



RELIGIONS

Left-hand path religions

Development of new inter-religious tools



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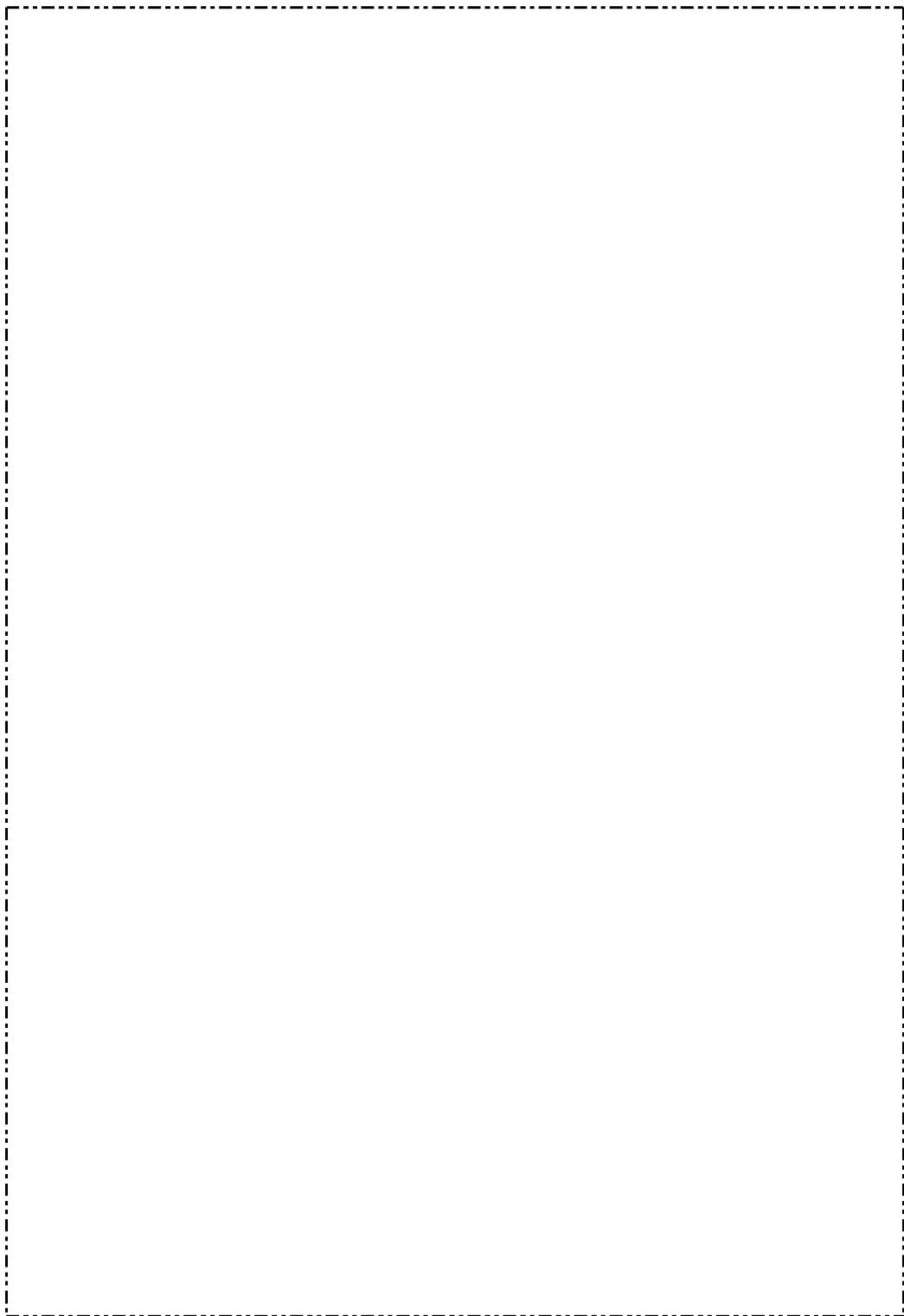


