



SPANDANEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE SPANDA FOUNDATION

eNEWSLETTER

ISSN 1824-7180

eDITORIAL

ONLINE EDITION AT WWW.SPANDA.ORG/ARCHIVE.HTML

4/2008

CONSCIOUSNESS & DEVELOPMENT

TRANSFORMATION IS GEARING UP, GATHERING PACE

Vision without action is a daydream. Action without vision is a nightmare.

JAPANESE PROVERB.

FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES have gathered here from different walks of life to share a vision. In this perennial rite of transition in which profound and powerful energies are constantly at work it is not easy to keep on course. At times the clear vision of reality is impaired by our not being completely attuned to it. So, we asked some of the awakened spirits of our time, the front-runners of this consciousness avanguard, to contribute to the issue in an attempt to take stock of the current situation and seek to shape further directions. Here are just a few words to present to you the field we are currently working on.

The surfacing to common knowledge, during the last century or so, of occurrence such as the spread of awareness that not only all humans have equal rights but also the environment has its needs, that development concerns the whole Earth and

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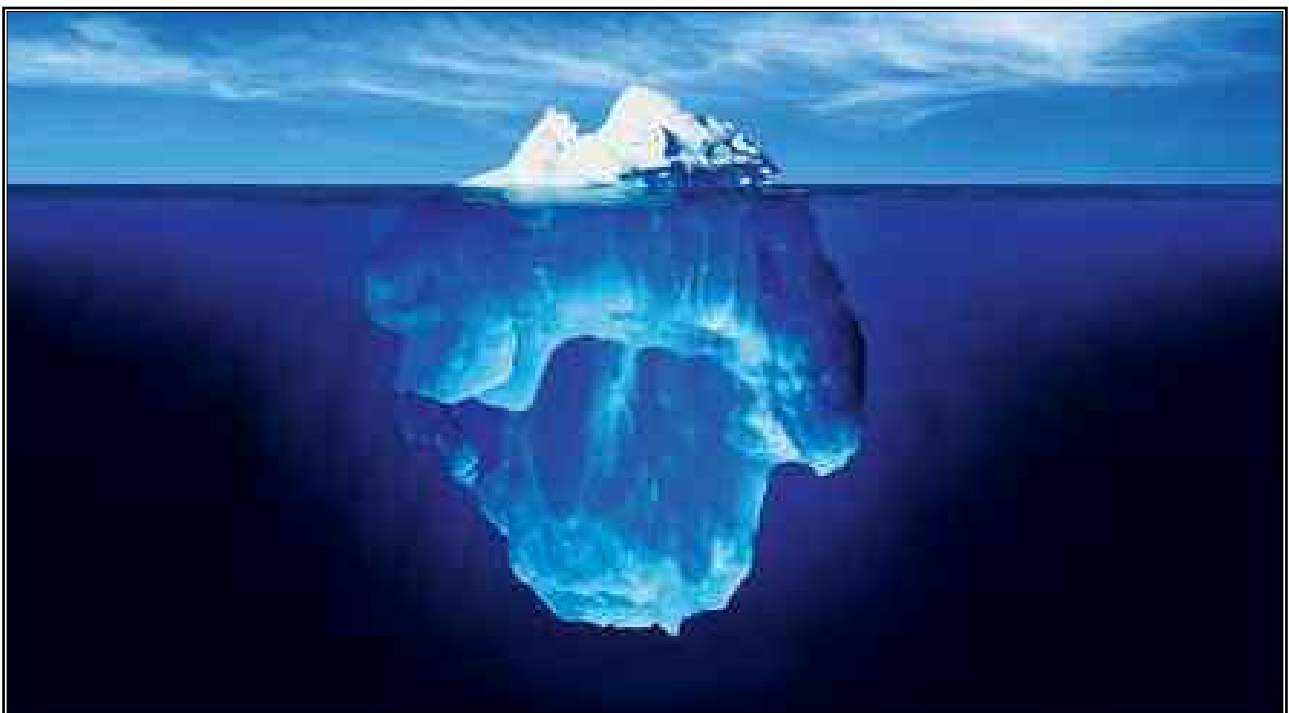
not just a part of her, the revival of spirituality, the holistic approach, the Millennium Goals, gender concerns, sustainability, microfinance, just to name a few, are distinctive signs that we stand on the threshold of a new state of consciousness and that a shift in consciousness is taking place. However, among peoples and faiths also great disturbances are taking hold, erupting wars, conflicts, totalitarisms, cultural, financial and social crises are our current diseases.

On the assumption that human inner structure arises from matter to vegetal, animal, human, and to real human (*Insan i-Kamil, Adam Kadmon, Anthropos Celesti*) we shall then reckon that each of these levels has its own corresponding state of consciousness, and that the gradual transition from one level to the next one is always marked by a crisis, or at least partakes of it. A crisis is the symptom of a change, the outcome of the burst of a given equilibrium and the thrust to gain a new balance on a different plane. This abiding and

enduring unbalance finds its *way* onward through the realm of possibilities, to rest 'temporary' on its next unavoidable achieved poise – but we should keep in sight that “the way that can be said is *not* the way”, as an old acquaintance of ours used to say quite a long ago. Ready to explore the unknown we move fast to the next phase: A dimension of consciousness devoid of space and time, where only the 'present' dwells, with its inborn pro-tension towards the next evolutionary leap, a kind of entelechy, a vibration, a motion, a dance, a ripple, a quiver, a throb (*spanda*) is perpetuating itself and its initial stir – and we are nothing but the re-told story of a moment, a while into a while. The constant transformation is in place, the original vibration rebounds on the plane of existence and gives birth, in-forms the dimensional phenomenal world. Is the 'content' of consciousness, or consciousness itself at work here? A distinction again

as a sort of “spensierata fanciullezza”. What we experience as individual growth, inner transformation or transmutation, counterparts and parallels the shift taking effect in the collective plane of consciousness, the planetary consciousness, in the *anima mundi*. No peace is possible without inner peace. The time of the prophets is definitively over, we all are prophets, and we all are brothers and sisters but unable to wholly partake of our humanhood because our 'human' consciousness still intermittently presents itself only between whiles ... meanwhile we are graciously bathing in time...

In all events we should strive to be part of the solution, not of the problem of this world, and let the highest consciousness and its content flow into the world, giving back to it what we received from its source. In other words, we should be channels to enliven and spiritualise matter, and make it realise its inherent primeval propensity. Easy to say,



occurs: is it the content of the shape, or the shape of the content, or the content itself?

Paradigm shift, leap, change, systemic change, whatever we may call it, it seems to be a two-way process: individual–collective, and collective–individual. We think that *this* and *that* are the same, because we assume that the thinking mind is the right tool to utilise to investigate reality. Duality has its grip until we are in the bi-dimensional consciousness plane of thought. The thinking mind by its own nature is dual, binary, and as such is compelled to perceive reality in a dualistic manner: inner and outer; higher and lower; yin and yang; male and female; heaven and hell; spirit and matter; above and below, and so forth. In reality, Reality is one, undivided. The enduring experience of this undivided dimension is the further state of consciousness that humankind is already moving into, a state comparable to what in my own language will sound

hard to attain, but only by this, spirit and matter will no longer be a dichotomy in us and in the world, and will eventually re-solve and coagulate into unity. Dialogue, tolerance, and acceptance are key to this process of integral, inner-outer harmonisation.

Best to all of you, enjoy the issue. ▣

