

A FUSION OF HORIZONS

THE WINDS DOTH BLOW	Winds from the East: Conservatism, preserve and protect, keep it pure. Don't dilute Dharma. Don't throw out the baby with bath water. Give 'em an inch and they want a mile.			
	Winds from the West: Adapt to the times and the truth. Reach people where they are. Drop the cultural baggage. Relevance is the new real. Cut the myths. Dogma is a dead dog. A pragmatic agnostic therapeutic Dharma.			
SAPLINGS OF DHARMA TREES TRANSPLANTED IN THE WEST	Theravāda Buddhism	East Asian Mahayana Buddhism: Zen, Pure Land, Chinese	Tibetan Buddhism	TRANSPLANTED CUTTING Vipassana-Mindfulness Movement
ROOTS OF THE DHARMA TRANSMISSION	Sri Lanka, Burma, Thailand, etc. (start 3 rd cty BCE)	Central Asia → China, Korea, Japan, Vietnam (1 st cty CE; 4-8 th cty)	Tibet (8 th - 9 th - 11 th cty)	India/Burma/Thailand → US-Europe by Westerners (20 th cty)
SEEDS OF THE DHARMA	<p>↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑</p> <p>Gotama Buddha 5th cty BCE til demise of Indian Buddhism (12th cty) Suttas-Vinaya-Abhidharma-Abhidharma Commentaries- Mahayana Sutras-Mahayana Treatises & Commentaries- Tantras & Tantric Commentaries</p>			

THE NEW SOIL IN WHICH THE TREES ARE PLANTED (READING FROM THE BOTTOM UPWARD)	
Postmodern Consciousness	Primacy of the subject; multi-perspectivism (each to their own truth); the re-enchantment of the cosmos; ecological consciousness (humans < biosphere < planet < cosmos); resurgence of feminine; new life affirmation; tolerance & inclusiveness. Interfaith encounters. Science: string theory, multiverse theory, etc. Technology: lateral communication (internet). Humanistic psychology, freedom of the subject. Judeo-Christian transformations. Beats, hippies, pot & LSD. The turn to the East.
The Transition to Postmodern Consciousness	Re-emergence of the subject: literature—stream of consciousness novel (Proust, James Joyce, Henry James); poetry—symbolism, imagism, free association; art—impressionism, cubism, Dada, surrealism, expressionism. Philosophy: phenomenology, existentialism. Science: relativity, quantum theory, indeterminacy. Rise of psychology; discovery of unconscious Freud, Jung, etc. The descent into madness. Turn toward the therapeutic.
Modern Consciousness at its Zenith	Ascent of science (18 th -19 th cty); Industrial Revolution— Experimental method; triumph of machine; materialistic reductionism; primacy of the objective, decline of the subject; disenchantment of the cosmos; mechanistic models of world and mind; determinism and evolution. The Romantic Revolt; humanism; a new Christianity: the Social Gospel
The Rise of Modern Consciousness:	Enlightenment (18 th cty): Turn against theism – Primacy of Reason; critical thought; rejection of external authority; the authority of personal experience; rejection of institutional dominance → freedom and equality, human fraternity; turn toward democracy
Traditional Consciousness	Judeo-Christian heritage: Theism – Primacy of faith & self-surrender; consciousness of sin; punitive morality; quest for righteousness; morality of justice; morality of love; ideal of Kingdom of God on earth; historical perspective; social transformation and idea of progress.