

# 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Spiritist Symposium

Reincarnation: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness

Saturday, April 11, 2009 - Faneuil Hall, Boston, MA

[Highlights](#)   [Photos](#)   [Posters](#)   [Videos](#)   [Post-event insights](#)   [Program](#)   [Website](#)

## Highlights of the 3rd U.S. Spiritist Symposium

April 11, 2009 - Boston, MA



U.S. Spiritist Symposium is an annual national event sponsored by many Spiritist Organizations as an effort to bring Spiritism to the English-speak audience.



DVD from the 3rd Spiritist Symposium is available [HERE](#)

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to [spiritistsymposium.org](http://spiritistsymposium.org)

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## Reincarnation: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness

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### Third U.S. Spiritist Symposium, a blessed and enlightened success

Very well organized and spiritually delightful, the **Third United States Spiritist Symposium**, that took place at Faneuil Hall in Boston, MA, on April 11, 2009 was one of the biggest Spiritist's event entirely promoted and executed in the English language. The Symposium, that has as its main goal to promote and disseminate the English speaking spiritist movement, showed on its 3rd edition (1st in 2007 in Baltimore, MD, and the 2nd in New York, NY in 2008) that the movement in US has grown and Spiritist centers and its members all over the country got stronger and more united and integrated since its first edition.

This year, bringing to discussion the theme *Reincarnation: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness*, the meeting, from the opening ceremony through the closing performance, was a successful gathering of enlightening, harmony and teaching, spreading love and healing among guests, workers and audience. More than 300 Brazilians, Americans and Latin Americans from several US states attended to the event. Another element that helped on the success of the event and a reason for being even more grateful was the increased number of Spiritist centers nationwide that came together to sponsor the Symposium. Twenty seven centers showed their generosity and believe that together we can unite and spread God's teaching through the Spiritist message throughout the American nation.

The masters of ceremony, Marconi Almeida and Fernanda Ferreira conducted all activities, guiding everything beautifully with perfect timing. They started welcoming everybody to the 3rd US Symposium, then announced Stephen Honton, from Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of MA, who opened the activities with a short prayer. Following, Mr. Michael Bradshaw, manager of the Faneuil Hall Marketplace, briefly introduced us to the history of the location chosen, not coincidentally, to house this Symposium. The special guest, Dr. Cesar Perri de Carvalho, one of the directors of the Brazilian Spiritist Federation and the General Secretary of International Spiritist Council, officially opened the works talking about the mission of Spiritism in the world and highlighting the importance of the Symposium to unify, promote, and disseminate the Spiritism in the English language.

At 11:30am, the MC's announced Mrs. Carol Bowman. The only non-Spiritist speaker attending to the event, Mrs. Bowman, an internationally known author - hers books *Children's Past Life* and *Return from Heaven* have been published and read around the world in 16 foreign language editions - Counselor, past life regression therapist, and an expert in reincarnation studies addressed a keynote on **Self-evident truths of reincarnation** exhibiting fascinating and touching real examples of people who experienced cases of reincarnation on their families, including the author's own experience with her son. The audience was amazed by the stories. But the insightful lesson we learned from Mrs. Bowman's lecture is that Learning about reincarnation can help us to understand ourselves better, to progress in our lives, in our relationships, and in our careers; heal our mind and spirit, and it also may lead us to the process of spiritual evolution; and that "what we do in this life really does matter", as the author stated.

Mrs. Carol Bowman speech gave us much to think and talk about on our first break for lunch. We returned more enthusiastic than ever to the first session of the meeting: **Our unalienable rights to reincarnate**, starting with Dr. Nahur Fonseca's briefing on the *Revisiting the History of Reincarnation*. Succinct and precise, Dr. Fonseca showed how the power and political interests of the orthodox religions have played a role on the disruption of reincarnation belief, transforming it in a myth and a reason of shame.

At this point, it was clear that the speakers did not measure efforts, research and creativity for this occasion. Using the Declaration of Independence as a metaphor, Daniel Assis, member of Blossom Spirit Society, CA, gave an inspired speech on *The Divine Justice on Reincarnation*. "I am so happy to be here. I see in this gathering an opportunity for us spiritists to exchange ideas, collaborate, and integrate one with each other", affirmed an enthusiastic Assis.

Inspired on academic meetings, the poster sessions, already a tradition on the symposia, are a



Gaby and Marconi (AKSS-MA)



Mr. Michael Bradshaw



Cesar Perri (ISC)



Carol Bawom (Keynote Speaker)

key element of communication between the exhibitors and the public. It is a one-on-one chance for clarifying doubts, answers questions and present more information about the Doctrine and its principles. This year, it was organized in two sessions. The first session, entitled, *the Spiritist foundation* was presented by Stephen Honton and Judith Peterschmidt (AKSS of MA, MA), Ovande Furtado (PESG, PA), Junara Araujo, Angela Flores and Fernando Flores (HSC, CT), Brian Vosberg (LLSC, NJ), Adriano Barbo (MVSC, NY), Joao Lopes (AKSS of Lowell, MA), Fabiana Moura and Carolina Strosnider (SSB, MD), Ricardo Mastroleo (AKSEC, TX).

While the second part, *the Spiritist therapy*, was presented by Maria Batchelor (GETUH, MA), Gilberto Neves and Flavio Zanetti (AKSS of MA, MA), Leonardo Vieira (SSB, MD), Elmo Deslandes (SGNY, NY), Marcelo Netto (CLSG, FL), Andre Cabral (PLSC, NJ), Livia Sasson (CSSC, FL), Addison Cornwel and Dulce Story (LISDSG, NY), Mackenzie Melo (AKSS of Peabody, MA).

After the first poster session, around 2:30pm, it started the second part of the presentations: **The magnificent planning of our many lives.** Dr. Sonia Doi, a member of the Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Baltimore, MD, presented the first speech for this session, *Innovative Planning in the Spirit Realm*, which explained how the preparation for the spirit to reincarnate is. Emphasizing the fact that, we all have a plan before we reincarnate, therefore, we should not blame God for what is not satisfied in our lives. She completed: "the difficulties here are all planned, so we can reach our goals in this life, and the Spirit can progress as it is a natural law". According to Dr. Doi, the way Spiritists will attract more Americans to the movement is speaking directly to them about how can the study, analyze and practice of the principles of the Spiritist Doctrine, along with faith in God can help one understanding and healing his physical and psychological diseases.

From Joao Korngold's lecture, *Reincarnating: Uniting Soul and Body*, we heard the extraordinary unite process of spirit, perispirit and material body, from the moment of conception to the formation of the fetus, and birth. "It is amazing to conceive how God has everything just right and realize that every one of us is meant to be exactly as we are."

The last topic of this session was *Key Elements for a Successful Reincarnation: Family Ties*. No one could represent this issue better than a family. And we did have a lovely couple, Jussara and Joao Korngold, member of the Spiritist Group of NY, NY. Through their talk, we comprehend that sometimes is not possible to choose in which family we are going to reincarnate, how to accept and deal with the family that we were tied with, and how to build a strong family basis, then we can be prepared for the common crisis all families may have.

A lot of thoughts, now we feel more fascinated than ever for the Spiritist principles... But we do need a short break, so we can refresh our minds, exchange some thoughts with our colleagues, and come back for more knowledge.

The attendee, Robert Kirk, a retired school teacher from Woodstock, CT, demonstrated a special satisfaction for the opportunity of participating in this symposium. A Carol Bowman's fan, he learned about the event on her webpage. It was the first time he heard about the Spiritist doctrine, but Kirk, who also studies and lectures on reincarnation principles, was pretty happy with what he has experienced so far.

Another non-Spiritist attendee was Erik Freeman, from New Hampshire. Freeman was introduced to Spiritism by a Brazilian friend a while ago, in Baltimore, MD, where he used to live and attended the first symposium. Since then, always when he has a chance, he participates on events like this. "What I like most on Spiritists is that they are open to new ideas, their open mind and capacity to accept new technologies, changes in every way", said Freeman.

There also were a very interested group of Spiritualists that were attending a Spiritist event for their first time. Lorie J. Mathis and Patti Bertcci, two nurses from Acton, MA, specialized on Spiritualist healing, heard about the Symposium through a Brazilian friend and came curious to find out if their doctrine interconnects with the Spiritism. They were very thrilled with what they have been witnessed, and said they were looking forward to attend more Spiritist events and even go to a Spiritist center. Sirry Berndsen and Sondra Adelman, both from Plymouth, MA, decided to attended the Spiritist Symposium after seeing an advertise on the Metro Newspaper. "It's the first time I ever have been to a Spiritist meeting. I knew that was some similarity with Spiritualism; and so far it has corresponded to my expectations. We spiritualists believe in reincarnation, but we don't discussion it like the Spiritists do. I like it very much." Sirry Said.

We came back to the third session of the event, it is past 3pm now, and it is time for the testimonies: **Discovering new pathways with Spiritism.** It was an emotional moment, when we all felt deeply connected through minds and hearts with other fellows who discovered on spiritism a way of life. Charles Pietrewick (AKSS of MA, MA) and Soraida Arana (SGNY, NY)



Nahur Fonseca (AKSS-MA)



Daniel Assis (BSS-CA)



Sonia Doi (AKSS-MD)



Joao Korngold (SGNY-NY)



Jussara Korngold (SGNY-NY)

shared their stories of how they found hope and felt embraced in an atmosphere of love, faith, illumination, happiness and purpose.

For the last part of speeches it was well reserved the topic **Freeing the soul, evolving the spiritual body**. Julio Carvalho, from Divine Light Spiritist Center, NJ, opened the session using a compelling example on his professional routine to explain *Our Free Will and Forgetfulness of the Past*. A member of the Spiritist Society of Palm Beach, FL, Mauricio Cisneiros brought a light of optimism on how *Overcoming Past Conditionings: Will Power and the Fluids*.

Concluding the lecture sessions, Dr. Vanessa Anseloni, PhD, founder director of the Spiritist Society of Baltimore, once again, used her smoothing approach to bring us more precious instructions on how to use the Spiritism teaching and tools to boost our health and well being. With the topic *Purifying the Perispirit: Disease and Health*, she gave important advice on how we may avoid certain diseases if we can be able to detect it on the perispirit, before it affects the physical body. An enlightening share, since we all should know that one of the essential path to the pursuit of happiness it is a healthy and well-cared mind and body.

On the final part of the program, session five, we had a half-hour Q&A session, when some of the speakers answered selected questions from the audience. Then we enjoyed the play "Starting Over: Love Never Fails", performed by a Spiritist theater group formed by members of IESS, SGNY, SGLL and MVSC. A story of love and forgiveness, written and directed by Eduardo Guimaraes (IESS), and interpreted by Isabella Fernandes, Joao Bosco, Abilio Andries, Eduardo Guimaraes, Regina Tannure, Angela Stewart and Jussara Korngold. "We consider arts as being very powerful means of reaching people's mind and heart", affirms the group.

Acknowledging another inspiring arts contribution to the event, we cheer the band (Jose Pienasola's Group). Responsible for the Symposium soundtrack, their music not just pleased our ears, but also harmonically orchestrated the gap between the exchanges of guests on the stage, and signed with a tune when it was time to go to and come back from the breaks. Members of the Band: Sonia Azul(voice); Gustavo Assis Brazil(Guitar); Daniel Nocera (Keyboards) and Jose Pienasola (Double bass)

Coordinated by Hugo Melo (IESS), Alba Morales (SSB) and Bernadete Leal (SSSD), the youth activities happened simultaneously at the second floor of the Hall. Teens who came with their parents had the chance to learn and to practice their spirituality through funny plays. It is gratifying to see adult Spiritists doing this precious effort to coaching young conscious. It is literally Hope in a better future, seeing boys like Andreas Calderon and Nicolas Neves so joyful describing a yarn web activity they've just done. Among them also were Gabriel, Sammuell, Sebastian, Thalia and Karla.

It was a weekend of acquaintance. An occasion to get together with our Spiritist friends, meet some new ones, discuss ideas, exchange experiences and congregate on an atmosphere of love, knowledge and blessing. Afterwards, while we were processing all teaching we had learned for the day, some of the workers got together in a local restaurant for pastime and dinner, celebrating the accomplishment.

The motto "Liberty and union now and forever", written under the painting panel inside of the Fanueil Hall, sounds perfect to postulate what we have experienced on this important moment of the Spiritist movement in North America.

**Written by** Maria Ines Negromonte

**Photos by:**

Carlos Corte-Real

Mackenzie Melo

Helder Martins

Daniel Santos



Charles Pietrewick (AKSS-MA)



Soraida Arana (SGNY-NY)



Julio Carvalho (DLSC-NJ)



Mauricio Cisneiro (SSPB-FL)



Vanessa Anseloni (SSB-MD)



Poster Presenters 1



Poster Presenters 2



Hugo (IESS-NY), Bernadete (SSSD) and Alba(SSB-MD)



PLAY: Love never fails (IESS - NY)

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## PHOTOS - 3rd U.S. Spiritist Symposium



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### Photos - Contributors

- Carlos Corte-Real
- Mackenzie Melo
- Daniela Pamplona
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- Daniel Santos

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God at Home



Inner Transformation



Intelligent Sleep



Prayer



The Therapeutics of Charity



Obsession and Desobsession



The Therapy of Passes



Fraternal Counseling



Spiritually Magnetized Water



Spiritism for Children

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## VIDEOS

Videos presented at the Symposia:

*To download the video (FLV format), just right click with the mouse cursor over the link and choose "SAVE TARGET AS"*



**1- Special Presentation** by Cesar Perri, in Portuguese, for Spiritist Directors and Practitioners - [Watch HERE](#)

**2- Spiritism - Short Movie** (12:58 min)  
1st, 2nd and 3rd U.S. Spiritist Symposium



**3- Divaldo Franco's Message** (4:00 min) 2nd U.S Spiritist Symposium

**4- Raul Teixeira's Message** (1:40 min) 1st U.S. Spiritist Symposium -



See videos from the  
**2nd U.S. SPIRITIST SYMPOSIUM in NY (2008)**  
at the [SpiritistNet](#) - Playlist 2nd U.S. Symposium

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## Post-Symposium Meeting

*The day after each Symposium became a tradition as a day where Spiritist directors and practitioners get together to share and discuss new strategies on the dissemination of the Spiritist message in the USA. Below you will find a summary of the last three meetings.*

### Third U.S. Spiritist Symposium - 2009

#### Creating Bridges for Spiritism in America

In order to better disseminate the Spiritist philosophy in the North America soil, Spiritist Directors and Practitioners get together in the day after the 3rd U.S. Spiritist Symposium to discuss their insights on how to create bridges for Spiritism in America.

Some of the main highlights were: *to adjust vocabulary to reflect ideas correctly; understand our American audience; and persist with English-speaking meetings...*

Get summary review in pdf version of this meeting [HERE](#)

See more information at [The Spiritist Magazine](#) (issue #8)

[SPIRITIST CATALOG](#) (Spring 2009)



*Spiritist Directors and Practitioners present at the meeting, on April 12th 2009, at the AKSS-MA headquarter, to discuss the current scenario of the U.S. English-speaking movement. See more photos [HERE](#)*

### Second U.S. Spiritist Symposium - 2008

#### Empowering the English-Speaking Spiritist Movement in the USA

Following a tradition that started in 2007 after the 1st U.S. Spiritist Symposium, U.S. Spiritist directors and coordinators met on April 20, 2008 (the day after the 2nd U.S. Spiritist Symposium in NY) to discuss the progress of the English-speaking Spiritist movement, while empowering and uniting it in the United States...

One of the main highlight was the need to Promote local English-speaking events at least once a year

Get report in pdf version of this meeting [HERE](#)

See full review of the Symposium at the [SpiritistNEWS](#) (pdf 982KB)



*Spiritists present at the meeting, on April 20th 2008, at the SGNY*

headquarter, to discuss the current scenario of the U.S. English-speaking movement. See more photos [HERE](#)

## *First U.S. Spiritist Symposium - 2007*

Insights on Spreading Spiritism in the U.S.A.

In the morning of April 15, 2007 (the day after the symposium), representatives of 11 Spiritist centers in the U.S. gathered together at the Spiritist Society of Baltimore headquarter to discuss about strategies to help disseminate Spiritism in English, which I would like to share with you, so that we may bring some of these points up in our next meetings...

One of the main highlights was that there are many people ready to disseminate Spiritism in English in the USA.

