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**Integral Consciousness**  
*Bahman Shirazi, Editor*

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Cover image: Stonehenge, Photo by Astrid Berg

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For almost thirty years ReVision has explored the transformative and consciousness-changing dimensions of leading-edge thinking. Since its inception Revision has been a vital forum, especially in the North American context, for the articulation of contemporary spirituality, transpersonal studies, and related new models in such fields as education, medicine, organization, social transformation, work, psychology, ecology, and gender. With a commitment to the future of humanity and the Earth, ReVision emphasizes the transformative dimensions of current and traditional thought and practice. ReVision advances inquiry and reflection especially focused on the fields presently identified as philosophy, religion, psychology, social theory, science, anthropology, education, frontier science, organizational transformation, and the arts. We seek to explore ancient ways of knowing as well as new models of transdisciplinary, interdisciplinary, multicultural, dialogical, and socially engaged inquiry. It is our intention to bring such work to bear on what appear to be the fundamental issues of our times through a variety of written and artistic modalities. In the interests of renewal and fresh vision, we strive to engage in conversation a diversity of perspectives and discourses which have often been kept separate, including those identified with terms such as Western and Eastern; indigenous and nonindigenous; Northern and Southern; feminine and masculine; intellectual; practical, and spiritual; local and global; young and old.

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Revision Abstracts

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This paper provides a theoretical and experiential foundation for integral education and its contribution to the evolution of consciousness. Consciousness within an extended epistemology is viewed as manifesting and expanding through the development and integration of the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual intelligences. Examples from integral education programs are provided to illustrate how the curriculum and school environment purposefully creates a unique awareness of self, self in relationship with self and environment, self in relationship with others, e.g., community, family, nation and world, etc., as well as other life forms. An invitation is made to shift the focus of education from perpetuating our outdated cultural traditions to a reinventing of our human species.


Within the evolution of consciousness are developments that reflect awareness of an emergent movement inclusive of the rational and somatic, the goal-oriented and the meditative through new structures, forms and stages. In this article, the author adds to the conversation mythopoetic (rather than pre-rational) analysis and revelations of planetary consciousness inclusive of eco-feminist, paradoxical, and critical spirituality concepts, in order to afford us the opportunity for breakthroughs and new potentials toward sustainability on the journey. She does so by the grace of inspiration emerging at the crossroads of the integral and the retroprogressive known as the dark goddess.


Astrology is too often assumed to be a relic of primitive ways of thinking, although as a discipline it has evolved over the centuries in a way that more or less reflects the cultural eras in which it has been rooted. This article suggests the use of C. G. Jung’s concept of synchronicity and ideas from chaos theory as a means of updating our way of thinking about astrology and expanding it beyond the language of myth and determinism. Jenny Wade’s model of the evolution of consciousness is explored to expand and refine astrology’s scope through the problematic issue of astrological prediction. The potential value of this approach in therapeutic and evolutionary contexts is discussed.


The work of Jean Gebser suggests that consciousness does not unfold linearly, but in leaps or mutations of what he terms spiritual evolution and that the upcoming mutation will be atemporal and acausal, rather than linear or cyclical. For this deep intuition to be applied in any real way it requires a clearer elucidation of the process of spiritual evolution whereby novelty ingresses in actuality. This paper illustrates how Alfred North Whitehead’s consideration of propositional feelings, intellectual feelings, and rational knowing we can find a coherent description of an originating impulse that he termed creativity, the process whereby leaps of novelty can occur. By combining the works of these two authors we can grow a deep and penetrating understanding of evolution and consciousness.


Hidden in Holy Women’s intuitive choices are the seeds for transformative potential that can uplift our lives. Women who benefit humanity can draw us closer to ourselves because their insight and actions have sprouted multiple perspectives that lie dormant in our own experiences. This article presents the stories of Three Holy Women’s Processes using a feminist approach to transcendental phenomenology and hermeneutics. As a postmodern theorist, the author views her own experiences as a source of knowledge through a felt-sense body knowing arising out of the diverse intuitive impulses found in these Holy Women’s lives. The research approach uses participatory synchronicity and correlation found in “lived experiences” which are brought into the light.


When exploring the nature and meaning of integral consciousness, we are challenged to bring our emerging “global mind” to bear on the question calling upon an Eastern as well as a Western perspective. This article examines the integral consciousness of ancient Chinese sages as they appear in the third century BCE Ta Chuan, the “Great Treatise” on the I Ching, and its close relationship to an emerging worldview in the West. The text offers insights into how a deeply integrative consciousness can bring the power of human discovery and invention into balance with the wisdom and integrity of human conduct toward a personal and planetary flourishing.


Sacred or secular, travel provides the sojourner with a process that is often enjoyable and has outcomes that rekindle the spirit, rejuvenate the body, and even ignite a shift in consciousness. Transformative travel involves consciously created and experienced travel that combines key elements to maximize the potential for transformation. This article introduces transformative travel as one way to foster a shift in consciousness. Transformation and transformative travel are defined and discussed, and conditions are delineated that can cause travel to be transformative. Six categories of transformative travel are discussed: pilgrim, mystic, diaspora, initiate, secular, and learner.


This essay addresses the transformation and integration of personality and attainment of a fully integrated psyche devoid of unconsciousness in the context of integral yoga and psychology. First integral consciousness is defined and its relationship to the complementary processes of evolution and involution of consciousness are discussed. Then the notions of wholeness and integration of personality are discussed using parallels between selected approaches to depth psychology and aspects of Integral Psychology based on the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo. It is argued that conscious evolution necessitates full integration of personality resulting in the eradication of the unconscious psyche.
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