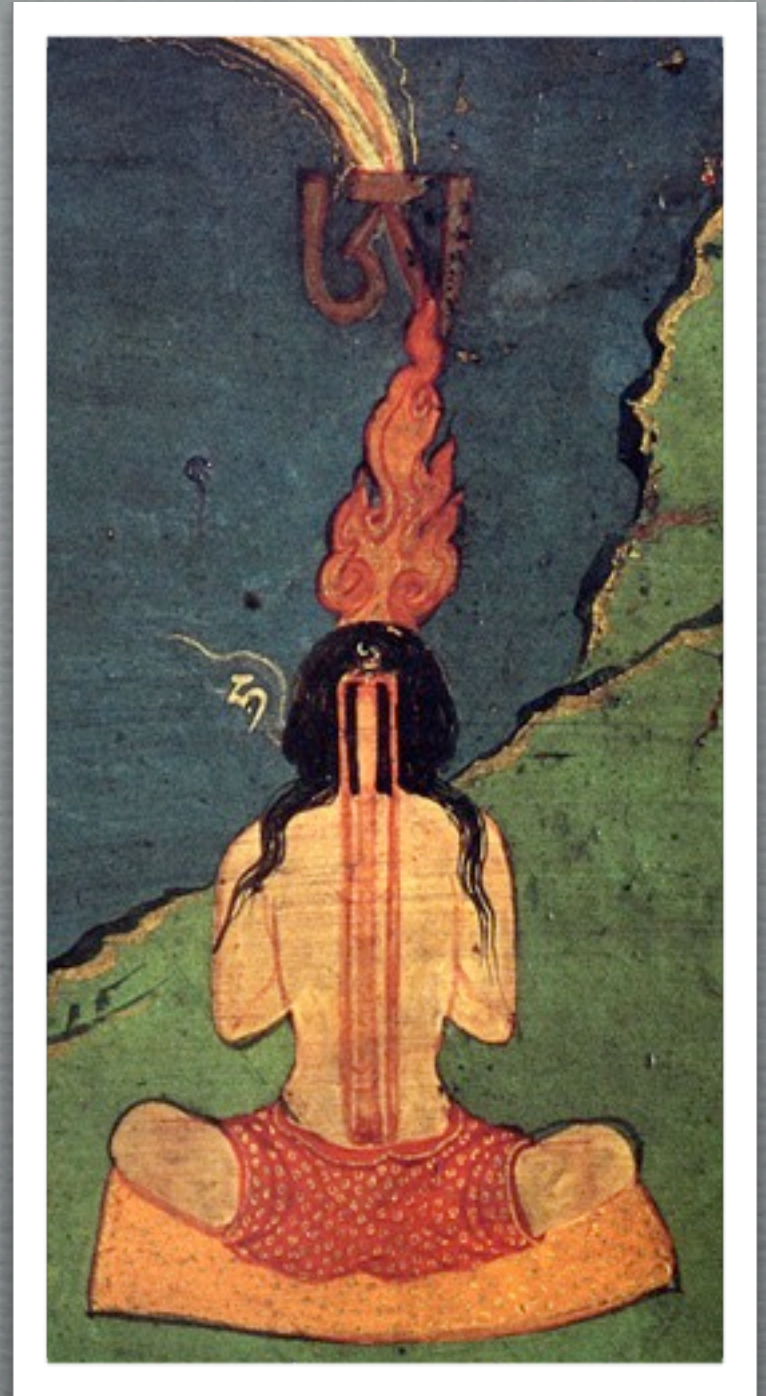


The Elements in Spiritual Growth



From Atman did space come into being;
from space, air;
from air, fire;
from fire, the waters,
from the waters, the earth;
from the earth, plants;
from plants, food;
and from food, man....

