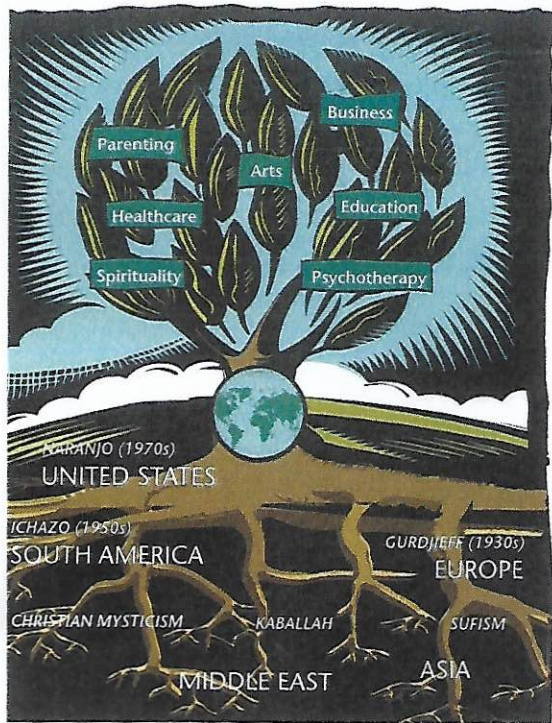


HISTORY OF THE ENNEAGRAM



No one knows the precise origins of the Enneagram, though its roots appear to lie in Asia and the Middle East and to date from several thousand years ago. The word Enneagram derives from the Greek words "ennea" (nine) and "gram" (something written or drawn) and refers to the nine points on the Enneagram symbol. The Enneagram system offers profound insights into the nine very different ways in which people think, feel, and behave.

Various parts of the Enneagram have been articulated by Gurdjieff, who was prominent in Europe beginning in the 1930s; by Oscar Ichazo, from Bolivia, who has been working since the 1950s to refine the system; and by Chilean-born Claudio Naranjo, M.D., whose Enneagram work became well known beginning in the 1970s, when he began teaching the system in Northern California. From the foundational work of these three teachers, others have made major contributions to our understanding of the Enneagram system.

The Enneagram is currently being used in many fields and disciplines, among them business, education, psychotherapy, entertainment, the arts, medicine, sales, and law. In business, for example, an increasing number of organizations are using the Enneagram in both training programs and organizational change initiatives, since the Enneagram system provides a thorough foundation for understanding why people actually behave in the ways that they do in the areas of communication, conflict resolution, coaching, leadership, teams, strategic planning, and organizational change.

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THE NINE ENNEAGRAM STYLES

"Take your time in self-discovery."

There are nine different Enneagram styles (shown on the Enneagram symbol below), representing nine distinct habits of thinking, feeling, and taking action, connected to nine unique personal and spiritual developmental paths. Each of us has only one place or number on the Enneagram; while your Enneagram style remains the same throughout your lifetime, your characteristics may soften or become more pronounced as you grow and develop.



Ones seek a perfect world and work diligently to improve both themselves and everyone and everything around them.

Twos want to be liked, try to meet the needs of others, and attempt to orchestrate the people and events in their lives.

Threes organize their lives to achieve specific goals and to appear successful in order to gain the respect and admiration of others.

Fours desire deep connections both with their own interior worlds and with other people, and they feel most alive when they authentically express their feelings.

Fives thirst for information and knowledge and use emotional detachment as a way of keeping involvement with others to a minimum.

Sixes have insightful minds, are prone to worry, and create worst-case scenarios to help themselves feel prepared in case something goes wrong.

Sevens crave the stimulation of new ideas, people, and experiences, avoid pain, and create elaborate future plans that will allow them to keep all of their options open.

Eights pursue the truth, like to keep situations under control, want to make important things happen, and try to hide their vulnerability.

Nines seek peace, harmony, and positive mutual regard and dislike conflict, tension, and ill will.

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