

Compilation of comments on world events by Benjamin Creme since 9/11/2001 as published in *Share International magazine*

14 September 2001

All right-thinking people are deeply shocked by the assault on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. We are appalled by the event and the unbelievable death toll, and send our deepest sympathy to the American people.

One positive thing to come out of it is that Maitreya has decided to come forward even sooner than planned to try to prevent precipitate action of revenge.

One other positive thing that may come out of it is that the mass of ordinary Americans might have a more realistic view of the world than their media has allowed them in the past, feeding them 'soft' instead of 'hard' news.

It is a change but in the long run it might be a change for the better, and prepare them for Maitreya's ideas.

▲ October 2001

The following is an excerpt from the *Share International* magazine Questions and Answers column by Benjamin Creme, the chief editor. *Share International* brings together the two major directions of New Age thinking -- the political and the spiritual. It shows the synthesis underlying the political, social, economic and spiritual changes now occurring on a global scale, and seeks to stimulate practical action to rebuild our world along more just and compassionate lines.

Question: Was there no way the Masters could have prevented the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?

A. No, not directly. That would have necessitated an infringement of our free will. Nevertheless, the Masters did warn the American authorities three months ago that some such attack was planned.

Q. Did the Masters have a part in mitigating the effects in any way?

A. As always, the Masters worked ceaselessly to save lives where possible, and otherwise to overcome the fear and suffering. There was, as a result, apparently, almost no suffering at all. (The passengers in the planes, for example, were surrounded by an energy from Maitreya which, as it were, cocooned them from the terror of the event, which they were able to watch with an extraordinary detachment. A very similar action by Maitreya at Tiananmen Square occurred when the students were massacred, yet they showed no sign of terror on their faces.)

Q. What might America and the West have to learn from these events?

A. - That the world is interdependent and belongs to everyone.
- That there is no true freedom (and security) for anyone without justice for everyone.
- That there are reasons for the hatred which much of the world (not only the Muslim world) feels towards the Western world.
- That the domination of the world's economy through globalization by the Western powers is divisive and deeply resented.
- That the automatic support of Israel in every situation, by America in particular, is

driving the Arab world to frustration and despair. In despair, extreme measures, even self-destruction by suicide bombing, seems the only way to retaliate.

Q. Do the Masters have a view on how the West should react?

A. Yes, but in a way very different from that which America and her allies appear to be taking: certainly by showing no fear, no appeasement of terrorism, but certainly not by bellicose calls for war and retaliation. Rather, by a detached understanding of the events which have led to the tragedy of September 11 to come to grips with the forces of division and separation (therefore breeding hate) in the Western world. To understand that the call for retaliation only deepens the crisis and leads to further unnecessary suffering.

The Western nations must be seen to obey the rule of law in bringing the perpetrators of this terrible crime to the International Court of Justice. Otherwise, they will simply duplicate the crime in their desire for revenge.

*Q. Was the Master's article on Detachment in the September issue of **Share International** a reference to the impending disaster?*

A. Yes.

November 2001

15 October 2001

Benjamin Creme answers more questions about the assault on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

Q. Would the projected attack on Afghanistan be the start of the Third World War?

A. No, I don't think so at all. At the moment it has a quite specific and limited objective, the knocking out of the Taliban and Osama bin Laden's military capability and lines of communication, etc., and there is every intention to limit it to Afghanistan itself. What America and her allies have to expect is that there may well be some reaction from existing terrorists who have been, perhaps for years, in place in America and Europe. But a Third World War -- no.

Q. Will Maitreya stop the global conflict that could cause the end of this world?

A. No, I don't think he could do that without infringing our free will. But he would use everything in his power and the power of Hierarchy as a whole to prevent such an escalation. I don't think there will be that sort of escalation. What I think, personally, might happen is that the Taliban may give up Osama bin Laden on certain conditions -- that he should be tried under the Shariah Law in a Muslim country. No simple ill-thought-out procedure just for revenge should be brought to bear. Also, America must prove that Bin Laden is involved. He himself has said that he is in no way involved. My information is that he is somewhat involved, but did not actually take part in this particular event. So when he says he has nothing to do with it, it may be in a sense true, but probably it was his idea in the beginning.

Q. On the morning of the attack on the World Trade Center in New York, I began to experience a sense of 'overshadowing.' It is a very heavy sensation on my head and heart centres. It is heightened both in my personal meditation and during Transmission Meditation. It has been constant and I am still experiencing it now -- three days after the attack. Another co-worker I was speaking with on the phone as the events unfolded

seemed to be experiencing the same thing. (1) Is this sense of overshadowing a blessing from Maitreya to limit the loss of life and/or to comfort those in pain and those grieving? (2) Were Maitreya and the Master Jesus 'on the scene' helping both the survivors and those who were dying?

A. (1) It was not 'overshadowing' but a blessing of Maitreya's energy released to comfort and reduce shock. It was felt worldwide. (2) Yes.

Q. You have said that to the Masters the 'future' has already happened ... which is how they can make correct predictions. (1) Was this event foreseen? (2) If so, why has Maitreya seemingly just decided to come forward 'sooner' due to it? (3) Were the Masters (lawfully) able to make any efforts to defuse this plot?

A. (1) Yes. The American authorities were warned three months in advance that some such event was planned. (2) How do you know he did not start preparations to emerge when it was foreseen? (3) No. That would have infringed human free will.

Q. With the horrible event of the terrorist attack on America I believe Americans and indeed the world will find it hard to swallow the bright picture you portray in your books and discussions of our future. I think I speak for many who follow Maitreya whose hearts are crying out: "Why, why, why, why aren't you coming forward now with immediacy?" I think the followers of Share International need the precise answer or answers to this question, now. Please clarify this.

A. Maitreya is as anxious to emerge as people are to see him. However, he is bound by laws and forces which he alone understands. We can be sure that he is not standing idly by but is guiding humanity, where possible, in the right direction. I believe that you will find the general vision for our future which I portray in my books and lectures to be correct and accurate. This catastrophe, while sad, unexpected and dramatic, will have a positive effect in showing that no nation is invulnerable, that isolationism is no longer an option, and that we live in one interdependent world where the resources must be shared more equitably, thus ensuring peace and an end to the despair and resentment that lead to terrorism.

Q. I watched two memorial church services -- one in a cathedral in the US and one in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, England. Perhaps it was my imagination but there was a very big difference in the way I felt and responded. While watching the ceremony in St. Paul's it felt as if there was a Transmission Meditation going on. Why would this be -- or is it just imagination? Is there perhaps something special about St. Paul's?

A. Maitreya has released his energy in great potency through St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and several other cathedrals and churches in this country (UK). He has also potentized the outflow of energy in Sacré Coeur, Paris, France, and major temples of all religions around the world.

Q. There was a story in the media about one of New York's firemen stuck underneath rubble after the World Trade Center attack. He couldn't move and thought he would die. Suddenly a torchlight flashed nearby and he heard a voice saying 'Grab hold.' He got hold of an arm and was pulled up. Someone behind him supported him and he realized he was in a human chain of people escaping. When he got out into safety he looked for the man with the torch, but he was nowhere to be seen. He has since called the man who saved him his 'light angel.' Was the man with a torch a Master or Maitreya?

A. He was the Master Jesus.

Q. If the Allied Forces had decided to bring Hitler and his associates to an international court of law would that have been a preferable and better solution than war? Why was war 'acceptable' then but is not the appropriate response now? Has the world changed a lot since 1939?

A. This is not a 'real' question. Hitler (and Mussolini) were leaders of their respective countries, not simply a group of terrorists. How were they to be arrested and tried? After the war there were, if you remember, the Nuremburg trials of Hitler's associates.

Q. What factors go into the making of a terrorist?

A. Alienation. Anger, despair. Separation. Fanatical belief in one's own cause over all others. Lack of sense of proportion.

Q. Would the International Court of Justice in The Hague in Holland be a suitable and acceptable court of law in which terrorists -- from whichever country -- can be tried?

A. Yes.

Q. In the days after the crash in New York there was a young man with dark curly hair, called 'the Angel of New York,' who taught the people how to comfort each other. Was he the Master who lives in New York?

A. No, he was the Master Jesus, who lives in Rome.

Q. In his speech at the memorial ceremony in Brooklyn Stadium, the Mayor of New York, Rudolph Giuliani, mentioned that many big buildings collapsed around the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center but nearby St. Paul's Chapel, built in 1767, remained undamaged, except for a broken window. Was this an intervention by the Master Jesus?

A. Yes, it was.

Q. Is the Anthrax incident in Florida, USA, part of the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington?

A. No. My information is that they are completely separate and don't come from abroad at all. It is the opportunistic act of 'home-grown' terrorism.

The following media reports published in Share International magazine (July/August 2002) show how Benjamin Creme's initial comments about the anthrax attacks have now been corroborated by recent information.

- The DNA sequence of the anthrax sent through the US mail in 2001 has been revealed and confirms suspicions that the bacteria originally came from a US military laboratory; the attack strain probably originated at the US Army Medical Research Institute for Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) at Fort Detrick, Maryland. The research also shows that substantial genetic differences can emerge in two samples of an anthrax culture separated for only three years. This means the attacker's anthrax was not separated from the other anthrax at USAMRIID for long, and was therefore acquired relatively recently.

- The new genetic sequencing work was done by the Institute for Genomic Research (TIGR) in Rockville, Maryland, and a team at the University of Northern Arizona at Flagstaff.

- The new research does not prove irrefutably that the attacker got his anthrax directly from USAMRIID because it is possible that untested cultures from other laboratories might also be identical to the USAMRIID variety. The evidence, however, definitely points to USAMRIID as the original source of the attacker's anthrax. The research findings also make it extremely doubtful that the anthrax came from Russian or Iraqi laboratories.

(Source: www.unknowncountry.com, www.NewScientist.com)

▲ December 2001

Q. What role do you and your Master think should be taken by the United Nations to seek solutions to the international crisis since 11 September 2001?

A. At the very least, they should call together all members for open discussion of all the problems, including the causes, relating to terrorism, and make known their resolutions and recommendations.

Q. In the November 2001 issue of Share International, you said: "What America and her allies have to expect is that there may well be some reaction from existing terrorists who have been, perhaps for years, in place in America and Europe." Is it possible for your Master to indicate the general nature of this terrorist reaction? (1) Will there be more attempts similar to 11 September using airplanes, or (2) attempted bombings of bridges, nuclear power facilities, or other similar places, or (3) perhaps terrorism involving bio-, chemical or nuclear weapons?

A. (1) This is unlikely, given the new security precautions -- but cannot be ruled out. (2) These are more likely targets, yes. (3) The use of nuclear weapons -- in the short term -- is unlikely. The present anthrax postal attacks are the work of American right-wing extremists -- terrorists. Will America bomb itself, therefore, as a country harbouring terrorists? One should remember that the Taliban have already offered to hand over Osama bin Laden for trial in a neutral country if the US provides evidence of his involvement in 11 September.

Q. (1) What would be the best way for politicians and diplomats to tackle the Middle East situation? (2) Do you think that the Israeli-Palestinian problem is the cause and key to the present world crisis?

A. (1) By re-establishing discussions between the Palestinians and the Israelis. The US must use its influence to bring this about on a totally fair basis. (2) It is one of the key factors producing tension. Equally important are the extreme differences in living standards, East and West, and the American hegemony as the only superpower.

Q. Just recently, I heard a programme on BBC radio which reported on archeological evidence which in effect destroys Israeli claims to certain parts of Palestine. The walls of Jericho were mentioned and other sites and expert opinion indicated that many of the claims based on 'ancient rights of ownership' were wrong. Could you shed any light on this?

A. This is also the view of the Masters.

Q. In an article (in The Independent, UK) about the Cornell University Medical Center burns unit, where doctors worked around the clock to save survivors of the Twin Towers attack, it was said: "The fact that [the surgeons and doctors] managed to keep so many of the victims alive has been described as miraculous." Has this something to do with the Masters?

A. In ordinary circumstances many of these people would have died. The fact that so many survived is due to the constant application of healing by Maitreya and the Masters, both at the time of the tragedy and later.

