

Meeting the Divine Mother in the Cosmos

The Goddess as Wisdom

Universal Worship, October 9, 2022

HINDUISM:

Will that day oh come to me, Ma?

Will that day oh come to me, Ma?

When saying, Mother dear My eyes will flow tears

When saying, Mother dear, My eyes will flow tears

Wisdom's lotus will blossom forth,

Darkness will steal away

Heart's lotus will blossom forth,

Darkness will steal away

Steal away, steal away, steal away Ma steal away

Steal away, steal away, steal away Ma steal away

A thousand Vedas do declare

Divine Mother's everywhere!

A thousand Vedas do declare

Divine Mother's everywhere!

Sri Ram Prasad says, Divine Mother everywhere stays

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Blind eyes, see the Ma, hiding everywhere

Blind eyes, see the Ma, hiding everywhere

-Ramprasad Sen (trans. Paramhansa Yogananda)

BUDDHISM:

Not to do any evil

To cultivate good

To purify one's own mind:

This is the teaching of the Buddhas.

-Dharmapada

ZOROASTRIANISM:

Then did I realize Thee as the Most Bountiful One, O

Mazda Ahura, when the Good Mind encircled me

completely. His question was: “Whom dost thou wish to know?”

[I replied:]

Henceforth, I will dedicate the consecration of my homage to Thy Flaming Fire of Thought, and as long as I have the power, I will meditate upon Truth.

-Yasna 43:9 (trans.adapted from Bode)

O Lord of Life and Wisdom, I will for ever uphold Thy Divine Law and Thy Good Mind. Teach me Thyself, through Thy spoken Word which springs from the Spirit, and with Thy very own Mouth, whence life first came into being.

-Yasna 28:11 (trans.adapted from Bode)

TAOISM:

To understand yet not understand
is transcendence

not to understand yet understand
is affliction

the reason sages aren't afflicted
is because they treat affliction as affliction
hence they aren't afflicted

-Taotejing 71 (trans. Red Pine)

INDIGENOUS:

The crow

The crow

I saw him when he flew down,

I saw him when he flew down,

To the earth, to the earth.

He has renewed our life,

He has renewed our life.

He has taken pity on us,

He has taken pity on us.

-Ghost Dance song by Moki (Arapaho)

JUDAISM:

Now Moses, tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian, drove the flock into the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

A messenger of יהוה appeared to him in a blazing fire out of a bush. He gazed, and there was a bush all aflame, yet the bush was not consumed.

Moses said, "I must turn aside to look at this marvelous sight; why doesn't the bush burn up?"

When יהוה saw that he had turned aside to look, God called to him out of the bush: "Moses! Moses!" He answered, "Here I am."

And [God] said, "Do not come closer! Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you stand is holy ground!"

-Exodus 3:1-5 (The Contemporary Torah, JPS, 2006)

CHRISTIANITY:

My soul doth magnify the Lord.

And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded: the lowliness of his handmaiden:

For behold, from henceforth: all generations shall call me blessed.

For he that is mighty hath magnified me: and holy is his Name.

And his mercy is on them that fear him: throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm: he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.

He hath put down the mighty from their seat: and hath exalted the humble and meek.

-Magnificat hymn (Book of Common Prayer - 1662)

ISLAM:

And He makes manifest for you the signs. And God is Knowing, Wise.

-Quran 24:18 (trans. L Bakhtiar)

Satan threatens you with the prospect of poverty and commands you to do foul deeds. But God promises His forgiveness and His bounty. God is bountiful and all knowing.

He grants wisdom to whom He will; and whoever is granted wisdom has indeed been granted abundant wealth. Yet none bear this in mind except those endowed with understanding.

-Quran 2:268-9 (trans. Wahiduddin Khan)

TRUTH:

Intellect is the knowledge obtained by experience of names and forms; wisdom is the knowledge which manifests only from the inner being; to acquire intellect one must delve into studies, but to obtain wisdom, nothing but the flow of divine mercy is needed; it is as natural as the instinct of swimming to the fish, or of flying to the bird. Intellect is the sight which enables one to see through the external world, but the light of wisdom enables one to see through the external into the internal world.

Wisdom is greater and more difficult to attain than intellect, piety, or spirituality.