

The Etheric Body / The Etheric Double

The etheric body is one of the main energy bodies that form the human energy system. The other main bodies are the Astral and the Causal Body. Each of these bodies is made of increasingly more subtle energy. For more information on the Astral and the Causal Body please go to my article –

http://www.simonheather.co.uk/pages/articles/the_astral_body.pdf

The etheric body is an exact replica of the physical body. Its main function is to absorb light and heat from the sun, and to transmit them to all parts of the physical body. The etheric body is the mould of the physical body, the archetype upon which the denser physical body is built.

Shamans refer to the etheric body as the ‘double body’ or ‘shadow body’. For most people the etheric body is invisible. If seen the etheric body looks like an outline around the physical body, radiating about two inches from it.

All living organisms have an etheric body. The etheric body is often called the master builder, or matrix of the physical body. Its structure resembles icy fern fronds painted on a window by the winter frost.

Each part of the physical body is connected to its equivalent part in the etheric body. There is an etheric liver, heart, etc. If an organ is removed from the physical body, the etheric organ still exists. An envelope of subtle energy surrounds every cell in the human body.

The etheric body is composed of various energies. In Chinese medicine there are seven types of chi (see references). In Yoga Philosophy there are five Pranas and five Upa-Pranas (see references).

Senses

The etheric body acts as a connecting medium between the astral and physical bodies. The etheric body causes the five senses to function and allows us to experience the world of matter. The etheric body also provides a channel for us to experience more subtle worlds.

The etheric body is vitalised and controlled by thought. The etheric body is usually shaped by the person’s ego self. When a person is on a spiritual path the etheric body becomes the transmitter of soul energy.

Vitality

The etheric body gives vitality, health, life and organisation to the physical body. It steps down energies from the higher bodies into the physical body.

The etheric body is the receiver of life force, transmitting it to the physical body via the nervous system, the blood stream and the endocrine system.

The etheric body is separable from the physical body, but is unable to move very far away from it. Any separation of the etheric body from the physical body usually results in a considerable decrease in energy.

Etheric Web

Between the astral body and the etheric body there exists an 'etheric web' or 'atomic web'. This web is made up of a single layer of atoms that are permeated with a special sort of energy (prana). The energy that normally passes from the astral body to the physical body passes easily through the etheric web, but the etheric web is a barrier to all other forces. It acts as a barrier between the physical and astral planes. (See separate article on my website)

Nadis

The etheric body is made of numerous energy channels called nadis or meridians. It is a web or network of fine interlacing etheric channels, "like a sparkling web of light beams". These channels appear to psychics, as luminous string-like hairs that radiate outwards and carry energy that moves in wave like motions.

Chakras

There are seven major energy centres, called chakras that are connected to the endocrine glands. The chakras relate to different levels of consciousness. There are also twenty-one minor energy centres. The condition of the etheric centres will determine the health of the physical body. For more information on the twenty-one minor chakras please go to –

<http://humanityhealing.net/2011/04/a-primer-on-major-and-minor-chakra/>

The chakras are located on the surface of the etheric body and are said to appear (to the eye of a clairvoyant) as whirling vortices. The etheric chakras have a dual function. One is to absorb and distribute prana to the etheric body from where it passes to the physical body thus keeping it alive; and second, to bring higher wisdom into physical consciousness. (see separate article on my website)

Death

The etheric body has no life of its own. With the death of the physical body the etheric body dissolves and its energy is returned to the general etheric field. Once the etheric body has dissolved the physical body begins to decompose.

Foetus

At the time of conception a prototype of the foetus is formed out of etheric energy by an elemental being. This elemental being is with us from the moment we begin to develop in the womb until we die. (For more information on elementals see references)

The growth of foetus is controlled by the karma of the incarnating person. As the new body grows, etheric matter is taken from the mother to build its body. This highlights the importance of a pure lifestyle on the part of the mother.

Colours

The etheric body has been described as having a luminous pale violet-grey or blue-grey colour. To the clairvoyant it will appear to be made up of fine or coarse subtle energy depending on the type of person. The etheric body closely follows the shape of the physical body, extending from one quarter of an inch to two inches beyond it.

Mediumship

According to clairvoyants who have observed the process, spiritualist mediums have the unusual ability to dislodge their etheric body from the physical body. In such a condition, the medium is able to cause certain physical phenomena to occur such as table rapping and the movement of objects. The effort to produce this result is very exhausting for the medium.

Noise

Very loud noise is said to be damaging to the etheric body. However the etheric body has excellent recuperative qualities and usually recovers when the disturbing influence ceases.

Anaesthetic

A general anaesthetic causes a major shock to the etheric body. As a result it takes a while for person to recover from a major operation. If healing is given to the person soon after an operation this will greatly assist their recovery.

People who have had a limb amputated often complain that they still feel pain or discomfort in the area of the missing limb (phantom limb pain). The removal of the physical limb does not remove the corresponding etheric limb, so that the person will continue to feel pain for some time.

Alcohol

The excessive consumption of narcotics and alcohol is disruptive to the etheric and astral bodies. Some people have suggested that this might be the cause of the mental disorders.

Rudolph Steiner

Rudolph Steiner calls the etheric body the life body. Steiner says that in a dead organism; what is lacking is the element of life itself.