Get report in pdf version of this meeting [HERE](#)

See complete review at the [SpiritistNews](#) (821KB)



*Spiritists got together, at SSB headquarter, to build strategies on how to be more effective in the dissemination of Spiritism in America. See more photos [HERE](#)*

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### PROGRAM

11:00 OPENING

#### Self-evident truths on reincarnation

[Carol Bowman](#), author of [Children's Past Lives](#) and [Return from Heaven](#) (Keynote address)

12:30 pm - LUNCH

1:30 pm - SESSION 1

#### Our unalienable rights to reincarnate

- Revisiting the History of Reincarnation - Nahur Fonseca [4]

- Divine Justice on Reincarnation - Daniel Assis [16]

#### First poster session: [the Spiritist foundation](#)

Stephen Honton[4], Brian Vosberg[5], Judith Peterschmidt[4], Junara Araujo, Fernando Flores[21], Adriano Barbo[24], Fabiana Moura[1], Joao Lopes[26], Carolina Strosnider[1], Ovande Furtado[10], Angela Flores[21], Ricardo Mastroleo[14]

2:30 pm - SESSION 2

#### The magnificent planning of our many lives

- Innovative Planning in the Spirit Realm - Sonia Doi[18,19]

- Reincarnating: Uniting Soul and Body - Fred Gouveia[2]

- Key Elements for a Successful Reincarnation: Family Ties - Jussara and Joao Korngold[2]

3:15 pm - BREAK

3:30 pm - SESSION 3

#### Discovering new pathways with Spiritism

Charles Pietrewick[4]

Soraída Arana[2]

#### Second poster session: [the Spiritist therapy](#)

Maria Batchelor[9], Gilberto Neves[4], Flavio Zanetti[4], Leonardo Vieira[1],

Elmo Deslandes[2], Marcelo Netto[7], Andre Cabral[15], Livia Sasson[3],

Addison Cornwel/Dulce Story[17], Mackenzie Melo[23]

4: 30 pm - SESSION 4

#### Freeing the soul, evolving the spiritual body

- Our Free Will and Forgetfulness of the Past - Julio Carvalho[6]

- Overcoming Past Conditionings: Will Power and the Fluids - Mauricio Cisneiro[27]

- Purifying the Perispirit: Disease and Health - Vanessa Anseloni[1]

5:15 pm - SESSION 5

#### Q & A on reincarnation

Program Speakers

#### PLAY: Love never fails

Inner Enlightenment Spiritist Society

6:15 pm - CLOSING CEREMONY

**Carol Bowman**

(keynote speaker)



Read more about her

[HERE](#)

ACTIVITY FOR YOUTH

#### Learning through my many lives

(12 to 18 years old)

Hugo Melo[11]

Special Meeting for Spiritist Directors  
**CREATING BRIDGES FOR SPIRITISM IN AMERICA**  
 Sunday, April 12, 2009 (10am - 1pm)  
 Location: AKSS-MA Center  
 52 Broadway - Somerville, MA 02145

#### [Organization]

1. [Spiritist Society of Baltimore](#) (MD)
2. [Spiritist Group of New York](#) (NY)
3. [Christian Spiritist Study Center](#) (FL)
4. [Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of MA](#) (MA)
5. Love and Light Spiritist Center (NJ)
6. [Divine Light Spiritist Center](#) (NJ)
7. [Conscious Living Spiritist Group](#) (FL)
8. [Kardecian Spiritist Federation of Florida](#) (FL)
9. [Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Marlboro](#) (MA)
10. [Path to Enlightenment Spiritist Group](#) (PA)
11. [Inner Enlightenment Spiritist Society](#) (NY)
12. [Spiritist Society of San Diego](#) (CA)
13. [Caritas Spiritist Center](#) (CO)
14. [Allan Kardec Spiritist Educational Center](#) (TX)
15. [Path of Light Spiritist Center](#) (NJ)
16. [Blossom Spiritist Society](#) (CA)
17. [Long Island Spiritist Doctrine Study Group](#) (NY)
18. [Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Maryland](#) (MD)
19. [U.S. Spiritist Medical Association](#)
20. [United States Spiritist Council](#)
21. [Hope Spiritist Center](#) (CT)
22. [Francis of Assisi Spiritist Society](#) (TX)
23. [Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Peabody](#) (MA)
24. [Mount Vernon Spiritist Center](#) (NY)
25. [Love and Charity Spiritist Center of Orlando](#) (FL)
26. [Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Lowell](#) (MA)
27. [Spiritist Society of Palm Beach](#) (FL)

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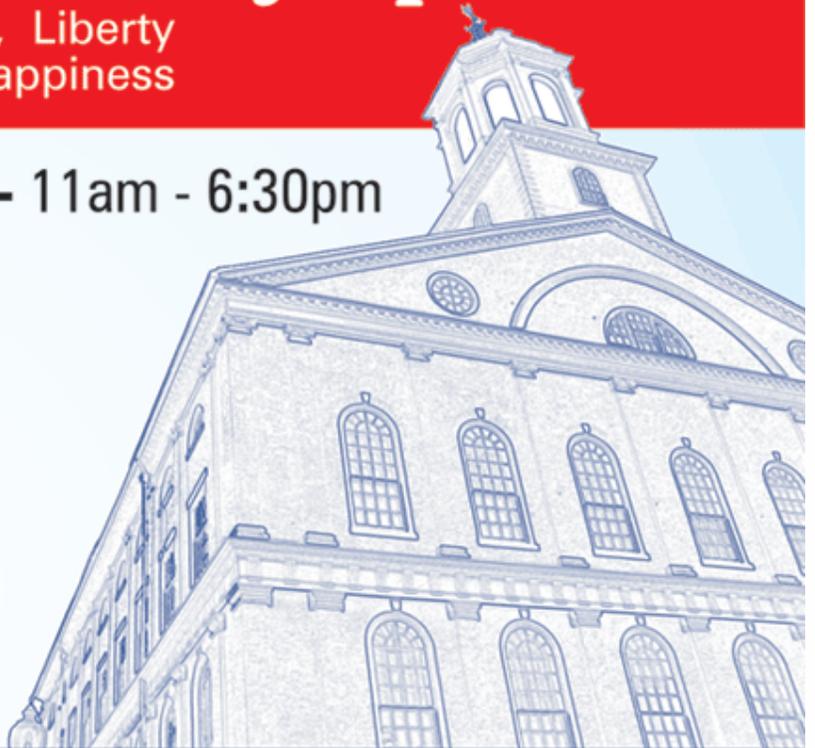
## Faneuil Hall

1 Faneuil Hall Market Pl  
Boston, MA

## Free admission

Registration required at  
**[www.spiritistsymposium.org](http://www.spiritistsymposium.org)**  
Tel.: 857-472-2922

[SPIRITIST CATALOG](#)



*"To be born, to die, to be reborn yet again, and constantly progress. This is the law." - Allan Kardec's epitaph*

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2:30 pm - SESSION 2

#### The magnificent planning of our many lives

- Innovative Planning in the Spirit Realm - Sonia Doi[18,19]

- Reincarnating: Uniting Soul and Body - Fred Gouveia[2]

- Key Elements for a Successful Reincarnation: Family Ties - Jussara and Joao Korngold[2]

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17. [Long Island Spiritist Doctrine Study Group](#) (NY)
18. [Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Maryland](#) (MD)
19. [U.S. Spiritist Medical Association](#)
20. [United States Spiritist Council](#)
21. [Hope Spiritist Center](#) (CT)
22. [Francis of Assisi Spiritist Society](#) (TX)
23. [Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Peabody](#) (MA)
24. [Mount Vernon Spiritist Center](#) (NY)
25. [Love and Charity Spiritist Center of Orlando](#) (FL)
26. [Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Lowell](#) (MA)
27. [Spiritist Society of Palm Beach](#) (FL)

# SPIRITISM

*"Spiritism is the Science that deals with the nature, the origin and the destiny of Spirits, as well as their relationship with the corporeal world."*

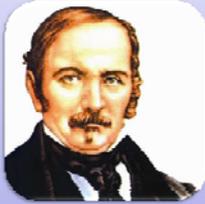
## ALLAN KARDEC, THE CODIFIER

- Born on October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1804 in Lyon, France.

- Pen name of Hypolite Leon Denizard Rivail.

- Educated at the Institute of Pestalozzi at Yverdon, Switzerland.

- Married Amelie Boudet in 1832.



1804 - 1869

- Published many books on the methodology of French grammar.

- Pedagogue and doctor in medicine.

- French linguist (English, German, Italian and Spanish).

## KARDEC'S RESEARCH METHOD<sup>1</sup>

1. Table turning → forerunner of facts
2. There was an intelligent power expressed through the turning table movements
3. Yes/No answers to questions
4. The 'leg' of tables in motion started striking on a succession of blows that corresponded to the number of each letter of the alphabet
5. Pencil fitted to a basket → paper → write
6. The presence of certain gifted persons would potentiate the movements (Mediums)
7. Mediums started to write
  - ✓ Caroline e Julie Boudin
  - ✓ Ruth Japhet
  - ✓ Aline Carlotti
  - ✓ Ermance Dufaux
8. Other psychic means of communication:
  - Speaking, Hearing, Seeing, Touching, Writing



## UNIVERSAL CONTROL OF THE SPIRITIST TEACHINGS<sup>2</sup>



- They are spread from pole to pole.
- They are brought through many different mediums.
- It does not depend on only one person.
- There is no nationality.
- It does not stem from any known religion.
- No social class.
- They are being given gradually by the enlightened Spirits.

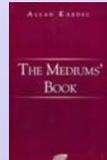
## THE FOUNDATION

1857



"To live a balanced life, we need answers."  
 > 1019 Questions & Answers  
 • First Part: First Causes  
 • Second Part: The Spirit World  
 • Third Part: Moral Laws  
 • Fourth Part: Hopes and Solaces

1861



The First and Most Complete Scientific Treatise on Mediumship  
 > 36 chapters  
 • First Part: Preliminary Observations  
 • Second Part: Spirit-Manifestations

1864



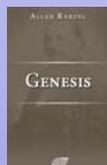
Explanations on the ethico-moral maxims of Christ and their application in various circumstances in life.  
 > 28 chapters

1865



Divine Justice According to Spiritism  
 • First Part: Doctrine  
 • Second Part: Examples

1868



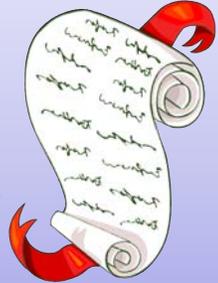
Miracles and Predictions According to Spiritism  
 • Character of the Spiritist Revelation  
 • Genesis  
 • Miracles and Predictions

## REFERENCES

1. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Introduction.
2. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, Introduction.
3. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 799.

## MAIN PRINCIPLES

1. Existence of God
2. Immortality of the Soul
3. Reincarnation
4. Multitude of the Inhabited Worlds
5. Communicability of the Spirits



## PRACTICE

&

## GUIDELINES

- ✓ Prayer
- ✓ God at Home
- ✓ Inner Transformation
- ✓ Intelligent Sleep
- ✓ Charity
- ✓ Disobsession
- ✓ Passes Therapy
- ✓ Fraternal Counseling
- ✓ Spiritually Magnetized Water
- ✓ Spiritism for Youth and Children

- The Spiritist practice is free of charge.
- There are no external forms of worship, such as rituals or images.
- There is neither hierarchy nor clergy.
- Spiritism does not impose its principles on anyone.
- Spiritist mediumship is practiced in groups under the guidelines of its foundation.
- Its main motto is "Without charity there is no salvation."

## INFLUENCE OF SPIRITISM ON PROGRESS<sup>3</sup>

"Spiritism can contribute to progress by destroying materialism and thus make human beings understand where their true interest lies.

It can eliminate doubts so that people will understand more clearly that they can insure the happiness of their future by their action in the present.

By destroying the prejudices of religions, social classes and races, it teaches humanity the great lesson of solidarity that will, one day, unite them as brothers."



*"Spiritism is at the same time a Science of observation and a Philosophical doctrine. It is also a Religion as of its moral consequences."*

# ALLAN KARDEC

October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1804 - March 31<sup>st</sup> 1869

*"Unshakable faith is only that which can meet reason face to face in every Human epoch."*

Allan Kardec - The Gospel According to Spiritism

## CHILDHOOD

### Birth Certificate

Baptism June 15, 1805



In 1815, Hipolyte Leon Denizard Rivail was sent to study in Yverdon, Switzerland at the Institute created by Henri Pestalozzi.



Yverdon

## YOUTH

• Denizard was taken by an unstoppable desire to learn.

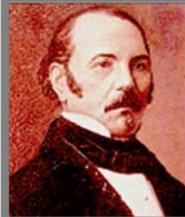


• He woke up at 4:30 a.m. every morning to study.

• At the age of fourteen, he started teaching his schoolmates.

Yverdon

## TEACHER RIVAIL



- Spoke German, English, Italian, and Spanish.
- Translated a variety of works on education
- Student from 1815 to 1824
- Pedagogue from 1824 to 1848

- Founded in Paris an establishment similar to the one of Yverdon - Institute Technique
- Wrote books: grammar, arithmetic, higher pedagogical studies.
- Taught courses: chemistry, physics, astronomy, and comparative anatomy. (1835- 1840)
- Member of various scholarly and scientific societies.

Teacher Rivail

**"There are no poetical instincts in me; (...what I appreciate the most in others is clarity, lucidity, precision (...)."**



Rivail dedicated his life to education, convinced that only through it is possible to improve the human being.  
The First Book



## MARRIED LIFE

Kardec and Amélie Boudet got married on February 1832.

Amélie spiritual strength and moral purity were precious allies to Kardec's mission, of codifying and disseminating Spiritism.



## MAGNETIZER

In 1823, Rivail became interested in the studies of mesmerism. He started to participate in the works of the Magnetism Society of Paris, becoming a magnetizer.



Franz Anton Mesmer (1733-1815)



Paris

## SPIRITIST LIFE

**1848: Fox sisters Hydesville (NY)**

These Spirit-phenomena were the forerunners of Spiritism.



**1853: The ship Washington, departs from New York to the port of Brene, taking mediums, books, brochures and gazettes.**  
The press announces for the first time the arrival of the movement in Europe on April 1853.  
La Table, le Livre de les Esprits - page 19 - Marlon Andree and François Lagardine



**1854: Rivail was told for the first time about the turning tables.**

"...but it can also be made to speak. Ask it a question, and it replies." (Fortier)

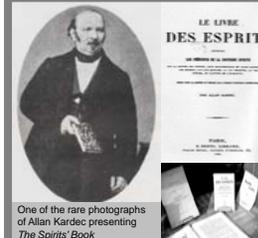


"It was there that I first saw the phenomenon of turning tables."  
"One night, his protector spirit, Zephro, sent him a very personal message, saying that he had met in a previous life, as a Druid in Galia. He was then named Allan Kardec."  
Henry Sausse



"I will only believe it when it is proven to me that a table has a brain with which to think, nerves with which to feel, and the ability to reach a state of somnambulism." (PW)

## SPIRITISM



One of the rare photographs of Allan Kardec presenting 'The Spirits' Book'

Kardec realized that to prepare a complete body of knowledge it was necessary to systematically prepare questions that would be addressed to the spirits every week.

On April 18, 1857 - The Spirits' Book and Allan Kardec were introduced to the public at Dentu's bookstore Gallery of Orleans - Palais Royal, Paris

"By comparing and matching all the answers, which were coordinated, classified and many times revised in the silence of meditation, it was then that I compiled the first edition of The Spirits' Book."

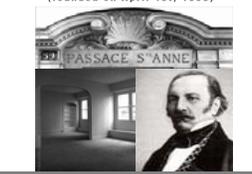


### THE FIVE BOOKS OF THE SPIRITIST CODIFICATION



REVUE SPIRITE - The Spiritist Magazine (founded on January 1st, 1858)

The Parisian Spiritist Society (founded on April 1st, 1858)



During the period of Napoleon III, in France, Allan Kardec has gathered in about a decade, around 500,000 people under the banner of Spiritism.  
La Table, le Livre de les Esprits - page 39 - Marlon Andree and François Lagardine

## DEATH

Allan Kardec died as he lived: WORKING.



He was handing an issue of The Spiritist Magazine to a book store clerk who had just bought it. He bent over and without pronouncing a single word, he died.

**"Spiritism should never be identified to a particular religion, excluding the others. Spiritism is a neutral terrain under which every religious opinion may gather and walk together."**

Allan Kardec - Voyage Spirite de 1862, page 97

**"To be born, to die, to be reborn yet again, and constantly progress. This is the law."**

Allan Kardec's epitaph

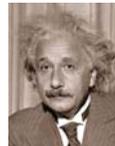
# Existence of God

*“God is the Supreme Intelligence, the First Cause of all things”*

-The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 1

## What was the idea of God through human history?

- ✓ **Primitive peoples of the Earth**  
- Belief in a superior being with superhuman power...
- ✓ **Ancient Greek, Egyptians and Romans**  
- Believed in several gods that represented what they thought was important.
- ✓ **Anthropomorphic view of God**  
- Revenge, punishments; other human characteristics
- ✓ **Thomas Aquinas (Middle ages)**  
- Believed in the “Uncaused Cause”, another name for God...
- ✓ **Albert Einstein believed that a “Supreme Intelligence” had created all what exists in the Universe...**  
-“I believe in Spinoza's God who reveals himself in the orderly harmony of what exists, not in a God who concerns himself with fates and actions of human beings.”



New York, April 24, 1921

## Our Relationship with God

### Prayer and Meditation

**THIS IS YOUR BRAIN ON GOD**

Brain scans of people lost in prayer or deep in meditation have revealed the neurological underpinnings of religious states such as transcendence, visions, enlightenment and feelings of awe.

**Genetic unity**  
When the parietal lobes quiet down, a person can feel at one with the universe.

**Response to religious words**  
At the juncture of three lobes, this region governs reaction to language.

**Sacred images**  
The lower temporal lobe is involved in the process by which images, such as candles or crosses, facilitate prayer and meditation.

**Religious emotions**  
The middle temporal lobe is linked to emotional aspects of religious experience, such as joy and awe.

**Attention** Linked to concentration, the frontal lobe lights up (red at top in scans) during meditation.

**Before** **During**

This picture represents the scientific findings of Dr. Andrew Newberg's research on the neurobiological underpinnings of meditation and prayer.

“If the individual knew how to meditate and how to concentrate... if he could see the bottom of his conscience and reason, there he would find the principles of an inner life (...) a glimpse of the life that awaits him in the higher worlds...”

“There is in each of us, a hidden source out of which life, love, virtue and power may flow. It is here, in this secret sanctuary, where God is to be found.

**God is within us...**

- Here and Hereafter, Leon Denis, Part II, Ch. 9

## Spiritist view of God

An axiom in science states “There is no effect without a cause”. Look for the cause of things which are not the work of human beings, and your reason will provide the answer.

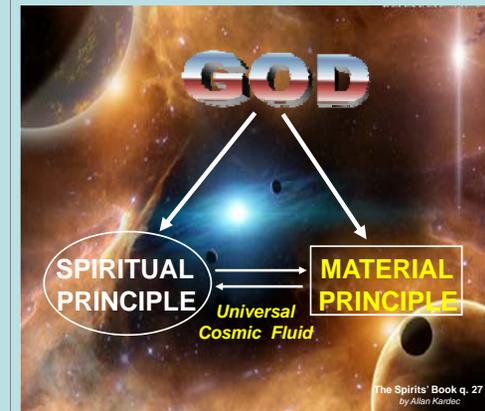
-The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 4

“It is not possible for man to sound the inmost nature of God. We still lack the inner knowledge of our own sense of being, which can only be acquired by means of a complete purification of the spirit. Only then we will be able to comprehend God...”

“But if we cannot penetrate His essence, His existence being given as a premise, we can, by the power of reason, arrive at the knowledge of His attributes...”

- Genesis, Allan Kardec, Ch. 2

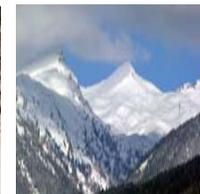
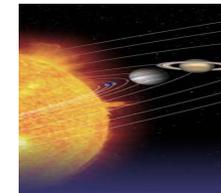
## UNIVERSAL TRINITY



The Spirits' Book q. 27  
by Allan Kardec

## Attributes of God

1. Infinite and Eternal
2. Unchangeable
3. Immaterial
4. Unique (no other gods)
5. All-powerful
6. Sovereignly Just and Good



“We judge the power of an intelligence by its works. Since no human being could have created the natural environment all around us, the First Cause must therefore be an intelligence superior to ours; and human intelligence must itself have a cause. The greatness of our intellectual achievements only emphasizes the extraordinary quality of this cause, of which our intelligence is an effect. Whatever names we choose to give it, this Supreme Intelligence is the First Cause of all things”.

