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*All things arise and cease due to  
interdependent causes and conditions*

## The Meaning of Theosophia

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## The Meaning of Theosophia

The word theosophia means divine wisdom. The term refers to the spiritual ideals that are the foundation of every true religion or religion, as well as to the universal truths underlying the discoveries of science, to the ethical principles sustaining every great philosophy, and to the revealing metaphors of uplifting art.

Furthermore, theosophia implies that regardless of any belief each person may have, a compassion for all is paramount, thereby, affirming the unity of life and the universal kinship of humanity. Peace pervades as we relate to each other in the spirit of freedom. Our interdependence is grounded on our oneness.

The truths of theosophia are not new. Thus, it cannot be considered as belonging to some new age. When prejudice and persecution prevail, theosophia seems to vanish. As humanity advances with its readiness for the greater truths of life, theosophia appears to emerge anew.

When the perennial existence of theosophia is unrecognized, it is mistakenly associated with a new age, a new dispensation or a new order. But theosophia is not a new age movement. It transcends every age, that is why it is the ageless wisdom. In every age, old and new, theosophia is there for the earnest and sincere seeker of truth.

Theosophia is not any of the theosophical societies, by whatever name preferred or assumed. The former refers to the divine wisdom. The latter is an association of those who endeavor to study, investigate, live and apply their understanding of theosophia. A theosophical association that is true to theosophia advocates no official doctrines or dogmas. No writings or pronouncements by any recognized founders or leaders are a criteria for membership, not even the acceptance of *The Secret Doctrine*. Simply stated, theosophia is an inner discovery, an illumination from within.

A theosophical society is not meant to proselytize people into a decreed set of theosophic beliefs, but to encourage the integrative study of philosophy, religion, science and art. (*See Chart*)

Theosophia enriches our understanding of life and helps immensely in resolving the superstitions of religion, the fallacies of science, the abstruse conflicts of philosophy, and the degradation of art.

Our greater opportunity is to live the life spiritual, true to the reality of our highest aspirations and our deepest intuitions. It is the awakening of our latent powers that are of the nature of the virtues and ideals.

Altruism	Freedom	Perseverance
Appreciation	Friendship	Propriety
Attention	Goodwill	Realization
Beauty	Grace	Resilience
Broad-mindedness	Gratitude	Responsibility
Charity	Harmlessness	Reverence
Caring	Harmony	Self-knowledge
Cheerfulness	Honesty	Selflessness
Cleanliness	Honor	Service
Compassion	Humility	Silence
Confidence	Humor	Simplicity
Courage	Integrity	Sincerity
Creativity	Intuition	Sympathy
Discipline	Justice	Tact
Devotion	Kindness	Temperance
Endurance	Love	Trustworthiness
Enthusiasm	Mindfulness	Truth
Equanimity	Order	Understanding
Equilibrium	Patience	Uniqueness
Excellence	Peace	Unity
Forgiveness	Perception	Will
Fortitude	Perfection	Wisdom

Such supreme values constitute our truest ethical center defining our humanity. From this centrality emerges our individual and cosmic wholeness, the source of our spiritual intelligence and ultimate happiness. ~ Δ ~

Chart: Theosophia and the Fields of Human Endeavor

