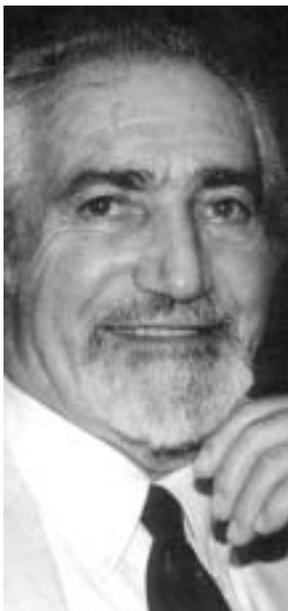


O *utreach*

July | August 2002

TSG Publishing Foundation, Inc.
USA & UK

Providing practical tools for ethical living • Publishing • Spiritual Education • Meditation



Mission

The purpose of TSG Foundation and The Torkom Saraydarian University (operated under the auspices of T.S.G. Publishing Foundation, Inc.) is to be a pathway for self-transformation; based on the Core Values and Higher Principles of the Ageless Wisdom. We offer a complete line of spiritual products and services, including intensive spiritual training on site and by correspondence. T.S.G. Publishing Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization.

Editorial staff

- USA -

Gita Saraydarian
Vivienne Pierce
Nurhan Thompson

- UK -

Catriona Nason
© Gita Saraydarian/The
Creative Trust

The Legacy Continues Building Spiritual Maturity

by Gita Saraydarian

For many, many ages people have not grown out of their spiritual childhood because they judged, criticized, and condemned-instead of understood, encouraged, and inspired.

(*Other Worlds* by Torkom Saraydarian, p. 576)

This is a beautiful definition of a spiritually mature person. Physical age does not necessarily mean we are spiritually mature. Spiritual maturity is achieved through lifetimes of labor on the nurturing and development of the human soul. The human soul grows and blooms in maturity as a result of the lessons learned while interacting with others. Interacting with others chisels away the rough edges of the soul and lets it bloom in all three of its Divine qualities: Willpower, Love, and Intelligence. These three qualities are the stuff of life of the soul. They are developed when the soul overcomes all the obstacles on the path of growth and development.

"For the Spark, the going out into materialization was easy, like a straw floating down on the waves of the river, but the path leading back home is not easy. All that was done on the path of separation must be undone on the path of unification. All that was lost on the way of involution must be found consciously on the

way of evolution or unification. It is on this path of unification that the will of the psyche began to develop. The willpower is just like a root shooting into the darkness of the future, providing the nourishment of vision for the form.

"The second power is the *power of attraction*, the power of love. It was developed while the psyche found the inner relationship between himself and other travelers on the path.

"Love is the progressive realization of the essential unity of the manifested Sparks.

"Love is the process of right communication with the traveling Sparks and their vision.

"Love is the ability to offer oneself as a way of achievement for others.

"And love can be developed through an intense interest to serve and to sacrifice.

"The third power is *intelligence*. Intelligence was developed during the path of return as the Spark found out the right ways to unfold Itself and to use energy and matter.

"Every time the Spark met a problem on the way of return, It tried to solve that

Continued on page 2

The Legacy Continues... Cont. from page 1

problem. This effort evoked the ability to deal with energy and matter in a goal-fitting way"

(*The Psyche and Psychism* by Torkom Saraydarian, pp. 15-16.)

A spiritually mature person has developed, to a large extent, his soul powers of light, love, and willpower. These are created as the soul interacts first with the elementals of his three bodies, and learns to keep them under its control, and then as the soul interacts with others around him. It is this interaction that teaches us that we are never alone and that we are able to grow and unfold as a result of interactions.

Spiritual maturity results in right human relations. The more mature we are, the better relations we have. As it is in individuals, so it is in groups and communities and nations. The more mature a group is, the better relations it enjoys within its membership and with other groups and communities.

