



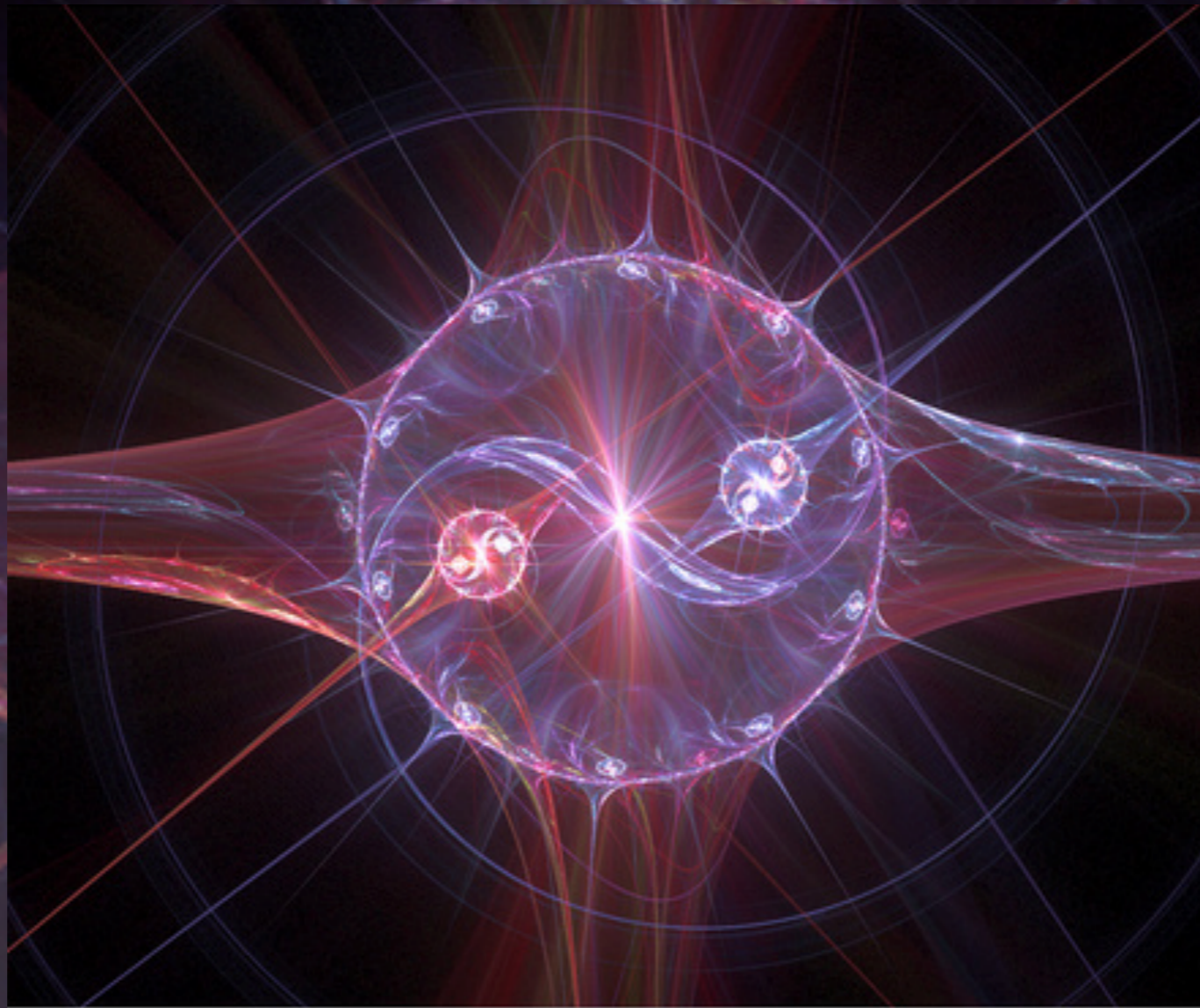
center *for*
future consciousness

FUTURE *takes*

Transcultural Futurist Magazine

ISSN 1554-7744

The East & the West: Global & Intercultural Perspectives on Wisdom & Enlightenment



Tom Lombardo, Ph.D.

