

## Evolutionary Forms

In this document, the evolution of Gross forms is explored as referenced in works attributed to Meher Baba. The path into a human birth from angels and archangels is not included. Some interpretation was necessary in the spirit of working up a presentation from the main points given. Along these lines, contemplations and material from other sources have been used. It is not assumed this is complete or even correct. It is offered as a stimulus for further discussion and sharing.

### Meher Baba References

EMW = Early Messages to the West, particularly Part Five (How It All Happened) and Appendix 8 (Extracts from "Creation and Evolution").

GS = [God Speaks](#), Second Edition, Revised and Enlarged, Third Printing (1997)

STMB = The Silent Teachings of Meher Baba by Ramjoo Abdulla, from [The Awakener Magazine](#) Vol. 15, Nos. 1 and 2 (1954-55), which is a reprint of The Philosophy and Teachings of Shri Meher Baba originally published in 1933.

Other References as given.

### Evolution from the Subtle into the Gross

Fire and Light of Mental World ([The Nothing and the Everything](#), Bhau Kalchuri, p. 46)

Subtle Gases (276 in number)

Gross Subplane Evolution (7 subplanes in descending order; this is an interpretation)

1-3 are essentially etheric and count as one (#277). "The 277<sup>th</sup> stage, which is the first Gross stage, could be represented by the particle called 'ether.'" [EMW 171] "[T]his form is the very first gross form that emerges simultaneously as if in three prongs, as the first three of the foremost seven '**gas-like**' forms." "These first three forms [one entity really] have no evolution." [GS 174] Really the first 3 subplanes could be material Existence, Time and Space, which together as an existing space-time form the "ether." At this level, the form may be the photon. [See The Architecture of the Universe: A New Framework for Existence, Time, and Space by Richard Blum.]

4 is electromagnetic (really all the force fields of physics with their symmetry breaking processes—nuclear (strong and weak), electromagnetic, and gravitational) and consists of (creates) 3 forms that would appear to be proton (#278), electron (#279) and neutron, which allows for the formation of (the nuclei of) all atoms (#280) [EMW 171]. This is representative in a way of nuclear, electromagnetic and gravitational (no charge, just mass) forces. These "three forms may be described as 'semi-gaseous and semi-material' forms." [GS 174] The nebula would be from here. The state of matter would be plasma, where some or all of the electrons are not bound to nuclei and can roam freely, making it a quasi-gaseous or semi-gaseous state. "Evolution begins with the fourth gas-like form" [GS 174], which would be the proton, a charged particle with mass.

5 is Gross gas proper and begins with hydrogen, "the seventh gas-like form, of the series of seven foremost gas-like forms, ... which may be said to include the electron." [GS 174] An atom of hydrogen in the gaseous phase does indeed include an electron, unlike in the plasma phase. The accounting here would be the three etheric forms on

subplanes 1-3 plus the three forms on the 4<sup>th</sup> subplane (proton, electron, neutron/atom) followed by hydrogen. Note the distinction between an atom of hydrogen as the first 280<sup>th</sup> gas-like form in a plasma state and an atom (H) or molecule (H<sub>2</sub>) of hydrogen in the gaseous state.

6 is liquid

7 is solid and is the full descent into the Gross where the soul has a solid material body, tagged and symbolized by the term "stone." Note: 10 million (10<sup>7</sup>) sanskaras are used to form one atom and 10 million atoms (10<sup>14</sup> sanskaras) form one particle of stone, dust. [[The Nothing and the Everything](#), Bhau Kalchuri, p. 41]

Baba states that "the evolutionary order progresses from hydrogen to helium, lithium, oxygen, iron, zinc, silver, tin, platinum, gold, mercury, radium and uranium." [EMW 171] This is His elemental accounting and is in order of increasing atomic number and molecular weight. The state of matter (plasma, gaseous, liquid, solid) would be a function of pressure and temperature, which were so high in the beginning that everything was plasma or gas-like, with some elements becoming gas, then liquid and then solid with expansion and cooling, depending on the properties of the element in question. From the gaseous state, the first gas to liquify (highest boiling point) would be Rhenium (followed by Tungsten) and the last gas to liquify (lowest boiling point) would be Helium (followed by Hydrogen); and from the liquid state, the first liquid to solidify (highest melting point) would be Carbon and the last liquid to solidify (lowest melting point) would be Helium (followed by Hydrogen again).

[ See [http://www.chemistry.patent-invent.com/chemistry/melting\\_boiling\\_point.html](http://www.chemistry.patent-invent.com/chemistry/melting_boiling_point.html), accessed 22 February 2017.]

Note that Hydrogen contains one proton in its nucleus with one electron in its orbital shell while Helium contains two protons and two neutrons in its nucleus (very stable) and two electrons completing the first orbital shell (1s<sup>2</sup>, also very stable).

