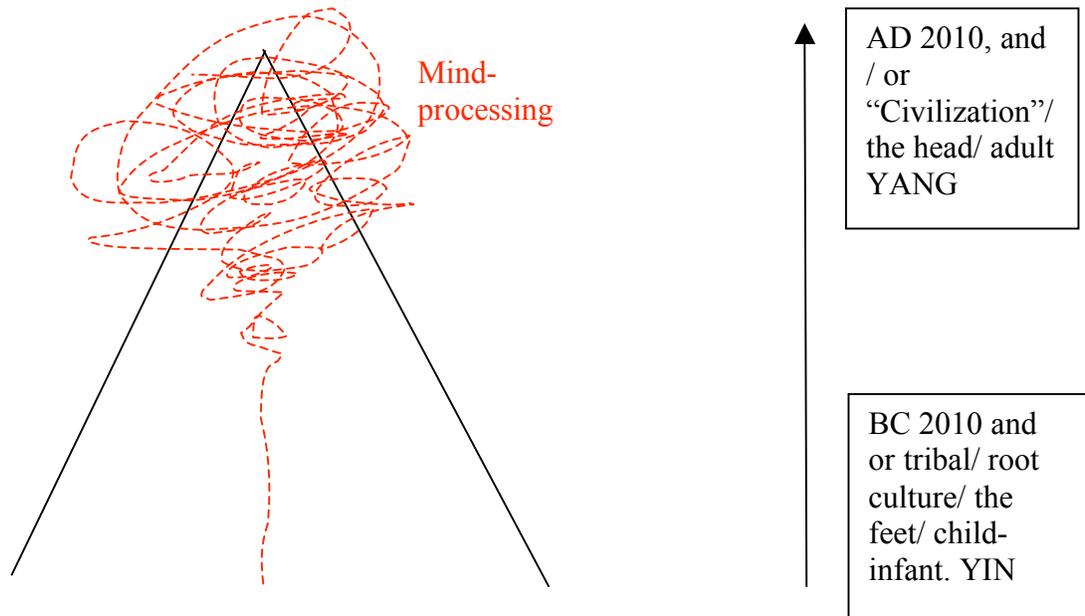


Root-culture and branch-culture

This article is an attempt to look at a global view of the problems of up-and-coming modern western ideologies of medicine, philosophy and religion and why these rarely realize their foundational nature of Oneness. If we look at the diagram below:-



This graphically represents a timeline of events as well as a picture of the human from head to feet, and also the cultural differences between the native, tribal person and the modern “civilized” person, adult-child, yinyang, all in one, phew! At certain points in history, humans were simpler, there was not so much complexity occurring at the top of the body in the head. This simple fact is very important. Over time, the development of the mind with thought and the upper body with continual movement has meant that overall decisions come from a dizzy height, whereas 4000 years ago, which is nothing in earthly terms, there was far more simplicity. It has been said that today the non-intellectual modern person reads more advertising and general literature, symbols and signs in a single day than a non-intellectual person in the 16th century would read in a lifetime!

The point is not about suggesting that the ancient people were stupid or non-intellectual but they were certainly coming from a place that wasn't all about the head. There are still those cultures which, compared to modern “civilization”, we can say are “stone-age” in their ways of life. This means that there are actually people still around today who have a base existence and understanding which is, in relation to our own “developed” culture, possibly 7000-10,000 years old. In a sense these people would seem like children in our world of the “adult”.

The root of our culture has been lost and we find ourselves in the “clouds” but without a way of remembering how to get down again. At an instinctive level we know something isn’t “okay”. This instigates a seeking ideology because this is the way of cloud-logic, “something is lost so something needs to be found” which requires methods of attempting to get “back home”. However the “cloud”, which we don’t know we are in, obscures or fragments “ways” to find “home” within the cloud-logic. There is never a question of being outside the cloud or contextualizing the cloud because this is seemingly the only way available. There is no realization that the cloud is simply at the top of the mountain, that all we need to do is to walk back down and then we can see the whole picture. From the cloud it seems only clouds are possible - a hall of mirrors of diffracting self-image within the mists. Natural processes do indeed underpin the cloud itself, because of course everything is within nature. However, it is very likely that from the upper cloud view individualistic and contractive tendency will rage, then what begins as a naturally-born connection to Oneness/an instinct of wholeness, usually ends with a hierarchical organization of some kind. The cloud of mind is such that it will immediately warp the “no-thing” of a flash of clarity, which breaks open the seeming “individual”, into a “some-thing” which can then be used in modern culture as a form of transaction or a “labelling”, which attempts to make things “fit in” with an individual’s perspective.

The roots are free from this kind of problem because it is so open down there, there is no problem. It is all oneness. So the people today who are connected to nature and understand the poetic verses than emanate from these times, are more interested in and focused upon innate senses, there is no requirement to seek, there is just what there is. For the modern or the “civilized” person, this need to seek is ongoing, it is as if one cannot find one’s own feet and as a result cannot touch the ground again.

The madness of the “civilized” world keeps pushing constantly, an irritant to the body/spirit and so there is the beginning of instinct/inspiration/intuition, in some at least, to move away, to give up all social norms and yet to stay within them, to adopt a monastic existence. But here too we find the same dualism and path of attainment, just in a more natural setting. So we go further: what about the ascetic, wandering alone? The human is connected to all others and cannot be in the state of separation from all other humans, so there is a pulling-back again - is there any way out?

This is why, when considering the roots of culture, we are also considering both the native cultures and infants and the whole of nature. That which stands out from this is modern civilization with its numerous strands of spirituality, attempting to root itself again, with its psychotherapeutics and self-development and other similar methods of finding the way down, but very often giving up nothing of supposed cultural “improvements”, “modern living” or “modern philosophies”. There are attempts to “free” the person, based on an individual’s insights, combined with fragments of ancient ideas, rendered as packages of coded words that can be studied and learned from, and when understood, “mastery” is gained. But this way, one never comes down from the cloud.

We are told that the answer is “higher up” and “spiritual”, requiring a “climbing up” or “an ascent”; in reality we find the opposite, a descent, a moving lower. What we are told is something that is “beyond” but it is actually that which is very close indeed. The world of the “civilized” is also the world of the paradoxically opposite, as if the peoples existing on this plane of deep suffering have lost their bearings and are making assumptions that are opposite to what they actually are. Humans need to become far, far simpler to really be able to live, rather than continuing to see themselves as “surviving”. In order to become “spiritual” it is neither the mind nor thinking that are the basis or foundation but the origin of the head and thought, the origin even of intuition and instinct, which lies deep within the body and its connection to the earth. It is “home” we miss, “home” we wish to go back to, “home” we want to find within, and yet when the illusion vanishes which it does in its own sweet time, not through any deliberate action on our part, then it is known that life is very deeply simple and always has been. There is very little to do, other than to eat, sleep, move, reproduce and be at One with all of life. However for most, this is “primitive” and humans need to be “higher”, to do more and become greater, yet interestingly, as is usual with modern ideology....what is seen as a peak is actually normal and what is normal is actually a peak.

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