

THE UNIVERSAL SPIRITUAL BROTHER&SISTERHOOD, INC.

Worldwide Headquarters, CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA

Founded 1956

www.TheUSB.org



eNL-28, August 2022

Dear sisters and brothers:

This nonreligious e-publication goes out with blessings of love and peace to those who are dedicated to the universal spiritual brother-and-sisterhood of all humanity—the ideal of this organization. Please share this with those you know who are interested in the spiritual development of individuals and the world. For access to past issues or to [sign up to receive future editions](#) via email (all free), please [visit our online archive](#). We always welcome your impressions, questions, or topic suggestions via email at staff@theusb.org.

Most importantly, we remind readers that the USB Illumined Inspirers would always have us bear in mind to accept *nothing*—not even of what *they* say—that your reason does not wholeheartedly embrace *and* that your inner being does not unreservedly sense is true.

In This Newsletter:

[*USB Principles and Purposes*](#)

[*About Great Souls*](#)

[*What's In a Name?*](#)

[*Why the USB is Not a Cult*](#)

[*USB Teachings in Friday Afterlife Reports*](#)

[*An Illumined Spirit, High Mountain in 1956*](#)

Our Previous Newsletters:

[Find our past newsletter issues here](#). Topics covered in our last issue, [eNL-27](#), were:

About the USB—A Virtual Tour

Energy in Spirit Communication

Materialism on Balance

Rising Above Nations and Wars

USB Teachings in Friday Afterlife Reports



USB Principles and Purposes

In our first issue of this publication, distributed in July 2015, we highlighted the USB's Principles and Purposes as printed in *Spiritual Light (SL)*. These core values are part of the USB's essential nature and govern how its members strive to act in the world, which is why we feel called to share them anew.

Principles of the USB

1. God is That Which Is All-Good—a God of Love and Wisdom, of Law and Justice.
2. All humankind are God's children, and this means we are *all* spiritual sisters and brothers without exception.
3. Our lives are eternal and we retain our individualities after the change called death.
4. Under certain conditions we can commune with those in other expressions of life.
5. We are each personally responsible for all we say, think, and do; and no belief in anyone, or allegiance to anyone, can absolve us from that responsibility.
6. The law of cause and effect, like all other spiritual laws, knows no exception; and as we sow we reap, here or hereafter.
7. The doors to spiritual progress are never closed to anyone—and loving ones will help us if we but reach out our hearts and minds to God.
8. Aspiration and effort are inseparable, so one cannot *truly* aspire without making the effort.
9. We should serve selflessly, as best we can, to bring love and peace and harmony to humanity, to bring the day ever nearer when all shall live in a universal spiritual brother-and-sisterhood.



Purposes of the USB

1. To unfold to humanity a way of life, and a new understanding of God's will and purpose.
2. To bring a universal awareness of the spark of God within each of us, and a realization that love is the greatest basis of spiritual life.
3. To bring to humanity peace and tranquillity of spirit, and happiness of heart and soul.
4. To break down the barriers that stand between one nation and another, between one people and another, and between one individual and another.
5. To break down the barriers of creeds and dogmas.
6. To cast aside ignorance and replace it with truth.
7. To form one great spiritual brother-and-sisterhood throughout the world.

About Great Souls

We need to be careful how we think about Great Souls. When we think of one of them by name, we tend to think of the various things we have heard about them in the historical record. But those records can be very unreliable. Topic 115 in *Spiritual Light (SL)* addresses this. Chroniclers and others over the centuries have often twisted and distorted the record for a variety of reasons, including to "build up" those Great Souls and so gain control over their followers. As that topic says about one of them, he could never have said some of the sayings and teachings attributed to him.

Important characteristics of Great Souls that we should expect to see are that they are always humble and unselfish (e.g., *SL* 106, 107:3-6), and that they advise us to not accept anything unthinkingly from anyone, themselves included (*SL* 1234:5, 316:5). In particular, we should be *especially* cautious about any beings who expect worship and adulation (*SL* 107:7).

What's In a Name?

Several people have asked us about the acronym we chose to use for the USB and why it is not gender-neutral. They often do this after having visited the USB website but not yet read its book, *Spiritual Light (SL)*. If they have read Chapter 1 and its footnotes, etc., on the website they might have seen some of the following issues we considered.

In footnote 10 (around lines 8-10) we noted that a four-letter acronym could be rather unwieldy when used so repetitively. But more importantly, we felt that those four letters, representing Universal Spiritual Brother&Sisterhood are "undesirable"; consider them as US-BS.

We also liked the fact that both the spirit organization and the earthly organization have the same acronym (see *SL* 101:12). Originally, the earthly organization was given the same name as its parent spirit organization, so that it already used the same acronym before we changed the earthly name to comply with current gender-neutral practice on earth (see *SL* Intro:10).



