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Special Public Monograph

# Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis Misraim

by **Frater Bogomilius 33°, 90°, 97°, IX°, XIII° (\*)**

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Rite of Memphis and Misraim (APRMM) of Freemasonry in Bulgaria)

<http://sites.google.com/site/memphismizraimbg/>

*“A Mason is not necessarily a member of a Lodge.  
In a broad sense, he is any person who daily tries  
to live the Masonic life and to serve  
intelligently the needs of the Great Architect.”*

## Abstract

**T**HIS Public Monograph of Illuminates Of Kemet (IOK) written for Svmmvm Bonvm University (<http://svmmvmbonvm.org/usb.htm>) is an overview on the Ancient and Primitive Egyptian Rite of Memphis and Misraim. The Oriental Masonic Order of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis and Misraim or Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis and Misraim, is a dual Masonic - Illuministic system that contains in itself various forms of the western initiatic tradition. It starts from the esoteric systems of the ancient Egyptian Hierophants.

### 1. On the Denomination of The Rite:

**A**NCIENT: One finds the origins of our Rite in the Rite of Mizraim [Venice, 1788] and the Rite of Memphis (Montauban, 1815). In 1881 these two Rites were united.

**PRIMITIVE:** The actual Rite of Memphis-Mizraim stems from the first filiation, coming from the Primitive Rite of Paris in 1721, which was followed, in 1779, by the Primitive Rite of Philadelphs at Narbonne.

**RITE:** The Rules and Ceremonies practised in our Tradition.  
The Rite is an Initiatic Way in itself.

**MEMPHIS:** Is a capitol city of ancient Egypt, situated at the point of the Delta of the Nile. It was here that the Rite was created by Initiates in contact with this ancient civilisation.

**MIZRAIM:** This word is the plural of Egyptian and first appeared in a group of Sociniens in Venice. The Patent and Constitution was given by Cagliostro.

**SOVEREIGN SANCTUARY:** Specified by the Rite of Memphis-Mizraim, is the government of the Rite, of the Order, and the Obedience.

## 2. History of the Rite

**M**ORE THAN 200 years old, this Rite still engenders lively interest and enjoys important developments on an international level. Faithful to its founding principles, it affirms itself as a Rite that is traditional, symbolic and spiritualistic, and associated with the principles of tolerance and liberty.

Upon entering into the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis Misraïm, one places a foot on the path of tradition, with respect for human values and tolerance. This Rite is characterized by an initiatic quest founded on:

- \*A spiritualistic and deist orientation;
- \* A vocation to transmit the philosophical reflection on symbols of Ancient Egypt and the different esoteric currents Hermetic, Gnostic, Kabbalistic, Templar and Rose+Croix);
- \* An open search for a better understanding of oneself.

Such is the spirit of traditional Freemasonry for which, in every act, there is both the visible and the invisible, the positive and the negative, already bearing the seeds of the future.

The Oriental Masonic Order of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis and Misraim or Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis and Misraim, is a dual Masonic - Illuministic system that contains in itself various forms of the western initiatic tradition. It starts from the esoteric systems of the ancient Egyptian Hierophants.

Our Worshipful Rite, because of its reference to Misraim (deriving from the

word 'Mizr' that signifies 'Egypt' in Hebrew) is also known as Egyptian Rite. Cagliostro's Egyptian Masonry related to the A.P.R.M.M. by its study of mystical and theurgical practices.

The two United Rites of Memphis and Misraim, form in their union an authentic Order and not a simple Rite. The Order was conceived with the purpose of collating in a single organisation, all the wisdom, knowledge of initiates scattered in the numerous Ritual Bodies of higher Masonry and in the Illuministic and Chivalric Orders. The A.P.R.M.M. is of Chivalric and Illuministic character, deeply rosicrucian and hermetic, with particular cabalistic functions, that does not in its higher degrees have correspondences with the other degrees practised in Ritual Masonry.

The creator of the Egyptian Freemasonry of Egyptian Rite was the Count Alexander of Cagliostro (1749-1796). Alexander of Cagliostro was initiated to the secrets of the Egyptian Freemasonry by the mysterious Master Altothas in 1776, year of the foundation of the Illuminati Order. The summit of the Illuminati Order was constituted by six members: four were known (Weishaupt, von Knigge, Goethe, Herder) and two were secrets (Franklin and Cagliostro).



**“Count Alessandro di Cagliostro” (Frater Velado 2004 CE)**

<http://macarlo.com/novaera/galleryvel614a.htm>

In effects a secret connection existed between the Illuminati Order of Weishaupt and the Egyptian Freemasonry of Cagliostro that was officially founded in 1785, year of the suppression of the Illuminati Order. Besides,

Napoleone Bonaparte was initiated by Cagliostro to the Egyptian Freemasonry and the Masonic Rites of Memphis, of Misraïm and of Memphis-Misraïm come down from it. Gad Bedarride was received into the Rite of Misraim by the Sage Patriarch Ananiah, Grand Egyptian Conservator, who has been identified by the author Gaston Ventura.

It is said that at this time that Cagliostro was in England, elaborating his famous "Egyptian Rite" which he officially founded in 1782. According to his own account, this rite was derived from a manuscript by a certain George Cofton - whose identity has never been discovered - which he bought by chance in London. John Yarker, however, is of the opinion that "the Rite of Cagliostro was clearly that of Pasqually," and that if he acquired it from a manuscript in London it would indicate that Pasqually had disciples in that city. A far more probable explanation is that Cagliostro derived his Egyptian Masonry from the same source as that on which Pasqually had drawn for his Order of Elected Priests, namely, the Kabbalah, and that it was not from a single manuscript but from an eminent Jewish Kabbalist in London that he took his instructions....

It is said that at this time Cagliostro created the Mother Lodge of the Egyptian Rite at Lyons. Cagliostro, it is said, had established the system of Egyptian Freemasonry which consisted of both male and female Lodges, the latter being headed by his wife, Serafina. The fruits of Cagliostro's researches into the occult societies of Europe were a body of knowledge known as the Arcana Arcanorum, or A.: A.: He took this term from the original Rosicrucians of the 17th Century, but his corpus consisted of descriptions of magical practices that stressed "Internal Alchemy," so it goes. Cagliostro had learned these Tantrik techniques from German Rosicrucian lodges.

