



Theosophical Society

Point Loma - Blavatskyhouse

Literature, supporting the study (on Sunday, February **09**, 2025)
of the lecture of Barend Voorham (on Sunday, February **02**, 2025)

Series: **The Mystical Birth**

Lecture: **The Silent Watcher as Initiator**

Mahatma KH on The Silent Watcher

The Mahatma Letters to A.P. Sinnett, Letter No. 9 (Barker edition); No. 18 (Chronological edition).

For countless generations hath the adept builded a fane of imperishable rocks, a giant's Tower of INFINITE THOUGHT, wherein the Titan dwelt, and will yet, if need be, dwell alone, emerging from it but at the end of every cycle, to invite the elect of mankind to co-operate with him and help in his tum enlighten superstitious man. And we will go on in that periodical work of ours; we will not allow ourselves to be baffled in our philanthropic attempts until that day when the foundations of a new continent of thought are so firmly built that no amount of opposition and ignorant malice guided by the Brethren of the Shadow will be found to prevail.

But until that day of final triumph someone has to be sacrificed — though we accept but voluntary victims. The ungrateful task did lay her [H.P.B.] low and desolate in the ruins of misery, misapprehension, and isolation: but she will have her reward in the hereafter for we never were ungrateful. As regards the Adept — not *one of my kind*, good friend, but far higher — you might have closed your book with those lines of Tennyson's "Wakeful Dreamer" — you knew him not —

"How could ye know him ? Ye were yet within
The narrower circle; he had well-nigh reached
The last, which, with a region of white flame,
Pure without heat into a larger air
Up-burning, and an ether of black blue,
Investeth and ingirds all other lives. . . ."

Helena P. Blavatsky on Compassion

The Voice of the Silence, Fragment III, The Seven Portals, pp. 69-70 (1st edition 1889)

Canst thou destroy divine COMPASSION?

Compassion is no attribute. It is the LAW of LAWS — eternal Harmony, Alaya's SELF; a shoreless universal essence, the light of everlasting Right, and fitness of all things, the law of love eternal.

Gottfried de Purucker on Self-forgetfulness

Golden Precepts of Esotericism, p. 98 (2nd revised edition 1938)

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Sweet are the fruits of self-forgetfulness — the complete oblivion of your personality in something so beautiful and impersonal that human tongue cannot describe it! For self-forgetfulness, pity, compassion, and peace are the fruits of the Cosmic Harmony, which is the very heart of the Universe. When you begin to realize this fact, then within your soul there begins the growth of something which is indescribable, which cannot be expressed in words, but which is at once light, and life, and peace, and wisdom, and almighty Love — impersonal, universal; so that everything that is, everywhere, has a fascination for you, for you love it.

Helena P. Blavatsky on The Silent Watcher or Great Sacrifice

The Secret Doctrine, Vol. I, pp. 207-208 (1st edition 1888)

The *Arhats* of the “fire-mist” of the 7th rung are but one remove from the Root-Base of their Hierarchy — the highest on Earth, and our Terrestrial chain. This “Root-Base” has a name which can only be translated by several compound words into English — “the ever-living-human-Banyan.” This “Wondrous Being” descended from a “high region,” they say, in the early part of the Third Age, before the separation of the sexes of the Third Race.

(...)

He is *the* “Initiator,” called the “GREAT SACRIFICE.” For, sitting at the threshold of LIGHT, he looks into it from within the circle of Darkness, which he will not cross; nor will he quit his post till the last day of this life-cycle. Why does the solitary Watcher remain at his self-chosen post? Why does he sit by the fountain of primeval Wisdom, of which he drinks no longer, as he has naught to learn which he does not know — aye, neither on this Earth, nor in its heaven? Because the lonely, sore-footed pilgrims on their way back to their *home* are never sure to the last moment of not losing their way in this limitless desert of illusion and matter called Earth-Life. Because he would fain show the way to that region of freedom and light, from which he is a voluntary exile himself, to every prisoner who has succeeded in liberating himself from the bonds of flesh and illusion. Because, in short, he has sacrificed himself for the sake of mankind, though but a few Elect may profit by the GREAT SACRIFICE.

