously. Some, in their childish ignorance will think that the possession of psychic abilities is the pinnacle of spiritual development, and many will find pleasure in demonstrating to others these freshly acquired 'powers'. This is a childish fascination, which can be compared to the fascination with wizardry and witchcraft by children aged nine or ten. It is all right for young children to be fascinated by white rabbits pulled out of a hat by the magician, but it is not all right for adult men and women to think that they have become spiritual masters because their psychic abilities have appeared.

Psychic abilities are important, but without further refining of their spiritual development level, people with those budding abilities become easy targets for negative forces, which always struggle for domination over weak people. In this case, unfortunately, a psychic can become much more destructive to the community or other individuals than an ordinary person without such abilities. It is better then to be a person without psychic abilities, than to have them and remain in an unrefined state of spiritual understanding.

The process of individuation eventually leads to the strengthening of a person's thinking, intelligence and will. It also gives an open chance for the person's ego to take over in a major way. Previously, the individual ego has not been so well developed and the person mostly obeyed the communal laws, as implanted in her from her birth. Now, with the development of individuality, the personal ego comes the fore. It is not possible for people to recognise the ego immediately, or sometimes to even know that it exists. Many people, who have been spiritually opened, do not realise that over 95% of their thoughts come from the egoistic

needs and imaginings. People are virtually, almost completely directed by their egos and they are not aware of that. The same people, so fascinated by the spiritual opening and by psychic and other abilities, which have become partially opened to them, think that they have actually achieved the pinnacle of spiritual development; they consider themselves spiritually developed, which is an egoistic exaggeration of the fact that they have just been spiritually opened. It is their ego, which has no concept of reality, on a fantasy trip. Deceitful ways of the ego cannot be counted; they are almost infinite in number. Ego is also skilful in competing ('I am better than him'), in a detailed analysis often leading to nowhere or in increasing the person's confusion by rationalising, splitting of arguments, by contradictions, suspicions, scepticisms and the never ending recycling of thoughts. No original thought has ever been suggested by the ego, because the ego belongs to the sphere of the recycled thoughts of all humanity living here in the Earth plane.

This period of primary school in spiritual development is a transition stage to a higher level of perception, to an understanding and living the spiritual reality. No person arrested in the primary school of spiritual development can legitimately become a spiritual teacher of other people. Such people do not recognise deceptions of their egoistic selves and can be truly harmful to others. Any person proclaiming themselves a master or a spiritual teacher, based only on the appearance of their psychic abilities is a deluded maniac and many examples of abuse and manipulation of their subjects by such people have been seen in the last decades. People need to be aware that many so called 'fallen masters' have incarnated here on Earth in this final era of confusion. These individuals, who were too weak to withstand temptations from negative forces working through them in the past lives, have been degraded to the level of primary school of spiritual development. They may have memories of higher assignments in their previous lives, but do not realise that their arrogance prevents them from understanding their real current situation. They were born here not to become spiritual teachers but spiritual students in the primary school of spiritual development. They have been given a chance to correct past mistakes and not to build their arrogance even more.

In order to gain access to spiritual reality, one has to successfully eliminate the majority of ego, the subject of which is dealt with in the next section. No amount of ascetism, meditation, witchcraft, yoga, and any other known spiritual (or so-called spiritual) practices will suffice on their own, although these are the commonly used techniques throughout the period of primary school of spiritual development. All these practices, however, when understood correctly, can be used in the progression of one's development with a view to benefiting the community, and eventually can lead to the opening of heart chakra and the advent of genuine compassion for other people.

If a person wants to progress to the next level of spiritual development, which we will call a high school of spiritual development, they will desire it to such an

extent, that it will become a driving force and the main goal of their lives at that particular period of time. But generally the majority of people in this lower grade school of spiritual development will remain where they are. Further progress is not easy, and only the strongest spiritually will be chosen to participate.

High school level of spiritual development

A very important prerequisite for candidates to be chosen for the high school of spiritual development is their maturity as people (not necessarily their chronological age), their proper understanding of duties as parents, workers in any profession, carers of their parents and friends. These people must be mature and exemplar as human beings. No one running away from the parental duties or committing crimes (even small) can be allowed to enter the higher school of life.

The high school of spiritual development is the highest stage in spiritual progression for human beings. The training in this school will produce the spiritual cream of society. People who attain the highest level there will become spiritual masters and teachers or other community leaders; they will represent ideals of spiritual personalities possible to emerge from the unrefined stage of human level of being; they will be wise, compassionate, loving, and graceful; they will have integrity, humility, nobility and superior strength of will; they will have transformed themselves into truly divine beings.

