

Divine Names

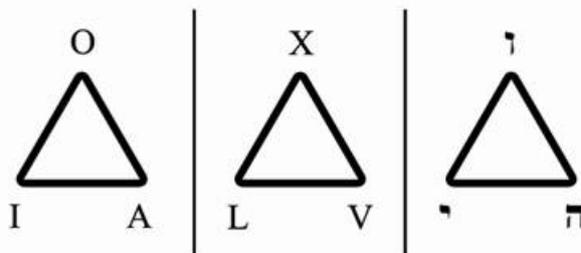
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Lineal Figures

“...for by Names and Images are all Powers awakened and re-awakened.”

This small essay was inspired partially by the synthesis of two papers contained in Regardie's *The Golden Dawn*¹ (aka the 'Black Brick'), namely: *Polygons and Polygrams* and *Telesmatic Figures*. Now, where as the paper regarding the Telesmatic Figures is meant more as a means of calling into action a particular combination of forces, this paper that I write today is merely a hypothetical technique by which one may investigate the nature of any particular name through the placement of its letters upon corresponding lineal figures. And since the two languages that are most utilized in the Hermetic Sciences are Hebrew and Latin, we will restrict our examples for the time being to their specific alphabets.

The argument presented is: within a name there is a certain quantitative and qualitative formula congruent with the number of letters contained within that particular name - those comprised of three letters will share in the nature of the triad (i.e. two opposing forces synthesized by a third); those names consisting of four letters will accordingly reflect the nature of the square (stability and/or equation - the four elements), etc. This may seem glaringly obvious to many readers, yet by regularly investigating a variety of names we develop a mental dexterity with their associations that will hopefully deepen our understanding of the powers behind the letters. For example:



All of us are familiar with the correlation between **I.A.O.** and **L.V.X.**, but when we superimpose the formative name of **יהי** over the triad in the same manner we are shown an incredible similarity of the same formulae present in the Latin correspondences.

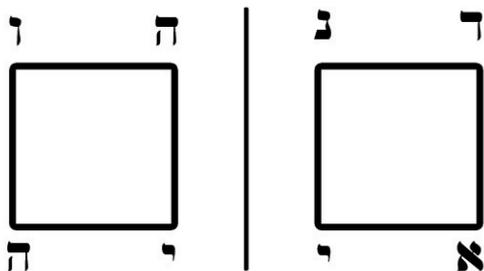
In this example, **י** takes the same attribution as in our Latin names and shows the nature of Isis and **⌘**, as well as the original outpouring that is implied with the beginning of any new cycle. But, when we look at the letter **ה** its general association as water and the Divine Mother (as in the Tetragrammaton) is not quite so expressed as usual. By comparing it to our Latin formulae it now it becomes a symbol of Apophis/Typhon which is the antithesis of **י**/Isis.

Consider our Tarot correlations: **ה** is the Emperor and a figure of war and vigorous force represented by the Zodiacal sign of **♈** and the planet **♂** - both of which are very external and projective energies in direct contrast to the meditative and internal qualities expressed by **⌘**/Isis and **♀**. It could also be said that **⌘** is the virgin female while **♈** is the virile male.

¹ Regardie, Israel. *The Golden Dawn*. Llewellyn, 1994

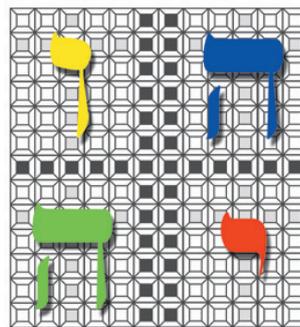
So when looking to the synthesis between Isis/Apophis and how Osiris is represented in our study of the name יהוה as it relates to our two Latin formulae, there is no more fitting symbol than what is expressed by ו which is the Hierophant and the image of his Invisible Station in the Hall of the Neophytes as Osiris (just as ו/א/א/Isis shows the Station of the Praemonstrator on the Dias and ה, being the sphere of ♂ and גבורה, gives us the Station of the Imperator). He is ♂/♀ and exemplifies stable energy in difference to the more active energies of the other two letters in our formula. The qualities of ו are more ubiquitous and meandering, while ♂ moves directly from a center but its tendencies are more erratic and unsettling. The letter ו is also the Qabalistic ‘Son’ which synthesizes the powers of the Mother and Father, and also literally serves as the conjunction ‘and’ which serves to connect two words, phrases or clauses together.

