

Now and Z'en

Philosophical Happenings

NEW ACROPOLIS
CULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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Special Feature

Helena Petrovna Blavatsky...Who was she?

She was a compendium of forgotten teachings, a rekindler of an esoterism of which only ruins remained, or rather the habitual pillagers of the ruins. She was an inexhaustible adventurer to whom no barriers existed, neither when it came to traveling nor when contacting the Superior Beings or Masters who she loved and served loyally. She was a courageous soul capable of confronting ignorance, fear, rudeness, envy, betrayal and falsehoods. She made Truth her standard and maintained it as her sanctuary.

She was a tireless seeker of spiritual treasures, a prolific and tenacious author, an articulate conversationalist, and true friend to all who surrounded her. She knew of riches and of misery, of glory and of sickness, of followers and of loneliness. She possessed the innate magic of the gifted and the penetrating vision of those who have been able to see beyond the veil of illusions.

Above all, she made Wisdom and the practice of it-Philosophy-a veritable priesthood for the men and women anxious to discover the secret of Life. "There is nothing higher than Truth," she once said, and also declared, "Honor Truth with deeds." For all these reasons, we who today follow in her footsteps salute her as Master, eternally living and present.

To find out more... Join us for this fascinating adventure in search of the lost Wisdom of the East and the most profound Mysteries of the Ages. Writer, Philosopher and Mystic, Helena Blavatsky was a remarkable woman of the 19th Century who dared to go beyond the conventions of Scientific Materialism and Religious Dogmatism of her time. Fearless, Visionary and always Controversial, she lived a life true to her creed: ***There is Nothing Higher than Truth.*** Her Esoteric Doctrine is the most comprehensive synthesis of Eastern and Western knowledge ever attempted.

More than one hundred years ago, on May 8th, H. P. Blavatsky left the world of the living to enter her beloved kingdom of mystery, myth and symbolism, of spirituality without frontiers.

Join us for an upcoming lecture to celebrate her life and works on May 12th 2006.



Philosophical Crossroads

New Acropolis embraces an eclectic approach to the study of philosophy, allowing for a comprehensive, integrative understanding.

These synopses are from Discover Magazine's 100 Top Science Stories of 2005 (DISCOVER Vol. 27 No. 01 | January 2006).

Early Footprints Kick up a Storm: Sylvia Gonzalez of Liverpool John Moores University in England announced in August the discovery in central Mexico of human footprints that they claim are at least 40,000 years old. Previous estimates suggested an early date of 13,500 based on the Clovis First Theory.

Deep Impact Exposes Comet Secrets: In July NASA's Deep Impact spacecraft smashed an 800-pound probe into comet Tempel 1, basting a house-size hole and releasing a spectacular shower of cosmic debris. Of particular interest is that more organic material was released than expected. Comets are now considered to be the seeds of life on earth.

ART
MUSIC
SCIENCE
LITERATURE

WORDS OF WISDOM

"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes"

Marcel Proust

"It is not what happens to you, but how react to it that matters"

Epictetus

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world"

Mahatma Gandhi

"We are only as great as we dare to be"

Jorge A Livraga

**The Masters of Wisdom:
Their timeless truths inspire and open a path to inner understanding**



ZEN WISDOM

There was once a stone cutter who was dissatisfied with himself and with his position in life.

More Is Not Enough The Stone Cutter

One day he passed a wealthy merchant's house. Through the open gateway, he saw many fine possessions and important visitors. "How powerful that merchant must be!" thought the stone cutter. He became very envious and wished that he could be like the merchant.

To his great surprise, he suddenly became the merchant, enjoying more luxuries and power than he had ever imagined, but envied and detested by those less wealthy than himself. Soon a high official passed by, carried in a sedan chair, accompanied by attendants and escorted by soldiers beating gongs. Everyone, no matter how wealthy, had to bow low before the procession. "How powerful that official is!" he thought. "I wish that I could be a high official!"

Then he became the high official, carried everywhere in his embroidered sedan chair, feared and hated by the people all around. It was a hot summer day, so the official felt very uncomfortable in the sticky sedan chair. He looked up at the sun. It shone proudly in the sky, unaffected by his presence. "How powerful the sun is!" he thought. "I wish that I could be the sun!"

Then he became the sun, shining fiercely down on

everyone, scorching the fields, cursed by the farmers and laborers. But a huge black cloud moved between him and the earth, so that his light could no longer shine on everything below. "How powerful that storm cloud is!" he thought. "I wish that I could be a cloud!"

Then he became the cloud, flooding the fields and villages, shouted at by everyone. But soon he found that he was being pushed away by some great force, and realized that it was the wind. "How powerful it is!" he thought. "I wish that I could be the wind!"

Then he became the wind, blowing tiles off the roofs of houses, uprooting trees, feared and hated by all below him. But after a while, he ran up against something that would not move, no matter how forcefully he blew against it - a huge, towering rock. "How powerful that rock is!" he thought. "I wish that I could be a rock!"

Then he became the rock, more powerful than anything else on earth. But as he stood there, he heard the sound of a hammer pounding a chisel into the hard surface, and felt himself being changed. "What could be more powerful than I, the rock?" he thought.

He looked down and saw far below him the figure of a stone cutter.



Coming Attractions Upcoming Lectures and More!

All lectures are at the Porter Square location unless otherwise noted

New Acropolis
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- Self-Confidence *Friday April 28*
- H.P. Blavatsky: Adventures in the Unseen World *Friday May 12*
Lecture site: The Theosophical Society, 21 Maple Street, Arlington, MA
- Masters of Wisdom *Friday May 19*
- The Art of Happiness *Friday June 9*
- Everyday Heroes *Friday June 23*



For more information, visit our website at www.newacropolis.org