A few years [after 1776] the celebrated Count Cagliostro founded at Strasburg his Egyptian Masonry. [His first Lodge was founded at Lyons, under the name of "Triumphant Wisdom"; but he afterwards extended his scheme, and opened at Paris an androgyne Lodge, which he termed the "Mother Lodge of Egyptian Adoptive Masonry". He afterwards went to Courland, and was so fortunate as to number among his dupes the Countess de Meden, who

recommended him to the notice of the Empress Catherine. He was, however, finally exposed and denounced.]

In 1782 a new and attractive Order sprang up, consisting of 90° degrees, which was called the Order of Mizraim, or Le Rite Orientale. It made its appearance in Italy, and was said to have been brought from Egypt by a learned Egyptian, of the name of Ananiah. [Barruel places the introduction of Egyptian Masonry a little earlier. He says, 'A Jutlant merchant, who had lived some time in Egypt, began, in the year 1771, to overrun Europe, pretending to initiate adepts in the ancient mysteries of Memphis. He stopped some time at Malta, where the only mysteries which he taught were the tenets of Manes; and these he sedulously infused into the minds of the people. These principles began to expand, and the island was already threatened with revolutionary confusion, when the Knights very wisely obliged our modern Illuminee to seek his safety in flight. The famous Count Cagliostro is said to have been a disciple of his, as well as some other adepts in the county of Avignon and Lyons.

The Rite began around 1805 amongst Napoleon's soldiers in Egypt who were Freemasons. It was based primarily on the degree work of the Philadelphes of Narbonne as well as several other masonic Rites that were operating in France during this period. The Rite was then introduced to France from Egypt by Samuel Honis in 1815 and also spread to Italy.

It was soon transplanted into France, and flourishes there at 1850s; although it was subsequently shown to have been invented and brought to maturity by two Jewish Masons, called Bedarride [In one of the degrees, detached portions are introduced of the lecture of the Royal Order of Bruce; and therefore it is utterly impossible that this system could have been imported from Egypt, where the above Order was unknown. Before the French revolution, there were some Chapters of it in France. During the ensuing anarchy, some copies of several of the lectures had found their way into improper hands; and it is probable that the Bedarrides had obtained possession of them; although they had never been initiated into the degree; and thus the fragments of these lectures became incorporated into their new

system of Misraic Masonry.], and doubts are entertained whether it be so old as the commencement of the present century. [Thory says it was not known in France till 1814, although he acknowledges that it was previously practised in Italy.]

Between 1810 and 1813, in Naples (Italy), the three brothers Bédarride (Michel, Marc and Joseph) received the Supreme Powers from the Order of Misraïm and developed the Rite of Misraïm in France. They made it official in Paris in 1814. The Rite was composed of 90 degrees, taken from the Scottish freemasonry, from Martinism and other Masonic currents, and the last four degrees received the name of "Arcana Arcanorum."

In 1815, in Montauban (France), the Mother Lodge of the Rite of Memphis was constituted with the Grand Master Samuel Honis as head, whom followed, in 1816, Gabriel-Mathieu Marconis. In 1838, Jacques Etienne Marconis de Nègre, son of this last one, took over the Rite of Memphis. The Rite, for J. E. Marconis de Nègre, was a continuation of the ancient Mysteries practised in the Antiquity, in India and in Egypt. The Constitutions of the Rite said: "... the masonic rite of Memphis is the continuation of the Mysteries of the Antiquity. The Rite taught the first men to pay homage to the divinity... ". The Rite of Memphis reached the 92° and 95° degrees.

The Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis and Misraim is inarguably the most Hermetic Masonic Order in the International Masonic scene. It is the fusion of the esoteric process of the Egyptian Rite or Rite of Misraim that came from Venice at 1801 and the Eastern Rite or Rite of Memphis that was founded at 1839 in Paris. The Rite of Misraim came from Venice at 1801 due to the efforts of Filalete Abraham and immediately spread into Italy and France, Italy and France. The Eastern Rite of Memphis was founded at 1839 in Paris from Etienne Marconis and it was based on a nomenclature that worked through the degrees of Misraim from start, including the Initiations and Rites of the Eastern Rite.

The information about these two Rites are a bit fractioned due to the historical inflexions that both Rites underlay, mostly the Rite of Misraim that

in the course of time came across with the political power and authority of other Masonic forces which having lost the true spirit of the Ancient Initiation, rendered elite clubs that could hardly accept the occurrence of an orthodox elite. These forces always tried to absorb the orthodox elite Rites in any way they could, obviously, so that they could restore their lost for ages traditional genuineness. Especially in Italy, the fights that were conducted in the 19th century from the Austrian Government in the Lombardy - Venice and other Governments of different states of the peninsula were very poisonous. During the 20th century, a lot of mud-slinging was spilled from the fascistic established order of Italy.

Nevertheless, the most important documents were saved and spread till our days. Such documents allow us to guarantee that the Rite of Misraim was active at Zakynthos Island at 1782 and at Venice at 1796. In Venice the Rite was put to sleep after the capture of Enetic Democracy from Austria and awakened from Filalete Abraham, which was the name of Byron Tassoni di Modena, on 1801.

Up to 1881, the Rites of Memphis and Mizraim went the same parallel and harmonious way in the same very particular climate; indeed these Rites began to gather together in two appurtenances the Masons of the Grand-Orient of France and those of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite who were interested in studies bearing on Esotericism and Symbolic Masonry, Gnosticism, Kabala, even Occultism and Hermeticism. These two Rites were the inheritors and the Trustees of old initiatic Obediences of the XVIIIth Century: the Philalethes, Philadelphs, the Hermetic Rite, the Primitive Rite, etc. And all this represented to Mizraim: 90° various degrees, and to Memphis, 95°.

