

PROGRESSIONS

Human Development and the Convergence of Science and Wisdom

by

Gordon Herbert

*“I am love. I am power. I am joy. I am you. I stretch from the beginning to the end. I am in all things. I am you. I am love. I am joy. I am life in all its glory.
But you say what about the pain? what about the suffering?
what about evil? Why do we suffer so?
Read this book. It will tell you why, with love, with compassion, with wisdom. Read it from beginning to end, and enjoy.
This is the time for the explanation of life’s mysteries.”*

Outline

This book looks at how you and I grow in our capabilities. It looks at modern scientific evidence and old spiritual traditions, and finds profound similarities between them. It suggests a model of the soul and its role in our development, and applies it to all times, places and beings. Seven stages of progress are proposed, which are seen as fundamental to human psychology, society, and even to the physical structure of the atom and to chemical and biological organization. The history and psychology of the stages of human progress are described in some detail, and the model predicts next stages. Current crises in human development are assessed, and ways to alleviate them suggested.

The book opens by considering the unfoldment of civilization, and our power to create what we want. It then queries why certain numbers, such as the 3 and the 7, are thought to be basic to understanding the nature of all that is. They turn out to represent fundamental archetypes, pervading all reality. They are the hidden structure of that which creates birth into existence, growth, progress, and eventual apotheosis. As such, they are structures leading to an increased freedom from material envelopment, into an eventual freedom of joy, love and enlightenment.

The second chapter compares modern psychological analysis to the ancient chakra psychologies. The chakras are energy vortices in the subtle bodies of the human being, and correspond to stages of unfoldment of consciousness and civilization. The seven stages are a series of expansions of psychological capacity and therefore of capability, and have their correspondence in the development of civilization. The aphorism ‘as above so below’ has its correspondence in “as within so without.” A self-assessment of level is provided.

In Chapter 3, the fundamental 7 is expressed as a different dimension called the rays. These rays, like the colors of the rainbow, give distinctive qualities to the psychology at each chakra level. They summarize the basic variety of behaviour within levels. Examples in international politics are provided.

Chapters 4 and 5 show how the seven psychological stages work out in culture and society. Not only are they evident in ethics, morality and religion, but also in politics, economics and business. Each of these areas demonstrates the staged expansion of capability, with the higher stages yet to come for societies and nations. The intrinsic nature of these stages is seen in bureaucracies, which are basic to most organized human activities.

If our chakra level limits our psychological capacity, then our understanding of the real world must be divided into seven successive stages of comprehension. Chapter 6 summarizes these levels from earliest humanity to the present. The three major paradigms of modern science are shown to be manifestations at successive levels of human psychology. These are the Cartesian 17th century mechanical paradigm of science, the 19th century energy field science of the Romantic Revolt, and the 20th century science of quantum theory and relativity. From the model, we can predict the nature of the next paradigm of science in the 21st century.

The first six chapters provide evidence for the seven stages of human progress, and Chapter 7 generalizes this into a universal model of the soul and its mechanisms that deals with the relationships between spirit, soul and matter, incorporating the chakras and rays.

The model requires existence both within and beyond space and time, involving models of our universe at a macro-scale, and of models of quantum reality at a micro-scale. The universal soul model uses the seven-fold structuring of the atom, Einstein's formulae and fractal space-time to help explain the nature of existence and the mechanism of progress.

Chapter 7 also examines the meaningfulness of the 7-level model for the entire cycle of human development, including the role of good and evil, of male and female, of types of learning and of the self-generation of progress. It considers the influence of the entire network of all seven kingdoms of nature (including three above the human), leading to a reconsideration of three major orders of modern science, the last of which is yet to come. The chapter closes by proposing the role of humanity as the middle, mediating kingdom assisting in the ascension of the lower kingdoms and in cooperation with the higher kingdoms.

Chapter 8 finds some major archetypes and myths of antiquity to closely reflect the soul model, the seven-fold chakra psychologies and the grand cycle of human incarnation, progress and apotheosis. It analyzes universal myths, belonging to civilizations pre-dating the Christian Bible through their biblical symbolism, including Creation, the Garden of Eden, and Revelation with its Apocalypse and Millennium. The Tarot is closely linked to the Book of Revelation, together comprising the epic story of the cycle of human growth from alpha to omega. Predictions are seen as probabilities that can be influenced and changed by subsequent human actions.

Chapter 9 returns to modern scientific and mathematical models that can be used to explain the dynamics and structure of the evolutionary process. Dissipative structures in evolutionary biology, bifurcations, attractors and mathematical chaos effectively model the global processes of a network soul model. Free will, the quantum mind theory and quantum healing are reviewed, and an outline of self-organizing consciousness, of the extensive soul structure of all kingdoms of nature is suggested. This includes a generalization of the seven stages of development drawn from psychology, ecology, human geography and economic history. Fractal resonance is seen as a mechanism for the coherent unification of all that is. The chapter ends by suggesting that different forms of perception are necessary for increasing levels of understanding and interpretation of development.

Chapter 10 shows that the wisdom teachings of all major religions similarly define the final stages of development for humanity. Although the consciousness of the final stages is as difficult to impart to the average understanding as sight is to the blind person, the chapter offers a clear pathway and methodology to be followed. However, this is virgin territory for most, and has its pitfalls as well as its inspirations. As we come to an inkling of the purpose of God, and encounter the reality of spiritual teachers and helpers, the nature of the higher kingdoms and their organization of a divine plan for Earth becomes a living possibility.

The chapter also summarizes perceptions of major aspects of the plan, and reveals the high office known in the Bible as the Ancient of Days, Lord of the World, and Melchizedek to be the head of the highest kingdom on Earth, the King of Peace, and the Father to whom Christ was Prince of Peace. The method by which faith becomes the living substance of all we are is explained. The relevance of this is that any higher understanding and development must be expressed in the here and now.

The last chapter looks at how human progress can be helped in the personal, cultural and social realms now. It encourages applications in three developmental phases: of good works, of self-development, and of transcendence. The change created is of individual consciousness and of culture, and of individual well-being and of society. How to increase the energy flow of spirit, soul and substance in these realms is the crux of development. We are co-creators with the whole, expressing purpose, plan and implementation, but although the outline of our destiny is apparent, it is up to us to create it.

Human civilization is now at a major bifurcation point. If we continue on our current track, we will crash to a lower level of existence. If we rise above it, we can break through to sustained survival and creativity. Technology alone cannot save us, but must be guided by higher-level behaviour. There are signs that many people and organizations are now consciously managing their evolution, healing the earth, and seeking harmony with the whole. The existence of selfish vested interests and blindness hinders them, but their numbers are rapidly growing. The race is on between planetary destruction and planetary healing. Our actions will determine the outcome, but we have the capacity to create the good. If we act purposively now, then in spite of temporary insanities, humanity's future on Earth will be assured.

The book is in three parts. The first, as chapters 1 – 6, shows the existence of the seven-fold progression in all major human activities. The second, as chapters 7 – 9, gives the heart of a dynamic model of soul development and aim, archetypal within the universal ecology. The third, as chapters 10 – 11, indicates where this is taking us, and the challenges we face right now.

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