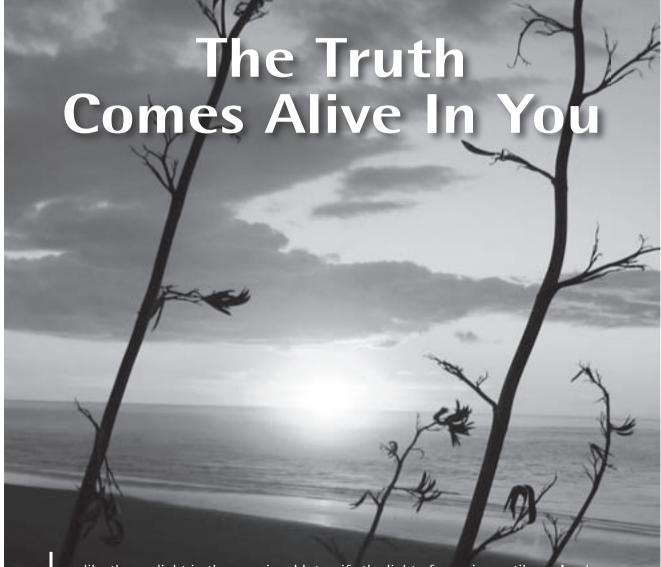
O P E N E Y E S

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am like the sunlight in the morning. I Intensify the light of morning until you Awaken. Until the Light Awakens you, even the Light of Consciousness Itself, you continue to dream, try to survive within the dream, manipulate yourself within the dream, pursue all kinds of goals, searches,—none of which Awaken you.

The ordinary means only console you and distract you within the dream. I Myself, the One Who would Awaken you, am not a person, not an individual within the dream. I Am your Very Consciousness. I Am Reality Itself, the Divine Conscious Light, the True Waking State, the True Divine Heart — Breaking Through the force of dreaming.

Avatar Adi Da Samraj

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.

In the modern, mostly Westernized world, there is great prejudice against Spiritual authority. In our idolization of the individual and fear of cultism, we have turned against the Great Help offered by those who are Truly Realised. Of course one's intelligent discrimination must be exercised before committing to a Spiritual Teacher, but first there must be the openness to actually listen to the Truth being offered – here, in its Ultimate Form, by the Avataric Great Sage, Adi Da Samraj.

Here is no "feel-good, enlighten-yourself-in-a-weekend" consoling message. Here is the One who has Realised The Very Divine Person Most Perfectly. In Satsang (or "Good Company") with Him, all of our egoic tendencies are reflected intensively. As Adi Da says, "Of course there are difficulties! Real Spiritual life requires everything of a person." This is what makes it a real process that is not based on a self-effortful method but rooted in a living relationship with Adi Da Samraj who has been through the entire Spiritual process Himself.

This issue presents an extract from *My "Bright" Word*, together with a story that, though it dates from the mid-70s, is timeless as an example of the living Guru-devotee relationship.

And when the human body of the Spiritual Master dies? In short, this relationship continues to be a living reality. As the Very Consciousness that is all beings, the True Divine Heart, Adi Da is always present. He writes: "Always, in My (now, and forever hereafter) Avataric Divine-Self-'Emergence' Work, I Am Dwelling here, and every 'where' in the cosmic domain, moment by moment".

Truth absolutely v



Truth Draws you

The living of Satsang* with Me, Which is the Real process of Spiritual life, involves a crisis in consciousness — the crisis in consciousness. Therefore, the activity that is your suffering is not removed by magical, external, and willful methods. Rather, that activity is observed, understood, and (ultimately, most perfectly) transcended.

Even in Satsang with Me, there is a kind of warfare going on in My devotee. There is self-contraction. But My devotee

is continually being Drawn out of that, by the Graceful Gift of Satsang with Me, and Attracted more and more fully into My Avataric Divine Heart-Company-the Company of Truth. Truth Draws you—I Draw you—even though you continue to contract. And the result of that tension is a dredging up in you of the observation of your own activity—on many, many levels. Such self-observation <u>must</u> take place on every level.

The Sunlight in the Well

When you first come to Me, you are like a dark, deep well. Way up at the top, the light comes in around the edges—but, lower down, it is black and unconscious! When the Light of Truth shines down the well, all of these weirdo, slithering things come climbing up the sides. All the hidden, slimy activity begins to be disturbed, awakened, and moved into the Light.

Just so, every moment in Satsang with Me increases the necessity for responsibility in My devotee — because Satsang with Me is not merely a good feeling, a consolation, not merely something smiling, happy, and pleasant. Satsang with Me is not magic. Satsang with Me is Living Divine Force, the Force of Truth. This Purifying Force moves into the "well", into the human functions —the descending and ascending Circuit—bringing to light the chronic patterns of your



nust Come in Living Form

ordinary and unconscious existence, and revealing those patterns at the level of the actual conditions of life.

In the midst of this Real process, the governing tendencies of your life are revealed as powerful desires, incredible compulsions—which, even if they were known to you before, now seem to become worse. The intensification of all of that is one of the essential functions of Satsang with Me. And what is there to be intensified in the usual person, except this negative pattern, this contraction? Of course there are difficulties! Real Spiritual life requires everything of a person. Real Spiritual life is a crisis!...

The True Guru takes the ego by the neck

True Spiritual life is a demand, a confrontation, a relationship. It is not a method that you apply to yourself. Your "self" <u>is</u> this contraction—and this contraction is what must be undermined in True Spiritual life.

