



# Meru Foundation eTORUS Newsletter

Number 54 – June 2011

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## From The Editor



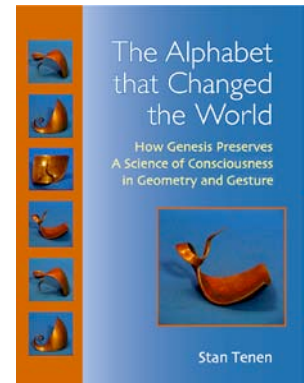
June 2011

East Coast: Levanah and Stan Tenen  
West Coast: Bill Haber

### ***The Alphabet That Changed the World Ready for Release***

Copies of *The Alphabet That Changed the World* are now in stock at Random House's warehouses, and are being shipped to bookstores for release on July 5, 2011 (though some stores may stock it a bit earlier or later). To order our book from amazon.com and benefit Meru Foundation at the same time, please visit **[www.alphabet-that-changed-the-world.com](http://www.alphabet-that-changed-the-world.com)** (or [www.tatctw.com](http://www.tatctw.com) for short) and follow the links from that page to amazon, and Meru will receive a small percentage of your purchase price at no extra cost to you. (Hints for making sure your order is properly credited to Meru are at the bottom of [www.tatctw.com](http://www.tatctw.com).)

Do you know a local bookstore that should be carrying *The Alphabet That Changed the World*? Or a local community bulletin board? We've created two one-page flyers for our book, one for bookstores (with trade ordering information—download from [here](#)), and one for retail customers (which directs people to Meru's amazon.com portal—download from [here](#)). Please share these flyers freely, and post links to [www.tatctw.com](http://www.tatctw.com) on your facebook accounts and twitter feeds. Thank you all for your help!



### **Bonus for ordering TATCTW through Meru's Amazon.com portal**

For those of you who don't have a set of our five lecture DVDs, or who would like to send them as a gift to a friend: if you order *The Alphabet That Changed the World* through Meru's amazon.com portal, Meru Foundation will give you a discount on our 5-DVD lecture set. Normally priced at \$119.95, we will discount the set to \$99.95 (prices do not include shipping). Email us a copy of your order confirmation from Amazon, and place your DVD order through **[www.meetingtent.com](http://www.meetingtent.com)**, and we will give you the discounted price.

I want to thank everyone who responded to our appeal for contributions in our last eTORUS—we greatly appreciate the value you place on our work. If you intended to contribute but have not yet done so, please take a moment to send your support. You can make a donation via PayPal **[here](#)**, and with a credit card **[here](#)**.

—Levanah Tenen, ed.

### **Essay by Stan Tenen: Excerpt from Chapter 2 of *The Alphabet that Changed the World***

This issue's essay by Stan Tenen, "Abraham, Monotheism, and the Alphabet," is excerpted from "Overview of the Meru Hypothesis," Chapter 2 of *The Alphabet That Changed the World*. The essay begins on the following page.



## *Abraham, Monotheism, and the Alphabet*

Excerpt from *The Alphabet That Changed the World*

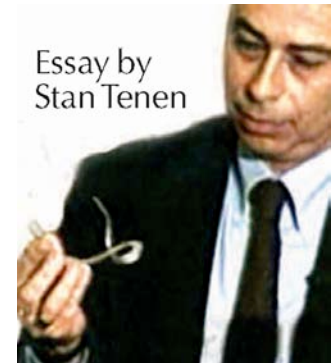
If we are right that the ancients were in their own way aware of the topological / geometrical principles of creation (i.e., in modern terms, “It from Bit”—information as the source of physics), it is possible to imagine how the emergence of monotheism was actually the consequence of growing knowledge that the universe and all of being were in fact organized around a single system that could be investigated and construed rationally. The story of Abraham’s encounter with God can then be understood as his vision—his rational vision—of the unity of creation on what were really mathematical principles.

When Abraham separated himself from his father’s interest in effigies of wood and metal and stone to focus on his idealization of the one principle underlying everything, what was going on, and what was at stake?

We propose something like this. The ancient world is often erroneously thought to have been devoid of what we know today as science and mathematics. To the contrary, the ancients, and most particularly the Babylonians (and the Indians, the Chinese, and the Egyptians as well) were developing the rudiments of the very sciences and mathematics on the basis of which Greek and later European exact science was to thrive. Their knowledge of the basic facts of astronomy—the periods of solar, lunar, planetary, and other astral cycles—already aimed at exactitude and must have derived from untold millennia of careful and critical observation of celestial motions. Similarly the rudiments of mathematics: basic arithmetic was very familiar, and many propositions of geometry which Euclid was later to bring under axiomatic rule were known very, very early. They applied these observational sciences to the greatest mystery of all: the life-cycles of vegetation, animals, and humans, the anatomy of the human body, and the mysteries of the mind—i.e., life itself.