-The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 9

**God is the principle of love and solidarity,  
by which all individuals are  
brothers and sisters.**



# IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL

## 1. What is the soul?

*Soul is an incarnate spirit.*

- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 134

## 2. What is the definition of spirit?



*Spirits are the intelligent beings of Creation.*

- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 76-77

- The existence of spirits has no end.
- Spirits can be imagined as a flame, an ethereal spark.
- Whenever an intent thought is, that is also where the spirit is.
- Each spirit is indivisible.
- The spirit can extend its thoughts in all directions.

## 3. What is our composition?

*Incarnate Spirit*



*Discarnate Spirit*



## 4. What is perispirit?

*It is a semi-material substance that envelops the spirit.*

- It connects matter and spirit.
- It is derived from the cosmic fluid present in each planet.
- It can become visible and even palpable to us in dreams and even when we are awake.
- It records all of our thoughts, feelings and actions.

- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 93-94

## 5. What is the destiny of spirits?



- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 101, 107, 112

## 6. How do spirits progress?

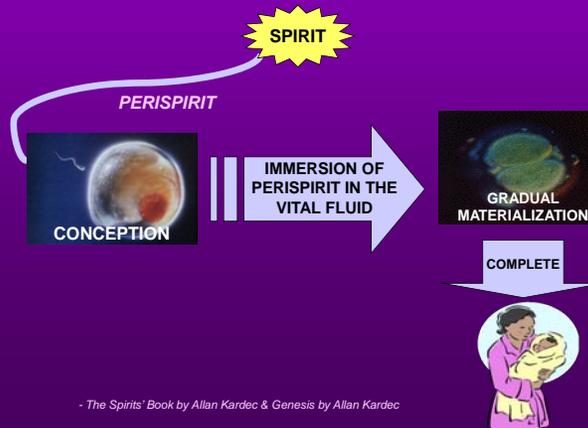
*Through incarnation!*

- Incarnation is the means through which spirits become perfect.
- It is a process of learning and purification through the accumulation of experiences.
- Incarnation allows spirits to perform their proper share in the work of Creation.



- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 132-133

## 7. How does incarnation happen?



- The Spirits' Book by Allan Kardec & Genesis by Allan Kardec

## 8. How do spirits make the transition back into the spirit realm?



Extinction of Organic Life → Rupture of Fluidic Link → Separation of soul and body

- Heaven and Hell, Allan Kardec, p. 206

## 9. What happens after death?



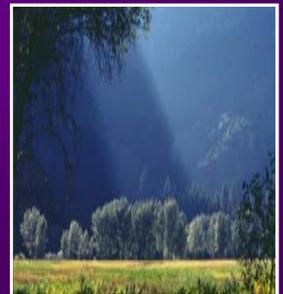
*"After death, we are what we made of ourselves in places that are best-suited for recovery, and for opportunities of service we might prove capable of doing."*

- "Nosso Lar: A Spiritual Home", Andre Luiz/Francisco Xavier, Ch. 9

## 10. What is the spirit realm like?

*"The spirit-world is like a great city where individuals of all ranks and conditions see and meet each other... As in a city, circles are formed by similarities in tastes, and good and bad spirits share the same space without having to interact."*

- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 278



# Reincarnation

“The return of a soul, or spirit, to physical life in another body that has been newly formed for it.”

- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Ch. 4

## In the Gospel

### John the Baptist was Elijah returned

“From the day of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven has been forcefully advancing, and forceful men lay hold of it. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. And if you are willing to accept, he is the Elijah who was to come. He who has ears, let him hear.”

- Matthew 11:14; 17:10-13



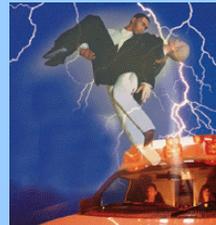
## Reincarnation in Our Life

Raises the sense of renewal

Strengthens family ties



Each Reincarnation is a Fresh Start



Engenders universal love

- Dalai Lama

Elongates time sense

- The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, Ch.4, items 18-23

## Aim of Reincarnation

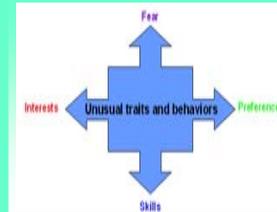
“Purification, to redress previous mistakes, and to effect human progress. Otherwise, there would be no justice.”

- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 167

### Reincarnation and Children

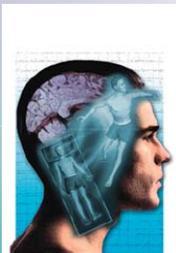
“The good and bad tendencies a child reveals early on have roots in previous lives.”

-The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, Ch. 14



## Evidence

- Past-Life Readings
- Hypnotic Regression
- Experience of *Déjà Vu*
- Dreams and Nightmares
- Illnesses and Drugs
- Meditation
- Strong Emotion
- Spontaneous Flashes
- Experiences of Young Children



### The Importance of Educating Children

A spirit is more impressionable during childhood, when the impressions it receives more easily mold its personality and therefore its progress.”

- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 383



“To be born, to die, to be reborn yet again, and constantly progress.”

- Allan Kardec's epitaph



# MULTITUDE OF INHABITED WORLDS

## Introduction

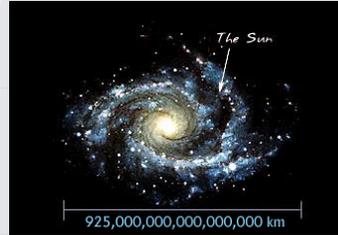
### We agreed in:

- Evolution of the spirit → reincarnation

### Question:

- Where is the spirit supposed to reincarnate in order to accomplish its evolution?

## What is the purpose of the Universe?

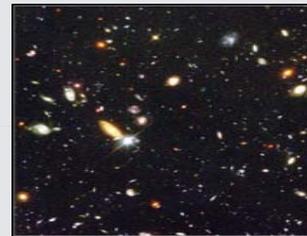


There are over 100 billion stars in the Milky Way galaxy. If you tried to count them one by one, it would take you over 3,000 years!



Our galaxy is not particularly large.

Cluster of Galaxies



## Categories of Inhabited Worlds



- “The characteristics of the many inhabited worlds vary greatly depending on the spiritual evolution of the individuals living on them.”
- “Spirits who live their physical lives in a particular world are not attached to it indefinitely.”

- The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, Ch. 3

## Jesus said:

*“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you.”*

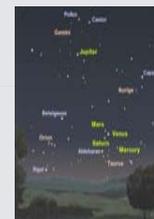
- John, 14:1-2

- The ‘Father’s house’ Jesus speaks of is the UNIVERSE.
- The many places are the planets orbiting in space.

## The Spirits’ Book:

55. Are all the globes spinning through space inhabited?

“Yes, and contrary to what they believe, earthlings are far from being first in intelligence, goodness, and perfection(…)”



## Earth: Planet of Trials and Atonements



“The time has now been reached for one of these periodic transformations, which will move the Earth upwards from a world of atonement to that of a regenerating planet where men will be happy because God’s laws will reign.” - Saint Augustine

- The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, Ch. 3

## GENERAL CONCLUSIONS:

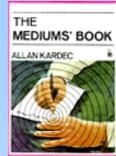
- “God has populated all worlds with living beings.”
- “There is nothing in the Earth’s position, volume, or composition that could reasonably support the notion that the exclusion of many thousands of similar worlds it alone has the privilege of being inhabited .”

- The Spirits’ Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 55.

# COMMUNICATION WITH SPIRITS



## 1. Are there Spirits?



*"Spirits are nothing but the souls of human beings stripped of their physical body."*

- The Mediums' Book, Allan Kardec, item 2

## 2. What happens after physical death?

We...

...keep thinking.

...want to communicate with our loved ones.

...are able to visit them.

...can act upon matter through the perispirit.



- The Mediums' Book, Allan Kardec, Ch. 1

## 3. What are the mechanisms of spirit communication?

**"We are spirits. We think continuously."**

Spirit → Continuous Thought → Universal Cosmic Fluid

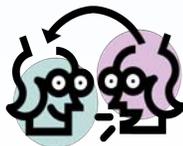


**We think...we communicate!**

- Genesis by Allan Kardec & Reincarnation by Gabriel Dellane

## 4. What is mediumship?

**"Mediumship is one of the incarnate human being's attribute, which is used to communicate with discarnates."**



- Evolution in Two Worlds by Andre Luiz, psychographed by Francisco Xavier and Waldo Vieira

## 5. Are we all mediums?

**"Everyone who is in any degree influenced by spirits is a medium."**

- The Mediums' Book, Allan Kardec, item 159



## 6. What are the levels of mediumship?

### 1. Subliminal

*Exists or functions without an apparent manifestation.*



Intuition

### 2. Ostensible

*Evident to the medium who can either be conscious, semi-conscious or unconscious during manifestation.*



Healing Medium

## 7. What are the types of mediumship?

### Mediumship of Physical Effects

*"Those mediums who have power of obtaining physical manifestations."*

*Healing, Rapping, Displacement and Suspensions, Musical, Apparitions*

### Mediumship of Intellectual Effects

*"Those mediums who are more especially apt for receiving and transmitting intelligent communications."*

*Hearing, Speaking, Seeing, Writing, Somnambulism*

- The Mediums' Book, Allan Kardec, Ch. 25

## 8. What is a good medium?

**"Good mediums are those who understand that the true medium has a mission to fulfill, and that he must be ready, when necessary, to sacrifice his tastes, habits, pleasure, time, and even his worldly interests, to the good of others."**

- The Mediums' Book, Allan Kardec, item 197

## 9. What is mediumship for?

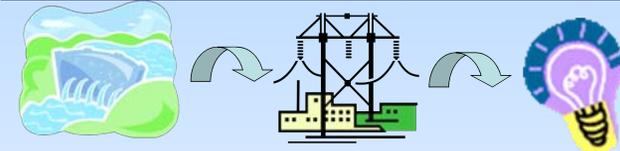
**"God has given mediumship to man for a serious and useful purpose."**

1. Self-illumination
2. Humankind's progress
3. Develop virtues
4. Help others in both planes

- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 430



## 10. What is the role of Spiritism in mediumship?



**Spiritism has come as a framework to guide mediumship by disciplining and conducting it for the general good.**

- In the Domain of Mediumship by Andre Luiz/Francisco Xavier and Waldo Vieira

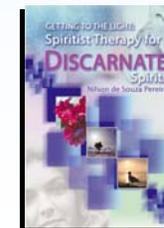
## 11. What are mediumship meetings?



They are serious Spiritist meetings when incarnates gather together to propel their own inner enlightenment, as they gain instruction from Good Spirits and, at the same time, become instruments in the rescue work of suffering and/or obsessing spirits.

- The Mediums' Book, Allan Kardec, item 329

## 12. Does the practice of mediumship foster humanity's progress?



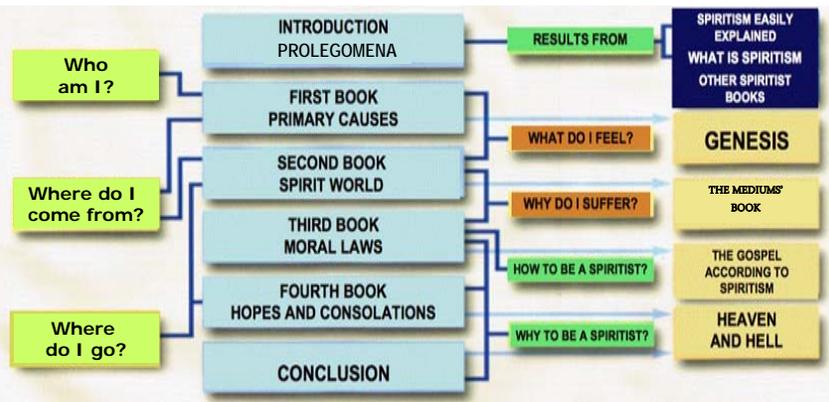
**"It helps both incarnates and discarnates. Incarnates are helped because the disciplined practice of mediumship deepens self-awareness and mind control. And "the entities that are enlightened during these specialized Spiritist meetings will reincarnate in better moral conditions and be able to count on stronger inner resources."**

- Getting to the light, Nilson Pereira



# THE SPIRITS' BOOK

-1857-

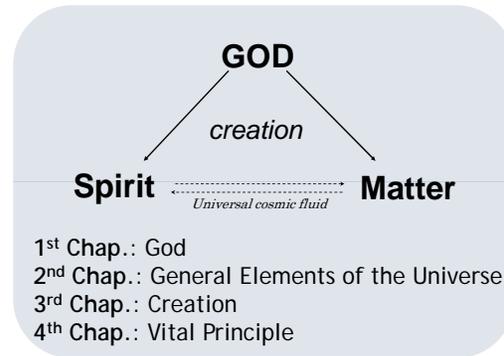


## First Part: First Causes

"God is the Supreme Intelligence, the First Cause of all things."

God created two universal elements: spirit and matter.

"Spirit is the intelligent principle of the universe."

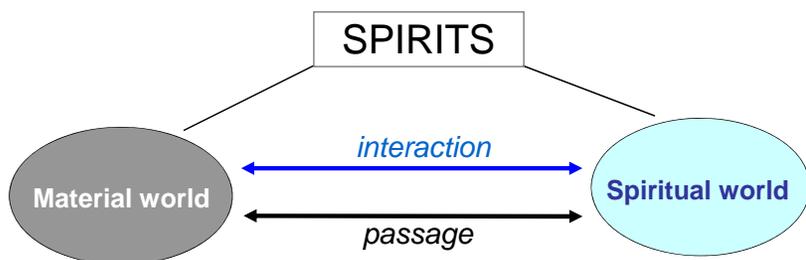


"Matter is the instrument that spirit uses and upon which the spirit acts."

Creation is the result of the spirit action upon matter, according to divine law.

- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, QsA 1,22,23, 63

## Second Part: The Spirit World

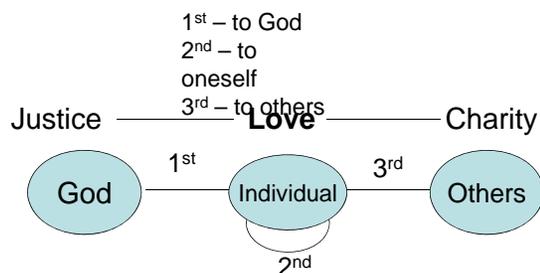


Spirits live either in the material or the spiritual worlds. They pass from the spiritual plane to the material one through birth. Their passage from the material plane to the spiritual one happens through death. There is constant interaction between spirits in the material and spiritual worlds.

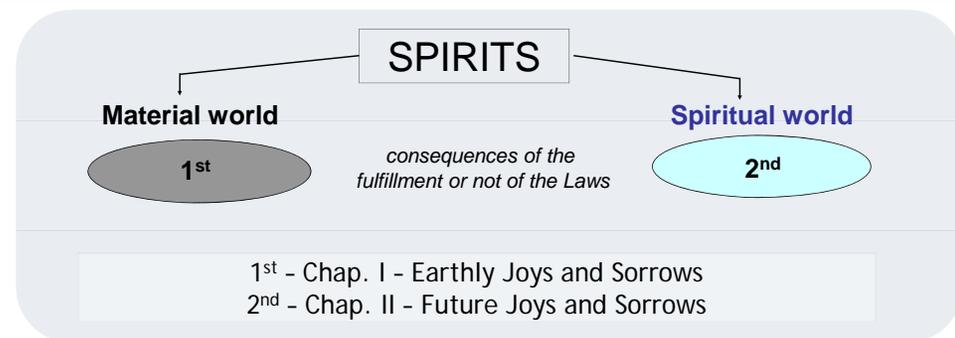
## Third Part: Moral Laws

- Law of Worship
- Law of Labor
- Law of Reproduction
- Law of Preservation
- Law of Destruction
- Law of Society
- Law of Progress
- Law of Equality
- Law of Freedom
- Law of Justice, Love and Charity

Establish all the individuals' duties:



## Fourth Part: Hopes and Consolations





-1861-

# The Mediums' Book

*The first and most complete scientific treatise on mediumship ever published!*

## INTERESTING FACTS:

### Author:

Allan Kardec  
(in collaboration with mediums and many enlightened Spirits)

### First Published:

Jan 15, 1861

### Place First Published:

Paris, France

### BOOK STRUCTURE

36 Chapters

FIRST PART: Preliminary Observations  
4 Chapters

SECOND PART: Spirit-Manifestations  
32 chapters

### DID YOU KNOW?

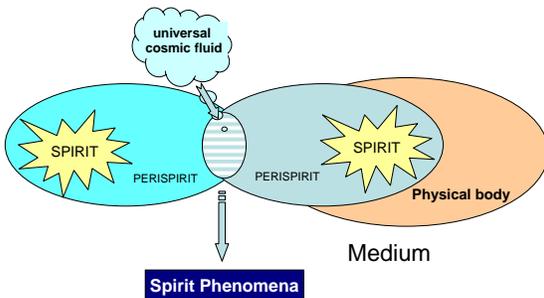
The term "medium", as we use it nowadays, was first used for this purpose by Kardec.

## WE ARE ALL MEDIUMS!

"All men are mediums; all have a spirit-guide who, if they listen to him, directs them in the right way."

- by Channing (Spirit), item 10

## Mechanisms of Mediumship



"The spirit has, as his instrument, his perispirit, just as a man has his body. This perispirit is semi-matter. The spirit has, as his intermediary agent, the universal fluid; a sort of vehicle on which he acts, as we act upon the air, in order to produce certain effects."

- Item 58

**Mediumship: A natural ability anyone may possess to communicate with the Spiritual World.**



## TYPES OF MEDIUMSHIP:

of physical effects

- Materialization
- Healing
- Pneumatography
- Musical
- Transport of objects
- ...etc.



- Chapter 25

of intellectual effects

- Automatic writing
- Speaking
- Seeing
- Hearing
- Inspirational
- Presentiment
- ...etc.

## Key for Development

"Calmness and concentration of thought, a strong desire and determination to succeed are key for the development of a medium."

- Item 204



## Stumbling Block

Obsession {  
- Simple  
- Fascination  
- Subjugation

"Our moral imperfections bring us under the power of obsessing spirits, and that the surest method of getting rid of these is to attract good spirits."