▲ February 2002

Q. (1) Should the Taliban be allowed to take part in a new coalition government in Afghanistan? (2) Are there any truly moderate Taliban? (3) Should the King of Afghanistan return to lead the country?

A. (1) Yes. A government made up of the many — often warring — factions in Afghanistan will have a difficult time working together but one without more moderate Taliban would not be truly representative and would fail. (2) Yes. (3) If that is what the people want. There are large groups who distrust him and his entourage.

Q. If terrorists based in other countries decided to avenge the defeat of the Taliban and Al Qaida in Afghanistan by using nerve gases or biological means such as sarin gas or smallpox, would Hierarchy intervene to stop it?

A. Above a certain level.

Q. (1) Should the UN now be in Afghanistan to act as observers and peace-keepers, organizers of aid distribution, refugee problems? Should they play another role? (2) If so what would be the most useful function for the UN there?

A. (1) Yes. (2) Keeping the peace and food distribution.

Q. Is the Hierarchy continuing to work through disciples to try to broker a peace deal between Palestine and Israel?

A. Yes.

Q. To me Ariel Sharon seems a rather evil man whose presence, actions and attitude have served to escalate tension and stir up violence in the Middle East? Is he susceptible to negative forces?

A. He is a 'hard' man and a fanatic.

Q. Could you please ask your Master to say how large Palestine will be? Does it have a "pre-determined" (in Hierarchical eyes) geographical size and shape; that is to say: will it include certain cities, strategic places and also places of religious importance? Does it include access to the coast, and to main water sources?

A. It is not predetermined. Maitreya asked the late King Hussein of Jordan to give up sovereignty of the West Bank (which was in Israeli hands since the Six Day War) to provide a homeland for the Palestinian people, together with the Gaza strip.

Q. Could you explain how you see a settlement being worked out to accommodate all the various religious claims on Jerusalem and other sites?

A. Symbolic status as chief city for all groups. It will take Maitreya to suggest a fair system.

Q. How long does your Master think it will be before Palestine becomes a recognized and real country and nation — hopefully welcomed into the family of nations with equal rights?

A. It could take up to four years.

Q. (1) From the Masters' point of view — does the world seem to be very different psychologically since 11 September? (2) Has the world paradoxically become more unified, less bigoted, more ready to share and see justice become real and put into practice?

A. (1) Yes. (2) Yes, somewhat.

Q. It seems as if there is a deliberate attempt to humiliate and sideline Yasser Arafat. Would such efforts not serve to inflame and infuriate the Arab world even more?

A. Yes, of course. Mr Sharon works hard to portray Yasser Arafat as the instigator of all terrorist activity of the Palestinian groups. He knows that this is not the case but does indeed try to humiliate and sideline him. He sees him as weak and ineffective, without authority, and therefore not someone to negotiate with. Mr Sharon is an Israeli fanatic who sees the 'real' Palestinians as the terrorist groups who kill Israelis because they want Israeli land.

Q. There is a video tape circulating in the American media allegedly made sometime after the 11 September catastrophe that shows Osama bin Laden speaking about the attack. The American Government is claiming that this shows bin Laden's direct role in the attack. This cannot be true since your Master has told us that he was not directly responsible. I have also heard commentary which states that some of the Muslim world believes it is a fabrication. May we have your view on this entire matter, the authenticity of the translation, interpretation, etc?

A. The tape is genuine but shows that bin Laden was not directly involved in the attack. He thought it well done, a great achievement (as per my information.) In fact, the tape makes it clear that bin Laden was told about the attack only five days before 11 September. The American Government is misinterpreting the evidence in the tape to suit their case.

Q. Did the recent plane crash in Queens, New York City, occur because of karma due to the bombing of Afghanistan? I recall Maitreya, via His associate, once saying that when technology is used for destructive ends (such as the use of lasers in jet planes) there will occur, inexplicably, the outright falling apart of planes while in flight. And this plane's tail seems to have come off in flight.

A. There is no karmic connection in this case. The tailplane came off because of freak weather conditions.

Q. I heard a lecture on BBC television by former US President Bill Clinton, just before Christmas; he was very positive. What struck me was that he seemed to be saying similar things to Share International's ideas. Is there a connection, somehow?

A. Yes; Share International's ideas are becoming more widely accepted as the only hope for the world.

 **March 2002**

*Q. (1) What should the world and in particular the UN be saying to Mr Bush right now?
(2) And what should it be saying to Israel?*

A. (1) The world belongs to everyone, not only the US. Look for the causes of terrorism and adjust US foreign and economic policy accordingly.

(2) There is no difference, morally, between terrorism by people fighting legitimately for their freedom and terrorism perpetrated by a government ostensibly for security. The Israeli Government must recognize that in the long-term they have to live in peace with the Palestinians. Sharon's long-standing personal hatred of Arafat should not be allowed to distort or prevent that eventuality.

Q. Is there anyone in the higher echelons of the Bush Administration who could exert a positive influence on the President with regard to what passes for 'foreign policy' at present — basically a "go get 'em" attitude to show Bush junior is "bigger 'n better" than Bush senior?

A. Yes.

Q. (1) Is there anyone in the Bush administration who is open, or sensitive, to impression from Maitreya? (2) Do they have any influence on policy making?

A. No.

Q. First Reagan's "the evil empire" and now Bush's "the axis of evil" — but Iran, for instance, has given signals that it wishes a different, more co-operative, relationship with the West. Such statements inflame public opinion in the countries named and make it even more difficult for leaders to move towards rapprochement — they must always watch their extremist factions and cannot be seen in the present climate to appease the West. What can both the people and leading figures in the US and Europe do to make clear that such language is inflammatory and totally unacceptable ?

A. Keep trying!

Q. The Master's last article mentioned that humanity had completed its apprenticeship [Jan/Feb 2001]. Looking around one could be forgiven for thinking we have learned nothing! What does the Master mean?

A. That humanity has 'come of age', become adult. From the esoteric point of view this is the case. For the first time in our long history, the personality vehicles (mental, astral, physical) are now occultly integrated and aligned correctly to the soul on a world scale. That is not to say, of course, that, from a vibrational point of view, the rate of each vehicle is synchronous.

April 2002

Q. If the economy collapses how can we help the Third World financially?

A. If the stock markets of the world collapse it does not mean there is one grain of rice, or wheat or one apple less in the world. Exactly the same things will be made, created by farmers and all sorts of producers, the same amount of bread produced. It has nothing to do with the collapse of the stock market. Of all the transactions on the world stock exchanges 97.5 per cent are in fact currency transactions, they have nothing to do with the real economy of the world. They are simply gambling casinos, to enable people to gamble, as you might gamble on roulette in Biarritz or Monte Carlo. The world is run and

controlled by about 200 people, in every country in the world, who do nothing else but invest in the stock exchanges billions of pounds or dollars. They sit all day saying: "Buy, buy, sell, sell, buy, buy." The same amount of money might be invested in a given currency for an hour, for half a day, and the next morning in another currency, and so on; whichever is going up, it shifts into that; whichever is going down is taken out and reinvested elsewhere. If you know how to do it, you make more money than you can in any other way.

If we in the West decide to share our resources with the rest of the world, it does not depend on the state of the stock exchanges, they have no relevance.

Q. If I want to learn to love more and identify more with others what would be a good way to go about doing this?

A. (1) Get involved in service. (2) Meditate.

Q. There is a fast-growing activism to oppose the practice of vaccination — apparently with very good reasons: they seem to be a gigantic hoax designed to allow pharmaceutical companies to reap huge profits while thousands die and many are crippled for life due to side-effects. As a whole the victories attributed to vaccinations are counterfeited and their statistics manipulated.

If it is true that vaccines are an extremely immuno-depressive and a dangerous counter-nature practice, which a natural, health-inducing way of life should certainly allow a normal person to do without, how can Share International give the 'good news' about vaccination campaigns in Africa and appear to be fully in favour?

A. While vaccines (excepting those homoeopathically produced) may not be the best and final solution to conquering diseases, on a mass scale they have brought much benefit and freedom from crippling diseases in Africa, India and many other countries. We believe it is foolish and dangerous to make the kind of uninformed, dogmatic statements as above. This, I may say, is the view of the Masters.

May 2002

Q. How is the damage already perpetrated against the earth going to be healed?

A. When the Lord Maitreya works openly, this will set in motion a dynamism which is presently lacking in the approach to these problems. The nations have known for half a century about world hunger -- the non-governmental agencies bring this question before humanity over and over again and little or nothing is done about it. At the same time, scientists show the nations the damage we are doing to the planet, the ecological damage resulting from the overuse and misuse of resources: the poisoning of the land, the rivers, the oceans and the air we breathe.

The number one priority immediately following the Appearance and acceptance by humanity will be the saving of the starving millions of the world; Maitreya will advocate a crash programme of aid. After that, the number one priority will be the saving of the planet -- the changing of our political and economic structures which will enable a sustainable economy to be created -- for example, the world's primeval forests, on which we depend for our very oxygen let alone the medicinal plants which are 'stolen' by the pharmaceutical industries today, will be maintained. Every man, woman and child on the planet, I would say above four years of age, has to be engaged on this. Maitreya will recommend -- and there are groups now all over the world responding to this idea -- a sustainable economy: we will have to live more simply so that all of us can live, and so

that our children's children, on into the future, can live on Planet Earth. The Earth can sustain approximately 3.5 billion people with comfort. At the moment we have 5.5 billion and will have an estimated 10 billion in a very few years. With the transformation of the economic structure, when people will have the ability to live decent, civilized, dignified lives -- the kind of life we take for granted-- we will find that the incidence of large families will diminish, even in the Third World, where it is mainly an insurance for old age.

Q. Will this be in time?

A. Yes. You can be sure Maitreya has not delayed too long. He is here to help us and show us the way. We have to agree to do it, but you can be sure He is here in the nick of time to save the planet.

(The following is excerpted from the current hard-copy issue of Share International magazine.)

Q. Yasser Arafat was recently accused by the Israeli authorities of having, in the offices of his compound, counterfeit Israeli and US banknotes, an arsenal of weapons, and suicide-bombers' belts. Are any of these accusations true?

A. No, absolutely not. They are wicked fabrications to show Mr Arafat in the worst possible light in an effort to get rid of him. Mr Sharon harbours a deep personal hatred of the Palestinian leader and, it seems, will stop at nothing to have him removed from office.

Q. Is Mr Arafat sending the suicide bombers?

A. No.

Q. (1) Is Mr Arafat responsible for the current terrorism? (2) Does he have control over the different groups?

A. (1) Not at all. He tries to stop it. (2) No; not complete control.

Q. Why does no one remember that the Israelis agreed to pull back to the 1967 borders in the 1993 agreements? They haven't upheld their part of the bargain at all. What is their excuse?

A. Memories are short.

*Q. (1) Why does no one know that Mr Arafat pleaded with Mr Sharon **not** to walk on the Temple Mount? (2) Does Mr Sharon think he can be so rude and disrespectful and get away with it?*

A. (1) Why indeed. (2) Obviously, yes.

Q. (1) What is Israel doing with the lump sum of \$2.8 thousand million the USA gave them in aid this year [2002]? They are the only country we give a lump sum to, and after we give it, we have no control over how they spend it. (2) Is the USA financing the Israeli war against the Palestinians?

A. (1) Waging war on the Palestinians. (2) Yes.

Q. Many people are afraid at present: the possibility of escalating and spreading violence from the Middle East; the potential US attacks on other Muslim countries; increasing crime; international instability; swelling numbers of desperate refugees and so on. (1) Do these situations mean that Maitreya will delay His first interview? (2) If we do not manage to achieve a relative peace will He decide not to appear yet?

A. (1) On the contrary, they will bring it forward. (2) Maitreya has already decided to come forward very soon.

Q. Could you comment on the plans of the US Government to attack Iraq?

A. They are foolish, playing with fire.

Q. It seems that the plane that crashed into the Pentagon meant to crash the White House. Did the Masters change the hijackers' minds to protect the White House?

A. No.

Q. (1) Was the strike by the hijacked airliners the cause of the subsequent complete collapse of the World Trade Center twin towers? (2) Or were planned explosions responsible for the collapse? They came down in the same manner as a planned implosion. (3) If there was other involvement, who was responsible for it?

