

## **Taurus Full Moon & Wesak Festival, Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

The full moon of Taurus is in many ways to be considered the most potent full moon of the yearly cycle. In the Northern Hemisphere it is on the ascending arc of increasing light, leading up to the longest day of the year at the summer solstice. During the time of the full moon, the moon reflects the maximum light from the sun, which is transmitting energy from the sign where the sun is located. This is the time of maximum energy inflow during month. The energy that flows in is qualified by the sign of the zodiac where the sun is located, in this case Taurus. Taurus is an earth sign, ruled by Venus in traditional astrology. It is the sign mostly closely identified with desire. The desire in Taurus must be transmitted into spiritual aspiration and finally into complete compliance with spiritual will. Desire is a force, generated by the personality and the dense physical bodies, intensified by emotion. It is often selfish, self-centered, and directed to accomplishing one's individual desires. As one learns and develops through life experience, love and compassion grow, and we identify with the wider group. In the beginning this may just be one's family, then one's community, state or country. Ultimately we learn that we are one with all of humanity, and indeed, all of the earth, and all of the kingdoms and beings, both visible and invisible, which inhabit the earth. This coincides with transmuting the desire of the selfish personality to the unity with the will of the Logos. The love of comfort and luxury that we identify with Venus becomes an intelligent appreciation of the balance of life. This was expressed in the statement: Love is pure reason. It is in Taurus that this can happen.

The astrological symbol for Taurus is the Bull, powerful, stubborn and set on accomplishing its desires. The esoteric ruler of Taurus is the planet Vulcan, not yet identified by science. In mythology, Vulcan was the blacksmith, who works with the forge of time to temper steel through fire and pressure. The experience in Taurus does this to the individual who has strong Taurian influences in their chart. The esoteric theme for Taurus is: I see, and when the eye is opened all is light. It is also expressed in the statement "If thine eye be single, thy whole body will be filled with light. This relates to the opening of the third eye, and the development of the ability to see and work with higher levels of light than we normally do in everyday life. The Buddha is said to have found enlightenment during the full moon of Taurus, and for that reason Wesak, or the festival of the Buddha, happens at the full moon of Taurus each year.

I'd like to relate some thoughts from a talk given at the Wesak festival last year in London by Christine Morgan:

"We are living in a time when the mysterious nature of light is being intensely explored. While we are making wonderful discoveries, we still do not understand light's behavior. Nor have we rediscovered all the secrets of the ancients that will help to form a more integrated theory of light one day. The ancient Egyptians linked the sun with the God Ra, creator of the Universe. The sun was thought to be Ra's eye, the source of all life and creations, and light was thought of as His sight. A priest scribe from 1300 BC somewhat presumptuously claimed to note down Ra's thoughts in the words: "I am the one who opens his eyes and there is light. When my eyes close, darkness falls".

The ancient Greeks thought fire emanating from the eyes revealed what they beheld and because of this outpouring, the very nature of what was seen was colored by the inner view. Empedocles envisaged actual fire passing through special channels (to separate it from the waters of the eye) and flowing out in a blazing stream to the objects that were seen.

This was not so different from the ancient Hindus who held that “all things are seen by reason of one of the three great qualities that compose all things called Satwa. This quality is manifested as luminosity operating in conjunction with the eye... The two must conjoin. The absence of luminosity or its being disconnected from the seer’s eye will cause a disappearance. And as the quality of luminosity is completely under the control of the ascetic, he can by the process laid down, check it, and thus cut off from the eye of the other an essential element in the seeing of any object...”

The myth and legend of invisibility has been passed down to us in this way: fiction to the cynical mind; experiential reality to the illumined one. One of the yoga sutras of Patanjali explains the act of invisibility as follows: “By concentrated meditation upon the distinction between form and body, those properties of the body which make it visible to the human eye are negated and the yogi can render himself invisible. This power is based on the fact that light has its basis in electricity and magnetism. Control over the magnetic currents of the ethers and the etheric body enable the yogi to expand and contract the aura at will there by controlling the radiation or the inhibition of light.

This is consistent with the idea that light and seeing is a two-way process. The energy of Taurus brings illumination and the attainment of the vision. It brings it right down into daily life, in spite of the stiff opposition of the desires of the individual. It brings it through the sometimes painful labor of Vulcan, subjecting the individual or the nation to the heat and pressure of the smelter to produce a product with strength, flexibility and impervious to rust.

The moon is exalted in Taurus. This means that the energy of the moon works freely and easily in this sign. Symbolically this means that the form nature is a powerful controlling factor that must be reckoned with. The moon is esoterically the mother of form. The orbit of the moon weaves a net around the earth. In the teachings of the Kabbala the moon is considered one with the earth creating the sphere of Malkuth, the world of form where we live our everyday lives.

The exaltation of form, ruled by the moon, can be traced through the entire zodiac. It is told by the various women who figure in the constellations. There is Cassiopea, Venus, Coma Berenice, Andromeda, as well as Virgo. Our lady the moon is related to all of these. The transmutation of desire into spiritual will, and the resultant exaltation of the form is the meaning of the exaltation of the moon in Taurus. The symbol of Taurus, a circle with a crescent on top, stands for the head of the bull with its horns. It also stands for the circle of life manifesting through the moon. The light of Taurus must express

itself fully through the form, and enlightenment must happen in the full consciousness of form and in the body, as demonstrated in the life of the Buddha.

Uranus the planet of hidden mysteries, falls in Taurus, producing the sharp division between mind and body which is a marked characteristic of the Taurian subject. The task of Uranus is to awaken and evoke the intuitive response of Taurus to the ever increasing light until full illumination is achieved.

In this sign there is a constant emphasis on struggle. It is a cosmic, planetary and individual struggle.

At this time of the full moon of Taurus, the eye of the cosmic bull is open, and radiant light pours forth upon the Earth, and upon us, the sons and daughters of humanity. The eye of vision of each of us must open in response to this cosmic light.

The purpose of this meditation is to contact the inflowing energies of Taurus, which are transmitted to us through those invisible beings who are our mentors and teachers, and who work with us constantly. Although we may be more or less conscious of their help and assistance, they are always there. We receive these energies and pass them along to benefit humanity and the world.

Tonight as we work with visualization which I hope will enable us to see and contact more clearly the energies available at this time, be aware that you may receive energy and information on many levels. You may receive individual guidance or inspiration, but you will also be receiving and transmitting for the service of humanity.