### **Gross Evolution Proper**

At least or especially in the Animal kingdom, the evolution of forms is not linear: there are many branches that don't lead to the human form and some that don't lead to any current form (extinction); and some forms derive from earlier forms and "skip over" intervening forms with respect to the order of evolving Consciousness (e.g., mammals come from one line of reptiles and birds from another). The human form (and other present forms) evolved from a particular not all-inclusive path (e.g., some forms now present were not present when current humans evolved); and some forms, as has been said, are now extinct. All the forms, however, have provided for the need of developing Consciousness and thus have been ensouled: there are no and have never been any forms apart from Consciousness; therefore, all material things in all universes are bodies (forms) for Consciousness, dead (vacated) bodies or phenomena (e.g. all states and subplanes before the stone form, though you could say consciousness does associate with "gaseous forms" and evolution begins with the fourth gas-like form). And the material of every form of evolution on this planet has been used by a future human soul and then shed. The shed parts (shistas) in their energetic template and component materials are then picked up (recycled) by the next wave of future human drop souls and evolve according to their needs. We necessarily could not have gone through all the forms we see around us today (some are newer evolutionary forms) and some forms we

did go through are no longer present. However, all the forms past and present are forms or derive from forms that we did go through on this Earth or on some other planet that moved its lifewaves here!

The human form is latent in all evolutionary forms everywhere and those evolutionary forms themselves serve the purpose of future humans passing through them. The current human form may or may not look like a different but equally human form in other places (planets) now, in the past or in the future. These forms are equally human (full consciousness) and structured along the 7 centers of energy and 3 bodies, etc., no matter what they look like. However, the drop soul can only progress through the Subtle and Mental/Causal spheres and realize God when it takes a human form on Earth (or the planet taking over the functioning of our current Earth). And that human form on Earth (and the consciousness of the Soul associated with it) has evolved through seven divisions—stone, metal, vegetable, insect/worm, fish, bird, and animal—before becoming the human form. But these seven divisions are only the main groupings.

The eight million four hundred thousands of bubbles or forms which the *Atman* is proverbially said to pass through are the *chief forms* or the genera, each of which has its numberless species; and the *Atman* has to pass through all of them before it can incarnate in the human form. Yet, strictly speaking, there is only one form, viz., the human form, because it is latent in all the previous forms including the electron. In other words, the different forms in the mineral, vegetable and animal kingdoms are nothing but the human form in its latent state which becomes completely manifested gradually as a human being in a human body. [STMB 18]

The reference to fifty crores [ $50 \times 10,000,000 = 500,000,000$ ] of sleeps of death is approximately what one soul has to undergo during the processes of evolution of consciousness of forms and of reincarnation [84 lakhs of shakings,  $84 \times 100,000 = 8,400,000$ ] with the help of changes in the media, i.e., association with and dissociation from different forms of different species. [Eruch's clarification in a footnote [GS 155]]

Note that  $8,400,000 \times 60 = 504,000,000$  (approximately 50 crores). If stone and metal are taken together as the mineral kingdom, as is sometimes done in *God Speaks*, then there are six major categories before the human form (mineral, vegetable, worm (insect, reptile, amphibian), fish, bird and animal). This would imply 8,400,000 chief forms in these categories and 60 species within each, at least on average. With this accounting, the 8,400,000 lives of human reincarnation would be in addition. Bhau does refer to 8,400,000 forms in each of 6 adventures in [The Nothing and the Everything](#), which was written up from extensive notes "dictated" to him by Baba. And all of this is the default program, without Divine Intervention previously determined by the Ancient One who enacts it through the Avatar or living Perfect Masters.

Although the order of the main divisions of evolution on this Earth is fixed for each drop soul going through it (without Avataric intervention), there is nothing stated here that says the genera, much less the species, have to be gone through by each Atman in exactly the same order, though from other sources we can take it that at least some of the forms have a necessary order, e.g., the first and last forms of a kingdom or division of the kingdom and the forms on the turn as well as those that act as connecting links from

a lower to a higher order within a kingdom or division. Is this “education” or “experience” of the soul’s consciousness via association with evolving forms more like the creative covering of a territory with certain necessary check points (requirements/tests) before proceeding than it is like a rote and strictly ordered process? This creative covering process could still have been decided in the beginning for each lifewave and each drop soul. Consider also that the “next medium or form is always created and moulded of the consolidated impressions of the last species of form with which the soul associated and identified itself.” [GS 13] And “the gap between the beginning and the end of a series of species of one particular form, such as stone-form or metal form or vegetable-form or other forms, beginning with the lowest or crudest most-first species of a form of particular kind and ending with the highest or sublime most-last species of form of that particular kind, is progressively filled in by the evolution of forms of higher and higher types suitable to the impressions and aiding the consciousness of the soul to gain higher and higher consciousness. In short, in between the most-first and most-last species of form of a particular form, there are diverse species of forms of that particular form, evolved to suit the requirements of the evolving consciousness of the soul.” [GS 17-18] And:

The onward march of evolving consciousness from one species to another proceeds step-by-step and very rarely by leaps. But the diverse steps in onward evolution must not be rigidly construed. If a particular species is extinct its spiritual purpose can be served by some other kindred species, or by added births in some complementary species, or by deficient and partial expressions through a slightly higher species. In short, evolution takes advantage of innumerable alternatives available to it. It can never be frustrated by minor gaps constituted by extinct species or missing links.

Even if the kangaroos, whooping cranes or any other species of plants or animals become extinct, it will neither arrest nor hamper the advancing life-stream. Nor will it frustrate the real purpose of evolution, which is to arrive at full consciousness. Even if there were a hundred missing links, the advancing life-stream can either forge new suitable species or make use of existing species.

However, an interesting fact which needs special mention is that at the transition from one species to another species, there is for every such transition a sub-species or a form which is double-faced. It can, as it were, not only look in two opposite directions but also move in two opposite directions. With equal facility it can retain its contact both with the species from which it is disengaging and with the new species into which it is becoming moulded. This inter- mediate form has to be able to move backwards and forwards. It is absolutely necessary for transitions from one species into another.

