

The Adidam Advocate

*The Monthly Newsletter for Associates, Pre-Students,
the Third Congregation and others interested in
The Avataric Pan-Communion of Adidam*

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The Revelation of Divine Truth

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?

The Adidam Advocate 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 28-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 Divine 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 devotional and Spiritual 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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Are You Just Coping?:

An Excerpt from a Talk by Avatar Adi Da

*In this Talk, published in its entirety in the book *Ishta*, Avatar Adi Da speaks about one of the fundamental elements of His Wisdom-Teaching: the fact that the Divine Reality is all that there is, even right now—but that we fail to enjoy and Realize that Free and Blissful State because of something we are each doing. This "something" is what Adi Da calls the "self-contraction". It is the presumption, made at the very core of the being, that we are separate. Avatar Adi Da Teaches that this presumption of separation is the denial and refusal of our True and Divine Condition and that it is thus the root of all our suffering. To anyone who is moved to go beyond this "knot" of presumed separateness and Realize True Happiness, Avatar Adi Da Offers a relationship to Himself as the Divine Means of real Liberation.*

As we join this conversation, Avatar Adi Da is engaging a devotee about his experience of life:

DEVOTEE: It is clear to me that life is suffering.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: Every moment of it.

DEVOTEE: Yes.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: Yet it seems to you that there is nothing absolute you can do about it right now, nothing absolute you can do to be free of existence as mere coping and struggling with suffering.

DEVOTEE: Except what You have Given me to do.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: Yes, there is a Way, but I am talking about the difference between Realization of the Divine Reality and what you are experiencing.

In general, individuals cope with their given situation of existence. They do not even believe there is a sufficient state of existence to be Realized. Therefore, they seek, they make all kinds of arrangements, they cope. They do not even live the religious life, in general, certainly not the true religious life. Instead, they are only suffering and coping and trying to make the best of life. No “best” comes of it, but they have no greater point of view.

Human beings are not experiencing Reality. They are experiencing a state of existence that they think they cannot do anything about in any absolute sense, and, therefore, they are coping with it. This is what human beings do. They establish their life, including philosophy, on the limited condition of existence that they suffer. They do not think there is anything absolute to be done about it, so they do what everybody does.

Therefore, in everything they do, people are just coping with their suffering, living as the self-contraction and seeking on its basis, all because they are not experiencing Reality, God, or Truth. They are not aware of Reality, God, or Truth. Instead, they are aware of their given situation, the apparent condition, which is a limit and frightening and poor, yet they have no sense that there is anything absolute they can do about it, and they do all the ordinary things people do.

Even if people get a whiff of something extraordinary to do in order to Realize What is Extraordinary, or Truly Real, the force of their own contraction tends to intervene, and they enter into the process in a mediocre, piecemeal fashion, still holding on to all their routines of coping.

God is not merely the Cause of the universe, some Intelligent Motion at the beginning of everything. God is Reality. You are unaware of Reality, however. If God is simply Reality, then God is Reality now. Why are you not aware of God? Reality is right now. Then why are you not aware of and as this Reality?

Do you think Reality is preventing you from being aware of Reality? What is preventing you? This is what there is to find out.

DEVOTEE: Beloved Master, the process You have Given us is absolute.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: It is the Way of Truth, the Way of the Heart, but it is not absolute until it becomes Absolute Realization.

DEVOTEE: There is more to surrender always, it is always possible to surrender to a greater depth, but the process itself feels absolute.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: Divine Self-Realization is not a process. The process that is the Way of Truth precedes Realization, serves Realization, leads to Realization, if Grace is Given, but Realization Itself is not a process. Realization is simply Most Perfect, Unobstructed Awakeness to Reality, just That.

In the meantime, if you are sensitive—and of course you tend not to be very sensitive, because you are doing all kinds of things to desensitize yourself, but you can come to the point of real sensitivity—you can find out what you are doing that is preventing the Realization of Reality.

