



**WHO
IS
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Thousands of people around the world have been touched by the White Eagle teaching, now contained in hundreds of books which have been translated into many languages. The words in the books speak for themselves. Lots of readers probably do not worry too much about the origin of the words for they just feel that they 'ring true'. I remember my grandmother, Grace Cooke, often quoting the biblical phrase, 'Test the spirits, whether they be of God'. I started working closely with her when I was only 17 years old and she taught me never to take for granted any message or teaching which appeared to come from a spiritual source. Claims and names can be very deceptive. 'Always be discriminating' was her advice, and she taught me that the qualities to look out for are 'simplicity and humility'. It is natural, however, that many people do ask the question, 'Who is White Eagle?'

In recent years I have been talking and writing about what I have called 'the many faces of White Eagle'. I usually begin with the most familiar 'face' of the North American Indian chief 'White Eagle'. It was this personality that was chosen for the work to be done through Grace Cooke's mediumship and for the foundation-laying period of the organisation which became known as 'The White Eagle Lodge'.

Grace was a natural medium and began her work in Spiritualist churches whilst in her teens. Her book MEMORIES OF REINCARNATION tells the story of White Eagle the Iroquois chief. In the opening section entitled 'Who is White Eagle?' she herself answers in this way:

'He is always enigmatic about this and seems to discourage the subject. But many years ago when he first made himself known to me, he said that his most recent incarnation was as a Mohawk chief of the league of the Six (formerly Five) Nations of the Iroquois.'

'During my association with him in this present life he has given hints which, taken with various incidents, lead me to believe that the White Eagle who was once leader of the Six Nations of the Iroquois was in fact none other than Hiawatha, the mythical founder of the league. The name White Eagle, by which we know him now, signifies a spiritual teacher and his principal concern is with brother-sisterhood and to bring to men and women a true understanding of its meaning.'

It is probably this personality which is best known to most people associated with the early days of the White Eagle work in the present day. The portrait¹ we have of White Eagle is of this 'face'. Recently we have reissued the original portrait showing less of the feathered headdress and concentrating more on the wise face and beautiful eyes. It is his eyes which, as with most people, show the depth of character and wisdom of this remarkable soul. In my talks on his 'many faces' I always say, 'Look out for his eyes, no matter what 'dress' of what life or culture he may appear to be wearing'.

MEMORIES OF REINCARNATION also gives accounts of two more of White Eagle's lifetimes which Grace recalled in clear detail. The first one was in the Andes many thousands of years before, when White Eagle was known as 'Hah-Wah-Tah', again a wise chief. Her description of him is very evocative:

¹ This was painted by the artist R J Vicaji. White Eagle (speaking through Grace) told Mr Vicaji that he had painted a portrait of him, although Mr Vicaji had not realised this at the time. He later gave the portrait to Grace and it now hangs in the Library of Brotherhood in the Temple at New Lands.

'Among all my memories, I see my father's beloved face the clearest. Yet I have no power to describe it except to say that his features were regular and his mouth wide and humorous, showing unusual strength even in repose. Neither can I describe his eyes otherwise than by saying that they were extraordinarily kind and gentle, with a decided twinkle in their depths...Perhaps the most unforgettable thing about him was his voice: low, musical, seldom raised, yet every word perfectly clear. No one could ever forget its cadence nor lose the love and confidence it inspired; there was a quality, a grace and power in it, as in the speaker himself. People did not fail to hear the least word when Hah-Wah-Tah spoke.'

The third life she also describes in vivid detail is set in Egypt. In this lifetime, White Eagle was a temple high priest known as Is-Ra and Grace was his pupil, Ra-min-ati. Again there is a memorable description of White Eagle as Is-Ra. It is an account of when Ra-min-ati is first taken by her mother, Nofret, to meet him.

'At first she felt rather than saw his serene presence, then a hand rested on her head and she turned her gaze upward to meet deep, violet-blue eyes that looked at her with humour and kindness, and at last she realized suddenly that this was someone very near and dear. When he spoke, calling her his daughter, she knew that at some time or other she had been, indeed still was, his child. She tried to remember their last meeting but her mind revealed nothing. He read the thoughts that raced through her child-mind and smiled again saying, "You are puzzled, little one, but have patience. The mists will clear and you will see me not through a veil but face to face and you will know the joy of reunion"'

In the present day, White Eagle often appears in a universal guise, not linked to any one particular personality. Long before the dawning of the Aquarian Age with its ideals of equality and brother-sisterhood, White Eagle was pioneering in both religious and social areas. He has worked, and continues to work, to break

down the old Piscean Age barriers of class, colour, creed and gender. For instance, he has always referred to God as both Father and Mother.

