

The Brotherhood of the Shadows

by Heinz Pfeifer. Published 2010, Lochmann-Verlag

The above work is an English translation of the fourth edition of a book which first appeared in Germany in 1981. It has been thoroughly researched and the contents enlarged to describe, as far as possible, events of a contemporary nature.

Hans Pfeifer, the author, may well be termed a Spiritual scientific investigator who strove to contrast Rudolf Steiner's historical symptomatology with the current pragmatic method of describing history. He takes the view that officially accepted written history is a convenient fable based on cause and effect. In reality, history progresses in a series of 'jumps' triggered by much deeper lying causes.

Now, these deeper lying causes arise from the activity of the "Brotherhood of the Shadows", groups of powerful, politically-orientated men, who are striving to eliminate true Christianity, and turn humanity into a collection of mindless slaves integrated into the world Computer. Man becomes a machine! They will stop at nothing, including persecution, suffering and murder to achieve their goal of total power and world domination.

Their ultimate goal is to form a dichotomy of East and West which will be used to crush Christianised Europe.

However, all of these groups are controlled and manipulated by three retarded Spiritual beings, well known through the ages as Asura, Ahriman and Lucifer (using Rudolf Steiner's terminology.)

Asura and his hosts are motivated by social destruction, Ahriman, the father of lies, by purely mechanistic concepts, and Lucifer, the custodian of world wisdom, by egoistic arrogance. These beings are necessary for human evolution, for as mankind struggles against them, it develops the necessary strength to overcome them.

These power groups and their satellites are greatly assisted in their efforts by the fact that present humanity, as a whole, lacks the will to break free from their present scientific/materialistic conditioning and would prefer to drowse along the accepted lines of thought.

To ensure the continuance of the above trend, humanity is fed a continual stream of entertainment and global gossip, assisted by the use of drugs and spurious Spiritual movements.

After the exposition of the basis of his fundamental investigations, the author devotes the bulk of the book to the detailed study of a large number of 'triggering' events in history and the individuals involved. These are well researched, complex, crammed with detail and profusely referenced. They can, in no way, be summarised and consequently leave a wealth of detail for the reader's personal investigation. To choose, at random, two examples, we can cite the French Revolution which terminated the French monarchical System forever and the 1914-18 war which netted certain Brothers a large amount of money.

At this stage, the reader will be wondering whether humanity can survive the attacks of the Shadow Brotherhood. However, in the last chapter, the author throws some light onto the bleak world picture previously depicted. Here he tells of a Brotherhood of Light opposing the Shadow Brothers. They are a group of individuals working for rightful human progress and the true acceptance of Christ.

He then turns to Rudolf Steiner and his revelatory work and how the study of Anthroposophy gives the Student the courage to face the arduous trials lying ahead of mankind and opens his awareness of the Spiritual world. He also points to Rudolf Steiner's concepts of a threefold social order and monetary System as Steps in humanity's progress towards freedom.

However, of vital importance to human freedom is the necessity that every individual human being casts aside his apathy and strives with all his might to revitalise within himself the goal that inspired the French revolutionaries.

Liberty - Equality - Fraternity.

Frank Knowles

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