A. (1) Yes. (2) No. (3) No-one.

Q. You stated in the October issue of Share International that the US Government had been warned three months prior to 11 September that some kind of attack was imminent. A New York Times article on 26 September 2001 about the Genoa G8 conference in June stated that the Italian authorities took great pains with security at the conference, even to the point of installing anti-aircraft missiles on the airport runway, since they were aware that there was a potential assassination plot against President Bush that would be accomplished by means of aircraft. Could you please say (1) Is this the warning you referred to? (2) Did the Masters have any role in tipping off the Italian Government to such a plot? (3) Is there a connection between the attack on New York and Washington on 11 September and this assassination plot in June?

A. (1) No. (2) No. (3) No.

Q. You have said that there is a Master near New York City (New York being one of the five spiritual centers of the world, along with London, Tokyo, Darjeeling and Geneva). (1) Is this Master presently in full public view? (2) Has he played any role in mitigating the aftermath of the 11 September attack in New York? (3) What effect did the attack have on New York as a major spiritual center? (4) What role will the New York Master play in the future of the city as a spiritual center?

A. (1) No. (2) Yes. (3) None. (4) His work is with the groups of disciples existing there.

Q. Is there a relationship between the incessant US bombing and the 6.1 magnitude earthquake that flattened the populated village of Narin in Afghanistan? There was another 7.2 magnitude quake that hit neighbouring Samangan province in the beginning of March 2002, but was not reported widely in the US because, I suppose, it killed 'only' 100 people. Common sense tells me that such tremendous assaults on bare mountains and rocks had to have serious effect deep in the mother earth.

A. Yes, there is a direct relationship between the unprecedented pounding of the area and the severe earthquakes (reported and unreported). The bare, rocky nature of the terrain formed an ideal conduit for the vibration resulting from the bombing. The earthquakes were then almost inevitable.

▲ June 2002

Q. As a result of the so-called 'war on terrorism' by the US, how many civilians have died in Afghanistan?

A. Over 5,000.

Q. (1) As a result of the so-called 'war on terrorism' by Israel, how many Palestinian civilians have died? (2) How many died in the Jenin refugee camp?

A. (1) Over the last 18 months, about 2,000. (2) 700 to 800, of which about 600 were unarmed civilians.

Q. As the result of suicide-bombers, and other attacks, how many Israeli civilians and soldiers have died?

A. Since the beginning of the intifada, about 400.

Q. Although governments call it "collateral damage", isn't it "state" terrorism to kill innocent civilians?

A. Yes, of course. It is also illegal to deny medical aid to the injured, thus guaranteeing that they bleed to death.

Q. A key leader in the Hamas organization, Ismail Abu Shanab, says Hamas has agreed to the Saudi Peace Proposal and that if Israel agrees to the proposal and returns to pre-1967 borders, "that would be satisfactory for all Palestinian military groups to stop and build our state, to be busy in our own affairs, and have good relations with Israelis." Shanab said the organization must now be "practical". A spokesperson for another key Hamas leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, announced last week that young people must "remember that their lives are precious and should not be sacrificed". (1) Did Maitreya visit any Hamas leaders and inspire this change of attitude? (2) Did He have any special influence over their change of heart? (3) Was it the result of Chairman Arafat's lobbying?

A. (1) No. (2) No. (3) Yes.

Q. Chairman Arafat and other PLO leaders besieged at their Ramallah headquarters were reported to be in high spirits during the course of the siege. Chairman Arafat's doctor visited him there and proclaimed him to be in good health despite the extraordinary stress he was under for a man of his age. (1) Did Maitreya give the Chairman and his colleagues trapped in their headquarters a special protective blessing? (2) Has Maitreya had any further communications with Chairman Arafat since 1988? (3) Has Maitreya appeared to the Chairman recently?

A. (1) Yes. (2) Yes. (3) Yes.

▲ July/August 2002

Q. Evidence is emerging in the media that warnings were indeed given before the 11 September attack, as Benjamin Creme stated in the November 2001 issue of Share International [press release September 2001]. Creme claimed that Hierarchy warned American military intelligence three months in advance that some such attack was being planned. How much information was given, and how precise was it?

A. The warning was fairly precise. The information was given by an American disciple in the diplomatic corps to the FBI, the CIA and military intelligence at the Pentagon in the early days of July 2001. They were told that there was a danger of hijacking of planes, and even of the likelihood of kamikaze-type use of the planes. The World Trade Center was not mentioned, but the Pentagon was warned, and the likelihood of the Pentagon being attacked should have been expected. There was also the near-certainty of the White House being attacked, but that plane crashed.

Incompetence, complacency, and the now obvious lack of communication between the different intelligence agencies thwarted any preventative action.

Included here are Benjamin Creme's initial comments on 11 September and the anthrax attacks in the US (SI November 2001). See also the following media reports (from SI July/August 2002) which show how these comments have been corroborated by recent information.

Q. Was there no way the Masters could have prevented the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon?

A. No, not directly. That would have necessitated an infringement of our free will. Nevertheless, the Masters did warn the American authorities (military intelligence) three months ago [early July 2001] that some such attack was planned.

Media reports:

The director of the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Robert S. Mueller III, acknowledged that the attacks of 11 September might have been preventable if officials in his agency had responded differently to all the pieces of information that were available.

Among the information not acted upon were:

- An agent of the FBI had written a memo in July 2001, before the attack, that he had detected an alarming pattern of Arab men with possible ties to terrorism taking aviation-related training, and urged a nationwide review of the trend. But the agent's recommendation was not acted upon before 11 September.

- Also in the summer of 2001, the FBI's Minneapolis, Minnesota, field office pursued an investigation of terrorism suspect Zacarias Moussaoui, but could not get approval from FBI headquarters in Washington to seek a search warrant for the suspect's computer. Moussaoui, a flight-school student, was later charged as a conspirator in the attacks.

- Egyptian intelligence reportedly warned US intelligence officials a week before 11 September that Osama bin Laden's group was about to launch a major strike against the US. President Hosni Mubarak said: "We informed them (the US) about everything." Egypt tried to stop it, but did not have enough details to go on. He said: "We thought it was an embassy, an airplane, something, the usual thing."

- The US Central Intelligence Agency was aware that the two terrorists who commandeered the plane that crashed into the Pentagon were in the United States 18 months before it told any other agencies.

- The FBI had a chance to infiltrate an al Qaeda training camp in Afghanistan months before 11 September, but top FBI agents rejected the plan, according to US News & World Report magazine.

- Marc Perelman wrote in The Forward that leaders of Argentina's Jewish community received a warning about an impending major terrorist attack against the United States, Argentina or France just weeks before 11 September. The warning, delivered by a foreign intelligence source at the end of July 2001, was relayed to the Argentine security authorities during a meeting several days later. At the meeting, it was agreed to keep the warning secret in order to avoid panic while reinforcing security at Jewish sites in Argentina. "It was a concrete warning that an attack of major proportion would take place, and it came from a reliable intelligence source," says Marta Nercellas, a lawyer for the Delegación de Asociaciones Israelitas Argentinas, or DAIA, Argentina's main Jewish representative body, "and I understand the Americans were told about it."

(Source: *New York Times*; *USA Today*; *US News & World Report*, USA)

Q. In the last six months thousands of people in many parts of the world have been ill with a nasty gastric flu and other illnesses. Here in the UK some hospitals and schools have been forced to close because of the outbreak. Why are so many people affected by these current flu-bugs?

A. There are a number of reasons - climate, pollution, and the consequent breakdown in our immune systems - but the over-riding reason for this epidemic is stress. Since 11 September 2001, the world has been subjected to an enormous and sudden increase in fear and stress. For this the media and the US and Israeli Governments are largely responsible. Now the Indian and Pakistani Governments are stoking the fires. The response of the American Government to the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and the subsequent military action by Israel in Palestinian towns, has raised the fear of a third world war - a fear which had gradually subsided with the end of the 'Cold War' a decade ago. The more sensitive and vulnerable have quickly succumbed to the strident action and rhetoric of Mr Bush, Mr Sharon and the hysterical media who only love a crisis.

Q. India and Pakistan are engaging in dangerous brinkmanship. (1) Will their posturing lead to a nuclear war? (2) Will Maitreya step in to help?

A. (1) My information (as of this moment) is no, it will not, but it needs careful handling. (2) It is not expected to come to that.

Q. Could you explain why there is a swing to the right wing in politics in many countries at present? (For example: Denmark, narrowly avoided in France and now in the Netherlands.)

A. People are afraid - of change, immigration, loss of jobs, strangers. Fear brings out the worst in people and pushes them to what they feel is self-preservation, however irrational. It is also a fact that the politicians of 'the left' have, to a large extent, failed to address the fears of their citizens. Hence the swing.

▲ **September 2002**

Q. Will it take Maitreya and the post-Declaration Day ambience to reassure America sufficiently to gradually abandon its isolationist stance? At every turn the US Government seems to choose unilaterally rather than internationally — the latest example being that of the issue of the UN International Criminal Court. How can America be helped to join the world, if that indeed is the problem?

A. It will certainly take Maitreya to inspire a worldwide desire to change the present unjust structures and it will take a growing body of support for His ideas to convince the American administration to change. But there are many men and women of good will in America who will rally to Maitreya's cause and inspire many more to demand justice and sharing. America today is the sole superpower and is drunk on its sense of having unlimited power. The collapse of the present financial structures will bring that glamour to an end.

Q. How come politicians seem to get everything back to front and upside down at present? I'm referring to the Palestine-Israel question. What is it that makes some politicians see the Palestinians as the only ones at fault?

A. Mainly the very efficient Israeli-US propagandist machine — and also the natural horror and fear that most people have of suicide bombers.

Q. (1) Do you (or your Master) think Yasser Arafat should resign? (2) If not, why not?

A. (1) No. (2) He is elected by the Palestinian people, not by Mr Sharon or the US Government, and to resign would be to bow to the pressures exerted on him by Sharon and the US Government, both of whom are illegal in calling for his resignation. He is not a terrorist and accepted long ago the fact of Israel in the region. But, of course, he wants justice for his own people — and with Maitreya's help I believe he will get it.

Q. I seem to remember that Maitreya has talked about the need for corruption to come to the surface; is the latest bout of scandal and corruption reports in various large companies in the USA part of that process?

A. Yes.

Q. Share International July/August issue [2002] celebrated 25 years of Maitreya being in the world; that seems like a significant number and length of time. Does it mean that we can expect His first interview any time now?

A. My information is that His first interview is very soon indeed.

October 2002

Q. Is the "measure of peace" Maitreya speaks of as a prerequisite for His return being subverted by the US President's desire to attack Iraq?

A. No. By it is meant peace on a world-scale.

Q. (1) Is the al-Qaeda video (just recently made available to Western media) showing training methods, tests of chemical weapons and so on, genuine? (2) What is the reason for its being released at this time?

A. (1) Yes. (2) It is al-Qaeda propagandist to show how strong and how serious they still are.

Q. (1) Could your Master say whether any large-scale terrorist attacks are planned for September 2002? (2) If that is the case, would He say where?

A. (1) Yes. (2) No. The government agencies of the countries involved have been warned. Of course, the terrorists may or may not be successful in carrying out the planned attacks.

Q. How dangerous is Iraq if attacked by the USA? What would the consequences be for the Middle East, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the wider world?

A. Disastrous.

Q. How dangerous is Iraq if not attacked by the USA?

A. Iraq has attacked her neighbours before — Iran, Kuwait — so needs close watching, but would be much more dangerous, for example to Israel, if attacked by the USA. An attack by the US on Iraq would also have a disastrous effect on much of the Arab world. President Mubarak of Egypt and others have warned the US that the Arab world is against such an attack.

Q. (1) Are there advisers close to the US President who are against attacking Iraq? (2) Is the President open to reason? (3) Is he capable of heeding warnings?

A. (1) Yes. (2) He appears not to be open to reason. (3) Yes, but I think he will need some persuading to abandon his obsession with Iraq.

Q. How does the Hierarchy view the purported legality of a war against Iraq and the aims of the US regime to effect a "regime change" in Iraq?