It is not because you are appearing in human form that you are failing to Realize Reality. The human form exists in Reality. How could there be any argument about this? Everything exists in Reality. Whatever Reality Is, It Is, Already. If you examine yourself with great sensitivity, you find that you are not simply and merely existing in Reality. You are doing something. This is why Reality is not Obvious to you. If you were not doing that thing, Reality would simply be Obvious to you. You must find out what you are doing, and transcend it.

Reality need not be achieved, because Reality obviously Is. By definition, Reality is What Is. The Way of Realization of Reality is not a search for a goal, because Reality is Always Already the Case. How could there be any argument against this?

If seeking will not Realize Reality, how, then, can you Realize What is Always Already the Case? The answer requires that you find out why you are not already Realizing It, since It is Already the Case, necessarily. Why are you just aware of conditions?

Whatever Reality is, It is not a condition, not this condition, then the next one, and then the next one. All such individual happenings exist in Reality. You are experiencing conditions only, and not Reality, or That within Which conditions are arising. Why?

What argument can there be to oppose the understanding that Reality necessarily Is? Therefore, conditions must be arising in That, no matter what the condition. No condition is Reality. Every condition is arising in Reality. Necessarily it is so.

Why are you aware of conditions and not aware of Reality? This is what you must find out. . . . Self-transcendence is what the Way of Adidam is all about. (December 4, 1993)

“I Was Home”: A First Meeting

by Wes Vaught

This is the story of the first devotee to be drawn to Avatar Adi Da through one of His books. Remarkably, it occurred before Adi Da’s first book, The Knee Of Listening, was even published. The original publisher of The Knee Of Listening was CSA Press, in Atlanta, Georgia, and Wes Vaught, a young man in his mid-twenties, was working there as a proofreader when the manuscript came across his desk. He was immediately captivated by it and began to study it in earnest. This is Wes’s account of what occurred as a result:

WES: For years, I had been desperately seeking to make sense of existence. I prayed for help.

While studying Adi Da’s *Knee Of Listening* and contemplating its Truths, the intuition of the silent, free depth of the Heart dawned in me. I had found my Guru, and I began to feel irresistibly attracted to that Graceful Source.

The editor at the press where I was working showed

me a letter from “Franklin Jones” [Adi Da’s born name]. In it, He Wrote, “There is not the slightest difference.” Those Words stopped my mind. My entire life had been a warfare of differences and opposites, and I felt the profound Freedom communicated in this one sentence. I had to go see Him.

I traveled to Los Angeles and found the way to His home in Laurel Canyon. It was late April 1972. I knocked, and Adi Da Answered.

“Who is it?”

I explained that I had read His book, and that I had felt compelled to come and see Him. Adi Da opened the door, and I followed Him into the living room.

I felt welcomed into a “Bright” Space, free of any sense of problem. On the walls were Disney posters and sacred images depicting men and women of various traditions. It felt natural to sit on the floor before His Chair. I had brought with me a bag of oranges and pears as a gift. I extended it: “I brought this for You.”

He received it with both Hands and with such loving care. Everything about Him was absolute strength, sublime vulnerability, perfect clarity, and delight. Time stood still while He removed the fruits from the bag and arranged them on a little table next to His Chair. Then He Graciously folded the paper bag neatly and tucked it by His thigh.

He received the whole gift!

Looking at me directly and with what seemed like an infinity of loving humor, Adi Da asked, “What have you been doing with your life?”

I felt the weight of my twenty-five years of waiting for God lift and, with what must have been a ridiculous gush of information, I spilled out my story. I do not know how long I talked. I tried to say everything of importance—all at once!

Adi Da listened. His was not the kind of listening where someone is waiting to say something when it is their turn. His listening became a perfect Intensity and a perfect Silence. At some point, His Silence became the entire import of the moment. I noticed this and stopped mid-sentence.

Sitting up straight, I was overwhelmed with His Blessing Force. Suddenly, I was shaking and breathing extremely deeply in the Current of His Communicated Force. My verbal mind ceased with the immediacy of His Presence.