...

In its creative self-fulfilment, the advancing life- stream can and does forge new species such as natural or artificial hybrids in vegetable or animal kingdoms. Even man-made hybrids in plants or animals can become a medium for gathering fresh experiences in the ascending scale of evolution. But it is not compulsory for *every* soul to go through these

hybrid forms. It is open to the soul to gather these experiences through the parent species from which the hybrids have sprung into existence.

...

The advancing life-stream creates numerous forms. But no form should be regarded as a cage, restricting and canalizing the gathering of experiences in a manner that would exclude intercommunion with other forms of the same species or even with forms of other species. Human beings communicate with each other and evolve together by an interchange of experiences. In the same way, intercommunication of some type is an important factor even in the world of plants and animals. Exchange of experiences and evolving together are not necessarily conditioned by the use of spoken or written language, which facilitates profiting by each other's experiences.

[Beams 20-23]

The order of the evolution of forms along any one branch of evolution need not be the order that the consciousness of the soul takes in identifying with the forms, though the order of appearance of forms in time would mean that the consciousness of the soul in an advancing lifewave (not necessarily the foremost advancing lifewave) needs a new form in that order of appearance. Perhaps the drop souls in each lifewave go through the same exact order of specific or at least general forms. In any case, evolution is not through a static series of forms but an evolving one (evolving to suit the need of the soul to develop consciousness and spend the particular impressions from the last form with which it was associated, impressions that aren't exactly the same from drop soul to drop soul as they inhabit similar forms, and certainly not from lifewave to lifewave as they inhabit at least some different forms). Furthermore, the environment (sum total of forms and their interactions along with discarded forms and natural phenomena, depending on how you interpret it) changes over time and place, which causes some forms to go extinct as they no longer meet the needs of the soul (it's evolving consciousness)—a different take on Darwinian adaptation and survival (its Real underlying cause, not its mechanism).

## **The Forms**

The following evolutionary "order" is gleaned from EMW unless otherwise indicated. The other main source is STMB.

Note that the mineral and vegetable kingdoms have a chief connection with the earth, and the animal kingdom forms move from an association with earth (worm) to water (fish) to air (bird) to fire (mammals [warm-blooded and the fire of digestion]) to all four elements (human). Also, the last form of animal in a given division begins to associate with the next element in the series and/or the first animal in a division maintains an association with the prior element. For example, worms frequent moist earth on the way to becoming fish after being insects (or you could add reptiles and then amphibians here, who by definition move into the water); the water fowl is the first bird and maintains a connection with water even as it goes into the air; and the last form but one of bird, the rooster, has little connection with air as it returns to the earth [to begin eating and eating as a mammal (the next form) will do secondary to their "hunger-heat"]. See STMB 20.

Notes on Bhanchua:

“the very first gross form of life;”

“the first manifestation of gross life from the subtle;”

collectively constituted by the combination of thousands of millions and billions of life sparks, themselves mustered together (the millions and billions together hardly form one-millionth part of a pin-point).

Life sparks are “made up of chaitanya, energy and the gross essence of vegetables” [or probably any form] and “are visible only to the eye of spiritual insight.”

[All material and quotes EMW 175.]

This sounds like the first Gross embodied form of animate life, a collective form (one drop soul associated with a group/collective Gross form, like a field of grass, sometimes called a group soul). While this could be read or try to be read as starting from the 4th Gross subplane above, and it seems something like this happens there in connection with the incipient gas form (and occurs again with the beginning of vegetable forms), the Bhanchua listed as an invertebrate that evolved into a single-cell organism [EMW 357] makes the interpretation of very first Gross form of *animal* life more likely, or most apropos.

In the list that follows, the major forms as given by Meher Baba are bolded and are named stone, metal, vegetable, worm, fish, bird, mammal and human. Amphibians and reptiles are listed after fish although from the perspective of consciousness they would be with worm, in the order insect, worm, reptile, amphibian. Also note that the last animal form is the first human form or *eunuch*. Reincarnation begins in the next major form or human kingdom.

## MINERAL

**Stone**

**Metal**

## VEGETABLE

Leel (soft, green, slippery sea weed; the "rust" of the water; ? cyanobacteria)

Sea weeds proper

Mushrooms

Grass

Neem Trees (Tree is TURN 1 [STMB])

Spinach, etc. (i.e., edibles)

Alvi plants (last vegetable form)

? Tulsi

## ANIMAL

Bhanchua

Chroococcus of Monera group

Amoeba

Insect (first form after the last vegetable form [STMB])

**Worm** (Worm is the most evolved insect and is Turn 2 [STMB])

Acorn worm (Balanoglossus, first signs of vertebrae in the notochord)

Sea-squirt (Ascidian)

Turbellin (two lines branch off, present representatives are Snails and Flies).