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LEFT-HAND PATH RELIGIONS

Left Hand Path (LHP) is a phrase used to describe some alternative religious movements and religious practices involving magic. LHP movements are said to involve self development instead of communal concerns, self analysis instead of group meditation, self empowerment for material reasons rather than for spiritual ones. The focus is on individualism, free thought, intelligence and personal abilities and gifts. Practitioners of Thelemic Magic and Chaos Magic (championed by Aleister Crowley and Austin O. Spare respectively) often call themselves LHP and Satanism is one of the few left-hand-path religions. Historically some LHP groups have pushed past the limits of acceptable behavior

➤ LUCIFERANISM



Great Church of Lucifer



Neo-luciferian church - symbol

Luciferianism is a belief system that venerates the essential characteristics that are affixed to Lucifer. The tradition, influenced by Gnosticism, usually reveres Lucifer not as the devil, but as a liberator, a guardian or guiding spirit or even the true god as opposed to Jehovah.

Luciferianism does not revere the devil figure or most characteristics typically affixed to Satan. Rather, Lucifer in this context is seen as one of many morning stars, a symbol of enlightenment, independence and human progression.

They support the protection of the natural world. Both the arts and sciences are crucial to human development, and thus both are cherished. Luciferians think that humans should be focused on this life and how to make the most of it every single day. The ability to recognize both good and evil, to accept that all actions have consequences, both positive and negative, and to actively influence one's environment, is a key factor.

For Luciferians, enlightenment is the ultimate goal. The basic Luciferian principles highlight truth and freedom of will, worshipping the inner self and one's ultimate potential. Traditional dogma is shunned as a basis for morality on the grounds that humans should not need deities or fear of eternal punishment to distinguish right from wrong and to do good. All ideas should be tested before being accepted, and even then one should remain skeptical because knowledge and understanding are fluid. Regardless of whether Lucifer is conceived of as a deity or as a mere archetype, he is a representation of ultimate knowledge and exploration: humanity's savior and a champion for continuing personal growth.

Some Luciferians believe in Lucifer as an actual deity, not to be worshipped as the Judeo-Christian God but to be revered and followed as a teacher and friend, as a rescuer or guiding spirit, or even the one true god as opposed to the traditional creator of Judaism. Theistic Luciferians are followers of the Left-Hand Path and may adhere to different dogmata put forth by organizations such as the Neo-Luciferian Church or other congregations that are heavily focused on ceremonial magic, the occult and literal interpretations of spiritual stories and figures.

Luciferians:

- view Lucifer as a spiritual and enlightened being
- support the protection of the natural world
- think that humans should be focused on this life and how to make the most of it every single day
- Can be theistic, or LaVeyan/atheistic, or something of their own choosing.

- Greater Church of Lucifer

In 2014 Luciferians founded a worldwide organization for Luciferians from Houston, Texas known as the Greater Church of Lucifer under the leadership of Jacob No, Michael W. Ford and Jeremy Crow, founder of the Luciferian Research Society. The GCoL focuses more on teachings based on the practical world.

Family and personal progression are among its key tenets.

- Neo-Luciferian Church

The Neo-Luciferian Church (NLC) is a Gnostic and Luciferian organisation with roots in western esotericism, Voodoo, Luciferianism, Thelema, and magic.

Founded in 2005 by Danish occultist Bjarne Salling Pedersen and American, Michael Bertiaux "...the organisation is primarily active in Denmark and Sweden and has a very strong internet presence."

The teachings include elements from Thelema, Gnosticism, Voodoo, traditional occultism, and witchcraft.

There is an emphasis on art, psychology, and critical thinking.

The mythology draws heavily on Roman and Greek sources, and more dubious modern writings such as Charles Leland's Aradia, or the Gospel of the Witches, the works of Dion Fortune, Michael Bertiaux, and Aleister Crowley.

The Neo-Luciferian Church operates within a grade system of seven degrees and belongs in the succession from a number of churches, some Gnostic and magical in origin, others belonging to the apostolic succession as received within the Ecclesia Gnostica Spiritualis.

➤ DEMONOLATRY

Modern Demonolatry is a polytheistic religion.

Demonolatry - The worship of demons and/or practicing ritual magick with the aid of entities known as demons.

Demonolatry is a magickal practice and a religion.

Any person who worships and works with Demons is a Demonolator.

The practice of Demonolatry may be divided in two categories. One is the religious practice and the other is the magickal practice. The religious practice is the category of which prayer, ceremonies and celebrations are part of. The religious Demonolators utilize prayers of sorts for empowerment, devotion, communication with the divine, confession or thanksgiving.