- Item 252

## HUMAN QUALITIES THAT ATTRACT GOOD SPIRITS

LOVE OF NEIGHBOR

KINDNESS

GOOD-WILL

DETACHMENT

DETERMINATION

- Item 226 (12)

## HUMAN CONDITIONS THAT REPEL GOOD SPIRITS

SELFISHNESS

PRIDE

JEALOUSY

HATRED

GREED

ENVY

VANITY

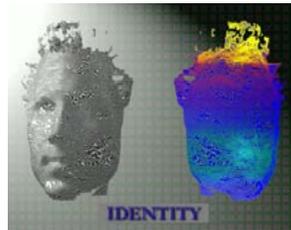
VICES

- Item 226 (11)

## Identity of Spirits

"The language of spirits is always in accordance with the degree of their elevation."

- Item 262

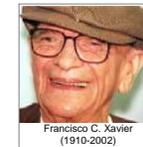


"Good Spirits only prescribe what is good and charitable. They are calm and gentle."

"Imperfect Spirits excite animosity and distrust."

- Item 266

## Good Medium



Francisco C. Xavier (1910-2002)

"Good mediums are those who understand that the true medium has a mission to fulfill, and that he must be ready, when necessary, to sacrifice his tastes, habits, pleasure, time, and even his worldly interests, to the good of others."

- Item 197

## Free Mediumship

"Serious mediumship is **NOT**, and can **NEVER** be, made into profession. Mediumship is sacred and should be practiced in a saintly and devout manner."

- The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, Ch.26, items 9-10

*"Every Effect Has a Cause. Every Intelligent Effect Has an Intelligent Cause."* - Allan Kardec

# THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SPIRITISM

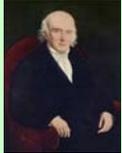
## OBJECTIVE

Compiled by Allan Kardec and structured in 28 chapters, this book contains explanations of the moral maxims of Christ in accordance with Spiritism and their application in various circumstances in life.

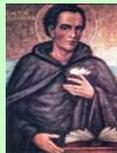
### Some of the 48+ spirits who authored the book:



**Delphine de Girardin**  
(1804–55) French writer



**Samuel Hahnemann**  
(1755– 1843) - German physician who founded homeopathic medicine.



**Saint Augustine** (354-430)  
One of the most important figures in the development of Western Christianity.



**Paul of Tarsus** (born c. 10, d. c. 67), the *Apostle of the Gentiles* was one of the most notable of Early Christian missionaries.



**Joanna de Angelis**  
A Spiritual Friend



**François Fénelon**  
(1651-1715) was a French Roman Catholic theologian, poet and writer.



**Blaise Pascal** (1623-1662) was a French mathematician, physicist, and religious philosopher.



**Saint Louis**  
(1214 – 1270) King of France



**John, the Evangelist**  
One of Jesus' disciples



**Emmanuel**  
Roman Senator at Jesus' time.



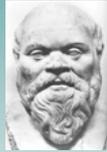
**Saint Vincent de Paul**  
(1581-1660) French Priest



**The Spirit of Truth**

## SOCRATES AND PLATO:

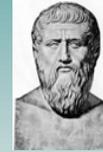
*Forerunners of Christian and Spiritist Ideas*



Socrates

*"The occupation of the philosopher is to care for the soul less in regard to the present than to life in eternity. Since the soul is immortal, it would be wise to live our lives with this fact in mind."*

- Source: Plato's Phaedo



Plato

## CAUSES OF SUFFERING

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."*

- Matthew, 5:4

**Present Causes**

**Past Causes**

*"Whether the cause is in the present or a previous life, our misfortune can be traced back to a wrong done in the past."*

- Ch. 5, item 7

## Jesus Christ in the Spiritist View

*What is the most perfect type that God has offered to humankind as its guide and model?*

**JESUS.**

- The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q&A 625

### Master

*"He was not God himself, but an ambassador of God ... a divine Messiah."*

Genesis by Allan Kardec, Ch. XIV, item 9

### Psychotherapist

*"It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick."*

- Matthew 9:12



© Allans

### Human Being

*"His superiority over men was only of his spiritual nature, which absolutely controlled matter, and his perispirit (...)."*

Genesis, Allan Kardec, Ch. XIV, item 9

### Medium

*"He was a medium of God."*

Genesis, Allan Kardec, Ch. XIV, item 9

## GOOD PERSON

*"Truly good people comply with the laws of justice, love, and charity in their purest form."* - Ch. 17

*"Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly father is perfect."*

- Matthew, 5:48

## GOOD SPIRITIST

*"True spiritists can be recognized by their moral transformation and by the efforts they make to overcome their bad tendencies."* - Ch. 17

## FAMILY TIES

*"Who is my mother, and who are my brothers? (...) For whoever does the will of my Father in Heaven is my brother, sister and mother."*

- Mark 3:31-35



*"Real family ties are based on empathy and the affinity of ideas developed before, during and after incarnations."*

- Ch. 14, item 8

## REINCARNATION

*"I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh. The spirit gives birth to spirit."*

- John 3:1-12



*"Water represents the essence of matter, just as Spirit represents the essence of intelligence."*

- Ch. 4, item 8

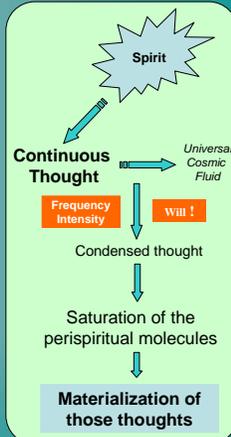
## PRAYER IS THOUGHT TRANSFER

*"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."* - Mark, 11:24

*"Prayer is an invocation. Through prayer we establish a mental relationship with the being we address. A prayer may have three purposes:*

- Ask
- Give thanks
- Praise"

- Ch. 27, item 9



*"Unshakable faith is that which can stand face to face with reason in all epochs of humanity."* - Allan Kardec



- 1865 -

# Heaven and Hell

## Divine Justice According to Spiritism

### 1st Part - Doctrine

### 2nd Part - Examples

#### HEAVEN

"Heaven is everywhere; it has no fixed site, no place, no circumscribing limits - the planets, the stars, and all the highly evolved worlds are the last stations on the road which leads to it. Virtue opens the gate of that supreme abode; vice bars its entrance."

*Heaven and Hell, chapter 3, item 18*

#### HELL

"Suffering being indissolubly connected with imperfection, (...) the soul finds its own chastisement in itself, wherever it may be, and needs no circumscribed place as the scene of its suffering. Hell is, consequently, wherever there are souls that suffer..."

*Heaven and Hell, chapter 7, item 5*

#### What is to be understood by PURGATORY?

"Purgatory, according to Spiritism, is no longer a vague and uncertain hypothesis; it is a physical reality that we see and touch, and to which we are even now subjected; for Purgatory is nothing else than the worlds of tests and atonements and the Earth is one of those worlds. These are worlds in which the individuals atone their past and present, for the advancement of their future happiness."

*Heaven and Hell, chapter 5, item 4*

#### ANGELS

"Angels are the souls of human beings who have reached the highest degree of perfection attainable by them, and who have entered upon the full enjoyment of the felicity for which they were created."

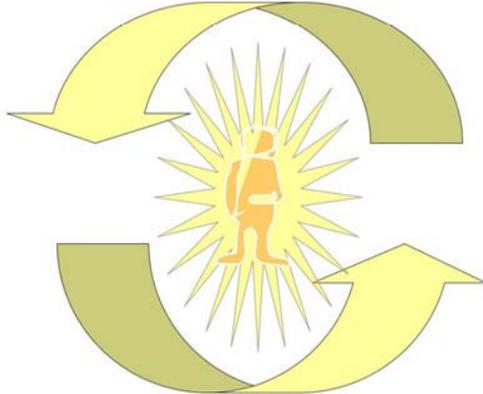
*Heaven and Hell, Allan Kardec - Chapter 8, item 13*

#### DEMONS

"According to Spiritism demons are imperfect spirits who will grow better in the course of time; they are still at the foot of the ladder, but they will reach the top sooner or later."

*Heaven and Hell, Allan Kardec - Chapter 9, item 21*

#### Multitude of Existences



#### The Passage



Extinction of Organic Life → Rupture of Fluidic Link → Separation of soul and body

#### Happy Spirits



I felt myself to be in the enjoyment of the plenitude of health and strength!  
Mr. Sanson

"I am a denizen of the spirit world, freed from the bondage of the flesh; my country is the illimitable space, and my future is God, whose power and glory radiate through immensity."

#### Spirits in a Middle Condition



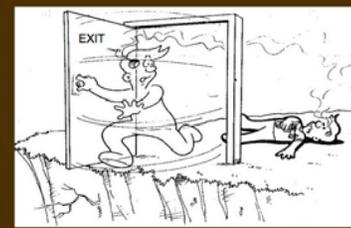
"I was not active in all good works as I ought to have been; my forgetfulness of God led me into other sorts of forgetfulness which, though not punishable by human laws, are nonetheless offences against the law of God." Joseph Bre

#### Suffering Spirits



"My spirit, held to my body by the bonds of materiality, had great difficulty in getting free; I had no idea I had been withdrawn from it. I searched for my body, and was both alarmed and astonished at finding myself lost in the midst of a crowd of shadows."  
Novel

#### Suicides



"Am I dead? Not at all! I inhabit my body and you cannot imagine how much I suffer! I fled from suffering to find torture!"  
The Suicide at the Samaritaine

#### Repentant Criminals

"I am punished by perceiving the true nature of my acts, for which I beg of God to grant me forgiveness. I now know that we ought not cut short the life of our brothers and sisters. I am punished by remorse for having delayed my advancement through taking the wrong road."  
Verger



#### Obdurate Spirits



"Crime? A mere word! Crime is everywhere! I reject your pity. I ask for nothing. I suffice to myself; and I shall be able to resist this odious light!"  
Lapommeray

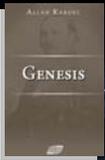
#### Terrestrial Expiations



"The sorrows of Earth are a preparation for the joys of heaven. Suffering is only a bitter rind of a delectable fruit, when borne with courage and resignation. I had solicited my sufferings in order to finish the work of my purification."  
Marcel

"A dream, that I had several times, was that I would sacrifice my life to save others. After all, if I were going to die anyway, it might as well do some good."  
Stephen Hawking

*"The road of happiness is equally open to all; the goals to be reached, and the conditions for reaching it, are the same for all."*



# GENESIS

## The miracles and the predictions according to Spiritism

Can one consider Spiritism as a revelation? By whom? What is its character?

Had we had, in the 19th century, sufficient scientific knowledge to answer the questions around Genesis?

Does God perform miracles?

### CHARACTER OF SPIRITIST REVELATION

### GENESIS

### MIRACLES AND PREDICTIONS

#### God

God is supreme and sovereign intelligence, eternal, unchangeable, immaterial, all-powerful, sovereignly just and good, infinitely perfect, unique.



#### Good and Bad

Wickedness does not derive from either God or Satan. However, bad exists and has a cause rooted in human ignorance.



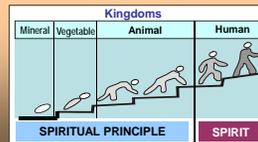
#### Systems, Uranography, Theories

Hindu and Greek mythology, Thales of Miletus, Ptolemy, Copernicus, Galileo, Kepler



#### Organic, Spiritual, and Mosaic Genesis

Spontaneous Generation, Spiritual Principle, Reincarnation, Adamic Race, Original Sin, The Six Days of Creation



#### Fluids

Spiritual Fluid, Perispirit, Second Sight, Cures, Apparitions, Somnambulism, Mediumship, Obsessions, Possessions



#### Miracles, Prophecies, and Predictions of the Gospel

Resurrection, Transfiguration, Cures, Miracles, The Consoler, Last Judgment, The New Generation



*"The special object of Spiritism is the knowledge of the laws of spiritual principles."*

- Chapter 1, item 16

*"Following step by step the series of beings, one can say that each species is a transformation of the species immediately below it."*

- Chapter 10, item 28

*"The cure is performed by the substitution of an unhealthy molecule for a healthy one. The faculty to cure by the fluidic-influx is very common, and can develop itself by exercise."*

- Chapter 14, items 31-34

4.5 billion BC  
Planet Earth formed

roman empire  
(27 BC - 385/395)

6 BC - 4BC birth of Jesus of Nazareth; death of Jesus circa the year 33

renaissance  
(14th - 16th century)

1473-1543 Nicolaus Copernicus, Polish astronomer and mathematician proponent of the view of an Earth in daily motion about its axis and in yearly motion around a stationary sun

industrial revolution  
(18th century)

1868 - *Genesis, The miracles and the predictions according to Spiritism* by Allan Kardec



1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Medical Spiritist Congress in DC - 2006  
2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Medical Spiritist Congress in FL - 2008

pre-history

ancient history

50 - 1400 AD

1500 - 1800

1800 - 1900

1900 - 2008

circa 3 million BC  
birth of the human race

624 - 547 BC Thales of Miletus, Greek philosopher and mathematician; sphericity of the Earth, cause of eclipses

85 - 165 Claudius Ptolemy, Greek astronomer and geographer proposed the geocentric theory that prevailed for 1400 years

middle ages  
(500 - 14th century)

1564-1642 Galileo Galilei, Italian scientist, invented the telescope, espoused the Copernican cause

1571-1630 Johannes Kepler German mathematician and astronomer discovered that the Earth and planets travel about the sun in elliptical orbits

1804 - 1869 Allan Kardec  
1857 - *The Spirits' Book*



1809 - 1882 Charles Darwin  
1859 - *The Origin of Species*

April, 2007  
150 years of spiritism

1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Spiritist Symposium  
Baltimore, MD - USA - 2007

2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Spiritist Symposium  
New York, NY - USA - 2008

# GOD at HOME



## 3) How do we do it?

### A. *Choose a Day of the Week*



- Convenient to all participants;
- Gather at a comfortable place at home (living or dining room).

### B. *Be Consistent and Punctual*



- Avoid canceling or delaying these meetings unless absolutely necessary (travel, i.e.)
- Highly Evolved Spirits have other commitments to attend. Thus, if we want their presence and guidance, we need to be punctual and consistent.

### C. *Open it with a Heartfelt Prayer*



**Attune with God by:**

- praising for the blessings of life;
- asking for protection and guidance;
- giving thanks for the opportunity of getting together.

### D. *Read an Inspirational Message*



From books such as:

- The Spirits' Book
- The Gospel According to Spiritism
- Or any other enlightened book

Encourage participants to comment and discuss on the read messages.

### E. *Duration of the Meeting*



- 30 minutes to 1 hour
- If you have children at home keep the meeting shorter, but do include them.

### F. *Closing Prayer*



- Finish the meeting with another heartfelt prayer asking God for protection for your home, friends, relatives, neighbors and all the ones who suffer.

• You may also ask for world peace.

### G. *Spiritually Magnetized Water*



Before the meeting starts provide a glass or jar of water to be magnetized by the Spirit Benefactors during the meeting, who will kindly pour in the spiritual remedies that each family member needs to lead a balanced life.

## Additional Tips

- Prior to the opening prayer hold a silent period for a couple of minutes so everyone can tune in with the harmonious Spirit presences.
- Fifteen minutes before the meeting, you play light classical music to help the ambience.
- Try to keep interruptions to a minimum during the meeting.
- Encourage all members to participate.
- Respect all opinions and points of view. Avoid arguments.
- If someone opens up and shares his/hers personal life do not judge or criticize and keep everything in confidence.
- Avoid and control mediumistic phenomena.
- Invite your guests to join you in this meeting.



## If You Have Children

- Use coloring books with spiritual themes.
- Use techniques (play dough, puzzles) that may help them understand the topic.
- Ask them to write a short prayer or letter to God.

## 1) What is God at Home?

Weekly meeting at home when family members and friends get together to study the Spiritist teachings and pray together.

## 2) What are its purposes?

1. To create at home the healthy habit of getting together family members to practice spirituality;
2. To open the family's vibratory field to loving and kind Enlightened Spirits;
3. To prevent and/or treat individual and familial disturbances;
4. To cleanse our home's vibratory field through the elevation of our thoughts and feelings;
5. To expand spiritual knowledge and consciousness;
6. To strengthen family ties;
7. To elevate the vibrational pattern of the family to help the Spirit Benefactors build a better world;
8. To teach spirituality to children while practicing it at home;
9. To unite humanity through prayer.

*The God-at-Home meeting is equivalent to a lamp shining onto the work of assistance and spiritual enlightenment. - In Disobsession by Andre Luiz, F.C. Xavier and W. Vieira*

# Inner Transformation

## 1. Who are we?



We are ever-progressing immortal spirits' destined to perfection and happiness.

SPIRIT HIERARCHY <sup>2</sup>	
FIRST ORDER:	
<b>Pure Spirits</b> <small>(No influence from matter)</small>	1 <sup>st</sup> class: Pure Spirits
SECOND ORDER:	
<b>Good Spirits</b> <small>(Predominance of spirit over Matter)</small>	2 <sup>nd</sup> class: Superior Spirits 3 <sup>rd</sup> class: Wise Spirits 4 <sup>th</sup> class: Scholar Spirits 5 <sup>th</sup> class: Benevolent Spirits
THIRD ORDER:	
<b>Imperfect Spirits</b> <small>(Predominance of matter over Spirit)</small>	6 <sup>th</sup> class: Disturbing Spirits 7 <sup>th</sup> class: Neutral Spirits 8 <sup>th</sup> class: Pseudo-wise Spirits 9 <sup>th</sup> class: Frivolous Spirits 10 <sup>th</sup> class: Impure Spirits

## 2. Where do we find the key to our destination?



In our conscience<sup>3</sup>.

## 3. Since we carry God's law in our conscience, why does it have to be revealed to us?



We have forgotten and disregarded it, but God has willed for us to remember it through missionary spirits who have instructed humankind in every age<sup>4</sup>.

## 4. How do we get to our ultimate destination?

By acquiring experiences and knowledge that are in synchronicity with God's laws.

## 5. What are the means to those acquisitions?



The soul undoubtedly undergoes a transformation, which shall happen through many lives (reincarnations)<sup>5</sup>.

Transformation therefore can only be realized with time, gradually, little by little<sup>6</sup>.

## 6. What is the most profound transformation we need to make?



Self-centeredness<sup>7</sup>. The highest virtue consists in the sacrifice of self-interest for the good of one's neighbor without ulterior motives<sup>8</sup>.

## 7. How can disinterestedness and detachment foster our progress?



Attachment to material things is a notorious indication of imperfection, because the more humans are attached to the things of this world, the less they understand their true destiny.

