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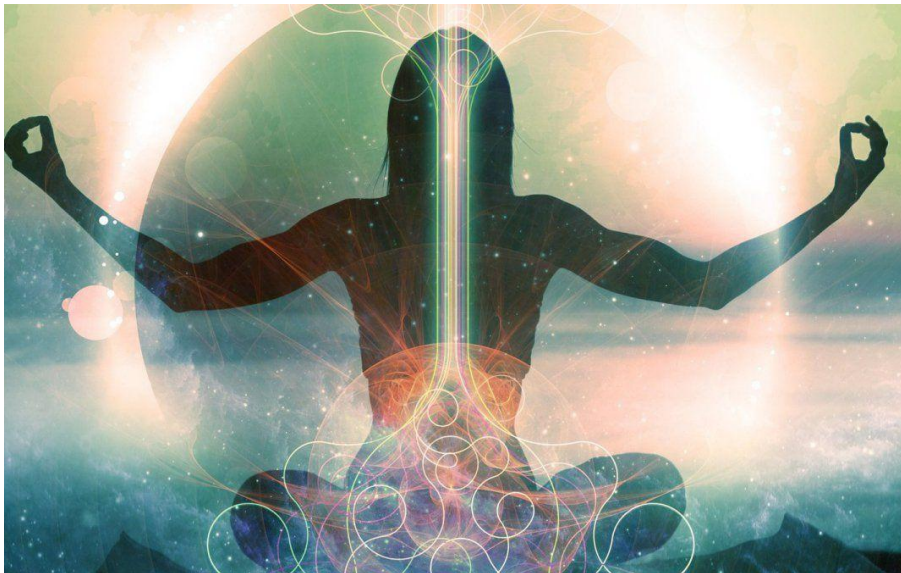
Institute of chemistry and chemical and pharmaceutical technologies

# Philosopher's stone

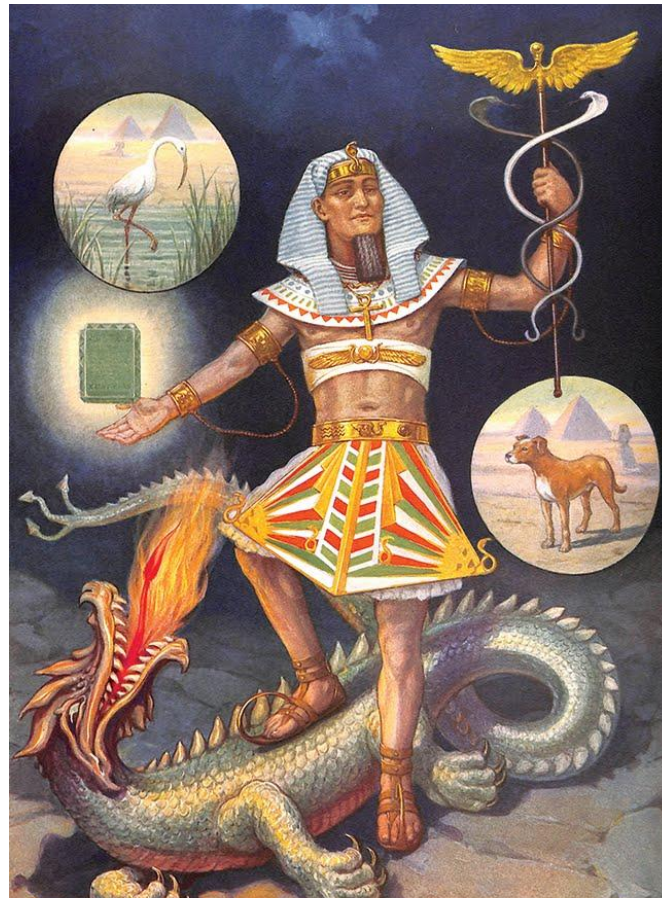
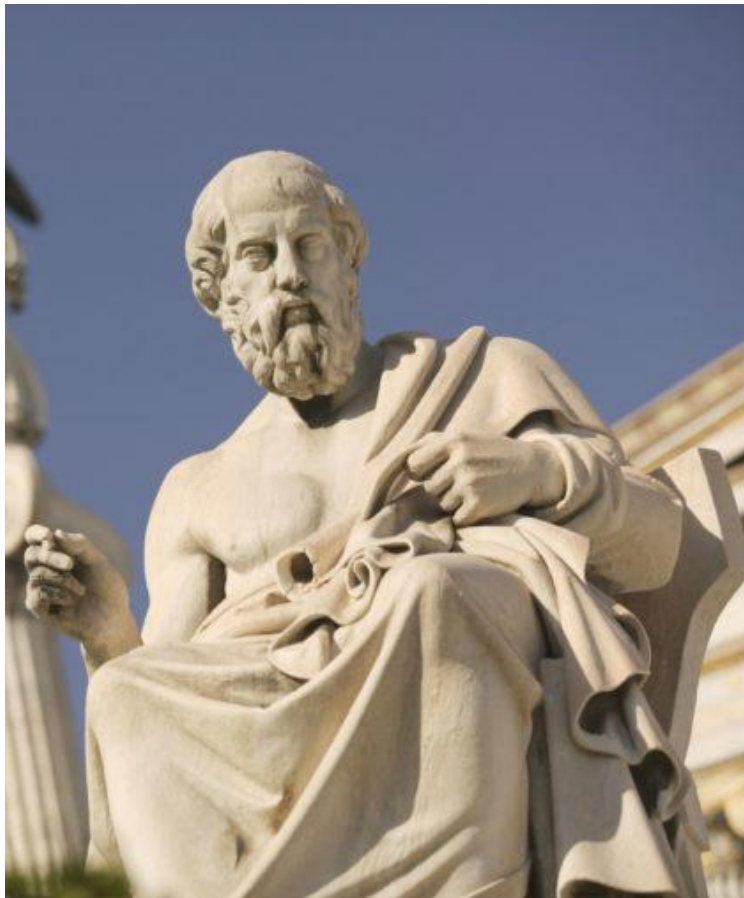
performed: Knyazeva, Parechnykh  
and Talovskaya, 691 gr.