The religious rites and celebrations may be those dedicated to the sect Demon, to the Matron/Patron or Marriage rites, divorce rites, funeral rites, baptisms, holidays and others.

Demonolatry is not a religion which practices Black Masses. Demonolators do not sacrifice animals, torture children or believe in committing crimes for the sake of pleasing the Self. While Demonolatry is a path which focuses on the Self and betterment of the Self (Personal Power, etc.), it does not disregard the Laws of Man nor does it give the practitioner a free pass to do whatever he or she likes.

Demonolatry practices usually center around the observance of Holy Days and Festivals, prayer and meditative techniques, although ritual magick is a most common practice as well.

The rituals of Demonolatry are individually tailored, so no two Demonolators' practices are exactly alike.

Where rituals are concerned, most are not very different from the rituals of Wicca or

Ceremonial Magick. The primary difference is that the Demonolator casts his circle and calls upon the Demons (there are also Elemental Demons for each of the four elements) to lend Their aid to his magick.

There are no real "sacred texts" to be found within Demonolatory.

The Holy Festival days most commonly observed within Demonolatory are as follows:

March 21 - Rite to Lucifer

May 2 - Rite to Leviathan

June 21 - Rite to Flereous

September 21 - Second Rite to Leviathan

October 31 - Rite to Eurynomous (Baalberith/Babael)

December 21 - Rite to Belial

There are also official marriage rites, Baptismal rites, Divorces and even Funerary rites to be found within Demonolatory. As with almost any other path, these are usually performed by an ordained Priest or Priestess and are commonly performed on specific Holy Festival days which correspond to the nature of the rite.

Many of Demonology followers believe in reincarnation of their own personal energies.

Demonolatory has formal marriage rites (conducted in the name of Rosier and the patron/matron), formal funeral services (conducted in the name of the matron patron Eurynomous, Baalberith, and Babael), and formal divorces (in the name of the matron/patron and Rosier or Satan).

In Demonolatory, the initiation is a ritual welcoming a new member into the Sect or into Demonolatory, while Baptism represents the beginning of your life as a Demonolater.

➤ SATANISM

Satanism is a group of ideological and philosophical beliefs based on Satan. Contemporary religious practice of Satanism began with the founding of the Church of Satan in 1966, although a few historical precedents exist. Prior to the public practice, Satanism existed primarily as an accusation by various Christian groups toward perceived ideological opponents, rather than a self-identity.

Since the 19th century, various small religious groups have emerged that identify as Satanists or use Satanic iconography. Satanist groups that appeared after the 1960s are widely diverse, but two major trends are theistic Satanism and atheistic Satanism. Theistic Satanists venerate Satan as a supernatural deity, viewing him not as omnipotent but rather as a patriarch. In contrast, atheistic Satanists regard Satan as merely a symbol of certain human traits.

Contemporary religious Satanism is predominantly an American phenomenon, the ideas spreading elsewhere with the effects of globalization and the Internet. Satanism started to reach Central and Eastern Europe in the 1990s, in time with the fall of the Soviet Union, and most noticeably in Poland and Lithuania, predominantly Roman Catholic countries.

✓ SYMBOLIC SATANISM

▪ La Veyan Satanism



Official symbol of LaVeyan Satanism and the Church of Satan

LaVeyan Satanism is one of the several distinct religions identifying itself as Satanic. Followers are atheists who stress dependence on the self rather than reliance on any outside power. It encourages individualism, hedonism, materialism, ego, personal initiative, self-worth, and self-determinism.

To the LaVeyan Satanist, Satan is a myth, just like God and other deities. Satan is also, however, incredibly symbolic.

It represents all of those things within our natures that outsiders might tell us is dirty and unacceptable.

The chant of "Hail Satan!" is really saying "Hail me!" It exalts the self and rejects the self-denying lessons of society.

Finally, Satan represents rebellion, just as Satan rebelled against God in Christianity. Identifying oneself as a Satanist is to go against expectations, cultural norms, and religious creeds.

Anton LaVey officially formed the church of Satan on the night of April 30-May 1, 1966. He published the Satanic Bible in 1969.

The Church of Satan admits that early rituals were mostly mockeries of Christian ritual and reenactments of Christian folklore concerning the supposed behavior of Satanists. For example, upside down crosses, reading the Lord's Prayer backward, using a nude woman as an altar, etc.

