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# Whare Atua Temple

New Zealand Order of the Golden Dawn®



## The Order (part two) for accepted members

By Frank Salt 7=4 admitted Whare Ra 1936

LIFE is the theme of our Order. Life in its own total terms, as it is and what is. Our basic symbol is the Tree of Life. Everything given for your consideration is an aspect of the Tree of Life and your attention is deemed to be focused, not on theory, moralistic dictums, or dogma on how to live Life, but on your own innate will to live to the full that gift of Life in your own way. We have no 'rules' of how to live, as such would ignore Life as your basic and fundamental function on this earth. We exist, not to impose yet another humiliating set of rules for you to obey, but to set you free to become a total human in your own right.

We present to you a system, as old as time, using symbolism well tried and proven down the ages to appeal directly to the Soul (not to the intellect) to assist that soul, in its own terms, to complete the purpose of human existence. You will not be able to intellectually understand this process until its purpose has been fulfilled in you personally and spiritually.

Our Occidental history has many figures, such as Plato, Krishna, Solomon, Socrates, Moses, and many others who used this same system to mature into Knowers of Wisdom. Firstly as disciples accepting a discipline of training, then finding their own spiritual essence, which they tried each in his own way, to convey in their writings and teaching intended to inspire the seeker in his own search rather than to lay down rules that any fool could follow like a trained dog.

Without claiming to be the only ones to perpetuate the Mysteries, we use the occidental tradition common to our culture, the Judo-Christian scriptures, in themselves, when rightly understood, parables and symbolism, to act as a vehicle for their inspiration.

Life, obviously, is self-feeding and self-perpetuating. From the time when the first protein molecule was so animated that it could reproduce itself onwards, Life has always followed its own law of self development, ramification, adaptation, mutation, elaboration, self-sufficiency, self initiation. Always the process has emerged from Life itself. What can be more appropriate that this process endure when Man appeared, and especially in this Order, than that we, as human should now consciously join in the process and purpose of Life?

We here offer you the means by which this purpose may be fulfilled - the natural way as used throughout time of Self-perfection. The Completion of' the Great Work the 'Magnum Opus' of the sages of old and of now; But it can only work through YOU as a divinely created intelligence serving the Divine Purpose.

Obviously this process cannot be attained by using our accustomed system of education, or it would have been done thus long ago. It will take considerable time and practice to find the alternative to 'teaching' as we habitually expect it. Thus your problem is to

have the faith and the patience to find the alternative, under Spiritual impulse - Yours alone.

Common sense, right thinking and insight are the prime requirements in the task ahead of Man. Using only these two tools to the full and provided each individual is sensible to the spiritual impulse to complete the purpose of the creation of Man, Nature itself is our guide, the spirit of evolution, discovery, realisation, fulfilment.

This concept is implicit in all scripture, though we may read and not see this. Symbolically, we are blind at the spiritual level. In a state of darkness these things are evidenced in the Golden Dawn Neophyte Ritual, as is the total process of 'Enlightenment', the way of the soul. All our ceremonial reflects the problem of the soul in the process of completing the Incarnation of Spirit. In this sense our rituals are truly 'magical' in that through them the soul may touch the mind and we 'enter the Light' in full normal daily consciousness.

We are in no sense evading life. We provide no cosy refuge for the tender, frightened people of this world. Man has always progressed under pressures necessity, a sense of dumbness, darkness, and has thus moved from the primal jungle, through the mastery of water and navigations to mastery of the air, and now to mastery of space itself. Having thus mastered, at one level, the Elements, under the pressure of necessity, mother of invention, we now stand at the gate of Wisdom, the discovery of Life Eternal, our true vocation.

More than this may not be said of the Order. That is to be discovered, not to be taught as to infants by external teachers, to be realised in and by each individual, hence the term 'The Mysteries' of all ages, discovered only by those with our two prime qualities, Common Sense and Insight, under the ever present impulse of the Spirit.

In the First, or Outer Order you were given certain things to learn by rote. These are all closely related to our prime glyph, the Tree of Life. This type of study is consistent with 'education' as we know it, but there is much more than mere memorisation involved in this period of the Path. You must actively use this information in a very practical way or it is useless. Not only the astrology did we teach, but also its practical use and its association with the Hebrew Alphabet, which in turn must be used intelligently, with insight and commonsense.

All proper nouns in our scripture have inner meanings which you must seek to interpret for yourself. The actual Hebrew as used in the bible must be studied in the light of various lectures you will be given. All such information must be used to have any value to you in later work. The given work is not difficult, but unless you do your own interpretation and application you might as well have not joined the Order. The value is not in such parrot- learning but in the full practical application of what is given. The commonsense insight and use of all your faculties is essential.

Failure to use and apply Order methods automatically means that the Order is not for you, and we will do nothing to persuade you further on this point. This also applies to the study and use of the rituals given you in due course. Success or failure is entirely in your hands.