Can we find such people among us? Indeed, often we do. They are not the loud and noisy ones. They are not the opinionated ones who try to bring attention to themselves. When we meet such mature individuals, we find that they listen. They do not jump to speak or give their opinion. They are reticent. They are joyful, calm, and serene. They are self-confident and do not quickly seize the moment to display their talents. We often see this in men and women who are older. We see their youthful hard edges are softening and they are beginning to understand life better. They no longer try to re-make others in their own image. They accept more. They understand. They encourage others to keep on striving, trying, and always give inspiration by the very life they live. When we meet such men and women, we immediately love them and wish to be around them.

Compare this to the people that we meet who are always noisy, showy, and malcontent. They judge everything they meet: the weather, the landscape, the people, the office, and the group. There is always something to criticize. They condemn, and dismiss people for not being like they wish them to be. They are always trying to change the world around them and the people in it according to their standards. We find we are not attracted to such people. They repel

us. They do not have love and intelligence. They do not have self-control. They are spiritual children, frozen in some time of their lives.

We are slowly realizing that all we want as human beings is to enjoy right human relations. We are searching for ways to establish this condition. We are looking for ways to understand others who are different, who may think and believe differently than we do, who look and do things differently. We are truly trying to think in terms of human unity. We clearly understand that someone's suffering at one part of the earth is the same as us suffering. We are no longer isolated physically, emotionally, or mentally. We know we are one.

The keys to being a spiritually mature person are the ability to understand, encourage, and inspire others rather than judge, criticize, and condemn. These qualities help us establish right human relations. So, being spiritually mature goes hand in hand with the ability to form right human relations.

Right human relations are formed when we relate with others, forming families and groups of people with the same interests. Some group interactions are better than others. For example, the more committed are the members of a group, the better will be the lessons of human relations. When people form a loose group without commitment, the likelihood of members coming and going on a regular basis increases. Without commitment, the group encourages window shoppers. When a couple is not committed to their relationship, their conflicts will not be resolved and eventually the unity will be broken. When a family does not have committed members, the family will disintegrate under the pressures of conflict. The same pattern operates in a group. When the group members are not dedicated to each other and to the purpose of the group, we do not have a real group but a clustering of people who interact with others only when there is personal advantage to be gained. The virtues of sharing, resolving, sacrificing are not nurtured and grown within the hearts of the participants.

When a few people form a group devoted to a shared vision, they will quickly encounter the various

Continued on page 3

The Legacy Continues... Cont. from pg. 2

issues that will make them eventually have right human relations. If the issues are not solved, the group will disband. If we can see how group work is the same as community and national work, we can make the needed leap, as humanity, to building better human relations across the globe.

As we look at the bloody conflicts that are still plaguing the planet, in the life of individuals, in families, and in communities, conflicts that seem tribal and prehistoric in nature, we wonder, what will it take for people to leave each other alone? What will it take for people to worship whomever they want and let others do the same? What will it take for people to respect the rights of others and expect the same from them? What will it take to leave people free to develop their life systems the way they want? What will it take to remove terror and uncertainty from our lives? What will it take for compassion to take root in our hearts and help those who are less fortunate by providing food, shelter, medicine, and education? How do we uplift the miserable condition of this planet and give people the freedom to pursue their purpose in life?

Spiritual maturity shows as understanding, encouraging, and inspiring others. How do we get there? Here are three components that are essential to developing spiritual maturity: **The Spirit of Cooperation**, **Greater Vision**, and the **Ability** to hold the light of the Vision.

The Spirit of Cooperation

The major component of right human relations is the spirit of cooperation. Cooperation as a Cosmic Law is deeply discussed in the beautiful book *The Psychology of Cooperation and Group Consciousness*. This Law operates in the entire universe in order to lead every form into a higher purpose. We cannot achieve our own individual purposes without cooperating with something. For example, our family members have to cooperate with us so we can grow and bloom into souls. The cooperation of our friends and co-workers enhances our development. If we associate with a group of people whose motive is to grow spiritually and to serve and bloom, our growth is enhanced further. If we live in a community that allows the freedom to grow spiritually, and if we are able to take the time to ponder on the higher purposes in life, our spiritual growth is further enhanced. Taking this a step further, we can say that if people the world over had the opportunity to ponder on their soul growth, and allowed others to do the same, then we would have the physical, emotional, and mental realms free and clear of pollutions, contradictory thoughts, and violence. This would clear the path for us to strive even more and not be concerned with painful issues of war, depravation, disease, and terror. What freedom could be afforded to every human being if the news suddenly had no pain and suffering to report!