However, as the Church of Satan evolved it solidified its own specific messages and tailored its rituals around those messages.

The Church of Satan promotes individuality and following your desires. At the core of the religion are three sets of principles which outline these beliefs:

The Nine Satanic Statements - Included in the opening of the Satanic Bible as written by LaVey. These statements outline the fundamental beliefs.

The Eleven Satanic Rules of the Earth - Written two years prior to the Satanic Bible, LaVey wrote these rules for members of the Church of Satan.

The Nine Satanic Sins - From pretentiousness to herd conformity, LaVey outlined the unacceptable actions for members.

They do not worship or believe in Satan and they do not believe in God. "Satan" is just a symbol of freedom and the ego.

Holidays and Celebrations

Satanism celebrates the self, so one's own birthday is held as the most important holiday.

Satanists also sometimes celebrate the nights of Walpurgisnacht (April 30-May 1) and Halloween (October 31-November 1). These days have been traditionally associated with Satanists through witchcraft lore.

Responsibility is a major tenet of Satanism. Humans have the right to do as they choose

and should feel free to pursue their own happiness. However, this does not render them immune from consequences. Taking control of one's life includes being responsible regarding one's actions.

Among the things LaVey explicitly condemned:

Harming of children

Rape

Theft

Illegal activity

Drug use

Animal sacrifice

✓ THEISTIC SATANISM



The most notable symbol of theistic Satanism

Theistic Satanism, also called Traditional Satanism, is the belief that Satan is a god or force, and worship of him or it. Other characteristics of theistic Satanism may include a belief in magic, which is manipulated through ritual, although that is not a defining criterion, and theistic Satanists may focus solely on devotion.

Theistic Satanists often differ between each other in their beliefs.

Theistic Satanists also believe that Satan is a person and pray to him.

Theistic Satanists think people in earlier times worshipped Satan like them, such as La Voisin, a French witch.

Some Theistic Satanists say their family taught them Satanism.

Self-development is important to Theistic Satanists.

Theistic Satanists may believe that Satan sends them tests in life in order to develop them as an individual. They value taking responsibility for oneself.

▪ **Our Lady of Endor Coven (or ophite cultus satanas)**

Our Lady of Endor Coven, also known as Ophite Cultus Sathanas, was a Satanic cult claimed to have been founded in 1948[1] by Herbert Arthur Sloane (born September 3, 1905, died June 16, 1975) in Cleveland, Ohio though evidence suggests it was not conceived of until 1968. The group was heavily influenced by gnosticism (especially that found in the contemporary book by Hans Jonas, *The Gnostic Religion*), and worshipped Sathanas, their name for Satan (Cultus Sathanas is a Latin version of Cult of Satan).

▪ Joy of Satan

The Joy of Satan was founded by Maxine Dietrich. The Joy of Satan organization believes Satan and His Demons are the Original Pagan Gods, which includes Asian, African, Greek, Egyptian, Hindu, Celtic, Norse, Sumerian, etc. Gods/Goddesses. They believe Satan and His Demons are not Abrahamic or Biblical inventions, that Satan and Demons are ancient, positive names that were turned negative. This organizations religion is based upon ancient pagan religions - such as Ancient Hinduism, Tibet, Norse Paganism, etc. They believe Satan is also the Sumerian God Enki/Ea, Buddha, Vishnu, Shiva, Odin, the Egyptian God Ptah, the Celtic God Lugh, Budh/Wod/Wodan, Surya, Agni, Phanes, Prometheus, etc. and they have proved this repeatedly.

▪ Order of nine angels



Order of Nine Angels - one of main symbol

The Order of Nine Angles (ONA; O9A) is a Satanic and Left-Hand Path occult group based in the United Kingdom, but with affiliated groups in various other parts of the world. Claiming to have been established in the 1960s, it arose to public recognition in the early 1980s, attracting attention for its espousal of Neo-Nazi ideologies and activism. Describing its approach as "Traditional Satanism", it has been identified by academic researchers as also exhibiting Hermetic and Neo-Pagan elements in its beliefs and has been described as one of the most extreme and dangerous Satanist groups in the world.

