

THE BROTHERHOOD
OF SHAMBALLA

**THE BROTHERHOOD
OF
SHAMBALLA**

BY

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AND

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SECOND, REVISED EDITION

1986

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ROZEKRUIS PERS - HAARLEM THE NETHERLANDS

**International School of the Golden Rosycross
Lectorium Rosicrucianum
Bakenessergracht 11-15 - Haarlem - The Netherlands**

Translated from the Dutch

**Original title:
De Broederschap van Shamballa**

**ISBN 90 6732 008 0
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The Netherlands**

Foreword

These essays on the Brotherhood of Shamballa were first given as lectures in the Forecourt Temple of the Rosycross.

As they concern a message from the Brotherhood to all pupils of the School, the same style has been preserved in this printed reproduction.

Now that this message is able to reach a wider circle of interested people by means of this publication, we hope and pray that their hearts may prove receptive and that they may react accordingly.

CATHAROSE DE PETRI

J. VAN RIJCKENBORGH

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The Mysteries of the Gobi (1)

In quoting the Chinese philosopher Chuang, Madame Blavatsky once said: "The things that man knows can in no way be compared, numerically speaking, with the things that are unknown".

Indeed, human knowledge is very limited in comparison with what ought to be known. There are so many mysteries in the cosmos and microcosmos and the Logos shows us such a vast number of impenetrable phenomena that no one can be blamed for the fact that human understanding remains far behind the Universal Reality. The Psalmist's words: "Your knowledge is too wonderful for me", are the honest confession of a man who is confronted with divine creation. Nevertheless, it is a fact that human knowledge and understanding often move in directions diametrically opposed to divine revelation. That is why the words of the Chinese philosopher are so appropriate.

This situation is actually quite serious, for the Logos does not scatter its Universal Knowledge over the world unintelligently and at random. Every divine revelation is based entirely on necessity and absolute reason. The knowledge that has been lost is therefore an accusation against mankind, confronting us, from time to time, with very disagreeable consequences, and bringing mankind into humiliating situations.

Consequently, you may well understand the periodical attempts of the Spiritual School to lead at least part of mankind back to the original basis of necessity and absolute reason, in order to evoke a reaction which is in harmony with divine requirements. It is in this light that you should consider this discussion.

It is not our intention simply to speak about the mysteries of the Gobi desert in an interesting way. It is our task to inform you about things which are bound to come soon and which must not find you unprepared.

It is our innermost desire that with us, you will be able to testify of the happy time when there will be revealed not only a part of the world hitherto unknown and hidden, but also many wonderful works and creatures of the original nature that have never been seen before, making us realise why we are called microcosm and how far our knowledge of the original nature and of God can extend. For the majority, our time is alarming because of the turmoil of social, political and economic events. For only a few, our era is an alarming and breathtaking prelude to a cosmic revolution which will be effected not only from above but also from below.

In order to understand everything connected with this, we will need to approach the mystery of the Gobi desert. The unveiling which this will involve should not be seen as a desecration, but rather as a ripening of the time and as a *Fama Fraternitatis* for all those who have ears to hear and eyes to see.

In so far as the Universal Brotherhood devotes itself to this world and fallen mankind, the centre of its activity is in the heart of the Gobi desert in central Asia. All the other foci of spiritual activity we have discussed with you in recent years, such as those of Australia, the Great Pyramid, the Pillars of Hercules on the southern

slopes of the Atlas mountains, and the Himalayas, as well as various other activities of the Brotherhood such as those at the two poles, originate from and are guided by the true spiritual heart of the world in the most inaccessible part of the Gobi.

In reality, the Gobi is not a sand desert but rather a disconsolate, arid steppe region of, for us, immeasurable size. It is as unknown and far more inaccessible than, for instance, the Gran Chaco of South America. Very few travellers have tried to penetrate into the heart of the Gobi. It is surrounded by loneliness and terror. With a few minor exceptions, there is no literature concerning this area and its mysteries. This is largely because the attention of spiritual speculators is directed towards more familiar parts of the globe. There is a well-known work by Marco Polo, written in the 13th century while he was held prisoner. Marco Polo travelled along the old tea-route to China, part of which led through the Gobi. He wrote of the deep fear and holy veneration by which people living around the Gobi are possessed due to the large numbers of uncanny apparitions that occur there.

The cause of these spectral phenomena is quite clear to the gnostic. The planetary ethers in the Gobi are so transparent and so concentrated that the chemical and etheric spheres of the material world merge into each other almost unnoticeably. As a consequence, phenomena of the reflection sphere become perceptible to the normal physical senses. This phenomenon has caused the deadly fear of the Gobi which has to this day ensured the total ignorance of the profane with regard to this area.

Yet the Gobi has always played a part in the most

ancient universal knowledge. From the beginning of dialectics, the heart of this area has been referred to as the Holy Land of the Sons of God. When the Bible and the initiates speak of the Holy Land of our planet, they certainly do not mean the region where the Arabs and Jews fight each other with Western arms.