Central Objective

**Articulate Cross-Cultural, Integrative
Theory of Wisdom**



**A Global & Ecological Holistic Framework
for a “New Enlightenment”**

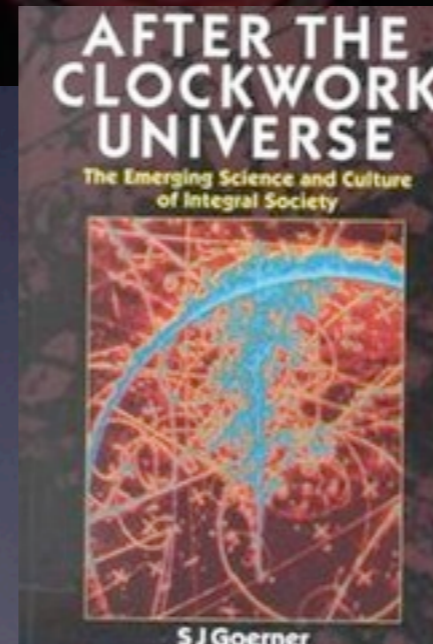
*“For wisdom is better than jewels, and all that
you may desire can not compare with her.”*

Proverbs 8

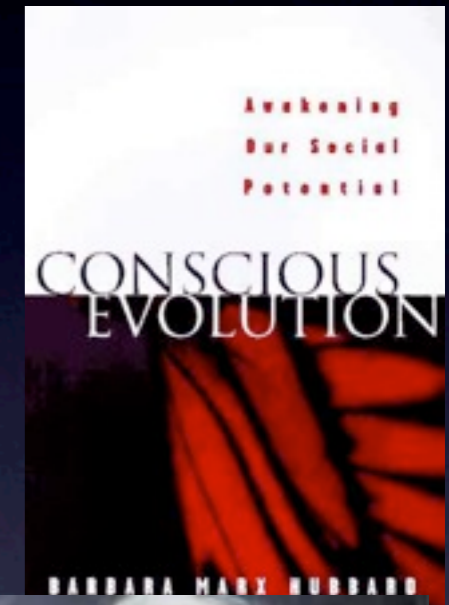
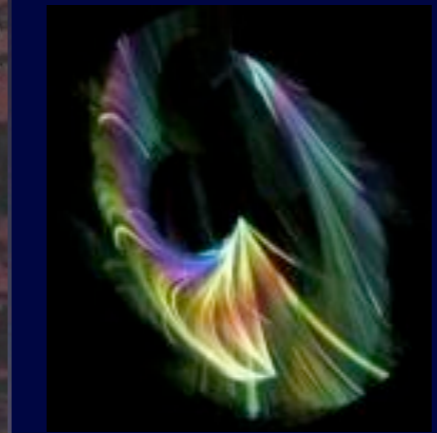
The Call for a “New Enlightenment”

“We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.”

