



RESOURCES

SUPPORTING MEN INTERESTED IN FORMING
AND MAINTAINING A BROTHERHOOD

PRACTICE

(3/4)

A Brotherhood Needs Shared Self-Educational Practices

In *The Uprising of Man*, in the end note on 'Self-Education' I make some 'self-educational suggestions'. They are only suggestions, but I would recommend using them as a starting point (otherwise each man tends to arrive at the group with his own suggestions, and egoic, theoretical debate can easily ensue – while you hardly know each other). I don't believe the practices I have suggested are 'the best', and, as I just said, the group can evolve them – or co-create their own – but whatever a brotherhood decides, I would encourage it to include self-educational activities that:

- Encourage us to return to our own experience, and to speak and relate honestly from it.
- Nurture centre and trustful belonging (as part of the Earth, humanity, and the great mystery).
- Bring us awareness of our conditioning, and help us discriminate contraction and expansion.
- Develop our fluency in disidentifying from contraction, and identifying with centre.
- Support us in living beyond superiority and inferiority – in equality.

There are so many ways to do all of this. They don't have to be limited to new-agey, or therapeutic, or growth-work style activities (yoga, meditation, tai chi, expressive dance, and the likes) – they can be anything. You can make up your own! They can be wild, and outrageous. They can be soft and comforting. The crucial factor is the intention, not the form.

Finally, as I say many times – uniting in the creative execution of meaningful creativity (purpose), is itself a shared self-educational practice, on many levels. And as I say throughout *The Uprising of Man*, I feel we are called to unified, loving action not only because it provides us with untold opportunities for our personal enquiries, but because we are in a state of collective emergency. Our utterly irrational, fact-mad culture is ransacking the Earth – and we are called to a massive, unified, global "enough!". And we are also called to propose, and explore, possible ways of living together beautifully on this Earth.

End Notes, p. 422

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