The ONA promotes the idea that human history can be divided into a series of Aeons, each of which contain a corresponding human civilization. It expresses the view that the current Aeonic civilization is that of the Western, but claims that the evolution of this society is threatened by the "Magian/Nazarene" influence of Judeo-Christian religion, which the Order seeks to combat in order to establish a militaristic new social order, termed the "Imperium". According to Order teachings, this is necessary in order for a Galactic civilization to form, in which "Aryan" society will colonise the Milky Way. It advocates a spiritual path in which the practitioner is required to break societal taboos by isolating themselves from society, committing crimes, embracing political extremism and violence, and carrying out an act of human sacrifice. ONA members practice magick, believing that they are able to do so through channeling energies into our own "causal" realm from an "acausal" realm where the laws of physics do not apply, with such magical actions designed to aid in the ultimate establishment of the Imperium.

The ONA lacks any central authority or structure, instead operating as a broad network of associates – termed the "kollektive" – who are inspired by the texts originally authored by Long and other members of the "Inner ONA". The group comprises largely of clandestine cells, termed "nexions", as well as gangs known as Dreccs, artists known as Balobians, and folk mystics known as Rounwytha. With the first nexion based in Shropshire, Western England, the majority of groups have been established in the British Isles and

Germany, although others have been formed elsewhere in Europe, Russia, South Africa, Australia, and North America.

The ONA describes its beliefs as belonging to "a sinisterly-numinous mystic tradition", adding that "it is not now and never was either strictly satanist or strictly Left Hand Path, but uses "satanism" and the LHP as "causal forms"; that is, as techniques/experiences/ordeals/challenges" to aid the practitioner's spiritual advancement.

BELIEFS AND PRACTICES OF THE O.N.A.

Order of the Nine Angles has five fundamental principles, being:

1. The Way of Practical Deeds - This refers to the conviction that the ONA is a collective of action, not merely reflection. Initiates are expected to live an "exeatic" life, meaning a life that defies social conventions (and indeed laws). A initiate of the ONA may, for example, decide to become (e.g.) a vigilante, soldier, or criminal in their quest to understand life through action.
2. The Way of Culling - The most controversial of the ONA's principles, this tenet has two sides. On one hand, it refers to the ONA's conviction that some human 'scum' have no place in society, and that they deserve to be removed. Thus a member of the ONA may decide to join a police force to obtain combat training, and then use their position of authority to kill criminals, rather than arrest them. On the other hand, this tenet also refer to blood sacrifice to the dark gods, in a manner similar to that described in pre-Christian Europe among the Celts and Germanic tribes, or among some rare Shaivite sects in classical India, or as the early modern Thuggee society.
3. The Way of Kindred Honour - This principle emphasizes the need for solidarity and mutual trust, honor, and respect between the various nexions and members of the ONA. The Order sees its members as an extended family, and in the rare cases of dispute, has very clear guidelines as to how these disputes are allowed to be conducted. In simple language, the ONA protects its own.
4. The Way of Defiance of and Practical Opposition to Magian Abstractions - This principle refer to the ONA's opposition to what it perceives as illegitimate Magian (western Judaeo-Christian) control of global culture and economics. The Order insists that its members fight against forces like globalism and rampant capitalism, in an effort to return to an earlier, less exploitative form of society.
5. The Way of the Rounwytha Tradition - The ONA teaches that the Magian culture has greatly reduced the role of women in society and spirituality. Thus it encourages the return to the Rounwytha tradition, which is the mystic, empathic, folk tradition that embraces and reveres the divine feminine archetype. The Rounwytha tradition encourages the development of strong female leaders, as well as challenging the patriarchal norms that are often indicative of esoteric or religio-political groups. The term itself is almost certainly derived from Old English riinwita, meaning 'one who understands' or perhaps 'one who knows secrets'.

THE SEVEN-FOLD WAY

The core mystical tradition of the ONA is the Seven Fold Way, also known as Hebdomadry. The Seven Fold way is essentially a hermetic system that defines itself as being deeply rooted in Western occultism, and provides a path to ascension that is exceptionally difficult in physical and psychic terms. The Seven refers to both the seven grades of the path, as well as the seven planets which are understood to have esoteric significance. The seven stages of the Way are:

- (1) Neophyte

- (2) Initiate
- (3) External Adept
- (4) Internal Adept
- (5) Master/Mistress
- (6) Grand Master/Mousa
- (7) Immortal

RITUALS/PRACTICES

A key practice is rituals meant to “presense” (manifest) a nexion, which is a connection between the acausal and causal world. This connection often is linked to a specific geographical location that over time is being infused with the energy to manifest a permanent “portal,” and likewise to make the initiate a permanent living nexion.

