

**THE GODDESS *BAPHOMET***  
ACCORDING TO THE SINISTER TRADITION



*«The word 'opfer' generally refers to the sacrifice that occurs - symbolic or otherwise - during certain rituals. There are, generally, two types of opfer: (1) associated with rites to open a nexion (or 'Star Gate'), between Aeons - when such an opfer(s) is considered necessary in terms of the 'energy' required;(2) those associated with traditional beliefs regarding the 'working of the cosmos'.*

*('Opfers' associated with death rituals form a third type.)*

*The second type, according to tradition, was chosen once every 17 years and this sacrifice was regarded as necessary to retain 'the cosmic balance' - in modern terms, keep a nexion open (and thus preserve the associated higher civilization etc). The chosen one was made an honorary Priest (this type of opfer was always male) and there was a joining between him and one or more women, as Priestesses. This joining was a simple type of 'hierosgamos', and the offspring of the union(s) were given great honour. At the ceremony itself, the head of the opfer was severed and displayed - usually for a night and a day (although this period may have been longer in the very distant past). The Rite was conducted outdoors in a 'sacred' place - often a circle of stones or hill top.*

*The chosen one was able, because of the sacrifice, to partake of an acausal existence - becoming thus an Immortal. Thus 'willing sacrifice' was possible, although it is easy to imagine that in later times, the opfer was not so willing.*

*Traditionally, this type goes back to Albion, and while originally the ritual was probably a community affair, it became more secretive. What survives to the present day (The Ceremony of Recalling with 'opfer' ending) probably reflects the essence of this earlier tradition rather than the detail (the words, chants etc). This essence may be apprehended in the role of the Mistress of Earth - representative of Baphomet, the Dark Goddess. It was to Baphomet that the sacrifice was made - hence a male opfer. Indeed, the whole ceremony (of Recalling) can be seen as a celebration of the dark goddess - the Earth Mistress/goddess in her darker/violent/sinister aspect. The severed head was associated with the worship of Baphomet - the cult deriving from Albion - hence the traditional representation of Baphomet.*

*The identification of Baphomet as the Bride of Lucifer/Satan probably dates from around the 10th or 11th century, as does the use of the name 'Satan'/Satanas as the Earth-bound representative of the Dark Gods.*

*It is important to remember that in earlier times (eg. in Albion during the Hyperborean aeon) there was no clear and/or moral distinction between the 'light' and the 'sinister': the two were seen as different aspects of the same thing. Thus, what we know as the Mistress of Earth (the 'goddess') was both what we now call Baphomet (the dark aspect) and Gaia (the Earth Mother).*

*(...)*

*The cult of Baphomet was the worship of the dark aspect of the "female" energies - where in this context, worship means a striving toward understanding/conscious integration. Traces of the worship of the 'light' aspect*

survive in the Septenary tradition in the name "Aktlal Maka" and the natural form of the Nine Angles rite. The darker aspect survives, in essence, in the Ceremony of Recalling and the traditions associated with the Mistress of Earth and Baphomet. As to the original name of the goddess in both her aspects, there is a tradition which gives 'Darkat' (early form of Lilith) as the name used before Baphomet became the common usage. However, 'Azanigin' has also been suggested - as has 'Aktlal Maka' for the 'light'/Gaia aspect, although both these are merely 20th century suggestions, not based on any oral tradition. Some aspects of the cult of the (dark) goddess are said to have survived into Greek times in the form of the 'mystery cults' (qv Kabeiroi - and also Eleusis for the 'light' aspect), this being an 'indirect survival', the 'modern' Septenary tradition being a direct one, from Albion.

The use of the name 'Baphomet' probably derives from the 10th or 11th century although the traditional pictorial representation of Baphomet is undoubtedly much older. If there was an oral tradition connected with the origin of the name Baphomet, it has been lost.»

### – Baphomet & Opfer (V°)

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«The name of Baphomet is regarded by Traditional Satanists as meaning "the mistress (or mother) of blood" - the Mistress who sometimes washes in the blood of her foes and whose hands are thereby stained. [See 'The Ceremony of Recalling'.]

