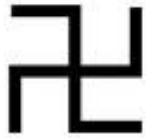




Symbols and Sacred Geometry



This short series on "Symbols and Sacred Geometry" will cover some of my favorite symbols and a small portion of the "G 777" course series, offered from the *Institute of Ancient, Esoteric and Spiritual Studies*.

SWASTIKA

The swastika symbol has been used for thousands of years, among practically every group of humans on the planet, as a symbol for good luck, protection and to represent life and the changing of seasons.

The Sanskrit word: SVASTIKAH means 'being fortunate'. 'SVASTI', can mean 'good or well' (SV) and 'is' (ASTI). 'ASTIKAH' translates to 'being'. The word is associated with favorable or promising things in India because it means 'auspicious'.

One of the oldest known swastikas was painted on a Paleolithic cave at least 10,000 years ago. The swastika continues today to be an extensively used sign in Buddhism (i.e. footprint of Buddha), Jainism and Hinduism. This symbol has always been a sacred symbol to the Native Americans of the Southwest (i.e. four directions). The swastika is found in Europe in the Catacombs of Rome (Crux Dissimulata) and embroidered on Christian vestments in the 8th century CE. The swastika was used in some ancient synagogues in Israel (i.e. Ein Gedi). One of the most common meanings is the early cosmic swirling and cosmic energy as commonly used in Hermetic traditions. The Qabalists associates this quality and symbol to Kether on the Tree of Life and beginning of emanation from nothing.

The swastika was very popular in modern cultures throughout the world in the 19th and early 20th centuries as a symbol of good luck and is still in use in many Asian cultures today.


The rotational direction of the swastika is much less important than your intent or understanding. The traditional swastika appears to be rotating to the left (counter-clockwise) and the suavastika or sathio (clockwise).

In some esoteric traditions, the rotations to the left are generally associated with receiving, moon, feminine or negative (not in the bad sense of the word) and rotations to the right (clockwise) are generally projecting, sun, masculine or positive.

The swastika viewed from the other facing side reveals the opposite rotational direction anyway and thus supports the general thought that the intent is more relevant.

A practical spiritual and magical application could be that a clockwise swastika (suavastika) absorbs energy from the universe or offers self-salvation and counter-clockwise swastika gives off energy and offers salvation to others.

This is just one of the powerful but commonly misunderstood symbols. Use this sacred symbol to feed your soul as you develop your own understanding of it.

 **In Light, Life, Love and Liberty** 
Blessings Be To You

The subconscious responds to the subliminal messages of symbols or geometric shapes and color. The conscious understanding and intent behind the symbol is very important. This fundamental concept is known and applied by the esoteric traditions and has been for thousands of years. The most commonly used symbol today is probably the pentagram in all of it's subtle forms (i.e. five pointed stars).

Symbolism of shape and color is very useful in shifting your consciousness as well as the consciousness of others around you.

Surround yourself with symbols and color through jewelry, talismans and art. This will help to remind and program your subconscious about the divine order and beauty of the universe and yourself.

During this "training" time, your love, faith, hope, will, desire and most importantly, your actions, will re-train your subconscious and thus conscious self.

During the first decade or so of our lives we adopt many social norms, rules, expectations and as Don Miguel Ruiz would say, make agreements that control us and our actions. You can easily spend decades de-programming the sub-conscious with psychologists, self-help methods, and earth or ceremonial magical workings.