The problem was how to administer and utilise such an incongruous collection. When Garibaldi was appointed first Grand Master-General for life, (Ad Vitam) for the entire world (because to a foreigner, the brothers abroad had not known political persecutions as they had in France) the decision was to set up a kind of classification by no means hierarchic in origin, but which rapidly became so. Indeed the 95° degrees of the Rite of Memphis-Mizraim

“Joseph Garibaldi” (Frater Velado 2004CE)

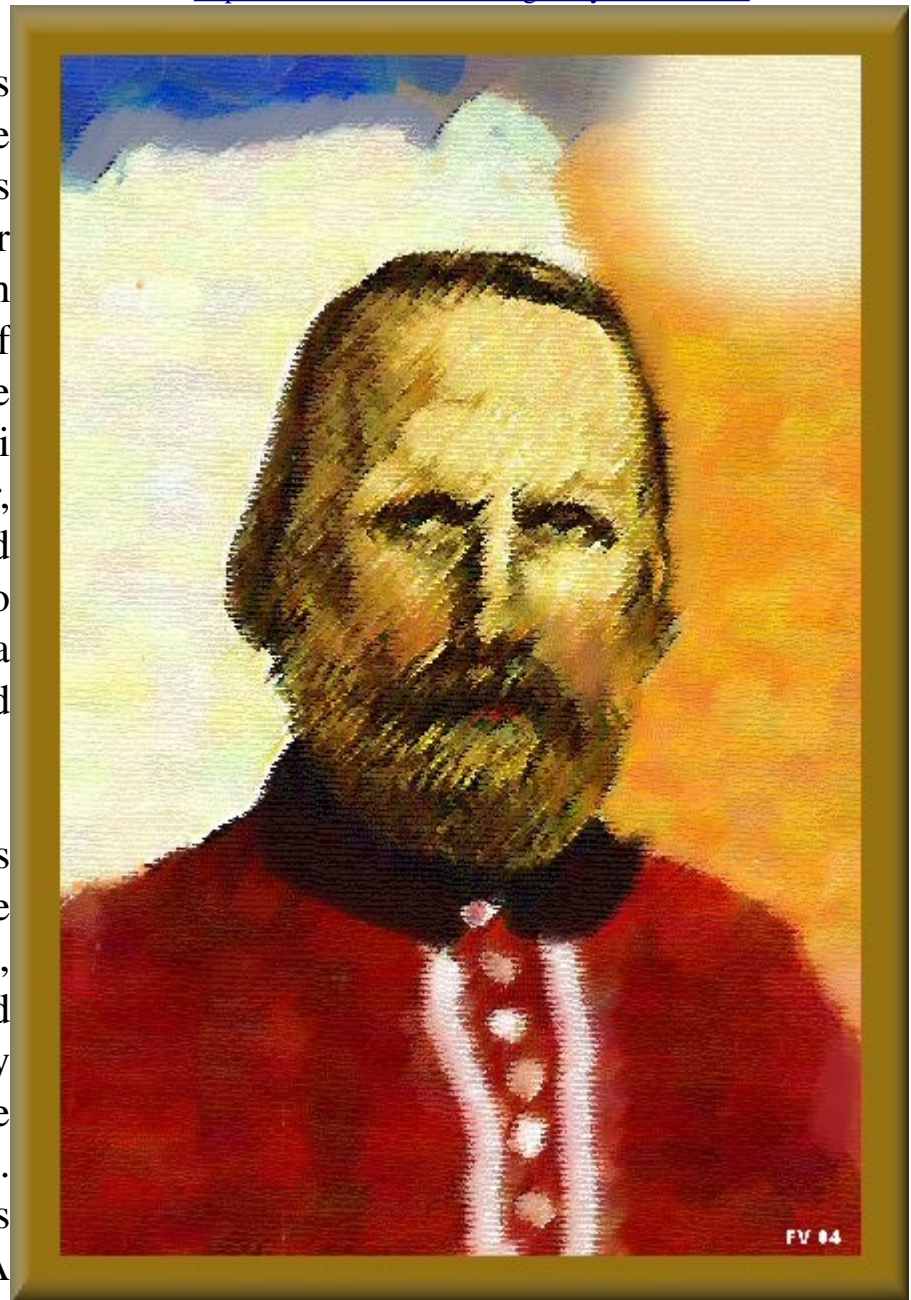
<http://macarlo.com/novaera/galleryvel655a.htm>

must be considered as a pathway, wherein lie old Masonic degree's which were no longer practised and which were not a scale of values either. Giuseppe (Joseph) Garibaldi revitalised the Order, gathered both rites and expanded them to South America through italian and french immigration.

In 1856 the Rite was established in the USA, Romania, Australia and Switzerland by Jacques Etienne Marconis de Negre. After the Rite was chartered in the USA in 1862, it was the only

Rite high-degree Rite in the USA to be recognized by the regular masonic powers and to have a charter of origin. During the Civil War, the Rite in the USA lost so many members that it fell into a decline from which it never recovered.

The agreements of 1863 with the Grand-Orient of France and in 1896 with



the Grand Symbolic Scottish Lodge, future Grand Lodge of France did not concern the normal 33° degrees (Rite of Perfection following the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite). The Superior Workshops of Memphis-Mizraim obligatorily practice the: 4° degree (Secret Master), 9th degree (Elect of the Nine), 13° degree (Royal Arch), 14° degree (Grand Elect of the Sacred Vault and Sublime Mason), 18° degree (Knight R+C), 20° Degree (Knight of the Temple), 28° degree (Knight of the Sun). The 30th degree, (Knight Kadosh) 31° degree (Grand Inspector), 32° degree (Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret), 33° degree (Sov.'. G.'. Inspector General. The 66° degree (Grand Consecrator) 87°, 88°, 89° and 90° degree called the (ARCANA ARCANORUM).

The Superior degrees that is all degrees above the 33° degree are conferred as an honorary title upon Masons in recompense for their valour and fidelity to the Rite. The 20° Degree confers the Ancient Strict Observance Templar degrees, of Baron Von Hundt, and the succession of Jean Baptiste Villermoz, the C.B.C.S., Chevaliers Bienfaisants de Cité Sainte.

Many prominent and leading personalities of the esoteric community at the time, were also involved with the Rite. Gerard Anaclet Encausse (Papus, 1865-1916), for instance, was Great Hierophant of the M.:M.: from 1913 on until he died in 1916. Theosophic Society of H.P. Blavatsky had an 'Inner Order' for "practical work", called the 'Esoteric Section' (or Esoteric School). The Leading members, who resided within the E.S., were also members of the M.:M.: Rite. It was a co-membership! When one aspired to be a member of the inner circle of the Theosophical Society, one automatically had to become a member of the M.:M.: Rite..... Rudolf Steiner, for instance, became the Grand Master of the Rite in Germany while being a member of the Theosophical Society (He left the Rite in 1914).

In 1934 one of the aims of the M.:M.: Convention was "The Return to the fundamental source of the Misraim Rite". The French Obédience, to which the Belgian branch belonged until 1933, worked the system of John Yarker, called officially The Antient and Primitive Rite of Masonry. Yarker's system worked 33° degrees, divided into 3 sections, embracing MODERN,

CHIVALRIC, and EGYPTIAN Masonry. In fact the system compressed the Rituals of the 90° working degrees of the Memphis Rite into 30 Rituals. One has to understand that the original system needed the fortune of a kingdom to carry on a Rite of 90° degrees with the necessary splendour. And this has been one of the main reasons that during the 19th century in several cities throughout Europe the original Rite was abandoned. Abandoned because of financial difficulties...

