

The Seven-Foldedness as Possible Reorganizational Framework for the Social- Economic Life

As a result of the unpurified condition of our life of feeling and the therewith cohering variety of needs, which reflect themselves within the Economy, we find the above described 'barbarism' in what these days is referred to as the "Free Market Economy". The Economy in itself is an unselfish organism, but the people who engage in its realm haven't reached that stage on numerous domains. Various ideological systems have run aground because of this (liberalism, socialism, communism), and only the crippled and eroded "Democracy-in-name" still seems to function somewhat. Its bureaucracy is more and more starting to become an autonomous unity, whereupon not a single citizen who isn't willing to lobby, has any influence at all. Together with the deteriorate legal system they form an Economy of and on its own, with its own laws. What would help to enable and create an opposing tendency against this, is the cultivation of an increasing awareness in the described economic processes and the unpurified desires and passions that are active therein. Means to proceed here are to reflect the qualities of the organizational connection (company or institution) towards one another in which one is working, and to compare these to be able to come to a shared, unified picture. That picture then gets a more and more objective character. This can create more mutual understanding, and can prevent the tendency of competing one another out of the way. To this aim one can try to strive for associative connections between companies, institutions, organizations and personal initiatives, and thereby use one another's knowledge and faculties, and can come to more differentiated products. Viz. the occurrence in the animal and plant kingdom of various species besides one another which need the same territory to live in and for nutrition, does not lead to competition, but to the specialization and differentiation of habitat of the different species. Thus, it cultivates more differentiated forms of harmony in stead of a killing competition.

One can also try to communally sing the divisions of the company or institution in the way how it unfolds as a whole. In this way one creates with each other an artistic sound image, that is connected to one's soul, with which one can make the historical course, by which the organization came into being, experienceable in one's soul, and thus become aware of it. One can subsequently focus on claymodelling that what the will of the organization actually is through its products and set goals (this can be done for a football club as much as for a church community or a company). By going into this artistic process, one can get a better understanding for the

organization and gain awareness of it, as well as the individual tasks and possibilities for development containing this. Viz. one can try to connect one's self inwardly with the guiding Archangel, on the one hand by clarifying the organs through which he expresses himself within the organization, and thus to achieve a good division of tasks on the other hand. The latter by asking him to directly work into the thus developed consciousness of the participating people. Here the mentioned artistic processes help to connect and develop consciousness. Then one can ask one's self the question of how the goals and possibilities of development can be attuned to each other. One then comes to making moral decisions on which basis the goals and/or products can be attuned. Here one enters into the realm of the superpersonal, in which the Archangel is active who leads the organization, and can decide to work with this or not. These Archangels, who connect themselves to an organization or institution, aren't always the most harmonious beings, because they are in the middle of their development for they connect themselves through a company in a stronger way with the Earth. Earth itself isn't their realm because of their personal karma. For participants who start to observe him, he can often show himself as rough, dragon-like, and this can be frightening.

In order to come to organizations that are comprehensible and viable for each human being, one could unite in clearly structured, connections of cooperation, that can make practicable what every one has as qualities, talents and possibilities for development. To achieve this goal one has to focus on transforming the in itself unpurified economic life by connecting with one another on the basis of love and understanding for each others being (this is a basic prerequisite to subvert the competitive tendencies into a striving for associative connections). An ordinary company can be a model for this, which has been shaped and has been operating for several years, and has stabilized in growth and runs quite well. Thus the following organic functioning units can be distinguished herein:

- The department of Research (& Development) -The Directorate, connected to the Board of Directors, who both roughly determine the outline of the policy of a company
- Management Staff which executes the decisions
- Administration and Secretariat
- Policy-gathering with the representatives of all the other divisions, as well as the stockholders (external capital)
- Purchasing and Sales department, together with those of Marketing and PR
- Manufacturing department(s)

Thus, these seven joined 'organs' are mutually active as separate divisions, each having their own colouring and task. In these organs the Archangel impresses itself as being in the process of incarnating in the company and inspires the people who work there and thus guide them. If one meditates about its consequences, one

can come to the insight that the total social organism, spans the Earth and is active in smaller and larger organic cooperating units, which goes from government of the state to that of a district, as well as companies and associations and that they function in these divisions.