The Order distinguishes between classical ceremonial magic (described primarily in its *Black Book of Satan and Naos*) and hermetic magic. The latter is less fixed to a certain text or setting, but is more “emotional” and intuitive in nature, usually done either in solitude or with a single other person.

➤ TEMPLE OF SET (SETIANISM)



Logo

The Temple of Set is an occult initiatory order founded in 1975. A new religious movement and form of Western esotericism, the Temple espouses a religion known as Setianism, whose practitioners are called Setians. This is sometimes identified as a form of Satanism, although this term is not often embraced by Setians and is contested by some academics.

Setians believe that Set is the one real god and that he has aided humanity by giving them a questioning intellect, the "Black Flame", which distinguishes them from other animal species. Set is held in high esteem as a teacher whose example is to be emulated but he is not worshipped as a deity. Highly individualistic in basis, the Temple promotes the idea that practitioners should seek self-deification and thus attain an immortality of consciousness.

Setians believe in the existence of magic as a force which can be manipulated through ritual, however the nature of these rituals is not prescribed by the Temple.

Following initiation into the Temple, a Setian can proceed along a series of six degrees, each of which requires greater responsibilities to the group; as a result, most members remain in the first two degrees. Governed by a high priest or high priestess and a wider Council of Nine, the Temple is also divided into groups known as pylons, through which Setians can meet or correspond in order to advance their magical work in a particular area. Pylons of the Temple are now present in the United States, Australia, and Europe,

with estimates placing the Temple's membership between 200 and 500.

The Temple uses an inverted pentagram as its insignia, known as the "Pentagram of Set" to Setians.

At Setian gatherings, members wear the pentagram as a medallion. The medallion is colored according to the initiation degree of the Setian.

Both the Church of Satan and the Temple of Set also use the trapezoid symbol. The version used by the Church includes flames, a pitchfork and the number 666, while the trapezoid of the Temple has a left-facing Egyptian sceptre, and the number 666 stylized in geometric shapes rather than as clear numbers.

All members of the Temple must be affiliated with a pylon, and thus membership is by application, requiring contact with a Setian priestess or priest followed by an evaluation period.

The participation of non-initiated in the Temple's rituals are forbidden, due to the belief that their rituals would be dangerous in the wrong hands.

The Temple of Set recognizes several stages or degrees of initiation. The degrees indicate the individual Setian's development and skill in magic. These degrees are:

Setian (First Degree)

Adept (Second Degree)

Priest / Priestess of Set (Third Degree)

Magister / Magistra Templi (Fourth Degree)

Magus / Maga (Fifth Degree)

Ipsissimus / Ipsissima (Sixth Degree)

The priesthood of the Temple of Set consists of members holding the third degree or higher; those in the first and second degrees are considered "lay members" of the Temple. The first degree serves as a space for mutual evaluation, in which the Temple assesses whether the individual is appropriate for the group, and the individual decides whether they wish to further their involvement with it. Full membership comes with recognition to the second degree. Many members do not advance beyond the second degree, nor is this expected of them, as while the first and second degree members use the organization's teachings and tools for their own development, the priesthood involves greater responsibilities towards the organization, such as being its official representatives.

Recognition is performed by members of the priesthood. The fourth degree, which is acknowledged by the high priest/priestess, entails that the individual is so advanced in their magical skills that they are able to found their own school of magic, represented in the different orders of the Temple. The fifth degree can only be awarded by the unanimous decision of the Council of Nine and by the approval of the Temple's high priest/priestess. A fifth degree member has the power to utter and define a concept which somehow affects the philosophy of the organization, such as the concept of Xeper defined by Aquino in 1975. Only a handful of members have attained this degree and most "fifth-degree" concepts defined in such a manner are no longer studied in the organization. The final sixth degree represents a Magus "whose Task is complete". This degree is held by a very select few in the Temple, although any fifth-degree member can assume the sixth degree based on their own assessment.

