

consciousness working towards vaster horizons of supra-consciousness. All these symbols fuse in one mighty cosmic insight, wherein the Eye of the solar Deity appears as his *Cosmic Power* and his *Cosmic Gnosis*, forewarners of his *Cosmic Will*.

Nut and Geb represent Sky and Earth, contrary to most cosmogonies where Heaven is Father and Earth Mother. As starry vault Nut enfolds the universe like the heavenly vault. For HPB Nut is the feminine aspect of Nun, the ocean of space. A painting in a tomb shows the sun at dusk as having entered her body and the 12 hours of the night inscribed as 12 suns in it; at dawn Nut gives birth once more to the sun. Like all Great Mothers, Nut is the Encompasser who takes back into herself her children, as represented in the inside lid of a sarcophagus wherein the dead were laid to repose in her embrace.

Geb is the Earth, the impregnator, also time, as his sign, the goose, means time. This hieroglyph yields the sound *gb*, but there is another word for goose, *sa* as well; hence the derivation Geb, or Seb. Most Egyptologists favor Geb, HPB uses Seb. *Sa* as goose also means “egg” as well as “son of.” The egg, *sa*, in which occurs the mystery of life and, at the cosmic level, the birth of the universe, becomes *sa*, the goose, the “living heir” and “son” within the limit of time.

In a well known iconography Nut is seen arching her elongated body like the sky vault over Earth, Geb. She is held up by Shu in a gesture of separation. A detailed examination and interpretation of this highly symbolic representation may be found in Geoffrey Hodson’s *Illuminations of the Mystery Tradition*, 1992. Here Nut represents *prakriti*, the all containing, all-productive source of all universes, while Geb is *purusha* active within *prakriti*, hence Nut’s body arched over him. Shu is *Fohat* that binds and separates and both Geb and Shu are embraced within Nut, *purusha* being the inside and *prakriti* the outside of One principle, “Absolute substance” (*op. cit.* p. 50-1).

The myth of Osiris-Isis and their son Horus, is too well known to need retelling. However, certain aspects should be clarified. Osiris is a complex god, concentrating in himself divine, natural and human characteristics. The “dismembered fertility” god who “renews himself,” the god at the top of the stairs, the god of transformations and resurrection, the impulse to evolution, all