The supposed derivation is from the Greek βαφη μητρα [baphē mētra] and not, as is sometimes said, from μητιος [mētios] (the Attic form for 'wise'). Such a use of the term 'Mother'/Mistress was quite common in later Greek alchemical writings – for example Iamblichus in "De Mysteriis" used μητριζω [mētrizō] to signify possessed by the mother of the gods. Later alchemical writings tended to use the prefix to signify a specific type of 'amalgam' (and some take this to be a metaphor for the amalgam of Sol with Luna, in the sexual sense).

In the Septenary System, Baphomet, as Mistress of Earth, is linked to the sixth sphere (Jupiter) and the star Deneb. She is thus in one sense a magickal "Earth Gate" (qv. the Nine Angles), and Her reflexion (or 'causal' nature - as against Her acausal or Sinister nature) is the third sphere (Venus) related to the star Antares. According to esoteric Tradition, the Antares aspect was celebrated by rites in Albion c.3,000 BP – in the middle and toward the end the month of May and some stone circles/sacred sites were said to be aligned for Antares. In contrast, the Sinister aspect of the Mistress (i.e. Baphomet) was celebrated in the Autumn and was linked to the rising of Arcturus, Arcturus itself being related to the Sinister male aspect (Mercury - second sphere), later identified with Lucifer/ Satan. Thus, the August celebration was a Sinister hierosgamos - the union of Baphomet with Her spouse (or 'Priest' who took on the role of the Sinister male aspect). According to Tradition, the Priest was sacrificed after the sexual union, where the role of Baphomet was assumed by the Priestess/Mistress of the cult. Thus, the May celebration was the (re-)birth of new energies (and the child of the Union). Tradition relates this Sinister, sacred

*Arcturian rite as taking place once every seventeen years. Once again, some sacred sites in Albion are said to be aligned to the rising of Arcturus, over three thousand years ago. In the middle ages, Baphomet came to be regarded as the Bride of Satan – and it is from this time that both ‘Baphomet’ and ‘Satan’, as names for the female and male aspect of the dark side came into use (at least in the secret sinister tradition).*

*Hence the Traditional depiction of Baphomet - a beautiful mature woman (often shown naked) holding up the severed head of the sacrificed priest (usually shown bearded).*

*To some extent the Templars revived part of this cult, but without any real esoteric understanding and for their own purposes. They adopted Baphomet as a type of female Yeshua, but with some bloody/ sinister aspects - and contrary to most accepted ideas, they were not especially ‘Satanic’. Rather, they saw themselves as holy warriors, and became a military cult with bonds of honour, although their concept of “holy” differed somewhat from that of the church of the time, including as it did dark/Gnostic aspects. Their sacrifices were in battle and not part of a specific rite.*

*The image of Baphomet (e.g. by Levi) as a hermaphrodite figure are romantic confusions and/or distortions: essentially of the symbolic/real union of mistress and priest and his later sacrifice. The same applies to the derivation of the suffix of her name with ‘wisdom’ (and a male image at that!) - even the confused Gnostics understood ‘wisdom’ as female.»*

#### **– Baphomet: a Note on the Name (VI°)**

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*«There is a tradition regarding the origin of the name Baphomet which deserves recording, even though it is not regarded as authentic, having no present-day proponents.*

*This tradition regards the name as deriving from **βουβαστις** [boubastis] - the Greek name for the Egyptian goddess Bastet, recorded by Herodotus (2.137 ff). It is interesting that Herodotus identifies the goddess with Artemis, the goddess of the moon. Bubastis was regarded as the daughter of Osiris and Isis and often represented as a female with the head of a cat - cats were regarded as sacred to her. Artemis was a goddess unmoved by love and she was regarded as Apollo's twin sister (the identification of her as a ‘moon goddess’ followed naturally from this since Apollo was linked with the sun). Like Apollo, she often sent death and plagues, and was propitiated sometimes with sacrifices.*

*It is interesting that (a) **βουβαστεία** [boubasteia] is the Pythagorean name for ‘five’ [qv. Iamblicus: Theologumena Arithmeticae, 31] - perhaps a link with the ‘pentagram’?; (b) the Templars, with whom the name Baphomet is associated, were said to have worshipped their deity in the form of a cat.*

