

# OPEN EYES

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## When the Door Opens

All the usual aspirations are based on suffering and seeking.... Someone having an "ecstatic" vision is in the same condition as someone watching a TV commercial. Only when all of that has worn down do you begin to see that the principle underlying all of your seeking, your discoveries, your apparent attainments, is suffering! That is the Truth. Then you begin to become sensitive to your actual condition, instead of trying to do something about it....

That is when the truly extraordinary and transformative event occurs. Once that event begins, there is an unseriousness about all the things that you took seriously before. All the accumulations, all the imagery, all the books, all the symbols, cease to be your occupation. Instead, you become occupied with the Living Truth. And the Living Truth is Prior to all of this mentality.

*"The Avon Lady", My "Bright" Word*

*Adidam Samrajashram in Fiji.*

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## ELCOME TO OPEN EYES

"Open Eyes" is one of Ruchira Avatar Adi Da Samraj's descriptions of Perfect Enlightenment, or the non-exclusive, non-inward, Native State of One Who is identified unconditionally with Real God. In other words, the Realiser of Open Eyes inherently recognises everything to be arising in and as Real God. Through these pages we will introduce you to the Wisdom-Teaching of Avatar Adi Da Samraj.

As is traditionally said, "When the student is ready, the Master appears". In this time when cynical and despairing attitudes are so widespread, there has never been a greater need for genuine instruction about how to live our lives so that they truly matter.

April 25, 2006, marks the 34<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of Adi Da's first Ashram in Los Angeles. Over the next 14 years, He developed His Teaching in all areas of ordinary human and spiritual life – always in direct interaction with the people before Him, answering their questions – as is the case in the talk featured in this issue, "The Avon Lady", which begins with a lively back-and forth between Adi Da and a questioner who expresses many common, uninspected presumptions.

The title of this talk (from *My "Bright" Word*) refers to the door-to-door Avon saleswoman. In it, Adi Da describes how the results of 'spiritual seeking' are discovered to be just as fruitless as the ordinary search. The search itself begins to wind down, and one is open to respond to the True Master: "Then, all of a sudden, the doorbell rings. It's the Avon Lady! Better known as the Guru!"

Avatar Adi Da's unique Wisdom-Teaching and Divine Revelation are the ultimate Help, because He is always pointing beyond any search, any method or technique. Rather, He bodily demonstrates the Free Condition prior to all separation and seeking, through the "Living Truth" of direct relationship to Him.

In this issue also is the story of one New Zealand woman who went on retreat for the first time in Adi Da's physical company in California in August 2005. She describes how when she opened that door, her life was transformed. This is an example of the real and "more than wonderful" opportunity that is ringing your doorbell right now!

# The Avon Lady



AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: *[Laughing]*  
What is there?

DEVOTEE: Is there free will?

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: What would that be?

DEVOTEE: I don't think we have free will. I think only God has free will.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: And who are "we"?

DEVOTEE: Part of God.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: Does God have free will?

DEVOTEE: Then what about evolution? If there is such a thing as evolution, we will all get to God eventually.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: You are assuming, for the moment, that you are not already there.

DEVOTEE: Well, I am not aware that I am there.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: The assumption that you are not already there is what My Work with you is all about.

What kind of free will are you concerned with? To do what?

DEVOTEE: Well, if we have free will and there is evolution, why do we have to work at it? Why not let evolution take over—and, eventually, we will all be evolved into illuminated Masters?

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: Are you trying to become a Master?

DEVOTEE: I didn't think you could leave this plane of existence until you were a Master.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: What is wrong with this plane of existence?

DEVOTEE: There are other planes to work on. Eventually, all attain the state that Jesus attained, without physical bodies.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: Where did you hear all of this?

DEVOTEE: I don't know.

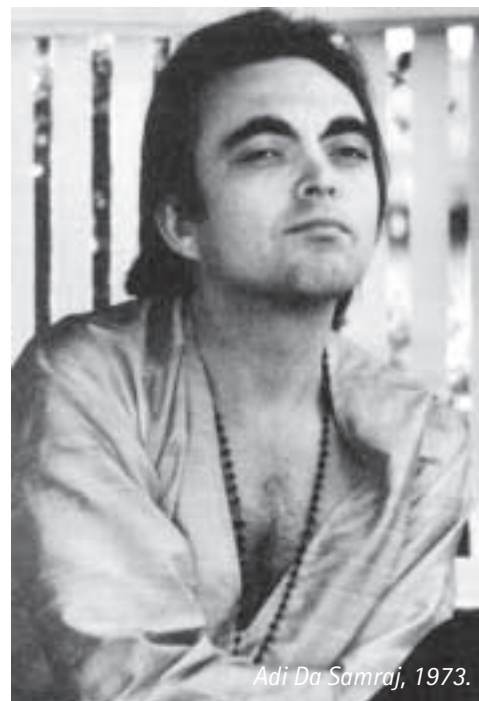
AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: You are making a lot of assumptions to begin with—"God", "Masters", "evolution", "free will", "no free will", "getting there", "other planes". What does all of that have to do with you?

