

Sacred Cannabis By Soma

I thank the angels for the plant kingdom: plants are holy life forms.

When I partake of the cannabis plant, it brings me to my heart, my heart chakra, the place where compassion lies.

These days, I speak as a grandfather. This is amazing in and of itself, as I still feel much like a boy of fourteen. I am immature; in fact, it seems our whole culture is immature, but the sacred cannabis plant can help take the human soul beyond puberty.

Learning to grow and care for healthy cannabis plants is quite a nurturing experience. The act of planting a seed is an ancient human role, one that has allowed civilizations to develop. Through cultivation of plants, man cultivates himself and his society. Being a cannabis seed breeder, I am constantly searching for better combinations of medicinal genetics to help take users to the place of comfort and relaxation that they desire. How is that done, you might ask. I look for strains of cannabis that make people smile, that makes them go into a state of deep non-seriousness. I also seek out herb that helps people feel kind and caring. When tending this beautiful plant with all its verdant shades, I realize just what a healing color green is. It is the color of Mother Nature herself, the color of life unfolding.

Upon entering a cannabis grow room, one immediately notices the high quality of oxygen emanating from the plants. A sharing happens with no words, you give the plants your carbon dioxide and the plants give you their oxygen. Such a silent, loving, balanced exchange, helping to make creation unfold, in exact opposition to the energy of destruction. Gardening

cannabis can become a fine tool for transforming a destructive mindset into a creative one. Also, it has taught me to grow hundreds of other types of helpful plants.

In the 41 years that I have been friendly with weed, I have gone through different stages. At first I used it recreationally; then without realizing it, I began to find the spiritual side of myself, which for me is my most loving part. I was always using it to relieve stress, but these days, cannabis is my medicine. On March 1st 2005 I had open-heart surgery, with all the usual medications—blood thinners, diuretics, beta-blockers, painkillers—six different ones altogether, but since July 2005 cannabis has been my sole medicine. It has also been my soul medicine. Using cannabis has definitely brought me closer to God, helping me understand more clearly the Divine energy that surrounds all of us, endlessly.

I have long dreadlocks; this set, at 22 years old, is the second set of dreads that I have grown. When I grew the first set I didn't really understand their true meaning. People would call me "Rasta," but I didn't know what "Rasta" meant. The word Rastafarian means one who must have Freedom of Spirit, Freedom from Slavery, and Freedom of Africa. The movement was actively started by Marcus Garvey in Jamaica during the 1930's. When Ras Tafari was crowned emperor Haile Selassie I of Ethiopia he was looked on as a leader of the lifestyle. Diet plays an important role, eating what is called I-Tal—clean vegetarian food. Rasta's signify peace, pride, and righteousness. To me, it means to let the Light of Love guide you. At the time I started with my first set of dreads, I did it to be cool. It was only with my second (and present) set that I realized their true meaning. Prayer.

What is prayer? To me it is an immense Love for all of existence, bar none. I see all of us here on this giant ball of mud

as Angels. Angels with amnesia. We can't seem to remember that we are spiritual beings in a material body, experiencing the magical, mysterious school of duality that is our Mother Earth. We are all learning to temper and direct our free will with spiritual clarity, and in this world of infinite options, we get quite the test.

I am an ordained minister of The Church of The Universe. Cannabis is the holy sacrament used by the church and its members. Just as the Catholic Church issues out wine and communion wafers to their members to connect them that much more to the Divine, people like me use cannabis to connect with the Divine in the same way.

In my universe, cannabis is a holy substance that can enable the user to tap into their higher self. Cannabis has taught me to share. Anyone watching small children at play can see how hard it is for us humans to share. In an adult situation I have often noticed that food is difficult to share, but I have seen the sacred cannabis plant work differently. Instead of smoking alone, most cannabis enthusiasts prefer to share it with a friend. A heart chakra opener, it makes being friendly easier, which is helpful in all social situations, and to society at large.

This sacrament is a great help in dysfunctional relationships. The sharing of the smoke has a definite unifying vibration. Feeling more relaxed and at peace, people can start interacting in a more loving and understanding way with each other. Cannabis also has a way of bringing human creativity to the surface of one's being so that it can be harnessed, and then shared with others. Actors, writers, directors, artists, and musicians all benefit from the teacher plant.

All over the world cannabis has been associated with spirituality: the Sadhus in India smoking their chillums, the Rasta's in Jamaica with their long dreads, looking quite similar

to the Sadhus. These days dreads are seen everywhere, from Madison Avenue to Japan. Why? The Light is growing exponentially. The dark energy that has tried to control us for so long is losing its grip. And of course it's not in the hair, it is in the heart; it just has a tendency to express itself atop one's head.

The pants and shirts that I wear are made out of cannabis; I also have bags and paper made from it. Hemp was responsible for all the sails that made all of the old explorers and everyone else able to sail the seven seas; without it, history would look quite different. The sealant used to seal the wood in all of the old wooden ships was called oakum, made completely from the cannabis plant. Can you imagine what we would have done without its use? Hemp has over 50,000 helpful and earth-friendly uses. I tend to surround myself with this holy plant as much as possible. Cannabis is most useful and healing. When the plants are grown organically, you can make the healthiest of oils from pressing the seeds. This will give you all of your omega acids. In China they have used hemp seed oil to prevent colon cancer for thousands of years.

Living in the beautiful city of Amsterdam, I think of myself as an Herban Shaman, a city dweller using the sacred teacher plants, God-given tools helping us to find the still-small voice of God within ourselves.

These days, I believe we are in a great shift: We as a human family are going to ascend back to our higher consciousness. Banking systems will change back to a precious-metals-backed currency. Corporations will learn to chart Earth-friendly courses. Governments will become ruled by honesty, integrity and compassion. In other words, the Light will once again reign supreme, and the dark energies ruling our world will be placed into the dustbin of history.

As we approach this magic time of the Light of

Love, overcoming darkness and ignorance,
marijuana, pot, herb, ganja, weed, mary jane, hemp
or whatever else it may be called is not just for
healing ourselves. It is for the healing of the nations,
all the nations. Keep it GREEN.....Soma