The Law of Cooperation operates as a simple survival instinct,

where one person joins another for love and protection. It starts to work first as an affinity to build relationships and eventually operates as a law under which people cooperate with full consciousness of purpose and goals. This Law kindles the fires in our hearts to seek out others to be with. It pushes us to seek comfort in groups, in communities, in activities with others. It brings us the ability to exist, to be healthy, happy, prosperous, enlightened, and secure. When we see destruction and disintegration, we see that the Law of Cooperation has been withdrawn through the actions of the human beings.

"The Law of Cooperation can be activated or refused. Refusal of the Law of Cooperation results in suffering, pain, and death. For individuals, groups, and nations, the study and application of this law is vital.

"History must be examined from the viewpoint of the existence and operation, or the absence of the Law of Cooperation. All breakthroughs are made, all great cultures and civilizations are born through response to the Law of Cooperation. Conversely, misery, pain, suffering, bloodshed, destruction, and death come to us as a result of the absence of cooperation."

(The Psychology of Cooperation and Group Consciousness by Torkom Saraydarian, pp. 35-36.)

"The more a person cooperates, the more he rids his nature of all those elements which cause him unhappiness, pain, and suffering, and the more he can fuse with the

Continued on page 4

The Legacy Continues... Cont. from page 3

group interest, joyfully experiencing the loss of his personal interest.

"Any 'cooperation' that is developed for self-interest only is a technique of exploitation which will draw a person into conflict with the Law of Cooperation. Conflict with this law will result in failure, pain, and suffering."

(*Ibid*, p. 37.)

The Spirit of Cooperation is the inner quality of a person who is willing to forget his own personal agenda and is able to work with others to achieve a goal or a purpose. A person first knows the spirit of cooperation when he begins to take deliberate steps to transform his physical body, his emotions, and his mental nature. After this comes the focus on the formless world, the Higher Worlds, and the realization that our personality existence is only the shadow of the Subtle Worlds. This involves real self-exertion on the part of the seeker, an exertion that is beyond the comforts of daily life. The major component of self-exertion is realized when the person admits himself into group work.

There is nothing like being in a group to see truly our level of spiritual maturity: trying to work on a project, participating in meetings, having meaningful discussions on various issues, making decisions, listening to others, and so on. This is when our real personality comes out. Being involved in a group, being dedicated to the work of that group, and trying to forget oneself, one's hurts and pains, one's fears, one's angers, one's agendas, even one's personal likes and dislikes and opinions take a lot of maturity. Whenever we see a group of people working in harmony, we can see a group of mature, wise individuals who are not concerned with getting their opinions and feelings accepted and massaged. Whenever we see a group of people who are entertaining personal agendas, personal programs, personal projects, we see a group of people who have not yet sensed the spirit of cooperation. A mature person is immediately visible to all; so is an immature person.

Why be involved in group work? Here are some reasons:

1. It is a natural process. Just like a cell becomes a body, the body becomes a family, the family forms parts of ever larger groups. If we do not involve ourselves in group work, we become increasingly isolated and selfish. When we see groups and communities lose their fire and creativity, it is because the Law of Cooperation was not followed by the individuals. They were involved just for self-comfort.

2. We grow and become more efficient when we work with a group. This is how we become a living branch on a larger tree. "Remaining alone, the cell or person will be deprived of greater labor, and will lose the chance to develop group consciousness-which it is his destiny to develop."

(*The Psychology of Cooperation and Group Consciousness* by Torkom Saraydarian, p. 33.)

3. Group work gives the individual responsibilities beyond his personal needs. The accomplishments of tasks for the betterment of the group, serving, giving of oneself for the nurture of the group effort helps the human soul to grow. Group work increases the ability to sacrifice the non-essential and focus on the essential. Group work increases true love, wisdom, and spiritual will.