Knowledge, however, was part of nature, and by imposing order on what otherwise would be chaos, when knowledge was acquired, the reality to which it was believed to apply naturally belonged to the gods. A polytheistic system of existence—a multiplicity of gods—meant that knowledge itself was heterogeneous. Men gathered their observations and reasonings into crafts and techniques but for the most part never thought to arrange them into a single order—to think of existence as governed by a unified set of laws.

One exception would have been astronomy/astrology, for the apparent powers that were understood as gods were also taken to be the celestial bodies. As mathematical exactness was sought for the complex periods of planets, stars, and the cycles of life, something like a unified system of existence must have been in the offing. (See Figure 2.35 below for some examples.)



### Planetary *Basket-Weaving*

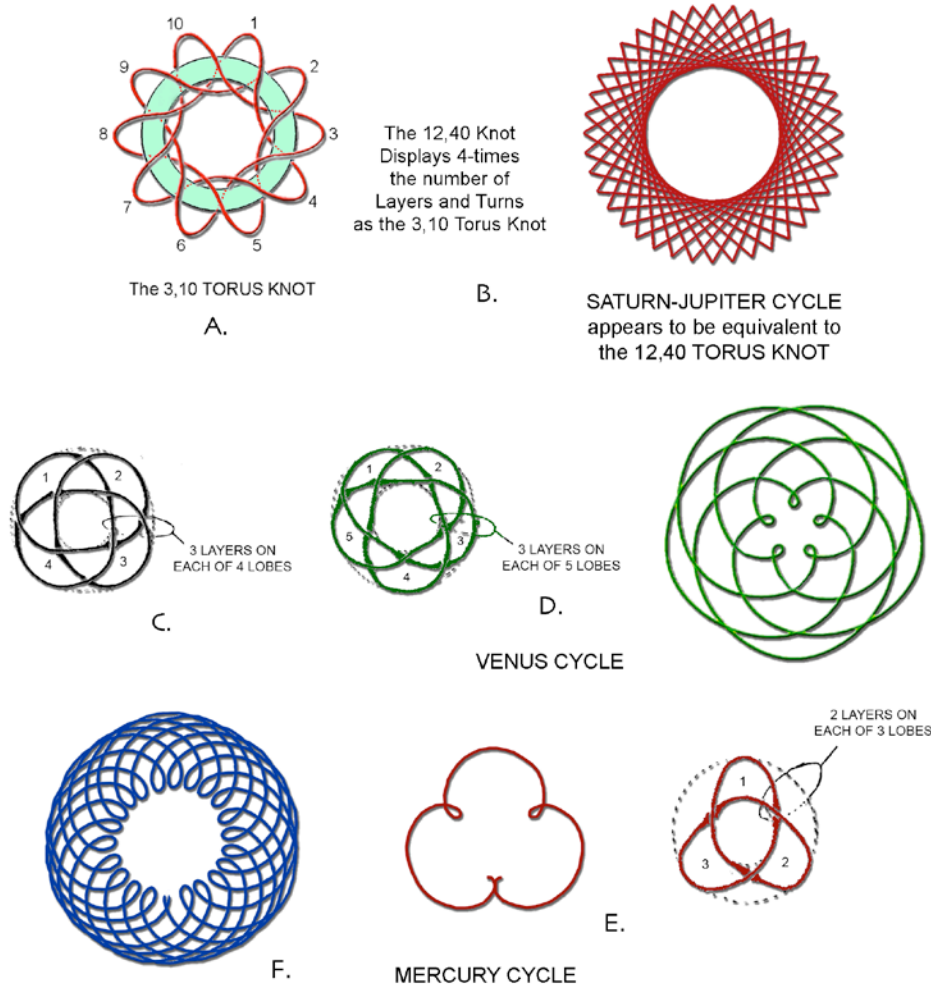


Figure 2.35 Astronomical Cycles and Torus Knots<sup>1</sup>

- A. The 3,10 torus knot. The “string” on this knot loops around the toroidal frame (as shown) three times, and winds through the center hole ten times.
- B. The Saturn-Jupiter conjunction cycle (as depicted by Johannes Kepler). This appears equivalent to the 12,40 torus knot, which loops around its toroidal frame (not depicted here) twelve times, and through its center hole forty times.
- C. The 3,4 torus knot, looping around the toroidal frame (not shown) three times, and through the center hole four times.
- D. The Venus cycle, equivalent to the 3,5 torus knot.
- E. The annual path of Mercury around the earth, equivalent to the 2,3 torus knot.
- F. The path of Mercury around the earth, diagrammed geocentrically, is similar to the 7,22 torus knot.