Through disinterestedness, however, we show that we see the future from a more evolved point of view<sup>7</sup>.

## 8. What is the most effective means for transforming and improving ourselves?



A sage of antiquity has told you: *'Know thyself'*<sup>9</sup>.

## 9. By what means can we get to know of ourselves?

1. At the end of each day let us examine our conscience, review what we had done and ask ourselves whether or not we had failed to fulfill some duty and whether or not anyone had had reason to complain about us<sup>9</sup>. (See Benjamin Franklin's method)



2. Praying to God and our guardian angels to enlighten us<sup>9</sup>.



Benjamin Franklin's 13 Virtue Program<sup>10</sup>

1. **TEMPERANCE.** Eat not to dullness; drink not to elevation.
2. **SILENCE.** Speak not but what may benefit others or yourself; avoid trifling conversation.
3. **ORDER.** Let all your things have their places; let each part of your business have its time.
4. **RESOLUTION.** Resolve to perform what you ought; perform without fail what you resolve.
5. **FRUGALITY.** Make no expense but to do good to others or yourself; i.e., waste nothing.
6. **INDUSTRY.** Lose no time; be always employed in something useful; cut off all unnecessary actions.
7. **SINCERITY.** Use no hurtful deceit; think innocently and justly, and, if you speak, speak accordingly.
8. **JUSTICE.** Wrong none by doing injuries, or omitting the benefits that are your duty.
9. **MODERATION.** Avoid extremes; forbear resenting injuries so much as you think they deserve.
10. **CLEANLINESS.** Tolerate no uncleanness in body, cloths, or habitation.
11. **TRANQUILLITY.** Be not disturbed at trifles, or at accidents common or unavoidable.
12. **CHASTITY.** Rarely use venery but for health or offspring, never to dulness, weakness, or the injury of your own or another's peace or reputation.
13. **HUMILITY.** Imitate Jesus and Socrates.

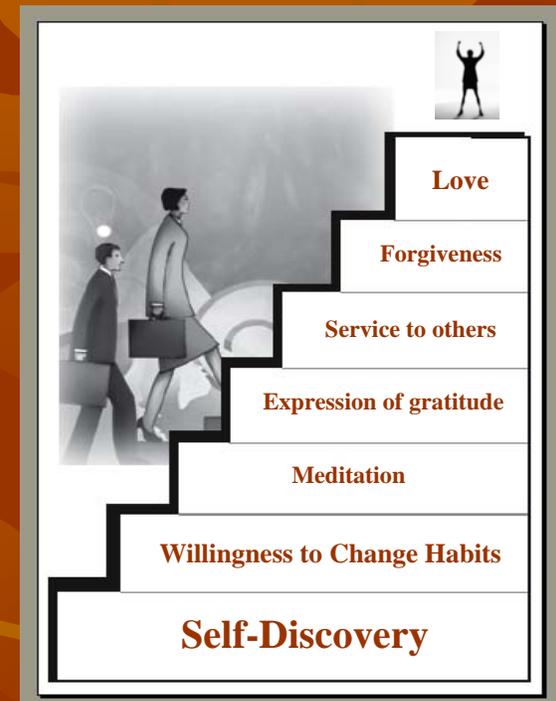
## 10. What are the characteristics of the good person?

The good person<sup>11</sup>:

- \* Places their faith in God;
- \* Do all the good it was possible to do;
- \* When faced with life's struggles, accepts them without protest;
- \* Never disapprove of someone because that person happens to think differently;
- \* Forgive and forget wrongs and only remember the good they have received;
- \* Tolerate others' frailties;
- \* Study their own imperfections and constantly battle against them;
- \* Always respect the rights of their fellow human beings.

These aren't all the qualities that distinguish the good person, but anyone who tries diligently to possess them will find themselves on the road that leads to all the rest.

## 7. Steps to Inner Transformation



Happiness does not come from possessions or power, but rather from a wise and dedicated heart.<sup>12</sup>



## References:

1. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, part III, Conclusion.
2. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 100-113.
3. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 621.
4. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 621-622.
5. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 166.
6. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 800.
7. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 895.
8. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 893.
9. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 919.
10. The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin by Benjamin Franklin.
11. The Gospel According to Spiritism, item 3, Chapter 17.
12. Endearing Gems from Chico Xavier, J. Korngold.

*Self-knowledge is the key to individual improvement<sup>9</sup>.*

# PRAYER: a source of happiness<sup>1</sup>

## PRAYER IS...

Thought transmission<sup>2</sup>

to praise



to thank

to ask



**PAID PRAYERS**



Prayer is an act of charity, an ecstasy of the heart. To charge someone for the prayers we direct to God in their name, is to transform oneself into a paid intermediary<sup>3</sup>.

## QUALITY OF PRAYER

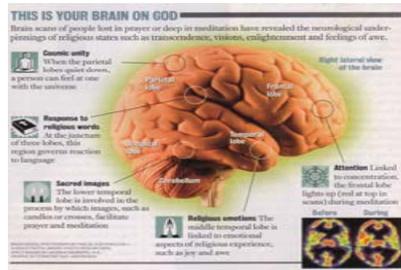
clear

sincere

concise

The more fervent and sincere a prayer is, the more effect it will have<sup>4</sup>.

## EFFECTS OF PRAYER



## DYNAMICS OF PRAYER<sup>5</sup>

Universal Cosmic Fluid



will power impulse (thought current)

answer according to God's will

Our thoughts are like the tones of a bell, which make all the molecules of the ambient air vibrate<sup>6</sup>.



## The Lord's Prayer explained<sup>7</sup>



- "Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name"
- **We recognize and praise the importance of God in our lives.**
- "Thy kingdom come"
- **We accept God's providence.**
- "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"
- **We submit ourselves to the laws of God.**
- "Give us this day our daily bread"
- **God provides us with both physical and spiritual nourishment.**
- "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us"
- **It is vital to forgive ourselves and others.**
- "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from all evil"
- **We recognize our limitations and the protection of God.**
- "So be it"
- **We acknowledge and worship the wisdom of God.**

## We may pray...

For ourselves



For others



For the world



At any age



Anywhere at any time



Alone



With family



With friends



In groups



In any faith



## References

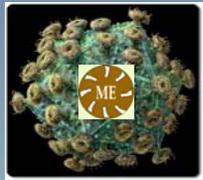
1. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, chapter 27, item 23
2. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, chapter 27, item 9
3. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, chapter 26, item 4
4. The Mediums' Book, Allan Kardec, item 132, question 8
5. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, chapter 27, item 10
6. Genesis, Allan Kardec, chapter 17, item 30
7. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, Chapter 28, item 3
8. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 663

"Prayer calls to your help good spirits who give you strength to bear them with courage, so that they seem to you less severe<sup>8</sup>.

# The Therapeutics of Charity

## THE DISEASE

What is the greatest obstacle to progress?  
- Pride and selfishness.<sup>1</sup>



Selfishness and Pride  
(THE VIRUS)

Greed  
Wrath  
Lust  
Sloth  
Gluttony  
Envy  
Pride

Reinforce our  
material/animal  
nature



Less ethereal,  
denser  
perispirit

Opens doors for  
**Obsession**  
(Negative and persistent  
influence of spirit onto other\*)



ALTERED  
HEALTH

Emotional,  
Mental and/or  
Physical  
Imbalance

## THE REMEDY



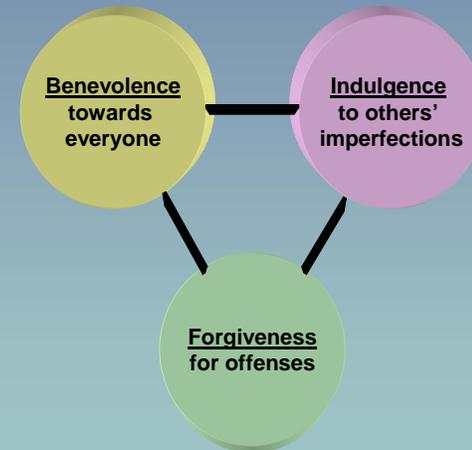
Generic name: Love in action

Product description: Effective against  
the virus of selfishness and pride. It  
also serves to promote progress.

Directions: Use it as often as possible,  
especially when challenged by  
the selfishness and pride virus.

Side effects: May experience  
excessive happiness.

## CHARITY<sup>3</sup> MOLECULE



## CHARITY PROMOTES HEALTHIER SOCIETY

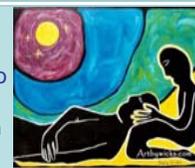
### MATH OF CHARITY<sup>2</sup>

(-) uncharitable action  
(+) charitable action  
(0) no action

(-1) Uncharitable Action	+	(-1) Uncharitable Action	=	(-2) Double Damage
(-1) Uncharitable Action	+	(0) No Action	=	-1 REMAINING Uncharitable Action
(-1) Uncharitable Action	+	(+1) Charitable Action	=	0 CANCELLED Uncharitable Action



True Expression of Charity  
"To love your neighbor as yourself: to do  
unto others as you would have them do unto  
you," expresses the most complete form of  
charity because it summarizes all of human  
beings' obligations towards humankind.<sup>5</sup>

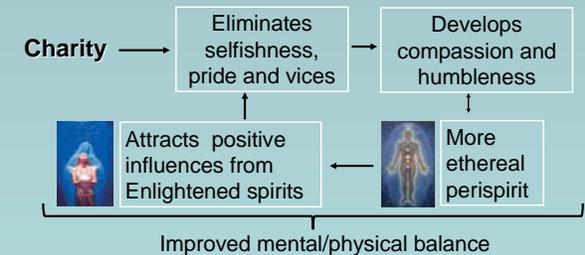


### MEANS OF PRACTISING CHARITY<sup>6</sup>



ACTIONS

- A heartfelt prayer to alleviate someone's suffering
- A good advice to your daily companions, to those who are desperate
- To lessen the burden of a fellow being



Better overall health

#### References:

1. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, C/A 785.
2. Sabe-doria do Evangelho, C. T. Paternino, vol. 2, p. 153/154 (Revelations).
3. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, C/A 888.
4. The Mediums' Book, Allan Kardec, Chapter 23.
5. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, chapter 11, item 4.
6. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, chapter 13, item 10.



# THE THERAPY OF PASSES

## 1. Passes

Donation of spiritual energies or vital fluids from a pass-giver and/or a spirit to a person.



David J. Hess - *Spirits and Scientists - Ideology, Spiritism and Brazilian Culture* - 1991. The Pennsylvania State University

## 2. Facts

### PASSES

- ❖ NOT a modern concept
- ❖ NOT a Spiritist ritual
- ❖ Used by many Spiritualists (including Christians)



## 3. Purpose

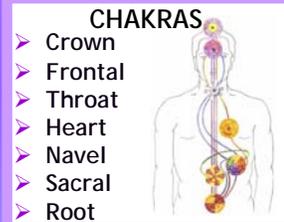
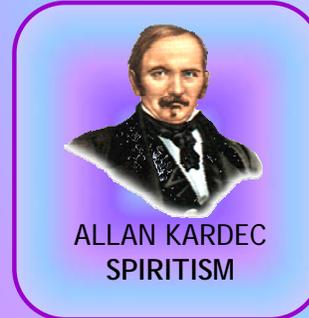
- ❖ FLUID-THERAPY : therapeutic aid to all kinds of conditions
- ❖ RESTORES the balance of spirit-perispirit-body



## 4. Passes and the Bible

For thousands of years the Bible described the "laying on of hands" being performed on the sick to restore health.

*"Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is you through the laying on of my hands."* (2 Tim. 1:6)



Important requirements for Pass-givers:

- Tranquility
- Habit of Prayer
- Good Health
- Knowledge of Passes
- Discernment
- Service attitude

## Pass-Giver

Pass-Giver is an instrument for the transfusion of healthy spiritual fluids, which are manipulated and offered by Spirit Benefactors.



## Patient

is the one who seeks assistance and guidance in regard to his/her spiritual, mental, emotional, and/or physical conditions.

## Three Types of Passes

- ❖ Magnetic Passes
- ❖ Spiritual Passes
- ❖ Combined Passes



Magnetic Passes are applied by the pass giver, who provides his/her own personal magnetic fluids through the irradiation of his/her personal energy.



Spiritual Passes are applied by Spirit Benefactors onto one or more persons at the same time, with or without the direct assistance of a pass giver.



Combined Passes is applied through the joint efforts of Spirit Benefactors and pass-giver. It contains both magnetic and spiritual fluids. It is more common than the other two types.

## Receptivity is key for healing



The patient must be receptive to passes and well disposed to spiritual improvement. If the patient is unwilling to collaborate in the general process, the results may be temporary.

Practical Guide for Magnetic and Spiritual Healing

*"Passes are not simply a transfusion of psychic energies. It is the ideal tool to balance the mind, and an effective aid to all kinds of treatments."* Andre Luiz (Spirit) - Francisco C. Xavier (medium)





# Fraternal Counseling

## Fraternal Counseling is...

- A social service that welcomes all who come to the Spiritist center and may be in need of psychotherapeutic approach due to physical, psychological and/or spiritual imbalance.



## Its Characteristics



1. Compassionate listening;
2. Freeing, respectful help;
3. Secure spiritual counseling;
4. Does not create dependency;
5. Non-judgmental approach;
6. Clear guidance.

## Patients

Immortal individuals who present disturbances in one or more of the following areas of life: spiritual, emotional, social, mental, and physical.

Most common disturbances:

- Relationship Conflicts
- Mental Disturbances
- 'Loss' of Loved One
- Physical Diseases
- Sexual Disturbances
- Mediumistic Imbalances



## Spiritist Counselors

Good-willed and well trained Spiritist practitioners who fulfill the following requirements:

### a) Good Moral/Ethical Standards

It attracts good and enlightened spirits.

*Good people study their own imperfections and work unceasingly to combat them, using all their strength, so that tomorrow they will be able to say that they are just a little better than they were the day before.<sup>2</sup>*

This includes:



### b) Knowledge of Spiritism

Kardec's basic works are the minimum requirement for a Spiritist counselor. Understanding about spiritual progress, reincarnation and interaction between spirit and material planes are essential for an efficient fraternal counseling.



### c) Psychological knowledge and experience

The understanding of the human nature and a tactful approach are also key elements for an adequate fraternal counseling.

## Compassionate Listening

Empathy is founded in charity<sup>3</sup>.



*Listen with your heart everything that others tell you.*



## Insights for Spiritist Counselors

- ✓ **Do not promise any healing.**  
It does not depend on you, but on God's will and the individual's merit.
- ✓ **Do not accept gratifications, gifts, special attention from patient.**  
Give freely, what you have freely received.
- ✓ **Avoid giving your personal opinion.**  
Offer the Spiritist teachings instead
- ✓ **Do not interfere with the patient's medical treatment.**  
Instead, refer to competent health professionals whenever needed.
- ✓ **Safeguard patient's privacy**  
Do to others what you would like others do to you.
- ✓ **Speak with kindness and simplicity.**  
Make sure you are clear to the patient.
- ✓ **Do not tell the patient "You are obsessed".**  
Patients may not understand it. If they do, they may get even more distressed.
- ✓ **Do not counsel obsessing spirits during patient's counseling.**  
Instead call the patient to regain control of his/her own body. Give passes if needed.
- ✓ **Do not tell patients "You are a medium".**  
Receiving proper spiritual care and learning about Spiritism, patients may figure it out by themselves in the future.

### References

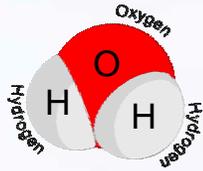
1. Atendimento Fraterno, Projeto Manoel P. Miranda.
2. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, Chapter 17, Item 3.
3. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 886.
4. Happy Life, Joanna de Angelis / Divaldo Franco.



Practice kindness and gratitude with everyone.<sup>4</sup>

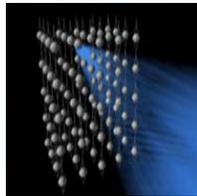
# Spiritually Magnetized Water

## Water



- It is an inorganic substance.
- It is also the universal solvent.
- Water covers 71% of the Earth's surface.
- Where there is water, there is life.

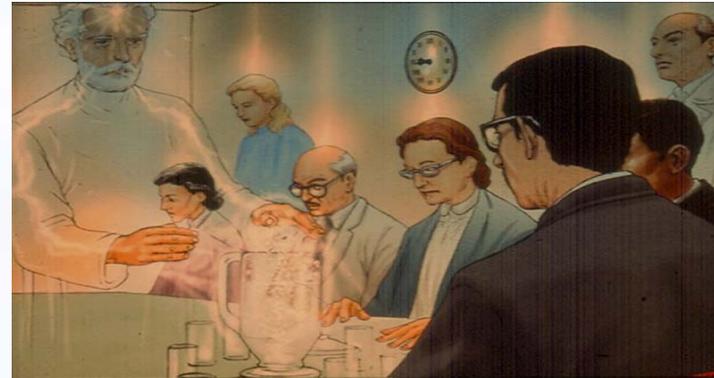
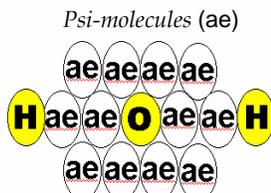
## Will Power and Faith



- Due to its molecular constitution, water absorbs and conducts bioenergy (magnetism).<sup>1</sup>

- Under the action of will and faith, water can be impregnated with bioenergy.<sup>2</sup>

## Changes at Molecular Level<sup>3</sup>

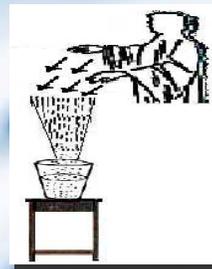


**Spiritually Magnetized Water** is a therapeutic element loaded with spiritually-impregnated remedy that is used to balance *spirit-perispirit-physical body*.

## Types of Magnetization<sup>4</sup>



Magnetizer



Spirit



Combined

through

Prayer - Laying on of hands - Affirmations

## General Recommendations

1. Water must potable.
2. Person must be receptive.



## Thoughts and Words Change Water Crystals<sup>5</sup>

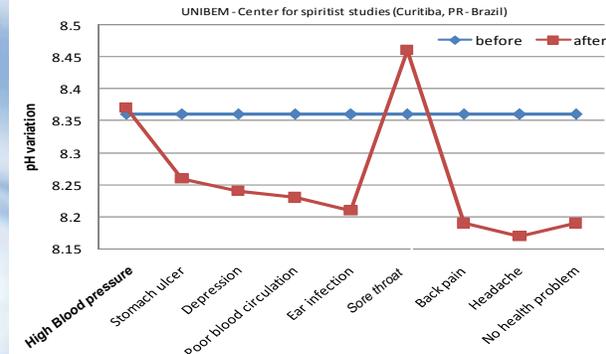


Thank you!

