

Sphere 1: Kingdom

Circulos Tenebris Matrem Arcanas **Circle of the Dark and Mysterious Mother**

What Are Spheres?

Spheres are the levels of training that we offer for the initiatory process of the Tradition. There are 8 Spheres. Each Sphere contains information on the topics relevant to understanding at its level. These topics build on each other and give a foundation for being able to work in the CTMA Tradition. Some of these areas may be something you've already experienced, and you may be very well-versed in. If that is the case, feel free to move quickly through the section. We ask that everyone complete all sections because this is also the training foundation for clergy in CTMA. It is important that everyone is on the same page and can speak the same language for the optimal communication.

After completing each Sphere, contact Tau Yonas (TauYonas@circulos-matrem.com) with a description of what you've learned and what you've tried out in the Sphere. He will reply back with any additional questions, suggestions, and answers to any questions you have posed in your email.

Sphere 1

This Sphere is called Kingdom (and could be called Queendom). It is the physical creation within the universe and everything within it.

Correspondences

Color: Multi-colored, Earth Tones

Astrological Attribute: The Earth

Incense/Plant: Dittany of Crete, Lily, Carnation, Ivy, Narcissus

Virtue: Grounding, Harmony with nature

Vice: Lack of Focus, Disharmony

Personality

This is the realm of the Daughter and Bride. She is a representation of all beings... who are God/dess's child, but when we choose to reunite with our true-self we become the bride, one who chooses to be part of the family consciously.

Greek Deity

Persephone: Mistress of the underworld. Persephone was commonly worshipped along with Demeter and with the same mysteries. To her alone were dedicated the mysteries celebrated at Athens in the month of Anthesterion. In Classical Greek art, Persephone is invariably portrayed robed, often carrying a sheaf of grain. She may appear as a mystical divinity with a scepter and a little box, but she was mostly represented in the process of being carried off by Hades.

Spiritual Beings:

Archangel: Sandalfon

The Archangel Sandalfon is called the "Shoe Angel" and is said to walk the earth. Sandalfon is associated with the Mother God and walks with all beings who know her.

Order of Angels: The Ashim

The Ashim are an order of angels that said to be very tiny and control things like gravity, the strong/weak nuclear forces, and anything that keeps matter held together.

Meditation:

Meditation is an important part of any spiritual practice. For Sphere 1 we will focus on Mudra which is a type of physical meditation involving moving of the body. Examples of physical meditation are yoga and martial arts.



The **Mudra** for the angel of our Tradition is the following:

1. Place your hands above your head as pictured above except put your left hand over the right.
2. Breathe in.
3. Keep your hands in the same position but lower them down so that your arms are pointing down with your hands in the same position.
4. Exhale
5. Perform this moving meditation several times and focus on the idea of “As Above, So Below”

Ritual Topic:

Ritual items need to be acquired as part of the process of working with the Spheres. If you do not have money to purchase items, don't worry – you can make do with what you have. For instance, a piece of paper cut into a circular shape or a relatively flat, round stone can be used.

Pentacle

The pentacle can be a traditional pentagram, or it can be any disc shaped object. It is whatever you are more comfortable using. It is typically made of wood, stone, or crystal but symbolically anything that is flat, and circular can be used.

Chakra

Root (Located at the base of the spine) - The root chakra at the base of the spine corresponds to our physical or material body and life in this world, and with all of our basic needs for survival in this world. This chakra corresponds to the energy of matter composing our bodies and the world, food, shelter and clothing, the instinct for survival and procreation, our capacity to ground or embody energy-intelligence, our capacity to individuate our physical consciousness and body consciousness, or the intelligence of the physical and body. The elemental force of the earth and the direction north in the circle are also attributes of the root chakra.

The body that arises and the world in which it appears are inseparable from one another, so while the root represents a vehicle for individuation in an infinite plethora of life-forms, it is also represents an underlying unity of all life, all bodies, completely interdependent and interconnected with one another. Although we may speak of our material being as somehow distinct from our energetic being, and of the need for the reintegration of our material and energetic being, in truth, every level of our being or existence is energetic, including our physical or material being. Basically speaking, our physical or material body is a vortex of matter-energy-light in a vast ocean of matter-energy-light, pure energy, light or spirit manifest in material form.

Level of the Soul

Nefesh - the ego and personality. Often called “the flesh” in Christian scripture. This part of the soul burns off at death and usually disintegrates, although in some cases becomes earth bound and becomes a “ghost”. There are two forms of the Nefesh – Nefesh Behomet (bestial soul that is focused on ego) and Nefesh Elokit (enlightened soul that is focused on true self).

Holy Day

Yule (Winter Solstice) – Yule is the shortest day of the year. The day with the most restriction and thus that of the Kingdom – our world. It is the day of death and rebirth and the beginning of cycles. We celebrate this day by praying for the return of the day and the light, seeking renewal.

Completion

When you are finished with the course, Tau Yonas will send you a certificate stating that you are a full initiate of the Tradition. You will be then ready to start Adept training which includes more advanced lessons.