A. They see that as totally illegal, and the result of the US President's obsession with Iraq and Saddam Hussein.

Q. (1) What will be the consequences if Saddam Hussein is removed from office? (2) Is he really a threat to US security?

A. (1) It would be a very bloody removal. Have the people of Iraq been asked for their approval? (2) No, not at all. The antagonism is in the mind of the US President.

Q. Do you or your Master have any idea why there are apparently so few mass anti-war (USA vs Iraq) demonstrations around the world at present?

A. People have been conditioned, since the Gulf War, to see Iraq as a terroristic regime which is unsafe for the rest of the world. This is partly true (as far as Iraq's neighbours are concerned) but does not give the US legal rights to act as a policeman. The US is the biggest creator of weapons of mass destruction. Should the rest of the world therefore attack the US?

Q. (1) If the Sharon regime in Israel says it will respond with all force if attacked by Iraq what exactly do they mean? (2) And what would the consequences be?

A. (1) Sharon is not explicit but it must mean that Israel would respond to an attack with nuclear weapons if necessary. (2) Disastrous.

Q. How would you describe the US President's psychology or mind-set at the moment?

A. Power-drunk.

Q. What has happened to Tony Blair? Has power corrupted him?

A. I believe he is confused and does not know what to do — whether to follow the American or the European view on Iraq.

Q. There is limited public debate in the UK about the moral, legal and practical case for going to war against Iraq; is there at least debate within closed meetings, or in Cabinet, or in the corridors of power throughout the world?

A. To some extent, yes. The trouble is that Iraq, under Saddam Hussein, has shown herself to be dangerous to her neighbours (but not for a decade now) and people find it difficult to trust her.

Q. Floods are devastating large areas of the world at present; in parts of the USA it has not rained for four years. Why? And what message should we be getting? What messages should people be sending their politicians?

A. The chaotic climatic conditions are a direct result of the unprecedented tensions and fears in the world since 11 September, 2001, and the brutal attack on the Palestinians by Israel in the name of a 'war on terrorism'.

The wrong thoughts and actions of humanity set up an imbalance which directly affects the deva or angelic evolutions responsible for the maintenance of climatic conditions. When we regain equilibrium these forces, too, will return to equilibrium.

Q. Abu Nidal [the Palestinian terrorist] is reported to have committed suicide; did he

A. (1) No. He was murdered.

November 2002

Q. Why doesn't Maitreya come forward now on television to prevent a war with Iraq?

A. For the Masters, human free will is sacrosanct: They never infringe our free will. Maitreya makes a plan and there may be thousands of different aspects to take into account in deciding what and when to do a certain thing. That plan is not set in stone, it is pliable, flexible — but human free will would never be infringed.

To initiate a war on Iraq is a decision which seems to have been taken by the US Government (no-one else wants such a war) and for Maitreya to appear openly 'to prevent it' would be an infringement of our free will, however misguided or destructive such aggression might be. It is not up to Maitreya to make or unmake our decisions. Besides, when He does come forward, He will not immediately have the influence the questioner seems to ascribe to Him.

The Law has to be obeyed. The Masters are Masters because They live by the Law — the Law of Life, of evolution. There are things which you can do, must do, and things you must not do. We do anything. We infringe each other's free will — we murder, injure, maim — we do it with words and deeds. That is why we have problems, why we have illness, why we suffer.

Q. Is there anything that Hierarchy could do to prevent war with Iraq?

A. No, not without infringing human free will. There is the possibility of impressing the minds of government leaders but, unfortunately, in the present case, the chances of a favourable response to impression are not high.

Q. Does Iraq have weapons of mass destruction? (1) biological? (2) chemical? (3) nuclear?

A. Yes. Not necessarily usable. (2) Yes. Not necessarily usable. (3) No.

Q. How many countries have 'weapons of mass destruction' — nuclear and/or chemical/biological?

A. 28.

Q. Do you think Iraq's stockpile of 'weapons of mass destruction' is the real reason for the US Government's apparent eagerness to attack Iraq?

A. No. I think that is a convenient excuse to satisfy: a) Mr Bush's obsession to topple Saddam Hussein which his father failed to do; and b) the long-standing ambition of the US Republican Government to replace Saddam Hussein with a 'puppet', so-called democratic, government which would give the US access to, and control of, Iraqi oil reserves — the second-largest known reserves in the world. The upcoming Congressional elections in November also provide the Republican Party, if it can achieve victory over Saddam Hussein, with an excellent chance of gaining absolute control at home.

Q. Does the possibility of war against Iraq (and its attendant ramifications), have any new impact on the timing of Maitreya's emergence into public life?

A. No.

Q. You said (at the end of your lecture) that Maitreya knows that we shall make the right choices; it gives the impression that everything will be all right in the end, so why worry. But surely we have to make sacrifices and make an effort to change things? We need to be motivated to make changes.

A. Yes! Yes! Yes! Exactly. That is the whole point. We have to do it; we have to make the changes. As Maitreya says: "Nothing happens by itself. Man must act and implement his will." [Message 31] We cannot just sit back and let somebody else do it. If we want change we have to do it — call for change, march, organize, do everything legal to bring our desire for change to the notice of those who can produce change. Here is an opportunity for anyone to lead the way, to call for change, start the European call for justice and freedom for all. Why don't you? Why come to listen to me? You could be out marching with banners calling for peace, justice and freedom in the world. That is the only way it will take place. It may be inspired by Maitreya; His energy will bring it into being. But we have to do it. We have to demand it.

The voice of the people is gaining ground — but you have to listen hard to hear it; we must make it louder. What Maitreya can do is educate, inform, inspire, create a reliable vehicle — the voice of the people of all countries of the world — and create an articulate mass against which no country in the world can stand. We need an informed, educated world public opinion for peace, justice and freedom. Nothing less will do. That is how it will be.

Q. How will leaders respond to Maitreya's speech on Declaration Day?

A. It depends who they are. President Bush might have a revelation and might be transformed. He is a god, like everybody else— not as big a god as he thinks, but still a god. The same divinity is in him as in you and me, and in Maitreya. There is only one divinity. You can never tell how people will change. At present British Prime Minister Blair is gung-ho to join Bush in attacking Iraq. I think he sincerely believes, based on US intelligence, that Iraq presents a real danger to the world. The information in the dossier that Mr Blair read out recently — if you believe it — would indicate that Iraq is dangerous. Mr Blair is an idealist; he thinks he is helping the world by attacking Iraq. I think he is profoundly wrong. All the information in the dossier is out-of-date; it comes from the CIA, FBI and other US intelligence and largely relates to the situation 10 years ago. Where it relates to the present, it is speculation; but Mr Blair does not know this.

Who will respond to Maitreya? Probably Prime Minister Blair will be one of the first because he is idealistic. President Bush? Possibly one of the last. Herr Schröder of Germany might well be a front runner, but it is impossible to tell.

More important than the world leaders is the world population, men and women of goodwill, in every country without exception. Leaders do what they have to do to keep the people quiet. If people everywhere got up and demanded justice, peace and sharing, the leaders would have to respond; and in France, Britain, Germany, Japan, the USA, the leaders would have to respond or shoot them — one or the other.

There are people in high positions, in the diplomatic services, in governments, in industry, in the financial world, in religious groups, who know Maitreya is in the world. They have seen Him, they have attended a conference where He appeared (and disappeared), and spoke to them. They know Who He is and they are simply waiting to see His head "above the horizon", and then they will speak out. People will follow them. The present leaders do not have to lead the way — their time is interim; they are mainly a group of people of the past and they will be relegated to the past.

Q. Will the Master Jesus also make Himself known to the world?

A. On the Day of Declaration Maitreya will introduce, not the Masters Themselves, but the fact of Their presence. Later, the Masters will come forward one by one and make Themselves known. The Master Jesus will be one of the first to come forward.

Q. If not initially introduced by name, how will Maitreya be introduced on television in the first interviews?

A. As an ordinary man, one of us, but with ideas, advice and points of view which could help us if we listened. In the beginning it will be rather restrained and modest. On television Maitreya will not be speaking to an invited audience; He will have to be somewhat reticent so as not to frighten off his audience.

Q. What has happened to make the Masters return to the world now, after 98,000 years?

A. The Masters have for long known that They would return to the world, demonstrating Their ability to function outwardly in the world as a group. The only question was when.

The world has nuclear weapons; there are 28 countries which have atomic weapons of which only a fraction would be needed to destroy all life on Earth. So the Masters are coming forward with Maitreya (He announced His intention to return in 1945, at the end of the World War) to prevent destruction of all life on our planet. If allowed to go on as we are now we could destroy all life. The tensions inherent in the divisions between developed and developing countries have within them the seeds of war — and that would be nuclear.

Q. Will Maitreya focus on practical matters — family, neighbourhood, relationships and so on?

A. Yes. He is a practical man involved in our practical problems. These are His priorities. The Masters are not mystics; we are the mystics. We mysticize everything. The Masters are Knowers of Wisdom. Knowledge plus love is wisdom. This is the 'wisdom living', the practical wisdom of living harmlessly in right relationship— that is what They are concerned with. You will find Maitreya to be very simple. He is a spiritual giant but He does not go around with His eyes turned up to heaven! He is involved in Life and the relationship of love.

Q. Will the Masters bring together the various religions and, if so, how?

A. Maitreya does not come as a religious teacher but as a spiritual one. All aspects of life are fundamentally spiritual — everything that benefits us, that takes us to a higher level, is, in fact, spiritual. The aim of Hierarchy is not the unification of all the religions. These will continue, although cleansed and purified by the presence of the Masters and better human understanding. There will gradually emerge, not exactly a new religion, but a new approach to Divinity through invocation rather than through worship, involving, not belief, but awareness of, and experience of, the Divine.

December 2002

Q. If your Master or the Christ could today address directly the United Nations Security Council and the world's leaders, what would They advise in order to cement a real and permanent rapprochement in the Middle East, and with the Muslim world in general?

A. The creation of justice and freedom through the sharing of essential resources throughout the world. Sharing is inevitable, and the sooner understood and implemented, the sooner peace and security for all will be achieved. This is true for the Middle East and the world in general.

Q. (1) How receptive, from the Hierarchy's point of view, is humanity at present to Maitreya's ideas? (2) Does increased fear and tension close people psychologically to His priorities?

A. (1) Twenty-five per cent are very receptive; 40 per cent are fairly receptive; 35 per cent are not receptive. (2) No, the opposite. Fear drives people to act hysterically — as in the US today — or to look for answers to the problems.

Q. I am confused about Maitreya's reappearance. I can understand that karmic laws are under consideration here as well as not infringing free will. It just worries me sometimes that only the agents of the "light" forces take heed of these things. We have many crazy people ready to blow themselves up (with many others) in the supposed name of God. They seem to have no problem (or awareness) of karma, free will etc. If they pull off some major terrorist acts (nuclear, chemical or biological), it doesn't seem like the planet, or human race, will be around for the reappearance. How is that karmically correct?

A. Of course, that is precisely why this time is one of such major tension and crisis. Nevertheless, Maitreya and the Masters must obey the karmic law — even if we do not. We have to trust that Maitreya knows exactly when — and when not — to intervene, and still remain within the karmic law.

Q. (1) Did Jesus have a brother Jacob (James)? (2) Was he older or younger than Jesus? (3) Was he stoned to death, and why?

A. (1) Yes. In fact, four brothers. (2) Younger. (3) Yes. As a brother and follower of Jesus.

Q. Who did the Bali bombings in October 2002? (1) Is it terrorists' work or the USA? (2) Is it local people's work, or foreigners? (3) Is it linked to Al Qaeda? (4) What is the motive behind this? (5) Is Abu Bakar Basyir a terrorist like the Americans say?

A. (1) Terrorists. (2) Local people. (3) No. (4) Terrorism against Westerners. (5) Not directly, but he sympathizes with their aims.

Q. How would you describe the state of the US economy at present?

A. Shaky. As stable as the Dow Index which, we know, is totally erratic.

Q. Would you say there is a danger of an economic domino effect throughout Latin America, with one country after another appearing to collapse, or on the verge of doing so?