The Rite did, however, continue to be practiced in Europe and was chartered for the jurisdiction of Chile in the 1920's where it is still practiced and where it survived until recent times. The Rite has experienced somewhat of a renaissance recently, and is now being practiced once again in the regular jurisdictions of France, Brazil, Ecuador, and the Dominican Republic. Famous people who have been members of the Rite include Kenneth McKenzie, John Yarker, Giuseppe Garibaldi, Salvatore Zola, David McLellan and several members of the Romanian royal family prior to the suppression of Freemasonry as a whole by the Communists in that country.

### 3. International Grand Masters:



“Jaques-Etienne Marconís de Négri” (Frater Velado 2004CE)

<http://macarlo.com/novaera/galleryvel644a.htm>

Jaques-Etienne Marconís de Négri(1838)

Marquis de Beauregard (1869)

Salvatore Zola (1874)

Giuseppe Garibaldi (1881)

Gianbattista Pessina (1882)

Francesco Degli Oddi (1900)  
John Yarker (1902)  
Theodor Reuss (1913)  
Gerard Encausse (Papus) (1914)  
Charles Detré (1916)  
Jean Bricaud (1924)  
Armando Rombauts (1934)  
Constant Chevillon (1934)  
Guerino Troiolo (1936)  
Henry Dupont (1945)  
Georges Lagreze (1946)  
Robert Ambelain (1960)  
Gerard Klopel (1985)  
Cheikna Syllah (1998)  
George Vieilledent (1998)  
Claude Tripet (2003)  
Alain Dumaine (2004)  
Willy Raemaker (2006)

#### **4. Summation Chronological Facts**

1788 The Rite of Misraim, was created at this time in Venice, under a license granted by Cagliostro.

1782 The Misraim Rite functions in the Greek island Zante

1796 The Misraim Rite functions in Venice

1801 Filalete Abraham brings over the Misraim Rite in Venice.

1810 This was brought to France by three Provençal brethren named Bedarride. There is a town just to the north of Avignon named Bedarrides.

1839 Establishment of Memphis Rite in Paris by Etienne Marconis.

1848 Arousal of Misraim Rite at the same time with the Venetian Republic promulgation (Rite had been reposed in the meantime).

1856 Establishment of a Sovereign Council in Alexandria with title “Great Orient of Egypt”. The Inauguration Charter by Marconis, gives all forces for the Sovereign Sanctum establishment. Grand Master is Marquis Joseph de Beauregard.

1856 [Memphis] Grand Heirophant Marconis set out [from France] for the USA, where on November 9th in New York he founded a Sovereign Grand Council of the 94°, with David MacLelland as Grand Master.

1861 Harry Seymour discharged MacLelland as Grand Master of the 'Sovereign General Council' of the USA.

1862 The Memphis Rite is absorbed by the Great Orient, Marconis abdicates while Joseph de Beauregard don't concede his abdication nor the shrunk of the Degrees which misapplied in France.

1862 On April 30th Marshal Maignan, Grand Master of the French Grand Orient, addressed a proclamation to all bodies in his obedience with regard to a union of French Masonry. Due to a positive report from Razy, member of a Commission of Enquiry, the Rite of Memphis was united with the Grand Orient. The lodges of the Rite of Memphis constituted themselves under the control of the Grand Orient. In July the Grand Hierophant Marconis in Paris presented a 96° Warrant for America to Brother Seymour. This document was forwarded to the French Grand Orient and entered under the number 28,911 in its Great Sealed Book. [July 21st was given by Theodor Reuss and H.J. Metzger as the date of the O.T.O.'s foundation. On the basis of this warrant, the 'Symbolic Grand Lodge' of the Scottish Rite in Germany (A.A.S.R.; 'Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite', of regular form with 33° degrees) - in other words Reuss - believed that he had the right to the first three degrees of

the Scottish Rite of Cerneau. Harry J. Seymour was later struck off its list of members in good standing by the American Supreme Council, the ruling body of regular Freemasons the USA.

To make the accord with the other grades of the Grand Orient simpler, the active ninety-five grades of Memphis in France were temporarily reduced to thirty-three.

1865 A new arousal of Misraim Rite (Rite has been reposed in the meantime).

1867 The Misraim Rite repose once again. Full of legality and in hand of the Grand Master Prince Halim Pascia, is formatted a Sovereign Sanctum as a Sovereign Provenance of Memphis Rite. The Sovereign Sanctum of France is resolving.

1868 Death of Marconis.

1869 Right after the Grand Master's exile, the Memphis Rite reposes.

1869 America's Supreme Sanctuary broke with the French Grand Orient, because the latter had been granting lodge warrants in Louisiana without the Supreme Sanctuary's permission; Grand Master Seymour announced the division to the Grand Orient on March 20th. Since the death of the Grand Hierophant Marconis, in 1868, the 'Supreme Governship' of the Rite of Egypt had passed to the Marquis de Beauregard as chief. [On November 30th 1870 the 'Supreme Council 33°' of the AASR expelled John Yarker (1833 - March 20th 1913). He had held the authority to bestow the fourth to the thirty-third degrees of the irregular and reduced Rite of Memphis since August 24th 1871.

1870 The Great Orient of Egypt arouses by S.A.Zola.

1872 On June 4th the irregular American Supreme Sanctuary granted Letters Patent to John Yarker in Manchester, giving him permission to establish a Supreme Sanctuary in England and Ireland. [If the first three

degrees were revived, it is not mentioned; see August 24th 1871. On October 8th this Supreme Sanctuary was definitively constituted at Freemason's Hall in London (the seat of the Grand Lodge of England); its Grand Master General was John Yarker. The new Sanctuary nominated General Garibaldi as an honorary member, at the same time proclaiming its friendly links with Sicily and Egypt.

1874 S.A.Zola takes Marconi's place as a Grand Hierophant.

1876 Constitution of a Grand Symbolic Rite, the National Grand Rite of Egypt. S.A.Zola on the 25th of October assigned the 95° 96° degrees to Giuseppe Garibaldi by nominating him as Grand Master d'onore ad vitam of the Sovereign Sanctum of Egypt. On the 15th of November the Great Orient of Egypt testaments to Salvatore Sottile, Grand Master of the Great Orient of Palermo, a Sovereign General Council commendation chart for the administration of Memphis Rite in Italy and in Palermo's dale.

