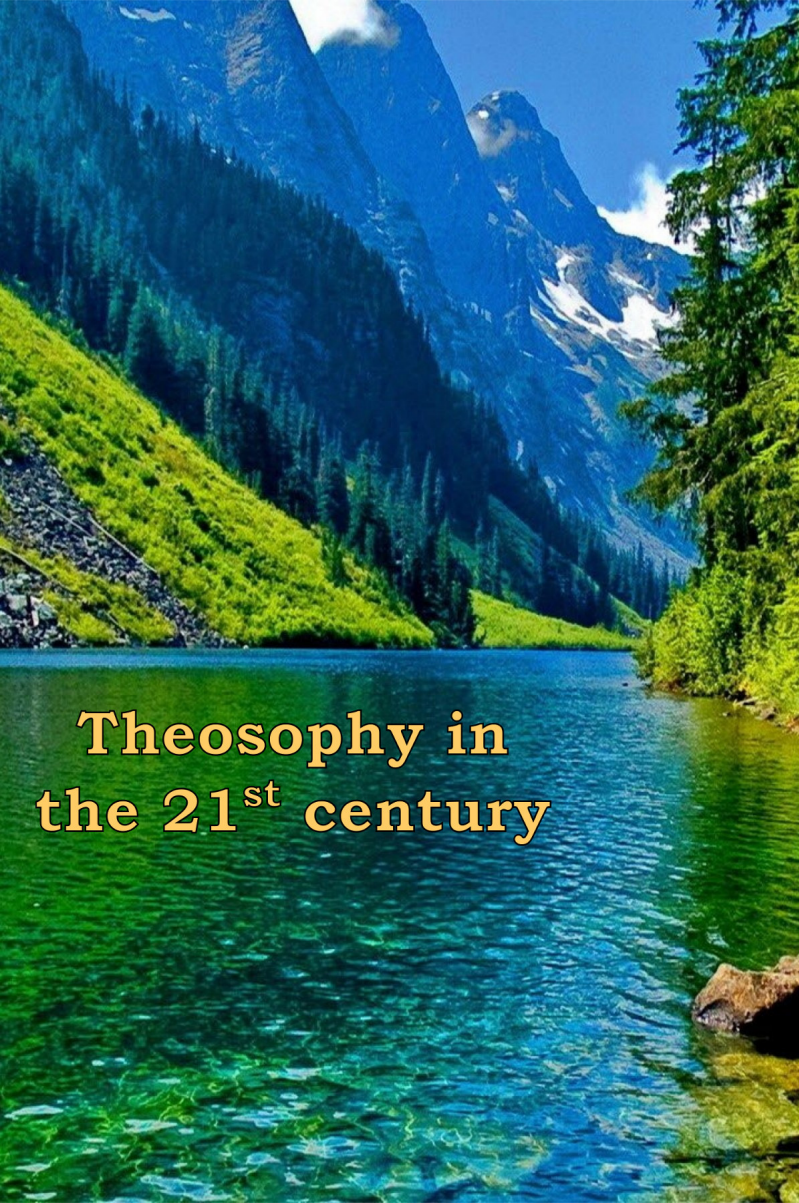




Theosophy in
the 21st century

2 Fundamental Ideas of Theosophy

Course created by
Carlos Pérez Menéndez
SOCIEDAD TEOSÓFICA ESPAÑOLA

What are the sources of Theosophy?

- The true source is the very essence of each one of us.
- Those who have somehow experienced an achievement of Perennial Wisdom, have left us a body of teachings which we also often call "Theosophy."
- Remember: A travel guide about Vienna is not the same as visiting Vienna.



School of Athens (Rafael)

Religions and initiatic traditions

- Religions have two aspects:
 - **Exoteric**: Scriptures, dogma, priests, rituals, for the general public.
 - **Esoteric**: Symbols, myths, only for seekers.
- Initiatic traditions: fundamental part of the ancient Schools of Mysteries
- **Initiation** = beginning of a new life
 - New understanding
 - New consciousness



Great thinkers of the ancient world

- Notable philosophers who were nourished by the initiatic tradition:

- Presocratics: Pythagoras, ...
- Plato
- Alexandrians: Ammonius Saccas, Plotinus, Iamblichus
- Spinoza

- Mystical and philosophical traditions:

- Hermetism
- Alchemy
- Kabbalah

- Free thinkers

- Giordano Bruno
- Paracelsus
- ...



