

The Metaphysical Significance of the SRF Lotus Symbol

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The subject this morning: "The Metaphysical Significance of the Self-Realization Fellowship Lotus Symbol."

I asked my friend, Mr. Slavos in our colony in Encinitas, to make me a diagram, so that I could perhaps explain a little better to you the different parts of the SRF Symbol. And he not only did that, but he came forth with this most beautiful drawing, which to me is a work of art. So you not only have the, the rough drawing, but you have a real nicely made picture of the SRF Lotus Symbol.

The lotus of course is a symbol of exquisiteness, of beauty. And when you see, by the Grace of God, the lotuses within you, the Spiritual Lotuses, the Centers of the spine, and especially the Thousand-petal Lotus, you will realize what it means in the Bible when it says, "Eye hath not seen nor ear heard the things which God hath prepared for those who wait for Him," wait patiently and strive to unite their consciousness with His.

And so, the outlined lotus is the symbol of the Spiritual Lotuses within you – especially, the Great Thousand-rayed Lotus of the brain. These are called "chakras" or "padmas." And remember, the lotus flower is exquisite, but the Spiritual Lotuses within you, symbolized by the lotus bloom, are beyond words. You have to realize them through the Love of God within you. They are there. They are real. And that's why Self-Realization has taken the lotus as its symbol, and, of course, many paths of yoga throughout the ages have taken the symbol of the lotus.

Just briefly, to explain metaphysically, what these lotuses are. In the brain, of course, which is the great storehouse of spiritual energy, we find the Thousand-rayed Lotus. The spinal cord, a projection of that brain beneath it, so to speak – characterized by the little stem below the lotus bloom – that's the upper part of the spine. In there we find six lotuses: six chakras – six locations of Spiritual Energy within us. And they are exquisite.

The different ones have different petals – different rays, scintillating rays – from them. They are real. They are not indefinitely...indefinite. They are a perfect,

sharp pattern, but they are exquisite, and they are the lotuses of the spine. The six lotuses of the spine, plus the great Thousand-rayed Lotus of the brain, we find within us. This is the metaphysical aspect of the Lotus Symbol

As I have said, these lotuses are vibrating, scintillating. They give off rays of Light. They're most beautiful. They also give off sounds, as all vibrations give off sound. And the different lotuses in the spine and the brain have different sounds, such as the bee sound in the lower lotus.

And then the next sound is the flute sound;

Coming up to the third lotus, the lumbar region, we find the harp sound;

In the heart lotus the bell sound; and

Then up further, the symphony of those sounds, until finally, in the Thousand-rayed Lotus, if you merge in the Power of God in that, in that Great Cosmic Vibration, then, you hear spoken of in the Bible many times, the trumpet sound, the sound of many waters.

And so these lotuses are real to Spiritual Consciousness.

Now going on; taking the Lotus Symbol that you see in the various buildings and towers of Self-Realization Fellowship, in the various stage, stages of blooming – from the bud to the fully opened lotus – that refers to the budding and the blooming of Spiritual Consciousness within you, and within every devotee. And so, as the Spiritual Consciousness awakens within you, so these lotuses within you open up and bloom.

When you are born, for instance, in the Centers of the spine, half of the petals of the lotuses there are open. The others are closed. And as you – through doing justice to God through yoga – work, then these other petals open up. So you see, these different stages of blooming of the lotus that you see in the buildings and towers of Self-Realization Fellowship, refer to the blooming within you, and all devotees, of Spiritual Consciousness.

Now, we've heard about the lotus posture. The lotus posture is, as you know – many of you perform it – is a posture; a very scientific posture. I wonder if one of you gentlemen would do it here? Anyone? Don't be, don't be bashful. They can all do it wonderfully well. I, I can do it, but I, you know I have to talk, see.

It's all right. Go ahead, anyone. Don? Dennis? All right you're elected. You have to have a little seat, or can you do it? Should have a little, a little cushion, or something, but I guess he can do it right there.

The lotus posture, of course, represents the path that you follow as a devotee in reaching God. Now the lotus posture can be likened to the lotus blooming in a brackish pond with the stem going down into the water, into the brackish pool, and then, from that, arises this great wonderful bloom, the lotus bloom. And so, the lotus posture can be characterized as that.