Barnaul, 2020

One of the main goals of the alchemists was to create the philosopher's stone. It was believed that it gives spiritual liberation, exaltation and freedom, that is, it is the elixir of life. In addition, the main value of such an elixir was considered that a small dose of it would be enough to convert base metals (for example, copper and iron) into noble metals — silver and gold.



It was written about in Ancient Greece — for example, Plato has a description of the substance from which the four main elements came: fire, water, earth and air. And the first Creator of the philosopher's stone is considered Hermes Trismegistus-the legendary ancient philosopher.



It is difficult to find a description of the *philosopher's stone*, but it is mentioned in the form of a powder or elixir. Some sources describe it as a red, orange, or yellow translucent stone. Its weight is greater than that of gold, it dissolves in any liquid, but does not burn in fire.



The main property of the magic substance is the transmutation of metals, as a result of which base metals turn into gold.



One of the main properties of the philosopher's stone is a cure for all diseases. It is a universal medicine that would cure any ailments, restore vitality and youth, and grant immortality.



Other features of the elixir were such as creating ever-burning lamps, turning ordinary stones into precious ones, and resurrecting dead plants.



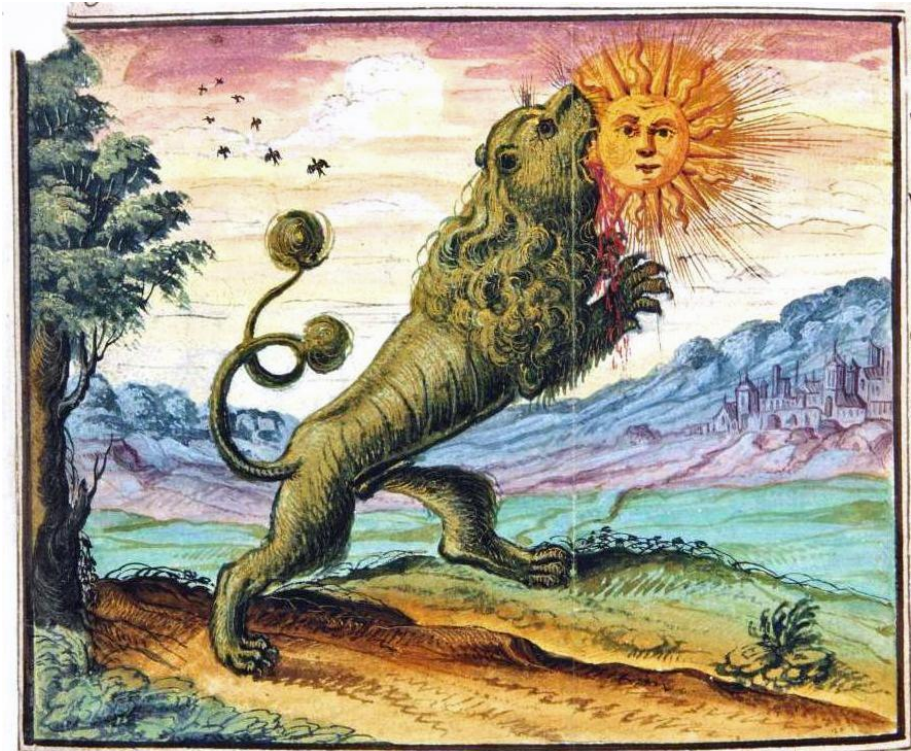
The ancient alchemy was full of symbolism. So, as a symbol of philosopher's stone, most often acted:

1. *The uroboros*. It is an ancient symbol depicting a serpent or dragon eating its own tail.

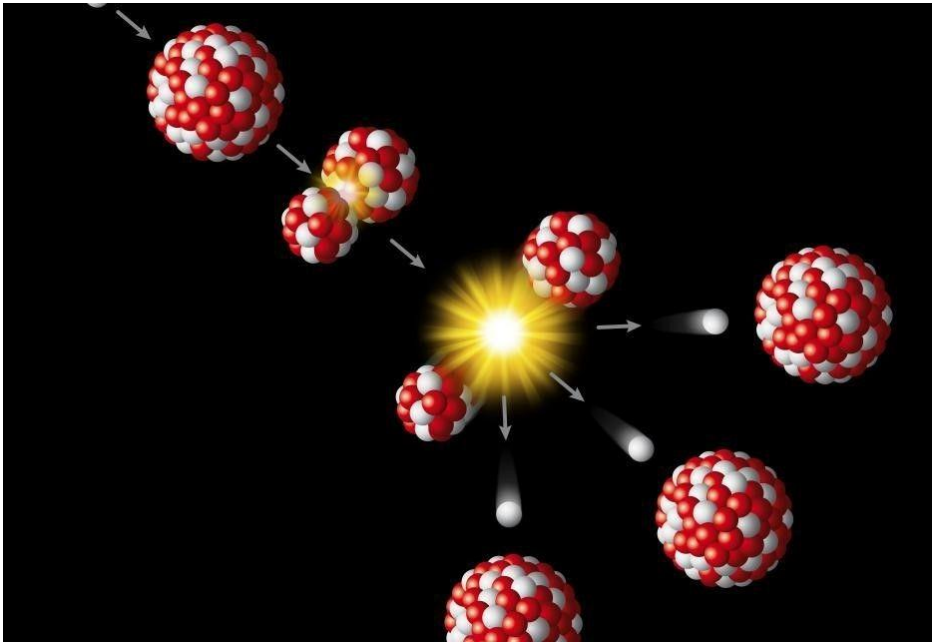




2. *Hermaphrodite rebis*, who received from the union of the "king" - sera and "queen" - mercury. From the Latin rebis means dual or double matter.
3. *The lion swallowing the Sun*



In modern science we've got some properties of philosopher's stone. As an example, turning metals into gold with using nuclear reactions. Though total amount of recieved gold is pretty small. And it's production costs much more than the final product by itself.



Nevertheless, modern chemists keep going search the philosopher's stone, but under a different name - universal catalyst. A substance capable of improving chemical processes with minimal consumption. Such a substance could allow a system for transformation metals into gold and back.



To obtain the philosopher's stone, mystics and magicians spent various rituals. One of them is the use of "potable gold". Here is the recipe:

1. Take about three pints of wine vinegar and mix it with a piece of tin powder on a hot pan



2. Distill the resulting product at least five times.



3. In a crucible, mix an ounce of gold and white salt. Rub the mixture and rinse it well, so there is no salt taste



4. Recieved is added to the previous mass of tin and vinegar. All this is evaporated until a honey-like consistency is formed.



5. The final product is diluted using wine vapors and the potable gold is ready.

The ingredients here were not chosen by chance. Vinegar and salt are well-known preservatives that prevent food spoilage