In more recent years, since Grace's passing into the inner world, White Eagle's connection with all the main religions of the world has become much more apparent. Indeed, one of the hallmarks of his philosophy is its inclusiveness and universality. In his own words:

'We would remind you that all esoteric truths spring from the one simple truth. We would like you to see this truth as a tree – a tree of knowledge, shall we call it – planted in the infinite and eternal garden. This tree has many branches, big branches breaking up into smaller ones and even smaller and smaller, until you get a very fine skeleton of the tree. These branches are the innumerable aspects of esoteric truth; but individual men and women get hold of one little branch, or even one little twig, and think that they have the whole truth and that it is the only truth! By doing so, they are enclosing themselves in a little dark box, which we will call the mind, and it becomes a very dark prison. Slowly, however, each man or woman is touched in their heart by the love of God and, even more slowly, awakens to the truth of the unity of all life and all religions.'

In my recent talks on the 'many faces of White Eagle' I have shared some of my experiences and memories of White Eagle's work in other cultures. When I was in Tibet, in one of the monasteries there, I became aware of White Eagle in his personality of a wise old lama. He was seated with a group of monks, his students, some of whom I recognised from this lifetime. There are many examples in his teaching where the Buddhist influence is felt:

'Meditation and union with God is of the utmost value in daily life. It is better to be good than to dissipate energy in an endeavour to do good. Being good, being God-conscious, being God-loving, being

God-wise, does far more to help life than misplaced energy which is trying to do good. Therefore choose being, rather than seeming to be.'

Some years before that, I had a very clear memory of being with White Eagle when he was a Zen Master. I was one of a group of monks seated in a circle around him. He was teaching the way of sudden enlightenment using 'koans'. (Perhaps the most famous koan is, 'What is the sound of one hand clapping?') White Eagle's modern-day teaching, besides being simple in its message, also has a depth which reminds us of the mystery of life in the way koans do. His teaching also has a noticeable Taoist influence and there are some who feel the link between White Eagle and Lao Tse. There are many passages in White Eagle's teaching which are truly 'Taoist' in essence, for example:

'You get set ideas as to what you want and what you think we want, which are not always right, you know. We say to you take step by step whatever is open to you. Think well, accept and trust. One step leads to another. Let your minds be malleable. Remember that in the world of spirit the condition of life is not rigid, it is fluid, it is just moving all the time, moving forwards to harmonious and beautiful states. Just go with the tide.'

I have also had experience of White Eagle's lives in the Islamic tradition. I have remembered him as a learned scholar and mathematician and also as a Sufi saint. In the Christian tradition, I believe, he worked in the Essene Brotherhood at the time of Jesus and subsequently incarnated on a number of occasions when he worked in small brotherhood groups to try to re-establish the true essence of Jesus's simple teaching of love. There is a recognised link between White Eagle and both St Columba and St Francis which has been felt by a significant number of his followers, and I believe with other saints too. When asked if White Eagle incarnated in a female body, my answer is, 'Yes, but so far I have

not myself had a clear memory of a female incarnation.'

White Eagle himself has always been reticent about who he is, neither does he make any big claims for himself. As he has often said, he is a spokesperson for the 'White' (meaning radiant) or 'Star' brother-sisterhood who have worked for all time to assist human evolution and unfoldment. In his own words:

'From time to time, usually in periods of great need and particularly at the time of transition from one great age to another, such as we are experiencing today, messengers come back to earth from this ancient brother-sisterhood to bring special help to humanity on their long journey home to the heart of the spiritual Sun. As humankind comes further and further down into the density of matter, it seems that men and women live totally enclosed by the limitations of their minds and their physical bodies. Thus they have grown further away from the Source of all life from which they came.'

The Magic of the Star

One particular aspect of White Eagle's work is to reveal to people what might be called the 'magic of the Star'. A shining six-pointed Star is a symbol White Eagle has revealed to us for the new Age of Aquarius and its two triangles (depicted with no divisions) portray the integration that needs to take place in this modern world between our spirituality and our material life. White Eagle's teaching is very practical and shows a way in which we can practise his spiritual message, no matter what our everyday circumstances, life or work.

In the White Eagle Lodge the Star symbol is used as a powerful focal point for healing and prayer. A very important aspect of the work of the White Eagle Lodge is offering service to the wider community. The Lodge provides simple sanctuaries of peace and places of worship, or 'Star Centres' open to all for retreat from the busy everyday world. One point to mention here is concerned with the actual word 'Lodge' which is often misunderstood. White Eagle himself gave us this name in 1936 when his first 'church' or 'sanctuary' was opened. In the North American Indian tradition 'lodge' denotes a place for nurture and rest. However, nowadays, due to the common misunderstanding of the word, most of our Centres around the world have chosen to call themselves 'White Eagle Star Centres'.