Modern presentations

- H. P. Blavatsky originated a stream of thinkers that still continues
- Theosophical Society writers:
 - Sinnet, Besant, Judge, Leadbeater, Van der Leeuw, Jinarajadasa, Sri Ram, Rohit Mehta, Taimni, Barborka, Radha Burnier, ...
- Writers outside of the TS:
 - Krishnamurti, Sri Aurobindo, Frijot Capra, Eckhart Tolle, Dalai Lama ...



Helena P. Blavatsky

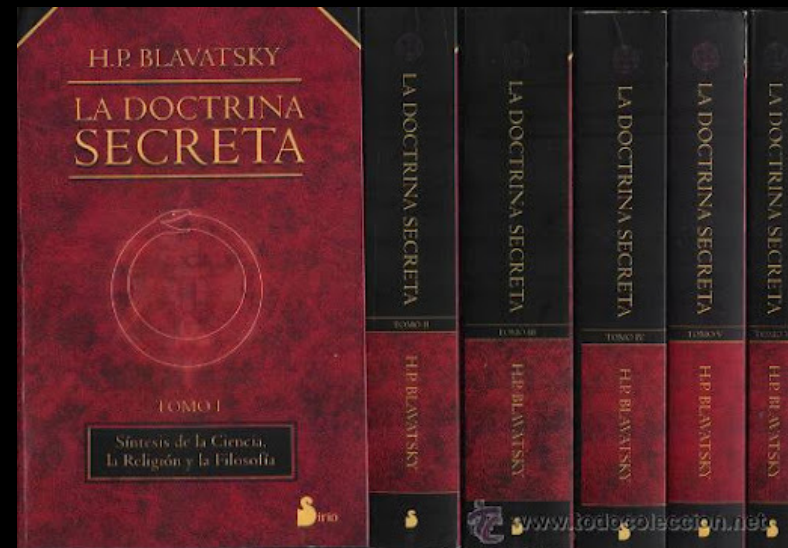
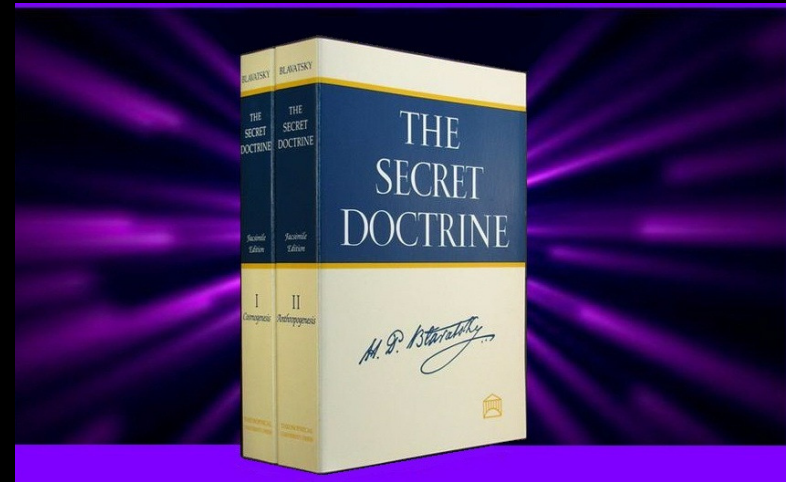
Statement of fundamental principles

- Presenting the essentials is not easy:
 - They are universal principles
 - They are therefore closer
 - They provide the necessary vision
- There are many presentations of traditional and modern writers.
- We chose the presentation of H. P. Blavatsky in the Proem of *"The Secret Doctrine"* for its universality and simplicity.



The Secret Doctrine

- Masterpiece of HPB
 - Volume 1 published in 1888
 - Based on the **Book of Dzyan**
- It was regarded as an “epitome of the Occult Wisdom”. ***It's not a revelation.***
- Part 1: Cosmogenesis
Part 2: Anthropogenesis
Part 3: Based on notes of HPB,
published after her dead by Annie Besant
- Each part contains:
 - Stanzas of Book of Dzyan with commentaries
 - Simbology
 - Comparison with the Science of the epoch



1st Proposition

I. An Omnipresent, Eternal, Boundless, and Immutable PRINCIPLE on which all speculation is impossible, since it transcends the power of human conception and could only be dwarfed by any human expression or similitude. It is beyond the range and reach of thought — in the words of Mandukya, "unthinkable and unspeakable."