**Fish** (Fish is TURN 3 [STMB])

Lampreys (round-mouth, no jaw, Lower Fish)

Lancelate (round-mouthed, marks division from Lower to Higher Fishes; surviving member of an ancestral form that evolved the fish, likely directly from worms); modern name is cephalochordata Pisces (true fish evolved from Lampreys; Shark-like primitive fish included); lead into 3 divisions:

Elasmobranchii: dogfish; skates or rays; holocephali; sharks

Teleostomi: ganoids; teleosts; salmon; pike; herring; solo perch; sturgeons; garpipes; rowfins

Dipnoid (double-breathers or lung fish): evolved into burnet salmon; mud-fish and lepidosiren which evolved into blenny and lump-sucker; sea-horse and pine-fish; climbing perch of India; goggle-eyed periphtheralmus and flying fish

Weird, three-headed animal, half-fish and half-reptile (shows how some of the reptiles evolved from fishes directly) EMW 175

Crab (last fish form and TURN 4 [STMB])

## Amphibians (double-livers)\*

Siren or Mudeel; Eft or Newt; and Frog

Stagocephala (roof-headed) evolves into Reptiles

## Reptiles (include crocodiles, tortoises, lizards and snakes)

Sphenodon (evolved from a pro-reptilian form that itself evolved from Stagocephala). Directly from Sphenodon evolve all the huge reptiles.

Seven types of Reptile:

Ichthyosaurs (fish-shaped)

Dolichosaurs (long) developed into dinosaurs (along with Plasiorsaurus).

From dinosaurs evolved brontosaurus, megalosaurus, ceteosaurs and allosaurus, all now extinct.

Pleiosaurs (near reptiles)

Theromorphan or Prototharia (origin of Mammals)

Theriodonts (mammal-like teeth)

Diapsids (origin of Birds)

Pterosaurs (winged reptiles). From Diapsids and Pterosaurs evolved dimorphodon and ramphorhycus, which in turn evolved into pterodactyl, which again evolved into archaopteryx (reptilian bird, not yet bird but a link in the evolutionary chain)

## Bird

Water Fowl (first form [STMB])

Rooster (last bird form but one [STMB])

Half-bat and half-bird animal

Last bird form (big, burly bird with a long beak and a lolling piece of flesh by the chin [STMB])

## Mammal

Duckmole or Platypus (connecting link from lower reptiles to higher mammals)

Echidna (along with Duckmole evolved from Theromorphan)

Porcupine and Ant-eaters evolve from Echidna

\* EMW states that "all land Vertebrates including Man have evolved from the fish" and lists amphibians with fish, listing reptiles and mammals in the next section. [EMW 359-60] GS states, "For our own convenience in understanding the evolution of consciousness more clearly, we include in the worm-form the varied species of worms, varied species of insects, varied species of reptiles and varied species of amphibia. In short, we include in the worm-form all species that tend to crawl or that crawl in spite of having limbs, legs and wings, or that are otherwise distinct from birds or quadrupeds." [GS 20] Does this mean that the consciousness of the soul associates with insects, then worms, then reptiles, and then amphibia before associating with fish even though some of the reptiles evolved directly from fishes? Or is it a lifewave issue: while the most advanced lifewave is moving from fish to bird, having gone through worm with no reptile form available or needed, the consciousness of the soul in the concurrent worm lifewave requires new forms to spend its impressions, but still in the worm division, and so some reptiles develop from fish directly while others develop from amphibia, the amphibia filling still other impressionary needs of consciousness associated with some lifewave going through the worm division (the concurrent worm lifewave here or a later lifewave)?

Metatheria (modified mammals) evolve from Duckmole/Platypus and Echidna families. Metatheria are Marsupials like Kangaroo and Wallaby. Metatheria are also Whales (of the swine family).

Kangaroo (first mammal form and the first principal manifestation of the human form among mammals [STMB])

Utheria (perfect mammals) also evolve from Duckmole/Platypus and Echidna families. They in turn evolve into Insectivora, divided into Shrew, Common Mole, and Hedge Hog. Out of these three, five branches plus one:

Carnivora that evolve into tiger, cat, dog, wolf, etc. The dog is the second principal manifestation of the human form among mammals [STMB]

Hoofed Animals (vegetable feeders) that evolved into Mastodon, Machoirodos, Mammoth and elephants; coryphodon, hyracotherum (primitive horse-like), tinoceras (6 horns, 2 tusks, now extinct); Cows, Eo-hippus, Mio-hippus, Plio-hippus are the 3 ancestors of the present day horse

Gnawers or Rodents (burrowing) evolved into present day rabbits, mice and squirrels

Weasel-ape (the connecting link between bats, flying squirrels and lemurs)  
Those that took to air (the four wings changing into limbs like those of the bat)

Another branch that develops into Primates. Two classes:

Lemuroidea (Lemur-like) ring-tailed lemurs; black lemurs; aye-aye

Anthropoidea (Man-like)

Platyrrhines (flat-nosed American monkeys) marmosets; ouakari; saki

Catarrhines (narrow-nose)

tail-apes (tcheli, diana, entellus)

man-like apes (gibbons, orang, chimpanzee, gorilla); last form before humans is monkey, the third principal manifestation of the latent human form among mammals[STMB]; missing link (tail like a tcheli, face like a chimpanzee, figure like a gorilla, and a gait that is half-gorilla and half-tcheli [EMW 178])

humans (*eunuch* as first human form, male or female but no sexual desire)

## **HUMAN** (Humans mark TURN 5 [STMB])

Bushmen (first primitive human who came to earth belonged to these African tribes; face resembling an ape, figure and gait that of a gorilla, no tail and walked erect)