Albert Einstein

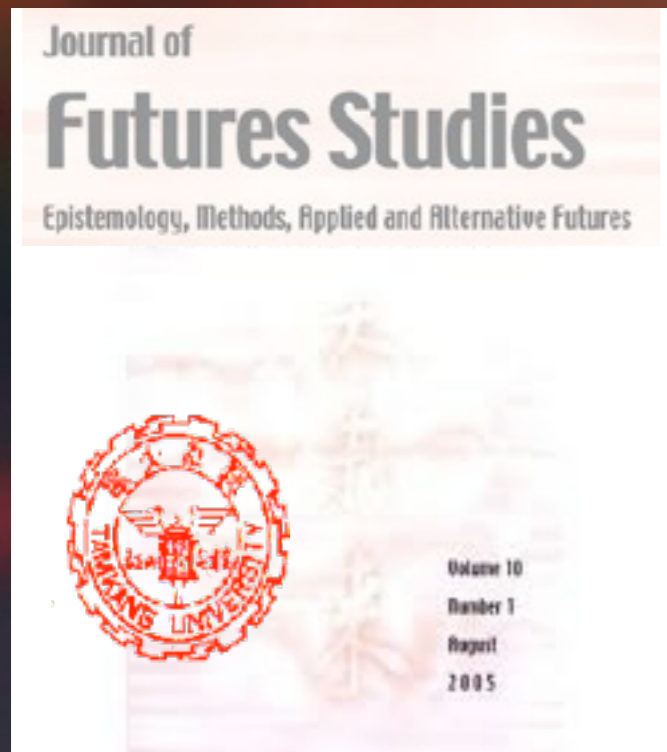


The Second Enlightenment Conference
March 4-6, 2007

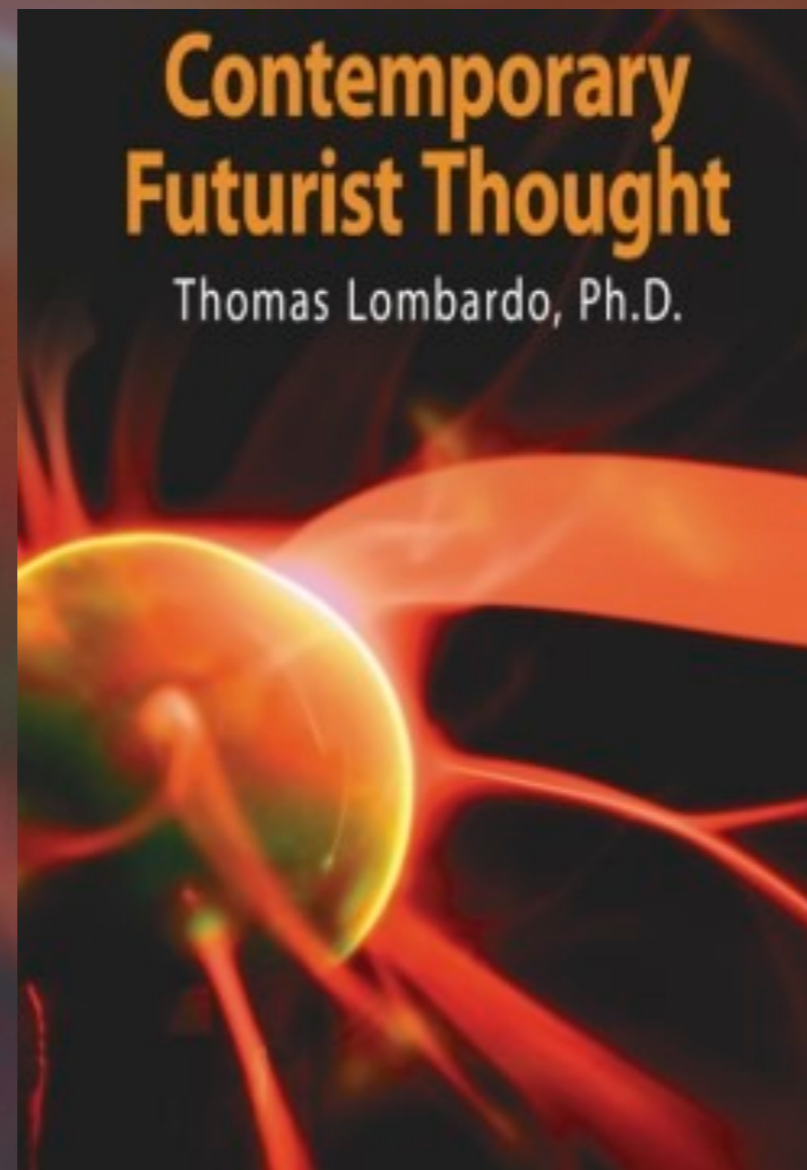


“Enlightenment ...is an evolutionary project, one that was begun long before evolution itself was understood.” Walter Truett Anderson

Wisdom as Core of Global New Enlightenment: Cultural & Conceptual Connection of Wisdom & Enlightenment



“The Evolution & Psychology of Future Consciousness”