- Taittirīya Upaniṣad

Five Elements

Element

Sanskrit

♦ Space

♦ Akash, vyom, shunya

♦ Air

♦ Vayu, marut, pavan

♦ Fire

♦ Tejas, Agni

♦ Water

♦ Apas, ap, jala

♦ Earth

♦ Prithvi, kshiti, bhūmi

Five Elements

Element

Quality

♦ Space

♦ Expansiveness

♦ Air

♦ Mobility

♦ Fire

♦ Temperature

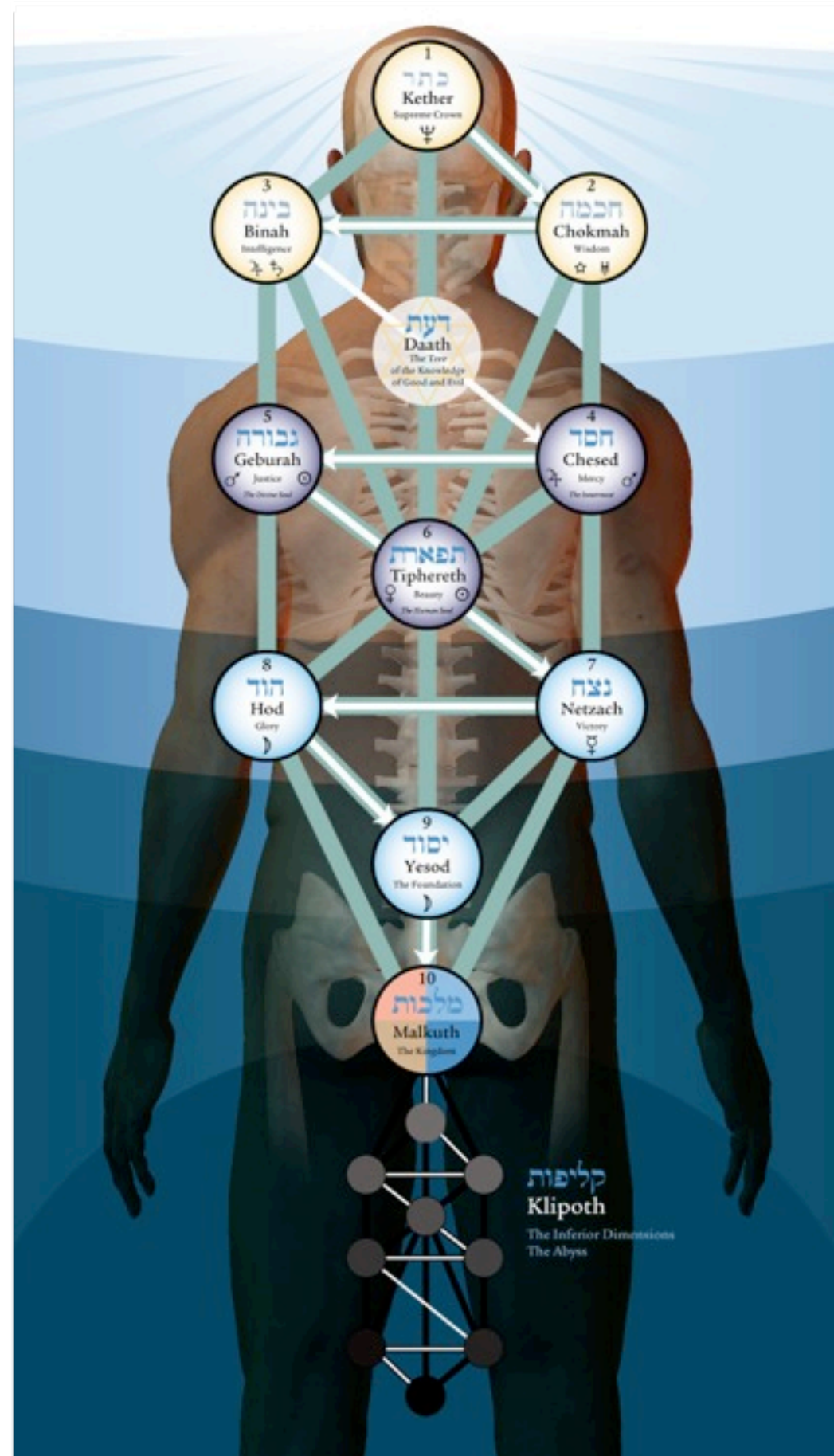
♦ Water

♦ Fluidity

♦ Earth

♦ Solidity

Tattva	Akash	Vayu	Tejas	Apas	Prithvi
Element	Ether	Air	Fire	Water	Earth
Color	Black	Blue	Red	White	Yellow
Mantra	Ha	Ya	Ra	Va	La
Planet	Saturn	Mercury	Mars	Venus, Moon	Sun
Regent	Sudashiva	Ishwara	Rudra	Narayana	Brahma
Element	A.Z.F.	Grape juice	Red meat	Fish	Grains
Elemental	Punctas	Sylphs, fairies	Salamanders	Ondines, mermaids	Gnomes, pygmies