4. Group work helps us be firm in our dedication. It helps us grow through the pain and suffering of disagreements and feel the joy when the unity is maintained and the group grows and becomes stronger. Every family knows how the crises and disagreements, when met with the need to solve and understand, make them grow in closeness and strength. Every relationship within that family or group is made stronger and deeper. Group life helps us see how problems can be solved, how we can grow and deepen, and how our friendships can endure.

5. Group work prepares us for higher labor. Higher initiations are taken as a group. Higher contacts and inspirations are better received as a group. Higher service is done with cooperation and the consciousness of the larger purpose. In higher service, there is no room for the individual's opinions, likes, and dislikes. All labor is done for the fulfillment of a greater purpose and greater plan.

News & Events

Special Sale: We have a fresh shipment of Lavender and Eucalyptus essential oils. In July and August, we will offer a 20% discount on 4 oz and 8 oz bottles of Lavender and Eucalyptus oils.

Sale books: We have many books that have slightly damaged covers at bargain prices. We also have the first edition of several books available at discount prices; *Sex, Family and the Woman in Society* - \$5.00, *Woman Torch of the Future* - \$3.00, *Challenge for Discipleship* - \$5.00, and some of the family series booklets for \$1.00 each. Call for prices and availability.

Wesak 2002: This year's Wesak celebration was a truly beautiful event. We continued with our tradition of sacred songs and dances. All felt a greater integration and greater awareness of the sacredness of sound and movement. The Wesak meditation was memorable and powerful. The lectures on health and healing and the role of the Living Ethics in our life were given with enthusiasm and creativity. Following the lectures, group discussions were held on some of the Agni Yoga verses. The focus was on the topic of world events and how to understand them. The Conference was highlighted by the premiere performance of Torkom's play *I WAS*. What a message of beauty and hope this gave all of us! The book *I WAS* should be read by everyone who is evaluating the life they have lived. You will find the courage to redeem your life and turn it into one of true creativity and service. All of us at TSG express our heartfelt gratitude to all the speakers, participants, volunteers, and cast members.

Wesak 2003 will be celebrated in Sedona on May 14th -17th, (Wednesday through Saturday). The Full Moon falls on Thursday evening of the 15th. Details on the Conference will be given in the November/December issue of Outreach. We look forward to seeing old friends and making new friends.

Torkom's Birthday will be celebrated on Saturday, November 2nd. Details will follow.

TSG (UK) Ltd.: We are happy to announce the birth of the London branch of TSG under the capable leadership of Catriona Nason. To inaugurate the founding of this office, Gita Saraydarian will be giving three seminars in September 2002 in the locations indicated below. The first event will be the celebration of the Sun in Virgo in London, followed by a two-day seminar. For detailed information, please see our website, or contact the following:

- ♦ **London, England:** September 20th, 21st, 22nd; Contact: Catriona Nason: 020-8979-8444. Email: Catriona@theormonds.freeserve.co.uk

- ♦ **Edinburgh, Scotland:** September 24th and 25th; Contact: John Dumigan
Email: jd@visionary-art.co.uk

- ♦ **Aarhus, Denmark:** September 28th and 29th; Contact: Lasse Ljungholm: Email: lasseljungholm@wanadoo.dk

The Legacy Continues... Cont. from page 4

Greater Vision

"People must have a vision, understand the vision, and look for the ways and means to actualize that vision."

(Ibid., p. 41.)

Groups are formed when individuals are attracted to a greater vision. A couple marries and forms a family when they have the vision of love and unity and

shared experience. In building right human relations, we must be focused on a vision that is group oriented. Personal visions are important in attaining self-control and personal growth. Eventually, if a personal vision does not grow to include a group, the person isolates himself and deprives himself, and his family, from being involved in the beauty of other people. When we isolate ourselves, we grow increasingly self-ish, self-centered, angry, and unable to communicate

Continued on page 6

The Legacy Continues... Cont. from pg. 5

with others. We see such people all the time. They are often angry, impatient, are "opinionated", do not tolerate others' opinions and ways of communication, are argumentative. Sometimes such people either do not communicate at all with others, or when they are with others, they talk incessantly, never listening to what others are saying. They are in a monologue.

