

Prophet teaches followers to contact own 'inner lights'

By LORRAINE NELSON
Of the Emerald

In the beginning, they all sat solemn-faced, attentive to the chants and prayers being sung in ancient sanskrit. They remained silent at the end of every song, some with eyes closed, meditating on the restful, relaxing vibrations in the room.

And when Elizabeth Claire Prophet completed her message, she called to her audience and they went forth, all 300 of them, each bearing a smile, to be touched and blessed by the "Guru Ma."

Prophet, who has about 25 proclaimed followers in Lane County, was in Eugene Friday night "stumping for the coming revolution in higher consciousness."

The revolution is a realization of our own true self and of our own destiny. It is a going within, contacting the light of the inner self. Prophet teaches people to find their own inner lights through prayers, mantras, chants and meditations.

She is the leader of the Church

Universal and Triumphant, founded by her late husband, Mark, in 1958 as the Summit Lighthouse in Washington, D.C.

The international headquarters for the church is now on the Pasadena campus of Summit University.

Prophet brings a message that each person, as the son or daughter of God, possesses the potential of being a Christ.

Jesus Christ, Buddha, Confucius, Moses and others are the "ascended masters," people who have mastered time and space and have ascended into the presence of God. Prophet says she is the messenger for the ascended masters and she teaches that Jesus is the archetype of what people on Earth are intended to be.

God is energy and evil—"e" veil—is an energy veil, she said Friday. The seven Chakras, the centers of awareness within us, contain this energy. When they accelerate and turn they increase our consciousness, she said, adding the seven Chakras were given to us to experience God.

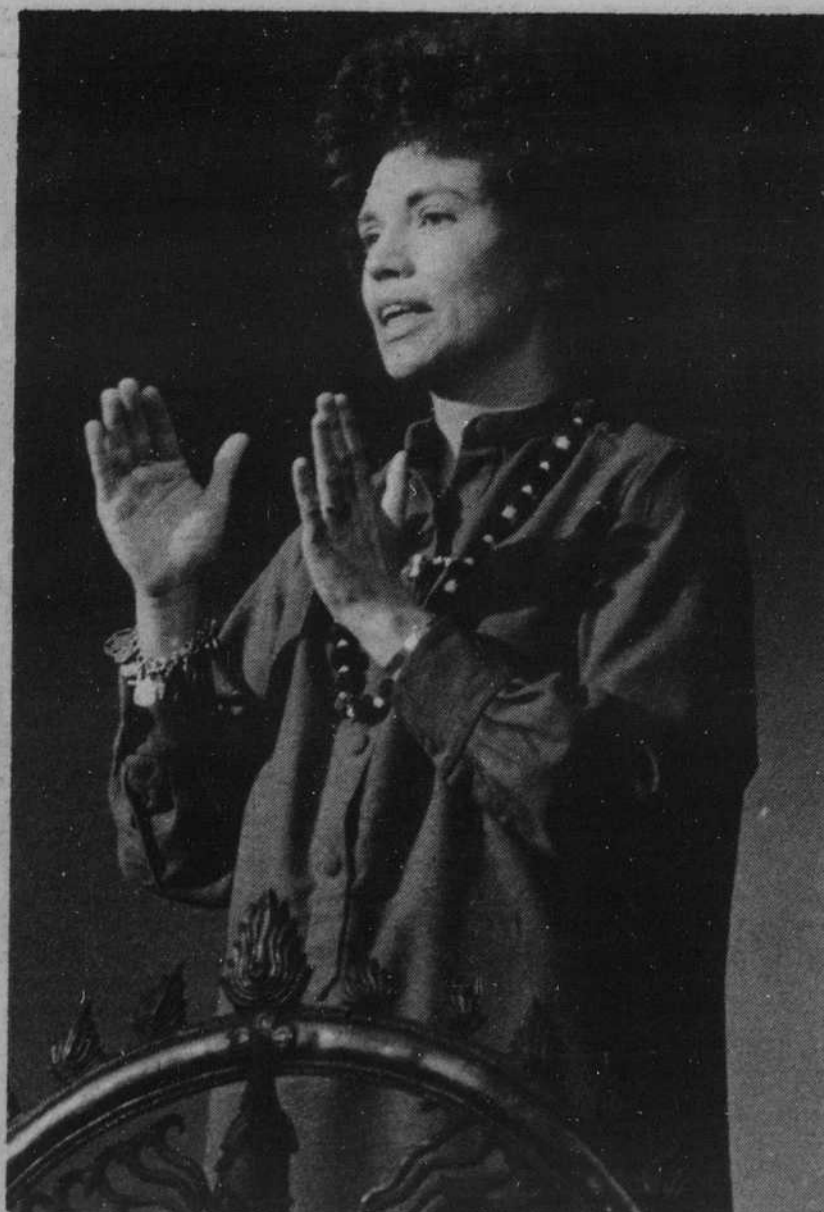
Rock music encompasses a death beat, or voodoo beat—so-named for the black magic and witchcraft reflected in African voodoo rhythms — that causes much of the energy in the inner self to descend to the lower Chakras, she said.

She labeled marijuana the "death drug" and denounced drinking and excessive sex because they hamper the realization of a higher consciousness.

In the almost chant-like monotone she used most of the evening to address her audience, she recounted her search for her own destiny, which began at about age 2.

She told of her first meeting with her late husband in 1961, and how he took her upward to an inner plane of being from where she could see the world and see that the souls of humans had the flames of awareness in them, but that those flames had been forgotten.

A public lecture in Eugene Friday will attempt to organize those people who wish to learn more about Prophet's teachings. The meeting will be held at the Wilamette Christian Center, 1330 Madison St. at 7:30 p.m.



Elizabeth Claire Prophet

Photo by Steve Dykes



Graphic by Tom Eitel

Hunger Project fast scheduled Tuesday

The second annual Hunger Project Fast Day is Tuesday and members say they need participation.

The project was established in the fall of 1977 by est, an educational corporation founded by Werner Erhard. Since then, the project has enlisted nearly 200,000 members worldwide.

Erhard, who spoke for the Hunger Project during its founding, says there is no absence of solutions to the problem of starvation. He says hunger is a function of the forces in the world, not a function of scarcity or of no solutions.

The Hunger Project, however, is not about solutions, Erhard says. The project is about creating a context—creating the end of hunger by 1997 as an idea whose time has come.

The Hunger Project does not spend money to provide food for starving people, but instead uses its money to inform people about the project and to get them enrolled.

There are no meetings to attend and no rules to follow, individuals are free to make of the project what they will. Its members believe that the context of the project creates a process through which the question "What can I do?" can be answered.

To find out more about the project or to pledge your support, call Jack Condliffe at 687-9080, or stop by the Hunger Project table in the EMU on Tuesday.

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