As the devotee sits in lotus posture, his consciousness, as the consciousness of all people – human beings – is mostly centered, before you start back to God, in the three lower Centers of the spine – at the base of the spine. Now, by effort, by effort, the devotee lifts that consciousness from attachment to the lower Centers of the spine, transmutes it into the upper Centers of the spine, and, finally, it blooms forth in the Thousand-petal Lotus at the brain. And in some of the books on yoga, you will see the devotee sitting, as this devotee is sitting, in the lotus posture, working to free his attached consciousness from the lower part of the body, that it may rise up, be spiritualized, and bloom the Great Spiritual Consciousness of the Thousand-rayed Lotus.

Now this lotus posture is very scientific. You notice he is sitting there. His feet and legs are locked in such a way that he will not fall over, and also his body is kept poised – the spine is straight. And it will stay that way when God's Consciousness comes. Being a balanced, scientific posture, it produces in the body harmony. And that harmony is conducive to the Spiritual discipline, which later frees the mind from attachment to the body, and allows the Lotus of God's Presence within us, the great Thousand-rayed Lotus, to bloom forth.

And as you see in Babaji's picture, he is sitting in the same posture – lotus posture, scientific, to allow that Great Presence of God, the Great Spiritual Lotus, the Thousand-rayed Lotus. "Eye hath not seen nor ear heard the things which God has prepared..." for those who practice, and wait for him patiently, performing the techniques of Self-Realization. That's why the lotus posture is just what it says – a posture whereby the lotus of Spiritual Consciousness of the Thousand-rayed Lotus can blossom forth.

Thank you. You can sit there, if you like it. You see how easy he does that. But you can do it. Now it's not necessary. I don't want to frighten you all. It's not necessary to do that. You can find God sitting in a chair. Thank God for that.

One of the best ways to do the lotus posture, or the semi-lotus posture, is to sit on your bed with one, or two, or three pillows. Whatever you need to keep the spine straight, and the body balanced so that it won't fall forward, or fall backward. You don't need to lock your feet that way. Fold them down under. And the nice mattresses we have nowadays are nice under the ankles, so that you're in good shape. Keep the spine straight though. Then you can surely find God.

Now, going on with our simple, the significance, especially, the metaphysical significance, of our Symbol; first the lotus aspect of it, the outlined flower, which you see. Now, of course, the most important lotus within us is the Thousand-rayed Lotus, or the brain, which is the great storehouse of Spiritual energy within us. And that, remember is the place where God and His angels dwell. God and His Great Spiritual Rays, which are known as angels, that's all, are found in the Thousand-rayed Lotus. Not way off in space somewhere. Space is something different. But the Eternal Consciousness of God is beyond time and space. It's right there in that Thousand-rayed Lotus, as I will point out later. You find God right there. The City of Zion is there. The House of God is there. Jerusalem is there. The Holy City is right there within you. It's a matter of consciousness, that's all. There's no time or space in it. But God has placed it there that we might once more contact the Holy City of Zion, the Thousand-rayed Lotus characterized by the lotus drawn in outline here.

Now the Bible is filled with many references to this Thousand-rayed Lotus, and also to the other lotuses in the spine. In Revelation, the 1st Chapter, 10th to 12th Verses, you read them, and you will find there, reference to the lotuses of the spine, and the Thousand-rayed Lotus of the brain. "I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day and heard [behind me] a great voice of a trumpet... and I turned to see the voice," to hear the voice which spoke with me and, " [that spake with me. And being turned] I saw seven golden candlesticks." In other words, his attention was turned toward the region of the spine, and he saw seven golden lotuses – the six of the spine, plus the Great Thousand-rayed Lotus.

The Bible is full of those illustrations. I will give you one or two that I hope will interest you. First, in Zachariah, the 4th Chapter the 2nd Verse; here, here now the Thousand-rayed Lotus, the Great Lotus of the brain, its exquisiteness cannot be told. But, if you see it, you will realize what God is. Now that Thousand-rayed Lotus is spoken of in Zachariah as the "...bowl on top of the golden candlestick." The Great Vibrating Golden Light of God within you. And it says so in the following words: "...And I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold,

with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon..." speaking once more of the lotuses within us – the six in the spine, the Great One on top spoken of as the "bowl on top of the golden candlesticks."