1877 The National Grand Lodge of Egypt is independently established by giving rein to the Great Oriental of Egypt, which began the administration of all Memphis Rite symbolic degrees.

1880 The Sovereign Sanctum of Egypt reposes. All Workshops continue operations in the Grand Secret Temple.

1881 Right after the Giuseppe Garibaldi's election as a Global Grand Hierophant of the Sovereign Sanctum of United States, of England and Ireland, of Italy and Romania, Egypt crowned his legitimacy.

1883 S.A.Zola condescends and entitles as a heir, Ferdinando Francesco delli Oddi.

1890 Salvatore Sottile arouses Memphis Rite in Palermo and establishes as a Grand Master of Sovereign Sanctum for Italy.

1891 Gérard Encausse co-founded Martinism in France. On June 24th 1901

Theodor Reuss received a Martinist warrant from Encausse; in the same year Encausse was granted letters patent by Yarker to open the Swedenborgian Lodge INRI, this warrant being renewed on March 20th 1906. On June 15th that year Reuss was made a Master Mason, and 'A.M. 5663 33°' in Emanuel Lodge N° 1, by Max Scheuer (of New York, 33°, 90°, 96°, Grand Commander of the Rite of Cerneau from 1900-1904). Encausse belonged to the Sovereign Grand Lodge of England, as did the coroner William Wynn Westcott (1848-1925) and W.H. Quilliams (33°, 95°); Reuss however did not.

1900 Salvatore Mortorana establishes as a Grand Master of Sovereign Sanctum for Italy. Ferdinando Francesco delli Oddi is widely conceded as Grand Hierophant by the Grand Sanctums of United States, of England and Ireland, of Romania, Italy, Spain and Egypt.

1901 Paolo Figlia establishes as a Grand Master of Sovereign Sanctum of Italy.

1902 The [formerly] independent Rite of Misraim in France disappeared. John Yarker was Grand Hierophant, Oddis his successor [as universal Grand Hierophant]. [No. 0 of the Oriflamme of January 1902 makes no mention of Reuss as being in the English or Irish Grand Lodges in return for the founding of the German 'Holy Grail Lodge and Temple No. 15', part of Yarker's Swedenborg Rite. German Freemasons who wished to associate themselves with this lodge were supposed to make themselves known to Max Rahn, August Weinholtz, Franz Held, or Leopold Engel, according to the magazine].

The English Supreme Sanctuary constituted a German Supreme Sanctuary, and chose Theodor Reuss as its Grand Master. [This was on September 24th 1902. On the 27th of December 1903 Carl Kellner was appointed to the 33°, 90°, and 96° for England and Germany, and in 1904 he became 'Fraternal Representative' of the MM for America. Kellner's descendants have no documentation in their possession which would indicate whether Kellner was definitely a regular Freemason, in the sense of recognition by Grand Lodge in London. Reuss's association with the Theosophical Society is described by

Ellic Howe (September 20th 1910 - September 28th 1991), in an article in Theosophical History.

1903 Benedetto Trigona establishes as a Grand Master of Sovereign Sanctum of Italy.

1905 The Grand Master for Italy stepped down, and the Rite in Italy became dormant. Carl Kellner died on the 8th of June 1905 from a heart-attack, leaving his widow Marie Antoinette (originally from Trieste), and three children.

On the 24th of November 1905 Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925) and Marie von Sivers (1867-1948), became members of MM, and received a warrant to work the 30°, 67°, and 89° from Reuss on the 3rd of January 1906. On the 21st of June 1906 Reuss published the 'General Statutes of the O.T.O.' with the Lamens of the O.T.O. which Crowley later maintained [8] was wholly his own invention. However this Lamens can already be found as part of Joseph Peladan's coat-of-arms in the 'Ordre de la Rose-Croix du Temple et du Graal'. On the 24th of June Reuss severed Memphis from Misraim, and made the 33° independent from both. In 1907 his young O.T.O. became known as the 'Union for International Reconciliation' (Bund für Internationale Versöhnung).

1906 The Memphis Rite reposes.

1908 Reuss gave M.M. titles to 'Papus', Bricaud and Detre. Following a congress of Spiritualists at the temple of the 'Droit Humain' lodge [founded 1893] in Paris, the Rite of Memphis-Misraim was newly constituted in France. The constituting Letters Patent were sent to Berlin from England on June 24th; they were signed (as 'Peregrinos') by Theodor Reuss, who had travelled to Paris for this purpose. Grand Masters for France [on the 24th of June] were Gérard Encausse "Papus" [33°, 90°, 96°] and Charles Détre "Teder" [33°, 97°, X°]. ["Joyous Jubilation Reigns in the Camp of the Martinists"]. The Mother-Lodge of the Memphis-Misraim Rite in France was the 'Humanidad' lodge, formerly in communion with the Spanish Rite. [On

March 15th 1908 Arnaldo Krumm-Heller received a warrant for Mexico from Reuss, and on April 7th the same year additionally obtained a licence for a Supreme Sanctuary for Chile, Peru, and Bolivia, equivalent to 33°, 90°, 96°. Hans-Rudolf Hilfiker, the highly conjectural later successor to Reuss in Switzerland, was mentioned on the front cover of the Oriflamme for December 1909 as an inactive Grand Inspector General. In the same number of the Oriflamme, Reuss announced an International Congress for Experimental Psychology to be held in Paris during 1910.

Yarker disagreed with Reuss and Encausse's activities in France, and nominated George Lagrèze in their place on the 9th of September 1909.

1910 Eduardo Frosini, the Italian General Delegate for the Spanish Rite, founded the 'Rite Philosophique Italien' in Florence, devising seven grades for it, and uniting the Scottish, Memphis, and Misraim grades. [On the 21st of November 1910 Aleister Crowley was appointed to the 33° of the AASR; notwithstanding the fact that Yarker had been out of favour with the AASR ever since 1869.

1911 The Romanian Grand Master Constantin Moriou, the oldest founder-member (77 years) retired from his office; I.T. Ulic was his successor. [In November 1911 the O.T.O. was mentioned for the first time in the French occult journal Initiation. Bricaud's Gnostic Church and Encausse's Martinism entered into union.