A. Yes, that scenario is very much on the cards.

Q. There seems to be increased seismic activity at present across the globe. What is the cause?

A. There are several causes: increased sun-spot activity; natural plate-movement; the heightened tension generated by humanity by wrong thought and action — this is a time of crisis and widespread fear. We have President Bush and his advisers to thank for that.

Jan/Feb 2003

Q. The escalating situation with North Korea seems very dangerous. Does the Hierarchy view the situation as being as dangerous as it seems, and what is the recommended approach to decrease tensions in this part of the world?

A. As the Master's article 'A saner view of life' in this current issue indicates, these political/military situations which worry and frighten so many people are not seen by Hierarchy in the same light. They see more profoundly and broadly, and know that sabre-rattling is one of the techniques used by leaders when they, too, are afraid. President Bush's aggressive, confrontational stance in relation to North Korea is intentional — to warn North Korea not to threaten South Korea, of which the US is patron.

Q. Is it really possible to "fight terrorism"?

A. Yes, of course, it is possible to try. Is it possible to end or destroy terrorism? — that is another question. We must look for the cause or causes of terrorism. If we are honest, we will see that there are several causes, most important of which is the grave injustice felt by millions in the developing world. Twelve hundred million people — a fifth of the world's population — live on US\$2 a day. Millions more have nothing and starve. The US, Europe, Japan and a few others dominate the global economy. This causes enormous resentment which is focused today by international terrorism. It is for this reason that the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and the White House were chosen on 11

September 2001 as symbols of this Western domination. We must change our economic and foreign policies to end terrorism. We must learn to share.

Q. Are there any viable human clones at present? If not why not?

A. If you mean has someone made, by cloning, another exact human Being, the answer is no. One cannot clone a human Being, which is a soul in incarnation. All that can be cloned is a human body, but since it would be soulless it would not for long survive.

Q. Share International talks a lot about "people power"; do you really think that the people can prevail against corrupt politicians and the large and murky vested-interests network which seems to use ambitious or stupid leaders to do their bidding? Surely those with huge wealth, power and no scruples have the upper hand?

A. At the present time this is so. However, this is a time of change and growing "people power". Think what a world stock-market crash would do for vested interests and those with wealth and power. It is the power of the people, educated and enabled by Maitreya, which will change the old and collapsing system into a new and better way of living.

Q. (1) Is boycotting a useful "people power" tool? For instance: (2) What is your opinion of, and is there any point in, boycotting Israeli products?

A. (1) Yes. (2) If it were on a broad enough scale to affect the economy of Israel the Israeli Government would probably come to the conclusion that its actions in Palestine were not acceptable to many countries abroad. Whether this would influence them strongly or not is debatable but worth finding out.

Q. (1) Is the UN being used and manipulated by the USA? (2) Can we look forward to seeing a Master at the head of the United Nations)?

A. (1) To my mind, yes. (2) No, a 4th -degree initiate, eventually.

March 2003

Q. (1) Is war with Iraq now inevitable? (2) Do you think Saddam Hussein will survive the war?

A. (1) No, but more likely than not. Mr Bush and his entourage seem absolutely determined to get rid of Saddam Hussein. (2) Yes. He has a specially built 'bunker' which is literally impregnable to the heaviest bombing, and in which a sizeable army can live for many months.

Q. Is there a connection between Saddam Hussein and al-Qaeda?

A. No.

Q. Has Saddam Hussein been receiving any contact/advice from Maitreya during this current crisis?

A. No.

Q. Many believe that oil is a major factor behind what passes for foreign policy and also on the world's stock markets: (1) Is it? (2) And will it play a key role in bringing the world's economic structure down?

A. (1) Yes. (2) No. Essentially, the catalyst for collapse and change is the insatiable greed of the currency speculators who exist in every country.

Q. Was the loss of America's Columbia space-shuttle and crew on 1 February 2003 a tragic accident, or a karmic event?

A. A tragic accident.

Q. I find it incredible that no one on the ground was injured when the space shuttle broke up. Did the Masters protect the people on the ground from the falling debris?

A. No.

Q. Are the Space Brothers helping in the clean-up of any toxic elements in the atmosphere?

A. No.

Q. There is talk in the media that some toxins may leak into the ground thus affecting cattle grazing and groundwater. Will toxins from the shuttle pose a problem to the environment?

A. Little, if any.

Q. Did Maitreya help the astronauts not to experience any fear of what was happening?

A. Yes.

Q. (1) During Benjamin Creme's recent radio interview on Coast to Coast, some of us experienced a blessing from Maitreya. I also believe that I experienced a healing of an ear problem. Was Maitreya giving a blessing to the listening audience? (2) Was this also to give an experience or blessing to those who fear His emergence?

A. (1) Yes. (2) Yes.

April 2003

Q. Can your Master say how many people in the world marched over the weekend of 15-16 February?

A. 12.5 million. In London, almost 2 million.

Q. Will the huge turnout of demonstrators on peace marches have an effect on Maitreya's emergence?

A. Yes, indeed. My information is that 12.5 million people marched and demonstrated on 15-16 February. That means that about 1 billion, 28 million sympathized with the marches but, for whatever reason, did not personally demonstrate. Maitreya has responded to this mass invocation and is determined to appear openly sooner than planned.

Q. Did Maitreya stimulate the worldwide peace marches — that is to say, were people responding to His energies when they decided to demonstrate?

A. In the immediate sense, some were and others were not. The peace marches were a spontaneous response of millions of ordinary people, who, better than their leaders, realized the folly and dangers, now and in the future, of this unjustified act of vengeance by the US Government. What is certain is that Maitreya potentized their ardour by the release of His energy. Many remarked how like their feelings were to the day of Princess Diana's funeral when Maitreya likewise potentized their response. Maitreya, also, was present at the London march of nearly 2 million people.

Q. Was Maitreya Himself or any of the Masters present in any of the cities during the marches? Did He take part in them? Did He appear to anyone during the demos?

A. In London, yes.

Q. Many demonstrators around the world noted that there was an unusual sense of fellowship, camaraderie, goodwill and solidarity very strongly present during the peace demonstrations on 15 February. Could it be that Maitreya was sending His blessings or other energies out to the crowds? If so, which energies were they?

A. Yes. His energy of love.

Q. Was the energy of (1) the Christ Principle and that of (2) the Avatar of Synthesis or (3) the Spirit of Peace sent to the mass of marchers by Maitreya on 15 February?

A. (1) and (3). Maitreya is overshadowed by the Spirit of Peace or Equilibrium.

Q. Could you outline what the effect has been of the worldwide protests against war? Have the calls for peace perhaps acted as a massive invocation to the Christ and the Hierarchy?

A. Yes.

Q. (1) Do you think the mass call for peace and justice is having any effect on the US administration and on Tony Blair? (2) Can Tony Blair afford to ignore the people's will?

A. (1) There is little sign of it. (2) If a war is short, perhaps. In the longer term though, it is not likely.

Q. I do not know the ins-and-outs of the American Constitution but is it not the Congress alone that may decide to embark on a war? Wouldn't it be illegal if only one person or a handful of people gave the order to go to war? Would the armed forces be within their rights to refuse to go?

A. President Bush and his administration have already secured the Congressional 'green light' they need.

Q. Do you think war against Iraq is inevitable?

A. Nothing is inevitable but any other scenario is unlikely.

Q. (1) Do you think it will be a short war? (2) Will it be focused mainly on Baghdad?

A. (1) Probably. (2) No, securing the oilfields intact.

Q. Should Iraq split into three independent states: one for Kurds, one for Shi'ites and one for Sunnis?

A. No, but it will take Maitreya to unite them.

Q. Which are the world's greatest "flash points" at present?

A. Iraq, Korea, Palestine.

Q. Is there any point in keeping up pressure on governments by continued popular action?

A. Yes indeed. Continued action by the peoples of the world is necessary to produce change and to strengthen the 'People's voice' in world affairs. Maitreya relies on the action of the people of all nations to change the world for the better.

Q. Do you see Bush and Blair being brought before an international human rights court to be tried for crimes against humanity?

A. No.

Q. What is your, and your Master's, reaction to the worldwide peace demonstrations?

A. They are necessary, relevant and timely. And they must continue and GROW to produce change.

Q. Just lately there have been two tragic events at discos and nightclubs in the USA — in which many people were killed and injured, and the Staten Island oil explosion. Were these simply tragic accidents? Or were they explosions of energy due to tension and fear in the US or karmic consequences of US policy in the world at present?

A. The Staten Island oil explosion was due to an explosion of energy due to tension and fear in the USA. The two tragic events at discos were due to karmic consequences of US policy.

Q. The US budget deficit is at its highest level ever; is the Iraq conflict partly a "weapon of mass distraction" to take attention away from the weak economic situation?

A. In part, yes.

Q. Has Maitreya appeared to Tony Blair recently?

A. No.

Q. Is there any truth in rumours that Ariel Sharon intends to launch an all-out campaign against Palestinians aimed at deporting them to Jordan — while the world's attention is on the war in Iraq?

A. No. He might like to, but it is not feasible. The UN would not accept that. Even the US would not accept it.

Q. Will Israel be in danger during the Iraq-US conflict?

A. If it spreads, yes.

Q. Some propaganda is comparing Saddam Hussein with Hitler; surely this is not an accurate comparison?

A. No.

Q. (1) Isn't current Israeli policy in the Middle-East, rather than that of Saddam Hussein's undoubted dictatorial regime, giving expression to negative forces, such as those behind Hitler? (2) Saddam Hussein looks rather like a sleep-walker at present; is he still in touch with reality?

A. (1) Current Israeli policy is indeed negative in relation to the Palestinians, but the energy is not the same as those to which Hitler gave expression. Nor is Saddam Hussein to be equated with Hitler. (2) I do not think he has ever been "in touch with reality". That does not mean he has to be bombed out of existence because of 9/11 — with which he had no connection — or for having unproven weapons of mass destruction. Twenty-eight states have weapons of mass destruction.

Q. Don't you think that the most important thing is not whether Maitreya will appear or not, but for us to act from the heart, perfecting our love and to express what our love says? Is not this the only way to Self-realization?

A. With respect, that sounds very nice but is it the reality? Is this approach the norm throughout the world? If yes, then why do we have these many serious problems: poverty and starvation in the midst of plenty; wars and threats of wars; environmental breakdown; crime and drug abuse on a major scale; worldwide terrorism growing more sophisticated — the list is endless? It is obvious that the world, in general, does not act from the heart or express perfect love. Perhaps the questioner is an exception. Perhaps he or she does indeed practise the way of the heart and love in action. Perhaps is even now a Master, without the need for Maitreya and His teachings. For the rest of us, however, the help and advice of Maitreya and His group is essential if we are to survive. He is our life-line to the future.

May 2003

Q. A recent newspaper article showing close-up photos of Saddam Hussein and one of his doubles pointed up the physical differences although the likeness was remarkably good. The article claimed that Saddam Hussein might already be dead, possibly killed in early bombing. Is this true?

A. Yes. It is my information that Saddam Hussein was badly injured in the bombing of Baghdad on 20 March and died subsequently from his injuries. The man seen recently on Iraqi television is therefore (and I think obviously so) a 'lookalike' acting the part of Saddam.

Q. What on earth is the solution to the present crisis? Please give us your and your Master's insight to the dreadful mess the world is in!

A. This is the dark night before the dawn. This crisis is focussing the minds of many leaders who see better the dangers which exist and are more determined to find better solutions than war. Do not forget that Maitreya and 14 Masters are in the world too.

Q. (1) Is it still possible to break off the war? (2) What would it take to bring it to an end?

A. (1) Yes, with goodwill and an awareness that appears to be entirely lacking in the US and UK Governments. (2) Awareness, courage, an acceptance that the rest of the world and the UN are against it and — humility. But don't hold your breath!

Q. Are all of these accidental deaths of US and British troops being used to invade Iraq, as well as the terrible sandstorm the troops endured, due to karma because of the criminality of the invasion?