Focusing on a vision with a group of people teaches us many things: How to listen to others without judgment; how to speak in turn; how to stay focused on the matter at hand; how to understand a variety of personalities, opinions, styles of speaking; how to sacrifice one's time and personal agendas; how not to manipulate; how to love unconditionally; how to resolve conflicts and crises; how to find common cause and mutual respect; how to discuss, argue, and disagree fairly. It even teaches us the value of our own values. It helps us measure the strength of our beliefs, values, and commitments. It teaches us right timing and right communication. In short, working with a group and having a shared vision makes us grow up and grow in wisdom and love, patience, and sacrifice. Having a greater vision tests us. Are we self-forgetful? Are we practicing right speech? Are we harmless? Are we detached from personality issues? Are we forgiving? Can we maintain our high standards and share them with others?

Ability to hold the light of the Vision

This refers to the ability to sustain the vision once it is contacted. Many times we experience exaltation and inspiration when we are with a group of co-workers. We are fired with the vision of the future, our labor, our part in the labor. Yet a day or so later we find we are losing that initial fire. Slowly, we find ourselves forgetting the vision, or being annoyed with it. We start to make excuses: we are busy, we do not really like group work, we have family issues to resolve, we have health issues, we have no time to give to anything other than meeting our life needs, and so on.

This is sad, but it happens often. Ask yourself if this has ever happened in your life and what reasons you found to shelve the vision.

We often hear from spiritual people that they will come back in another life and do all the things they did not do this life. Is this a clever way to escape?

Holding on to the vision takes tremendous courage and sacrifice. It is all too easy to forget the vision and purpose of our life and be submerged in the minutiae of daily life. It is too easy to say you will do it next lifetime. What if this is the only opportunity you have to do your work? What if this opportunity does not come about again? What if you lose the only chance you will get for a long time?

Holding on to the vision takes self-forgetfulness and knowing how to manage life in the most essential. As we get older and more

mature, we can easily discard patterns that keep us busy but not productive. We can easily discard emotional patterns that keep us chained to people and things that we have long ago outgrown. We can easily discard mental traps that we built as young students that have no bearing in the real world of the tangible and intangible life.

Are we holding on to what should have been forgotten and cleared from our closets long ago? Do we know what it is that keeps us in chains? Can we see our patterns repeating themselves every month, every year, every time we meet with a group? Do we see the pattern of being enthused and quickly being too busy when it comes to holding the vision and forging ahead?

Right human relations takes work. It takes dedication. It takes the ability to hold onto what you find precious in life. It does not just happen; it takes a tremendous amount of labor done with others who hone you, chisel your personality, and make you forget yourself.

How do we manage to hold on to the vision? By training ourselves! Learning to cooperate is not so difficult when we are with a group of people we like and agree with. Having a greater vision is relatively easy, and most people involve themselves in all kinds of visions and forget themselves. But holding onto a vision for a period of time is the most difficult of the three. What I call "vision fatigue" sets in. How do we forgo our visions and let "vision fatigue" set in?

Continued on page 7

The Legacy Continues... Cont. from pg. 6

-When we attach ourselves to the process and outcome of our vision.

-When we see the vision being accomplished only one way, our way.

In group work, we see that there is no reason to forget our vision, but we can see different paths that will lead to it. We also see that life is made up of many life times, and our efforts will eventually bear fruit sometime in the future. We see the importance of striving and serving rather than the concrete outcome of our service and striving. Actually, a spiritually mature person sees gain where others see loss, sees merit where others see no merit. The measures between the values of the mundane world and the subtle worlds are seen clearly by a mature individual.

The process of spiritual maturation is called "fiery baptism." Each realization, each understanding is accomplished through the burning away of obstacles that prevent soul expression. Fiery baptism penetrates into our lives on every level of our evolution. Eventually, we learn the true definitions of victory and defeat:

"Through fiery baptism you eventually understand that the measures in the Subtle Worlds and in the physical world function on different scales. For example, whatever you give here becomes your savings in the Subtle Worlds. Whatever you lose here, you find there. Misfortunes here bring you

fortunes there, if misfortune is understood in the right way."