1912 Aleister Crowley received M.M. titles and was elevated to the 33°, 90°, 95°, and X° for England and Ireland through Reuss. On the same day Reuss nominated Czesław Czyński "Punar Bhava" as X° for the Slavonic territories; Czyński had been appointed by Encausse in 1910. Czyński was announced in the French periodical *Mysteria* (subtitled "the Organ of the O.T.O.") as the Legate of the Universal Gnostic Church in Russia; he died in 1937. On the 25th of October 1912 Frosini and Détré were made "gnostic legates of the Universal Gnostic Church". The "first Grand Administrator-General" and "Past Grand Master" of the M.M. and O.T.O., Franz Hartmann "Emanuel", born on the 22nd of November 1838, died on the 7th of August

1912. The 'Jubilee Edition' of the Oriflamme appeared shortly afterwards; it contained many photographs of the protagonists, a 'History Lection' on the origins of the O.T.O., and included a contribution from the 'Mysteria Mystica Maxima' (Crowley's English branch) on sex-magic.

1913 On the 20th of March the Grand Heirophant John Yarker died. He was succeeded by Theodor Reuss. After the death of Villarino del Villar, the Grand Master of the 'Spanish National Rite', this rite fused with the Catalonian 'Balearic Grand Lodge'. [Italy: after the death of Michele de Vincenzo Majulli (33°, 90°, 95°, VII°) [21] in the summer of 1912 Eduardo Frosini "Hermes" became 33°, 90°, 96° and VII° [22]. He had received MM-degrees already in 1909 by Yarker. Also in Italy Arturo Reghini "Maximus" (12th of November 1878 - 1st of July 1946) was made 33°, VI°, and G. di San Fortunato was raised to 33°, 90°, 95° and VII°. Frosini and Reghini are entered in Crowley's Golden Book which only contains entries from 1912 to 1917. Encausse made Czesław Czyński 33°, 90°, 96°, VII° and 'Legate of the Universal Gnostic Church' for Russia [26]. On the 20th of October 1913 Crowley was a founder-member of the 'Rite Philosophique Italien'. Reghini, of whom no more was heard to do with Martinism, was made VII° at the same time. Allegedly the Madrid Cardinal Mariano Rampolla di Tindaro (1843-1913), who was nearly elected as successor to Pope Leo the 13th, was a member of this Spanish O.T.O.

1914 The 'Rite Philosophique Italien' [founded 1910] was closed down by Frosini. [Reuss's Oriflamme published an historical summary of Leopold Engels' Order of Illuminati, as well as Crowley's 'Manifesto of the Mysteria Mystica Maxima', which was (with only trifling alterations) promulgated in 1919 as statutes of the O.T.O. with world-wide validity as Liber LII. Likewise Reuss again proclaimed the theme of the sexual act in his essay 'Parsifal and the Secret of the Holy Grail', and proposed his 'Plan of the New O.T.O. Temple' and its 'Cornerstone'.

1916 The French Grand Master [each country had its Grand Master] Gérard Encausse died on the 25th of October as a consequence of wartime illness [tuberculosis]. Charles Détré was his successor as Grand Master. Detre

became chief of the M.M. and Martinism.

In 1917 there appeared the Description and Constitution of the O.T.O. "Otherwise: The Hermetic Brotherhood of Light", and the "Message from the Master Thirion" (sic); a postal address was given at Lugano in Switzerland.

1918 On the 25th of September Grand Master Charles Détré died. Bricaud became chief of the M.M. and Martinism. During the war the Rite was concentrated in England, France, Germany, Romania, and Egypt. [Reuss supposedly granted a warrant on the 10th of November 1918 to Ida Hoffmann and Clara Linke: 33°, 97°, and X°.]

1919 A group of Masons belonging to the 'Rite Français' (Grand Orient), the Scottish Rite (Grand Lodge and Supreme Council), and at the same time the higher grades of the Rite of Memphis-Misraim, desired to revive the Memphis-Misraim Rite in France, whilst staying true to their obediences, with the object of working a purely initiatory Freemasonry. The 'Humanidad' Mother-Lodge was revived at Lyons in accordance with the 1908 [Reuss] warrant. Thus on the 10th of September Brother Joanny Bricaud was granted a warrant [through Reuss] to establish the French Sovereign Sanctuary of the M.M. [33°, 90°, 96°], and likewise on the 30th of September activated the French foundation of a "Supreme Grand Council of Confederated Rites, Early Grand Scottish Rite, Memphis and Misraim, Royal Order of Scotland" etc.)

[In May 1919 Hilfiker was raised to 33°, 95°, and VII° for Switzerland through Reuss. Brother Thomson ratified the 33° on the 29th of August 1919. Joanny Bricaud augmented these offices to 90° on the 12th of May 1920. In July 1920 Reuss called a World Congress of Freemasonry in Zürich, and announced the "Structural Programme of the Gnostic Neo-Christian O.T.O.", but with which Reuss's experiment in gaining Masonic recognition for his O.T.O. and the MM completely foundered.]

1921 In Italy the M.M. was reanimated with the aid of an Egyptian warrant; G. Macbean was Grand Master in Palermo. Three Patriarchs, Giuseppe Sullirao, Giovanni Sottile and Reginald Gambier Mac Bean, aroused

Memphis Rite in Palermo. Reginald Gambier Mac Bean establishes as a Grand Master of Sovereign Sanctum for Italy and for semi colonial territories.

1921 [In July of this year Harvey Spencer Lewis (1883-1936) was made 33°, 90°, 95°, and an honorary member of the O.T.O.. On July 31st Carl William Hansen "Kadosh" received the 33° for Copenhagen from Joanny Bricaud, augmented by the X° from Reuss on September 3rd. In the same year Heinrich Traenker became 33°, 90°, 96° and X° for Germany. Later on Spencer Lewis too was raised to the 97°. Living at Cefalù in Sicily after April 2nd 1920, Crowley noted in his diary on November 27th 1921 that he had selected himself as OHO of the O.T.O..]

In 1923 the Grand Heirophant Theodor Reuss (Peregrinos) died [without naming a successor, which threw the legitimacy of all succeeding organisations into question].

1923 Merging of Misraim and Memphis Rites by Edigio Allegri. Reginald Gambier Mac Bean passes all his powers to Marco Edigio Allegri via diploma.

1925 Because of Fascist government's laws in Italy, which prohibit Masonry, Edigio Allegri reposes the Rite intentionally in order to be aroused in henceforth expedient time.

1934 At the time of the foundation of the F.U.D.O.S.I., Freemasonry was condemned by the attending Orders as an atheistic organization and no Masonic Order would be admitted to the federation. One exception was made in favour of the Antient Rite of Memhis-Misraim, which was recognized as a spiritual Order not recognized by the other Masonic Obediences.

