

*(Suggested title: Sakti (S.w.)
for Soul.*

The Archaic School
(Sangha Jnana).

The purpose of this school is to provide favorable conditions for the deeper study of what we may call the Philosophy of Life. The extremely complex conditions, the high speed and nervous strain of modern life combined with the regimentation or standardization which is spreading through all phases of life so rapidly, are all trending toward the entrapment of man in his own mechanical creation. Warnings are being sounded in the enormous rate of increase in mental and nervous diseases. Prominent scientists and educators are doing what they can to call attention to these danger signs. It is more than possible that our present mechanical creation may prove to be a frankenstein monster which will turn and destroy its creator. A large, perhaps the principal, part of the task which lies before the Jnana Sangha is to serve as a nucleus of a movement to neutralize this danger which threatens.

The conditions of modern life are most unfavorable for the study which unfolds Understanding. The crying need today is not for more detailed knowledge but for more Wisdom. Technical specialization may be carried to extreme degrees of efficiency and yet leave the soul completely unprotected. In such a case man has merely become a very dangerous savage. We should not lose sight of the fact that the real end of all civilization and government is the service of Man, yet in a growing degree we see man being sacrificed to his institutions.

Sages have always emphasized the importance of seclusion as a means of coming close to the soul. In the noise of activity the Voice of the Soul, which is the Voice of the Silence, cannot be heard. Periods of withdrawal into the quietude of an uncontaminated Nature are, therefore, of the highest value if man is to find himself. This condition is also greatly facilitated in the higher altitudes. Under such conditions there exists in addition to the purity of physical atmosphere a much more important purity of psychic atmosphere. This affords an environmental background for that study which penetrates into the profundities of Self-knowledge.

The location chosen for the Jnana Sangha is ~~in the vicinity of~~ ^{at} Mount Whitney at an altitude of about 7,500 feet. This elevation affords a climate which is agreeable even ^{where} the general summer temperature is extreme at lower levels. The air is always cool and invigorating but does not become cold throughout the open season. It is also an elevation which falls within the timbered belt. The setting of the chosen location is of gorgeous alpine ruggedness. From the little valley precipitous cliffs of clean granite rise that are the ~~remains~~ ^{remains} of cirques carved out by the recent glacial age. In the higher elevations banks of snow may be found at all seasons of the year.

X The plan of work is not that of teaching any formal system of philosophy as true. It is rather that of awakening the power in the individual student of finding his own philosophy of Life.

Those who hold a teaching or directing position in the work do not seek to force their ideas upon the students by any constraint. The ground of union or of the Sangha is the seeking of Understanding of Life, or Self-Knowledge. Details of interpretation will naturally vary with each individual who really has found himself. The motto may thus be very well stated as "Conformity in actuating spirit with the widest possible freedom of individual expression".

motif

There will be specific study of that Philosophy known as the Wisdom Religion or "Dharmavidya" but this is to be taken as a base of reference to start the culture of individual unfoldment. Thus the task in the specific study will be that of determining what the Wisdom Religion is without the imposition of acceptance of it.

*called
Dance field
with - student
with
copies, of
Astronomy &
Geometry as
a Symbolism*

Study of Yoga Philosophy and training in the elements of Meditation will constitute the other principle phases of the work, so far as the formal side is concerned.

There will not be an over-crowding of activity either in study or physically, as the main purpose is to acquire that peace and poise in which alone the "Voice of the Silence" can be heard. In other words, the Sangha is designed to serve that need which is being so fatally sacrificed by the tendencies of our modern civilisation.

Specific outline of the practical phases of the work is inclosed.

Yogagnani.