DEVOTEE: I am somewhere, but I don't know where.

## Attempting to get free of suffering

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: Well, that would seem to be the first order of business. That is just it, isn't it? You are very confused—and there is suffering, apparently. You read all these books, and you do all this thinking, all this hoping—about Jesus and whoever else, about "getting there", about doing this and that to "get there". All of that thinking and hoping is suffering. And it is true, as you say—why go through all this effort to "get there"? I would not use the excuse that you are going to "get there" anyway, because of evolution—but there is something very meaningful in your doubt about the attempt to "get there". You have discovered the feeling that the trying to "get there" is very closely related to suffering ....

When you are no longer distracted by suffering, you see that you are already Happy, that you are Happiness. From the purely practical and real point of view, what concerns you is not "other planes", "God", "Jesus", or "getting there". Suffering is your concern—because it is already your real experience....



Adi Da Samraj, 1973.



*Do the sadhana [spiritual practice] I Give to you.  
Understand your own ego-activity. Truly be My devotee.  
Fulfill My real and living conditions.*

*When you do all of that,  
then the Door Opens. Living  
the heart-relationship to Me,  
moment to moment, is the  
prerequisite for the Opening  
of the Door.*

*And what happens when  
the Door Opens? I Come In!*

Adi Da Samraj

## "Radical" understanding of suffering

That Which is called "Realization", "Liberation", "God-Union", and so on, gets represented to people in various symbolic forms—as something with lots of planes and worlds, colors, lights and visions, figures and forms, methods, universes, "inside" and "outside", going here, going there, distance, direction, shape. These are all conceptual communications, symbols, pictures for the mind. Fundamentally, they exploit your suffering—by motivating you to acquire whatever it is they represent or suggest. True Spiritual life is not a motivation toward such symbols, not a belief in them, not even the acquisition of what they represent. Rather, True Spiritual life is the process in conscious awareness that is founded in the "radical" understanding of your own suffering, your present experience.

## The search begins to wind down

The True and right process of Spiritual life is not one of search based on suffering. Ordinarily, if you suffer, you immediately seek to get free, and you attach yourself to all kinds of hopeful signs. But True life, or Real and right Spiritual life, is the reverse of that. Ordinarily, you are seeking—pursuing forgetfulness of your suffering, your dilemma, your self-contraction, this separation, this unconsciousness. You pursue the absence of that—in delight, enjoyment, distraction, the search for perfection, the search for all kinds of acquisitions, food, sex, money, good weather, lunch—until the entire process begins to become uninteresting. You try every resort—either in reverie or by actual adventure. You look at every "movie" on the subject. You seek—until that entire movement in yourself, that entire reaction to your suffering (the reaction that is the search for the absence of suffering) begins to wind down.

## You see this avoidance of relationship

Now you begin to comprehend the hopelessness of the search. The search begins to lose its ability to occupy you. It becomes less exotic, less fascinating, less hopeful. Some quality in conscious awareness begins to turn away from this process of seeking, this reaction to your suffering, and rests in the suffering itself. A vague disinterest in life's pleasures may even come over you. You begin to realize that you are actually suffering—whereas previously you were so completely occupied with your seeking that you were not altogether aware of your suffering. Your suffering was just some vague "whatever"—because the search was what really involved you. But now you begin to fall out of your search ....

The root-sensation that is motivating your entire search becomes the thing that occupies you. You can no longer do anything about it. You see what suffering (itself) is in this moment. You begin to see it precisely—as a present-time activity. You begin to consciously observe it. You see this contraction of your own state, moment to moment—this separation, this avoidance of relationship....

## The actual process of Spiritual life

Traditionally, Divine Self-Realization has been referred to as "Knowing" the One Divine Self. But, in fact, it is not possible to fix attention on the Divine Self (as "Object"). The Divine Self-Condition (or Reality Itself) cannot become an object of attention. The actual process of Spiritual life requires the observation, the understanding, and the transcending of your own suffering, your own activity of self-contraction. When the self-contraction is thus observed, understood, and transcended, That Which the self-contraction prevents is suddenly, spontaneously Enjoyed—not as the "object" of Enjoyment, but as the Enjoyment Itself. Then (Prior to effort, motivation, or attention) there is only the Divine Self-Condition, Reality Itself, the True Divine Heart.

*"The Avon Lady", My "Bright" Word*

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ:

## I have Appeared in human Form, but I Live as the Real Divine Self-Condition

Thus, of all your associations, it is only My Avataric Divine Company, Satsang with Me, that does not support the self-contraction....