When we changed the USB’s name in that way, we chose the word Brother&Sisterhood (*not* Brotherhood&Sisterhood) because we believe it best explains that the USB is an organization of *brothers and sisters*; it represents our important understanding that *all* human beings, on both sides of life, are linked as spiritual brothers and sisters (601:2), and that we should live accordingly. In the phrase *brothers and sisters*, males naturally come first whereas in the phrase *ladies and gentlemen* females naturally come first. A spirit communicator told us in April 2007 that our parent organization in the higher spirit realms was still known as the “Brotherhood.”

Footnote 2 of *SL* Chapter 1 explains how, in the higher spirit realms, all women, men, and children are considered equal, with no issues of gender hierarchy.

We hope this clarifies some of the naming issues we faced. We appreciate people taking the trouble to write to us about such matters and we would be happy to respond to any USB issues they may wish to discuss.

Why the USB is Not a Cult

You may wonder how we can be so sure of ourselves when we state without a shadow of a doubt that the USB is not a cult. Please read on to understand our reasoning on this important point.

There are a variety of dictionary definitions for what constitutes a cult, but predominant definitions in our current times refers to a group displaying some combination of the following characteristics:

- **Exclusivity:** They may claim to be the only ones with access to the truth and restrict their followers from the free and open search for truth outside their group;
- **Secrecy:** They may require their members to take vows of confidentiality, make certain teachings selectively available among a subset of their followers, or prohibit the sharing of their teachings with outsiders;
- **Authoritarianism:** In a cult, a human leader may expect unquestioning obedience and loyalty, to the point of faddish devotion, sometimes bordering on worship;
- **A system of religious beliefs, and rituals.**

Reviewing various USB teachings as outlined in *SL* topics 107, *Worship Only God*, 108, *Personal Freedom for All*, and 110, *How the USB is Different*, **we can assert that the USB does not align with any of the above characteristics**, because:

- It is *not* exclusive, and acknowledges that all human beings are God’s children;
- It is *not* secretive, welcoming all who desire to explore its universal, higher teachings and philosophy without restriction;
- Is *not* authoritarian in any way, nor is it devoted to any leader;
- It approves the worship of *only* God;
- It promotes personal freedom, encourages reasoned, rational thought, and *not* fads;
- It is *not* a religion, does *not* engage in ritualistic practices, and does *not* require anyone to give up any beliefs they may find comforting.



Finally, dear brothers and sisters, as the USB teachings reiterate time and time again, “no one should accept anything unthinkingly from anyone, including from the USB”. (*SL*, Topic 110:6)

USB Teachings in Friday Afterlife Reports

Thank you to Victor and Wendy Zammit for occasionally including USB teachings in their [Friday Afterlife Report](#) online publication. We share some recent ones below:

- **Think Before Sending Out Unkind Thoughts**—Noble thoughts reach their destination, and then return to bless us. Unworthy thoughts also return to us, but with a difference. ([Jun 3, 2022](#))
- **The Creative Power of Thought in Spirit**—Thought is not only the magnificent power behind things in the spirit world but the actual substance of which things are built. ([Jul 8, 2022](#))
- **As We Sow, We Definitely Reap - The Unexpected Ripple Effect of Our Actions**—Discusses the spiritual Law of Cause and Effect. ([Aug 12, 2022](#))

An Illumined Soul, High Mountain in 1956

In closing, we hope this excerpt from an address by High Mountain, given at a time when the USB on earth was in the process of being founded, yet still most relevant today, uplifts and inspires you to keep travelling on the path towards greater spiritual attainment.



In your world today there is chaos in people's hearts and minds throughout the world. In all nations, in all peoples, in all creeds, in all religions, there is doubt, there is fear, there is uncertainty. We come to bring assurance, we come to bring knowledge. And above all we come to bring love for the great Divine Creator of all, into the hearts,

into the minds, that in time the peoples of earth shall see, and know, of that which is of God; and in themselves shall become changed, and shall become disciples of the Most High, that their one desire is to serve God, and to do God's work; to bring peace into your world, to bring love into the hearts of all God's children. ***And all the barriers that stand between people shall be broken down by the love and the power of the spirit.*** (SL, A02:4)

In light, love, and brother-and-sisterhood,
Your USB e-newsletter team

If any teaching and/or philosophy in this USB document is in conflict with or is not supported by *Spiritual Light* (ISBN 978-0-9912422-1-4 deluxe flex-cover, 978-0-9912422-2-1 paperback), which contains the only complete *official* teachings and philosophy of the USB, then *Spiritual Light* governs. The inclusion of this statement, in a box in a prominent position, and worded as in *Spiritual Light*, is required on every authentic USB publication containing its teachings and/or philosophy.

The Universal Spiritual Brother&Sisterhood, an organization of spiritual truth open to all, is not linked in any way with any other group or organization on earth.

This is a free educational publication. It is not a commercial product.
Unlicensed materials are included under applicable Fair Use provisions.

Copyright © 2022 *The Universal Spiritual Brother&Sisterhood*, all rights reserved.
You are receiving this email because of your interest in the USB.

Our e-mail address is: staff@theusb.org

To unsubscribe, send us an email with the words Newsletter Unsubscribe in the subject line.