

Changing Time

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If we are to intelligently adapt to our rapidly changing times, one of the most important changes we need to make is to that of time itself, as we conceive it. From an anthropocentric and geocentric perspective, we experience time in days and years, as the Earth rotates about its axis and orbits the Sun.

But this is too narrow a viewpoint. Paul Davies tells us in *God and the New Physics* that the Sun has a lifespan of about ten billion years. By comparing the Sun to other similarly sized stars, astrophysicists have estimated that in about five and a half billion years, the Sun will turn into a red giant and white dwarf and there will be no one around to witness the Sun rise and set each day.

Clearly, our daily experiences of time are not sufficient to help us understand what it means to be a human being and our place within the overall scheme of things. To answer the fundamental questions of human existence we need to tap into the experiences that awaken when we look deeply into ourselves.

For instance, some creatives sense a vertical impulse within themselves, as forms emerge that have never existed before. Such wonderful experiences tell us that there are two dimensions of time, illustrated in this diagram.

In 2001, Eckhart Tolle popularized the vertical dimension in his best-selling *The Power of Now: A Guide to Spiritual Enlightenment*. Lesser known is a website named Vertical Impulse,[†] which Renata Keller set up after she had directed a beautiful documentary about the life and work of Vimala Thakar titled *In the Fire of Dancing Stillness*.[‡]

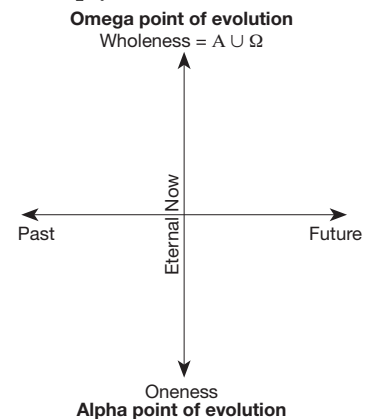
Most significantly, if we are to wisely adapt to our rapidly changing times, Vimala wrote in the opening paragraph of *Spirituality and Social Action: A Holistic Approach* in 1984: “In a time when the survival of the human race is in question, continuing with the status quo is to cooperate with insanity, to contribute to chaos.” She therefore asks, “Do we have the vitality to go beyond narrow, one-sided views of human life and to open ourselves to totality, wholeness?” For as she says, “The call of the hour is to move beyond the fragmentary, to awaken to total revolution.”

Similarly, Eckhart Tolle wrote in *Stillness Speaks*, an inspiring book of aphorisms:

The transformation of human consciousness is no longer a luxury, so to speak, available only to a few isolated individuals, but a necessity if humanity is not to destroy itself. At the present time, the dysfunction of the old consciousness and the arising of the new are both accelerating. Paradoxically, things are getting worse and better at the same time, although the worse is more apparent because it makes so much ‘noise’.

Now, if we are to awaken to Total Revolution, one other revelation is utterly essential. For instance, in *The Power of Kabbalah*, Yehuda Berg points out that there is a curtain that divides our reality into two realms, 1% being our physical world, while the other 99% “is the source of all lasting fulfilment. All knowledge, wisdom, and joy dwell in this realm. This is the domain that Kabbalists call *Light*.” Yet, historically, we have spent 99% of the time mapping the 1% and 1% of the time mapping the 99%. Furthermore, we have attempted to map the 99% using techniques that we have learnt to map the 1%. Such a distorted approach to science cannot possibly work, as it keeps most of us in darkness.

Other mystics, aware of the vast nonmaterial domain inaccessible to our physical senses, have given it



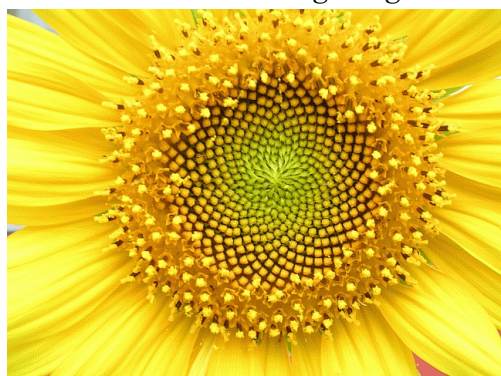
[†] <https://www.verticalimpulse.com>

[‡] <https://inthefireofdancingstillness.com>

many other names, such as *Astral World*, *Akashic Records*, and *Cosmic Psyche*. This is the term that I prefer, inspired by Carl Jung's use of *psyche* to denote the field studied by Gnostic psychologists, replacing the German words *Geist* 'spirit' and *Seele* 'soul', which can both be translated as 'mind'.

