

The Virtues and the *Chakras*

According to St Bonaventure (*Breviloquium* V, 4, 4), the upper part of the soul is rectified by the three Theological Virtues, and the lower part of the soul is rectified by the Cardinal Virtues. Though this is rather fanciful, I have tried to correlate his remarks with the doctrine of the *chakras* in Indian medicine.

VIRTUE	<i>Effect on the soul</i>	CHAKRA	<i>Associated with...</i>
Charity	Desiring the Good	Crown	Consciousness
Hope	Expecting the Beautiful	Brow	Imagination/intuition
Faith	Believing the True	Throat	Thought/communication
Justice	[integration]	Heart	Air/breathing/affection
Prudence	the rational	Solar plexus	Fire/digestion/growth
Temperance	the concupiscible	Sacral	Water/reproduction/joy
Fortitude	the irascible	Base	Earth/survival instinct