The Mother Letters

א

Aleph

Air

1

מ

Mem

Water

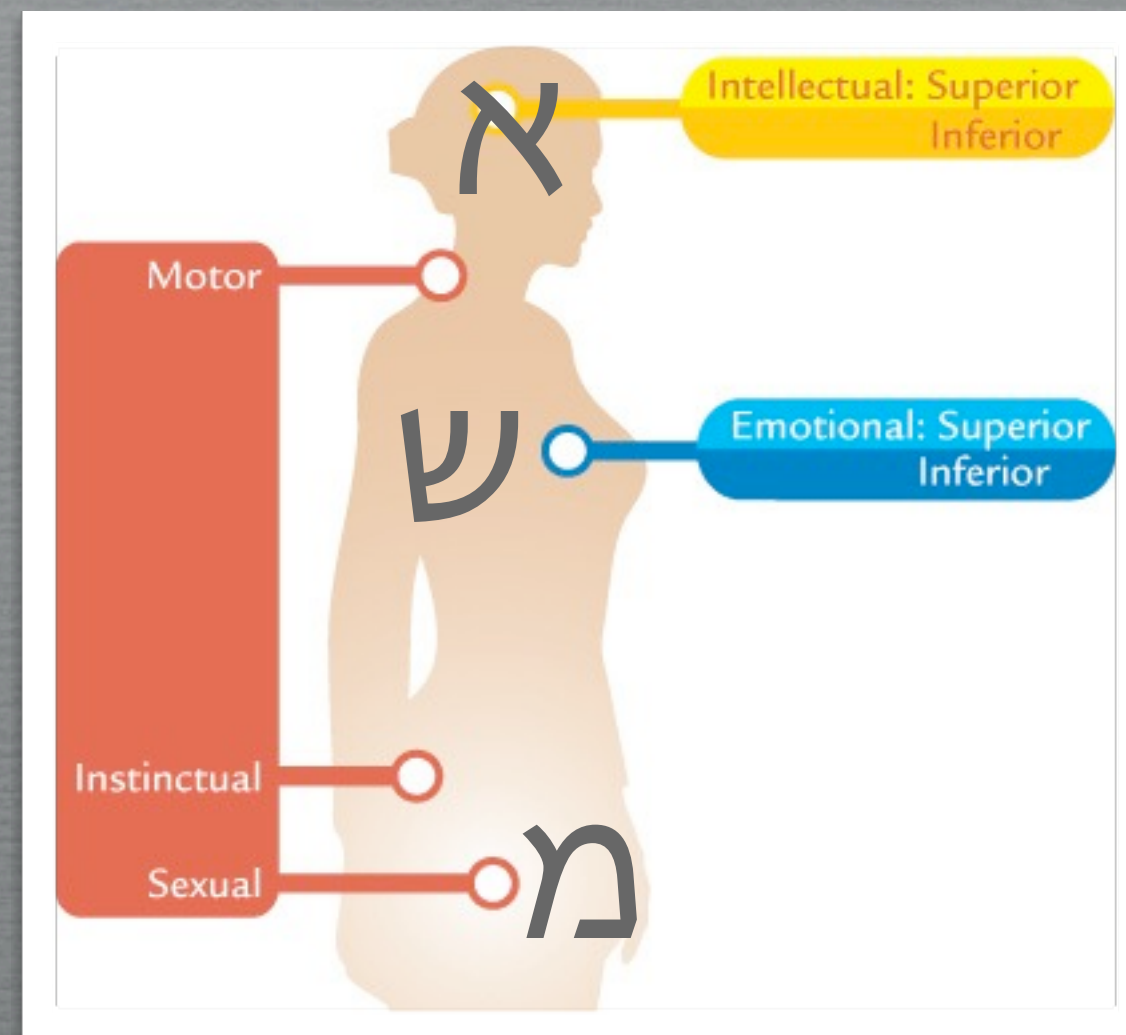
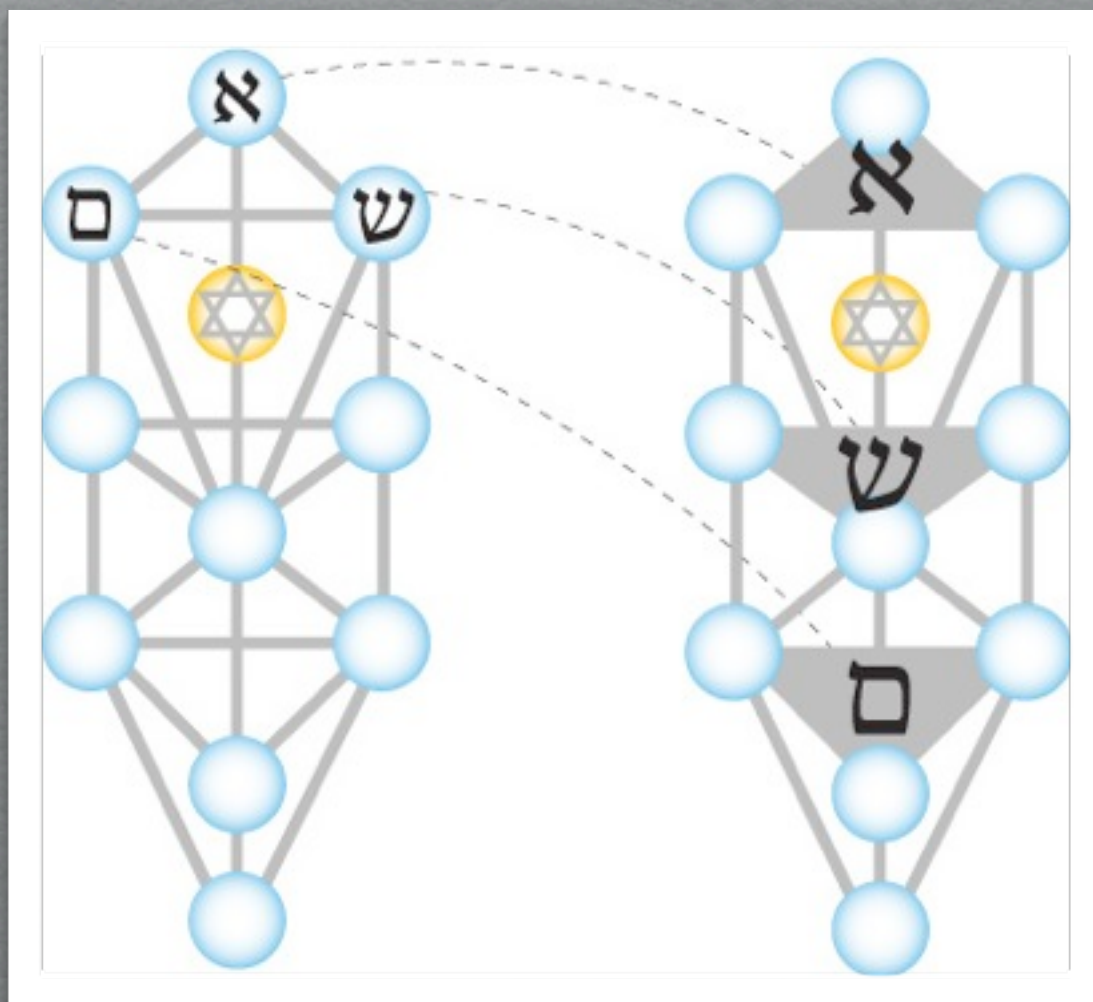
13