I felt that Adi Da was Offering me the perfect opportunity in God, but I felt my gross unpreparedness and the obstructions in me that prevented me from fully cooperating with what He was Communicating. I wanted to get out of the way, but how?

Wanting to remove anything in the way of my freedom, anything that I could lay my hands on, I felt suddenly moved to take off my clothes. I began, and then paused for a moment, feeling foolish, and looked at Avatar Adi Da as if to ask, “Is this okay?”

With an almost imperceptible tilt of His Head, I felt Avatar Adi Da Communicate that it was of no significance to Him what I did with regard to clothing. I could suit myself in the matter.

He was most obviously Demonstrating His Divine Mood, clearly Indifferent to any sense of limitation, Shining with Blessing Force, replete with native Freedom and the certainty of unqualified Love, Transparent to the pure, sweet

Grace of God.

I took everything off, even the band-aid on my heel, and threw myself face down and full-length at His Feet.

His Feet, somehow, were a perfect point of contact with this Blessing Force. I wept and kissed His Feet, wetting them with tears of relief, joy, gratitude, and also with the anguish that I could not completely let go of myself. Still I tried to surrender, straining with my heart and brain to open more.

But I could surrender no more.

Quietly, Adi Da lifted His Feet and placed them on my head. All stress left my being. A golden balm of sweet light poured through every cell in my body. A knot opened. I let go, and His brilliant Radiance washed through me. I was Home.

After a bit, I got up, dressed some, and told Adi Da that I felt that I belonged with Him. He looked at me and Said, “There is something about this Teaching you have not understood. It is about this matter of Consciousness.”

He gave me everything in that moment—a living relationship to an absolute source of Grace, the most profound experience of my life, and the admonition to join Him in free relation to all phenomena. I fell in love with Him. I had begun the life of understanding in devotion to the One Who is that. The principle of my search was obviated and the momentum of my self-contraction, my separative and loveless adaptation, began to wind down.

I asked, “Do You have an ashram?” He said He had established a bookstore and a small center and offered that I could sleep there. From that night, I joined the small gathering of people who were studying His Teaching, sitting in formal Communion with Him, and learning to serve the availability of these beautiful gifts.

**“The Heart Is Real Consciousness
and Real Life”:
Avatar Adi Da’s “Radical”
Teaching About Consciousness
and the Truth that the ego Is An Illusion**

In the story by Wes Vaught above, Wes quotes Avatar Adi Da saying to him, “There is something about this Teaching you have not understood. It is about this matter of Consciousness.” And it is true now, just as it was true over thirty years ago when Adi Da said these words to Wes, that it requires a great deal for us to grasp, even in purely intellectual terms, Avatar Adi Da’s communication about Consciousness. This is so because His Realization of Consciousness and, thus, His Teaching about Consciousness, is “radical”—to the root, utterly prior to all the presumptions and ideas the ego makes about itself and about the nature of reality. The ego thinks and feels, “There is ‘me’ and then there is everything and everyone else.” This, Adi Da tells us, is the fundamental mistake or error we each make and it is why we suffer.

In Reality, He says, there are no objects. There is just One Divine Reality. And to transcend the ego and thus relinquish all separateness and thereby Realize the Supreme and Perfect Happiness of Divine Enlightenment, or Consciousness Itself, is the Gift that Adi Da offers to all who come to Him for

Divine Help.

What Avatar Adi Da has Revealed and what He Teaches and what He continuously works to Awaken in His devotees is the understanding that, in Truth, there is no separate self! There is no ego with all its troubles and complexities. There is only Consciousness, the “Bright” Condition of which all of this is only an apparent modification.

He tells us Consciousness is both the Source and the Substance of everything that is experienced, including thought. Consciousness Itself, however, does not think—or act. Consciousness cannot be “known” or “experienced”, because it is not an object to “you”. It is you. Consciousness is not “different”. It is not separate. It is what Is.