All metaphysical impulses towards regeneration are sent forth from this heart of the world, to spread in rays all over the earth and leave their tracks everywhere. The ingenious construction of the Great Pyramid, the wisdom and strength of the Manicheans and Cathars and the mission of the modern Rosycross are to be explained from this one source. The Order of the Siddha, the Universal Brotherhood, has its seat in this Holy Land.

Many legends have been woven around the Gobi and fragments of bygone historical events have been used as a basis for mysterious tales. Through such tales, ancient wisdom tells us that once, long before the pre-Lemurian civilisation, there was an extensive inland sea where there are now only salt-lakes and arid deserts. On twelve islands in the heart of this sea dwelt the "Last Remnant" of the divine race. These islands were of wonderful beauty. The divine inhabitants were also known as the "Sons of Will and Yoga" or as the "true Elohim", who were said to be masters of all the mysteries of nature and to possess the unpronounceable Word, which is now lost. They know the mysteries of the original nature and preserve them for those who are ennobled to them.

This island-realm still exists as an oasis in the Gobi. All those who know the secret Word are aware of this and have admittance there. It is impossible to find an ordinary way to the Gobi oasis. The whole region is carefully protected against alien intruders both from the

land and from the air. There are only seven secret entrances, which are indicated in veiled terms as the seven subterranean passages to Shambhalla.

It is our task to discuss all these things with you and to inform you of the depths of all the wisdom mankind once possessed, for the time of revelation has come, and it is certainly not our intention, in the midst of the nervous tensions of our times, to deal with these holy matters in a few sentences so that by tomorrow they will have been forgotten again.

Long ago, it was prophesied that all that is hidden would one day be revealed; but it was also said that many false prophets would arise and we are warned not to believe every spirit, but to test them whether they are really of God. The Bible warns: "By this you know the spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus has come in the flesh is of God, but every spirit that does not confess this is not of God".

Whenever a great change is about to occur in the development of the world, the things hidden in God, in the Absolute, are revealed and the whole of mankind is confronted with the life of absolute reality of the Immovable Kingdom.

This revelation, this unfolding, does not come primarily as a judgement, but as a call to resurrection, as a tremendous help towards regeneration. Also, this revelation should not be seen as a public demonstration, but as a hardly bearable sacrifice of love by those who are dedicated to God, for us in our distress.

When this sacrifice is made, it will only be possible to recognise it as the spirit of God if it can be irrefutably connected with the confession that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. This does not mean having some historical belief that about 2000 years ago someone

called Jesus came into the flesh; it means the manifestation of the Jesus-realisation and the Christ-radiation in your own being, in your own flesh, with scientific certainty and in perfect power, beauty and reality.

The revelations of the last times, which will precede the Great Revolution, will give man a complete vision of the true life of original mankind and will inevitably bring about the unmasking of all metaphysical speculators, both ecclesiastical and theological as well as philosophical. Also, they will confront everyone without exception with a decisive choice. So the time is no longer far away when everywhere people will speak with perplexity or veneration, with fear, rage or intense gratitude about the seven passages to Shamballa.

The cosmic revolution not only concerns an intercosmic process of respiration, inescapably connected with geological and atmospheric changes, but at the same time concerns an intense endeavour to save mankind. After every cosmic revolution mankind sinks more deeply into the delusion and matter of dialectics. Seen from our point of view, the Lemurian civilisation was more glorious and equipped with many more possibilities than the Atlantean one which followed it. The same can be said of the Atlantean era in comparison with ours, the Aryan era. In the next era, too, possibilities will be much more restricted than in ours because of the ever increasing crystallisation of matter and the racial bodies and the further limitation of the spiritual action-radius.

In this respect too, mankind today is confronted with an intensely critical phase. The revelation of the coming times will therefore be of greater magnitude than ever before, because of the urgency of the situation. This revelation is intended to provide a basis for the rebirth

of the greatest possible number of people. It is for this reason that the Brotherhood has begun to speak out.

All of us need to know once more the liberating, lost and forgotten Word. When the Bible speaks about this One Word of God it does not mean a collection of mutilated or totally deformed manuscripts of greater or lesser value. First and foremost we should understand it to mean: the one liberating Word which leads to life; the way, the method, the holy science leading to the universal life of the Immovable Kingdom.

The Universal Brotherhood, referred to in the Bible as the "Last Remnant", expresses itself in the Gobi oasis, which has been specially prepared for this purpose, cosmically, atmospherically and scientifically. If you consult your Bible and the sacred books of other peoples, you will find a great number of veiled stories concerning the "Last Remnant". It is said that the last remnants of ancient races were led away after all the others had perished. Taken literally, such information has always led to mystification.

The "Last Remnant" is a mystical term referring to those entities who are rising out of mankind's ordinary path of life by following the path to the original life. Those who belong to the Last Remnant are taken up into a new circle of existence; all others follow mankind's ordinary dialectical course, with its usual aspects, right to its ordinary destination in accordance with the laws of nature.

May it be given to all of you to plumb with us the depths of the "Abyss of Universal Knowledge" and may the revelation of the Sons of Wisdom of the hidden Holy Land lead all of you to rebirth.

The seven passages to Shamballa are being opened wide for you. You have only to enter. May the unpron-

ounceable Word, the Word that is still lost, be revealed to you, now and for all eternity.