

What is That which
you are searching for?

Maharaj: There is no sense of personality at all when you become the *Ishwara* principle. Have no concern about losing your personality by listening to this knowledge, as personality has always been illusory. In order to even understand me the sense of personality must be absent. You *are* the knowledge and you don't have any shape or form whatsoever. You are impersonal. You are comprehensive. You are the unmanifest, the Universal Consciousness. What would happen if you went in search of that Consciousness? The seeker would disappear in the search, because the "I Amness" is all there is.

Visitor: I have a question here.

M: Do not focus on your question. Focus on what I am saying. Don't say anything, just listen.

V: I am able to appreciate listening to you, therefore I am speaking.

M: Just leave the question, be strong.

V: You speak very harshly... it hurts me.

M: Just leave that. Do not even look in that direction, just focus on what I am telling you.

V: There was a split between what was there before the question and what came after.

M: Look at what was there before the question came up. Do not speak about what came after the question.

V: But I do not know who I am, that is my reality.

M: As long as you are coming here, your search is not over. You are here because the search has not ended. Try to find out why. What is That which you are searching for? There is nothing there, only the process of seeking.

You might be anybody in this world, even *Brahma* or *Vishnu*, but you do not have the power to do anything. Your life is your existence. It is made up of the five elements and it is dependent only on these five elements.

Consciousness is an orphan without parents or source. It has no need of anyone. What you understand of the objective world is all duality. Your objective world is

composed of relationships. You have to depend all the time on someone else – friend, husband, wife, etc. In the objective world there is only dependence, whereas in your true state there is always independence. Existence without identity, which is your true nature, is independent. The time is half-past eleven at present, it cannot be twelve now. It will be twelve half an hour later. We don't have any control over it; the time has to pass. That means you are always dependent on something. You cannot live independently of time, space, or the elements. Everyone is helpless. Only Consciousness is independent.

The state of bliss or joy is *Poornabrahman* or *Nirvana*. One who does not need anybody for entertainment is *niranjan*. The ever-present is *nitya*. That state never changes at all. As long as you are conscious of your body and its needs, you cannot be totally independent. Consciousness does not need light and it does not need darkness. It does not need rest. It is the Truth and there is no change in it.

When I was young, I had the power to squeeze a piece of metal and pull it back into shape. Now I am old and require help from somebody to move around. Where has the power gone? It has not remained with me at all.

All of these things in the objective world are inseparable from their attributes. An attribute by its very nature depends upon something. That knowledge, "I Am," is also an attribute.

Therefore, the “I Amness,” one way or another, also has to depend on something.

V: What is the concept of maya (illusion)?

M: The concept of *maya* comes from the “I Amness.” The existence of *maya* and the world around you only arises when you are conscious of yourself. This is a state of darkness and ignorance, which is far from that of knowledge. *Maya* does not exist within the state of knowledge.

V: What is Atma Prem (Self-love)?

M: *Atma Prem* is also due to the “I Amness.” If you start with *Atma Prem*, it can distract you and all you will see is *maya*, which is a state of ignorance. If you reach a state of knowledge, then even this *Atma Prem* will be non-existent. The word *maya* has a different meaning here. What you are calling love is itself *maya*. Love is playing many roles. All these houses, etc. have been created out of *maya*. Love or *maya* has set up the whole of Bombay. Love is taking many shapes; *mula-maya* has created *Vishnu* and *Shankara*, but what was there before that? *Maya* is the culprit. Man has entangled himself in this concept and illusion of love, and because of it gets trapped in the cycle of life and death. The feeling of love is a great mistake if one gets entangled in it. There is love for so many things. The minute the illusion is created, the entanglement begins. By imagining male and female,

you got entangled in that illusion.

“You are the Paramatma.” This is what my Guru told me when he was going into *Mahasamadhi*. His words had so much force that they were implanted and embedded in me, and I became That. There was so much power and force behind his utterances that whatever he said came true.

V: Were you constantly doing the sacred mantra, which your Guru had given you?

M: I was not doing it. I was constantly listening to it. The power of the *mantra* depends upon the intensity of the faith you have.

V: Is there any cause for this faith?

M: Yes, there is a primary cause, the big cause, which is the knowledge “I Am.” This is the cause behind the faith. The ‘Awareness of my Being’ happened automatically. It just happens. The sprouting of this knowledge “I Am” is prior to the formation of the five elements. The Ultimate Consciousness, the Absolute, is not even aware of Itself or of any happening. Consciousness was One, but two people of different sexes were created and the love between them created this world. This sound and this awareness are not one, but two. Consciousness is just a speck, and this illusion has come out of it.