

BUILDING OF THE  
COSMOS  
AND OTHER LECTURES

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ANNIE BESANT



**BUILDING OF THE  
COSMOS  
AND OTHER LECTURES**

**BY  
ANNIE BESANT**

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Symbolism













































































































































































signification, you have no right to simply scoff at idolatry, which is empty to you only because you are empty.

So again you may take the *Puranas*, full of symbolism of the most complicated and difficult kind. If you want to understand how that symbolism may be explained, turn to a single question that you find dealt with in Madame Blavatsky's *Secret Doctrine*; and in the method of unravelling of one myth, you may possibly gain the key which may enable you to unlock for yourself many another mystery. I am only taking one out of a very large number of instances which she takes from the Pauranic stories, explaining their different meanings. The one that I select and to which I wish to draw your attention, and which I will not work out in detail, for you can read it for yourself, is that of the Maruts<sup>16</sup> - the Gods of the wind and the children of Rudra, the Roarer, signifying the tones and the fore of the wind manifested in phenomenal shape. First of all that represents a fact in Nature. It represents the fact that behind every force in Nature there is an intelligence, that every natural phenomenon has an entity connected with it, so that in the plainest sense and the most obvious signification, these Maruts are entities that deal with certain forms of manifestation in the phenomenal universe; and if you understand them, their language and their powers, then the phenomena they control become subject to your knowledge. To no evolved spirit will the Maruts be objects of worship; they will be powers that he controls by his own will; no Rishi would worship the Maruts, he would command them; but that does not alter the fact that they are real entities, that they have their real place in the Kosmos, that they are among the Devas, who are the spirit-side of every physical phenomenon that you see; and if you lose that fundamental truth of Occultism, and if in studying the physical phenomena you see the phenomena only and not the Spirit that controls, then you are simply blinding yourselves to the real lessons of Nature, and Matter has achieved over Spirit its last triumph, for not only does it conceal Spirit from physical vision, but also it conceals it from the Spirit that is in man. The Maruts then in their lowest signification are entities - entities connected with the atmospheric world, immediately connected with the production of winds and under subjection to the trained and purified will in man. Then there is another signification, in which you find them no

<sup>16</sup> *Secret Doctrine*, ii. 631, etc., n.e. 648, etc.









