

A further exposition on the Martinist Diagram representing the inter-twining of the three divisions as set forth in the Associate Degree studies.

The width and shape of the triangles represent the strength of the force in each division.

Ame Force	Fluidic Force	Physical Force	
1	4	7	Ame
2	5	8	Plastic Envelope
3	6	9	Body

By: William Pierce

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I would like to begin this paper with a brief explanation of the diagram above as explained within the Martinist Associate Degree studies.

The Martinist divides Man into three parts:

- 1) The Ame or Soul
- 2) The Plastic Envelope or Astral Body
- 3) The Physical Body

The Martinist then attributes each part of man to that of a separate World or Realm:

- 1) The Ame belongs to the Empyrean World
- 2) The Plastic Envelope belongs to the World of Orbs
- 3) The Physical Body belongs to the Elemental World

The Ame (soul to the Martinist, spirit or pneumatic to the Gnostic¹) could be looked at as that divine part of man granted to us from the Omneity. The Empyrean World has been defined as "a place of Pure Light, Love, Joy, and Sweetness, a DIVINE FIRE where live and move intermediary Principalties, Powers, Virtues, Dominions, Thrones, Cherubim, Seraphim²."

The Plastic Envelope (soul or psychic to the Gnostic) is that astral part of man which connects the Ame to the Physical Body. "It is the etheric condition that enables our body to become infused by our soul³." The World of Orbs could be looked at as the spiritual/physical heavens, or that which "we divide into the planetary system above the Earth⁴."

The final division of Man, The Physical Body (the hylic to the Gnostic), is that material part of Man which is strictly temporal in being. Its singular purpose is to contain and concentrate that divine part of Man, the Ame. The Elemental World is therefore the physical world which hosts the Physical Body of Man.

The Three parts of Man should not be considered separate and distinct from one another, nor should the corresponding Worlds. Each overlaps and influences the other which is the entire premise of this diagram.

The Ame Force, Fluidic Force, and the Physical Force should be looked upon as the forces exerted by the three worlds identified earlier. For example, we will interpret the Ame Force as that force which is exerted by the Empyrean World. We could go a step further and label it as Soul Force (Ame=Soul). Now the strength of the Soul Force upon the Ame of Man is at its highest, but as the force travels further from its source, The less strength it has to influence the other divisions of Man. Consider the Fluidic Force and the Physical Force in the same way.

We should not look at these forces as only being the forces exerted upon the three divisions of Man from the three Worlds. You should also consider each force as that which is exerted by that division of Man, upon Man. To make this matter clear, I will use the example I did earlier with the Ame or Soul Force. It is the force of a man's Soul as it influences the three divisions of Man and the diagram represents the strength of each force as it relates to the divisions in Man.

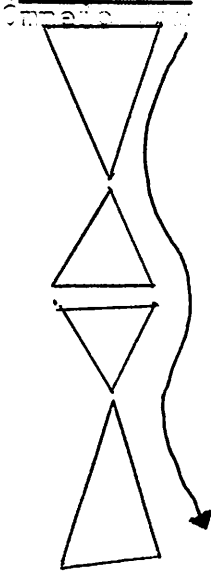
This is a basic interpretation of the diagram as I understand it. I don't wish to go any further into it at this time as this paper does not concern the diagram as a whole, but instead the numbers and representative triangles that are contained in it as they correspond with the divisions of man as well as the three forces outside of the original meaning of the diagram as it is explained in the Associate Degree studies.

The width and shape of the triangles represent the strength of the force in each division.

Ame Force	Fluidic Force	Physical Force	
1	4	7	Ame
2	5	8	Plastic Envelope
3	6	9	Body

I would like to begin by removing the representative triangles and laying them out in their corresponding order. (See Diagram A)

Diagram A

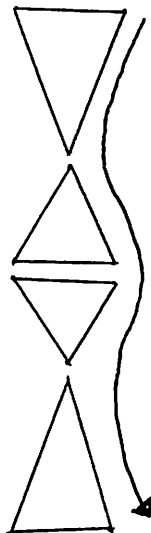


Let's consider these triangles to represent the Omneic Force (for lack of a better term), the force issued forth by the S.A.O.T.U., as it passes through and evolves to correspond with the three worlds and all that they involve. From the Realm of Eternal Peace, through the World of Orbs, to the Elemental World.