We do invite you to visit any of our Centres, and indeed our three Star Temples, and also to find out more about the White Eagle work and Wisdom School via our websites and books (see addresses at end).

How White Eagle Continues to Guide our Work Now

When Grace Cooke passed on (3.9.1979) the work of the White Eagle Lodge was continued by her two daughters, my mother Joan Hodgson and my aunt Ylana Hayward. Joan herself passed in October 1995 and Ylana in September 2011. During the period they were leaders (or as we say 'Mothers of the Lodge'), White Eagle made it very clear that he was working as closely with them as he had been before, and that although they were not 'channelling' teaching from him for publication, he was clearly guiding the further unfoldment of his work. As I said earlier, White Eagle has never made claims for himself but we know that in recent years he has been able to bring down to earth from high spiritual realms the ray of a great being we have come to know as 'the Master of the Star', a master working on the second ray of love/wisdom and very closely associated with St John and the one known in theosophical writing as the Master KH.

White Eagle has described himself to me as 'a disciple of the Master of the Star'. He is a 'channel' for the Master, helping bring into our work this powerful influence. He wants to help us move towards a broader concept of the inspiration and guidance behind our work and away from the Spiritualist concept of a personal guide channelling messages or teaching through a particular physical medium. The glorious ray of light and inspiration now shining directly into our work from the Master of the Star (channelled at a more personal level through White Eagle) is not limited to one individual person. It is our absolute one-pointed dedication to the Master of the Star Brotherhood work which 'plugs us in' to the inspiration which can flow through us when we put on our 'robe of office' to do a particular piece of work for the Master. Nowadays our work is indeed worldwide and thankfully we have a number of Ministers who have particular roles in the work, as do our Star Centre Leaders and key workers around the world. It is a wonderful thing for us to realise through this work that *all* can

be inspired by White Eagle for the work in their area of expertise or their part of the world. However, it is a specific part of the discipline of our Brotherhood that individual brothers, leaders or ministers do not channel teaching in the name of White Eagle (or allow others within the group, Lodge or Centre to offer channelled teaching themselves), the point being that our work is to guide and encourage each one to discover that they have their own contact with the inner world of spirit. White Eagle himself has said also that our guides will never tell us what to do because this would take away our ability to discern and discriminate; but they will support, comfort and aid our endeavours.

The White Eagle work and path of service has always been a 'mystery or wisdom school' and in 2006 White Eagle gave the guidance to use the name 'The White Eagle Wisdom School'. Now much of our work comes under this heading covering such areas as astrology, healing, creative arts, meditation and sacred science. White Eagle helps us to regain awareness of the ancient wisdom in these areas, not just for the intellectual exercise, but to help us in our daily lives and in our soul's growth. To find out more about the Wisdom School please contact us or your local centre.

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

All publications mentioned, including the STAR HEALING FOR PLANET EARTH and STAR BREATHING FOR PLANET EARTH prayer cards and the colour reproduction of the portrait of White Eagle are available from the addresses below. Please write, call or email for a free Publishing Trust catalogue. You can also receive further information and leaflets about the White Eagle Lodge and the White Eagle path of healing and spiritual unfoldment from these addresses:

The White Eagle Lodge

New Lands, Brewells Lane, Liss, Hampshire, England GU33 7HY
Telephone +44 1730 893300; email enquiries@whiteagle.org;
www.whiteagle.org; www.whiteaglepublishing.org

The Church of the White Eagle Lodge

PO Box 930, Montgomery, Texas 77356, USA
Telephone +1 936-597-5757; email sjrc@whiteaglelodge.org;
www.whiteaglelodge.org

The White Eagle Lodge of Australasia

PO Box 225, Maleny, Queensland 4552, Australia
Telephone + 61 7 5494 4397; email info@whiteaglelodge.org.au;
www.whiteaglelodge.org.au

Further Reading—A selection of White Eagle's teaching:

THE BEST OF WHITE EAGLE . SEEKING SERENITY
THE LIGHTBRINGER . THE LIVING WORD OF ST JOHN
WHITE EAGLE ON INTUITION AND INITIATION
WHITE EAGLE ON REINCARNATION
HEALING THE WORLD . EARTH HEALER

By Grace Cooke:

MEMORIES OF REINCARNATION
MEDITATION

Books which may help in working with the Star:

THE BOOK OF STARLIGHT
PRAYER, MINDFULNESS AND INNER CHANGE