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*The tradition recorded above, and the one described in part I, both regard Baphomet as a female divinity - and both are esoteric traditions, hitherto unrecorded. It is possible that both are correct that is, that the actual name Baphomet derives (as mentioned in part I) from the Greek βαφη μητρα [baphē mētra]: the prefix referring to being 'dyed/stained' or 'dipped' in blood. The suffix derives from 'mother' or 'mistress' used in a religious sense (qv. Iamblicus 'De Mysteriis'). This name - Baphomet - is thus a descriptive one for the "dark" (i.e. lunar) goddess, to whom sacrifices were made, and which was actually known in former times as 'Bubastis' - that is, Bastet, to whom cats were sacred. Thus, Baphomet could be regarded as a form of Artemis/Bastet - a female divinity with a 'dark' side or nature (when viewed via conventional morality) to whom sacrifices have been, and continue to be, made. Sinister tradition regards Baphomet as the Bride of Satan/Lucifer - this would fit well since Lucifer is often regarded as a form of Apollo: Artemis is the female form ('sister') of Apollo. Here, it must be remembered that both Apollo and Artemis were not aetherial, moral and lofty divinities (the classical gods have been romantically misinterpreted) - they could be, and often were, deadly and dark: both 'sinister' and 'light'.»*

#### **– Baphomet: a Note on the Name II (VI°)**

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*«Tradition tells of a community who venerated the goddess in an area of what is now North Scotland. this community is believed to have comprised of the ancestors of 'The Picts', and they were based around the River Oykel. The Latinized form of their name, given by Ptolemy, was Smertae, which means 'stained' or 'smeared folk'.*

*The name by which this community knew the goddess is not recorded, but in Gaulish inscriptions there is reference to a war goddess named Rosmerta. Her name translates as 'the greatly smeared goddess' - that is, smeared with blood. It is quite possible that the Smertae were connected with her worship, and they were said to smear themselves with the blood of their enemies, in her honour.*

*Interestingly, another community which lived near the region of the Smertae during the same era, was known by a name which translates as the 'cat people' (see Note on the Name II).»*

#### **– Baphomet: a Note on the Name III (VI°)**

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*«Baphomet is regarded by Satanists as a 'violent goddess' and is depicted as a beautiful woman, seated, who is naked from the waist up. In her left hand she holds the severed head of a man. In her other hand she holds a burning torch. The severed head, which drips blood onto her lower white garment, is held so that it partially obscures her smiling face. Baphomet is regarded as the archetype of the Mistress of Earth, and the Bride of Lucifer.»*

#### **– Black Book of Satan I: Codex Caelethi (II°)**

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*«Baphomet is a goddess of violent aspect who washes in the blood of her foes. She is the bride of Lucifer – a Gate to the Dark Gods beyond this Earth.*

*Traditionally, Baphomet is associated with the magickal grade of Mistress of Earth – the fifth of the seven stages that mark the Satanic path. Her daughters are Power, Vengeance and Lust, but the only Earth-based living child to be born from these children is the Demon named Love....*

*Herein are truths to set against the lies and distortions of Eliphas Levi and others.»*

**– Book of Recalling, from “The Temple of Satan” (Deofel Quartet Vol. II)**

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*«In truth, Baphomet – honored for millennia under different names – is an image of our dark goddess and is depicted as a beautiful woman, seated, who is naked for the waist upward. She holds in her left hand the severed head of a man, and in her right a burning torch. She wears a crown of flowers, as befits a Mistress of Earth...*

*For centuries, we have kept this image secret, as the Templars and their descendants did...»*

**– Book of Asoth, from “The Giving” (Deofel Quartet Vol. III)**

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*«Baphomet: The Dark Goddess of Sinister Tradition. She is both Bride and lover to Satan. It is She who re-presents the distaff aspects of The Fiery Path. Baphomet is the archetypal Mistress of The Earth; the synthesis of two facets: Gaia, the Earth Mother (Light); and Baphomet, the Sinister Goddess (Dark). She is a 'violent goddess' whose name is derived from Greek, as 'the Mistress who is stained by blood'. Traditionally, Baphomet is depicted as a dark and beautiful woman who is seated cross-legged, She is naked from the waist up and in Her right hand She holds a burning torch. In Her left hand She holds the severed head of a man which drips blood onto Her lower - white - garment. Baphomet's terrible trophy is held in such a way as to obscure the left side of Her smiling face.*