(*Other Worlds* by Torkom Saraydarian, p. 449.)

It takes heroic effort to continue to serve, to give, to feel, and to forget oneself only to find yourself in the Greater Self. Continuity is achieved only through commitment and cooperation with others. Here is my favorite section from a great book by Torkom Saraydarian, *The Purpose of Life*.

"-It is easy to create friendship, but it is not easy to continue it.

"-It is easy to love, but it is not easy to continue loving.

"-It is easy to be enthused about something, but it is not easy to be enthused continuously.

"-It is easy to cooperate for a while, but it is difficult to continue to cooperate.

"-It is easy to raise oneself on a wave of ecstasy, but it is difficult to continue in ecstasy.

"-It is easy to start the Teaching, but it is difficult to continue living according to the Teaching.

"-It is easy to create a unity, but it is not easy to have a continuous unity.

"-It is easy to promise, but it is difficult continuously to meet your promises.

"-It is easy to have contact with a vision, but it is not easy to continue to live with that vision."

"Try to continue your meditation, your study, your service, your devotion to helping humanity, and you

will be led to Those Who, through continuity, achieved mastery."

(pp. 192-193.)

Do you find yourself waiting to do something meaningful, something that you love the next time you are born? Are you putting off your ability to cooperate with others and blaming others for your lack of cooperation? Do you find it hard to agree with someone else's vision and try to "improve" on it by continuous criticism? Do you get excited and enthused and then a week later, all that enthusiasm is just a shadow of a memory? Then it is time for you to start to develop willpower. Join a group, forget yourself, keep your opinions to yourself, do not complain, do not blame, try to agree with someone else and do the work. See how it feels to serve, to sacrifice, to give, not to expect. See how it feels not to push your own agenda, to disagree, to express yourself in anger and frustration. Try to be one with a group of people. Try to forgive. Try to express yourself with love and understanding. Try to listen with your heart, looking into the hearts of your co-workers. Ask guidance to help you hold onto your vision. Remember that there are mighty invisible helpers who are always helping and guiding you.

The world needs spiritual maturity. You and I can make a difference!

T.S.G. PUBLISHING FOUNDATION, INC.
PO BOX 7068
CAVE CREEK AZ 85327-7068 USA

NONPROFIT ORG
U S POSTAGE
PAID
CAVE CREEK AZ
PERMIT NO 192

Outreach

TEL: 480-502-1909 • FAX: 480-502-0713 • E-Mail: info@tsgfoundation.org • Web-site: www.tsgfoundation.org
Outreach is a free bi-monthly publication of TSG Publishing Foundation, Inc. Available online and by mail.

Return Service Requested



The Legacy Continues... Building Spiritual Maturity

July & August Schedule of Events

The full moon celebrations in Cave Creek will be held on Sundays in the summer to take advantage of the cooler temperatures in the mornings. There will be two Leo Full Moons, celebrated as follows:

Cave Creek: TSG Center, 10 am to 11 am - Lecture & Meditation

Sunday, July 21st: *Festival of Leo* with Gita Saraydarian

Sunday, August 18th: *Festival of Leo* with Gita Saraydarian

Sedona: The Sedona Creative Life Center: 11 am to 12:00 noon

Sunday, July 21st: *Festival of Leo* with Damon Catizone

Sunday, August 18th: *Festival of Leo* with Damon Catizone

There will be no Tuesday classes in July and August in Cave Creek. Have a Happy Summer Vacation.

TSG Foundation - USA

Gita Saraydarian
www.tsgfoundation.org
info@tsgfoundation.org
Tel: 480-502-1909

TSG (UK) LTD

Catriona Nason (catriona@theormonds.freeseve.co.uk)
67 Ormond Crescent, Hampton, Middlesex
TW12 2TG UK
Tel: 020-8979-8444

Free catalog available online and mailed by request.

All quoted materials copyrighted by The Creative Trust, by permission of copyright holder. All Rights Reserved.