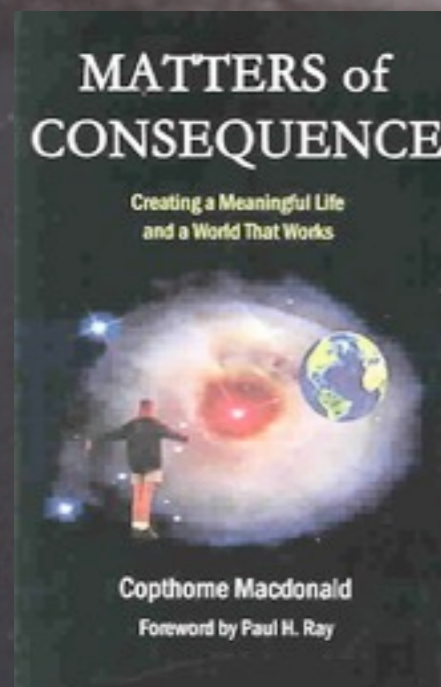
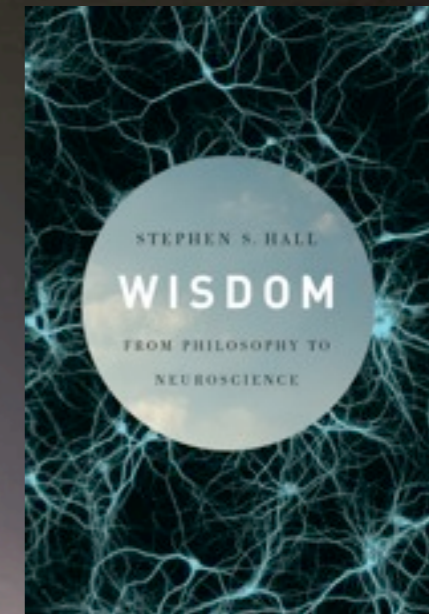
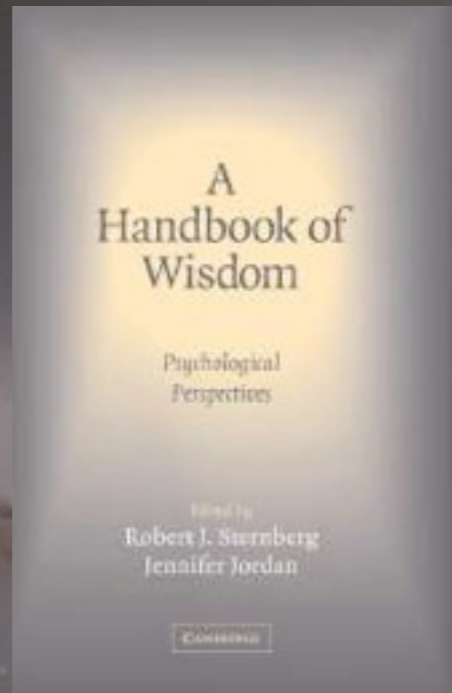
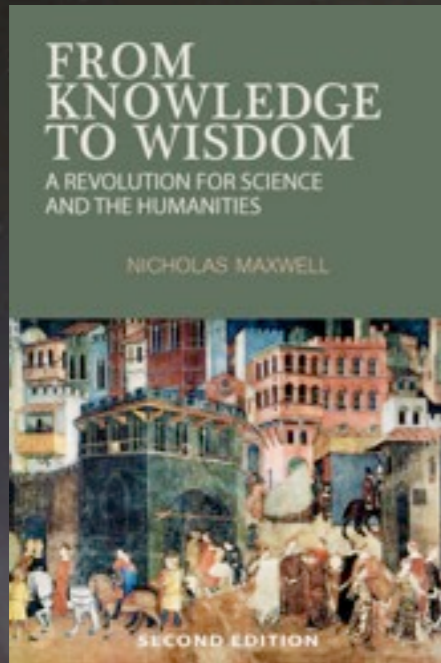


