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**Daniil Andreev and Buddhism**

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Written in an officially atheistic state, without any hope for publication, Daniil Andreev’s mystical works were not restricted by any established religious or ideological doctrines; thus Andreev combines in his writings such heterogeneous notions as reincarnation and the Divine Trinity, simultaneously substituting Eternal Femininity for Holy Spirit.

Andreev’s mission was that of a herald who foresaw the eventual spiritual brotherhood of all peoples on earth and the creation of an “interreligious, pan-human church of the new times, the Rose of the World.” Andreev sees all preexisting religions as petals of that new flower, which, while preserving the uniqueness of each petal, will be a perfect and complete realization of spirituality and beauty. One of these petals is Buddhism.

“I do not know where and when I shall die this time, but I know where and when I died the last time before I was born in 1906 for a life in Russia,” writes Andreev in *The Rose of the World*. The most recent of Andreev’s previous deaths, as his *deep memory* informs him, happened in India 300 years ago. All of Andreev’s writings are related to the worlds explored by his soul during those 300 years between its two latest incarnations. The importance of karma and reincarnation for Andreev’s entire undertaking is obvious: his discoveries and his messages would not have been possible without his soul’s ability to experience and remember the consequences of its embodied existences.

In our multilayered, multidimensional universe, as revealed by Andreev, karma is among the most fundamental laws: “The Law of Retribution … dictates that a violation of moral laws encumbers the ether body of the perpetrator … As soon as that person’s link is severed by death, the ether body begins to sink deeper and deeper, from plane to plane, until it reaches equilibrium with its surroundings.”

In this paper, I will examine the place and role of the concepts of karma and reincarnation in Andreev’s complex, *interreligious* belief system, referring to his prosaic and poetic works.