Cannibals

## **The Five Turns [STMB 19-21]**

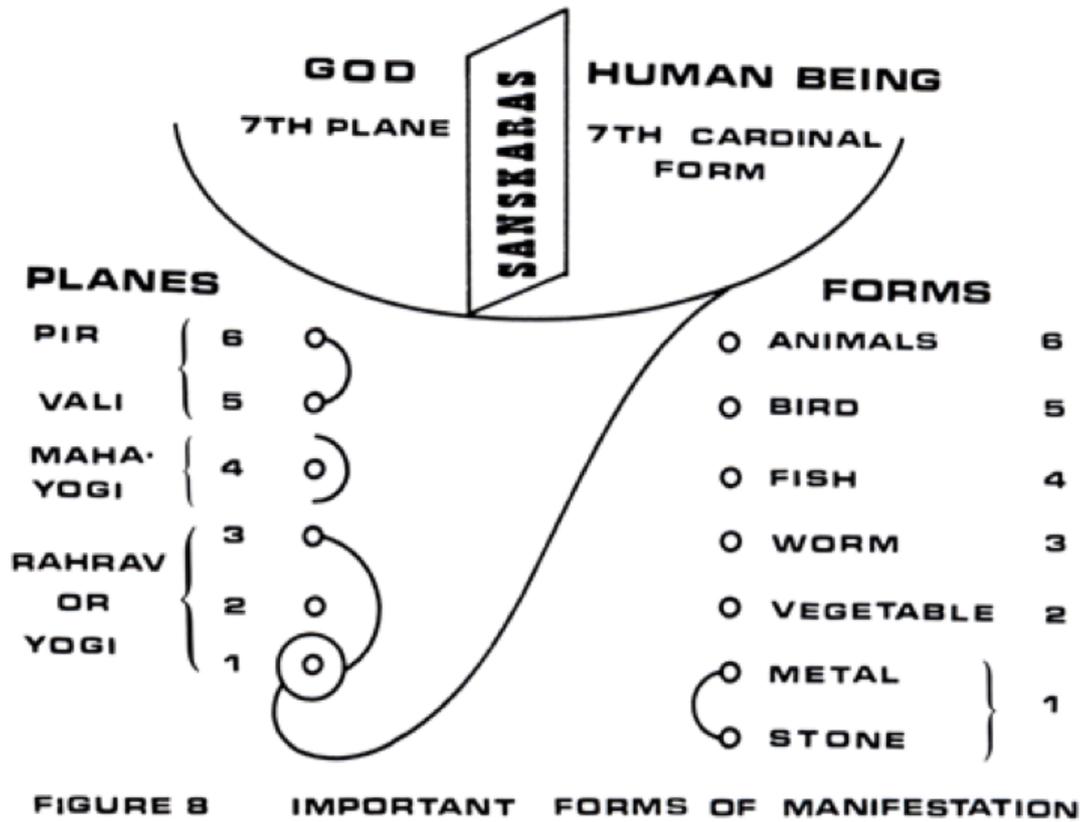
The latent human form is all “folded up” in the stone form and “begin[s] getting unfolded” with “evolution from the stone.” An interpretation is that the latent human form is prone but all curled up in the stone and a little more loosely curled in the metal. The FIRST TURN with the tree has “the head completely underneath the ground and the feet straight up” with the “mesh roots” being the “hairs on the head.” This can be interpreted as a front roll into a headstand. The SECOND TURN in the worm has the feet “flat on the ground” and the “mouth upward,” interpreted as finishing the forward roll (from the headstand) and ending in a supine posture but with the feet flat on the ground. The THIRD TURN in the fish form has the latent form “rise again with face upward,” “say to an angle of sixty degrees,” but the “feet are down.” This can be interpreted as partially sitting up from the supine position, or a yoga move with feet flat in the same basic position. The FOURTH TURN in the form of a crab has the “face downward” and the “feet compressed,” which can be interpreted as a continuing forward rotation (with no headstand this time) into being on all fours, but with the legs curled up (maybe on one’s hands and knees or in a squat with one’s hands on the ground). The FIFTH TURN starts with the kangaroo form and is “inverse, because the head begins rising up and manifesting itself.” According to our interpretation, the turn would indeed be in the opposite direction as the form begins to get up onto its (hind) legs. With the next principal manifestation of the latent human form among mammals, we come to the dog form, which has its forelimbs (arms) fully developed (not like the kangaroo) and can “sit on its hind legs.” The “last stepping stone which helps the latent human form in completely manifesting itself is the monkey” (beginning to stand erect). The fifth turn is completed in the human form with the ability to stand up fully.

## **The Major Forms and their Features and Characteristics for the Path**

The oft-cited 7-plus-1 forms (stone, metal, vegetable, worm, fish, bird, animal [mammal] and then human as bolded above) are of “cardinal importance in comparison with the spiritual planes.” There is a “curtain of *sanskaras* between God and man.” “In order to do away with this curtain, one has to travel backward, through the six stages—the plane stages, instead of the form stage through which one advanced [to become human].” [All quotes and the following figure from STMB 21.] The continued existence of natural *sanskaras* (impressions taken when going through evolutionary form) must mean that the “most-next” form of a species does not actually exhaust the impressions from the “most-last” form of a species, and similarly when moving from one species to the next.

[C]onsciousness stores up the *sanskaras* of each form ... it experiences and spends them by creating a form with the reverse type of *sanskaras*. In this way, through active reversion, the Gross consciousness of the soul continues developing, but side by side it also carries the load of infinitely finite *sanskaras* from previous forms.