Today we think of science and mathematics as epitomizing such knowledge and its universal content. Mathematics belongs exclusively to no nation, no race, no tradition. Though traditions and nations pride themselves or fail to pride themselves on the work of their mathematicians and variously support and reward research, the results of that work belong in a sense to existence itself. To discover a theorem is to unveil a feature of What Is that is the possession of no one or everyone, and the capacity to understand and apply it has therefore the potential of being the basis for the true unity of all peoples. Mathematical abstraction, not religious chauvinism, is the basis of the claim of universality.

The evidence that the Meru Foundation finds for a mathematical intention underlying the letter-text of the Torah speaks to this proposition that what is being expressed in this text are the principles for a vast ecumenical project, nothing less than the ultimate unity of the human race, its harmony and even identity with the spiritual reality that is its source, the harmony and identity of material creation and the intellectual order that subtends it, and the harmony and identity of knowledge and faith.

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<sup>1</sup>See the essay *The Mill of Time* by Terry Alden (1991), available from Mr. Alden at <http://www.technosophy.com/milltime.htm>, Keith Critchlow's *Time Stands Still*, (New York, NY: St. Martin's Press, 1982), and Giorgio de Santillana & Hertha von Dechen, *Hamlet's Mill* (Jaffrey, NH: David R Godine, 1992). De Santillana/von Dechen and Alden suggest that the Jupiter-Saturn cycle acted as a "vernier" to exactly set the dates of important astronomical, astrological, and calendrical cycles.



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### Meru DVDs and Books at [www.meetingtent.com](http://www.meetingtent.com)

I want to remind readers that our full set of five Meru lectures on DVD, recorded over a critical ten-year period of this work, presents a rich overview of our project and how it has developed, and makes an excellent gift for those interested in this work. If you prefer both video and printed material, we offer a special package that includes both our five-DVD lecture set, and *The Alphabet in Genesis*, the three-volume written compendium of Meru essays and graphics, for \$199.95.

Meru Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and contributions are tax-deductible in the US (in the manner specified by IRS regulations). All contributions, small and large, are important to us. Meru Foundation is supported by individuals, not institutions – and your orders and contributions are what enable our work to continue. Thank you very much for your support.

—Levanah Tenen, ed.

***For a description and to order our 5-DVD lecture video set, [click here.](#)***

***Click here for a description of our [Alphabet in Genesis books.](#)***

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Thank you for reading this issue of the Meru Foundation eTORUS Newsletter.  
Past issues are available online at [www.meru.org/Newsletter/journalindex.html](http://www.meru.org/Newsletter/journalindex.html).

Meru Foundation has several different websites, each with a different focus and material:

[www.meru.org](http://www.meru.org) Meru's original website was created in 1996, and has a large selection of essays and posters on many different aspects of this work. Our recommended reading list is at [www.meru.org/readlist.html](http://www.meru.org/readlist.html); past eTORUS Newsletters are archived at [www.meru.org/Newsletter/journalindex.html](http://www.meru.org/Newsletter/journalindex.html). This is a site for leisurely exploration; the home page also includes a PayPal button for contributions.

[www.meetingtent.com](http://www.meetingtent.com) Meru's secure-server website for ordering our lecture DVD's, books, and other materials, and for making contributions via credit card. This site also includes a Meru FAQ, sample videos, and contact information for the media.

[www.merueline.info/common/MerulIntroPacket.a.20oct08.pdf](http://www.merueline.info/common/MerulIntroPacket.a.20oct08.pdf) A basic introductory packet on Meru Foundation and its research, suitable for printing. Includes a research summary, endorsements, a sample eTORUS, and bio information.

[www.alphabet-that-changed-the-world.com](http://www.alphabet-that-changed-the-world.com) Site dedicated to Stan Tenen's book, *The Alphabet That Changed the World*, where reviews and supplementary materials will be posted. Also a portal to amazon.com.

[www.meruwest.org](http://www.meruwest.org) Bill Haber's web portal for Meru video clips and other media posts. You can also view and post comments on all of our video clips on Bill Haber's YouTube site, [www.youtube.com/user/filmguy2121](http://www.youtube.com/user/filmguy2121).

[www.meruwest.blogspot.com](http://www.meruwest.blogspot.com) Meru Foundation blog, also run by Bill Haber.

[Meru Foundation's Facebook Page – click here](#)

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POINT  
OR BIT, BEING  
SO SMALL, MARKS  
INFINITE CONTRAST WITH THE ALL.