**One Absolute
Be-ness
Sat
Parabrahman**

Unity of Life

The Essence of the existence
Causeless Cause

2nd Proposition

II. *The Eternity of the Universe in toto as a boundless plane; periodically "the playground of numberless Universes incessantly manifesting and disappearing," called "the manifesting stars," and the "sparks of Eternity." "The Eternity of the Pilgrim" is like a wink of the Eye of Self-Existence (Book of Dzyan.) "The appearance and disappearance of Worlds is like a regular tidal ebb of flux and reflux."*



Periodic manifestation

Manvantara
(activity, manifestation)

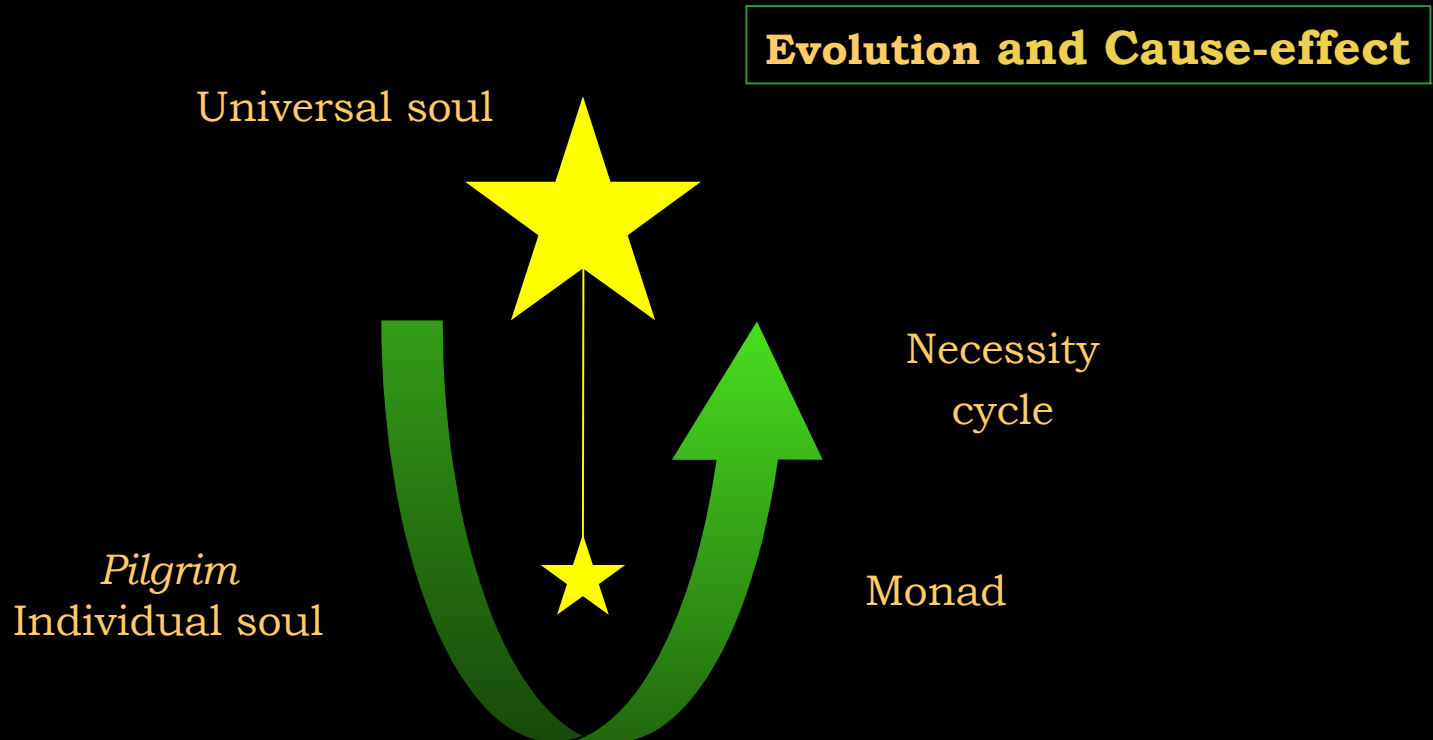
Pralaya
(rest, unmanifested)



Law of Periodicity

3rd Proposition

III. The fundamental identity of all Souls with the Universal Over-Soul, the latter being itself an aspect of the Unknown Root; and the obligatory pilgrimage for every Soul — a spark of the former — through the Cycle of Incarnation (or "Necessity") in accordance with Cyclic and Karmic law, during the whole term.



To think



Watch, think, investigate, inquire ...
Make the following questions or thoughts suggestions
But don't stay here, ask yourself and find out.