[[The Nothing and the Everything](#), Bhau Kalchuri 44]



The quote says one has to “travel backwards” but the figure shows a connection with the 7<sup>th</sup> plane as God and the 7<sup>th</sup> cardinal form as a human being and then lists in parallel the planes and forms from the 6<sup>th</sup> plane and 6<sup>th</sup> form (animals) down to the 1<sup>st</sup> plane and the 1<sup>st</sup> form (as stone and metal taken together, the mineral kingdom). These parallels make sense if we consider evolution of consciousness (consciousness of consciousness) becoming complete from stone to human being and involution of consciousness (consciousness of unconsciousness) becoming complete from the 1<sup>st</sup> plane to (the final fana that leads to) God Realization. However, traveling backwards provides more insight into the unwinding of sanskaras and experience of the planes, even if veiled.

The organization I find most moving separates stone from metal and puts the animal form parallel to the reincarnating human on the zeroeth plane as it were. The planes and forms can also be related to the knots in the veil described in God Speaks. To resolve the apparent inconsistencies in these two backwards approaches, consider the reincarnating human experience to basically be about living in an animal body and dealing with an animal nature now self-conscious in human form. However, the untying of the knot of natural animal sanskaras (rather than their reincarnational rehashing in non-natural, unnatural and even perverse translation) occurs when entering the 1<sup>st</sup> plane. At that point one is dealing with the subtle sanskaras behind natural gross animal sanskaras but finds oneself interpreting the experience within an inner/subtle bird-like consciousness. The natural bird sanskaras are then dealt with on the 2<sup>nd</sup> plane within an inner fish-like consciousness and then the fish sanskaras come up on the 3<sup>rd</sup> plane within a worm-like consciousness. The 4<sup>th</sup> plane is a 2-in-1 experience where both the worm and vegetable knots are untied and you are left with both sets of sanskaras to go

through without really a form-like consciousness, except that one should not move around like a worm (danger of a fall if you move to misuse powers) and be more rooted like a vegetable, though it would be best to look ahead to the mineral kingdom of metal and stone for how you should handle this situation. The 5<sup>th</sup> plane is another 2-in-1 untying and both the metal and stone knots are untied, but the main sanskaric experience of metal seems more reserved for the 5<sup>th</sup> plane and stone for the 6<sup>th</sup> plane.

<b>Experience</b> (re-experience)	<b>Form</b> (evolutionary sanskaras)	<b>Access</b> (when knot(s) untied)
6 <sup>th</sup> plane	Stone	5 <sup>th</sup> plane
5 <sup>th</sup> plane	Metal	
4 <sup>th</sup> plane	Vegetable	4 <sup>th</sup> plane
3 <sup>rd</sup> plane	Worm	
2 <sup>nd</sup> plane	Fish	3 <sup>rd</sup> plane
1 <sup>st</sup> plane	Bird	2 <sup>nd</sup> plane
0 <sup>th</sup> plane Reincarnating Human	Animal	1 <sup>st</sup> plane

The following table summarizes some salient points of the organization that has animal to stone paralleling reincarnating human to 6<sup>th</sup> planer. Take it as fodder for further contemplation, clarification, explication or even argumentation. For more on evolutionary sanskaras and the natural, non-natural, unnatural and perverse sanskaras referenced above as well as “creating a form with the reverse type of sanskaras”, see [God’s Whim and the Web We Weave](#).

Plane	Form	Features
6	Stone	Unmoved by any world as God alone exists; allowing yourself to be ground to dust (at the Master's feet) rather than asserting yourself or holding onto your hard boundaries in your bowed down and curled up posture
5	Metal	Precious metal put to use, even a radioactive one, but with obedience and surrender (His will) not effort and goal direction (self-will); then melted down (or decayed or exploded!) when it's time to go, returning your instrument(s) to Mother Earth for recycling
4	Vegetable	Fully flowered, radiating essence, offering fruit and dropping your petals—all for the benefit of others rather than a display of self; knowing you need the help of others to survive and make it through (watchful wali on 5 <sup>th</sup> plane or a Perfect Master or the Avatar); then casting yourself in the divine fire to be burnt to ash (or biochar!)
3	Worm	Taking your time (a long time) to fully explore the Subtle sphere now that it is fully experienced, crawling as it were (on the bottom then finally making it to shore) and possibly getting stuck when trying to advance (hairat between the 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> planes); when finally grounded again (finding new ground or returning from hairat to worm ground) you get fed up with your inability to stand erect and assert yourself, knowing now that a major change awaits you but you have to take root and essentially stop moving voluntarily (voluntarily stop moving voluntarily)
2	Fish	Swimming in a new ocean, the Subtle sphere, but needing to stop the exploring and eating as well as the struggling for (a new/old) survival and instead get to the bottom and find the pearl; needing to begin seriously letting go of the needs and desires of Life in favor of Existence (See GS Supplement 36 [GS 270-275])
1	Bird	Flying free from the Gross realm, yet needing to get over the freedom and the view and the bird song; especially needing to let go of the experience of being able to stand on land (connection with the Gross) and fly in the air (connection with the Subtle)
Human Reincarnation	Animal	Overcoming the fires of desire (specifically hunger and lust) and animal cravings in general; facing disenchantment, disillusionment and even desperation if not despair as all cultural achievements and all worldly endeavors and indeed anything you have done or can think of doing seem meaningless, hopeless and useless in themselves, just glorifications (and often enough perversions) of animal instincts; making the bold decision to discover and realize the aim of life (the purpose of the human form) and having as one's only desire finding the Truth, at any cost (see The Search for God chapter in GS [GS 123-127]). This stage <i>can</i> include the sub-Subtle/astral in-between and the equal or greater (dis)illusion of psychic or shamanic representations of all the kingdoms (e.g., power animals, flower essence healing, stone divinization). Not that their isn't some truth or goodness or beauty to all the forementioned (God after all is in everyone and everything, and there is nothing but bliss everywhere); just that these things <i>in-and-of-themselves</i> have no meaning, and it's worse when they carry hidden desires (support secret motives) and represent unlasting (false) values.