This seven-foldedness occurs within a three-foldedness. The first two divisions have the predominant characterization of thinking: research and development and directing a company especially exercise policy determination by the faculty of thinking. In the middle one finds how three divisions express, though somewhat hidden, the social aspects inside a company; viz. the execution of decisions, a platform of communication and the inner setting by the secretariat. This brings about the predominance of feeling. In the last two divisions the Life of the will of the company becomes visible; the manufacturing and flow of goods from and to the company. Here it is embedded in the entire economy, for it is connected to the life units of people who have needs of consuming. This seven-foldedness irrevocably reveals the visibility of the three-foldedness of the social organism (see the figure at p. 346; also compare with p. 287) The seven-foldedness can serve as wherein the 3 ideals of The French Revolution (freedom, equality and brotherhood) can be traced and worked out. The relative freedom that prevails in the division of thinking which is more directed towards the spirit (R&D and the directorate), the division in the middle is that is more directed towards the soul and meeting each other (management, policy gathering and the administration), in which there could be a striving more or less for equality, and the third division is more directed towards the will through purchasing and sales and manufacturing. Thee latter could serve as wherein the ideals of brotherhood could prevail (and be developed) in the Economy. However, because of the so intense struggle of competition this doesn't come out at all. A lot is still directed at the mere survival (of the fittest) and growth of the company (it has always wondered me extremely how employees can get so hooked up on the goods they were taking care of or manufacturing, and I could hardly find in them any inward affinity – for them it apparently was more about the functioning within the totality of the corporate organism than about the product itself).

Indeed being able to work for somebody else out of inward interest, and to want to strive for the three above mentioned ideals of freedom of spiritual life, equality and mutual understanding in the social setting, and brotherhood in the economic realm, one could start up associations of cooperations that indeed have this seven-foldedness as their basis, where one is not merely focused on the expansion of the company/institution/one's self, but on the realization of the ideals and strivings of will that are present within those who cooperate. To achieve this goal or to get into the process to try to strive for that goal one can then support each

other and strive for clarity in this realm. The consequence is that you thus, in an ordering manner, work in on one another's karma. An underlying purpose here is that one can invoke a higher guiding Archangelic being with whom one can further work out of one's own goals. Such a cooperating unity can have the following structure, arranged by the organic division (also see thegnomics and sociology):

* Saturn/spleen division. A person or group of people occupied with research, and who makes connections between knowledge and experiences, which stem from the past. Therewith and/or besides this does research out of concrete questions which can create new developments and possibilities towards the future. These questions and research lie close at hand, viz. in the domain of action: daily life, work, meeting each other. In a company this comes down to the research and development department.

* Jupiter/liver division. A person or group of people occupied with shaping ideas about occurring phenomena and processes, within and outside the organization. Visions are developed out of these, by which one is able to explain these phenomena and apply them in actions that can be pursued within the organization (however, the making of decisions take place in the policy-gathering organ; see the Sun/Heart - division). Often this is referred to as the Think Tank and the organ of planning. Here one can also think of teaching and training activities developed out of the results of research and practice. In a spiritual sense it also contains guidance in schooling.

* Mars/gall division. A person or group of people who take(s) initiatives, who awaken initiatives of other participants and who also help to realize these by creating a space for it or search(es) for ways to do so. In companies this is often referred to as the level of management. However, here it has its own space to enable the forthcoming and development of initiatives, and it is not merely focused on executing that what it is being instructed to do.

* Venus//kidneys division. A person or group of people who take(s) care of the communication within the organization, helps with the mediation in problems that arise and make(s) sure that the interaction between divisions goes smoothly. If necessary this organ also notes down the various decisions made by the other divisions. It is also occupied with a sound social setting in the company, and it arranges occasions to meet one another. In companies this is referred to as the administration (accounting office) and secretariat. However, here it is destined to have an active part in the social sphere, with an emphasis on the artistic side which can help people to open up in their souls and lift them up, so communication can go smoother.