Therefore, I come to you in <u>bodily human</u> Form, in Living Form—to Confront the ego and take it by the neck. I do not merely send down a grinning symbol, to be reproduced with a few effete comments for everybody to believe. The traditional images and the records of past help serve very little. At best, they may help a person move into wanting to enter into Spiritual life. Truth absolutely must Come in Living Form.

Truth must Confront you, "Live" you, "Meditate" you. It is not <u>your</u> meditation that matters. <u>Truth</u> must "Meditate" you. I must "Meditate" you. Such is the Siddhi (Spritual Power) of Satsang with Me. Even while I am "Meditating" you, you are busy doing more of the usual to yourself—waking yourself up, putting yourself to sleep, reacting in every possible unconscious manner to the Siddhi of Satsang with Me. But, all the while, you are being "Meditated" by Me.

Mere belief is not sufficient

Mere belief in a "Savior" or a "program" of "Liberation" is not sufficient. Your belief cannot provide the necessary Living Means for this process of being "Meditated". Truth must Come in Living Form — as the human vehicle of the True Guru. Real Spiritual life requires this Siddhi. If this Siddhi is not

activated, it does not make a damned bit of difference what exotic or humble Spiritual methods you apply to yourself. They will always be of the same nature. They will always amount to a form of self-contraction.

All beliefs, all conventional and consoling religions, all merely strategic religious and Spiritual methods, are extensions of the self-contraction. Truth Itself must become the process of life. Truth must Communicate

Itself. Truth must generate conditions in life, and make demands, thereby restoring the individual's conscious participation in the process of Realization.

from My "Bright" Word

* Satsang is a Sanskrit word composed of two parts: "sat" ("Reality, or Truth") and "sang" ("Company"). It is often translated as "Good Company", or "the Company of the Good, Wise, or True".

The subtle influence of the Guru

DEVOTEE: Can a Guru who has died still be Guru for the living?

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: The death of a Great Siddha (of whatever Real degree) does not really represent that one's separation from anyone or anything. The Siddha-Guru is simply disappeared into Samadhi. After death, Samadhi Itself has become the "body" of the Siddha-Guru. The Siddha-Guru's devotees continue to have access to their Guru through meditation, because Samadhi Itself is the Siddha-Guru's True Form. At death, the Siddha-Guru simply abandons bodily function, outward movement, and psychophysical Play-remaining Present as his or her most profound State of Realization....

In My own experience, there have been very concrete and complex experiences of the subtle influence of Bhagavan Nityananda, Ramana Maharshi, Sai Baba of Shirdi, and others. Similarly, because My visits with Baba Muktananda were only occasional, My experiences of Him were most often of a subtle (though perfectly concrete) variety, arising entirely apart from the physical medium. Just so, My Own Work with My devotees occurs fundamentally at a subtle level, even while I am alive in physical Form.



A devotee offers her flower gift into the fire.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ:
My devotee is one who
has formally embraced the
practice of living in constant
Remembrance of Me. That is
the True sadhana of Satsang
with Me. Every bit of seeking,
dilemma, and self-obsession
that you lay down at My Feet
is your true gift to Me. All gifts
symbolize that true and inner
gift, and make it visible.

Someone may bring a flower to Me. The flower is very fresh and fragrant. When the person smiles and puts it on the ground or in a vase, it may all seem like a pleasantry. But what is represented by that flower could be the most difficult crisis of the person's life. The truth of that flower, of that gift, is the crisis itself.

from My "Bright" Word

Self-understanding through Satsang



James Steinberg serving at the Dawn Horse Bookstore in San Francisco during the mid-1970s

JAMES STEINBERG: Early in 1974, for a few days the Great Sage Adi Da Samraj had Graciously allowed me to serve Him bodily at the Mountain Of Attention Sanctuary [in northern California]. I had during those days happily prepared a special meal for Him, and I had enjoyed the Blessing of His physical Company. One evening a few days after this period of my intimate service, Adi Da was to visit the Dawn Horse Bookstore in San

Francisco. I was to greet Him at the top of the stairs leading to the Hall on the second floor. I waited on the landing at the top of the stairs for quite a while, full of anticipation for the wonderful smile and Regard I felt I would get from my Teacher

As Adi Da reached the landing and walked toward me, I felt two things. First, I felt His Love for me and His natural pleasure at seeing His devotee. But I also felt, instantly, something of which I had been unaware before—my egoic "self-possession". In the briefest second, I felt my demand for attention from Him, rather than my surrender to Him. And I distinctly felt Him register my self-involvement as soon as He saw me. In the days since I had seen Him last, I had mistakenly and unconsciously begun to feel that I was particularly loved, that "He liked me a lot", even as a personality. A part of me had begun to feel that I was special to Him. Now, taking all of this in as He approached me, Adi Da gave me no greeting at all. Instead, He walked right past me and left me standing there — with the understanding of my need to redress my relationship to Him.

I saw that it was I who had created the necessity for this lesson. And I saw the discipline, or Law, to which Adi Da Conforms Himself in His relationship to His devotees. It was clear in that moment that He would have preferred to Bless me with His Regard, yet it was not appropriate that He do so, because it would not have served me to receive it. Instead, He Gave me the Blessing and self-understanding that came through His unspoken but clear criticism.



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.