A. No, they are accidents — and in war accidents occur. However, apart from the sandstorm which is a normal and frequent event (although this one was particularly severe) the accidental shooting at friendly troops (especially by American on British — so far, more British soldiers have been killed by Americans than by Iraqis) makes one wonder (a) about the quality of training given and (b) about the number of US troops who may have managed to smuggle in drugs. Maitreya's emergence

Q. Is Maitreya on the verge of appearing, to intervene in this war and bring peace to the world before many die?

A. Maitreya, of course, deplores this needless war and the many deaths it will cause but He is not attached to it in the way most people are. He has, I believe, decided, due to the invocation by millions marching for peace, to come forward sooner than would have been possible without humanity's action for itself.

Q. Recently many people have been praying and demonstrating for peace: is this a reason for Maitreya to come forward very soon?

A. Yes. Maitreya has responded to this tremendous manifestation by humanity — with millions and millions marching, and Maitreya Himself was present at the march in London, where there were almost 2 million people demonstrating. Maitreya was present — calling for justice and peace. People power

Q. Why does Share International emphasize constantly the role of people power?

A. Because, eventually, organized, educated and inspired by Maitreya, the power of the people will manifest through a massed world public opinion against which no nation can stand. We are only at the beginning of this process but, in time, people power will be the strongest force on Earth.

Q. Why should people around the world go on demonstrating — after all, it didn't stop the war?

A. Did anyone really believe that a march or two, even if across the globe, would stop the war? It was obvious from the beginning that the Bush administration was determined to get rid of Saddam Hussein with or without UN sanction. Mr Bush is determined to do what his father 'failed' to do and so prove himself as big as, or bigger than, his father. The people behind him have their eyes on Iraqi oil. But this should not stop the demonstrating, therefore. On the contrary, the People's Voice should be heard louder than ever. Peace and justice depend on it, ultimately. And — most importantly — it invokes Maitreya. It is essential to keep informing governments that peace, and justice, and freedom are demanded by the people as their right. That when governments opt for war while often the majority of the people are against, the governments are not serving the peoples' needs and must go. These continuous demonstrations also speed up Maitreya's emergence.

Q. Is it 'disloyal' to continue to protest against the war now that the soldiers are fighting and facing danger?

A. To my mind, not at all. If you are against this war, fundamentally, you cannot just support it because, for example, your government or friends are involved. People, if they are against it, should work and demonstrate for another, peaceful, solution. America

Q. Why is Share International so apparently anti-American?

A. Share International is not anti-American. However, the present American administration have shown a cynicism, a manipulative corruption of and disdain for the United Nations (and therefore the world as a whole); it has lied its way to a war which will ensure its access to the world's second-largest oil reserves, which will result in many innocent people being needlessly killed, and so is difficult to admire. Nevertheless, there is a powerful idealism inherent in all Americans, expressed in a vision of freedom, but, in the present circumstances, on US terms: a world Pax Americana. They do not see that this urge for power and domination, even when felt to be for good, is no longer relevant. All peoples today want their own freedom and justice and peaceful life, not a 'freedom' imposed on them by a latter-day imperialist power.

Q. What pressure was exerted on Colin Powell to get him to go along with the hawks in the USA, when he was by nature more inclined to be less rabid? One might have expected him to resign rather than acquiesce.

A. He chose to believe the US 'intelligence' reports of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and was outnumbered by the hawks in any case.

Q. There is persistent report and, apparently, evidence to support it, that there are several power-hungry, rightwing, neo-imperialists behind Bush who are simply using him and his weaknesses to achieve their own goals — a new American world domination. (1) Your comment on this? (2) If true, how will they be stopped?

A. (1) It is indeed only too true. The invasion of Iraq, (and after, who else?) is only a step towards that goal. (2) By the power of the people's voice (including that of other governments), focused, educated and inspired by Maitreya.

Q. Did US-UK war planners deliberately mislead the public and the military as to how long the war would last and how the 'allied forces' would be welcomed by the Iraqi people?

A. No. They miscalculated, speculated — and jumped to conclusions. However, at a later stage it may well become true. United Nations

Q. (1) Is the UN General Assembly an important organ? (2) It is said that the UN's standing was damaged by the manoeuvring, cynical manipulation and wrangling preceding the US-UK attack on Iraq; what is your opinion?

A. (1) It is the hope of the world, without which we would all be the poorer. I mean the General Assembly of the UN, without a now obsolete and corrupted Security Council and veto; each country with one equal vote. This must happen as soon as possible to prevent the big, wealthy or militarily strong nations from corrupting the process. The UN agencies have done enormous, beneficial work in many fields. (2) This is quite obviously so — and shameful. The UN must now regroup and re-establish its ties and co-operate for the world as a whole.

Q. What will it take to restore the UN in the world's eyes?

A. A little humility on the part of some nations would help. There is no alternative to the United Nations, whatever the present US administration say or do. The only alternative is the unilateral chaos which the US and the UK have unleashed. The time for unilateralism is past. The world is one and interdependent, and lives or dies together. That is why Maitreya is here now.

Q. To judge by what some politicians and media are saying they see the UN as a charity and an ineffective, optional extra. What has to happen in order to make it the world's main debating forum?

A. Governments must stand by their desire for freedom and justice and not allow themselves to be 'bought' and manipulated by others. The temptations are strong but so must be their resolve.

June 2003

Q. Why does America dislike the United Nations, or at least, appear to dislike the UN?

A. Very many people in the US do not dislike the United Nations. On the contrary, they see the UN as the major hope of peace and sanity. However, there are many, mostly of a conservative political persuasion, who distrust the UN, who fear its power and its capacity to act at times against what they see as America's interests. Many fundamentalist Christian groups fear the UN as a potential World Government over which America would have no control. America, the United States, is a young country, powerful and over-confident, with, as yet, a less than sure grasp of the interdependence of all peoples and nations. Eventually, I believe, that will come, but it will take much suffering — 'the wilderness experience' — to bring the US into touch with reality.

Q. (1) At what point did the US-led forces and the US administration know definitely that Saddam Hussein was dead? (2) Surely they must have known, or at least been able to presume his death, shortly after their first bombardment? (3) If they knew early on in their attack on Iraq why did they continue their invasion?

A. There is little evidence to assume that the US administration do know for certain that Saddam Hussein is dead. They have only begun now — 25 April — to suggest that he may be. I made it known in the May 2003 issue of Share International and by press release to media and government authorities on 8 April that this was the case. It is possible that this has prompted the recent suggestion that he may be dead. America very much needs Saddam Hussein to be dead or captured; they still have no idea where Osama bin Laden is to be found, a double embarrassment.

Q. Is it paranoid or an exaggerated reaction to be on the alert for further US interference in other countries, (1) in the Middle East and (2) elsewhere, such as North Korea?

A. (1) No. (2) No. They have openly threatened Syria, Iran and North Korea. That does not mean necessarily that the US is going to invade these countries now or in the near future. I have no doubt, however, that plans for any eventuality have been made.

Q. Ariel Sharon is urging the USA to get tough with Syria? Why? And would threats or pressure on Syria be justified?

A. Threats and pressure on Syria would certainly not be justified but that is not the point if the US believe Syria to be giving sanctuary to major Iraqi figures, in particular Saddam Hussein who, they suspect, has made his way there. There is also the Syrian support of the Hezbollah group who are fiercely anti-Israeli. It would suit Israel very well if the US

would come down heavily on Syria and so relieve potential pressure on its northern border and deal with the Hezbollah at the same time.

Q. Surely it is time for the world to move on, not forgetting the horrors of World War II, but having acknowledged them fully, free ourselves from the hold guilt has on the world community? Is it incorrect to say that the world is vulnerable to emotional blackmail and therefore tends to turn a blind eye to Israel's unjust demands? Is this the basis for the very evident double standards the world operates with regard to the Israelis and the Arab world? The Arab world is angered and frustrated by the double standards, and is this not the basis for terrorism?

A. Yes, I agree that this is largely the case.

Q. President Bush and Prime Minister Blair assert that the world is a safer place since they unilaterally attacked Iraq. Is this the case?

A. I do not believe this to be so. America and Britain, in this reckless invasion, have stirred up many dangers for themselves and for others. The world is suddenly more unstable than for many years. But, with Maitreya's presence, longer-term security and balance is assured.

Q. If 'live' or usable weapons of mass destruction are found in Iraq and/or Syria can we assume that they have been planted there to prove the case for invasion?

A. No, I do not think so. Unless verified by unbiased (United Nations?) scientists no one would believe that the US forces had not planted them, so they would seek confirmation of any find. They will, of course, try to make the most of every box of matches they find.

Q. Could this be a reason why Maitreya, Who represents all of Humanity, has chosen to appear to the world as a Muslim, as in the Nairobi photograph?

A. No. Maitreya is not a Muslim any more than a Buddhist or Hindu or Atheist. He appeared to a Christian group in Nairobi in a garb that they would recognize; they did instantly recognize Him as the Christ. When He appears to religious groups He does so in the garb conforming to their thoughtform of their 'expected one'.

July/August 2003

Q. How many Iraqi civilians have been killed in the so-called 'liberation' of their country?

A. So far, 5,073. [As of 8 June 2003.]

Q. Could the world have freed the Iraqi people from the tyranny of Saddam in another way than what has happened? The UN weapon inspections surely could not have prevented Iraqis that Saddam found offensive from being systematically murdered: hung, shot to death.

A. No, probably not, although there were, and still are, many groups in Iraq who have planned, when the opportunity arose, to rise against the Bath'ist party and take over the government of Iraq. That aside, Saddam Hussein would not have remained for ever. He was terminally ill and had, perhaps, another year of life. This was one of the reasons for the American pre-emptive invasion now. No-one knew what might follow his death.

Q. Now that the Iraq war is over, people are reported to be happy to be free! Whereas I could see no sense at all in the USA's attack on Afghanistan, I could see some sense to

the attack on Iraq's cruel and depraved dictatorship. Even though America has the hidden agenda of oil control, in light of the quick ending to the war, and the fact that Americans at least attempted to not target civilians, and want to help with putting the country back on its feet, do you think that good has come of the war?

A. No, unfortunately, I do not. Some small good has come to some Iraqis in the abstract sense that they are, for the moment, full of hope that they will have a better life without Saddam Hussein's vicious dictatorship. For the vast majority, there has been a catastrophic collapse of their living standards: no water, electricity, little food, and total social chaos and anarchy. Over 5,000 civilians have been killed and over 20,000 very seriously wounded. The American-led invasion of Iraq was unilateral, pre-emptive and without UN sanction. It was therefore illegal. It has had a disastrous effect on carefully nurtured UN relationships and has raised world tension immeasurably. This increased tension is responsible for new epidemics and so-called 'natural' disasters. No, to my mind it has been a disaster for the world — and this is only the second step of their plan!

United States

Q. How will the rampant bully — the USA — be stopped?

A. By the other members of the United Nations standing up to the bully and calling her to account. By the use of every diplomatic pressure that can be brought to bear, and above all by economic and financial pressure. For example: by a world boycott of US goods; by the withdrawal of loans to the US (in the form of buying US Government bonds) and by the selling of dollar reserves on a major scale; by a re-orientation of trade away from the USA towards other nations.

Q. It is alleged that the US has a deliberate policy to split Europe — weakening old alliances. (1) Is this accurate? (2) If so, what, in your opinion, is the thinking behind this?

A. (1) To some extent, yes. (2) The states of Europe, all of them, support the United Nations and have worked hard to strengthen its hands. The US distrusts those aspects of the UN which it cannot control, and so is 'courting' the 'newer' European countries like Poland, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania, the Czech Republic, etc, to gain bases and support where it can.

Syria

Q. Is Syria harbouring members of the Iraqi regime?

A. 'Harbouring' is not the right term for Syria's actions. Syria has an absolute right to offer sanctuary to members of a neighbouring country, which is what she is doing. The fact that the US Government are displeased is beside the point. Syria is a member of the United Nations, has a seat on the Security Council and is an independent sovereign state. The US-led invasion of Iraq is illegal and without UN sanction.

Q. (1) Does Syria have weapons of mass destruction: chemical, nuclear or biological? (2) Is Syria a threat, as it is at present?

A. (1) Syria does have small amounts of chemical weapons as do 27 other countries in the world, including, and above all, the USA. (2) Absolutely not, not even to its neighbour, Israel. It is a small and relatively poor country.

