

“All my books are written on this Teaching. There is nothing in my books that is outside of the Teaching. Read them. I have written for your level so that you understand them. [...] Read them very carefully, and make it a regular study, every day, because you are going to slowly think more and more about Hierarchy. In your daily works, think about Hierarchy, that They are watching you. One glorious day They are going to meet you and invite you for greater service.”

T. Saraydarian, *The Eyes of Hierarchy*, Chp. 14, pg. 132.

My experience with Torkom Saraydarian

Roberto Moroni

During the 70s I used to go to many spiritual groups, brotherhoods and esoteric groups. My country was passing by a stressful situation and with much mental and emotional agitation. People were trying to join fraternities and schools of magic, meditation, yoga or martial arts in order to find the answers to their personal and social problems.

The only esoteric book store of the city was one of our meeting places and a place to search for written material. The owner was a friend of mine, I respect him for his knowledge and had with him many important conversations.

One night I dreamt that I was in front of the book store's window. There were the usual esoteric books, “mysterious sciences”, tarot, etc. But right in the center of the window, in the middle of all those books, was a Jewel shining, its light seemed to reach my heart and show me the way. I woke up with a peace sensation that joined me during the rest of the day.

That same day I went to the book store to find out that marvelous Jewel. Of course I didn't find it. There was nothing there that may resemble such a marvelous thing. With the pass of the days I interpreted my dream as a symbol of my search.

Years went by and I found myself joining an Esoteric School by correspondence with many ups and downs: the situation of my country make it difficult any communication by mail. The mails didn't reach its destination, the lessons sometimes came incomplete, the envelopes open and sometimes broken. But regardless those situations, I have impressed in my life a rhythm of study and meditation that lasted during those years of chaos and diverse difficulties.

One of the greatest moments of crisis in my life came across 1977. At that time I lost almost of my friend and persons I know –they “disappeared” or ran away from the country. It also disappear my correspondence contact with the Esoteric School. I didn't have the resources to travel and didn't know how to face that situation, some of the people I know that were studying in that same way, were facing the same situation.

Between 1977 and 1979, I manager the way I could with my studies and continued with my meditations in the middle of all kina of troubles upon myself.

One morning of 1979, that I would never forget, I walked toward my friend's book store. As I always used to do, I stopped by the window. I was so surprise then to realize that in the same place I have dreamt –right in the middle of diverse books- was one with red, white and yellow stripes on the cover, titled:

H. Saraydarian
LA CIENCIA DE LA MEDITACIÓN
(THE SCIENCE OF MEDITATION)

I felt a resemblance of the peace that invaded me during that dream. This was the Jewel I have seen! I thought it was an important sign. I went into the book store and started to turn the leaves of the book. I said to myself: this in what I was looking for for years.

I bought it and start to study it right away. “This is a program of work for life”, I thought.

I found in the book an address and I wrote a letter to the author. The next books I bought were *The Science of Becoming Oneself*, *The Hidden Glory of the Inner Man* y *The Flame of Love, Culture and Joy*. To read *The Flame* was a wonderful experience. I discovered the sense of Beauty and how to establish it in my life. The impact of meditate according to T.Saraydarian guidelines opened my mind and my creativity. Until then, I was an office employee that now and then was dedicated to music –it was very hard to earn a living as a professional guitar player. I started to paint, to draw, to write and also organized my life in a coherent way. I established to myself long and short time goals, faced many problems that in that moment were upon me and found little by little a way of inner work that was as well according to my outer life.

To correct my life wasn't easy. It took long time to do it. I made many mistakes, received many hits y I know I transformed myself into a new person. Years after, an old friend found me and said to me amazed that he didn't recognize me as the person I used to be. I remembered the words of someone else that when said the same comment answered:

—Oh yes, that boy died long time ago...

(So if someone like me can sustain this, surely all of you can advance even further.)

Thanks to the *La Ciencia de la Meditación*, I not only organized during the years my inner life, this book became to me a source of energy and enthusiasm. The doubts I had were clarified by its chapters. During a while I dedicated myself to buy diverse copies and gave them to the people that came to me with questions regarding meditation.

My mailing with Torkom was limited to give him some data about myself and some concerns. As he knew I was a musician he gave me one of his records. On my side, I translated into Spanish *The Hidden Glory of the Inner Man* and sent it to him. In that time too I transcript *Blue River* for guitar and sent to him a tape with one of my concerts recorded. He, with his accustomed generosity, sent to me another record.

I don't know what happened with the translation I made of *The Hidden Glory of the Inner Man*. I asked Torkom to send it to a Spanish Publisher that someone recommended to me, but was never published. It appeared in Argentina another translation, a very good one. I discovered that this book is very useful for someone who is starting on the path. The meditation scheme and the chapters dedicated to the Soul, the Solar Angel and the Lotus, have great deal of esoteric information faced seriously. Translate it was an unforgettable experience to me and I performed it during a summer at the mountains, by the river.

