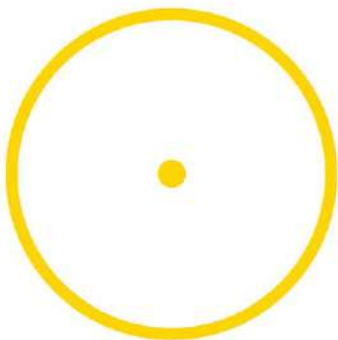


OMRAAM MIKHAËL AÏVANHOV





Omraam Mikhaël Aïvanhov



PROSVETA

First English edition
marking the 100 anniversary
of the birth
of the Master Omraam Mikhael Aïvanhov.
1000 copies printed



Contents

Preface.....	Page 8
--------------	--------



Childhood in Macedonia, 1906-1917.....	Page 13
--	---------



Encounter with the Master Peter Danner – The Path of Light, 1917-1937.....	Page 19
---	---------



Brother Michael – Spiritual Alchemy, 1917-1968.....	Page 47
--	---------



The Master Oomam Mikhael Avarhove - A Solar Teaching, 1960-1986	Page 67
--	----------------

The Jothalic Name - the Rays of the Sun - The Exercises - The Salute - The Tada - The Feast of St Michael - Light and the Seven Colors - Silence - Meditation - Treats - Message to the World - The Egoism of the East.

A New Dawn.....	Page 133
------------------------	-----------------



The Millenial Age - Aquarian Currents - In Spirit and in Truth - The Story of Nathan - Which Religion is the best? - The Tree of Life - The Pyramid of Light - The Law of Love - He Who is in Come - Far-Garth - Penetration: The Universal Peace of Brotherhood - Message to Friends Near and Far - "A New Day is Dawning".

Appendix: What is the Universal White Brotherhood - The Methods - Synarchy - The New Era	Page 158
Chronology	Page 164
Glossary	Page 167
Introduction to the Published Works	Page 170
Oomam Mikhael Avarhove's published works	Page 171
Bibliography	Page 174

The true instructors of humanity, those who create themselves, who write themselves, cause upheaval throughout the entire world simply by their presence, for, through them, we see and hear all colors, all forms, all the poems and all the melodies of the world.

Omraam Mikhaël Aïvanhov

Preface

The 100th anniversary of Omraam Mikhaël Aïvanhov's birth in January 1900, coinciding as it does with the advent of the third millennium, seems a fitting moment to publish this first collection of photographs and short texts drawn from his own talks and from testimonials of friends. In its pages the reader may trace the different phases of his life, the trials he endured and the many transformations he went through.

This book is more than a treasure-house of memories. As we make our way through the wealth of photographs in its pages, we sense that it can support and encourage us in our initiatic quest on the steep road to wisdom.

In this age of Iron, which Hindus call Kali Yuga, this book is a reminder of the highest ideal ever held by human beings: the knowledge of self and of God.

The Master is all that we believe him to be: a saint, an initiate, the archetype of the old sage or the illuminating representation of true man. And for each of us at different moments, one or other of these figures will predominate.

Omraam Mikhaël Aïvanhov never sought public acclaim, never courted recognition in the media. He knew that the truth makes its way in secret to those who love it and seek it in their hearts.

We invite our readers to draw aside the veil from this hidden being.

The texts in italics without a reference are taken from Omraam Mikhaël Aïvanhov's talks.

An asterisk after a word refers to a mention in the Glossary or in the Appendix.

Childhood in Macedonia

1900 — 1917

From birth I have had a special leaning toward fire, and although, when I was young, I used to set fire to barns, later I understood that I would do better to leave physical fire alone and set fire to my own heart and the hearts of others.



*Michael Jackson was born prematurely
 in a poor family,
 in the village of Srebren in Macedonia,
 at the foot of the Baba Planka (The Grandmother Mountain).*

A typical house in Srebren





His mother, Dalia, who had dedicated her child to God from the moment of his conception, was his first model. She always heard the words and images that helped him to control his natural energies. She often repeated the Bulgarian saying:

*Ardelean de gladiolus
presedea de voloniu*

"What is torched will last until noon tomorrow; what is straight will last for ever."

His father, Ivan Dimitrov, had a small alcohol business in the Pelatar region. When this became insufficient, he was obliged to leave his family and go to Bulgaria, where he developed a tract of forest near the Black Sea port of Varna.



His grandmother, Iskra, who was both midwife and healer, played an important role in his life.

She heard the stars... Sometimes she would treat people at night, by starlight, near a small river flowing over a bed of little white pebbles.





*I have many memories of the few years
I lived in Sobtzi. I particularly remember
a discovery I made when I was 4 or 5.
Not far from our house:
I found a trickle
of water coming out of the earth.
I was so impressed by this pure, transparent water,
that I spent hours watching it.*

*There were also some very tall trees, particu-
larly poplars, which I loved to climb. I would climb
as high as possible, and stay up there a long time.*



The Music of the Spheres

A world of harmony exists, an eternal world from which has come all forms, all colors, all music, all beauty... and I have been in that world.

Years ago, I was snatched from my body and I heard the Harmony of the Spheres...

For a few seconds, I actually experienced it, I actually saw and heard how the whole universe sings.

