

Luckily, we who are educated in modern universities, have a similar use of the term "tree" in our history textbooks. The 'family trees' of kings and dynasties are, without any exception, shown as branching down from their ancestral 'source.' Similarly, the Tree-of-Samsara has its roots UP in the Divine Consciousness. A tree holds itself up and gets nourished by its roots; similarly, the "experiences" of change, and the "experiencer" of them, are all established in the Infinite and draw their sustenance from It alone.

"Even then," many of our friends doubt, "why is the word 'UP' (*Urdhwa*) used?" It is used here in the same connotation as we use the term 'up' in our every-

day expressions, like 'HIGH-command': 'HIGHER-officials': 'TOP-men': 'UPPER-class': 'HIGH-class jewellery' etc. In all these cases, by the term HIGH or UP or TOP, no geometrical elevation is indicated, but it indicates a superiority, a greater nobility, or value. Psychologically, it is natural for man to concede, for the subtler and the diviner, a HIGHER place of reverence and to consider the grosser and the devilish as belonging to a LOWER status. The Perfect is the Highest Consciousness, illumined and vitalised by which alone can the body-mind-intellect equipment experience its world of "perception-emotion-thought." Naturally, therefore, the world-of-plurality is allegorically pictured here as the fig-tree --- arising from and sustained by the Higher Consciousness,