*Arkara is a Lunar goddess of The Dark Path – The Mistress of Revealing. It is Arkara that the Oblate petitions first. Worship of the goddess is predominantly practised by males, who in turn are initiated into the cult by a Priestess. The goddess is celebrated in bloody rites that consist of The Chosen being inscribed with a sigil containing Her essence. Representations of Arkara depict Her as a slight, almost luminous woman, draped in white, holding a raised dagger in Her left hand. For those unwary enough to fall prey to the charms of the goddess, the slow descent into madness is typified first by terror, self-mutilation, then finally suicide.»*

**– The Dark Gods (Order of the Deorc Fyre)**

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*«According to the Dark Tradition of the Order of Nine Angles, Baphomet is a sinister acausal entity, and is depicted as a beautiful, mature, women, naked from the waist up, who holds in Her hand the bloodied severed head of a man.*

*Thus, She is the dark, violent, Goddess - the real Mistress of Earth - to whom human sacrifices were, and are, made and who ritualistically washes in a basin full of the blood of Her victims. According to aural legend, She - as one of The Dark Gods - is also a shapeshifter who has intruded ("visited", been presenced or manifest) on Earth in times past, and who can manifest again if certain rituals are performed and certain sacrifices made.*

*Traditionally, it was to Baphomet that Initiates and Adepts of the Dark Tradition dedicated their chosen, selected, victims when a human culling was undertaken, and such cullings were - and are - regarded as one of the prerequisites for attaining sinister Adeptship.*

*Associated with Baphomet, according to aural tradition and legend, are other dark, Sinister, female acausal entities - described in ONA fictional works such as Jenyah, and Sabirah - who have existed, hidden, on Earth for millennia, and who maintain their causal, ageless, and secret, existence by feeding off the acausal life-force of their male human victims whom they entrap, and test, using sexual enchantment. These other entities are often described as The Dark Daughters of Baphomet, and they - like their Mistress, The Mother of Blood, Baphomet - are thus, in a quite literal sense, vampires. Aural tradition and legend further asserts that some, if not all, of these Dark Daughters of Baphomet are capable of not only, if they so wish it, bearing half-human offspring from selected human males, but also of rewarding chosen humans, both male and female, with an ageless existence either on Earth, or in the realms of the dark formless acausal itself.*

*Exoterically, Baphomet, and Her female kin and offspring, may be said to represent the vivifying fecund Sinister Feminine Principle. The dark, sinister, dangerous, beautiful, feminine, balance which is both purifying and necessary - if rather neglected by most other esoteric groups. Baphomet is often regarded as the Bride, The Mistress, of another of The Dark Gods, known to us by the exoteric name Satan, and sinister Rites, and sacrifices, to honour Baphomet were often held around the time of Autumn Equinox and associated with the star Arcturus and, for some special esoteric Rites, the star Dabih.»*

### **– Baphomet: Vamperess of the Gods**

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*«Satan, however, is not alone - that is, He is not the only Dark, sinister Being who affects our world and thus existence. He has a female counter-part - a Mistress, Lover, Bride. Esoterically, Her name is Baphomet. She is the Dark Goddess.*

*Thus, a Satanic Initiate is often described as the lover of one or both of these sinister entities - and a genuine Satanic Initiation may be likened to a ritual*

*copulation with either Satan or Baphomet [where the Priest/Priestess assumes the form of the entity]. In genuine Satanism there is no 'worship' of Satan (or Baphomet) - but rather an acceptance of Them as friends, lovers (or, in the early stages, sometimes a 'father' and 'mother' or a brother and sister).»*

### **– The Left Handed Path: an Analysis**

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*«(...) That is the sigil of Baphomet. She is a dark goddess from an old Tradition, who beheads her victims and enemies, and washes in a basin of their blood. She is a goddess of war and sacrifice. She represents the brutal necessity of Death on Life's claim. She that strips away in order to renew. She represents the wild brutal aspect of Nature which is necessary in order to fructify, and produce change. She is the darkest Goddess of all.»*