WORLD AFFAIRS
The Journal of International Issues

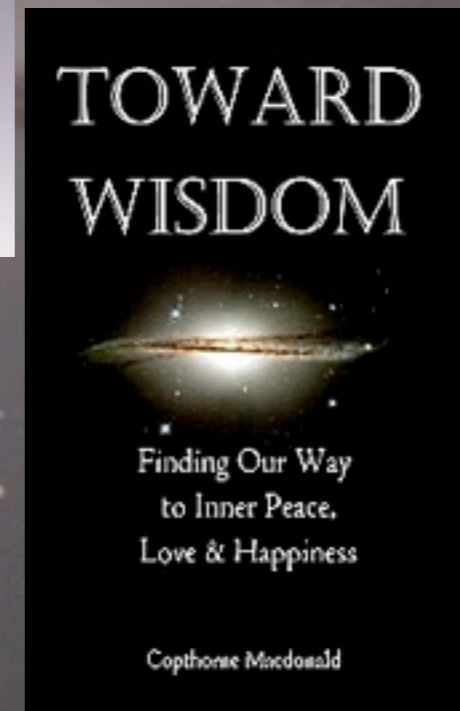


“Wisdom in the 21st Century: A Theory of Psycho-Social Development”

Intellectual Resurgence/Renaissance in the Study of Wisdom



The Wisdom Page

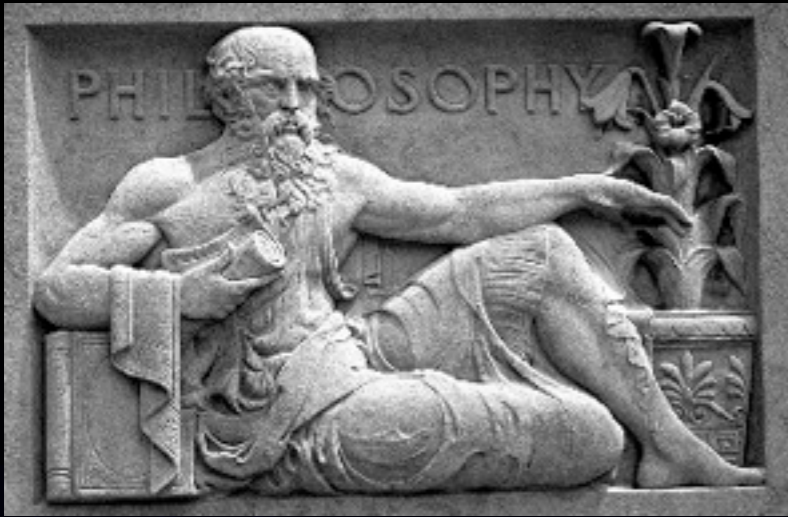


Over last 30 years number of references doubling every 5 years

A Contemporary Theory of Wisdom



Wisdom is the highest expression of self-development and future consciousness. It is the continually evolving understanding of and fascination with the big picture of life, of what is important, ethical, and meaningful, and the desire and creative capacity to apply this understanding to enhance the well being of life, both for oneself and others.