In Ezekiel, the 3rd Chapter, the 13th Verse are referred to the sounds of those different lotuses of the spine and brain, that I have spoken to you all a few minutes earlier. And so, in the Bible, remember, there are many, many references to the lotus aspect of the Symbol of Self-Realization Fellowship. Of course, the Thousand-rayed Lotus is the greatest, because that's where God and His angels dwell.

In Isaiah, the 2nd Chapter, the 2nd Verse. The Thousand-rayed Lotus, that Great Vibrating manifestation of God within us, is spoken of as the "mountain of the Lord's house" in these following words. "And it shall come to pass in the last days," - in the last days simply means when the last days of delusion are leaving you, and the mind is controlled, the body's controlled, the mind is controlled, the emotions are controlled, delusion is passing away, darkness is leaving you. In those days then you'll begin to see the Spiritual part of you within and the Thousand-rayed Lotus, and in this case it is spoken of in the following words. "It shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it." Everything, gradually, will go back to God.

Now we have another reference to this Thousand-rayed Lotus in the 48th Psalm. "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city our Lord [God], in the mountain of his holiness." There you find the Thousand-rayed Lotus spoken of as "the mountain" of Spiritual Consciousness. "Holiness" means Spiritual Consciousness.

Going on, in the 24th Psalm [3rd Verse] we read as follows. Here we find the Thousand-rayed Lotus spoken of as "the hill," "the hill of the Lord," the high place of the Lord, as you saw the devotee sitting there. "The high place," the great Thousand-rayed Lotus. "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who shall stand in his holy place?"

And so, there you have a few references to the Thousand-rayed Lotus, which each and every one of us is endowed with – the Symbol of which you will find in the Lotus Symbol of Self-Realization Fellowship.

Now going on quickly; within the lotus you see different symbols. First you see the symbol of the Spiritual Eye. The Spiritual Eye with the outer ring of gold, the blue center, the center of opal blue, and the silver star in the middle. This, of course, refers to the Spiritual Eye spoken of in Matthew in the 6th Chapter [22nd Verse], when "...thine eye shall be single, thy body shall be filled with light."

Also in the Bhagavad Gita, we have reference to the Spiritual Eye I have just described, wherein the devotee is admonished to sit in the lotus posture, as you saw the devotee, and to fix his gaze and attention upon the Spiritual Eye at a point between the eyebrows. So there we have reference to this Spiritual Eye, the symbol of which you see inside of the lotus. That's the symbol of the Spiritual Eye.

Now going on just a little bit; we also have the Spiritual Eye, the reflection of which you can see at this point. Which is the Medulla Center reflected there. We have that spoken of as the East Gate - the East Gate. "Why," you say, "East Gate?" Because, this is the East of the body [Doctor points to the Spiritual Eye]. The West is behind [Doctor points to the base of the skull], the South is at the base of the spine, and the North is at the top of the spine, the region of the Thousand-rayed Lotus.

So in Ezekiel, the 43rd [1st, 2nd] Verse[s] we read, "Afterward he brought me to the gate, even the gate that looketh toward the east;" – this gate [Doctor points to the Spiritual Eye] – "and behold, the glory of God of Israel came by the way of the east: and His voice was like the noise of many waters: and the earth shined with his glory." "Earth," here, means body. So, there you have proof that the reference is to the Spiritual Eye, because the glory of God is seen at that point, and you can be one with it at that point. And the sound of "many waters" proves that it is the Great Spiritual Vibration at this point. So there you have it spoken of as the East Gate.

The Spiritual Eye is also known in other ways, as the Star of the East. You've heard that for a long time. This is the East, Star of the East, the Morning Star spoken of in the 2nd Chapter of Revelation; the White Stone, also, in Revelation, the 2nd Chapter. The "White Stone" is the Spiritual Eye that you see at this point. And, finally, in the Hindu Scriptures we find it spoken of as the Kutastha – Kutastha, which means the Spiritual Eye, at this point.