Q. Does the Syrian administration support Hezbollah?

A. Yes. It sees Hezbollah as an Arab organization legitimately fighting for Palestinian Arab freedom. People seem to forget, or be unaware, that the state of Israel was created by terrorism: against the Palestinians and against the British as the mandatory power. Many of the Israeli Government members were terrorists in their youth. They showed the Palestinians the value of terror, and still carry it out now on a daily basis. Today they call it "reprisal" and "self-defence".

Iran

Q. (1) Does Iran have weapons of mass destruction? (2) Is Iran a threat to the US, (3) to stability in the region, or (4) to the world?

A. (1) Some biological weapons in small quantity. Moving towards a nuclear possibility. (2) No. (3) No. (4) No. America is paranoid about Iran.

The 'Road Map'

Q. Which is the most dangerous state in the Middle East?

A. Israel.

Q. What is your opinion of the so-called "Road Map" for peace? (1) Is it practicable? (2) Do you think it is fair?

A. (1) Yes, so far as it goes, it is practicable. It means, though, considerable sacrifices and compromises from both sides, especially from the Palestinians. (2) No, I do not think it meets, fairly, the Palestinian demands and needs, and so cannot be called just or fair. It should always be remembered that the creation of Israel on Palestinian soil is an infringement of Palestinian rights and some 4.5 millions are still refugees in Lebanon.

Q. The Indian newspaper The Hindu, dated 29 May 2003, reported on the turnaround in policy of the Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon which puzzles Israelis. After pushing the construction of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza for decades he conditionally accepted the US-backed "road map" for peace that envisages the creation of a Palestinian state by 2005. He managed to convince his hawkish Cabinet to conditionally endorse the deal, while in his Likud Party he faced down angry hard-liners with remarks that stunned many Israelis: "To keep 3.5 million people under occupation is bad for us and them. This can't continue endlessly." Mr Sharon was reported to have undergone a metamorphosis and transformation. Mr Sharon's own office, however, issued a statement maintaining that in using the word 'occupation' he was not admitting that those areas are under occupation, but that Israel did not "want to control the Palestinian people that reside in disputed territories".

(1) Did Lord Maitreya appear to Ariel Sharon? (2) What are the motives behind Sharon's apparent change of heart? (a) Is he trying to secure his place in history? (b) Is he trying to deflect US pressure? (c) Is he trying to avoid blame, by assuming that the Palestinians will foil the plan by failing to stop their attacks on Israelis? (d) In a word, is Sharon sincere in his acceptance of the Peace Plan or (e) is this only another move in his game?

A. (1) No, Maitreya did not appear to Mr Sharon. (2) (a) Yes. (b) Yes. (c) Yes. (d) No. (e) Yes. He believes that the Palestinians will remain divided and thus scupper the 'road-map' plan themselves, letting him and the Israeli Government 'off the hook' of blame for its failure. He has not changed.

Q. (1) Is Mahmoud Abbas a US puppet? (2) Was his appointment a deliberate attempt to by-pass and sideline Yasser Arafat?

A. (1) Yes, that is the intention of his being chosen. But will he fulfil that intention? That is by no means certain. He is a Palestinian at heart. (2) Yes, of course. Mr Sharon has repeatedly made it known that he will never negotiate with Mr Arafat, for whom he harbours a personal hatred. Mr Arafat, however, is the legally elected leader of the Palestinian Authority and people. Mr Mahmoud Abbas will find it a hard job to by-pass him.

Q. It seems as if the tension in the world is really enormous at present. Do you think it has reached its most extreme stage?

A. No. There is a way to go yet before the pendulum swings the other way.

September 2003

Q. Iran seems to be in a state of upheaval. (1) What are the underlying causes? (2) Is the USA stirring things up by using Iranian exiles and emigrants broadcasting to Iran?

A. (1) The conflict between an emerging democratic secular state and that now ruled by the Imams — a more fundamentalist Islamic state based on the Shariah Law. (2) Yes.

Q. (1) Should leaders of governments have immunity — as in Italy at present? (2) Where does this leave the law? (3) Is democracy and the law not hobbled by such situations?

A. To my mind, not at all. (2) It makes a mockery of the law. (3) Yes, of course.

Q. (1) What is your opinion of a European Union Constitution? (2) Are countries giving up too many sovereign rights? (3) Is this possibly the egocentric plan of a man who would like to be king — Giscard d'Estaing?

A. (1) I am not in favour of such a Constitution. It implies, and would speed, the creation of a supranational United States of Europe which is against the destinies of the various (and different) European countries. These countries are all governed by different laws and have different qualities to contribute to the world. It is a mistake to try to meld them into one large European country. (2) Yes. (3) Not of one man. It is the dream of a group of people — for the best of reasons, but mistakenly.

Q. Is the media fair in its treatment of Israeli/Palestinian issues? Is it balanced?

A. No. To my mind, most states — for whatever reason — take the view of American media on Israeli/Palestinian issues, and this is always unfair and unbalanced because Israel is protected by the US. Israel is in defiance of around 67 UN resolutions (Iraq of about 19) and no one seems to object to this anomaly.

Q. Does the process of formulating ideas and presenting them to the public in the form of Share International magazine, for example, have a positive influence not only on those who read the magazine but also, less directly, on the mental planes by a sort of passing on of the thoughtforms?

A. Yes, precisely so.

Q. What should we do now that we have heard your information?

A. I am 100 per cent convinced because of my experiences over many years, but even if you are only 5 per cent sure — do what I am doing — make it known to the best of your ability — tell people, talk to the media, write articles, hold meetings! Tell everyone who will listen that this event is happening. Simply tell what you know, or what you believe.

If you are somewhat convinced (it doesn't matter if you do not know all the answers, just say you don't know) tell what you believe. In this way you are bearing witness and people will listen to you. They may not necessarily be convinced, but they hear the information. Their minds become more open to the possibility. That is the important thing.

Q. Will good triumph over evil?

A. Yes! Indeed. The end is known from the beginning. Good will inevitably triumph because it is the will of the divine Being Who ensouls this planet. But we have to make it so. It does not happen by itself. Maitreya puts it this way: "Nothing happens by itself. Man must act and implement his will." It does not matter what ideals we have, how much we would love everybody to be at peace, to have enough to eat, not to have millions starving, no little children with swollen bellies because they have had no food for weeks. None of that any more. It does not happen unless we act and make it so.

Q. I feel sad when the Masters of the world hide so well — we are ready for this, we are fed-up with every day's stupidity with the world, why can't they come forward now, more often for those who are ready?

A. This is part of the same idea — sit back and ask God or Masters to come and clean up our mess. We have to do it. We have to be responsible for the mess we are making. We cannot sit back and rely on God or the Masters to do it for us. If we do not want it, it will never happen.

Humanity has free will — it is the greatest gift, the divinity in humanity. If we did not have free will we would not evolve. That free will is sacrosanct as far as the Masters are concerned and They will never infringe it. So They cannot come out and clear up everything for us. They know it is not a lovely world for millions and millions of people. It is all right for well-nourished, well-heelled people in successful European countries, but there are millions of people starving to death who see their children dying because they have nothing to give them, because there is nothing for hundreds of miles in every direction. Not even clean water to drink.

We are so complacent — Europeans, Americans, Japanese, in our comfortable little life (I know it is not comfortable for everybody, but in broad general terms) — we do not give a thought to how the vast majority lives and dies. If we do not see this we will never change it. If we want it to change we have to act — otherwise it does not happen.

October 2003

Q. How can the position of the UN be strengthened? Do you or the Masters see some strong leadership coming forward within the UN to remould it and prepare it to take up a real central role in world affairs?

A. Yes, there are many young and youngish people 'in the wings', waiting to come forward.

Q. Do you think energy black-outs and power failures will play a part in disturbing the computers used on stock-markets and in banking?

A. Yes, probably.

Q. (1) What caused the power failure in the American Midwest and New York and into Canada which left an estimated 50 million people without power? (2) Was this a karmic reaction? (3) A crop circle was discovered at the same time near Cranbrook, Ontario, close to the source of the outage. Was it made by the Space Brothers? (4) Did it have anything to do with the power failure?

A. (1) Equipment/technical failure. (2) No. (3) Yes. (4) No.

Q. It seems that the problems in poor countries are caused by civil wars; could Maitreya help the people in these countries to make peace in their hearts?

A. It is not countries in Africa — Kenya or Uganda — which have attacked Iraq, but the strongest, richest, country in the world — the United States, and, of course, Britain. The problems in Kenya or Uganda or any of the poor countries is not just a fault of their leaders — they have their own problems, of course — but it is the fault of the Western powers who dominate the world's economy. It is the fault of market forces, which govern the distribution of the world's resources.

If America, Europe or Japan had just half of the compassion that you are expecting to exist in the developing world, then they would distribute more equitably the resources of the world. Then we would not have millions of people literally starving to death today — lacking the food which is rotting away in the store-houses of the developed world. It is not simply the fault of the leaders of these countries, because they are carrying out a process and are the receivers of the process. They have no alternative.

November 2003

Q. Do you think President Bush will be voted out of office?

A. It is too early to say. My guess is yes, very likely.

Q. Is it likely that a Democrat will take his place?

A. It will be either a Democrat or a Republican!

Q. (1) The new US electronic touch -screen voting machines are, by many expert accounts, open to tampering and votes cast are not safe in that they can easily be changed. Do you think that this is likely to happen in the forthcoming Presidential election? (2) What can US citizens do to avoid another 'fixed' election result or another stolen election?

A. (1) Yes. (2) They could refuse to use the new machines and insist on changing all defective machines now in operation.

Q. The present British Government with Tony Blair as Prime Minister came to power with a huge majority and was very popular, representing people's hope for a better, fairer society (after 17 years of monetarism, and Thatcher's "no such thing as society", explicitly divisive "every man for himself" policies). Now, it seems that hope has been betrayed. (1) Could you give your opinion about what has happened to Tony Blair and the government? (2) What should they do to regain the country's trust?

A. (1) Tony Blair, in my opinion, is suffering from illusion which is feeding his ambition. He has genuine aspirations but is too attached to his illusions to realize them correctly,

and too arrogant to take advice from others. He, like President Bush in America, is lying to the people on Iraq. (2) Apologize and tell the truth.

Q. The present world tension is making me tense and nervous but I don't want to let myself be influenced or sucked into extreme fear. (1) What could I most usefully do so that I stay positive? (2) The world seems rather mad at the moment; do you think it will last long? (3) Will the current world climate delay Maitreya's emergence?

A. (1) Practise meditation and detachment and work for a cause. (2) No. (3) No.

Q. Forty years ago Martin Luther King's powerful speech of his dream of equality, justice and peace for all races had an enormous impact and has had a positive effect on race relations around the world. Can you explain why that speech is so moving and powerful?

A. Martin Luther King was a second-degree initiate. He spoke from the heart and touched the deepest aspiration of millions of people for unity, justice and brotherhood.

Q. (1) Do you think Martin Luther King's dream is attainable? (2) Will it take a long time for true equality and brotherhood to prevail throughout the world?

A. (1) Yes, it is inevitable. (2) The presence of Maitreya and the Masters of Wisdom will stimulate and speed up this process.

Q. What on earth are the solutions to the chaos in Iraq?

A. The Western powers should withdraw from Iraq and let the United Nations use their experience and aid to restore order under true Iraqi (that is, not a group of puppets of America) Government.

Q. UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan seems to be a dignified, idealistic man but is he not out of his depth and being marginalized by the US administration?

A. To an extent, yes. However, nothing remains the same. Time will change all things.

Q. It seems inevitable that even larger mass demonstrations must and will soon take place around the world — to call for an end to barefaced murder of Palestinians, for instance, or to demand an end to the "reign" of leaders who do not listen to the wishes of the electorate, to call for the end to constant threats of nuclear catastrophes, wars, corruption, injustice, etc. Do you have any insight into what it will take to trigger such mass demonstrations again?

A. The peoples of the world are only beginning to realize that they have a voice — and therefore power — and must be encouraged to demonstrate unceasingly until the governments of the world respond. It is part of Maitreya's work to stimulate and educate the people to demand their rights. That is what the UN Charter is about.

