

The first three rays are called the Rays of Aspect – aspects of the One. Rays four through seven are called Rays of Attribute; that is, the qualities of rays four through seven are attributed to, or caused by, Ray Three, which is an aspect, or major feature, of the One Energy Source. (Patsy)

Introduction to Ray Four

(Bailey/DK, EPI) THE FOURTH RAY OF HARMONY, BEAUTY AND ART

Special Virtues: Strong affections, sympathy, physical courage, generosity, devotion, quickness of intellect and perception.

Vices of Ray: Self-centeredness, worrying, inaccuracy, lack of moral courage, strong passions, indolence, extravagance.

Virtues to be acquired: Serenity, confidence, self-control, purity, unselfishness, accuracy, mental and moral balance.

The fourth Ray of Harmony gives to all forms that which produces beauty and works toward the harmonizing of all effects emanating from the world of causes, which is the world of the three major rays. The ray of beauty, of art and harmony is the producer of the quality of *organization through form*. It is in the last analysis the ray of mathematical exactitude and is not the ray of the artist, as so many seem to think. The artist is found on all rays, just as is the engineer or the physician, the home-maker or the musician. (49)

This has been called the “ray of struggle” for on this ray the qualities of *rajas* (activity) and *tamas* (inertia) are so strangely equal in proportion that the nature of the fourth ray person is torn with their combat. . . . *Tamas* induces love of ease and pleasure, a hatred of causing pain amounting to moral cowardice, indolence, procrastination, a desire to let things be, to rest, and to take no thought of the morrow. *Rajas* is fiery, impatient, ever urging to action. These contracting forces in the nature make life on perpetual warfare and unrest for the fourth ray person; the friction and the experience gained thereby may produce very rapid evolution, but the person may as easily become a ne’er-do-well as a hero. (205-207)

(William Meader, SF) Ray 4 The Ray of Harmony through Conflict

The Fourth Ray is the force that creates a sense of equilibrium and beauty within creation. When considering the *manifested* universe, all existence is perceived dualistically. In truth, cosmos is the outward manifestation of an endless array of dualities. By its very nature, the human mind perceives dualistically. For every thought, feeling, idea or intention that we experience, there is an opposite thought, feeling, idea, or intention that the mind entertains as a potential. For example, war is a meaningless concept if peace is not also conceived. Happiness has meaning only when contrasted with sadness. As such, the function of this ray is to find balance and resolution to the many dualities ever present within human experience.

People on the Fourth Ray tend to immediately see both sides of opposing perspectives and will persistently search for the means to harmonize them. As such, they are normally quite skilled in the art of compromise. The *Beauty of Divinity* is what is sought, for when harmony is achieved, beauty spontaneously emerges. This is what is known and searched for by people evolving through this ray. To such people, spiritual truth is considered synonymous with beauty. Beauty is realized as the gate into the mysteries of life. Through this gate, God is realized. For when the heart and eye are bathed in beauty’s splendor, divinity proclaims itself through awe and wonder.

From a global perspective, the institution most associated with the Fourth Ray is the United Nations. Its charter and mandate is to act as a mediating force in international affairs. Finding “harmony out of conflict” is clearly seen here. This ray is also connected to artistic expression. Art is occultly intended to lift the human spirit and to aid humanity in its recognition of the sublime. Though all seven rays have relationship to humanity’s artistic yearnings, it is the Fourth Ray that holds the deepest association. (78-79)

(Zachary Lansdowne, REP) Ray Four

The fourth ray is called the ray of harmony through conflict. The basic quality of a fourth-ray individual is harmony and synthesis, and the basic technique is unifying the forces in the environment. This ray is also called the “ray of struggle” because individuals on this ray often have personalities that are torn between

conflicting tendencies, such as the love of ease, pleasure, indolence, and procrastination on the one hand and fiery impatience and urge to action on the other. . . .

By applying the intuitive perception of the soul to what occurs outside themselves, fourth-ray persons sense that human beings have a noble function, namely, establishing harmony, peace, and beauty within humanity as a whole and within all of nature. Owing to this sensitivity, they may rush forth into confused combat with a constant series of dilemmas. They think each dilemma as a choice between a higher way and a lower way regarding some issue, while feeling that neither alternative is satisfactory. The higher way is based upon a sensed responsibility to humanity, and the lower way is based upon their own self-interest. They do not wish to choose the higher way because they are not yet ready to make the self-sacrifice and self-denial that they feel would be required. But they do not wish to choose the lower way because that would not be in harmony with their sense of responsibility. . . . Each dilemma is characterized as being a choice between what is called a “pair of opposites.” The only way that any such pair of opposites can be satisfactorily resolved is by finding a middle path that lies between the two opposites: for instance, a middle choice that is neither selflessness nor selfishness, neither suppression nor indulgence, neither appeasing nor opposing, . . . But to find this middle path, it is necessary to evoke the wisdom of the soul. . . .

Forth-ray individuals learn that they must first “rise up” above their emotional glammers, which means to ponder them with the mental body while being guided by the soul, and then use the resulting illumination to dissipate those glammers. Through this process they can reconcile the warring forces within themselves and discover “there is no battle” among the essential interests that underlie those forces. (16-19)

(Bailey, DN) This fourth ray is . . . the ray that teaches the art of living in order to produce a synthesis of beauty. There is not beauty without unity, without embodied idealism and the resultant symmetrical unfoldment. This ray is not the ray of art . . . but is the energy that brings about the beauty of those living forms that embody the ideas and ideals that are seeking immediate expression. (143)

(Kurt Abraham, ISR)

In the number “three” we have the unity and strength of the blended energies of the triangle. We have the trinity, the divine pattern, the transcendent and unmanifested. Something new transpires with the number “four.” Here we find the corner stone and the building block, and we also find the conflicts and woes that go into the manifesting and creative endeavor.

The fourth ray has been called “the Lower than the Three, the Highest of the Four.” It holds a mediating position between the higher and the lower, the formless and the form, the abstract and the concrete. It is bound to form, to the manifesting, but it endeavors to create the subtlest, most refined, most inspiring, most beautiful forms. . . . Manifestation, the building block, the square, the 90° angle are filled with conflict, with opposition, with cross purposes. The goal, however, is harmony, beauty and unity. This type [of person] often seeks to intuit the divine pattern, to sense the vision, and to seek inspiration. The effort to create a suitable outer form for the sensed inner vision can lead to difficulty and conflict. (11)

DN – *Destiny of Nations*

EPI – *Esoteric Psychology I*

ISR – *Introduction to the Seven Rays*

REP – *The Rays and Esoteric Psychology*

SF – *Shine Forth – The Souls Magical Destiny*