

What is the role of an esoteric society?

Large esoteric orders must be functional and provide something for the Initiates within. The largest problem voiced by those leaving occult groups is either that the group had nothing to teach, or that it was encumbered with an unsuitable structure, and sometimes both! Another problem voiced is that the group had allowed itself to become more involved in internal politics or the criticism of groups other than itself to the detriment of the teaching/learning/support function.

Here are ten cornerstones;

- ✧ Initiation is the key to esoteric progress, within the context of individual development.
- ✧ Any group must be structured in an organic manner to allow growth within its own defined role.
- ✧ The role of an esoteric society is to support individual growth, transcendent of belief or behaviour.
- ✧ A networked order is the optimum model for this, based on the monastic paradigm.
- ✧ The evolution of communications technology is another symptom of this inevitable pattern.
- ✧ Politics can be by-passed by ensuring a network code of positive initiatives only.
- ✧ The network structure is like a hive that gives honey to the workers.
- ✧ The goal of an esoteric order is to support the individual in recognising themselves.
- ✧ This goal can never be achieved by excluding or perpetuating any particular path, belief, or conduct.
- ✧ The secondary goal of an esoteric society is to bring about a society of real people.

Discussions of lineage are as relevant to the above as discussing whether the scientist Stephen Hawking had his formidable knowledge of quantum physics passed down to him directly from each and every one of his predecessors. It is of no importance other than in the talk of those who have no experience of themselves to work on, and is most likely a hang-up from previous ages where blood was considered as transmitting magical properties, and, later, the rights to land and property. Magic is occult, and hence is independent of time/space concerns.

It should be noted that the ten cornerstones are in some cases the reverse of those which can be used to detect a cult.

If the student desires the goal of living in an increasingly consistent and comprehensive awareness of reality, then it is inevitable they will at many points in their Initiatory progress seek others out who have trodden the same path, no matter if the landscape is different to each of us. An esoteric society must allow for varying levels of recognition in each student, and structure itself to allow maximum benefit to each person, as would any other learning establishment.

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Cognitione sui secumque colloquio firmitatem petere.

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