I will kill you!

## EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE

### Effects of spiritual magnetization onto water pH



## MAIN CONCLUSIONS

- Spiritual magnetization of water alters its characteristics;
- Such changes are specific to each type of disease;
- This water absorbs the specialized healthy fluids that are being transfused, becoming a true remedy.

### References:

1. *Loucura e Obsessao*, Manoel P. Miranda / Divaldo Franco, chap. 3, p. 40.
2. *Magnetismo Espiritual*, Michaelus, chapter 15, p. 140.
3. *O Passe*, Jacob Melo, p. 259.
4. *O Passe*, Jacob Melo, p. 261.
5. *Messages from Water*, Massaru Emoto.

# SPIRITISM FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

*"It is through education rather than instruction that the world will be transformed."* ALLAN KARDEC

## Childhood

The child who we receive in our arms today is the spirit who reincarnates on Earth for a new evolutionary step. This child brings with him/her an immense baggage of his/her millennial past<sup>1</sup>.



All children are an incarnated spirit. Childhood is a necessity. It's a time of repose for the spirit. A spirit reincarnates to progress and to contribute to the general work in God's creation.<sup>2</sup>



Reincarnation is a process that begins at conception, when its educational process shall also begin. According to Pestalozzi, from conception to the age of 7 the spirit is still adapting to its new body.

The fragility of the body inspires our love. Such love would be weakened if faced with a bad-tempered character. The bad tendencies being dormant facilitates the educational process.<sup>3</sup>



A spirit incarnates in order to perfect itself, and it is more accessible during childhood to the impressions it receives, and which may assist in its progress.<sup>2</sup>



It is then that one can best reform their character and curb their wrong tendencies. **Such is the duty that God entrusts to parents, a sacred mission** for which they will have to answer<sup>2</sup>.



The experiences from the past and the real character of the spirit, take place gradually as the organs develop, so one must study the signs shown. By the end of adolescence the spirit has recaptured its nature<sup>3</sup>.

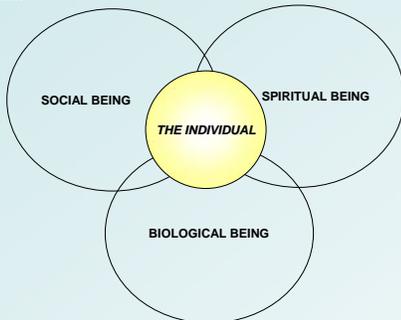
Each spirit builds itself with the experiences lived throughout the millennia. Whatever its present situation may be, this spirit brings, deep within itself, **THE GERM OF PERFECTION**, because it is a child of God.

Here lies the objective of education in its true meaning: To aid the spirit to develop its inner potential, its dormant faculties, in one word: **THE GERM OF PERFECTION**.<sup>1</sup>

## Threefold Constitution of Children

To better understand children's educational needs, Spiritism explains their threefold constitution<sup>1</sup>:

- **Spiritual:** Children bring formed personalities from past experiences with unique characteristics, which lie dormant during infancy.
- **Social:** Children have a new personality in development, which will be formed and influenced by the environment, education, and all stimuli in the present existence.
- **Biological:** Children are also representatives of the human species and must necessarily obey to certain instinctive patterns of development, which are common to the species.



The understanding of this interaction should lead us to a revolution in the way we see child development. The greatest educators of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, among them Rousseau and Pestalozzi, stated that children develop themselves by responding to an inner impulse (the germ of perfection), while being also influenced by the social and biological conditions.<sup>4</sup>

## Spiritist Education

### Integral Education

Integral education must encompass feelings, intelligence, and the application of what is learned, in order to awake all the powers of the soul in a balanced and integrated way.

### Spiritist Educational Triad (based on Pestalozzi's idea)



**Educate the Heart** to help bring about the love for God and the neighbor.



**Educate the Head** to develop the intelligence, how to observe, to analyze, to deduce and to think. Consequently learning how to tell good from bad.



**Educate the Hands** to stimulate manual activities and work in general, as much to cultivate agility, health and harmony of the body.

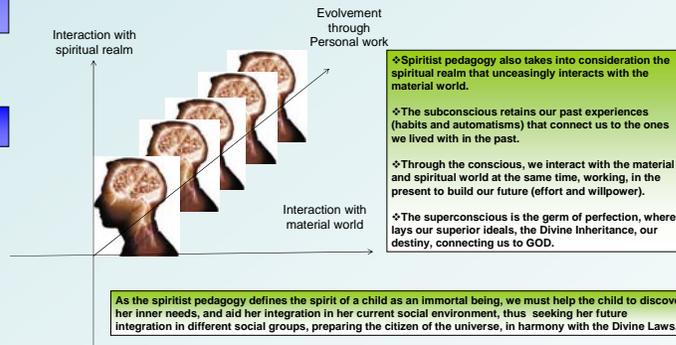
### HEART



HEAD

HANDS

## Spiritist Pedagogy<sup>1</sup>



## Goals of Spiritism for children and youth

- Understand God as the all-loving Creator;
- Understand our threefold nature: physical body, spiritual body (perispirit), and Spirit;
- Understand the value of prayer and make it a habit;
- Understand the relationship between the material and spiritual worlds;
- Better understand Jesus' teachings and practice them in daily life;
- Understand the death as a normal process of evolution.



When a body is produced the soul which incarnates in it has come from space in order to progress. So acquaint yourselves with your duty and then put all your love into bringing this soul nearer to God. This is the mission with which you have been entrusted and for which you will receive just reward if you fulfill your trust faithfully. The care and education given by you to this child will help in its improvement and future well-being.<sup>5</sup>

## Educational Environments

Education is every influence exerted by one person onto another, in a way to stimulate an evolutionary process. It may occur in any relationship. Every time a human being awakens a good feeling in another one, that becomes an educational action.<sup>4</sup>

### HOME



### HOME IS OUR FIRST SCHOOL

In the modest or wealthy home, the soul of a child receives her first lessons of sensibility and affection, the first manifestations of nobility and understanding.<sup>6</sup>

### SCHOOL

To achieve its goal, schools must provide integral education. They have to educate, not only instruct. Schools have to be beautiful, exciting and enjoyable places, where students work, interact, and discuss. There, they exercise their freedom in a constructive way, while being stimulated by creative and enthusiastic teachers.



### SPIRITIST CENTER



The spiritist center plays the role of sublime school that enlighten the mind and the heart. This is the place where we learn Jesus' teachings revisited by Spiritism in its three aspects: scientific, philosophical and religious, while focusing on its application in our daily lives.

True love is always educational and the true education is always an act of love. The relationship between love and education is intrinsic, inseparable.

## Visionary Education

The current educational model with its short-term view of life, with emphasis in the wild competition and the insane search for success and social approval, drives humanity to the paradox of great material comfort and great moral and spiritual discomfort. While technology surprises each day, social inequalities increase, generating anxiety, violence, depression, fear, insecurity, aggressiveness, etc. This leads individuals to having and accumulating in detriment to the values of being, sharing and feeling.



With its visionary view of life, Spiritism brings a different educational proposal that fosters our self-improvement and long-term goals for immortal life. Therefore, it aims at the perpetual being and not simply the secular being. Studying its origin, nature and destiny, it guides humanity to the age of regeneration in which we are already entering.



References:

1. Education of the Spirit, Walter O. Alves.
2. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, O/A 382.
3. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, O/A 385.
4. Education According to Spiritism, Dora Incantri.
5. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, chapter 14, Item 9.
6. Emmanuel

# INTELLIGENT SLEEP

The sleep state has a stronger influence on one's life than one can imagine<sup>1</sup>.

## What happens during sleep?

body — perispirit — Spirit

We are *Spirits*. The Spirit is enveloped by a vaporous substance fine as a mist, which is called the *perispirit*. It connects us to our physical body<sup>2</sup>.

### EMANCIPATION

While our body sleeps, we, Spirits, enjoy other faculties we are unaware of in the waking state. Our abilities expand markedly. Sleep causes a partial liberation of our souls from the body. When we sleep, our body is, for a time, in the same condition that we will confront after death<sup>3</sup>.



During sleep the common mass of spirits seek the lower spheres, to which we are attracted by old affections or our own primitive inclinations; and once there, we indulge in every sensual pleasure. On these visits, we also receive vile suggestions, often baser than we conceive of when awake<sup>3</sup>.

### Caution

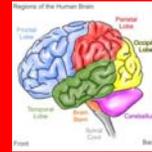
“Watch and Pray” Matthew 26:41

- PREPARATION:**
  - Good thoughts
  - Edifying books
- PRAYER (at bedtime):**
  - Direct your prayer to God
  - A heartfelt prayer is an unflinching means of obtaining spiritual assistance.
- SPIRITUALLY MAGNETIZED WATER:**
  - In the next Morning, drink a glass of water (left at bedside) that good Spirits have magnetized during the night to help you rebalance your energies.

## What are dreams?

### PHYSICALLY:

Dreams are the images, thoughts and feelings experienced while **asleep**, particularly strongly associated with **rapid eye movement sleep**.



### What occurs during REM:

- Stability of brain synapses
- Memory consolidation
- Brain's internal communication system

### SPIRITUALLY:

Dreams are a product of the freeing of the soul, which become more energetic as the activities of daily life are suspended. In the dream state the soul enjoys an all-penetrating clairvoyance which extends to far away and unknown places, and even other realms of life. <sup>3</sup>.



### TYPES OF DREAMS <sup>6</sup>:

1. Memory of the past
2. Presentiment of the future
3. Communication with other incarnated or discarnated spirits
4. Sometimes they are the reflex of the confusion that accompanies our departure or our return mingled with vague memories of what we have done or of what occupied our thoughts in our waking state.
5. Prophetic Dreams: Joan of Arc, Bible, etc.

## Why don't we recall our dreams?

In what we call sleep, only the body rests. The Spirit is always in motion. During sleep, it recovers part of its freedom and contacts those closest to it, on this or other realms. But the body's matter is heavy and it is difficult for the spirit, on waking, to retain the impressions it received during sleep, since these did not come through its physical organs<sup>4</sup>.

However, as Spirit, we will remember the advices received during sleep at the appropriate time.



## INTELLIGENT USE OF SLEEP

### THERAPY

We can do all sorts of therapy during sleep. In particular, we may use our time in the spiritual realm to reconcile with our enemies. While in this state, the Spirit reveals its true identity, making it impossible to conceal its feelings. All we need is strong will and ask for our Spirit Mentor's guidance.



### SEEKING ADVICE

During sleep, Spirits who have attained reasonable progress often seek the company of more advanced Spirits, talk with them and receive their advice<sup>5</sup>.



To achieve this level, we need to lead a balanced life during the day.

### HEALING THE PAST

The state of freedom during sleep may produce recollection of events from present and prior lives<sup>3</sup>.

Spontaneous recollection of the past through dreams may be very useful to those who suffer from inexplicable problems.

### REVELATIONS



### PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

This type of dream allows you to foresee the future. The dream may be a foresight of what will happen later in this life, or even a future life<sup>6</sup>.

In the Bible, we see many prophetic dreams preparing humanity for future events.

### SPIRITUAL WORK

Andre Luiz's books show us many examples of work that we are invited to do in the spiritual realm.

Depending on the Spirit's advancement, it can help in guiding others, in mediumistic services, lectures and courses for discarnate as well as incarnate spirits.



### COURSES AND TRAINING

According to Andre Luiz in *Missionários da Luz*, the spiritual realm has also many rooms for trainings and courses of all sorts, but very few incarnate people attend these lectures. There are courses about any subject we are interested in. If we ask our spiritual mentors, we can attend courses to improve ourselves in all sorts of needs.

### REFERENCES

1. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 401
2. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 102
3. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 402
4. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 403
5. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 410
6. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, Q/A 404

*We can learn a lot about our true identity through our dreams.*

# Obsession & Disobsession

## What is Obsession ?



The negative persistent action which a less evolved spirit exercises over an individual<sup>1</sup>.

## Who is the obsessor?



The obsessor is someone who is disturbed due to sufferings and deceptions likely caused by the obsessed individual<sup>2</sup>.

## Types of Obsession

### Simple



When (incarnate or discarnate) spirits attach themselves to those who solicit them with their desires, or who attract them with their thoughts<sup>3</sup>.

### Fascination



When a malicious (incarnate or discarnate) spirit exerts such a powerful influence upon individuals that it paralyzes their judgment<sup>4</sup>.

### Subjugation



When a malicious (incarnate or discarnate) spirit paralyzes the will of individuals making them act in spite of themselves. Subjugation may be moral or corporeal<sup>4</sup>.

## Dynamics of Obsession<sup>5</sup>

Incarnate ⇨ Incarnate  
 Discarnate ⇨ Discarnate  
 Incarnate ⇨ Discarnate  
 Discarnate ⇨ Incarnate



## Causes of Obsession

Moral imperfections of both obsessing and obsessed individuals who have had a relationship in this or a past reincarnation and have their minds still tuned to one another in an emotional state characterized by dispositions such as:



hatred vengeance addictions



vanity jealousy attachment

## Signs of obsession



- Emotional oscillations
- Any form of physical or mental coercion that dominates the will
- Involuntary behaviors
- Persistent negativity
- Excessive pride
- Ideas of grandiosity
- Irritability
- Avoidance of healthy situations



## Self-Obsession

Human beings are often their own obsessors<sup>6</sup>.

## Obsession Aftermath

Mental and/or physical disorders



These do not originate in any physiological pathology, but come from suffering entities exerting influence on certain individuals, causing the appearance of mental and/or physical disease<sup>7</sup>.

## Preventing Obsession



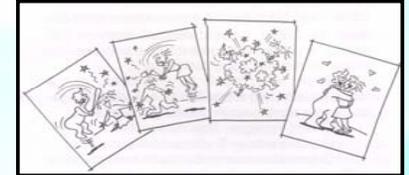
Inner transformation

Practice of Charity (Love in Action)

**Watch and Pray**

- Matthew 26:41

## Disobsession: Treatment for Obsession



## Inner Transformation

Inner transformation promotes a positive attitude and, thus, fortifies the soul<sup>8</sup>.

## Passes & Spiritually Magnetized Water

Passes and spiritually magnetized water help to remove the unhealthy fluids (energies) that envelope the obsessed individual<sup>8</sup>.

## Counseling the Obsessor

It is necessary to counsel the obsessing spirit to renounce his unhealthy designs; to awaken with him a desire to do good, and true repentance, by the aid of cleverly directed instructions<sup>8</sup>.

## Disobsession Meetings

**Location:** Spiritist Center

**Needed Requirements<sup>9</sup>:**

- Training
- Mediumistic Team
- Meeting day<sup>9</sup>:**
- Preparation
- Punctuality
- Opening and Closing Prayers
- Spirit Manifestation
- Spirit Counseling
- Passes



### OUTCOME

The entities that are enlightened during these specialized Spiritist meetings will reincarnate in better moral conditions and be able to count on stronger inner resources.<sup>10</sup>

- References**
1. The Gospel According to Spiritism, Allan Kardec, Chapter 28, Item 81.
  2. Obsessao e Desobsessao, Suelly C. Schubert, Chapter 13.
  3. The Spirits' Book, Allan Kardec, OJA 467.
  4. The Mediums' Book, Allan Kardec, Item 239-240.
  5. Obsessao e Desobsessao, Suelly C. Schubert, Chapter 5.
  6. Posthumous Work, Allan Kardec, Item 58.
  7. Introduction to the Spiritist Philosophy, Allan Kardec, page 76.
  8. Genesis, Allan Kardec, Chapter 14, Item 46.
  9. Disobsession, Andre Luiz/Franco Xavier.
  10. Getting to the Light: The Spiritist Therapy for Discarnate Spirits, Nilson S. Pereira.

## **Empowering the English-Speaking Spiritist Movement in the USA**

Following a tradition that started in 2007 after the 1<sup>st</sup> U.S. Spiritist Symposium, U.S. Spiritist directors and coordinators met on April 20, 2008 (the day after the 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Spiritist Symposium in NY) to discuss the progress of the English-speaking Spiritist movement, while empowering and uniting it in the United States.

Representatives of 13 U.S. Spiritist centers<sup>1</sup> gathered together at the headquarters of the Spiritist Group of New York to discuss new strategies to help disseminate Spiritism in English. A representative of the Canada spiritualist movement and the representative of the International Spiritist Council also participated.

### **SUMMARY OF INSIGHTS AT THE MEETING**

#### **1) Promote local English-speaking events at least once a year.**

- ❖ Organizing local, regional or State Spiritist events in the English language may advantageously bring:
  - newcomers to Spiritist centers
  - expose potential local speakers and coordinators
  - spread Spiritism beyond Spiritist Centers
  - unite participating local, regional, State-wide Spiritist centers
  
- ❖ We shall not depend on International Spiritist speakers to run our national spiritist movement. We need to empower our national resources.
  
- ❖ Having yearly national symposia is not enough to boost the movement.

---

<sup>1</sup>The following were the participants in this meeting on April 20, 2008:

João Korngold, Jussara Korngold, Frederico Gouveia, Elmo Deslandes, Livia Sandoval - SGNY (NY)  
 Vanessa Anseloni, Daniel Santos, Fabiana F. Moura, Carol Strosnider, Isabela Vieira, Leonardo Vieira – SSB (MD)  
 Bernadete Leal - AKC (San Diego, CA)  
 Renata Taveira - JASS (Pittsburgh, PA)  
 Suzana Simões, Marcelo Netto - CLSG (North Miami, FL)  
 Mauricio Cisneiros Filho - CSSC (Pompano Beach, FL)  
 Eduardo Guimarães, Helder Martins, Hugo Melo - IESS (NY)  
 Ricardo Mastroleo - Allan Kardec Spiritist Educational (TX)  
 Judith Peterschmitt, Stephen Honton - AKSSMA (MA)  
 Anisio Resem, Susana Resem - SSSD (San Diego, CA)  
 Daniel Assisi - Blossom (Los Angeles, CA)  
 Livia Trevisani - AKCSCO (Orlando, FL)  
 Patricia Estwood - Toronto  
 Aramando Velez - SISC (NJ)  
 Junara Araujo - CXSC (San Rafael, CA)  
 Antonio Cesar Perri de Carvalho – International Spiritist Council (ISC)

## 2) Build peace by disseminating Spiritism in the U.S.A.

We have been informed that the Spiritist dissemination is somewhat delayed in the USA. One of the main reasons is the avoidance of sharing the Spiritist knowledge in the English language. Also, Spirit communications to the International Spiritist Council have brought the information that the dissemination of the Spiritist movement is delayed in the world as well.