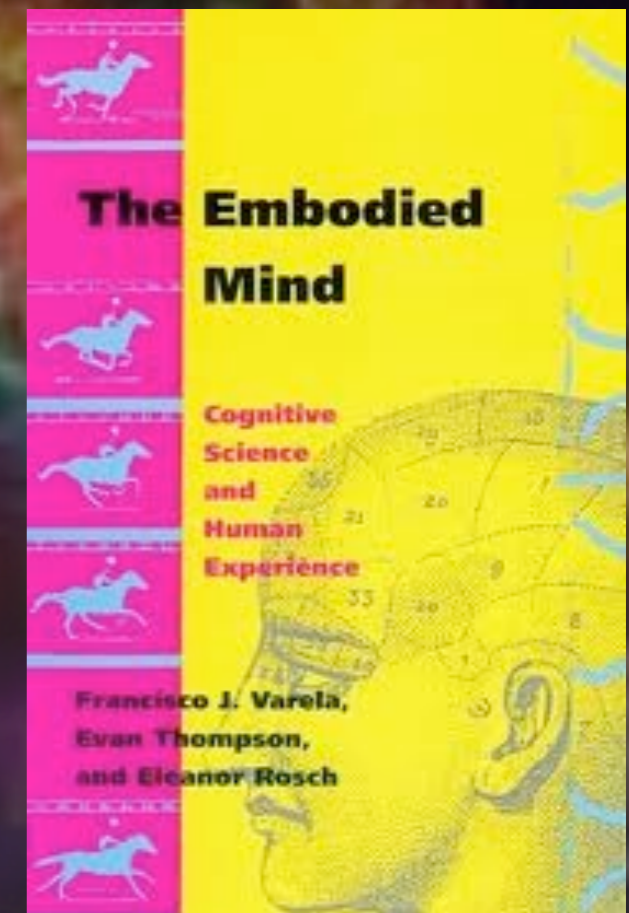
The Qualities of Wisdom



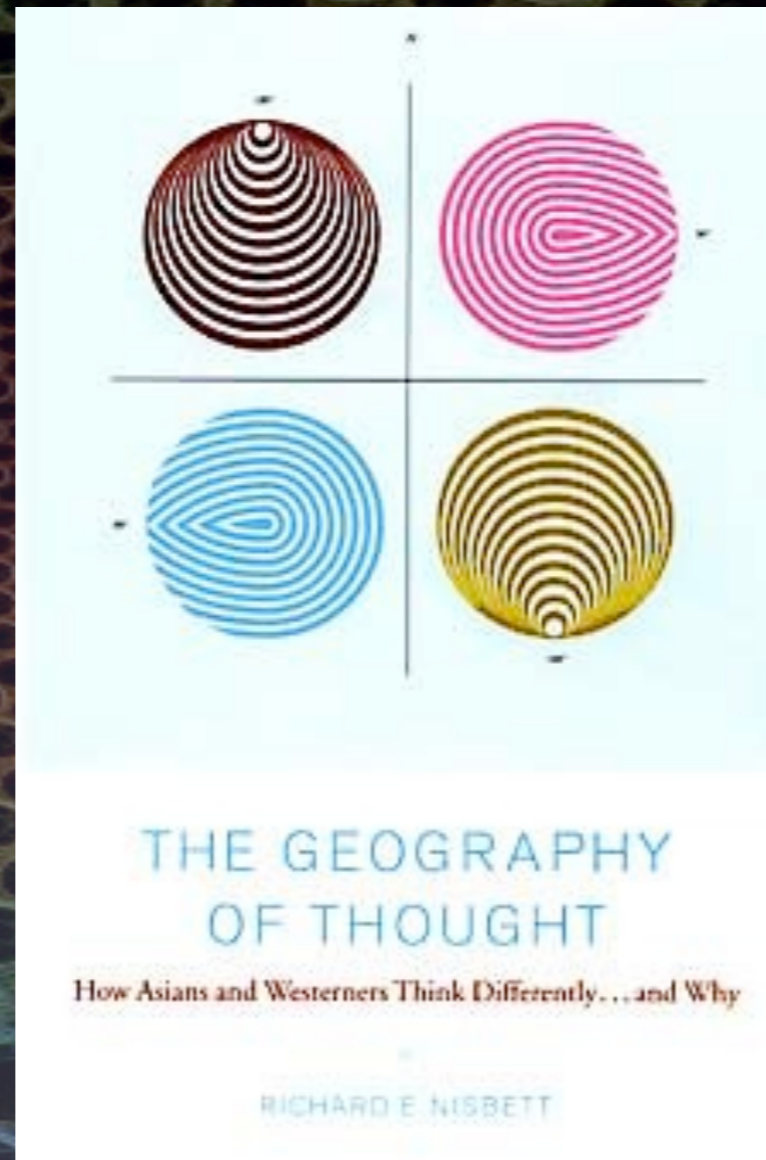
- ◆ **Deep Learning/Understanding**
- ◆ **Synthetic - Big Picture -Global- Cosmic - Temporal Expansive - LT Consequences**
- ◆ **Practical Application**
- ◆ **Multi-Faceted Thinking Skills & Modes of Understanding - Rational & Intuitive**
- ◆ **Global - Gender Integrative**
- ◆ **Open-Mindedness - Curiosity - Wonder - Engagement**
- ◆ **Creative Syntheses - Integration/ Balance other Virtues/Values**
- ◆ **Self-Stimulating - Dynamical - Contingent**
- ◆ **Reflects Contemporary Knowledge**
- ◆ **Optimistic/Realistic Pursuit of Happiness/Good Life**
- ◆ **Compassion/Empathy - Synthesis of Heart & Mind**
- ◆ **Ethical - Connection to Other Virtues (Courage, Integrity, Fair, Truth/Honesty, Self-Responsibility, Humility)**
- ◆ **Self-Awareness/Self-Reflective/ Self-Actualizing, & Self-Transcendence**
- ◆ **See Connection of Self with World & Others**

