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Part 1: Morphic Fields & Energy Healing

When I first learned that biologists did not understand the origins or mechanics of form, I was very surprised. For example, you have a right hand and a left hand. Both hands have cells containing identical DNA. So how do the cells in either hand know what form to take, a right hand, or a left hand?

In molecular biological circles, the process of formative causation is known as *morphogenesis*. Morphogenesis is taken from the Greek *morphê* shape and *genesis* creation, and literally means "beginning of the shape." Morphogenesis is a problem for biological scientists of all camps and divisions of theory.

Dr. Harold Saxton Burr (1889-1973) first presented a theoretical solution to the problem of morphogenesis publicly from 1916 to just before his death. He had worked many years upon the subject but did not become that vocal about it until he had secured tenure at Yale University School of Medicine. In his book *The Electrical Patterns of Life* he states, *The Universe in which we find ourselves and from which we cannot be separated is a place of Law and Order. It is not an accident, nor chaos. It is organized and maintained by an Electro-dynamic field capable of determining the position and movement of all charged particles.*ⁱ

Burr's research and experimentation lead him to conclude that all living things – from men to mice, from trees to seeds – are molded and controlled by electro-dynamic fields. These fields could be measured and mapped with standard voltmeters. Thus, it was the *electro-dynamic fields* that caused form to happen and not the DNA.

The Field and the Ether

It must be mentioned that the concept of the field was relatively new to the 19th and 20th centuries. From the 17th century to about 1840, matter was still considered the fundamental reality and comparable to little round billiard balls interacting with each other. It was not until Michael Faraday (1791–1867) had discovered electromagnetism, that the concept of the field entered physics. However, it was not until the 1860's that James Clerk Maxwell (1831-1879) created the mathematics needed to describe the electromagnetic fields for physics. Yet, the concept of the subtle energy of ether was still believed to exist and played a part in the foundation of the field.

It was not until the Michelson-Morley experiment of 1887 that physics convinced itself that ether did not exist. Later, even Einstein hedged back and forth on the subject several times. Today, it is believed that the equipment used by Michelson-Morley was too crude to actually measure for etheric fields. Therefore, ether does actually exist at some level of reality as Max Planck suggested in 1944.ⁱⁱ

The Revolution Begins: Morphogenic Fields

The concept of the field has entered biology through Burr and many others such as Robert Becker and Gary Selden.ⁱⁱⁱ There has also been pioneering work by Richard Gerber in his book *Vibrational Medicine*.^{iv} Yet, one of the most well known pioneers is Rupert Sheldrake^v who has taken his understanding to both the academic world and to the common citizen.

Sheldrake has probably done more than anyone to make the concept of morphogenic fields more comprehensible and scientific. In his earlier work *A New Science of Life*, he demonstrates his basic foundational concepts concerning *morphogenic fields*. He also has many videos on the Internet free to anyone who has the inclination to view them.

In one such Internet video^{vi}, Sheldrake states the no one understands embryology or the mechanism behind the formations taking place. We have limbs, yet one limb is a right limb, and the other is a left limb. The DNA is identical. How does the body get instructions to form right limbs and left limbs? Thus, the concept of a morphic field as a working hypothesis is then presented by Sheldrake.

One great concept that shows how electro-magnetic fields relate to living morphogenic fields can be shown with an ordinary bar magnet. See Figure 1 below.

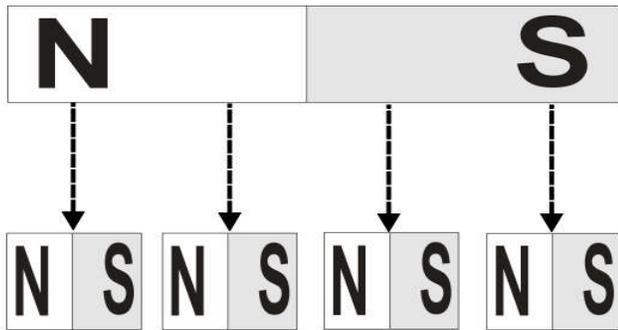


Figure 1: Break a bar magnet into four pieces and you will then have four bar magnets.

If you take a bar magnet and break it into four pieces, you have not destroyed the magnet or its magnetism. Instead, what you have created now is four new magnets, each containing its own magnetic field. The field remains but in smaller parameters. What you see reflected here is a *regeneration* of the original bar magnet into four complete smaller units.

Regeneration is also a huge problem to explain with mainstream molecular biology. Imagine taking a flatworm and cutting it into three equal pieces (see Figure-2).

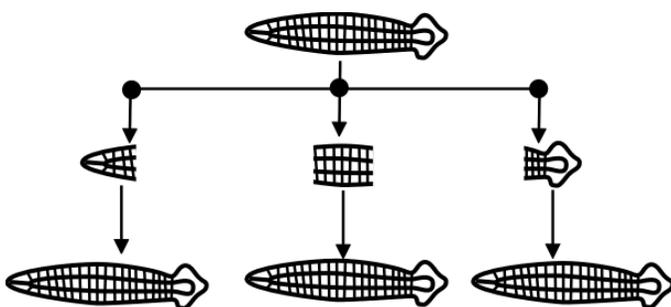


Figure 2: Shows how one flatworm after being dissected into three pieces can regenerate as three complete flatworms.

