

## Cutting Through Illusions

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As it is apparent, Einstein fascinates our world more so today than he did when his first discoveries became known to the world of scientists. He fascinates our world not necessarily for his unusual intelligence, but more so for his attitude toward knowledge in general. Unsatisfied by the trendy Newtonianism of his time, Einstein was the rebel who went against the beaten path of conformity with the status quo. This is an undeniable fact.

Sometimes it is difficult to assess whether his discoveries are more important than his courage to think differently.

Undoubtedly, one must indeed possess intelligence and courage. Yet, it is the spirit of rebelliousness against conformity with the status quo that reserves remarkable surprises for the progress of humanity. The spirit of rebellious courage pushes humanity toward new horizons, and in Einstein's case, one can easily claim that his courage inspired the driving forces that changed and continue to change our world. The current society of information is a revelation in progress which in many ways continues to defy human logic. Nevertheless, with its yet-to-be-explored impact upon the human being, the society of information not only stimulates human imagination and creativity. Ironically, it opens the doors toward a new world of spiritual awakening and consciousness, where empirical science becomes a most trusted ally of religion. Candace Pert's research on neuropeptides, and Masaru Emoto's

ability to demonstrate the imprint of human consciousness upon water crystals are clear indicators.

Out of this laboratory of the mind, the future of knowledge remains as fascinating as unpredictable.

This international series of conferences organized by the Scientific Press together with the Institute for Peace Studies in Eastern Christianity is a match that promises to go beyond the simple conversation between the spiritual world and the world of empirical science. It promises to stimulate a challenge for cross-fertilization between the world of information and the world of consciousness, where spirit and matter—once polarized by the Cartesian dualism of Western Civilization—no longer afford to portray each other as a deceiving suspect. In fact, as it is evident, the world of spirit and the world of matter begin to recognize each other as a common denominator in seeking to understand the Great Unknown. They do so fully aware that humanity can prosper only if the human beings are no longer separated by national borders, languages, stereotypes and self imposed illusions.

But, the world of information not only accelerates the development of science and technology. It also makes possible, at a very large scale, the development of artistic imagination through sound and image. The ability to delve deeply into the atom (ironically a+tomos, or the “indivisible” particle of matter that the Greek philosophers thought to exist), or the ability blast into space and gaze at the universe in search for inhabitable places, are nothing more than launching pads towards the future of knowledge.

Therefore, I congratulate the organizers for their initiative and wish success to all those involved in sharing their research.