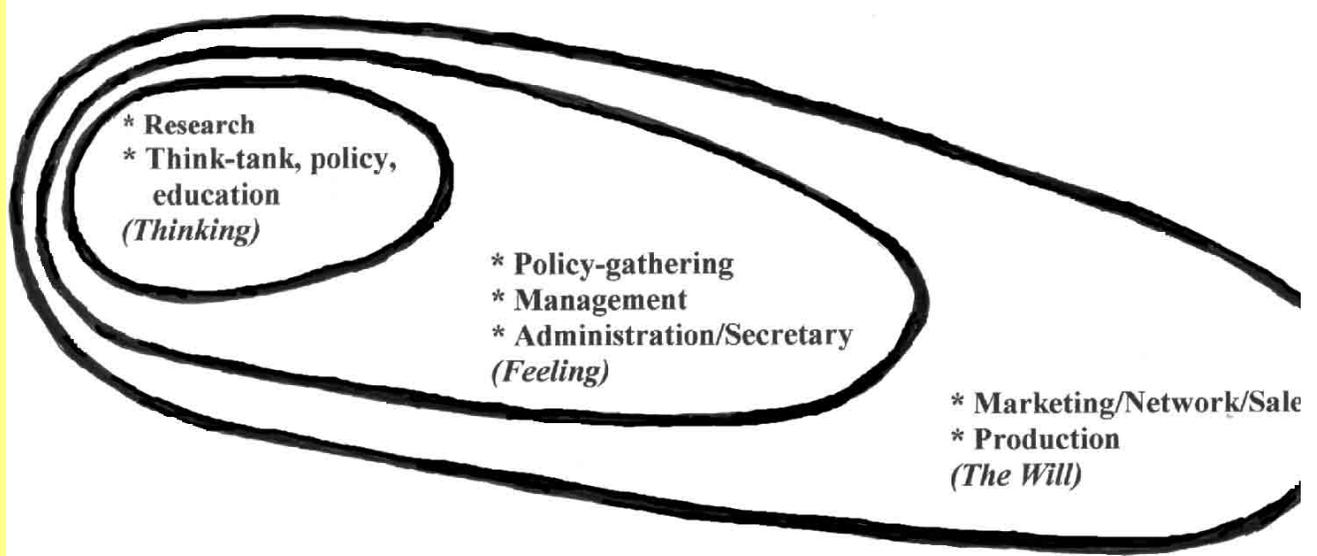
* Mercury/lungs division. A person or group of people who take(s) care of the contacts with others and with people outside of the organization, e.g. through sales and trade in products, through

purchasing, taking care of opportunities to meet and a smooth flow of information from and to the company. The maintenance of contacts within a social and economic network. In companies often referred to as the Purchasing and Sales department, as well as that of Marketing and Public Relations.

* The Moon/sexual organs division. This consists of different units of manufacturing; these can be initiatives within this organizational unity which produce various goods; also private initiatives, small companies, a cooperative entities, but also households, families, or living communities, because these have a direct concern within the Economy.

* The Sun/heart division. The policy-gathering and policy-deciding organ. Here representatives of the other six (6) organs/divisions have their seat, are the things of (current) interest discussed, the red-thread decisions shaped and made, and is the course of policy decided upon. The separate divisions though have their own competence of making decisions about tasks to carry out, provided that such decisions are not directly in the disadvantage of the other divisions. It is better to come to such decisions together. This organ of policy is also conducted by one or a few persons (who can belong to one of the other 6 divisions, but here he/she works from another point of view). In a company this is referred to as the "works council", although in the organ of conduct meant here the emphasis is on the full equivalence of every contribution from every representative. Most often the things of interest that occur in the different divisions are uttered here and in some cases decisions have to be made. Often decisions that have to be made can be postponed to a next meeting, so they can mature.

All this can function as a socially breathing entity, because the more spiritually directed part, out of which research and the shaping of ideas originates, is quite an inward happening. In the middle framework there's space for taking initiatives within a sound inward setting, meetings can take place, especially within the policy-organ which is in the core of it all. Therefore a platform needs to be created focused on and enabling to meet one another, exchange and consultate together - also with organizations from outside the cooperating body. That what shapes the basis of the company that stands within the economic realm, consists of the contacts with the surroundings, with other initiatives and work-relations, and the products that make contact with the outside world. There the manufacturing and products become visible (note that courses, trainings and service are products as well). Outlined it looks like the following:



Core of activities that are directed towards the spirit (I & II):