ש

Shin

Fire

21





The four ordeals, from *Atalanta fugiens*, by Michael Maier, 1618.

Ordeals of Air

- ♦ We face the loss of what we love, whatever gives us material or personal security, etc.
- ♦ Tests our psychological mobility, attachments, capacity for withstanding great adversities, and detachment from material things
- ♦ Signs in dreams and visions: of falling, or on the edge of a cliff, or in a high place

Ordeals of Fire

- ♦ We will be persecuted, wronged, criticized, blocked, obstructed, betrayed, etc., in order to arouse our **anger**.
- ♦ Tests our temperature, serenity, sweetness.
- ♦ Signs in dreams and visions: of flames, fires

Ordeals of Water

- ♦ Our circumstances will change radically.
- ♦ Tests our fluidity, adaptability, altruism, philanthropy
- ♦ Signs in dreams and visions: drowning, raging waves or seas, floods

Ordeals of Earth

- ♦ We will be obstructed, have no way to proceed with our goals, be restrained or weighed down.
- ♦ Tests our solidity, perseverance, ability to deal with inconveniences.
- ♦ Signs in dreams and visions: of being crushed between boulders or mountains, buried alive, climbing a mountain, rolling down a mountain

Astrology

- ♦ **Air:** Gemini, Libra and Aquarius
- ♦ **Fire:** Aries, Leo and Sagittarius
- ♦ **Water:** Cancer, Scorpio, and Pisces
- ♦ **Earth:** Taurus, Virgo and Capricorn



Five Elements

Element

Quality

♦ Space

♦ Expansiveness

♦ Air

♦ Mobility

♦ Fire

♦ Temperature

♦ Water

♦ Fluidity

♦ Earth

♦ Solidity

§ Fifth Element

Literally “quintessence” from Latin *quinta, quintus* "fifth" + *essentia* (essence) "being, essence," abstract noun formed in imitation of Greek *ousia* "being, essence," from *ontos*, *einai* "to be", from *essent-*, *esse* "to be".

Space, Æther, Ether, Akash

“ÆTHER, in esotericism, is the very **quintessence** of all possible energy, and it is certainly to this universal agent (composed of many agents) that all the manifestations of energy in the material, psychic and spiritual worlds are due.”

- Blavatsky, The Secret Doctrine



6th dimension

5th dimension

4th dimension

3rd dimension

Hod
Astral Body
Emotion



Tiphereth
Causal Body
Will



Netzach
Mental Body
Thought



Yesod
Vital Body
Vital energy



Malkuth
Physical Body

