

In the Beginning was the Word...

This famous opening line to the Gospel of John is intuitively recognized by many readers as a bijasutra, a seminal maxim pointing to divine mind and speech as the source of existence. Although “Word” is an inadequate rendering of the original Greek term Logos, it still intimates a fundamental esoteric teaching, i.e. that behind and within the universe operates a power of “reason”, an ordering principle of mediation and relationship which forms the living heart of the cosmic pattern.

As H. P. B. explains in *The Secret Doctrine* (ii 25): “The esoteric meaning of the word Logos (speech or word, Verbum) is the rendering in objective expression, as in a photograph, of the concealed thought. The Logos is the mirror reflecting DIVINE MIND, and the Universe is the mirror of the Logos, though the latter is the essence of that Universe.” The Logos can be seen as a metaphysical bridge linking together heaven and earth, the material and spiritual orders of existence. And whenever the Logos becomes flesh, there is sacred testimony to the Great Sacrifice and Great Renunciation of all Avatars, all Divine Incarnations.

At this year’s European School we will examine, in ten lectures and seven study sessions, different aspects of the Theosophical doctrine on the Logos. Each day the focus will be on one specific topic which allows us to have a lucid and coherent exploration of the whole theme.

Topics include the Logos teaching in ancient philosophy and inner Christianity; Father-Mother-Son or the mystery of the three Logoi; Fohat, the dynamic energy of divine thought; the correspondences between cosmic and human mind; the visible and spiritual Sun; the mystical birth of the Word in man; Christos: the Logos in the Gospel of John; Krishna: the Word in the Bhagavad Gita.

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