LIGHT AND DARK

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To learn means to come into contact with something unknown, think it through, and store it in memory, so that it becomes part of one's life experience. Furthermore what is unknown depends on independent choices that either can't be affected *a priori,* or there is no desire to influence them. Basically, there can be no learning without at least some free will in making a choice, after which knowledge is then acquired, and a choice can't be made without at least two contrasting possibilities (Eg: yes/no, one/zero, good/bad, LIGHT/DARK).

Consequently, if the Universe's virtual reality was created for the purpose of acquiring knowledge, it MUST continually offer at least two choice options. At their most fundamental level, these can be represented by the uncertainty of quantum physics, and beyond a certain level of knowledge - when choices become a matter of ethics - they can be symbolically represented as LIGHT and DARK.

This designation highlights the benefit of "contrast", in that we cannot define light if there is no darkness to illuminate, nor can we define darkness if the opposite doesn't exist to allow a distinction; light and dark necessarily coexist and one validates the other. In fact, a designation only makes sense if a distinction is possible: there is no need to name something that has no variations or alternatives. The word "Universe" implies that it includes everything that exists (for us), but it also tacitly implies the possibility of a Non-Universe or something that is there but from our point of view doesn't exist, such as one or more other Universes apart from ours.

The perpetual dialectic between LIGHT and DARK is founded on choices made based on free will, regardless of its limitations, and evidently produces large variations in behaviour between the two competitors, both of which are necessary.

As we all know, human beings tend to be egocentric and aggressive, and therefore all too often see those with different points of view as enemies to eliminate. However, humans should accept the principle that even those who sustain opposing ideas actually serve as "contrast", urging rebuttals to support one's points of view. If this debate degenerates into an argument – or worse, a conflict - it is disadvantageous for both sides. If instead it generates a discussion, where by definition each side holds a different viewpoint that is debated with mutual respect, then there is faster progress towards the truth, because the discussion can then focus only on those points upon which there is disagreement. The aim, however, is always to find the truth, rather than remove the opposition.

English translation by Cinzia Evangelista.