



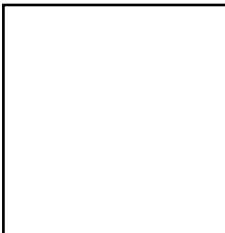
63 Knowledge is the reflection of Absolute Truth and is thus female. The sculpture of Queen Dedes as Prajnaparamita, the Wisdom of the Yonder Shore, holds the same hand posture.

Prajanaparamita is the Wisdom of Yonder Shore. The "Yonder Shore" is the Other and is female to any individual.



64 The same reflective principle of the Mind is shown here as Parvati.

The goddess is process. The mind is one step of the process between us.



65 The left hip is still out as Parvati is shown combined with Shiva, the male principle.

Combined in one form is the female and male principle. This is yoga.



66 Shiva was the first yogi, the Lord of Yoga, Yogeshwara. This is his form as Uma-pati, the Lord of his spouse, Uma, the fair-faced one. When Uma's head was cut off, Shiva went into his cosmic dance.

Shiva was an actual person who perfected yoga.



67 This cosmic dance is the main kriya of yoga and opens the cosmic energy centre between the eyebrows, the ajna chakra. The dance of Shiva is manifested by his form as Subrahmanya.

When the goddess is experienced by the god (when an individual permits a flow with the Other), he starts the Divine Dance or the automatic kriya of yoga.



68 As Subrahmanya, the Great God has two shaktis. As a result of Shiva's union with either of his shaktis is born his son, Soma-skanda.

In physical form the individual is flanked by two energy flows, through the ida, the other through the pingala.



69 This Chola bronze has Skanda between his mother and father. In another form he is Ganesha, the elephant headed god.

If the union between Divine individuals is not complete, the result is a by-product: Ganesa. He is the over-comer of obstacles.



70 Ganesha is to be worshipped at the beginning of all undertakings, especially meditation.

But he is elephant headed. The elephant represents the material world. The material world is a by-product of the partial union of you and the Other; but, simultaneously it is the means by which obstacles to final union are removed.



71 Vishnu is the sky realm equivalent of Shiva. His two shaktis are always with him.

In the Vishnu tradition, it is the same thing. The place of air, the chest, is the realm of Vishnu.



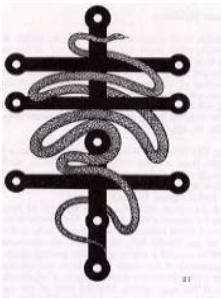
72 The two shaktis are the Ida and Pingala energy channels. God himself is the sushumna.

The subtle body is formed before the physical body. Its basic structure is made first of the sushumna, then the ida and pingala, then the other nadis or energy channels.



73 Lying at the base of the sushumna is the kundalini, coiled 3 1/2 times.

At the base of the sushumna is the kundalini. Kundalini is energy, female, the driving force of evolution, the snake or desire for union with God.



74 The serpent of wisdom spirals up through the tree of life.

The snake, which represents desire, drives us to seek wisdom. It winds its way through the tree of life, the sushumna complex.



75, 76 This Sumerian ritual cup of about 2500 B.C. has two composite beasts of a type called "lion-birds," drawing back the portals of a sanctuary, where an apparition appears of the great Mesopotamian serpent god Ningishzida, under the aspect of a pair copulating vipers.

The two are entwined about an axial rod in such a way as to form a caduceus.

This Sumerian ritual cup tells the same story. These principles were known well before the Sumerian civilization of 2500 B.C.; at least back to 36,000 B.C.



77 From about the same period, this Indus Valley seal depicts two attendant serpents elevating their giant forms behind a pair of worshippers kneeling at either hand of an enthroned figure seated in a yoga posture.

This impression (samskara) from an Indus Valley seal of about 2,000 B.C., shows Shiva in uttkatasana and the same story.



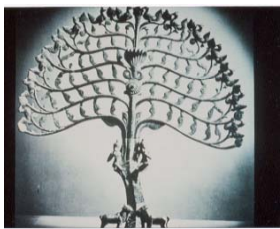
78 The Dragon of Hesperides wrapped around the tree of life, the axis mundi. This same axis is symbolised in our Christmas tree, with the pivotal star at its summit.

