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A REFLECTION ON *THE SECRET DOCTRINE*, No. 4

Through her vast store of occult knowledge, her unwavering dedication, her unique mental and psychic abilities, H. P. Blavatsky served as a Messenger for the Great Ones in the service of humanity. Perhaps her preeminent accomplishment was the publication of *The Secret Doctrine*, a work of monumental scope. But in this, she did not work alone. The evidence suggests it was a collaborative effort in which HPB served as the conscious vehicle for Adepts and Initiates of the occult Brotherhood.

The question that is sometimes asked is, why the secrecy? Why don't the Adepts come forth publicly and make their existence known to the world? In fact, there are good reasons for their self-imposed seclusion from the prying eyes of the world, but within this limited space, allow me to provide just one such explanation.

If any true Adept were to come forth publicly in today's materialistic world, the results would be most unfortunate. An unprepared and skeptical public might react to such an event in one of two ways: one faction would engage in blind worship, while another would react with overt hostility and vicious condemnation.

In 1880, A. P. Sinnett, a colleague of Blavatsky's, tried to persuade the Master K. H. to abandon the age-old policy of secrecy. Sinnett received this reply:

In common with many, you blame us for our great secrecy. Yet we know something of human nature, for the experience of long centuries—aye, ages—has taught us. And we know, that so long as science has anything to learn, and a shadow of religious dogmatism lingers in the hearts of the multitudes, the world's prejudices have to be conquered step by step, not at a rush. As hoary antiquity had more than one Socrates so the dim Future will give birth to more than one martyr.
(Mahatma Letter No. 1)

And so, the Great Ones will continue to work under the radar, so to speak, for the benefit of a world that is not quite ready to acknowledge its unseen Benefactors.

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