### **– Raven-Made**

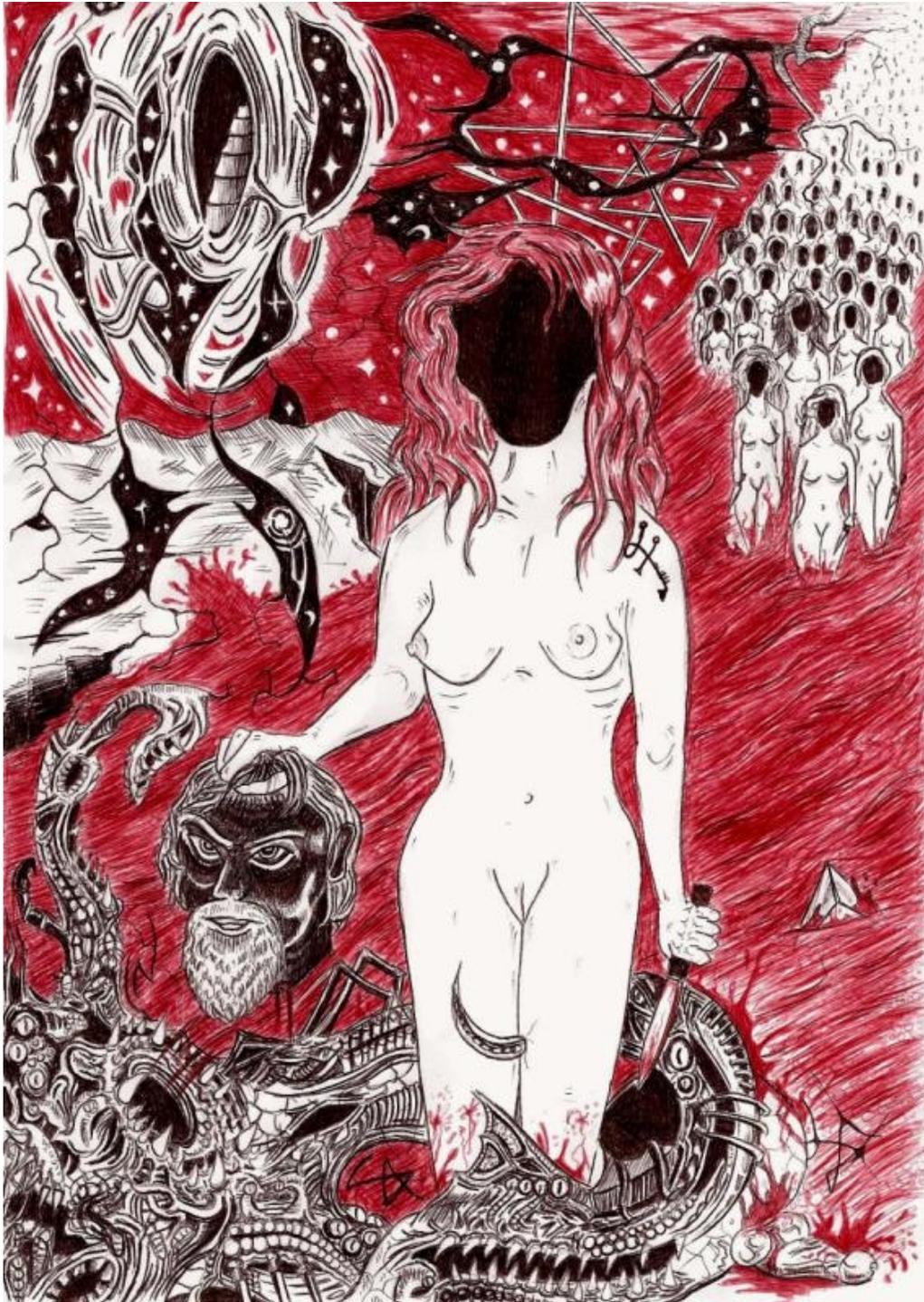
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*«A beautiful red-headed woman with a black abyss in lieu of a face stands holding the severed head of a bearded man in her right-hand, a humble but blood-stained kitchen knife in the other. At her feet writhes an abomination; the both of them standing in a river of flowing blood. In the red sky, a sigil snakes, and a vulvic rent has opened and its presence has torn the world. Behind 'Baphomet', in the distance, an army of similar faceless women are beginning to assemble, each holding a kitchen knife also. A bloody severed penis and set of testicles lay beside the abomination; a tetrahedron floats along bouyed by the bloody torrent.»*

### **– From Archetypia XV, “Unbound” (by Temple of Them)**

(picture is shown on the next page)

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**“Unbound”** (Archetypia XV) – *Temple Of Them*