The Guru is like an elevator. The Guru is in the hotel lobby—with a nice marble casement, and a needle above, pointing to the numbers of floors. It looks perfectly stable. You know it has been there for a while. You dare to walk up to it. You see buttons on the wall. The doors open. You look inside. It is nicely decorated. A couple of nicely dressed people come out, to go to the cocktail lounge. So you step in. You expect to rise—as all the traditions say. But you fall right through the bottom of the floor!

I do not support your egoic game. My Activity is non-support—in endless forms.



## First Sight

Brigit Howitt, who had been participating in Adidam courses for some time, went on retreat at the Mountain Of Attention Sanctuary in California in August 2005. She had never seen Adi Da before.



*I feel as though I hold in my heart a timeless gift that expands endlessly and yet remains with the strong central sense of a deepening love and stillness – 10 days on retreat in Avatar Adi Da's Presence.*

*My first sighting of Adi Da will always be a clear memory. The mind naturally fell still and became sensitive to the strongly devotional atmosphere. As the conch shells sounded and He first appeared, walking up the path, I found tears streaming down my face and a happiness to be actually there in His physical Presence. As He slowly walked through the crowd of perhaps 300, the air was very charged with His Radiant Presence. And then to offer the gift of a flower at His Feet was the most natural and beautiful thing to do.*

*At the end of the first weekend's retreat, about 15 of us took the Third Congregation vow in a very beautiful ceremony. Almost immediately afterwards, the bell sounded for us to come into Adi Da's Physical Company to receive His Blessing Transmission. A small group of musicians began chanting and slowly everyone took up the chant. The great doors of Seventh Gate were opened, and with simple grace the priest performed a puja at the small temple at the foot of the steps. Slowly, as the heat went out of the day, the canopy of sky softened, and in the utterly still air the surrounding pines with their tall points became as sentinels, silhouetted in silent worship. All the while the sense of timelessness deepened, and with it an awareness of what a wonderful and mysterious grace it is to be present at so ancient and graceful a ceremony. All sense of passing time ceased. As Adi Da arrived, the sight was electrifying. The breathtaking vision of Him, linked as it is with the clear awareness of an all pervading Love, is forever etched in my heart.*

*Many other times of the retreat are also forever embedded: working in the gardens, becoming more and more sensitised to the deep peace of the sacred environment; the second weekend's retreat – two days of deep happiness in intensive consideration of His word, stories of His work with devotees, guided meditation and videos. An evening's Sacred Offering of music, and all the while the awareness of what a joy it is to be with others similarly attracted to the beauty and grace of His Presence.*

*Now I am profoundly aware of a Grace and Mystery that is ongoing and lies at the Heart of Adidam and of Avatar Adi Da Samraj. My prayer is that I may become more and more attuned to His Divine Blessing and Love and that we may be able to stay with and keep alive this mysterious process, clearly recognized as a rare and Great Gift.*

## About Adi Da Samraj

In the depth of every human being, there is a profound need for answers to the fundamental questions of existence. Is there a God? What is beyond this life? Why is there suffering? What is Truth? What is Reality?

Open Eyes is an opportunity to be introduced to the Wisdom-Revelation of Avatar Adi Da, whose Teachings truly and completely address all of these fundamental questions. How can Avatar Adi Da resolve these fundamental questions? Because He speaks, not from the point of view of the human dilemma, but directly from the unique Freedom of His Divine State. Adi Da's Birth in 1939 was an intentional embrace of the human situation, for the sake of Revealing the Way of Divine Liberation to all and Offering the Spiritual Blessing that carries beings to that true Freedom. He is thus the fulfillment of the ancient intuitions of the "Avatar"—the One Who Appears in human Form, as a direct manifestation of the Unmanifest Reality.

Through a 14-year process of Teaching-Work (beginning in 1972), Avatar Adi Da established the Way of Adidam—the Way of the devotional and Spiritual relationship to Him. In those years of Teaching, He spoke for many hours with groups of His devotees—always looking for them, as representatives of humanity, to ask all of their questions about God, Truth, Reality, and human life. In response, He Gave the ecstatic life of real Communion with Him, and all the details of how that process unfolds. Thus, He created a new tradition, based on His direct Revelation (as Avatar) of the Divine Reality.

To read Avatar Adi Da's Writings and the stories of His devotees is a great Blessing—for His Teaching is itself an Agent of His Spiritual Awakening-Power. As you will discover, Avatar Adi Da Samraj does not offer you a set of beliefs, or even a set of Spiritual techniques. He simply Offers you His Revelation of Truth as a Free Gift. If you are moved to take up His Way, He invites you to enter into an extraordinarily deep and transformative relationship to Him.

To find Avatar Adi Da Samraj is to find the Very Heart of Reality—tangibly felt in your own heart as the Deepest Truth of Existence.

This is the great mystery that you are invited to discover.



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If you are interested in the possibility of coming into Adi Da's physical Company please contact your nearest centre.

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