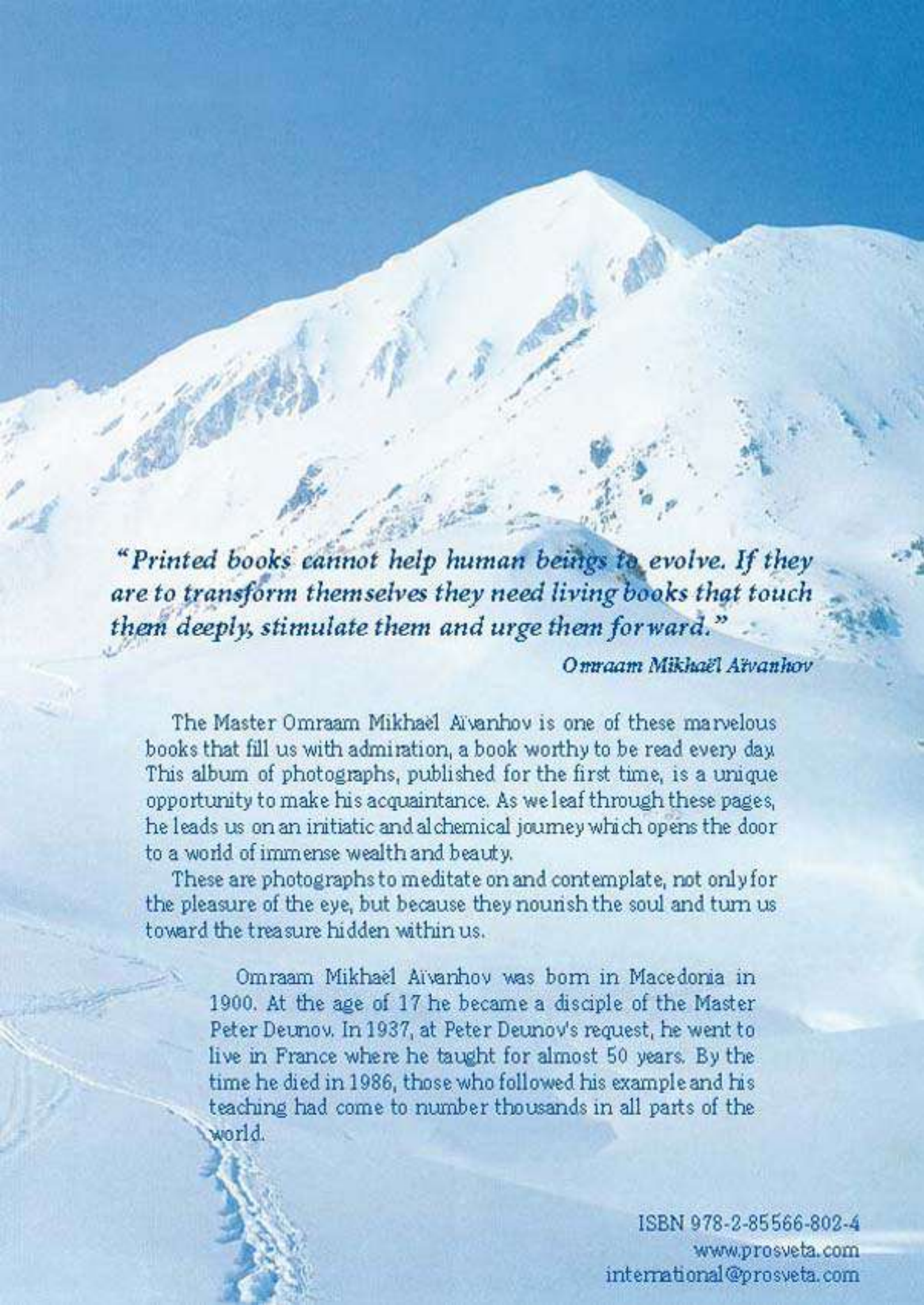
Rocks, trees, mountains, the oceans and stars, the suns and every creature sang together in such magnificent, sublime harmony...

Ever since, it has remained as a criterion, an example, a model, an absolute standard, a touchstone which enables me to understand and see how everything fits together.

For me, everything was determined by that illumination. This was shortly before I met Peter Deunov.

It was when he was 16,
after meditation
and breathing exercises,
that Michaël had a mystical experience
which made a profound impression on him:
he heard the Music of the Spheres.





“Printed books cannot help human beings to evolve. If they are to transform themselves they need living books that touch them deeply, stimulate them and urge them forward.”

Omraam Mikhaël Aïvanhov

The Master Omraam Mikhaël Aïvanhov is one of these marvelous books that fill us with admiration, a book worthy to be read every day. This album of photographs, published for the first time, is a unique opportunity to make his acquaintance. As we leaf through these pages, he leads us on an initiatic and alchemical journey which opens the door to a world of immense wealth and beauty.

These are photographs to meditate on and contemplate, not only for the pleasure of the eye, but because they nourish the soul and turn us toward the treasure hidden within us.

Omraam Mikhaël Aïvanhov was born in Macedonia in 1900. At the age of 17 he became a disciple of the Master Peter Deunov. In 1937, at Peter Deunov's request, he went to live in France where he taught for almost 50 years. By the time he died in 1986, those who followed his example and his teaching had come to number thousands in all parts of the world.

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