It is under the direct, silent guidance of this MAHA – (great) – GURU that all the other less divine Teachers and instructors of mankind became, from the first awakening of human consciousness, the guides of early Humanity. It is through these “Sons of God” that infant humanity got its first notions of all the arts and sciences, as well as of spiritual knowledge; and it is they who have laid the first foundation-stone of those ancient civilizations that puzzle so sorely our modern generation of students and scholars.

Gottfried de Purucker on The Silent Watcher

***Occult Glossary*, p. 162 (1st edition 1933)**

Free download of the original edition of the book: <https://blavatskyhouse.org/literature/gottfried-de-purucker/occult-glossary/>

Silent Watcher, The. A term used in modern Theosophical Esoteric Philosophy to signify a highly advanced spiritual entity who is, as it were, the summit or Supreme Chief of a spiritual-psychological Hierarchy composed of beings beneath him and working under the Silent Watcher's direct inspiration and guidance. The Silent Watchers, therefore, are relatively numerous, because every hierarchy, large or small, high or low, has as its own particular Hierarch or Supreme Head a “Silent Watcher.” There are Human “Silent Watchers,” and there is a “Silent Watcher” for every globe of our Planetary Chain. There is likewise a Silent Watcher of the Solar System of vastly loftier state or stage, etc.

The term “Silent Watcher” is a graphic phrase, and describes with fair accuracy the predominant trait or characteristic of such a spiritual being — *i.e.*, one who through evolution having practically gained Omniscience or Perfect Knowledge of all that he can learn in any one sphere of the Kosmos, instead of pursuing his evolutionary path forwards to still higher realms, remains in order to help the multitudes and hosts of less progressed entities trailing behind him. There he remains at his self-imposed task, waiting and watching and helping and inspiring, and so far as we humans are concerned, in the utter silences of spiritual compassion. Thence the term “Silent Watcher.” He can learn nothing more from the particular sphere of life through which he has now passed, and the secrets of which he knows by heart. For the time being and for ages he has renounced all individual evolution for himself out of pure pity and high compassion for those beneath him.

Gottfried de Purucker on The Silent Watcher

***Fundamentals of the Esoteric Philosophy*, pp. 182, 357, 441 (2nd printing 1947 of 1st ed. 1932)**

Free download of the original edition of the book: <https://blavatskyhouse.org/literature/gottfried-de-purucker/fundamentals-of-the-esoteric-philosophy/>

[182] As the Summit of our Hierarchy is One, the Root of our *ens*, in which we “move and live and have our being”, as the Christian Apostle Paul puts it; *so similarly in the spiritual-psychological Hierarchy there is a One in whom we are all rooted, in whom psychologically and mystically and religiously, yea and aspirationally, we live.* This One is the Great Initiator, the Great Sacrifice, the Wondrous Being referred to by H. P. Blavatsky; the Supreme Head of

the Hierarchy of the Teachers. From it originally come our noblest impulses through our own Higher Selves; from it come the life and aspiration we feel, stirring off in our minds and hearts; from it, through our higher natures, come the urge to betterment, the sense of loyalty and truth, all the things which make life holy and bright and high and well worth living.

