The Four Ethers

From Ernst Marti’s book

By Andrew Linnell
Planetary Lifecycles

Planetary Conditions = Solar “Incarnations”

First - Physical
- Etheric
- Warmth

Second - Etheric
- Kyriotetes
- Wisdom
- Air
- Light

Third - Astral
- Dynamis
- Movement
- Water
- Tone

Fourth - Ego
- Earth
- Exusia
- Life

- From Living Spirit to the lifeless
- From formless life to the formed

Beings at the Human Stage
- Archai
- Archangel
- Angel
- Man
### Air & Light

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparison</th>
<th>Air</th>
<th>Light</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How Perceived</td>
<td>Between things</td>
<td>On things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity on things</td>
<td>Connects</td>
<td>Separates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self activity</td>
<td>Passive</td>
<td>Raying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borders</td>
<td>Cares less about</td>
<td>Creates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space</td>
<td>Passively fills</td>
<td>Actively creates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direction</td>
<td>Chaos</td>
<td>Structured, straight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elasticity</td>
<td>Compress, expand</td>
<td>Brittle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cohesiveness</td>
<td>Inner Tension</td>
<td>Outer Intensity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forces</td>
<td>Pressure to point</td>
<td>Peripheral Suction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparison</td>
<td>Water</td>
<td>Tone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consistency</td>
<td>Continuous</td>
<td>Discrete, intervals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity on things</td>
<td>Joining into whole</td>
<td>Separating, dividing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cellular</td>
<td>Fertilization</td>
<td>Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crete</td>
<td>Concrete</td>
<td>Discrete</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soul</td>
<td>Sympathy</td>
<td>Antipathy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Fluid</td>
<td>Holds fast, bonds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waves</td>
<td>Passive, external</td>
<td>Active, internal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>Heavy</td>
<td>Buoyant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entities</td>
<td>Dissolves</td>
<td>Harmonizes, orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grasping</td>
<td>In the instance</td>
<td>In the whole</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Earth & Life

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comparison</th>
<th>Earth</th>
<th>Life</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How Perceived</td>
<td>Solidity</td>
<td>Inner mobility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity on things</td>
<td>Impermeable</td>
<td>Self-permeation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupying space</td>
<td>Cannot share</td>
<td>Assimilates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asserting itself</td>
<td>Outward direction</td>
<td>Inner self-assertion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surface</td>
<td>Form from outer &amp; related to material</td>
<td>Creates skin as expression of inner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divide-ability</td>
<td>Into parts</td>
<td>Individual entities members of whole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form</td>
<td>Arises from forces outside itself</td>
<td>Whole gives form to itself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creates</td>
<td>Lifeless bodies</td>
<td>Living bodies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Space and Dimensions

• Old Saturn  No space, no dimensions
  – Remnant: Time. Warmth ether as birth of time, fire its dying away

• Old Sun  Origin of space, one dimension
  – A 1-D entity cannot touch itself, e.g. line (from center to periphery)
  – Remnant: plant limb growth is linear, light & air (tension)

• Old Moon  Two dimensions
  – A 2-D entity that can touch itself, e.g. circle
  – Remnant: leaf form – working of water & tone
  – Right & Left – ability to touch self
    • Effect of water: growing together, folds form spinal cord
    • Effect of tone ether: separating, movement, prevents uniformity

• Earth  Three dimensions
  – A 3-D entity – Man! x, y, & z; r/l, a/b, f/r;
  – 3 centers of Man: head, thorax, lumbar
  – Only Man has skin (others have fur, feathers, scales, plates) – inner express
Forces

• Centric: one point of origin, mathematical
  – Elements, physical, lifeless
• Universal: escape mathematics because of infinity, origin at periphery
  – Ethers, etheric, alive (and they dissolve form)
  – Lift substance from earthly to cosmic - dissolution
• Mutually interpenetrate
• Universal forces are not the same as formative
• Formative force NOT from periphery but from specific locations: e.g. sun, moon, Cancer, ...
Double Cross from Middle Ages

- Taught to Alexander
- Man & Nature
- Healing arts
- Differentiating degrees
- Over-extension led to rejection by science
- See elements through secondary qualities – collaboration of two

- Tone ether
- water
- West
- Moist
- air
- Light ether
- warmth
- South
- North
- cold
- earth
- East
- dry
- fire
- Life ether
- Warmth ether
Double Cross from Middle Ages

Combinations

- Warmth & Light
  - Light: expanding, space
  - Warmth: ripening, time
  - = plant growth, size
- Light & Chemical/tone
  - Segmentation, structure
- Life & Warmth
  - Whole in time, age in life
- Warmth & Tone
  - Processes
- Light & Life
  - Building of form

The ethers in their fourfold joint activity are the actual life forces
Etheric Body

- Consists of the four ethers
- Is the life principle of all living beings
- Life forces act generally within an etheric body
- Four ethers act on: size, members, formation, processes
- Formative forces are superior to etheric
  - Guide ethers to create a leaf, flower, plant, animal
  - Species specific forces
- All of this comprises the etheric body of an organism
  - Body of formative forces
U-Forces (Fallen Etheric)

- Forces of electricity, magnetism, and 3rd force
- Opposites of the ethers
- Not peripheral forces; rather centric
- Ethers: from above – U-forces: from below
  - Cosmic – Earthly
- Foundation for World includes U-forces with elements and ethers
Remaining slides are from other sources and included as extensions of Marti’s work
Fields

• Magnetic Field
  – Iron filings to make visible

• Etheric Field
  – Water drops or crystallization
Super- and Sub-Nature

• Sub-Nature as “mirror” of Super-Nature
  – Light → Electricity
  – Tone → Magnetism
  – Life → Nuclear

• Relationship of sub to super?
  – Light/Photon to Electron

• Astral World
• Etheric World
  – Life
  – Tone/Chemical (forming)
  – Light
  – Warmth

• Elements
  – Fire
  – Air
  – Water
  – Earth

• Fallen Ethers
• Fallen Astral(?)

- Light → Electricity
- Tone → Magnetism
- Life → Nuclear
7 Planetary Conditions

- **Saturn - Physical**
  - Fire

- **Sun - Etheric**
  - Light

- **Moon - Astral**
  - Tone

- **Earth - Ego**
  - Life

- **Vulcan - Atman**

- **Venus - Buddhi**

- **Jupiter - Manas, Super-Nature**

- **Earth - Sub-Nature**

- **Venus - 2nd depth**

- **Vulcan - 3rd depth**

Hierarchy = 12

Elements: Fire, Air, Water, Earth