Avatar Adi Da’s early life was entirely devoted to understanding the predicament of the ego and Realizing the One Condition that is always Prior to it, which He had known at birth. When Adi Da was a young man He was possessed by a single question: What is Consciousness? In His autobiography, *The Knee Of Listening*, He writes about His early years and how His entire life became focused on this “great question”:

I was Being that Radiant Consciousness, Which is untouched. But I gradually became combined with the mortal experience of identification with the body-mind, and a great question arose in me, more and more persistently and profoundly: What is Consciousness (in Its living form, and altogether)? What must occur within It for It to remain as It is (untouched and Free and Blissful) even while, in Its living form, It already bears the certainty (or the tacit knowledge) of death?

Avatar Adi Da had always felt that Consciousness was senior to the body, senior to death. His childhood experience of Consciousness, which He called the “Bright”—a state of Perfect Happiness and Freedom—informed His search for Truth.

By His thirtieth year, Avatar Adi Da had fully and permanently re-Awakened to the natural “Identity” with Consciousness that He had enjoyed as a child. Now there was no more “problem” associated with birth and life and death. It was all perfectly understood and Realized to be only Consciousness—or a fundamentally unnecessary “play” upon Consciousness.

AVATAR ADI DA SAMRAJ: When Consciousness (without limitation or dimensions) is Realized As Is, to Be Infinitely Radiant, One with Its own Radiance (or Energy, or Light, or Shakti, or Love-Bliss), and That is the (so to speak) “Point of View” with regard to objects that arise—then, in that case, all objects are (Inherently) Divinely Self-Recognizable. Self-Existing and Self-Radiant Consciousness (or Fullness of Being) Divinely Self-Recognizes all phenomena in the Context of Itself—as transparent (or merely apparent), and un-necessary, and inherently non-binding modifications of the Self-Radiance of Consciousness Itself, the Divine Conscious Light Itself.

When there is this Awakening, it is obvious. In every moment, Natively, Inherently, It Is simply the Divine Conscious Light—the Infinite, Dimensionless, Uncaused, Eternal “Brightness” of Being (Itself).

We conclude with the Prologue to *The Knee Of Listening*, in which Avatar Adi Da offers His reader a summary

of His Realization and His Teaching about the Single Reality of Consciousness:

Prologue: The Heart of Understanding

Death is utterly acceptable to consciousness and life. There has been endless time of numberless deaths, but neither consciousness nor life has ceased to arise. The felt quality and cycle to death has not modified the fragility of flowers, even the flowers within the human body. Therefore, one’s understanding of consciousness and life must be turned to That Utter, Inclusive Truth, That Clarity and Wisdom, That Power and Untouchable Gracefulness, That One and Only Reality, this evidence suggests. One must cease to live in a superficial and divided way, seeking and demanding consciousness and life in the present apparent form, avoiding and resisting what appears to be the end of consciousness and life in death.

The Heart Is Real understanding. The Heart Is Real Consciousness and Real Life. The Heart Is What Merely and Only Is, but Which Is also Appearing In and Behind the conditions of mortal life and its death. Therefore, it is said of old, the One That Is Is neither born nor come to death, not Alive merely as the limitation of form (itself), not Itself (or Entirely) Rendered in what appears, and, yet, It Is the Living One, than Which there Is no lesser other (and no Great or Greater Other), Appearing As all of this Play of changes, but Eternally One, Unchanging, and Free.

There Is Only the Constant Knowledge and Enjoyment of the Heart, moment to moment, through the instant of all conditions of appearance and disappearance. Of This I Am Perfectly Certain. I Am That.

If you would like to learn more about Avatar Adi Da’s Wisdom-Teaching, we recommend the following introductory books: *Adi Da: The Promised God-Man Is Here* and *Adidam: The True World-Religion Given by the Promised God-Man*, Adi Da Samraj available from your local Adidam bookstore by calling 310-358-0555.

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