1945 Edigio Allegri unify the two Rites and creates the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Misraim and Memphis, establishes the Sovereign Grand Sanctum of Adriatic (Superum), the Sovereign Mystic Temple, the Superb Consistorium of 30° 90° degrees and the Sovereign Peristyle of Orphics.

1949 Edigio Allegri reposes the Rite and passed in the Eternal Great Pyramid. He chose Ottavio Ulderisco Zasio as his successor.

1966 Ottavio Ulderisco Zasio passed in the Eternal Grand Pyramid. He chose Gastone Ventura as his successor.

1971 Gastone Ventura arouses the Rite in all its Chambers.

1981 Gastone Ventura passed in the Eternal Great Pyramid. He chose Sebastiano Caracciolo as his successor overeign Grand General Hierophant.

1989 Establishment of Ancient and Primitive Rite of Misraim and Memphis in Greece.

2007 The National Grand Master - National Grand Commander Triantafyllos Kotzamanis 33° 90° 96° passed in the Eternal Great Pyramid.

2007 Establishment of Ancient and Primitive Rite of Misraim and Memphis in Romania by a Greek dignitary.

2007 Establishment of Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis and Misraim in Bulgaria from Italy.

## **5. Illuminism of Memphis-Misraim**

Masonic illuminism of the Ancient and  
Primitive Rite of Memphis-Misraim

Illuminized levels of Masonry (Memphis & Misraim Masonry)

**Definition of Illuminism** - The word 'Illuminism' is derived from a French word illuminer. Illuminism was used as the name of a special state of enlightenment that was considered a rise in rank among various secret societies that originated from the Illuminati. Illuminism is a belief system

whereby a believer (the Illuminati) makes a claim that he has been illuminated or experienced special enlightenment of a spiritual nature. Illuminist is someone who subscribes to the doctrine of Illuminism, or who claims to have achieved spiritual illumination; one of the Illuminati.

Illuminism is another word for enlightenment, a state of achieving a spiritual union with Heaven or God. It is the state of attaining true wisdom and raising oneself to the realm of the Ultimate Truth of nature. Illuminism finds relevance in almost all religions of the world, often as the path towards achieving the ultimate goal of human life. Illuminism encourages every soul to find its interior light, so it can express itself authentically towards the progress of the human estate. Illuminism in reality is less an Order than a principle, and a principle which can work better under cover of something else. The work of Illuminism could best be conducted 'under other names and other occupations' and henceforth we shall always find it carried on by this skillful system of camouflage.

**Masonic Illuminism** - Illuminism, the mysticism of Light, is a movement that left a huge footprint upon both Masonry and the independent Orders. The Illuminist stream of Martnists who were cultivating themselves through the practice of Christian Cabbalist theurgy was moved to create Masonic inner order.

Illuminism is a term used by esoterics, because Lucifer, has a name which means "Light-Bearer" and "Enlightened One", and Illuminati is derived from the idea of having one's eyes opened of "being enlightened" by Lucifer's Light. Jewish Illuminism was called Haskalah, and inspired the leaders of Masonic Illuminism. The Jesuit Illuminists on the other hand later became the Masonic Illuminists. The union of American and European Illuminized Freemasonry came from collaboration between Albert Pike (A.A.S.R.) and Giuseppe Mazzini (A.P.R.M.M.) in the creation of a new Supreme Rite, the New and Reformed Palladian Rite (1870). Pike became the Sovereign Pontiff of Universal Freemasonry, and Mazzini, the Sovereign Chief of Political

Action. In 1870 Pike and Mazzini completed an agreement to create a supreme, universal Rite of Masonry that would over-arch all the other rites, even the different national rites. It centralized all high Masonic bodies in the world under one head. To this end the Palladium Rite was created as the pinnacle of the pyramid of power. Palladism is neo-gnosticism. The Luciferian doctrine is implicit in the lower degrees, and only becomes an explicit teaching on the highest degrees. The highest of the high was the Palladium: an international alliance to bring in the Grand Lodges, the Grand Orient, the ninety-nine degrees of Memphis and Mizraim (the Ancient and Primitive Rite), and the Scottish Rite (the Ancient and Accepted Rite).

In 1782 the Illuminati and Freemasonry in Europe were officially united. On July 16, 1782 the Illuminati merged with the Order of Freemasons: "Illuminism was injected into Freemasonry by indoctrinating the Masonic leaders. . ." At the grand convention of Masonry held at Wilhelmsbad in 1782 the Order of the Strict Observance was suspended. Vanquished by the powerful rival, the Strict Observance ceased temporarily to exist and Illuminism was left in possession of the field. At the grand convention of Masonry held at Wilhelmsbad in 1782 the Order of the Strict Observance was suspended, and the scheme of Illuminism was disclosed to the assembled representatives of the masonic and mystical fraternities. Then and there disciples of Saint-Martin and of Willermooz, as well as the statesmen, scientists, magicians, and magistrates of all countries, were converted to Illuminism.

The alliance between the Illuminati and Freemasonry "was finally sealed". In modern Masonry today, an emphasis is put upon the idea of "Spiritual Illumination": Every candidate for the Mysteries of Masonry, at the proper time and in an appropriate manner, should be taught the truth that the rite of initiation means much more than a formal ceremonial progress through the degrees. Initiation is to be attained only after real labor, deep study, profound meditation, extensive research and a constant practice of those virtues which will open a true path to moral, intellectual, and spiritual Illumination. Illumination had long been a cherished component of Masonry. The Masonic candidate requests, and is promised, "Light in Masonry." As he goes up the

ladder of initiation, he receives “more Light.” It is because of this society’s emphasis on Illumination that the Ancient and Illuminated Seers became known by its more common title of The Illuminati.

What exactly is "Spiritual Illumination" that Masons aspire to attain? And the answer is: This illumination of Masonry is "Cosmic Consciousness". No higher level of attainment is possible than that in which the human merges in the Divine Consciousness. At the exact moment masonic inner purity has produced its purpose - that is, inner Illumination, a secret, ecstatic sensation of total unity with the Universe occurs. While all levels of Masonry have their share of illuminated esoterics, the Ancient Rites, the Sovereign Sanctuary and the Supreme Council are especially likely to have them. Those candidates who displayed an appreciation and interest in progressive Enlightenment ideals, would gradually be admitted to the higher grades of the Order. It was here that the true objectives of Illuminism were revealed.

