

Radikal Freedom - Yoga as realisation



Beyond Ego (part two)

When we can begin to appreciate and perhaps even love our egoic structure for having helped us be where we are now, the fear based contraction of ego can really begin to let go. Appreciation as the pre-cursor energy of love is the cure for the contracted, separated, fearful energy of ego. Devotion and gratitude cultivated as we have practised helps us with this appreciation.

Radical inquiry and study helps us see into the beyond, beyond the ego, as experienced by all those who have walked their path beyond ego.

Many Old School Philosophies of a dualistic kind rightly tell us that egoism is false identification with the body-mind complex. They remind us that due to this ignorance we have become oblivious to our true nature as 'perfect' as the Divine.

However many of these philosophies continue to tell us that the 'Divine' is changeless, formless, absolute, beyond time, space and causation and definitely not here in this world of relative and changing phenomena.

Yet they also tell us that the absolute (divinity) is omnipotent (all powerful), omnipresent (totally present in and as all things), and omniscient (all seeing and knowing).

It cannot be both; if divinity is 'omni' then it is present in and as form, in and as the relative world, if it is not also dancing through the changing world, as the changing world, then it does not exist. To be omnipresent it has to be here and now!

Recognising that we have wrongly identified as our egoic construction, as our body-mind complex and that we have become oblivious of our deeper truer nature, then if this is not some static changeless absolute that is somewhere else, then what is it?

Pure Being; the ground of process, radiantly pregnant with all possibility, arising as the flow of process and change, dancing as the play of phenomena and yet always remaining as Pure Being.

There is no separation (remembering this is the nature of ego!) into the duality of Spirit and Matter, but a resting in the full unity, as Mary Daly the radical feminist calls it, "Spirit-Matter".

A good question to ask ourselves here is what is Spirit not? If we see Spirit (Divinity, Buddha, Consciousness) in all things, at all times then we are heading in the right direction.

Some dualistic schools divide into Consciousness and matter yet it is essentially the same dualistic perspective by differing names. There is only Consciousness/Spirit conscious of its own being, or less conscious of its own being and dancing as matter or nature in the relative.

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Appreciation and ultimately Love of the physical 'spirit as matter' of our incarnate experience can with awareness lead us beyond identification with physical form to an experience of matter as Spirit, as Pure Being as the totality, the whole of Spirit-Matter and beyond.

Our broader experience, of being as this enlightening process, lifts us beyond ego into awakening.

It is awareness and appreciation that leads us to love, that graces us with awakening, awakening into the awesome experience of the inherent 'divinity' of all that is, as it is, right here and now.

In this way 'God' or 'Nirvana' are not found beyond experience yet as the deep essence of it, we are also this essence, resting in our natural state of already perfect, blissful, compassionate and totally wise Pure being.

Christopher Gladwell