Let us look at the widest point of each triangle as being the full potential of that world. As the triangle tapers and expand, an evolution is occurring and where each triangle meets is a point of transition.

For my current purpose, I will label the three areas I wish to focus on. (See Diagram B)

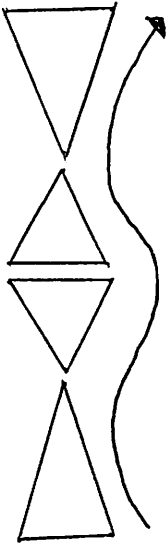
Diagram B



- 1) The Emyrean World
- 2) The World of Orbs
- 3) The Elemental World

Now this is a general labelling. I will show more specific relationships and correspondences as I go along.

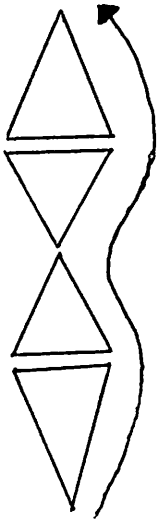
Diagram C



As Martinists, we seek a reintegration with the Absolute. A return of the Ame to the Emyrean World from its current resting place in the Elemental World. This can only be done by reversing the current path we are on. A reversal of the Omneic Force with which we have been granted. (See Diagram C)

- 1) The Emyrean World
- 2) The World of Orbs
- 3) The Elemental World

Diagram D

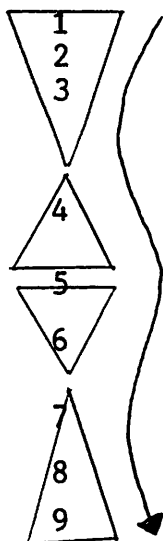


This requires the Martinist to take all that was given to him by the S.A.O.T.U., and evolve and condense it on the Path of Return. Only through this action can the Initiate effectively cause a reversal of the Omneic Force.

With a reversal of this force, you must reverse the representative triangles. This shows that the Martinist has used the full potential given to him as he made his way through each successive world. (See Diagram D)

- 1) The Emyrean World
- 2) The World of Orbs
- 3) The Elemental World

Diagram E



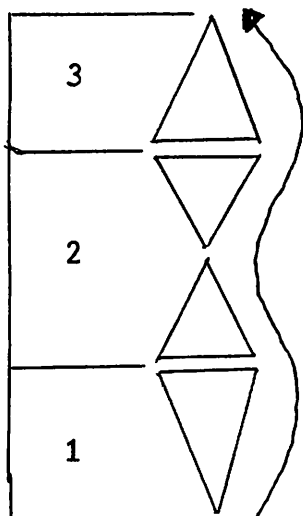
Now I would like to discuss the numerals 1-9 as they appear in the represented triangles. (See Diagram E)

Let's consider these numbers as representative of the stages in the creation of Man. The number 1 is the full emanation of the Ame (or pneuma), with the number 3 signifying a completion of that emanation as well as a point of evolution in the emanation, into that of the Plastic Envelope (or psyche). The full emanation of the Psyche occurs at the number 5 with the number 6 completing this emanation. The point between 6 and 7 begins the evolution into the final creation of man, the Physical Body (or hyle)⁵.

Notice the width of the triangle at the number 9. This signifies that while emanation has stopped, evolution has not. This is the point where man is given Free Will. As Martinists, this is the point discussed earlier, where we begin our journey towards reintegration with the Absolute.

You could look at this as the Black Phase in Alchemy. This is where we reverse our Omneic Force. We make the conscious decision to kill our old bad habits, unhealthy attachments, and dependencies. We seek to slough off our "Body".

Diagram F



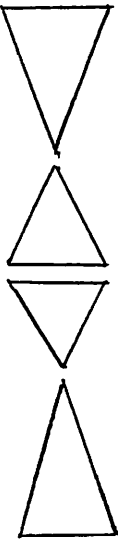
Next we enter the White Phase. This is the purification of our psychic contents separated out from the Black Phase. This is section 2 in Diagram F. The two triangles show the opposing forces of the Psyche.

Because the Martinist strives to journey up our representative diagram, the opposing essences unite, leading the Martinist into the final phase of Transformation. This is the Red Phase, where the Initiate attains Christ Consciousness.

Diagram F

- 1) The Black Phase - Instinctive Consciousness
- 2) The White Phase - Intermediate Consciousness
- 3) The Red Phase - Christ Consciousness.