The path backwards through the planes has been said to involve the undoing of the natural sanskaras obtained when passing through the form evolution. It also has been said to allow the experience of these impressions in full consciousness, which was not possible before the human form. It's not so much that the impressions the drop soul gathered in going through the evolutionary forms determine its human issues, but that the individual God Conscious Shiv-to-be with its veil of (someday divinized) human nature draws these experiences to it to satisfy its destiny in God's dream and awakening. And the "realizing" of evolutionary impressions is part of that. The full conscious experience of these impressions spends them and/or the application of one of the yogas can be brought into play purposefully (the slow way) or via the inner promptings of the Master (not necessarily knowing this is happening, and maybe at times (even most of the time) necessarily not knowing). Karma yoga would allow the full experience of the impressions (even the use of powers—the action of siddhis—on the Subtle planes) without taking new impressions (e.g., drawing conclusions, enjoying the experiences (taking upabhog), or having further desires from the experience) and without attachment to the results of any actions on any plane. Jnana yoga would not take the experience (renounce it) or take it only mentally (inwardly) with respect to the plane in question (and after thoroughly knowing it, then renounce it), thereby using reverse impressions to remove the original impressions. Bhakti yoga would basically ignore the impressions in favor of a deepening devotional relationship to God or the Master as appropriate and possible on any given plane, with the original impressions wearing out from withdrawal of attention as the absorption in God (the Master) progresses. Raj yoga would also (attempt to) ignore the impressions but by engrossing the mind in meditation and concentration, with the impressions weakening according to the degree of the mind's slowing and stopping of thinking. See [The Yin and Yang of the Yogas](#).

Regarding the natural sanskaras, GS has a chapter entitled *Characteristics of the Different Kingdoms* [GS 28-30]. Some of these natural sanskaras were included or alluded to in the Plane, Form and Features table. For clarity and completeness, here they are in summary table format:

<b>Kingdom</b>	<b>Characteristics</b>
Human	Asserting existence in the Gross world through an upright posture
Animal (Mammal)	Endowed with life, sensation and the power of voluntary locomotion; usually quadruped; struggle for existence and survival; sometimes herbivorous and sometimes carnivorous; tendency to look downwards with drooping head (apes tend towards standing erect)
Bird	Capable of flying in the air and with two legs, maintaining an erect stand
Fish	A living creature in the water (a vertebrate endowed with life, sensation and voluntary motion with fins); continued struggle for sustenance and survival; experiences itself as recumbent, never holding its head high and erect though it tends to look up
Worm (insect, amphibia, reptile)	Experiences itself an animate; gathers experience of voluntary movement; first as an invertebrate, then as a vertebrate; tendency to crawl whether with a pair of legs, multiple pairs of legs, additional wings [or fins (insects and amphibia "crawling" in air and water as well as on land)]; recumbent and prone to lie prostrate [which means face down even though our discussion of the turns has the worm form supine, which is face-up]; has sensation and life; begins the struggle for sustenance and survival
Vegetable	Consciousness realizes itself as half animate and half inanimate; asserts its existence in the world through an upright or erect stance, having to take the help of some other things such as earth or rock for maintaining an erect position; rooted in one spot
Stone and Metal	Initial experience of the Gross world; most finite; inorganic and solid; inanimate, life and energy are dormant; no voluntary movement so the associated consciousness tends to assert itself through a recumbent, horizontal position

## 7 x 7 Energy Centers and the Path

To go deeper into animal instincts, the human condition and the path, we can generate a 7 x 7 matrix to contemplate energy centers (the reflection of 7 divine principles) within the human form. The centers are listed horizontally as 7 columns (for space considerations) and the hierarchy/sublimation of the issues within a center (the irreducible fractality of 7 centers within each of the 7 centers) is listed vertically, generating 7 rows. Additional rows are provided on a following page for New Life Issues (Correspondences) and the salient issue to Overcome for each energy center. The cells generated by the resonant center within the center (from B within B to C within C) especially bring out the energy/issue of that center, so the top phrase of each of these cells has been bolded. While each energy center can be correlated with a plane and a form (B to C being Gross to 6<sup>th</sup> plane, animal to stone) and provide for such insights as survival being the primary driver of the Gross/animal world (including the beginning of the instinct for survival of the (internal) family associated with insects and the collective ant colony), lust being the key to move from Gross to Subtle and anger the key to go from Subtle to Mental; such a tight correspondence system seems to lead more to limitation than insight when taken as anything more than a simple resonance. Indeed, the functioning of the centers was keyed on in this matrix and the knots associated with the path and planes (e.g., lust, greed, anger, etc.) do not strictly line up with the energy centers as Gross to 6<sup>th</sup> plane (see [Knots, Veils and Vision](#)). It is probably better to look at this entire matrix applying to each plane and its associated form, generating a 7 x 7 x 7 matrix really. It also seems to me that the veiled path at any rate IS NOT strictly linear and neither are the actions and interactions of the energy centers: we are taken through various correspondences and resonances in the creative order of unwinding that our souls in the Oversoul are destined to take according to Meher Baba's Will, Wish and Whim. The table-walla continues on the next page.