Contemporary Science & Philosophy: Eastern & Western Conceptions of Reality & Knowledge

- ◆ **Reality & Knowledge are Dynamical - Evolutionary (East & West)**
- ◆ **Reality & Knowledge are Ecological - Holistic - Interdependencies/ Reciprocities (East & West)**
- ◆ **Reality & Knowledge is Contingent and Possibilities (East & West)**



Multiple Modes of Thinking and Understanding



Eastern vs Western Thinking



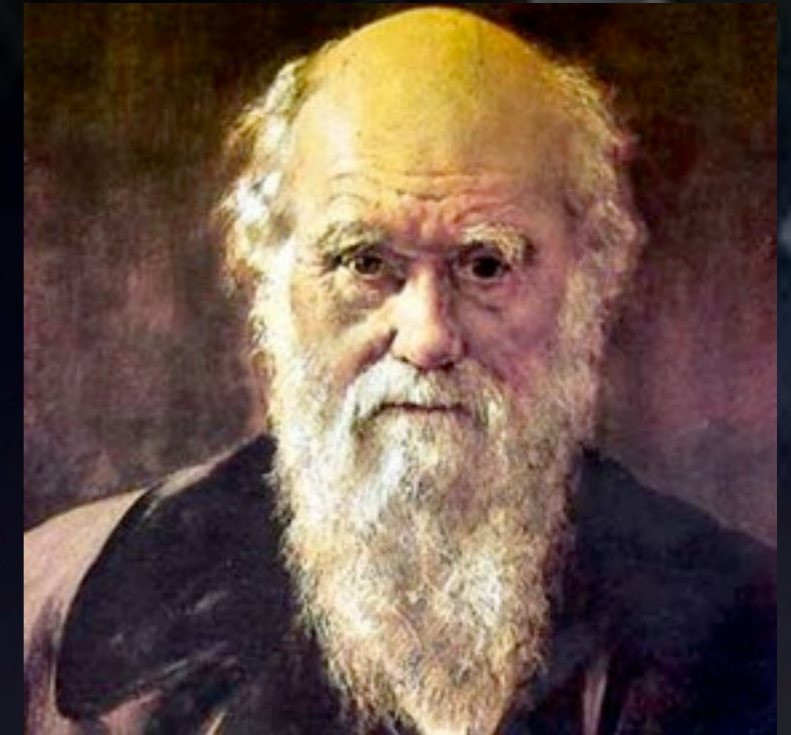
- ◆ **Reality is a Circle**
- ◆ **The Tao**
- ◆ **Focus on Context**
- ◆ **Holistic Thought (Whole)**
- ◆ **Interdependency & Community**
- ◆ **Golden Mean/Middle Way/Balance (Both/And Logic)**

- ◆ **Reality is a Line**
- ◆ **The Syllogism**
- ◆ **Focus on Discrete Objects**
- ◆ **Analytic Thought (Parts)**
- ◆ **Individuality & Autonomy**
- ◆ **Either-Or Logic (One Truth) (Dualism)**

Eastern vs. Western Theories of Time



Cyclic - Creation & Destruction



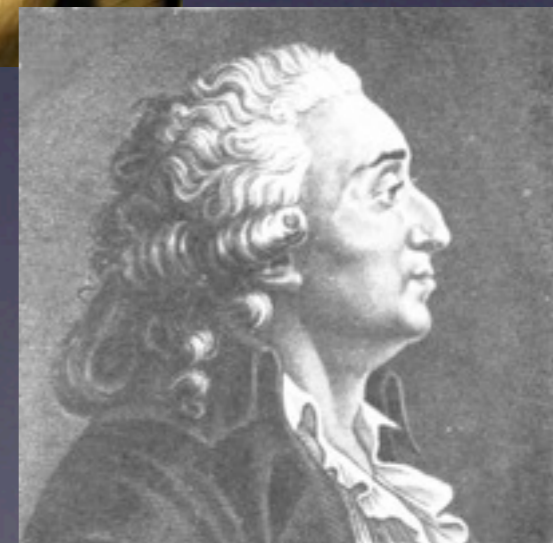
“Hence we may look with some confidence to a secure future of great length. And as natural selection works solely by and for the good of each being, all corporeal and mental endowments will tend to progress toward perfection.”