I. research & development

II. devising & meditating, determining lines Social setting platform of activities (III-V):

III. organ for policy; consultation and condensing decisions

IV. taking and supporting of initiatives

V. care for communication, clear and sound relations Economic directedness; relations with the surroundings(Vi,VII):

VI. connections with the outside world; transportation

VII. manufacturing departments

The participants or representatives of these divisions can step in or out of these divisions as they please (although when they want to step out they will have to take care of adequate succession that has to be accepted by the others). The freedom creates possibilities; the implementation of the divisions and positions can occur according to their (soul) qualities. It has to be clear that within this structure a person, i.e. who's major task within the organization it is to take care of connections with the outside world - depending on his/her karma and cohering faculties - positively can embark in other fields, like R&D. It is more about an emphasis of filling in a position linked up with the acceptance of responsibility, enabling to come to a good cooperation. This structure of division can form the basis for specific groups of cooperation, in which each participant can find a place that is adequate to him or her. Through a tangible division of tasks and doing things, participants in such a structured body of cooperation can try to realize by themselves and by cooperating the ideals they carry inwardly. They are merely organized according to this archetype and in freedom have mutually decided upon who occupies which positions. The way how the positions are divided among the persons and structures of organization can differ and is according to their goals and the persons who are connected to them. In case of the described way of organizing it is merely about

the general archetype.

By acknowledging and stimulating each others initiatives, qualities and faculties the participants can endeavour to produce the spiritual images and ideals which they carry inward in a better way. Thus, strivings for spiritual life (the essence of every ideal is actually such a striving) is addressed by cooperating out of its source.

Out of such structured bodies of cooperation, which have such an open structure democracy can be transformed from the bottom up, out of consciousness. By lateral connections between mutually cooperating organizations and companies interactive forms of cooperation and associative networks can come into existence, each with their own platforms of exchange and questions. This prevents a lot of unnecessary competition, and fosters more cooperation and further refinement of manufacturing.

As a matter of fact within society this can only become well practicable, when there is a build up, advancement and maintenance of a spiritual life, viz. (the coming into existence of) an ongoing constructive quest for the meaning and purpose of Life, that will nourish the social and economic Life. So, it calls for a renewing culture of New Mysteries. At the beginning of the 20th Century Rudolf Steiner also called forth for this, but it has hardly been taken up in culture. Cohering with this is the possibility to bring this about in society via an impulse of renewed education and a renewed Spiritual High School - this is elaborated on in chapter 7. In short it comes down to the following division (coinciding with the steps 2, 3 and 4 of Goethean Science):

* Spiritual Science. The working out of a keen, acute and vivid thinking towards an imaginative consciousness (coinciding with the workings of the star images of the Zodiac; workings of Uranus) * Objective Art. Focused on experiencing the cosmic effects within and by the creative soul and one can work with how the cosmos works. Thus, one can experience its inspirational conducting guidance and attempt to acquire this as a faculty. A prerequisite however is that one needs to connect inwardly with one's soul, one's heart with the phenomenon (workings of the planets in the soul, and those of Neptune) * Ethical or Moral Technique. Such a technique is derived from the gestures of will that are enclosed in the things and phenomena and would like to reveal themselves. This is the step after occupying one's self with Spiritual Science and the artistic empathizing and practice. (The realm of the houses; workings of Life. The workings of Pluto)

Such an organization of spiritual life needs to go along with schooling, training and the protection of its contents for those who aren't yet mature enough to receive it and/or work with it. This is logic since, as is described above, the realm of the will (passions) and the soul space (desires) initially are still unpurified.

Shortly summarized:

* The Economy serves to provide in a 12-folded pattern of needs *
The twelve directions of needs are colored and conducted by a 7-folded pattern of desires and preferences. This can be taken as the basis of the activities of Life of the social organism, enabling its reorganization according to the archetype of Humanity and the World; * There is a 3-folded spiritual principle which underlies Humanity and the World reflecting itself in the human soul and in the social organism of society. These are put into words in the ideals of the French Revolution and which were basically condensed during the coming into existence of the USA. They are the Freedom of thinking (Declaration of Independence), Equality in the social setting (Bill of Rights) and Brotherhood in the Economy (The Constitution).

Out of these insights one can try to approach the economy and transform it in a way that does justice to each human being on his/her own level of development. For this purpose the forms mentioned above give some possibilities, but they can be worked out per division and group as is desired, preferred or needed. This can be achieved by:

* A striving for understanding in stead of a self-directed closing-off, within and between companies and organizations; * The desire to strive for structures and networks of associative bodies of cooperation; * The attunement of methods of manufacturing and products to the developing nature of each human being and his/her relation to the Earth.