Now we are talking and referring to inside the lotus – the round ring, the outer ring of vibrating consciousness – and the inside that, is the blue center, which is

Christ Consciousness, and inside of that is the star, which is the epitome of Cosmic Consciousness, God the Father. Why? Because His Great Beam comes down in through us, and concentrates, and we see the concentration as it passes through the Medulla Center. Now that's the Symbol of the Spiritual Eye that you see. Now, by merging, by merging and being one with the outer golden ring of Vibrating Consciousness of God, you will be one with His Great Creation. That's the Holy Vibration. Inside of that is Consciousness. Such a high vibratory rate it is beyond color. So it is an opal blue. If you are one with that you are one with the Presence of God in His creation, the Christ Consciousness.

Now, in the little center is a silver star, a silver star. If that were not there, none of could ever join once more with God the Father. That is the epitome of Cosmic Consciousness within us, God the Father. From that silver star, which, of course, at first does not seem as big as that – a little small silver star. But from that concentrated energy, it is so concentrated, all the rest comes – all the rest. All the Vibratory Creation – everything comes from that. By being one with that, we can be one with God the Father – beyond all creation. That little silver star incidentally, shows we are children of God, because its five points makes the human Soul. So that little silver star, remember, is the Presence of God the Father in His Concentrated Form right within each and every one of us.

This Spiritual Eye also is spoken of, the two, as the "two-leaved gate" in Isaiah, the 45th Chapter. "Thus sayeth the Lord to His anointed, whose right hand I have holden, to Cyrus, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two-leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut." Now it speaks about kings. It speaks about Cyrus the King, because they are symbols of power. And so, in this Spiritual Eye, characterized by the two-leaved gates – the outer gate of Vibrating Yellow Spiritual Consciousness, and the inner gate of Christ Consciousness – in that two-leaved gate, we find all the Power of the Master of the Universe. That's why it is spoken of in that way.

And so, if you have that Power of Spiritual Consciousness within you, then you can see what the next part of the verse means. "I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut asunder, cut in sunder the bars of iron." No, no circumstance, no obstruction can stand before you when you unite yourself with the Power that comes in to you from God through the Spiritual Eye. So you can see why, why Self-Realization has taken the emblem of the Spiritual Eye and incorporated it in its Symbol, because the Power of God is there; the power of Jesus, the Power of His Great Vibratory Force.

Now going on just a bit; this Spiritual Eye is also spoken of as the Dove descending from heaven. If you will meditate deeply, you will see the Great Ring before you. I was caught out in a storm one time, prayed to God, as the Master had told me. Looked there, and I saw the Great Spiritual Ring, up there, descending from heaven – the dove descending from heaven. One of its wings is the outer ring of yellow, which you see in the Spiritual Eye. The other wing is the blue center. And the mouth of the dove is the little silver star. So that's the real meaning of the dove descending from heaven. And we have that spoken of in the Bible in St. John, the 1st Chapter [32nd and 37th Verses] as follows: "And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit of God descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him...Jesus." So there you have one reference in the Bible of the dove descending from heaven.

One other thing, now, in our Symbol; at the bottom of the lotus you see the little stem, which is the spinal cord. In the Astral spinal cord, on each side of that cord, are two Great Spiritual Nerves, the Ida and Pingala nerves. And as you accumulate the energy in that sympathetic nervous system, it begins to come up, come up. And it is characterized by the two Beams of Light just above the stem. Those Beams of Light come around, in here, Astrally, and then they enter into the Spiritual Eye, the Gate, and that is what enlivens you that you may receive Illumination. And, finally, the current goes back to God, up through the spine, through the Thousand-rayed Lotus, into His Presence.

And so, you can see that the Lotus Symbol of Self-Realization Fellowship is very, very deep and comprehensive. Metaphysically, it means that the Lotus Symbol of Self-Realization Fellowship represents the scientific highway back to God. The spinal highway of scientific religion, whereby anyone, irrespective of race, color, or creed, can, if they will, by following the admonitions of the channel which God has sent, the channel of the beloved Master, and do justice, as we said in our scriptural reading, work for God, he can once more enter into the Spiritual Eye. Enter in, through the Door, into the Great Spinal Highway. Be one with the Consciousness of God and His angels in the spinal Centers, and, finally, be one with the Great Omniscience of God, as He lives, right within each and every one of us in the House of God – in the Thousand-rayed Lotus – in the Mountain of His Holiness.