"Life is the theme of our Order." As mentioned in the earlier paper 'The Order (Part One) We are not a club of enthusiasts nor a society, but an Order of people with the common goal of completing the purpose of Man - A way of Life in the deepest sense.

The full and free dedication to this purpose involves all of life, our everyday life included. The Path of Initiation does not have any social or financial advantages. It will permeate the physical life, infusing it with Spiritual Life, it will mean that we must live

life to the full as ordinary people; not as saints or privileged 'elect' but as divinely created people, as all mankind is "made in the Image of God". Subject to the same Laws as is all humanity. As Christ says, "I am come not to break the law but to fulfil the Law."

There may be many strange situations arise in our daily life, but if we are to 'fulfil' the Law we will gain by these experiences spiritually. 'Fear is the mother of valour', 'Be thou without fear' says the neophyte ceremony. We are dedicated to 'persevere with courage and determination in the labours of the Divine Science. With each test we are given the power to overcome it. "To him that over cometh will I give the Crown of Life" Kether, the Crown is ours by right - if we do but keep our pledge. There will be dull and dry periods, but there will also be bright and full ones. Despite all the tribulations of our history, we survive and prosper or should we say because of tribulation we prosper? Think that over.

During your work you have been given many 'side' lectures similar to this. They are not dogma rather they are intended to illustrate the practical use of the Order, to encourage, to offer suggestions on how to use the Rituals and the Knowledge Lectures. Essentially, you are to make up your own mind in all things but under your oath of silence.

In suggesting any friend to join the Order, bear in mind that only fully mature adults self-sufficient and successful in worldly affairs are likely to have the strength to tread the Mystic Way. Of those who start, many will lack the real urge to persevere to the end. Many will have 'dry spells' when they feel uninspired. But merely to continue in the Order life, taking office in the Ceremonial, just being members, helps over these arid phases. A merely romantic interest and curiosity will be of no use. Only if a person genuinely feels an urge to partake of life to the full will he succeed. Books written on these matters are seldom more than childish fantasy. We do not want dreamers. Only do-ers!

As Life is the focus of our studies, an interest in life in general and human life in particular is essential. Observation of human motives and reactions is needed. This can be done best when we are not critical but observant of the ways of Man. We cannot judge without self-condemnation in some form, but we must see and enjoy Man in action all around us. We cannot enjoy life merely as observers but as partakers in life in general. Our "Tree of Life" embodies the whole realm of human endeavour.

What we believe and what we do are often two very different things. Watch people, especially the eager, voluble ones. They speak intensely but act differently. Some study of 'body language' can be enlightening. Many a hardened 'man of the world' prays earnestly under the fire of battle; and many an earnest Christian does shabby things on the side. "By their works ye shall know them". So it is with us, it is not what we believe but that we are active that counts. We do not seek to soar to lofty thoughts, but to penetrate to the hub of Life. That we do the prescribed work matters, the theories we hold on the Way are transitory, accepted as such, and transcended.

At first, an almost blind faith impels us and carries us on in the gloom. But that faith has a root in the soul. "Seek and ye shall find." You will frequently feel puzzled and bewildered. That is the nature of the Way, especially for intelligent people. If your urge is truly spiritual you cannot fail. If it is mere curiosity you cannot win the crown of Life. Every bit of information given you concerns Life as an activity not as mere theory.

Subtle changes will occur in your life, probably unnoticed at the time, but in a normally active life, changes will occur. These will arise spontaneously within you, not as a result of any verbalised promptings from the Order, but because they are natural. Blind faith? Well, yes, if you have it. But sight will come and you will know what lies beyond faith, Insight - into the very heart of God. Intelligent knowing that exists from within yourself and not second-hand information.

Meditation also is a prime requirement for progress. As you will see from the various 'side lectures' given, our ideas of meditation are quite different from those portrayed by popular publications. We are not using auto-suggestion or wishful thinking to reach some idealised state of bliss or ecstasy, which can be artificially induced illusion. We take a very special series of topics, each of which is rooted deeply in the unconscious mind and purposefully work on it, noting down the ideas coming to mind in the process.

This work acts on a long-term basis, and it may be many years before the full value of these topics occurs to you, which they will only if you patiently and systematically persist. 'That which is unconscious tries to gain consciousness' is a useful dictum. The medium of consciousness is your own mind, linked inwardly to the soul. A rather vacuous statement at this stage but one endorsed by Carl Jung in his psychological works and proven by our system.

In working with our system you are not seeking mere personal gratification you are actively fulfilling the very purpose of human existence. This is also true of our ceremonial. It epitomises the whole work of the immortal, the timeless purpose of the Soul of Nature to benefit humanity.

**Welcome to our holy Order.**

**It will serve you well.**