The Greek Dragon of Hesperides: the same story.



79 Assyrian genie fertilising the Tree of Life.

In this Assyrian tree of life is the same story slightly degenerated. Why do I consider it important that you know that all traditions are of the same root and truth?



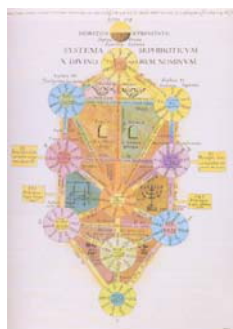
80 This bronze from South India is a tree of life with fourteen branches, flanked at the base by two bulls; two monkey-headed figures cling to its stem. Higher up on the stem, where the third pair of branches springs forth, is a lotus-sun-wheel, and above it, a serpent, its tail coiled in two loops, raising its five heads up to the third pair of branches from the top.

Write a page on how this South Indian bronze is related to the foregoing principles.



81 This dramatic drawing is from a 15th century Cabbalist book, Opera Chemica. The cosmic serpent winds around the Tree of Life; its heads correspond to the different planets and faculties within man.

The 15th century Cabbalist understood the same story.



82 This diagram of the Tree of Life shows the passive (left) channel, the active (right) channel, and the neutral (central) channel.

Religion and Science were split beginning in about 800 A.D.; however, the Cabbalists have kept them together.



83 In Titian's painting, "The Fall of Man," the Tree of Knowledge is shown as a dividing medium through which what is non-dual is viewed as two. She reaches beautifully for the gift of a child; he, startled by what looks like a pair of serpent tails, extends to her a hand of caution. Adam and Eve were expelled from the garden of Eden, but they should "take also of the Tree of Life and eat, and live forever;" and Yahweh, after their expulsion, "placed at the east of the garden of Eden the cherubim and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the Tree of Life."

When Adam (the individual or spirit) reached for Eve (the Other as spirit), Eve reached for knowledge (appeared as the flow between us) and we began the evolutionary process.

LEVELS OF EVOLUTION		
CONSCIOUSNESS	RESPONSE	GOD
Omniscience	Surrender	Shiva
Knowledge	Will	Vishnu
Innocence	Reaction	Brahma

84 Eating the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge is the symbol of Mankind's move from a state of unconscious innocent reaction to the next stage of evolution wherein Man, acting from ego and using volition, is conscious. This fall from guiltless paradise occurs when Man learns discipline and the power of differentiation. Then he is able to sustain his life and Vishnu becomes the dominant principle. The next evolutionary step is toward Omniscience through surrender. The basis for evolution is the creator of life, Brahma.

We enter forms created by Brahma, we evolve to beings with will power, we perfect will power by pravritti dharma and surrender all that to Shiva and attain omniscience. This process, flowing, is the goddess. The gods are the states of being the individual goes through enroute.



85 Brahma, with four faces, is the Creator. He is adored by celestial sages, rishis. In three hands he holds a rosary or mala for counting repetitions of mantra or prayers, a lustral spoon for pouring the sacrificial oblation, and a jar of amrita, the nectar of immortality. His fourth hand is bestowing a boon. At his knee is the wild gander, his special vehicle of flight.

Brahma is the first beingness and creates by the fact of being. That is, by relation to Other via a beingness (a somethingness) or viewpoint or attitude.



86 Brahma holds in his remaining left hand the books of knowledge, the Vedas, of which he is the source.

Knowledge, data, information is held here in Brahma's hand. The partner of creation is knowledge. If something exists, one can know what that something is. Both creation and knowledge are illusory.



87 At upper right, the goddess of smooth-flowing creative energy, Sarasvati, a consort of Brahma. She holds a vina, the source of sound. Her right big toe is touching a peacock which symbolises the upward flow of creative energy, her vehicle. At lower right, Brahmani, the spouse of Brahma. A spouse is the female half of the god or the male half of the goddess; a consort of a god is an energy creating reflection of him. An equivalent of a god would be the same god in a female form, or vice-versa for a goddess.

The partner of Brahma is Sarasvati (upper right), the goddess of smooth flow, the goddess of knowledge and learning.



88 This is a form of Brahma in the Yoga Temple at Kayavarohana.

Brahma is the yoga mandira at Kayavarohana.