

THE UNIVERSE A CONSCIOUS LIVING ORGANISM IN LARG

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Society Point Loma Blavatskyhouse (TSPL) in The Hague since 1973 in which he holds the position of leader since 1985. Herman is director of the affiliated International Study center for Independent Search for truth foundation (I.S.I.S.) and vicepresident of the International Theosophy Conference (ITC) since 2009. He is also chief editor of the periodical Lucifer, the Light-bringer, conducts courses, holds lectures and organizes national and international annual symposia which emphasize the practical use of Theosophia in daily life. His strong interest in the Theosofia was roused by a combination of factors being his study of Buddhism (mainly Mahâyâna Buddhism), his work for ESA and his pacifist activities.

Herman C. Vermeulen has a background in electronic engineering, measurement and control engineering and mechanical engineering. For more than 43 years of his professional career he worked for the European Space Agency (ESA) at the European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC) division located in Noordwijk, The Netherlands where he developed specialized designs.

Constantly regard the Universe as one living organism
MARCUS AURELIUS in 'MEDITATIONS'

Motivation:

In the scientific world there is a big confrontation about what consciousness and matter are; it is seen as two different things. This view does not make understanding the Universe and its relationship with conscious beings more clear.

If we approach the view of what is consciousness and matter are from a broader perspective, it helps to solve many issues.

If we can build a greater Universal picture, based on a small number of universal principles, and demonstrate how these principles work, we can solve many if not all the essential problems in society, including the big questions "what is a being and what is a Universe", "what is our relation to the Universe and to other beings in the Universe".

Fundamental scientific research can contribute to this.

Problem statement:

The reason why these big questions are so difficult to answer, is the fact that we think of the Universe in a too anthropomorphic way (we give

the Universe attributes as we humans know on our level of consciousness, even human attributes).

We try to interpret all our observations based on our personal experiences and opinions.

It is almost impossible to understand the Universe more fundamentally by this very limited view. Everywhere in society one sees this way of thinking. One sees a sometimes aggressive unwillingness to look beyond the known and to come to a broader and deeper way of thinking.

Not only in the scientific world, but in fact everywhere in society one sees this attitude.

Approach:

To overcome this anthropomorphic vision, let us search for more wisdom. In Plato's dialogue 'Politeia' he gives us in the Story of the Cave a fabulous hint, how to overcome this vision.

To understand what is life, what is consciousness, we have to take a more fundamental approach. We have to search for a general, primary view, for a universal knowledge, for principles which can be applied to the whole universe with its great range of different phenomena we see.

This knowledge can be found in many ancient traditions. By studying these traditions one will come to the conclusion that they all in their core tell us the same truths. They are all branches from the same root. This common source is known nowadays as 'Theosophy', literally divine wisdom or the wisdom of those beings in the Universe that have outgrown the human level of consciousness.

It is this Universal Wisdom that will help us discover and understand the Universe in its deeper layers. This Wisdom includes three fundamental principles or hypotheses, as described by H.P. Blavatsky in her book The Secret Doctrine. And from these three flow forth seven great universal laws or processes, known as the seven Jewels of Wisdom.

We have to start this search fully convinced of our ability to find this Universal Wisdom, because as an unseparable part of the Universe by definition we must have that Wisdom within ourselves. We only have to awaken what is sleeping within us.

I can offer from my more than forty years of scientific work many striking examples of scientists courageously 'thinking out of the box'.

Results:

We will see that the three fundamental propositions and seven Jewels of Wisdom will help to understand all the facts found by modern scientific research and investigations.

The next step is to compare the results of this research, found both in the small and in the great, in various disciplines.

Recent conclusions are, in this line:

- * the universe is a living organism
- * everything lives, there is no dead matter
- * everything is unseparably interconnected
- * every being is equally valuable, because every being has all infinite possibilities of the Universe, either active or sleeping, within itself.

From this much more universal standpoint the world will find solutions for problems, that will do justice to the inner life of man, of planet, of universe, and therefore are effective, long-lasting and sustainable.