It was during the Third Race of Humanity of this Fourth Round on this globe, when the incarnate ray in each of the units of the then mankind had evolved forth its vehicle (by *generating from within itself* this vehicle, fit for the expression of itself, of the divine spirit within); and then that vehicle, or soul, was become self-conscious. Then, as time passed, there came a period when an Interpreter, a Guide, a Teacher, of the Race of mankind, was needed, because the race was rapidly sinking with every sub-cycle of the Great Age more totally into matter and consequent illusion and spiritual defilement, for such is produced by the evolving of matter. The Dhyān-Chohans, the “Lords of Meditation”, who were men from a former great Period of Activity of our Planet Terra, beings from a former Manvantara, were then leaving or withdrawing from this earth; they had already done their cyclical work, done all they could, in informing, inspiring, and illuminating the then Mankind; but they now needed successors more like the sinking Men of the period. By reason of a Mystery which we cannot elucidate here, the noblest representatives of the then humanity became the direct and willing vehicles of self-conscious Rays from these Dhyān-Chohans, “Lords of Meditation”. It was *not exactly* what is called in Brāhmanism an Avatāra — a “descent” which means the *overshadowing* incarnation of a *portion* of a high spirit in a high human being; but it was the actual *indwelling* (fully conscious on both sides, and relatively complete) of a portion of the essence of a Dhyān-Chohan in a fully conscious, willing, and utterly self-sacrificing, Man of high degree. Now, please mark well: the highest one of these incarnations, the noblest Man-fruit of human evolution produced up to that time, *became the head of this spiritual-psychological Hierarchy literally*, and in very truth, in his case, was a Man infilled with a Dhyān-Chohan: what might actually be called an incarnate god. This was — and still is — the Silent Watcher, the Initiator, the Wondrous Being, the Great Sacrifice (...)

[357] It was the object of initiation, as said, not merely to make man conscious of this higher life within him, of these splendors within; but also to enable him to become ready and fit to teach others of that life which he himself felt within himself. That was the main object and aim of all the Mystery-Schools the world over, however much they may have differed in forms and in the words in which they clothed their thoughts. It was, in other words, to make each initiate or candidate a living follower and example of the Silent Watcher of whom we have spoken in other studies.

Now, there are many Silent Watchers, as has been pointed out. The Silent Watcher, in fact, is the Hierarch or supreme hierarchial head of any one particular hierarchy of the numberless hierarchies in the Kosmos; the one spoken so inspiringly of by H. P. Blavatsky in *The Secret Doctrine* is the chief of the Dhyāni-Buddhas governing this Fourth Round on this planet.

(...)

[441] Now the *Silent Watcher* of whom we have spoken at other meetings, is the highest of the Dhyāni-Chohans of our Globe; but there is likewise a Silent Watcher for each of the other six globes, and for the Planetary Chain as a whole. There is likewise a Silent Watcher for the entire Kosmical — for the entire Solar — System. So when we say “Silent Watcher”, without further defining, it is like saying “spiritual being” or “hierarchical head”. It is a generic

term. As remarked at those former meetings, where our Teacher instructed us to develop this thought somewhat, we pointed out that one such Silent Watcher is on our earth today, the supreme head of our Holy Order, the highest link with the spiritual beings of the hierarchy higher than ours upward along the Luminous Arc. He is, so to say, our supreme Master, our supreme Chief.

Gottfried de Purucker on Inner Buddha

Golden Precepts of Esotericism, pp. 154-156 (2nd revised edition 1938)

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Every human being is a Buddha unmanifest. Every human being has, in his inner constitution, not only the celestial Buddha, the Dhyāni-Buddha, which is his inner god, but his Higher Ego, which when expressing itself on earth as a man, is the Mānushya-Buddha or Human Buddha. Ordinary men cannot fully and wholly manifest the powers of their high or spiritual will or Ego, because ordinary men are too gross; they as vehicles are not yet sufficiently etherealized. They live too much in the planes of material being. They are passional; they are personal, consequently circumscribed, limited.

Every human being is an unexpressed Buddha. Even now, within you and above you, it is your Higher Self, and your Higher Self is it; and as the ages pass and as you conquer the self in order to become the Greater Self, you approach with every step nearer and nearer to the 'sleeping' Buddha within you. And yet truly it is not the Buddha which is 'asleep'; it is you who are sleeping on the bed of matter, dreaming evil dreams, brought about by your passions, by your false views, by your egoisms, by your selfishness — making thick and heavy veils of personality wrapping around the Buddha within.

For here is the secret: The Buddha within you is watching you. Your own inner Buddha has his eye, mystically speaking, on you. His hand is reached compassionately downward toward you, so to speak, but you must reach up and clasp that hand by your own unaided will and aspiration — you, the human part of you — and take the hand of the Buddha within you.

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