



WHARE ATUA

Golden Dawn study notes:

- The 31st Path of Shin Perpetual Intelligence, Judgement Tarot

On way of understanding the ceremonial working within the Order of the Golden Dawn initiations is to consider and project the Tarot triumphs onto the temple floor.

As there are 22 paths in the normal Tree of Life and each of the paths has a Tarot assigned, something well worth contemplation is the positioning of the Officers in relation to, or in the place of the Tarot triumphs. From doing this a lot of the inner genius of the Golden Dawn can be discovered.

There are three paths out of Malkuth: The 31st for 3=8, 32nd the central to 2=9 and the one on the right for 4=7 Netzach. Facing the Theoricus left is a lamp for the Element of Fire and on right censer for the Element of Air. The Judgement card is on central altar; the larger invisible tarot card is on the floor. Additionally within the Temple large Tarot cards can be strategically placed to assist the ceremony.

The Invisible Card on the Floor can be more easily seen when the candidate does the 3=8 admission up the 31st Path of Shin, also known as the Path of Perpetual Intelligence.

For example the Officers are arranged for the **Admission to the 31st Path of Shin** within the temple:

Hierophant

Hiereus

Hegemon

The three officers obviously making an Upright Triangle on the Floor; Later when the temple is later arranged in Hod, the cross is outside of the triangle (see red triangle on Tarot) and the Triangle is upside as in water.

The candidate is cleverly taken up the path of Shin by being lifted and wound and in this way is lifted up to the next Sefirah. The advancement of grades up the paths within the Golden Dawn work similarly to this in principle; as do the admission badges work the same way as card, psychically linking the candidate to the paths and energies on the floor. As part of the admission the candidate must hold up a three-sided triangle, this links the candidate to the triangle within the Tarot judgement card.

The Angel of Judgement is Gabriel within the Golden Dawn tradition, however in classical Kabbalah and Christian gnosis it is Mika'El.

The card shows the Angel blowing the trumpet. A red cross is on flag of trumpet resurrection of matter, and the influx of spirit descending which attracts the lost souls of the demiurge.

The figure on the card's right is an old man and on the left is a couple with their child in the centre who can be associated within Ariel. Within the Golden Dawn tradition, the old man is associated to Samael, the ruler of the Demiurge; however sometimes the figure is also associated with angel Anael.

There really is no clear identification of who is actually within the Tarot. Yet it is said within the Golden Dawn that the couple on the left could be two women or the two goddesses Isis and Nephthys.

The Tarot represents the 31st Path the Path of Shin as shown on the card. The hands of the young boy which are open in the ancient prayer position of the welcoming fire, or welcoming of the sun, also represent a Shin. Interestingly the Triangle does not appear in the original or earlier versions of the Tarot Judgement card. Instead of a Triangle the earliest versions had a Star.



The early Visconti Tarot also has two angels! Two trumpets and banners! A nice non-subtle clue as per the judgement <g> the soon later Visconti-Sforza tarot 1430 AD also has two angels and God holding a sword between the two angels inside of the central Star! The Marseilles and Old English and Wirth Tarot also keep to the original Western designs before the influence of the Theosophical Society etc. The Star shows the parting clouds, revealing the opening up of Heaven during the resurrection.

Returning to the Golden Dawn version, the Angel is standing within the apex of the triangle with the old-man below left, child below centre and woman below right. From the feet (hidden) of the central child a Shin shape can be drawn.

- V.H Frater Jean de Cabalis © 2006 Whare Atua Temple