Steiner says "The physical laws work as if streaming outward from the earth, the etheric laws work as if streaming in to the earth from all sides." He says, "the etheric body is more or less luminous and fluidic. Instead of organs there are currents of diverse colours, the heart being a veritable vortex of forces and streaming currents. The etheric body is the 'etheric double' of the material body."

Steiner says that in the development of the child the etheric body is developed between the ages of 7-14. (Toward a Phenomenology of the Etheric World by Jochen Bockemühl)

Link and Communiqué

In this book Cambridge-educated, quantum physicist John E. Best (PhD), communicates with his "dead" fiancée Marjorie through a medium. Marjorie was also a physicist. She explains to him the nature of the Astral World that she is living in.

She says that the psyche (astral body) works through the electrical body (etheric body) which is a special intermediating nervous system. (Link and Communiqué p112/113)

The electrical body is made up of electrons and positrons. These are balanced through the influence of the psyche. The psychological presence binds the electrical body to the physical body. The electrical body is stable when the psyche is present (p203).

The electrical body is also called the electrical pattern body. It is an electrical flow system that is coupled to the physical nervous system and the psyche. Electrical current flows in closed loops through the electrical body like the closed path of the magnetic induction field (p215).

The magnetic fields encircle strategic nerve fibres fitting them like a glove. The system operates both ways –

1. The fourth dimensional psyche influences the physical nervous system.
2. The physical nervous system influences the psyche.

The main areas of flow are to the brain. The secondary areas of flow are to the solar plexus (p215). In the astral realm the psyche has 100 times more energy than the physical body (p217).

The electrical body gradually disappears at death and the person lives on in their psyche (astral body) (p208).

The psyche controls the electrical body and through this the physical neural system (p203). The psyche is always creating energy. Its reserves of energy are built up during sleep and then run down during wakefulness (p211).

Illness reduces the mobility of the electrical body. With MS the neural tissue responds less efficiently to the control of the electrical body. This puts a drain on the energy reserves of the psyche. This leads to a decline in the person's ability to control their body (p211).

At birth the mother's psychological presence becomes extended to the baby. She gives the baby part of her electrical body (p213). The physical body has to develop to a sufficient extent before the psyche can take it over (p118).

When a person is drunk or they are high on drugs the astral body can become detached from the physical body leaving the door open for an interloper to gain control. The same can happen with deep hypnosis or past life regression. People doing these therapies should always ask for protection for their client before the session (p144).

Barbara Brennan

Barbara Brennan in her book 'Hands of Light' says that the web-like structure of the etheric body is in constant motion. Clairvoyants see sparks of bluish-white light moving along energy lines throughout the entire physical body. She says that the etheric body extends from one quarter to two inches beyond the physical body and pulsates 15-20 times per minute.

She says that the colour of the etheric body varies from light blue to grey. A more sensitive person will tend to have a bluish etheric body whereas a more athletic, robust person will tend to have a more greyish etheric body. She says that all the chakras in the etheric body are the same colour. They range between blue and grey in colour.

Barbara Brennan says that the chakras look like vortices made out of a net of light. All the organs of the physical body are made of this scintillating bluish light. The cells of the body grow along the lines of energy of the etheric matrix, and that matrix is there before the cells grow. If one were to isolate the etheric body it would look like a person made of bluish lines of light in constant movement.

Barbara Brennan says that if we look at the shoulder of someone in dim light against a white, black or dark blue background, we may be able to see the pulsations of their etheric body. The pulsation rises at the shoulder and then makes its way down the arm, like a wave. If you look more closely, there appears to be a blank space between the shoulder and the blue hazy light; then there is a layer of brighter blue haze that slowly fades as it extends from the body. (Barbara Brennan, Hands of Light p49-50)

Healing

If a person is unwell their etheric body will be depleted and they will have a very thin etheric layer around their physical body. Their etheric body may even have holes in it. Shamans believe that once the etheric body is weakened negative energies (intrusions) can get into physical body. For more information on this subject please see my book 'Shamanic Healing'.

Any debility or congestion in the etheric body will immediately be reflected in the physical body. Good health requires the free and unimpeded flow of energy between the etheric and physical bodies.

When we receive healing, acupuncture, sound healing or Reiki, its primary impact will be on the etheric body. Healing therapies help the etheric body to function more effectively. Prayers and intention, also positively impact on the health and vitality of the etheric body.

The etheric body is the vehicle of energy (prana) and during healing energy will be transferred from the healthy person to the ailing one. The more energy the sick person's etheric body can absorb the quicker will be their recovery.

Scientific Information

Harold Saxton Burr (1889 - 1973) was a Professor of Anatomy at Yale University School of Medicine and researcher into bio-electrics. Dr. Burr discovered that all living things, plants, animals and humans are controlled by electro-dynamic fields, which can be measured with voltmeters. These 'fields of life', or 'L-fields' (as he called them) are the basic blueprints of all life on this planet.

The human energy field is composed of electro-magnetic and bio-dynamic radiations which can now be measured with a variety of different devices; SQUID, ESM, BEST, PIP, Electrography, Radionics, ACMOS (Lescher) Antennae, Bio-feedback metre and GDV. Some scientists call the etheric body a thermal field, because an infrared camera can detect it.

The growing science of Energy Medicine is starting to prove the existence of the etheric body, the meridians and the chakras. Recent research suggests the etheric body may actually be a field phenomenon, electrical in nature, composed of subatomic particles.

Conclusion

The etheric body consists of a definite structure of lines of force around which the physical body is formed. The physical body only exists because of the vital energy field around it.

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