Charles Darwin

Eastern vs. Western Visions of Enlightenment

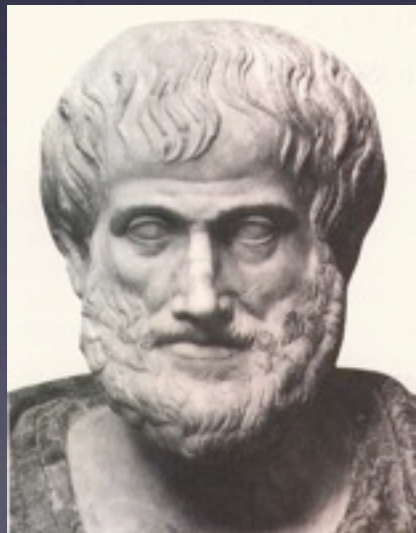
Intuition & Self/Cosmos Holism vs. Rationality & Ego Empowerment

- ◆ **History of Multiple Enlightenment Movements (East & West)**
- ◆ **Cognitive Evolution (Anderson/Hubbard/Sri Aurobindo/Wilber Theories)**
- ◆ **Expansion of Consciousness & Mental Liberation**
- ◆ **Oneness and Connectedness**
- ◆ **Transcendence of the Egocentric**
- ◆ **Spinoza as East/West Synthesis**
- ◆ **Flow, Change, & Groundlessness**
- ◆ **Enhanced Presence**
- ◆ **Uncertainty, Faith, & Courage**



Eastern & Western Theories of Wisdom: Historical Evolution

- ◆ **Egypt: Make Sense of Life Paradoxes - Moral/Religious Codes**
- ◆ **Plato: Highest Epistemic Virtue**
- ◆ **Aristotle: Theoretical & Practical Wisdom**
- ◆ **Augustine/Aquinas: Divine (Gift) - Eternal - Highest**
- ◆ **Descartes/Kant: Self-Reflection, Reason, “Love of Wisdom”**
- ◆ **Modernity: Skepticism**
- ◆ **Baltes: Expert Knowledge in Fundamental Pragmatics of Life**
- ◆ **Vedic: Direct Experience of Transcendental Pure Consciousness**
- ◆ **Lao-tzu: Intuition & Compassion**
- ◆ **Buddha: Personal/Right Conduct**
- ◆ **Confucius: Self-Knowledge & Development**
- ◆ **Theories of Wisdom Align with Culturally Ideal Selves**



Synthesis of Eastern & Western Visions of Wisdom & Enlightenment

“Wisdom answers the question of how to live; enlightenment answers the question of what to live for.”

- ◆ **West: Cognitive - Knowledge, Reason, & Procedural Skills**
- ◆ **East: Psychologically Holistic - Transformation Through Transcendence - Intuitive/Direct Understanding (Can be Anti-Reason/Representational)**
- ◆ **Degree of Cultural Variability (Within East & West) on Wisdom & Ideals (Personality Qualities)**
- ◆ **Complementarity Framework: Analytic/Procedural (Outer) & Synthetic/Transformational (Inner) (Takahashi & Overton)**
- ◆ **Reciprocal/Integrative Frameworks of Smyre (1st & 2nd Enlightenment & Integral Culture) & Lombardo (Either/Or - Both/And)**
- ◆ **Expansive Consciousness: Cosmic, Ecological, Global, Temporal (Past/Future/Present/Evolutionary), Bio-Technological**
- ◆ **Ethical Core**
- ◆ **Reflective Consciousness - Unique Personalization of Wisdom - Teachers & Role Models**

Wisdom, Consciousness, & the Future

Wisdom, Consciousness, and the Future

Collected Essays



Thomas Lombardo, Ph.D.

“Wisdom, Consciousness, and the Future is a profound, deeply important, and timely book that concerned people and change agents everywhere will want to read.”

**Copthorne Macdonald
The Wisdom Page**