

Details about these ages can be found in *The Secret Doctrine*, Vol. 2, pp. 66-74:

Plato	Tamil Calendar	Length of Time (years)
Gold	Krita Yuga	1,728,000
Silver	Treta Yuga	1,296,000
Bronze	Dwapara Yuga	864,000
Iron	Kali Yuga	432,000
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Total	Maha-Yuga	4,320,000

Plato states that in a golden age the polis — a community of people living together — is best ruled by a philosopher-king: “Unless ... either philosophers become kings ... or ... kings and rulers take to the pursuit of philosophy seriously and adequately, and there is a conjunction of these two things ... there can be no cessation of troubles ... for the human race ... there is no other way of happiness either for private or public life.” (*Republic*, Book V, 473d-e)

But in an iron age the checks and balances of a democratic system are the most fair due to a prevalence of greed and distrust. “... [I]f all ... are unprincipled the best thing to do is to live in a democracy.” (*Statesman*, 303b)

We’ve recently ended the first 5,000 years of Kali Yuga. Plato says of this age: “... as time goes on and forgetfulness of God arises in it, the ancient condition of chaos also begins to assert its sway. At last, as this cosmic era [i.e. Maha-Yuga] draws to its close, this disorder comes to a head. The few good things it produces it corrupts with so gross a taint of evil that it hovers on the very brink of destruction, both of itself and the creatures in it.” (*Statesman*, 273d-c) We have 427,000 years left before we return to a golden age (*The Secret Doctrine*, Vol. 2, p. 483).

Our efforts are four times more potent in this age, a unique characteristic which constitutes but *one tenth* of an entire maha-yuga.

In this regard William Q. Judge, one of the founders of the