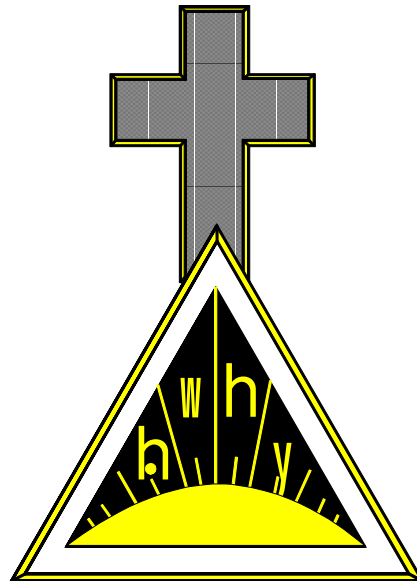


The Hermetic Order Of The  
GOLDEN DAWN<sup>Intl.</sup>

**THE CUBE OF SPACE**



**PHILOSOPHUS 4=7**

It is in the Philosophus grade of the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, 4=7, that another concept is identified that is classical Qabalah. It is called the Cube of Space. Essentially, the Cube of Space is a road map to the Universe. Ancient Qabalists used the Cube of Space as a glyph or diagram for understanding the nature of the Universe in depth. It also relates to the Neophyte and Zelator initiation where the Double Cubical Altar is utilized as one of the prime symbols of the Temple. We remember the axiom of the Emerald Tablet that states "As above, so below", or in other words, the Cube of Space is manifested on several levels, both Microcosmic and Macrocosmic.

The Cube of Space is referred to in depth in an ancient Qabalistic document called the *Sepher Yetzirah*. It is here that a direction is assigned to each letter of the mystical Hebrew alphabet. It is in studying the diagram included in this lesson on the Cube of Space and developing an understanding of it that this particular glyph or symbol can be used to demonstrate the extent of which the Qabalistic symbols are meant to help us direct and understand the internal learning process.

Please sit down now and try the following meditation. Close your eyes. Think of one thought. As you think of this one thought, ask yourself, "Where does this thought originate?" The thought that you should think about in this particular exercise is the word "I". As you think of the word "I", think in terms of where "I" originates, "What is 'I'?", "Who is 'I'?", "How does 'I' manifest?" Try this meditation before reading on, even if you spend only five minutes with it.

Now that you have focused on the internal point "I", you can begin to contemplate and digest your thoughts as to how "I" relates to the principles of the inner Universe. If you think about it long enough, I'm sure that you'll conclude that these principles are in fact the corners and directions of the Cube of Space. It is like imagining that our consciousness is enclosed or encapsulated inside a cube. This helps give our intelligence something more foundational, something more concrete, though artificial in nature, with which to begin inner self exploration and inner growth.

The Cube of Space is similar in some ways, although very different in many, to the symbolism that we have learned thus far in studying the Qabalistic Tree of Life. In some ways the *Sepher Yetzirah* describes and helps us understand the Cube of Space with great precision. In another sense though, it does not easily relate this Cube of Space to the Qabalistic Tree of Life. Perhaps one reason for this is that the document, the *Sepher Yetzirah*, does not specifically describe the paths between the sephiroth as they are understood by modern Hermetic Qabalists. Much of this work was done by S.L. MacGregor Mathers and the Golden Dawn. This work continues on today in the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn, giving us a much more in depth understanding of the nature of the Universe. Much of this information will be shared with you as you approach the Veil of the Portal and enter into the Second Order. Many Qabalistic scholars look at the differences between the Qabalistic Tree of Life and the Cube of Space as expounded upon in the *Sepher Yetzirah*, and they see that what really happened here is an attempt to infuse two conceptually different methods or approaches to the inner planes, using a type of logic similar in some ways to Pythagoras. It is very difficult for some to make an accommodation of the symbolism of the Cube of Space into their modern symbolic structure, but I think that as you examine

it more closely, you will find that it definitely has a place in the symbolic understanding of inner planes.

The Cube of Space allows us to look at the Universe from a different perspective than the more accepted Tree of Life. Here is an example of one of those symbolic exortations: Notice on the diagram, of the last page that the Universe card, the letter t, is crossing the three Mother letters at the point of the Universe. This is a very important piece of symbolism because it exemplifies the fact that through the Mother letters of a, m and c, we have final manifestation brought into relationship through the path of t, which is also called the Universe card. In other ways, the Cube of Space is more consistent with some of the traditional concepts of ritual work, such as east, west, north, and south.