We can thus see that evolution is not just a biogenetic process, combining chemical elements formed in the death throes of stars and supernovae. Rather, during the 5,000 years of the patriarchal epoch since the dawn of history, evolution has been primarily noogenetic, from Greek *noos* 'mind', as Pierre Teilhard de Chardin pointed out in *The Human Phenomenon*, posthumously published in 1955.

But this does not mean that the Cosmic Psyche is the product of some 13.8 billion years of evolution since the most recent big bang. We can see this clearly from this emoji image of a circle 🌀, which is an



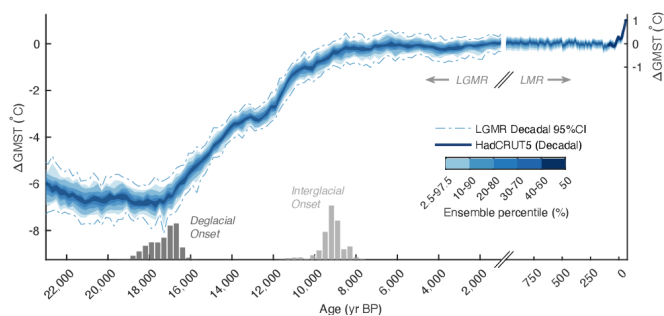
external expression of the universal circle contained within the Cosmic Psyche. Indeed, all mathematical objects reside within the Akashic Records, as we can see most spectacularly in the way that a sunflower grows in phyllotaxis. As my book *Unifying Mysticism and Mathematics* explains, hidden within this complexity are sets of spirals, whose sizes increase in conformity with Fibonacci's sequence: 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, So, the universal structures within the Cosmic Psyche guide the generation of all forms in the

Universe throughout eternity, creatively powered by Life, emerging directly from our Divine Source.

However, structures in the relativistic world of form are not destined to live for infinite time, which is eternity, as Joseph Campbell pointed out in his popular book *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*. If we are to live in harmony with what he called the Cosmogonic Cycle, we need to follow the universal spiritual journey, figurately narrated in the myths and fairy tales of many cultures throughout history.

Such an awakening path through life is vitally important at the present time, for as some are becoming increasingly aware, humankind, as a biological species, is not immortal. One day, a generation of children will be born who will not grow old enough to have children of their own. Thus the most critical existential question facing us all as a species is how and when *Homo sapiens* 'wise human' might become extinct.

For many years, Guy McPherson, Emeritus Professor of Natural Resources at the University of Arizona, has been telling the world that abrupt, irreversible climate change is likely to happen much sooner than most are yet willing to look at. Most particularly, the comparatively stable climate that we have been enjoying for the past 10,000 years, as this diagram illustrates, is likely to change rapidly through the actions of many self-reinforcing feedback loops, which feed on themselves, accumulating at exponential rates of change.



That is why it is essential to change our conception of time from the horizontal to the vertical at these end times we live in. If we could light a creative spark that would spread like wildfire through society, we could cocreate a global community that would pool our skills and resources, compassionately caring for each other. This liberating vision contrasts with an article in the *New York Times* on 3rd December 2023 titled 'Ego, Fear and Money: How the A.I. Fuse Was Lit', describing how tech billionaires are competing with each other, not aware that within a few years there will no longer be any financial institutions on Earth, such as stock markets and investment banks.

At these critical times, it is essential to realize that Love is the Divine Essence we all share, as the Immortal Ground of Being, knowing that we are all interdependent on each other for our mutual well-being. For, as the Sufi poet Rumi beautifully put it, "Love is the sea of not-being and there intellect drowns."