## 7 x 7 Energy Centers and the Path

Centers: B = Basic; S = Sex; SP = Solar Plexus (later Navel); H = Heart; T = Throat; A = Ajna; C = Crown

Center (Issues)	<b>B</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>SP</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>T</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>C</b>
	Fear; Laziness (Sloth; Inertia)	Lust; Craving	Greed; Gluttony	Hatred; Hypocrisy	Jealousy; Envy	Anger; Pride (Separative- ness, ego- mind)	Separate- ness; very sense of self, others and God
<b>C</b>	Acceptance (of death of body); no longer defending in any way; calmness; no reactivity	Purity (Celibacy); refinement; nothing vile; no body desires	Clarity (Fasting); lightness; nothing extra; no feeding the false personal self	Seclusion; turning to God; longing; no split loyalties	Silence; doing God's will/wish; spiritual, selfless service (w/o outward show); no false-self expression	Surrender; give it to God; bow down to the Avatar or a Perfect Master; say no to becoming a Master of the planes; nothing of one's own	<b>Union with God;</b> connection to God; letting go and letting God; staying awake!; no yoga samadhi
<b>A</b>	Leaving a Legacy; ego survival	Enforcing the laws that help you satisfy your desires (controlling others)	Knowing and making the rules; doing it (having it done) your way; getting your way	Compassionate leadership	Individuality, Independence and Individuation (not at the expense of others)	<b>Self-Control;</b> integration of self; mastery of self; proper authority and use of power	Satisfaction (from doing good, right); surveying one's kingdom; taking stock
<b>T</b>	Marking your territory (where you get to be you)	Making a mark, a testament to one's desires that others must notice	Recognition and acknowl- edgment	Giving in general (as a need that feels good); sharing	<b>Self Expression;</b> your own art; the art of living	Creative control; ingenuity; mastery of art or craft	Play
<b>H</b>	Survival of the group or family up to the human family; "altruistic" instinct	Drama drive; driving the plot of one's story in relation to others	Playing a self(ish) role and competing to achieve	<b>Relationship with others;</b> social need; community; make/maintain connections; cooperation	Taking care of special relationships; active listening and creative expressing	Responsibility, response- ability; overseeing groups and family systems	Relaxation
<b>SP</b>	Continuation of objects and acts you desire, their protecting	Desire drive; satisfying cravings	<b>Personal Desire;</b> an identity in what you want	Loyalty, liking; following the leader or being one	Curiosity, the pursuit of further wants and desires	Playing the game; strategies	Satiation, stopping (having had enough)
<b>S</b>	Survival of species or at least your genes	<b>Sex drive;</b> Pursuing pleasure	Stimulation, excitement; drive to excel (or excess)	Reciprocation; energy exchanges, favors, fairness	Protection; privacy; allows exploration	The hunt, the chase; skills	Rest after release
<b>B</b>	<b>Survival Instinct;</b> survival of individual body; fight vs. flight vs. play dead (fake dead)	Reproduction (choosing a mate and having offspring; both can assist in survival)	Food, hunger; maintaining body; health of body	Social/Group Instincts; domination, submission; pack, tribe	Shelter; having a place in the environment (relies on your creative recognizing, finding or making)	Winning; cunning, guile; attitude and fortitude; fight and win, flee and escape, fake it and get by	Deep, restorative sleep (wherein, unconscious, we take rest in God)

<b>New Life Issues</b>	Fearlessness; detachment; non-reaction to anything or anyone (in the 3 worlds); fearing no one and nothing; bravely facing all hardships; doing no harm to anyone	Naturalness; purity; complete renunciation of lust, doing no lustful actions	Desirelessness (except desire to please Him); complete renunciation of greed; not seeking material possessions; not expecting any material or spiritual reward	Hopelessness; Non-attachment, non-involvement (with the 3 worlds or even Perfect Masters); complete renunciation of hatred, falsehood and lies; giving no importance to caste, creed and religious ceremonies; loving God purely for the sake of loving; believing in the lovers of God (fellow-feeling)	Helplessness; relying wholly and solely on God; not backbiting; not being upset by calamities; wholeheartedly facing all hardships with 100 percent cheerfulness (expression [T] that is wholehearted [H] and controlled (cheerful) [A]; T is between H and A and bringing them together)	Surrenderance; Aimlessness w.r.t. separative ego; also Uselessness w.r.t. that ego and the world; not seeking power; accepting no homage; complete renunciation of anger; believing in the reality of the Manifestation; not letting go of the hand of Truth; carrying out all orders from Baba (good, bad or extraordinary) immediately, leaving the result to God	Manonash; neither coveting honor nor shunning disgrace (the separate, false self maintains its existence through interaction with others [and God], even imaginary others, and the worry over its [projected] self-image)
<b>Over-come</b>	Instincts in general	Drives and driveness; cravings	Desire nature; selfishness	Relationship with others other than Him; the only real relationship is with Him	Taking experience and giving expression to (false) self; curiosity and creativity	Ego-mind individuality and assertion of free will	All impressions; karma and dharma; very sense of [false] self