By comparison, to the regeneration of the magnets mentioned above, the flatworm regenerates as three completely new flatworms. This is a good comparison to show how morphogenic fields have properties similar to magnetic fields. For Sheldrake, morphogenic fields can be affected by magnetic and electrical fields, but are themselves neither.

Human beings can regenerate a liver, but not a limb. Yet, newts and salamanders can regenerate their limbs. Sheldrake takes this a step further and shows that after removing the lens from the eye of a newt, it was able to regenerate the whole lens from the edge of the iris^{vii}. This is not what happens in the newt's embryonic development, which originally creates the lens from a skin covering the newt's eye. So where did the new ability come from? It comes from the morphogenic field that surrounds all newts as a species.

Sheldrake proposes that there are many morphic fields and different types. There are social fields, mind fields, behavior fields and fields that even form crystals. Sheldrake reports that when a new crystal is made in a laboratory for the first time, it takes time for the form field or morphic field to assimilate and form the crystal. Yet, in subsequent experiments, the new crystal is forming faster and faster because the morphic field for that specie of crystal is able to learn.^{viii}

Resonance is the term Sheldrake uses to explain the causative ability of morphogenic fields to learn from the past and from other fields. To his credit, Sheldrake does not consider morphogenic fields to be made of mass or waves and to be non-energetic.^{ix} However, without the morphogenic fields the universe would be in chaos. Sheldrake also sees no reason why morphogenic fields should have to obey the known laws of classical physics and that future resonances or causes could possibly happen.

Telepathy and Morphogenic Fields

Morphogenic fields for Sheldrake explain how telepathy can and does exist between people and animals. He considers this very natural and not supernatural. When showing picture puzzles for the first time to a group of people, it took them so long on average to figure out the hidden image. As one might guess, the more the experiment was done, the faster each new group could solve the picture

puzzle. This demonstrates a possible collective unconscious similar to what Carl G. Jung proposed.

Finally, for Sheldrake, the laws of the universe are merely habits that have been built over time. These habits could also be described as memory. Sheldrake indicates by analogy that morphic fields are hierarchical in nature. Just as a city is in a county, a county is in a state, a state is in a country, and a country is in a world, so are morphic fields nested and configured (Figure-3).

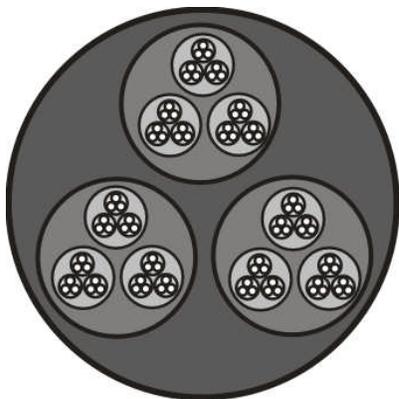


Figure-3: Here is shown a Chinese series of hierarchical sets of threes. Each one is nested in the other.

Therefore, as shown in Figure-3, Sheldrake sees morphic fields as being nested in each other hierarchically.^x For Sheldrake, the morphic fields are natural but cannot be measured directly due to the limitations of current science and technology. He believes that someday they will be found. Yet, he does not deny that electromagnetic fields and chemistry can affect morphogenic fields and the resultant forms, but they cannot explain them.

Electromagnetic Stimulation

For those who live closer to the earth, there were two more experiments done to see if animals not having the ability to regenerate could be effected to do so through artificial means. In 1967, Stephen D. Smith, at the University of Kentucky, implanted tiny batteries into the amputated limbs of a frog. Frogs cannot regenerate their limbs like salamanders can. Smith was successful showing that electromagnetic vibration could stimulate regeneration.^{xi} There were also some successful experiments on rats and other small mammals but not as dynamic as a true morphic field could accomplish.^{xii}

Electromagnetic instruments with specific frequencies can stimulate soft tissue and bone growth. However, none of these magnetic stimulations can explain form. Just as chemistry and steroids can stimulate growth into form, they of themselves cannot explain it.

Having laid a foundation for concept, I will show in the next issue, the relationship between morphogenic fields and energy healing. It is really neat.

End of Part 1: Morphic Fields & Energy Healing

ⁱ Website: www.wrf.org/men-women-medicine/dr-harold-s-burr.php

ⁱⁱ Gregg Braden, *The Divine Matrix: Bridging Time, Space, Miracles, and Belief* (United States: Hay House, 2007), p. 21.

ⁱⁱⁱ Robert O Becker, Gary Selden, *The Body Electric: Electromagnetism and the Foundations of Life* (New York: Quill, 1985).

^{iv} Richard Gerber, M.D., *Vibrational Medicine* (Vermont: Bear and Company, 2001).

^v Sheldrake obtained his Ph.D. in biochemistry at Cambridge. *Biography of Rupert Sheldrake, Ph.D. – Part II*. Website: www.sheldrake.org/About/biography/biography2.html

^{vi} Rupert Sheldrake, Internet Video: *The Morphogenetic Universe*. A presentation at the Biology of Transformation Conference in 2007. Found on Google: 1 hour and 20 minutes duration.

^{vii} Rupert Sheldrake, *A New Science of Life: The Hypothesis of Formative Causation* (United States: J.P. Tarcher, Inc., 1982), p.21.

^{viii} *Ibid.*, pp. 104-105.

^{ix} *Ibid.*, pp. 96-97.

^x *Ibid.*, p. 72.

^{xi} Robert O Becker, Gary Selden, *The Body Electric*, pp. 150-152.

^{xii} *Ibid.*, pp. 152-155.

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