Spiritual high school of life has not any established length in terms of a required period of time. It lasts 5 years, 10 years or 50 years—it all depends on the level of spiritual development of a person. People who incarnate to finish this level of development may take just 5 years to accomplish their task. Other people will not finish their work in one lifetime and they will reincarnate again, and again, if necessary. There is no need for competition in this sphere of life, as competition is suggested by the ego. This training in the spiritual high school of life, is the most personal of all works. There is no need at all to share the information about this training with too many people. Indeed, it would be to a great advantage for the person to do it individually and confide only in their spiritual teacher.

People entering this training would have the basic three chakras well developed and integrated, and the opening of the heart chakra would be imminent. The person would need to know quite a lot about the process and would seek a suitable teacher, master or a group to receive help and support in training. No one belonging to the primary school of spiritual development can become a graduate of the high school without an outside help conveyed orally by someone occupying a higher spiritual level. This is a Cosmic decree; it provides a guarantee that a candidate had attained a suitable level of humility to accept his own shortcomings and to allow another person to give him guidance. People, who cannot recognise the workings of their own ego, will never accept this law, because they think that they already know what they need to know and that they

do not require teachers. But when a person attains a certain level of humility, he or she will start recognising the fact that they actually have much to learn, and that they could benefit from the guidance of this or another spiritual teacher.

There are two groups of spiritual masters and teachers who are qualified to give guidance to people at this level of development. People, who themselves have gone through the high school of life in this particular lifetime and attained a high level of chakra development (i.e. sixth or seventh chakra), are in a position to start their own spiritual schools or teach privately. These people would usually have their own teachers, who are the graduates of spiritual universities of life, described more in the next section.

There are however other forms of learning at this level of schooling. In the high school of spiritual development there are students who attained different levels—fourth, fifth, sixth or seventh chakra opening. Each level is attained by a quantum leap of consciousness to a much higher level of comprehension of spiritual reality. A person on a fifth chakra level of development is much more accomplished than a person with only the fourth chakra working well. In this case, a person on a fifth chakra level can become a tutor of the other, provided it is all done with all due humility (as egoic pride has many levels of subtleties and helping others may re-ignite it). At this level of spiritual development we are all students and can benefit from helping each other, as this may provide further opportunities to observe oneself and eliminate the ugly heads of the ego, which will try to emerge again and again.

An overall purpose of the secondary level of spiritual schooling is to eliminate most of the ego and to attain enlightenment by allowing Mother Kundalini to traverse the span of all chakras. Only then, when all chakras are whirling unimpeded, we become fully developed human beings who have reached the full potential of this race.

Spiritual university

Teachings in the spiritual university are conducted beyond the Earth plane in higher dimensions of the Universe. Beings capable of being taught there have passed tests of earthly challenges eons ago. Their level of comprehension of spiritual reality is superior to that of any human being living on the planet. They are closer to the Divine centre of the Universe and are unified very strongly with all life. Questions about the meaning of life, evolution and involution of the material world, role of spiritual beings at different levels of development have been answered and what remains for them to do is **to be** and to fulfil their roles.

Occasionally, higher order beings, such as graduates of a spiritual university, incarnate on Earth. This happens for a particularly important role, and always for the task of progressing the race in spiritual understanding of the Universe. These

beings are born here in an optimal environment for their growth and education, and at some point in their life they become aware of their special mission in this dimension. Some become awakened at teenage years, some in later years. There is no way, in which ordinary people could recognise the relative difference between such beings' levels of spiritual attunement with the Universe. The general population living on Earth have no way of distinguishing such a difference; their level of spiritual development is much lower. Consequently, it is of no use to speculate and compare the levels of these superior people. They do exactly what they have been sent to do, and the task of each of them is important and different from another. The only reasonable thing people can do is to show them deep respect and refrain from speculations about the subject they have not enough knowledge.

Although not a rule, it can happen that these higher beings become spiritual teachers in spiritual high schools for the developing human beings. Any community, which is housing such an emissary from a higher spiritual region of the Universe, should count their blessings. They have been given a chance to progress spiritually in a fastest possible way, as the intuitive knowledge of an emissary is far superior of any highly developed human teacher. Most often students of such highly developed spiritual Masters become teachers themselves and later they can pass the received knowledge on their own students. Jesus Christ was such an emissary; other Masters include Buddha, ancient Egyptian and Chinese masters, Padma Sambhava, Paramahansa Yoganada, and others.

Today, many highly developed spiritual masters, including a number of high spiritual emissaries live on Earth. The Universe, our Being, is in a transition to a higher level of conscious existence. Tumultuous times ahead will lead us through to this new level of higher spiritual existence. In order to survive, people need to understand these changes and they have not been left alone to their own devices. The spiritual emissaries and masters are here to help.