I've never met Torkom –travel to the US was out of my possibilities. I didn't want to bother him with consults or personal questions. For me was enough to bathe with the light of the Teaching. I joined in a course about the *Bhagavad Gita* and answered all the questions. He sent them back with his feedback. That was our relationship. I took my time! The lessons were supposed to be 18 on monthly of bimonthly basis. I took me seven years. That was because in the mean while my life was taking a new course. I was offering concerts every ten days. I quite my office and settle down in a province at the south part of my country as a guitar teacher. I started to give lectures about esoteric topics and attend several discussion boards were these topics were discussed. Bit by bit a group of friends joined together and we started to meet every Saturday afternoon to read, comment and meditate. We have kept this activity since 1990.

I think that my life took sense since those terrible years of 1977-1980. I won't deny that I was passing by a hard internal process. But the impact of Torkom's books was determinative. In them I found:

-A continuation and deepening of the Teaching explained in an original way. I'm used to find in the esoteric literature a constant repetition of data and information, like if the authors were copying one another. Torkom not only writes with much creativity but he strived in order to make a synthesis of the Teachings of the Master DK and the Agni Yoga.

-A great amount of practices and exercises that really work and can join us along the way in different circumstances. That made me sometimes used Torkom's books like a recipe according to my needs and build different schemes of practices for different occasions. Once I even made a kardex of exercises.

-Lots of material that help us to find our way in life in middle of the difficulties of our time.

-Inspiration and energy to continue regardless the circumstances.

-Above all, much Joy and Beauty.

-A constant calling to a life of Sacrificial Service, framed by the five qualities of Beauty, Goodness, Righteousness, Joy and Freedom.

Instead of giving us just information to fill our minds, Torkom gave us tools to *create a new Culture*. And this Culture is lived by the practice in our daily life of: Meditation, Retreats, small but significant rituals, the use of the knowledge as living sources of our daily life. In this way, we live in the actual world but we are glimpse of the Future. We learn also to make that this invisible energy spreads toward us and evokes in others creativity, virtues and love to our fellow men in an effective way.

I think that around 10 books of Torkom's have been translated into Spanish. If you asked me where to start, I'll tell you, do it from *The Hidden Glory of the Inner Man*, that has beautiful and useful indications about meditation.

If you feel that you want to compromised a bit more, I would recommend *The Science of Becoming Oneself*. You will never regret to work with this book and even when you have practiced all the exercises and meditations –what is not easy- you will come back to it to find new meanings between its pages. The item about the *Antahkarana* is explained with simplicity but in a profound way. His comments about the Self and not-Self in the Buddhism clarified many items to me.

As I said before, *The Science of Meditation* also has the foundations to build a new life. As one studies the book, one finds bibliography data that guides us in our search and many items are clarified. For example, there are references to Solar Angels that were for me the start point for fruitful investigations. Later I have discovered that Torkom summarized the topic in a master way in other works of him.

Then comes *Challenge for Discipleship*. This is a book that can be read in a year, one chapter or a bit more per week. Write down the important issues, choose the meditation seed thoughts and practice the exercises found in the book.

Joy and Healing will give you, in the hard times, the energy that makes the different and transforms our lives. But don't wait till the hard times come! Take the book like a course and practice it. You will never regret the effort. Will bring you to that source hidden inside us from which is poured a spring of Joy.

Symphony of the Zodiac is another took of the New Culture. It helps us to understand and live according to the energies of the zodiac and organize our time around the Full Moons. To do these meditations during several years in different circumstances without missing a Full Moon, will give us the opportunity to discover how the true spiritual Astrology Works in your lives.

I could mention the rest f his work and have theme to talk about for long time. For example: *Cosmic Shocks* is an extraordinary book. Thanks to him we can understand the tornados that come into being in our present time. *Psychic Energy*, which requires a careful reading, will give you valuable insights.

I've wanted to mention just some few books of Torkom's books in Spanish, but his complete set of works is immense. The important thing is that Torkom not only leads us –in the field of esoteric knowledge- to Torkom: he show to us ways that lead us to a beeper understanding of HPB, Alice Bailey and Helena Roerich. He helps us to build new meanings for our labor, regardless the field of service we are in –Art, Science, Religion or the Industry. There is no activity in human endeavor that is not enlightened by the Teaching.

I think that every teacher, instead of give just knowledge, must evoke the inner ability we all have to educate ourselves. That's why instead of giving us everything done and "cooked", he offers to us clues, hints, role models of practical work that once practiced open new gates for us.

It is for this, that I think we must learn to study. There is a way to *work* with books instead of just reading them. A good notebook to take notes, pencils to write and draw, aspirations to search and go deeper on the subjects, search on bibliography and above all *meditation*, place us in the way of "continuous education", constantly mentioned in academic environments. And if we complement this with constant practice and service attitude toward all, our lives will be an ascendant path. Our stumbling will make us discover new riches and "boredom" will be an unknown word.

Dear brothers and sisters: even with my unfortunate imperfections, I'm here with you in this place thanks to Torkom. You are here gathered thanks to Torkom. Once in a brief note I wrote to him: "I wish I could do sometime for others what you have done to me with your books and teaching. " And that's so much and I'm so far to reach that goal that I will need much time to reach it.

Genera. Roca, November 7th 2004.