

## EMBLEMS OF LIGHT (Natural and Fictitious)

Since the words "*Let there be Light*" animated the Universe, light has been its most cherished possession. It has been venerated by the ancients by its emblems, the sun, moon and stars. Candidates for religious promotion were often kept in darkness for a period of time before being permitted to enjoy the light of the higher plane or office. The Japanese believe that no offering is ever so precious to Buddha as a lamp or a lantern and love to tell a story about their "Hall of the Lamps" on Mt. Koyasan. It contains ten thousand lamps, which are mainly votive offerings of the rich. One day a storm extinguished all the lights but one, that of a poor widow whose piety had led her to expend for this lamp, the few coppers she possessed. Today, we Christians symbolize our Saviour as the Light of the World.

### HEBREW AND PAGAN FORM

#### THE SUN

<i>Country</i>	<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Signification</i>
In General	Usual form	The active power of nature
Egyptian	“	Emblem of Osiris. Ra, Sovereignty
Assyrian	“	Emblem of Assur. Sovereignty
Phoenician	“	Emblem of Baal. Power-Might
Ammonites	“	Emblem of Moloch. Fierceness of suns' heat

Early Persian	“	Emblem of Mithra. Creation of light
Scandinavian	“	Emblem of Loki. Blessing, fertility
Grecian	“	Emblem of Helios, the light of the universe
Roman	“	Emblem of Apollo as light of divinity
Japanese	“	National emblem of Amaterasu as sun goddess and ancestress of the only dynasty. Emblem of the Emperor as a ruler by divine right

#### **THE DAWN**

Hindu	Usual form	Emblem of Ushas. Blessing. The Bride
Grecian	“	Emblem of Eos: youth: purity
Roman	“	Emblem of Aurora as delicate beauty. Freshness

#### **THE MOON**

In General	Usual form	The passive form of nature When in crescent form signifies virginity
Egyptian	“	Emblem of Thoth, god of truth. Hathor, goddess of beauty
Judean	“	Emblem of Ashtaroth, goddess of fertility
Syrian	“	Emblem of Astarte, goddess of material desire and heartlessness

Grecian	“	Emblem of Selene as serence loveliness
Roman	“	Emblem of Diana: goddess of the chase: chastity
Chinese	“	Heavenly Beauty
Japanese	“	Emblem of Susano-o: The seed of the siesta (because of previous night watching)
Early Mexican	:	Emblem of Metzil: goddess of agriculture

### THE STARS

Zodiacal	Orion	Hunter of beasts
Zodiacal	Gemini	Emblems of Castor and Pollux. Emblems of brotherly love
Masonic	Rayed star in a circle	Guidance
Grecian	1.Alcyone, single star	A River of Heaven
Grecian	2.A group of seven stars called the Pleiades	Opening of navigation
Grecian	3.Group called the Hyades	Tearfulness
Mohammedan	Six pointed star formed of two triangles	Emblem of the faith

Mohammedan	Eight pointed star formed of two squares	Emblem of the faith
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### **THE MILKY WAY**

Scandinavian	Usual form	Pathway to Valhalla, the home of the gods
North American Indian	“	Pathway of ghosts

### **THE RAINBOW**

Chinese and Japanese	Usual form	Bridge of heaven
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### **THE TORCH**

Hindu	Usual form	Active power of nature
Grecian	“	Progress

### **FIRE**

Judean and Hindu	Altar fires	Sacrifice: consecration
In General	Beacon fires	Communication between men
“	Hearth fires	Home. Loyalty to family
“	Usual form	Votive offerings to the gods
“	Lantern dragon	Emblem of Persian Sibyl, who prophesied overcoming evil by good

### **TAPER OR CANDLE**

In General	Usual form	Emblem of Libyan Sibyl, who prophesied the sight of the Savior
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### **EARLY CHRISTIAN AND MODERN FORM**

#### **THE SUN**

In General	Usual form	Emblem of beneficence and fruitfulness
“	When illuminating a woman with the moon under her feet and crowned with stars	Emblem of Virgin Mary as overcoming the world. The spirit warring against the flesh

#### **THE MOON**

In General	Usual form	Serene beauty. Pensiveness
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#### **THE STARS**

In General	1.The morning star	Reward of “He that overcometh”
“	2.Star in the East	Emblem of the nativity
“	3.Cloud of stars	Infinity

#### **THE RAINBOW**

In General	Usual form	Promise
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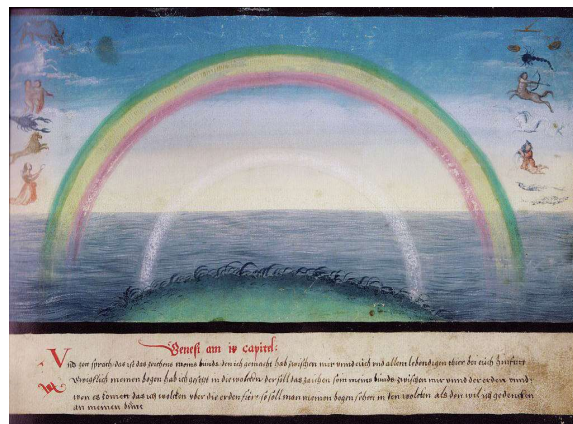
#### **THE TORCH**

In General	Burning	Christ as the Light of the World
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“	In hand	Emblem of St. Theodore
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### LAMP

In General	Seven lamps or seven branched candlestick	Sacrament. Consecration. The seven primitive churches
“	Five lamps burning	The five wise virgins
“	Five lamps extinct	The five foolish virgins
English	Altar candle	One on each side of cross
“	Paschal candle (Passover)	On gospel side of choir
“	Processional candle	Carried in procession as the Head



## COLORS

*"The men of primeval times did not see colors: only strong colors are seen by a child. No color has any symbolic meaning taken in itself, but only through association."*

*F. Delitzsch, D.D.*

### HEBREW AND PAGAN FORMS

<i>Country</i>	<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Signification</i>
Egyptian	White	Color of Osiris as judge of the dead. Mourning
"	Green	Material decay. Victory
"	Gold	Color of Horus as glory of the gods
"	Red	Color of good. Genii. Representing virility
"	Black	Color of evil Genii. Representing destruction
East Indian	Green	Emblem of Ganesa, god of wisdom
"	Red	Color of Vishnu. Human love
"	Blue	Color of Krishna. Joyousness
"	Combination of red, blue, and white	Emblem of Buddhistic trinity. Signifying intelligence, order and unity
"	Black or blue	Antidote for Evil Eye. (Or Envy).

Early Persian	White, red and gold	Emblem of Persian trinity signifying purity, love and revelation
Mohammedan	Red	Spiritual beauty
“	Green	Knowledge of Allah
Grecian	White	Color of Zeus as divine purity
“	Purple	Emblem of the Mysteries. Royalty. Secrecy
“	Red	Emblem of Spartans, who were courageous unto death
In General	Red and black	From life to death
“	Green	Youth. Victory
Roman	Red	Emblem of Bacchus, god of vigor and wine. Attribute of Pollux, as immortality
“	Purple	Royalty. Noble birth, as “born to the purple”
“	Black	Attribute of Castor, as mortality.
“	White	Emblem of Jupiter as chief divinity

### **PLANETARY COLORS**

Chaldean	Golden yellow	Emblem of the sun
“	Black	Emblem of the moon
“	Orange	Emblem of Planet Jupiter
“	Red	Emblem of Planet Mars
“	Pale yellow	Emblem of Planet Venus
“	Blue	Emblem of Planet Mercury