Q. Are you still optimistic that the Lord Maitreya will start giving his major television interviews soon? Are you allowed to give any indication about how soon that may be?

A. I am optimistic but patient. It will be as soon as ever possible.

Q. What can I do right now?

A. I have one hundred per cent conviction that what I say is true. Maitreya, the World Teacher, is actually present in the world. There are 14 Masters, eventually there will be

40 Masters in the world. If you believe that, even as a possibility, make it known to everyone who will listen. Do not ram it down their throats, but make it known. It is the best and most important thing you can do. In this way you can help to prepare people for Maitreya's emergence and create the climate of hope and expectancy.

There are many questions along the lines of "What can I do, I'm only one small individual." You are not just one person. You are one of millions all over the world; millions of right thinking people of goodwill. Join them. They, like you, want peace in the world and know that it is the injustices in the world that prevent peace. Make it known. Join with others, join groups. Humanity is a tremendous force for good and the changes will take place through the raised voice of the people. The voice of the people of all nations rising up, inspired by Maitreya, led by Him, activated by Maitreya — whether they know He is Maitreya or not. The united will of the people will force the governments to change.

Q. At the recent September 2003 Amsterdam lecture did you mean to say that terrorism is a logical or acceptable reaction to injustice?

A. No, not at all. Nothing which I said about terrorism was meant to convey that it is an acceptable action. I was explaining how it comes about. But that does not mean to say I think it is acceptable. It is a terrible and a wrong reaction, but nevertheless, it is a reaction. So, if we want to be realistic about it we have to understand the causes.

Q. Mr De Mello's dying words were "Don't let them pull the [UN] mission out" [of Iraq]. But if the majority of Iraqis see the UN as being nothing more than a US-run organization is it responsible to expose the UN workers to more danger?

A. The majority of Iraqis do not see the UN as "nothing more than a US-run organization". Negotiations between the UN and the Iraqi leaders must take place to ensure that a viable UN mission (dispensing aid and succour) can function securely. Iraq is not a secure place now for anyone, but the UN must act nevertheless. They cannot do too much immediately but they should not delay too long.

December 2003

Q. How many Iraqis have died since the 'end' of the war in Iraq on 1 May 2003?

A. [As of 29 October 2003] About 2,300. Another 2,000 have been very badly wounded and about 4,000 less severely wounded.

Q. A Lebanese-American businessman, Imad Hage, has made some remarkable claims over what may have transpired in the last days prior to the US and UK's invasion of Iraq. Imad Hage is claiming that he met the head of Iraqi intelligence, Tahir Jalil Habbush Al-Tikriti, and was told that Iraq was offering some big concessions if the US did not invade. (On the US side Hage claimed to have met with a Pentagon official in London and possibly Richard Perle.) For instance between 1,000 to 2,000 agents and scientists, as well as the US military, would be allowed into the country to verify Iraq's claim that they had no WMDs [Weapons of Mass Destruction]. Secondly, Iraq would turn over a wanted terrorist who may have been a conspirator of the 1994 World Trade Center bombing. And, thirdly, Iraq would have free elections within one or two years. Also, Iraq would be willing to make concessions on oil. Imad Hage admitted he didn't automatically accept the Iraqi offer as legitimate but thought it would be worth looking at if it meant possibly curtailing a war.

(1) Is what Imad Hage claims true?(2) Did the US think it may have been legitimate, and why didn't they try to broker that deal?

A. (1) Yes. (2) The US Administration knew that the Iraqi offer was legitimate but had no intention of entering into negotiations with Saddam Hussein and told him so. They also knew that Saddam Hussein was suffering from an incurable disease and had about a year to live. They were determined, therefore, to bring about a 'regime change' to make sure of securing their future oil needs through a US-installed 'puppet' government. After his death, the opportunity, and certainly the excuse, might not have arisen.

Q. Is Osama bin Laden still alive?

A. Yes, he is still alive.

Q. The recent election to recall the governor of California left many Americans stunned when Republican candidate Arnold Schwarzenegger, a movie actor, won by a large margin. When I voted I had a problem with 'hanging chads'. (1) Is it possible that the balloting was rigged? (2) If he would have won anyway, what was the reason for rigging it? (3) California has predominately Democratic voters. Were they just fed up with the Democratic party, Governor Davis, just ignorant or glamoured by a movie actor?

A. (1) Yes. (2) Just making certain. (3) All of these, especially Governor Davis.

Q. A serious pneumonia has infected some 80-plus American troops serving in Afghanistan and Iraq since March 2003. The infection has been so severe in 19 cases that patients had to be put on ventilators and flown to Europe for treatment. Two of the troops died. (1) American officials have wondered whether the cause was exposure to chemical or biological weapons, SARS, or environmental toxins. (2) Is there an esoteric reason for these infections?

A. (1) They have been infected by the SARS virus. (2) No. They are the result of stress, which opened them to the infection.

Q. Can we tell anybody about your information and about Maitreya?

A. Anybody! Anybody who will listen to you! Even if you believe it only a tiny, little bit — tell it at that level. If you have complete conviction — make it known at that level. Tell others. In this way you create a climate of hope and expectation for His coming so that He can enter our lives without infringing our free will. That is the most important thing you could do today.

Q. Are present economic problems in various countries part of the process of collapse predicted by Maitreya?

A. Yes.

Jan/Feb 2004

Q. Would you please give your opinion as to the qualifications of the US Presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich?

A. It is my personal view that he is far and away the best candidate to have presented himself for the job. I admire his sense of values, the spiritual range, and broad worldview. We included one of his congressional speeches, as well as an interview with him, in Share International magazine (see SI May and July/August 2003). From what I have seen or read of him, I am deeply impressed and think that he would certainly be a very good, perhaps great, high-minded President, well-equipped, too, on the practical level to address the very real and difficult problems that face America now and in the

future. Kucinich is a well-advanced initiate, and he would certainly be my choice if I were living in the US and able to vote. If he receives enough money and votes to be nominated as the Democratic candidate, and he has only until March 2004 to do that, then Hierarchy would throw the weight of Their not little assistance behind his candidacy. I have little doubt that he would win the election — but you have to get him nominated.

Q. Is Dennis Kucinich sensitive to Maitreya's ideas and impression?

A. He is sensitive to the ideas, but they are not coming directly from Maitreya. He has always had these ideas. He is one of the very few US politicians who come from a poor immigrant background (from a Polish family, who lived out of a car when he was a boy, so he knows what it is to suffer financial hardship), which in an American is quite a good thing to have.

Q. What is the cause of the epidemics of influenzas and repeating colds which so many people are suffering from today?

A. The year 2003 was a particularly difficult one for the world and many people in it, especially for those of a sensitive nature and concern whose response to the events has been fearful and emotional. The result of the stress invoked has been, among natural disasters, a multitude of epidemics of one kind or another — from the SARS outbreak to influenzas and repeating infections. People do not all have the same infection, or infection pattern or rhythm, even if the underlying cause of all is stress. It is necessary to build up the immune system. Above all, and I recognize that this is easier to say than to do, everyone must become more detached, less emotional and fearful in response to world events, and more certain of the reality of Maitreya's presence and power. Use His hand.

Q. Is the 'Peace Now' movement in Israel responding to Maitreya's energies? (Their leader said they would protect Arafat against Sharon.)

A. They are responding to their sense of fair play and you could say that comes from Maitreya or you could say these ideas have always been there in people of goodwill. They have the courage to stand up against the general consensus which in Israel is that it is not a question of oppression and domination. Israel thinks it is a necessary act of self-protection; they have to protect themselves. It is a lie, or largely a lie. They claim they are oppressing the Palestinians entirely for self-protection, but it is taken to such a degree. You do not protect yourself by the arbitrary blowing up of several buildings every night in Palestinian areas. It does not matter if people are killed or injured or if they have nowhere to go. It is just making it clear to the Palestinians that "we are strong, we can do whatever we like. We can blow up these 5 buildings tonight; tomorrow night it could be 20, by the end of the week it could be 100. We are powerful, we have arms, ammunition, tanks, planes, helicopters, to bomb and shell whenever we like. We are dominant in this country, we mean to stay — and if it means killing every single Palestinian in the process, so be it. We will not stand suicide bombers coming in. We have the right to self protection". And, of course, they have the right.

Every country has the right to self protection. That is the only way they see it. But what they will not see is that their domination and oppression are the very causes of the suicide bombing. They cannot stand the suicide bombers, because they never know where they will strike next. The Palestinians have no armour at all except for a few rifles. The Israelis can stand that. They have a far more efficient armoury — the latest and best American armoury. They are given by the Americans \$3 billion every year to buy arms — their army is the most powerful in the area, and one of the most powerful in the world. My advice to the Palestinians is to stop the suicide bombing. They do not stop because some people earn money for their families by doing it. And they are fanatics, only

fanatics will do it. These young people are trained; they should be untrained, and not be allowed to do it. It frightens the Israelis, and they are armed to the teeth. They will not give in because of it but they get harder and harder and more oppressive because of it. Israel would be much more open to talking, negotiation, but for the suicide bombers. There have been a few Israelis who have refused to go in with tanks and destroy Palestinian property. Some young Israeli pilots are refusing to bomb the Palestinians. They say that this is an illegal warfare — it is not a state protecting itself, it is a state using its power to oppress the Palestinians, which indeed it is. I only wish there were more of them.

Q. The Americans say they have caught Saddam Hussein— how can we be sure that he really is Saddam Hussein?

A. It is clear to us (Share International), that the US has not caught Saddam Hussein. Our information is that Saddam was injured on the first night of the war, 20 March 2003, and died two days later. The man recently captured was one of several stand-ins, a cousin, who resembles Saddam Hussein but has several different features. See our news release on this very point.

Q. I have seen reports that confirm your information that Saddam Hussein died shortly after the first bombing. But the mainstream media and leaders around the world seem to be unaware. Is this deliberate ignorance?

A. I believe that mainstream media have private doubts but are obeying US Government policy not to 'rock the boat'! I am sure some leaders have grave doubts, others may be quite happy not to look too hard for the truth.

Q. Did the American military set the whole thing up: ie assuming the man 'caught' was a stand-in for Hussein, did he collaborate with the US to appear to hide and allow himself to be 'captured'?

A. No. He was exposed by an informer anxious to receive the \$25 million reward put up by the US authorities. The military (or rather the CIA officers acting as the army) may well have thought they had captured Saddam Hussein. I do not believe that the government high officials do not know that they have caught a stand-in, whom earlier, on his appearance in Baghdad in April, they had rejected as 'Saddam Hussein'.

Q. Do the top echelon US authorities know that he is not Saddam Hussein? Is there a small inner circle who know the truth and are feeding propaganda to the media and the world?

A. I believe so, yes.

Q. Approximately how many officials in various governments are aware that the captured man is not Saddam Hussein? Does this group include Tony Blair, George Bush, Colin Powell, Donald Rumsfeld, Dick Cheney and all the other top officials of the US and British Governments?

A. Tony Blair, I believe, is in two minds. He is too intelligent to just accept it, yet does not want to believe it a lie. I believe that Bush, Rumsfeld and Cheney all know the truth.

Q. Did the US have a specimen of Saddam Hussein's DNA before the supposed capture?

A. No. They compared it with the DNA they had of his dead sons, which would be not exact but 'near enough' for desperate men to accept. Mr Rumsfeld told journalists it was

"about 90 per cent the same, close enough". That of the captured stand-in, a cousin, would probably be about 70 per cent, and the sons' 80 per cent, the same.

Q. (1) In light of Share International having said that the putative Saddam Hussein captured was in fact his cousin, what possible motivation could the cousin have had for hiding and then subjecting himself to humiliation, prosecution and perhaps execution in lieu of his cousin? (2) Is this all a plot by the Americans to enable the Bush administration to gain points for the capture?

A. (1) He is sworn in loyalty to Saddam Hussein for as long as necessary to keep up the morale of his supporters, still very numerous in Iraq. Whether he will go all the way — even to execution — remains to be seen. Perhaps that will be the point when the truth of this scam comes out. (2) Of course.