A significant amount of understanding and meditation should be applied to the Cube of Space. We are not requesting that you memorize where each Hebrew letter or each Tarot card appears on the Cube of Space, but only that you try to understand the nature of the Cube of Space. It can only be understood through innerplane work. It is really a symbol that is beyond physical description with the utilization of words. Until such time as you experience the energies directly and how they cross other energies in your personal working, the Cube of Space will be nothing more than a Qabalistic concept that seems vague at best. Let us remember that all of our symbols in some way or another are artificial, from the Tree of Life, to artificial devices such as gematria and temurah.

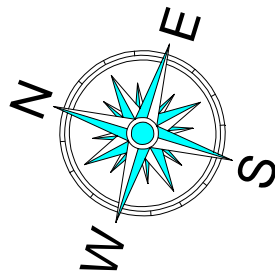
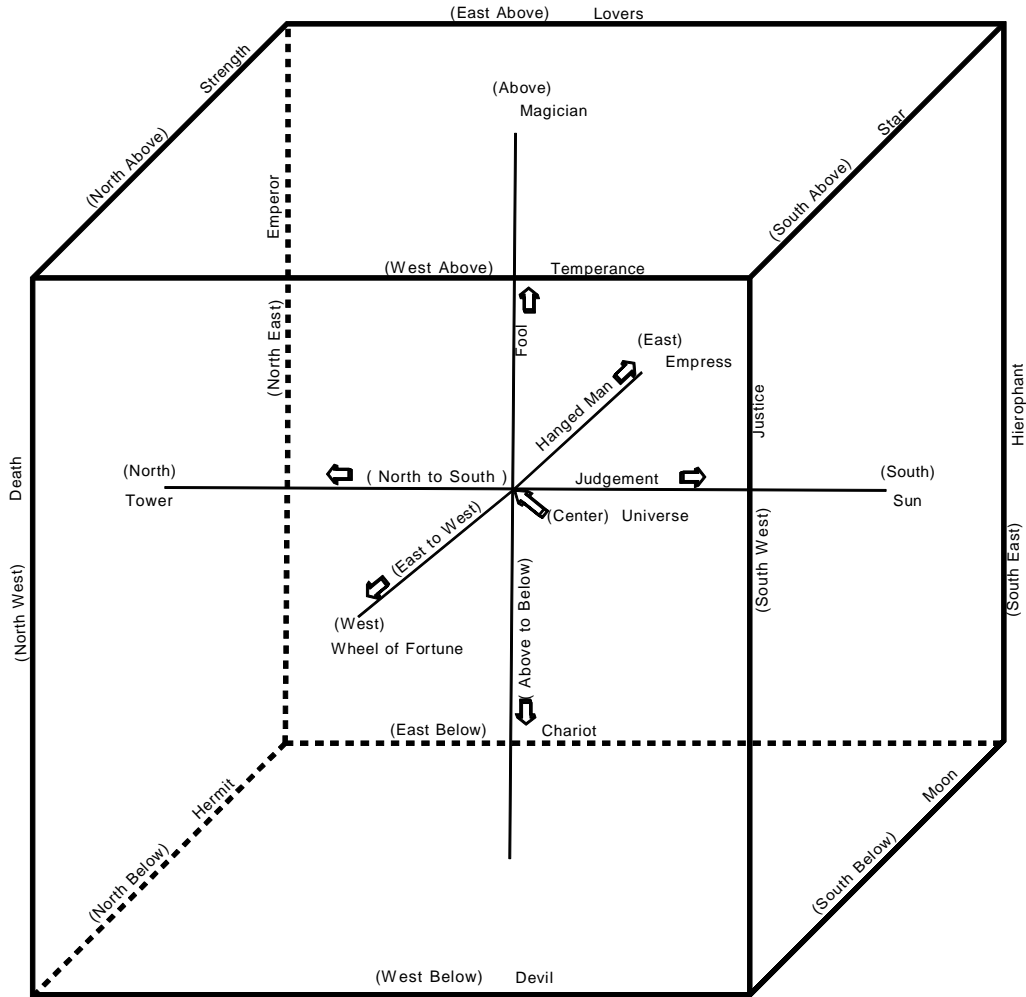
## Suggested Literature

*Sepher Yetzirah*


*Book of Creation in Theory and Practice*, by Ayreh Kaplan, Weiser publications.

*Cube of Space Container of Creation*, by Kevin Townley, Archive Press and Editions  
Le Chaos publications

(These books can be ordered in from the Order at a reduced rate of the retail price.)



# The Cube of Space

NOTE  The Philosophus may wish to draw in the Hebrew letter attributed to each path represented in the Cube of Space. It may help in identifying the energies represented therein.