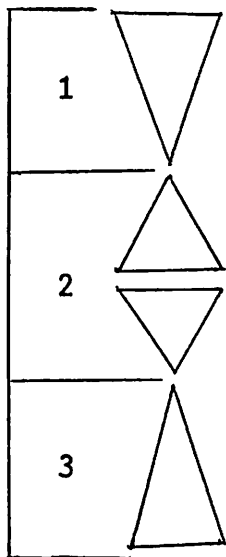
Diagram G



Up to this point, I could claim to have kept at least a small degree of relationship to the original idea of the Martinist diagram as originally shown in the Associate Degree studies. Now I would like to abandon the original concept completely and provide you with a few points to ponder relating to the triangle diagram itself. (See Diagram G)

I want to show that even outside of its original intent, the diagram still embodies other Martinist teachings. Some may call this a coincidence, I consider it proof of the truth of the Martinist teachings.

Diagram H



Let's begin with our original triangle design. When labelled as such (See Diagram H), another significant teaching of the Martinists is revealed. Man is divided into three parts:

- 1) The Ame
- 2) The Fluid Envelope or Astral Body
- 3) The Physical Body

The Ame is connected to our Physical Body through the Fluid Envelope (our Astral Body). Now examine the diagram. The Ame is a large triangle pointing down towards the equally large triangle representing the Physical Body. Without the two triangles comprising the Fluid Envelope section, a large gulf would separate the two. The distance between the two smaller triangles even signify a threat of separation while still joining the Ame and Physical Body.

Diagram I

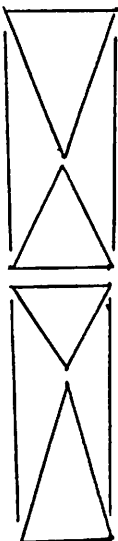
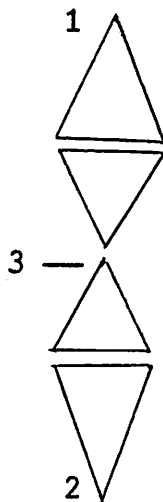


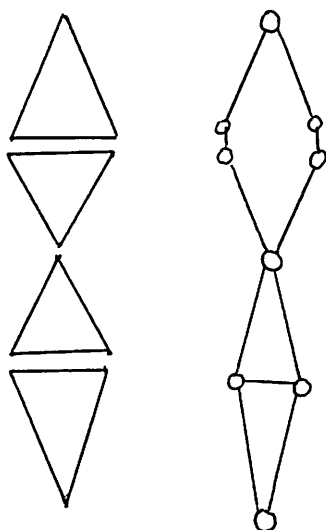
Diagram J



Another point to ponder is the close resemblance of the triangle diagram and the two columns of the Martinist Temple. Let us separate the two halves of the diagram, the bottom half of the diagram from the top half. We can label these as any of the Antithesis of Life. (See Diagram I) The Martinist seeks to recognize and reconcile these two halves of the same thing. Now we reverse the diagram as done earlier (See Diagram J). Points 1 and 2 are the recognized opposites with point 3 being the Equilibrating Factor.

I could go on and on with new discoveries and insights concerning the diagrams I've used throughout this paper (such as how the triangle diagram closely resembles the Kabalistic Tree of Life, see Diagram K), but the whole intent of this paper has been to show that for every teaching, for every diagram, a fresh perspective may produce a new insight. This may not result in a new idea or "Truth", but a verification of the old should be just as welcomed.

Diagram K



M. Isidore Loeb: "God is the source of life and the creator of the universe... between him and the world are the Ten Sephiroth through which he created the world, they are his instruments, the channel which his doings are transmitted to the World of Faces⁶."

NOTES

- 1) The terms Soul and Spirit have been so interchanged throughout the years that it matters not which is used, only how it is interpreted in the context of the reading.
- 2) Martinist Associate Degree Studies, Lecture Nineteen.
- 3) Martinist Associate Degree Studies, Lecture Eleven.
- 4) Martinist Associate Degree Studies, Lecture Nineteen.
- 5) You could argue that an evolution is occurring between the numbers 5 and 6, but I've chosen not to get too far in specifics in this paper. I only want to show my basic observations and hopefully spark some interest and debate into the actual specifics.
- 6) Papus, The Qabalah: Secret Tradition of the West. Boston, MA: Weiser Books, 1977.