**Scientific Illuminism** - This Great Spiritual Discipline of Scientific Illuminism where Magick and Mysticism is studied and practiced by the application of the Method of Science exists upon this Planet under the name of the A..A.. to enlighten all those who are fit for Initiation. Every Aspirant of A..A.. is expected to adhere to the discipline of Scientific Method in his or her research right from the very start of his or her association with the Great Order.

Science of Magick is the most ancient and ultimate science by the use of which a man attains profound understanding of the Universe and his own being, obtains power and wisdom to rule his way in Eternity, conquer the conditions of existence and become a God incarnate upon the earth. It is a well known fact that all major sciences upon the earth originated from this One Great Science; consider Chemistry which originated from Alchemy, Astronomy from Astrology, etc. Consider great pioneers of science and philosophy; Isaac Newton, Johann von Goethe, Michael Faraday and many more, all of whom were Initiates of various mystical societies.

Consequently, the Scientific Method by which a man has obtained Knowledge was originally learned from that Great Science of Magick which is the Mother of the ancient and modern world. The Magick however offers what no other lesser science has ever offered to mankind; an evolution into something infinitely more than a mere thinking biological organisms. By the right comprehension and application of Magick we slowly emerge into a new life. Thus many people are fascinated by the prospects of this Great Science, but Nature makes it evident that only the strongest and the most wise can survive this evolution and undergo Higher Initiations. There is a method which when properly used can assist us and prevent us from falling into a fanatical dogma, it is called a Method of Science. It is a strict Method based on experience and observations of the Universe, experiments and study in which there is no place for empty speculations. Without the Method of Science there is a place for dogmatic theological debates and ignorant superstitions that eventually result in slave religions as it is clearly shown in history. With a Method of Science spirituality becomes a strict discipline of research and evolution.

**Fratres Lucis** - Fratres Lucis (The Brotherhood of Light; Brothers of the Illuminated) is a schism of the masonic Order of the Rosy Cross. It was inspired by the Florence Order of the Brothers of Light, founded in 1498, as a secret continuation of the Platonic Academy of Marcelo Ficino. After the death of Lorenzo de Medici, the Academy of Florence ceased to exist. In its place arose the Fratres Lucis, or Brothers of Light, a mystical fraternity founded in Florence in 1498 which continued in existence until the eighteenth century. Due to the tradition of intellectual brilliance associated with this institution, many groups have chosen to use the word "Academy" in their name.

Through the centuries, that order has changed its name a number of times: it was known by then as the "Brotherhood of the Illuminati" (in a Christian sense). In 1882 was founded an order called "Grand Lamaistic Order of

Light." The group also had a Latin name, "Fratres Lucis." However, they seemed to be largely inspired by Qabala and Masonry, while their altar was devoted to 'Great God,' an epithet favorite among Tibetan Buddhists. Also another Order of Light (Fratres Lucis), an occult body is founded in 1882 by the Jew, Maurice Vidal Portman. These Orders is not filiated to any iniciatic Order or Fraternity, even though they shares the high esoteric ideals, like those of the Rosecrucianism, Martinism and Freemasonry.

Fratres Lucis was designed to lead members from the darkness of sense-life into that Illumination of spiritual being which is our heritage. Emphasis was laid upon the Egyptianizing impulse exemplified by Kircher, the circulation of a Fratres Lucis-originated manuscript expounding initiatory and philosophical meanings. Among the members of this order were Pasqualis, Cagliostro, Swedenborg, St. Martin, Eliphaz Lévi, Franz Anton Mesmer, and many other eminent mystics. Its members were very much persecuted by the Inquisition. It is a small but compact body, the members being spread all over the world. A parallel tradition running through the eighteenth century Fratres Lucis and Asiatic Brethren on the one hand, and Cagliostro's Egyptian Rite of Freemasonry on the other. These fuse with primordial Egyptian traditions during the Napoleonic conquests in Egypt, passed on to Levi and other nineteenth century luminaries, down to Papus, Reuss, Kellner and, eventually, Aleister Crowley and his successors and heirs within OTO.

The Order is formed by iniciates from many Orders and Fraternities. Brooderhood of Light was founded in Germany by the baron Ecker Von Eckhoffen, a past member of the Golden Rosy+Cross and also founder of Asiatic Brethren (or Initiated Brethren of the Seven Cities in Asia). The Asiatic Brethren would become the Fratres Lucis, and the Fratres Lucis would be known as the real successor of the true Illuminati of Adam Weishaupt; and the Fratres Lucis would beget the Hermetic Brotherhood of Luxor, and the Hermetic Brotherhood of Luxor would beget Theosophical Society.

All these German fraternities were deeply involved with the practice of Alchemy. Many members belonging to the Asiatic Brethren of Fratres Lucis

became members of a German masonic lodge called L'Aurore Naissante (or "the Nascent Dawn") founded in 1807. This lodge was a very ancient Rosicrucian Lodge where Lord Bulwer Lytton was received into Adeptship. The basis of the Asiatic Brethren, also known as the Fratres Lucis was the Rosicrucianism, Martinism, Freemasonry and the Illuminati. The Grand Master of the Asiatic Brethren, is also a leading member of the Illuminati. Another member of the Asiatic Brethren, the Comte de St. Germain. was a notorious alchemist, whom many believed to be immortal. He was the supposed Grand Master of Freemasonry.

In the Pansophic Rites, the order of the Fratres Lucis has been updated and renamed to match the needs of our time. Membership in the Sodalitas Lucis (the Sodality of Light) is available only to Master Masons in good standing within a Pansophic Lodge. It is an initiatory order and its degrees, which are based on the exploration of various esoteric currents, can be conferred privately or in open Lodge.

The Order has five degrees:

1. Knight Novice of the Third Year
2. Knight Novice of the Fifth Year
3. Knight Novice of the Seventh Year
4. Knight Levite
5. Knight Priest

## **Conclusion**

**S**TUDENTS of Mysticism interested in know a complete explanation on the fusion of Masonic rites that originated the actual Memphis Misraim Rite jump please to the Official Website of the Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis Misraim, Sovereign Sanctuary for Bulgaria, where various articles on this theme are shown, as "SCOTTISH RITE", "MEMPHIS RITE" "MISRAIM RITE", "ADOPTION RITE", "GNOSTIC RITE" and more: <http://sites.google.com/site/memphismizraimbg/home-1>

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**EDITOR'S NOTES:**



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**Visit the Brazilian Official Wb Site of Illuminates of Kemet. There are a lot of Public Monographs dor the New Mental Era: [http://svmmvmbonvm.org/aum\\_muh.html](http://svmmvmbonvm.org/aum_muh.html)**



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