Let us now move on to another example using the lineal figure of the square and compare two Hebraic Divine names composed of four letters, thus:



The Divine Name of יהוה is the example *par excellence* of the elemental energies, the Four Qabalistic Worlds and the process of manifestation. The Name of אדני means, of course, Lord (pl) and is often used in place of the Tetragrammaton. It has many associations with the material realm and the sphere of מלכות - so there are already some inherent affinities between these two names. Let us see what we find.

First, notice that when we place the Hebrew of יהוה around the square we already discover that it unlocks the elemental associations of the Enochian Tablets, thus:



We will use this elemental patterning to explore the similarities between יהוה and אדני. To begin, it is common knowledge that ו is represented as fire and shows the initial spark of the Divine which is in the highest Qabalistic world of אנילות. It is also said to be the initial whirling of the creative force. Now by comparison with אדני, the letter א is the corresponding letter to ו and is itself an image of the swastika or fylfot cross which is that same initiatory impulse. The letter א (literally meaning an ox) is also said to be that power which has the burden of sustaining the entire Universe in the Creator’s design.

Next, when we compare ד with ה it can be seen that the tarot image is the Empress - which is a symbol of the universal matrix through which all things are created and the “door” through which all life passes. These are both images of the Great Mother and it can also be noted that ד is the path which connects חכמה with בינה. These two sephira are commonly understood to compose the subsequent Qabalistic World of נריה where that which was initiated in אנילות becomes tempered and begins its transformation from thought to form.

As we arrive at נ and look to associate it with ו, there are many insights that can be found. First of all, ו is the symbol of air in the elemental formula of the Tetragrammaton, as well as the Ruach (רוח) and the third Qabalistic World of יצירה. By comparison, נ is depicted as the Death Card in the tarot and given to the sign of אק which is naturally a sign of the element of water. However, אק is a sign of tripartition which is represented as the scorpion, the snake and the eagle (AIR). As the scorpion it shows

forth a darker aspect of the name of אדני in the place of the Ruach and ו and it evokes the imagery of Apophis/Typhon, which through sublimation reaches the state of the snake/serpent (a symbol of the Middle Pillar and the again the element of Air), which finally leads to the alchemical eagle - the refined essence and spirit freed from the confines of the material. The Ruach, swimming within the realms of יצירה, is the fish seeking to be caught by the fisherman (נשמה or Divine Intuition).

Finally we arrive at the pairing of ו with ה and explore the element of earth, the Bride/Daughter and the densest of all the Qabalistic Worlds, עשיה. So when looking to ו we see a very consonant expression between it and ה. For one, it is the image of the virgin and the time of year when the bounty of the earth is harvested and truly shared. It is also the image of the light/life force contained within the cloak of matter (look at the card of the Hermit) and the symbol for completion. The numerical value of ו is 10 which again reinforces the idea of manifestation and the sphere of מלכות as well as ♀ and the Isis of Nature. The comparisons could continue for quite some time.

Before ending this brief essay, I would like to reiterate that these are merely examples that I have explored through my own meditations and mental wanderings, and that my intention with this paper is simply to offer these techniques of analysis to function as a sort of mental calisthenics that can assist our personal Qabalistic vocabulary and aid us in breaking out of rigid and habitual associations so that one may always look with fresh and wondering eyes as we approach the Mysteries.

So finally, I offer an exercise. Below you will see another example of this same technique discussed throughout this essay, but this time using the seven letters of the alchemical formula of V.I.T.R.I.O.L. in comparison to אראריהא. My suggestion is to look over this image while also studying some of the older hermetic images from our past which deal directly with the subject of V.I.T.R.I.O.L. and its various phases. There are some surprising insights and plenty of nourishment. From this, one could easily create an alchemical Hexagram Ritual which would work directly with those phases.

Fraternally in LVX,
V.H. Frater N.D.I.