In the book *Entre Irmaos de Outras Terras* (pages 29-30, chapter 5, FEB), Andre Luiz asked William James when Spiritism will be known worldwide. And he replied, “It is a matter of time and it depends also on the goodwill of human beings (...) We have learned that no stable construction happens at the impulse of improvisation. The Spiritist harvest requires the sowing of Spiritist principles. And there is no efficient sowing without dedicated sowers. Let us increase our individual contribution and elevate our level of understanding in regard to our responsibility with the dissemination of Spiritism. (...) Each individual, each group and each country will get from Spiritism what they do with it. We believe it is possible to summarize the guidelines for all of us in the following program: balanced feelings; elevated thoughts; constructive conversations; study always; and serve more.”

For Spiritists living in the USA, a country that is in the turmoil of a war, we ask:

- What are we, Spiritists, doing to help in the state of affairs of this nation?
- Do we also have responsibility in the current situation by delaying to disseminate the Spiritist message?

## 3) Start Spiritist meetings and centers

Here are some tips:

- ❖ Revisit the list of insights from last year’s meeting (available at [www.spiritistsymposium.org](http://www.spiritistsymposium.org)).
- ❖ Do not get discouraged by the number of participants in the meetings. If the number of people is low, most likely it serves the purpose to improve the quality of the meetings, materials and practitioners. The concern regarding the number of people distracts from the core work.
- ❖ Do not mix Portuguese and English meeting in one day. English-speaking people do not feel welcomed in an environment where the majority is speaking another unknown language. It is better to open a meeting in another location where only English-Speaking meetings are held.
- ❖ You may use tools to gather new people such as Meet up.com.
- ❖ Having a welcome package for newcomers with a CD introducing teachings and messages, inspirational notes and a brochure (like in Unity and Religious Science churches or other organizations). The Spiritist Society of Baltimore is preparing a welcome kit that includes an introductory DVD on Spiritism.
- ❖ Implementing different dynamics such as shorter lectures (30 minutes) followed by discussion may be more appealing to the American public. Short lectures

format assist practitioners who are just starting to become more comfortable speaking Spiritism in English.

- ❖ There is need of Spiritist materials to guide small groups.
- ❖ We shall not call Spiritist volunteers 'workers'. It would be best to call them Spiritist practitioners (people who are practicing Spiritism, but do not have compensation).
- ❖ Also, Spiritist centers should have their volunteers and practitioners sign consent forms in order to avoid having the spiritist group or center sued in the future. Centers have been sued in Brazil seeking for volunteers who wanted compensation. The SSB has designed a working consent form for all types of volunteers and practitioners.

#### 4) Spiritist materials available and needed

##### Available materials:

- ❖ There are audio books already available by Divaldo Franco and Raul Teixeira. The recently launched audio book *Unfolding our Spiritual nature: Path of Harmony* by Raul Teixeira is a great way to share Spiritism with newcomers.
- ❖ The TVCEI and the SSB offer Spiritist workshops and talks in the English language 24/7 through their websites.
- ❖ All the 20 posters exhibited at the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Spiritist Symposia will soon be available at [www.spiritistsymposia.org](http://www.spiritistsymposia.org). Spiritist meetings and events may use poster sessions as another educational tool to disseminate Spiritism.
- ❖ The SSB has recently launched the Roadmap Program for Spiritist Study and Practice which provides workbooks and lessons in DVD. See more at their website.
- ❖ There are free downloadable books and materials at [www.sgny.org](http://www.sgny.org) and [www.ssbaltimore.org](http://www.ssbaltimore.org)
- ❖ The Spiritist Magazine ([www.thespiritistmagazine.com](http://www.thespiritistmagazine.com)) is also available.

##### Needed materials:

- ❖ More audiobooks, mp3, and podcast files may help in the dissemination of Spiritism.
- ❖ Having Spiritist books at hand may also help to disseminate Spiritism while outside Spiritist centers.
- ❖ There is need of translation of other core Spiritist books such as the ones by Andre Luiz/Francisco Xavier.

#### 5) Understanding our American Audience

- ❖ The article *Why American Spirituality Needs Spiritism* (in The Spiritist Magazine) brings lots of insights on this parallel between Spiritism and the American Culture.
- ❖ Also, listen to the suggested audiobook *The Sacred Contract of America* by Carolyn Myss, one of the most prominent Spiritual speakers in the U.S.A.

- ❖ Most Americans who are currently drawn to Spiritism are open-minded and have already experienced New Thought/New Age philosophies. Many of them find out about Spiritism through John of God.
- ❖ People may be drawn to the centers because of the phenomena, messages and passes therapy. Some may not be so interested in studying Spiritism. Thus, it is very important that Spiritist directors and coordinators be serious and consistent in their task to educate the public about the seriousness of mediumship and the need to study and have discipline.
- ❖ It is important to be familiarized with Spiritualist literature in the U.S.A. in order to be able to bridge it with Spiritism. However, there is no need to know everything that is out there in order to begin Spiritist meetings. As Spiritist speakers become more confident about their Spiritist knowledge, people will start to come.
- ❖ Revisiting our role model in the Spiritist dissemination, Allan Kardec, we observe that he was open-minded and easily made parallels between Spiritism and other philosophies and sciences.
- ❖ We shall not mold our meetings and centers in the same way that it happens in Brazil, for instance. We need a culturally-fit Spiritist movement. Thus, knowing the American culture and its history may help.
- ❖ We shall not be afraid to do our work.
- ❖ We shall also consider the public that consider themselves Christian and are unhappy with fundamentalist religions.

#### **6) English-speaking Spiritist meetings and centers empower immigrants as well**

- ❖ Despite language barriers, running Spiritist meetings may empower immigrants and improve their lives, as it boosts their communication skills and propel their cultural knowledge.
- ❖ Centers may offer English lessons for immigrant public and community.

#### **7) To foster English-Speaking Spiritist meetings is charity.**

- ❖ Emmanuel: Spiritism requires from us one important charity: the charity of the dissemination of Spiritism.
- ❖ If we do not offer public meetings in English, American people feel left out. We need to be inclusive, not exclusive.
- ❖ It also reaches out to children and youth groups in Spiritist centers that actually do not read other languages, but English.

#### **8) Beyond language, there is love, understanding and commitment.**

- ❖ Spirituality goes beyond language. It is not all about language. We all have different lives and experiences. The exchange of common ideas comes with the language of the heart as well.

- ❖ If there is a will, there is a way. There is immense work ahead of us and we need committed people.

**9) There is need of investment and support in the English-Speaking movement**

- ❖ It is important to support and invest in English-speaking Spiritist groups.
- ❖ Also, there is need to raise funds for American Spiritist movement.

**10) Spiritist immigrants in the U.S. were prepared to contribute in this transition.**

- ❖ Divaldo Franco has recently mentioned that Brazilians and other Latin American Spiritists were actually prepared to promote the English speaking movement in the United States. We may not recall the commitment. All we need is faith, a positive attitude, no hesitation. And just do it.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Spiritist Symposium

### Special Meeting for Spiritist Directors CREATING BRIDGES FOR SPIRITISM IN AMERICA

#### Vanessa Anseloni

- Opening prayer
- Review of how things have been growing and re-introduced the movement.

#### Nahur Fonseca

- Recap of previous year
  - See attached material
- Insights
  - Build peace by disseminating Spiritism in the USA
  - Start Spiritist meetings and centers
    - New centers got launched after last Symposium
  - Spiritist Materials available and needed
    - Vanessa to provide references
  - Understand our American audience
    - Quiz to follow (from Vanessa)
  - Persist with English-speaking meetings
  - Foster English speaking meetings in charity
  - Look beyond language – love, understanding and commitment
  - Investment and support for the English-Speaking movement
    - More to follow
  - Spiritist immigrants in the US were prepared to contribute in this transition
    - The Plan (from Divaldo) Brazilians will disseminate

#### Vanessa Anseloni

- Opened to overall introductions – each shared brief experience and how long they have been participating with the Symposium
  - Patricia Eastwood – Toronto
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Symposium
  - Marcelo Neto – Florida
  - Andrea Marsha
  - Charlice / MacKenzie Mello – Peabody
  - Gabi Ferreira
  - Judiith / Steve Horton
  - Cesar Perri – Brasilia
  - Manuel Gamas -
  - Maria Bachellor
  - Eduardo Guimaraes - MA
  - etc...
  - Others: Connecticut, NY, USSC, Florida, MA, San Diego – CA, San Francisco - CA, Austin – TX, Baltimore -MD, Los Angeles - CA

- How can we bridge into the American cultural/spiritualist?
  - Perspectives from different groups and their experience
- Adjust vocabulary to reflect ideas correctly
- Pay close attention to things that are puzzling (for Brazilians) and not uncommon in the Spiritist center
  - Example: I need to get rid of my “ego”?
- Do not close the door due to not understanding
  - Figure out (ask questions) about what is being said
- In pairs: work 10 expressions for creating Bridges on Spiritism in the U.S.
  - Not everybody comes from a Christian background
  - Word to be concerned when talking to Americans: PRIDE
  - Be concerned with the word “doctrine” – being indoctrinated
  - “Passion” – passion for what you do – indicate the meaning
  - Spiritual Mission = Mission of the U.S. (Obama)
  - Think out of the box
  - Know the culture
- Seek creative solutions
  - 5 case studies: true scenarios
    - Consider challenges and build solutions
      - Comments relative to Mediumship
        - Education, discipline, initial treatments
      - Comments relative to meetings in English
        - English should not block Portuguese
      - Comments relative to workers from English origin
        - Everybody’s problem
        - Person is new as a volunteer => recognition
        - Make them be part of it!
        - Language pods – communication
        - Demonstrate by example
      - Comments relative to accepting Spiritism as a Christian Religion and should accepted as such
- Are there any questions we can do this?
  - Obvious answer: yes, we can.
  - Evidence – we are here!
- Presentation of further resources to assist in generating structured classes in English
  - Videos

### **Cesar Perri de Carvalho**

- Presentation: What can effectively do for this country in war?
  - Overview of the various facets of the movement in the U.S.
  - Perspectives of how our actions reach its public target
  - Considerations on the organization of centers
    - Centers need autonomy
    - Each location has its own influences and dynamics
    - Federative Organization!



- Click here for the presentation:

## USSC

- Presentation of new directors
- Symposium 2010
  - Florida
  - USSC will coordinate

Those present:

Name	Organization	City	State	Contact
Daniel Assisi	Blossom SS	Los Angeles	CA	
Bernadete Leal	Spiritist Society San Diego	San Diego	CA	<a href="mailto:bleal@hotmail.com">bleal@hotmail.com</a>
Anisio Resem	Spiritist Society San Diego	San Diego	CA	<a href="mailto:anisio.resem@sssandiego.org">anisio.resem@sssandiego.org</a>
Susana Resem	Spiritist Society San Diego	San Diego	CA	<a href="mailto:sssd@sssandiego.org">sssd@sssandiego.org</a>
Cintia Cavalcante	San Francisco Spiritist Society	San Francisco	CA	
Junara Araujo	San Francisco Spiritist Society	San Francisco	CA	<a href="mailto:junara@yahoo.com">junara@yahoo.com</a>
Mauricio Cisneiros Filho	Christian Spiritist Study Center		FL	
Murillo S. Soranzo	CLSG		FL	
Bruno Drummond	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	<a href="mailto:bdrummond@deloitte.com">bdrummond@deloitte.com</a>
Dirce Pienasola	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Flavia Dallagnol	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Gabi Ferreira	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Gilberto Neves	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Judith Peterschmitt	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Nahur Fonseca	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Ronald Venancio	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Sergio Nascimento	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Stephen Horton	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Flavio Zanetti	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Joe Forth	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Marcony Almeida	AKSSMA	Boston	MA	
Fatima Sousa	Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Lowell	Lowell	MA	<a href="mailto:f_amoreluz@yahoo.com">f_amoreluz@yahoo.com</a>
Joao Lopes	Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Lowell	Lowell	MA	
Thomas Braga	Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Lowell	Lowell	MA	<a href="mailto:thomasbraga@comcast.net">thomasbraga@comcast.net</a>
Marcio Queiroz	GETHU	Marlborough	MA	
Chirles Barroso	Cantinho de Luz	Peabody	MA	

Name	Organization	City	State	Contact
Saulo Oliveira	Cantinho de Luz	Peabody	MA	
Carol Stronider	SSB	Baltimore	MD	<a href="mailto:mcstrosnider@msn.com">mcstrosnider@msn.com</a>
Daniel Santos	SSB	Baltimore	MD	
Leonardo Vieira	SSB	Baltimore	MD	
Vanessa Anseloni	SSB	Baltimore	MD	
Manoel Sousa Filho	Luz Divina		NJ	
Julio Carvalho	Spiritst Center Divine Light		NJ	
Ligia Carvalho	Spiritst Center Divine Light		NJ	
Ada Gomes	AKS Center	New York	NY	
Eduardo Guimaraes	IESS NY	New York	NY	<a href="mailto:edugi@hotmail.com">edugi@hotmail.com</a>
Helder Martins	IESS NY	New York	NY	
Hugo Melo	IESS NY	New York	NY	<a href="mailto:hgmelo@hotmail.com">hgmelo@hotmail.com</a>
Jenny Yoshimura	IESS NY	New York	NY	
Addison Cornwell	Long Island Spiritist Doctrine Studies	New York	NY	
Ducinete Story	Long Island Spiritist Doctrine Studies	New York	NY	
Frederico Gouveia	SGNY	New York	NY	<a href="mailto:fgouveia77@gmail.com">fgouveia77@gmail.com</a>
Joao Korngold	SGNY	New York	NY	<a href="mailto:sab_books@sgny.org">sab_books@sgny.org</a>
Jussara Korngold	SGNY	New York	NY	<a href="mailto:sab_books@sgny.org">sab_books@sgny.org</a>
Lidia Sandoval	SGNY	New York	NY	<a href="mailto:sgny_liviasab@hotmail.com">sgny_liviasab@hotmail.com</a>
Ricardo Mastroleo	AKSEC	Austin	TX	
Tania Schwartz	Kardec Spiritist Group of Austin	Austin	TX	
Antonio Cesar Perri de Carvalho	International Spiritist Council	Brazil		
Patricia Eastwood	Spiritist Study Group	Toronto		
Rita Araujo	AKSC			<a href="mailto:ritaaraujo@akscdnbury.com">ritaaraujo@akscdnbury.com</a>
Marcelo Netto	CLSG			<a href="mailto:smtmia@hotmail.com">smtmia@hotmail.com</a>
Andrea Marshall	CSSC			<a href="mailto:andreafl@yahoo.com">andreafl@yahoo.com</a>
Angela Flores	Hope Spiritist Society			
Fernando Flores	Hope Spiritist Society			<a href="mailto:hopedasfloresaf@sbcglobo.net">hopedasfloresaf@sbcglobo.net</a>
Andrew Barbo				<a href="mailto:barbo55@hotmail.com">barbo55@hotmail.com</a>

**3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Spiritist Symposium**  
 Reincarnation: Life, Liberty  
 and the Pursuit of Happiness

**Saturday, April 11, 2009 - 11am - 6:30pm**

**Faneuil Hall**  
 1 Faneuil Hall Market Pl  
 Boston, MA

**Free admission**  
 Registration required at  
[www.spiritistsymposium.org](http://www.spiritistsymposium.org)  
 Tel.: 857-472-2922

*"To be born, to die, to be reborn yet again, and constantly progress. This is the law." - Allan Kardec's eptlogh*

Perri

### Integral Elements of the Spiritist movement

Those who continuously perform services in the Spiritist Center

Spiritist Practitioners

Perri

**ENTRE IRMÃOS DE OUTRAS TERRAS**

FRANCISCO CÂNDIDO XAVIER - WALDO VIEIRA

**Visita de Chico Xavier e Waldo Vieira aos Estados Unidos e Europa (1965)**

**Fundação do Christian Spiritist Center, com Salim J.Haddad (N.C.)**

*("Entre Irmãos de Outras Terras", FEB, 1966)*

**THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**N.Y.  
 Julho  
 de  
 1965**



Em entrevista espiritual  
com André Luiz (Cap. 5)  
William James (N.Y., 27/6/1965)  
faz oportunas considerações:

*"Temos aprendido que não surgem  
construções estáveis ao impulso do improviso.  
A seara espírita pede plantação de princípios  
espíritos.*

*E não existe plantação eficiente sem  
cultivadores dedicados. Ampliemos a área de  
nosso concurso individual e elevemos o nível de  
compreensão das nossas responsabilidades para  
com a obra do Espiritismo".*



Cap.18 – Compromisso pessoal- Emmanuel:

*"Nada de personalismo dissolvente na lavoura  
do espírito"*

[...] Pensando, porém, no impositivo da  
descentralização, no serviço espiritual, muitos  
companheiros fogem à iniciativa nas construções de ordem  
moral que nos competem.

[...] A necessidade do devotamento individual à causa  
da verdade transparece, clara..."

## GESTÃO FEDERATIVA:

### FUNDAMENTOS:

A gestão federativa tem como objeto de trabalho  
o C.E. no atendimento às suas finalidades.

A gestão federativa à luz do Espiritismo deve ter  
como princípios BÁSICOS:

- Relação clara entre organização e liberdade;
- A autonomia das instituições espíritas;
- Ações progressivas e continuadas.

