

*Meeting the Divine Mother in Humanity*

**She Who Hears and Responds**

Universal Worship, June 12, 2022

*“She who responds without fail” manifests as Tara, as Kuanyin, as the Blessed Virgin Mary, and in ourselves as we actively listen to and engage with the needs of our society.*

**HINDUISM:**

My green village dwelling is the abode  
of your golden radiance, O Goddess.

What need have I for more elaborate construction?

If you surround me with the complex architecture  
of stature and possession,

I will refuse to call you Mother ever again.

O Kali, give me just enough to serve lovingly  
whatever guests may visit me.

Plain metal plates and cups will do.

Daily existence in the heart of my extended family  
is the worship beyond worship

that perceives Mother Reality

as every being, every situation, every breath.

-Ramprasad Sen (trans. Hixon)

**BUDDHISM:**

I take refuge in you, Tara; like you, no Buddha could

ever deceive me. But understanding the odd

character of these times, most Buddhas have gone  
into the bliss of nirvana. Even though they have

great compassion, we have no connection. Since

for me there are no other deities, you are my

principal deity. Bestow realizations upon me, Divine

Mother, essence of love. Arouse the great power of your compassion and think of me.

-from *A Song of Longing for Tara, the Infallible* by Lama Lobsang Tenpey Gyaltzen (trans. Lama Thubten)

#### ZOROASTRIANISM:

And thus may we be like the Lords of Wisdom and of Life who make ever fresh and reclaim this our life on earth. And may we become the bearers of universal love through Truth, so that, in single-minded concentration, we may abide where Chisti, the Ray of Perceptive Wisdom, takes up her stand.

-Yasna 30:9 (trans. Adapted from Bode)

#### TAOISM:

The beginning of the world

May be regarded as the Mother of the world.

To apprehend the Mother, know the offspring.

To know the offspring

Is to remain close to the mother,

And free from harm throughout life.

-Tao Te-Ching 52 (trans. Feng-English)

#### INDIGENOUS:

The earth knows that a warrior loves it, and it bestows upon him its care. That's why a warrior's life is filled to the brim, and his state, wherever he'll be, will be plentiful. A warrior roams on the paths of his love, and, wherever he is, he is complete.

This earth, this world, for a warrior, there can be no greater love.

Only if one love's this earth with unbending passion

can one release one's sadness. A warrior is always joyful because his love is unalterable, and his beloved, the earth, embraces him, and bestows upon him inconceivable gifts. The sadness belongs only to those who hate the very thing that gives shelter to their beings.

This lovely being, which is alive to its last recesses, and understands every feeling, soothed me. It cured me of my pains, and finally, when I had fully understood my love for it, it taught me freedom.

-from *Tales of Power*, Carlos Castaneda

#### JUDAISM:

R. Hananiah ben Teradion said: if two sit together and there are no words of Torah [spoken] between them, then this is a session of scorners, as it is said: "nor sat he in the seat of the scornful...[rather, the teaching of the Lord is his delight]" (Psalms 1:1); but if two sit together and there are words of Torah [spoken] between them, then the Shekhinah abides among them, as it is said: "then they that feared the Lord spoke one with another; and the Lord hearkened and heard, and a book of remembrance was written before Him, for them that feared the Lord and that thought upon His name" (Malachi 3:16). Now I have no [scriptural proof for the presence of the Shekhinah] except [among] two, how [do we know] that even one who sits and studies Torah the Holy One, blessed be He, fixes his reward? As it is said: "though he sit alone and [meditate] in stillness, yet he takes [a reward] unto himself" (Lamentations 3:28).

-Pirkei Avot 3:2 (trans. Dr. Joshua Kulp)

## CHRISTIANITY:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy answer me.

*-Memorare, traditional Catholic Prayer*

## ISLAM:

Say: 'My slaves, you who have transgressed against yourselves, do not despair of the mercy of Allah. Truly Allah forgives all wrong actions. He is the Ever-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.'

*-Quran 39:53 (trans. Aisha Bewley)*

## TRUTH:

One who can be detached enough to keep their eyes open to all those whom circumstances have placed about them, and see in what way they can be of help to them, that is the one who becomes rich - they inherit the kingdom of God.