## Integral Elements of the Spiritist movement

Those who  
continuously  
perform services  
in the Spiritist  
Center

Spiritist  
Practitioners

Public

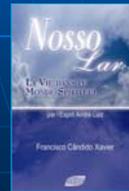
Those who  
attend services  
and meetings in  
the spiritist  
center



Cap.5:

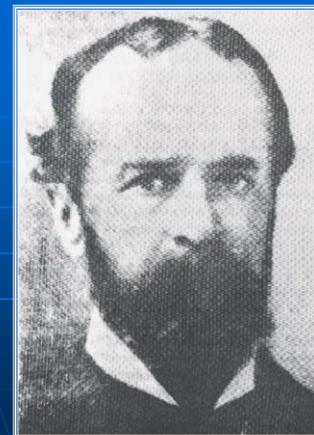
[...] “É necessário compreender que, no atual estágio da Humanidade, a barreira das línguas é limitação inevitável, de vez que por enquanto os desencarnados, em maioria esmagadora, comumente prosseguem arraigados ao ambiente doméstico em que viveram”

William James



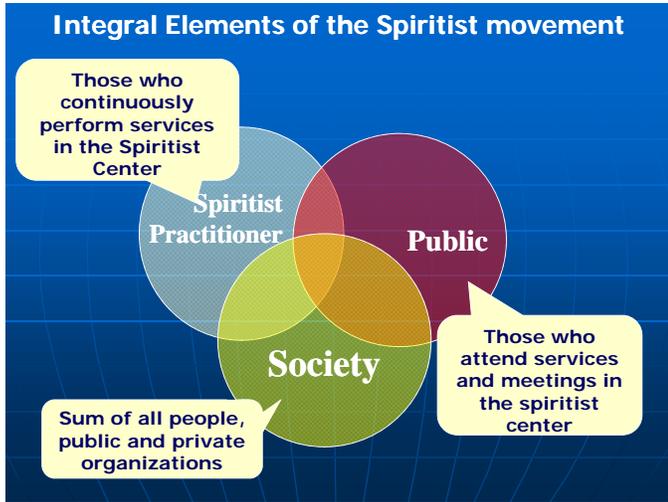
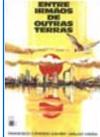
Perri

Leonore Piper - 1884



USSC-Perri

William James - 1884

Cap.16 – Entrevista em Nova Iorque:  
Horace Greeley – Fundador do *Herald Tribune*

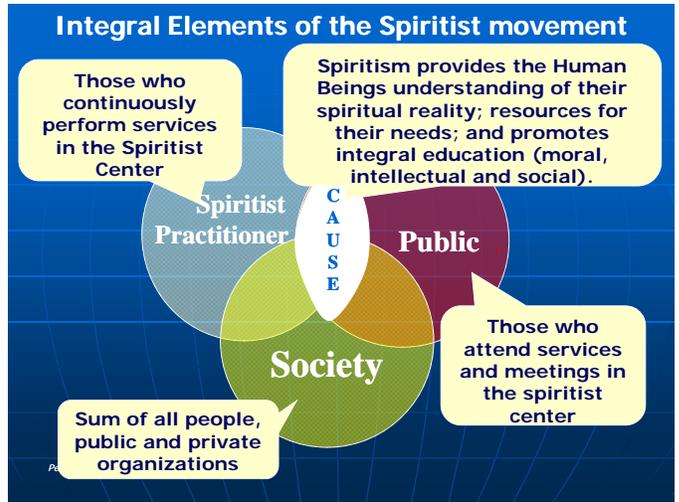
- "... O Espiritualismo, na América do Norte, está alimentado pela seiva do Cristianismo...?"
- Sem dúvida. É necessário frisar, porém, que temos dado ênfase excessiva ao Cristianismo estático na crença que aprecia Jesus por salvador externo, sem admiti-lo na condição de mestre da alma com instruções e disciplinas para o mundo íntimo. Faltam-nos os esclarecimentos incisivos de Allan Kardec, capazes de induzir-nos à fé raciocinada e à aceitação do Evangelho de Jesus por sistema de renovação e aperfeiçoamento do campo individual"

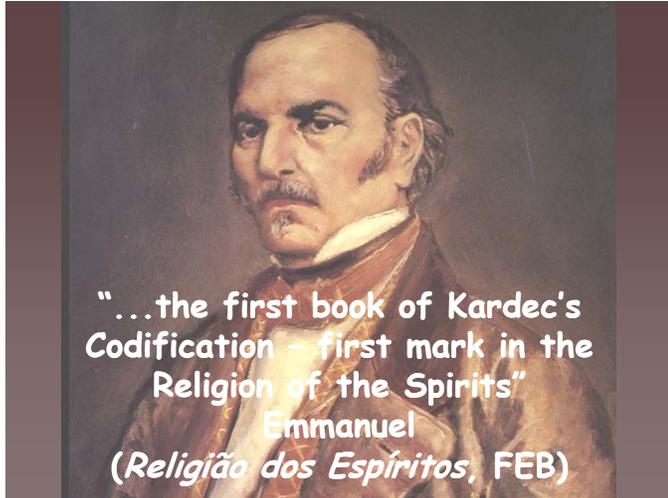
(10 - Jesus is our Savior (Fundamentalist churches).



Cap. 5:  
*"Cada companheiro, cada agrupamento e cada país terão do Espiritismo o que dele fizerem. Creemos seja possível sintetizar diretrizes para nós todos no seguinte programa: sentir em bases de equilíbrio, pensar com elevação, falar construtivamente, estudar sempre e servir mais"*

*William James*

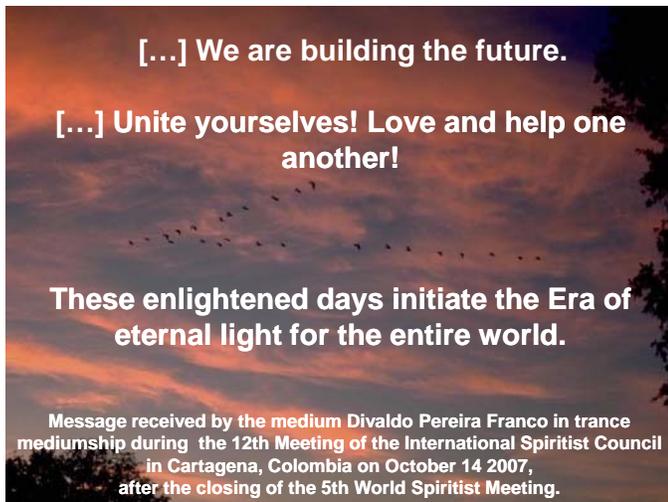




"...the first book of Kardec's  
Codification – first mark in the  
Religion of the Spirits"  
Emmanuel  
(*Religião dos Espíritos*, FEB)



Creating Bridges for Spiritism in the USA



[...] We are building the future.

[...] Unite yourselves! Love and help one  
another!

These enlightened days initiate the Era of  
eternal light for the entire world.

Message received by the medium Divaldo Pereira Franco in trance  
mediumship during the 12th Meeting of the International Spiritist Council  
in Cartagena, Colombia on October 14 2007,  
after the closing of the 5th World Spiritist Meeting.

# 3<sup>rd</sup> U.S. Spiritist Symposium

Reincarnation: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness

Saturday, April 11, 2009 - Faneuil Hall, Boston, MA

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## SPIRITIST CATALOG

**SPIRITIST BOOKS**  
CDS AND DVDS

**CATALOG**

ALLAN KARDEC  
**THE SPIRITS' BOOK**

*SPIRITISTS! LOVE ONE ANOTHER, THAT IS THE FIRST PRECEPT; EDUCATE YOURSELVES IS THE SECOND.*

ALLAN KARDEC  
**THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO SPIRITISM**

ALLAN KARDEC  
**THE MEDIUMS' BOOK**

ALLAN KARDEC  
**HEAVEN AND HELL**

ALLAN KARDEC  
**Genesis**

SPRING 2009

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Dear friends,

Last weekend, many of us were in Baltimore for the First Spiritist Symposium in the US. It was a great event, with lots of lessons to be learned.

One of the main highlights was that there are many people ready to disseminate Spiritism in English in the USA.

In the morning of April 15, 2007 (the day after the symposium), representatives of 11 Spiritist centers<sup>1</sup> in the U.S. gathered together at the Spiritist Society of Baltimore headquarter to discuss about strategies to help disseminate Spiritism in English, which I would like to share with you, so that we may bring some of these points up in our next meetings.

### **INSIGHTS ON SPREADING SPIRITISM IN THE U.S.A.**

#### ***1) Don't worry about accent.***

Many non-native English speakers are insecure about how to express the Spiritist ideas in English. No question. It is a job that requires a lot of responsibility, since we are representing the Spiritist ideas. But most Americans care less about our accents. On the contrary, our American friends find it charming and are in awe with it for the fact that we speak their language, and can convey such notions of spirituality to them. See Deepak Chopra for instance. He has a very strong accent. Still, he is extremely popular in America. Furthermore, Americans have no idea on the role of this country in the Spirituality of the World, and for that reason, they seek for Spirituality abroad. That's why people like Dalai Lama are in such demand. Our accent, in a way, is a positive point for the dissemination of Spiritism in the U.S.

#### ***2) Don't wait. Transition is now.***

We may not be 100% ready, as the group of Baltimore wasn't, when it began its work in the English language. They had one weekly meeting in Portuguese back then. When they decided to make Spiritism more public, they voted to begin with one monthly meeting in English. Then, on those monthly meetings the SSB put a lot of effort and attention, making them look and sound a bigger deal than the ones in Portuguese. The SSB also

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<sup>1</sup>The following were the participants in this meeting on April 15, 2007:  
Daniel Santos, Vanessa Anseloni, Stephanie Melo - Spiritist Society of Baltimore, MD;  
Jussara Korngold, João Korngold, Junara Araújo - Spiritist Group of New York, NY;  
Maurício Cisneiros, Andreia Marshall, Gus Pinto - Christian Spiritist Study Center, FL;  
Nahur Fonseca, Fernanda Ferreira - Allan Kardec Spiritist Society of Massachusetts, MA;  
Ricardo Mastroleo – Allan Kardec Spiritist Educational Center, TX;  
Suzana Simões – Home of Ehlael Kardecian Spiritist Center, FL  
Ézio Oliveira, Alessandra - Regeneration Spiritist Society, GA;  
Ronny La'Mar - Spiritist Group of Davis, CA;  
Eduardo Guimarães – Allan Kardec Spiritist Center of New York, NY  
Akemi Adams, Daniel Assis – Blossom Spiritist Society, CA  
Anisio Resem, Suzana Resem – Spiritist Group of San Diego, CA

faced challenges among Brazilians who did not want to leave their comfort zone. Initially, only Brazilians would come to the English-speaking meetings. There were no Americans. Some Brazilians would sarcastically ask, 'where are the americans?' And they would hear the answer: 'did you invite anyone? Well, so, how do you expect to see any Americans, if you haven't invited any?'

Once those meetings got momentum, the SSB had to make a decision. Either make a 100% transition into English or keep the double effort in English and Portuguese.

The group came to the conclusion that dividing the works in Portuguese/English was not the best option once they really wanted to disseminate Spiritism in America. The reasons that led to that decision were:

- 1) There would be two separate groups in the center. Unity would hardly be achieved if kept in that way;
- 2) One of the groups would be bigger than the other, and thus interactions not be evenly fair;
- 3) The smaller group would stay stuck in progress, as it is still the case of the majority of Spiritist nuclei in the U.S. The English-speaking meetings would never take off, and would progressively feel uninteresting and die.

To avoid all that, the SSB decided to make a step-by-step transition to 100% English-speaking meetings.

### ***3) Don't be afraid of asking for donations.***

Although we say that money is not as important as people think, surprisingly we spent a lot of time at our meeting talking about different ways of receiving donations at the spiritist centers.

Everybody agreed that a discrete box with the label "love donation" is a good strategy. But it should also be possible to accept donations for which a receipt is given, so that this donation can be deductible in the tax return.

It is important to highlight to the public, however, that all the services and activities offered in the Spiritist center are entirely free of charge. Many people, not used to the spirit of charity and service, when faced with this, will ask 'where is the catch?'. And we should make it clear that there is no catch. Maybe the only one is the expectation on seeing people get better, paying attention to what is being said, and trying to practice the teachings in their lives.

For the organization of the Symposium, the Spiritist Society of Baltimore had to raise almost 8,000 dollars to host the event. As per previous agreement, 50% of the total expenses were to be paid by the SSB as the hosting organization, but the other 50% was split among other 12 spiritist centers in the U.S. The SSB alone needed to raise 4,000 dollars. Then, they decided to take the American way of fundraising. They started an internal campaign to raise the money, where they would offer exposure to possible

sponsors in their newsletter (SpiritistNews), website, local newspaper and radio ads, and event program flyers. A 'budget thermometer' was adopted and placed near their bookstore. Coordinators would tell the public about this opportunity of sponsorship and contributions. Mostly, Americans joined the campaign and the money was raised in less than 3 months.

#### ***4) Learn the American culture and history.***

To be more effective in our interaction with the American public, it is integral to understand their culture and, therefore, their history. Thus, it was recommended that we, Spiritists in the United States, read spiritual books written by either Americans or others who became popular in America. Thus, we are learning the way they express their spirituality. This will facilitate our conversation about Spiritism starting from where they know and, gradually, bridging that to the Spiritist concepts. As stated in The Gospel According to Spiritism, there is a universal control of the Spiritist Ideas, meaning that they are not only under the label "Spiritism", but everywhere, "spread from pole to pole".

Examples: Life after Death by Deepak Chopra; The Power of Now by Eckhart Tolle, The Four Agreements by Don Miguel Ruiz, The Science of Mind by Ernest Holmes, Children Who Remember Previous Lives by Ian Stevenson; Heaven and Earth by James Van Praagh; and many, many others.

Visit and take workshops that American spirituality has to offer increases our success rate in preparing our Spiritist services and talks. For example, it is interesting to visit the meetings and services at Religious Science churches, the Association for Research and Enlightenment founded by Edgar Cacey (Virginia Beach), the city of Lily Dale (mecca of Spiritualism) - NY, etc.

Mostly, it was discussed that we should also read, or re-read, the Spiritist books that have been translated from Portuguese to English in order to acquire the Spiritist vocabulary in English. One American has pointed out that she loved to read 'Nosso Lar'. She also said that Americans love stories, movies (see Hollywood) and that once Spiritism hit that media, Americans will learn about it. Books like 'Nosso Lar', 'And Life Goes On' are a great way to learn more about the things we study in the Spiritist Center.

#### ***5) Make it more invitational and conversational.***

We observed that when Spiritism got to Brazil it went through an adaptation process. In a way, its approach conformed to the Catholic habits of many of its newly Spiritists. Today, it is possible to trace many of the characteristics of the Spiritist Movement in Brazil to that of the Catholic churches. One of the most remarkable ones is the 'Preaching' aspect of it.

In the U.S., we will also need to adapt the movement, not the Doctrine itself, which is untouchable and unchangeable. Therefore, one of the aspects that we should strive to avoid is preaching when talking about Spiritism. Expressions such as “You have to do this in order to evolve” or “You must do that to avoid spending time in the lower zones” should be avoided at all times. After all, Spiritism is not a cult. Americans have aversion for cults. And we should avoid making it look like a cult. Cults have rites and are not clearly understood.

Thus, one strategy to avoid this "cult" appearance is to make our meetings in English. Once in English, anyone can participate and see with their eyes that Spiritism is not a cult. If Americans get to know that we meet in another language other than theirs, there is a strong chance that they will assume that we want to hide something from them or even be working on something illegal. With the increasing rates of xenophobia in America, we should certainly avoid this potential issue and the possible risk of compromising the dissemination of Spiritism in the U.S.A.

Another important point is to make our meetings and services less a preaching experience and more conversational. Workshops are an example of how to do so, because they provide an interactive approach with the workshop leader. Study groups do provide that feeling as well, once there is no role of a 'preacher' but more of a class mate. The poster session in the First Symposium was an example of that interaction, conversational level of experience.

#### ***6) Be More Universalist.***

"Spiritism is not the religion of the future, but the future of all religions." This has been the adopted approach by great Spiritists such as Divaldo Franco, one of the most successful disseminators of Spiritism in the World. When talking about Spiritism, he adapts its approach to convey the message in a more effective way. America, the Melting Pot, as it is also named, has a great diversity of beliefs. For instance, there are many Jews who do not have familiarity with Jesus' deep teachings, and still they are seeking for a new type of Spirituality such as the one brought by Spiritism. Likewise, Muslims, Buddhists, and others, may also seek for spirituality in our Spiritist centers.

Then, we need to be gentle when talking to this audience in order to not be hurtful, or offensive. Being universalist goes back to the point that we need to learn more about their culture, and use the universal knowledge of Truth, that has been available to Humankind as whole and not only to Spiritists.

Of course we will not change Spiritism neither contradict, nor hide its principles. It is just a matter of wrapping it, presenting it to the public, so that people from backgrounds other than Brazilian Spiritists can understand and partake in it.

At the SSB, for example, they have weekly meetings named “Therapeutic Moments” on The Gospel According to Spiritism. Those meetings are held in a conversational format,

and promote an experiential level of understanding Jesus's teachings by ending the meeting with a visualization of the teachings read in that day's passage.

***7) Americans are also searching for spiritual guidance.***

Usually, the Americans who are doing well in their religious organizations do not usually seek for other spiritual sources such as Spiritism. Most of the ones who get to be interested have had disappointments in their religious belief systems and already searched for Spirituality in the New Age movement in general. So, when they come to the Spiritist center, they have already had some reference about the concepts we work in Spiritism, although not within its framework.

So, when publicizing/advertising about our Spiritist meetings and events, we can achieve more success if advertising them in magazines of spiritual and mental health, yoga institutes, alternative medicine clinics and centers.

Furthermore, our meetings should be prepared to receive these already prepared American friends. Certainly, the passes service and the spiritually-blessed water should also be offered at our meetings.

***8) Location matters.***

Many spiritist centers in America have been placed in Latin communities, which in a way may be another impeding factor in the spreading of the Spiritist news in the American land. Prejudices exist and mainstream Americans may avoid coming to a Spiritist Center in those locations.

A representative from a Spiritist center in California mentioned that they had a Spiritist center which was located in a Spanish-speaking community. They observed that they were having a hard time attracting Americans, even though they offered meetings in English. Recently, they decided to move the center to a another neighborhood, where those stumbling blocks would not exist.

***9) Don't wait for the next generation.***

It is common to hear Brazilian Spiritist residents in the U.S. say, "Our children will disseminate Spiritism in English in the U.S." Well, they certainly will. But we cannot wait for them to do our part. Providing Spiritist Education for children is not enough, once we observe that after they become young adults they do not identify themselves with Spiritist centers any more. Some of them even say, "Spiritism is my mom/dad's religion from Brazil", which is not true, but that is they way they interpret those Portuguese-spaeking meetings. Psychology explains that identification is integral to mental health. And we need to promote that by giving our children, later adults, the opportunity of culturally identifying themselves with the Spiritist teachings.

Therefore, we need to promote meetings in English to help the next generation identify more easily with Spiritism.

***10) Don't worry about which translation is the best.***

At this point, we have different translated versions of Kardec's and Andre Luiz's books. And many more will certainly come, just like it happened to the Bible and the Spiritist books in Brazil. Does that matter? No. As long as those translations are faithful to the Spiritist teachings, we do not need to sweat on this issue.