

Open Eyes



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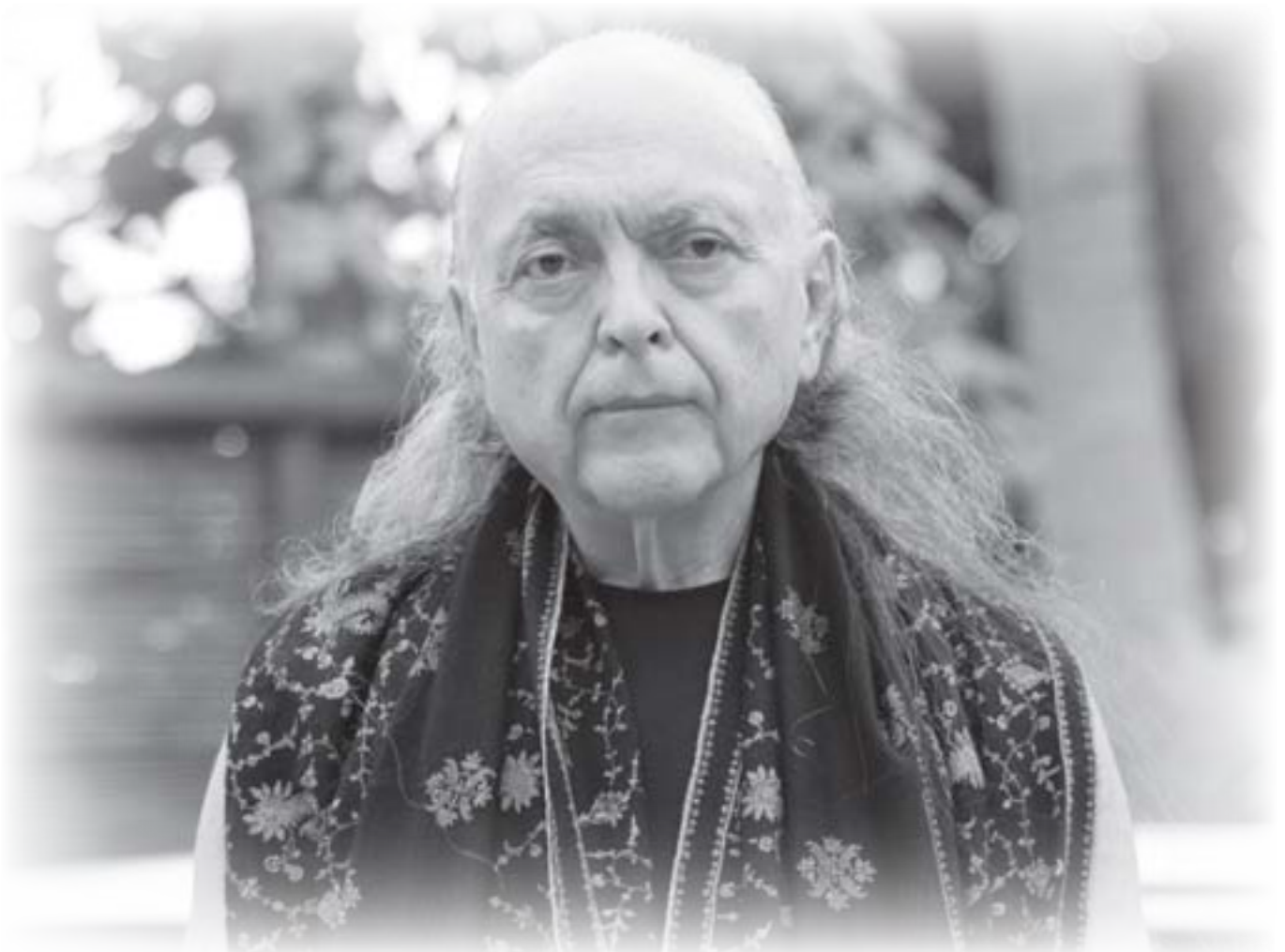
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Real God Is Not a Parent Figure

It is simply not true to the facts of existence altogether that there is a Great Omniscient, Omnipresent, Omnipotent Being making everything happen—in charge of everything happening, and making things turn out well for those who acknowledge That One and obey certain moral principles. It is simply not so. It is not true that there is such a Parental Deity controlling history, controlling even all events, and working out a great “success-plan” for humanity.

—Avatar Adi Da, “The Parental Deity and The One To Be Realized”



Avatar Adi Da, November 2008

Welcome to Open Eyes

This newsletter is produced by devotees of Avatar Adi Da Samraj. Avatar Adi Da established the ego-transcending Spiritual Way of Adidam Ruchiradam.

"Open Eyes" is one of Avatar Adi Da's descriptions of Perfect Enlightenment, or the non-exclusive, non-inward state of one who is identified unconditionally with the Indivisible Reality that is the Prior and Divine Condition of existence.

Avatar Adi Da Teaches that this Indivisible Reality is the Truth of everyone and everything. He has said that we could be completely Happy in every moment, if we truly Realized this. Instead, we chronically feel and think—and experience—that we are separate from apparent others and things.

This feeling-sense of separation is what Adi Da calls the "I", the ego, or the "self-contraction". He Teaches that the self-contraction is something we are doing, not something that is happening to us. Adi Da appeared in human form for a time to "learn" this limitation, and to fully Reveal the means to transcend self-contraction in the Prior Divine Reality that is His Eternal State.

IN THIS ISSUE: During His lifetime, Avatar Adi Da gave many, many talks about the nature of "Real God". He helped His devotees to understand how we were relating to the Divine as a parental "Creator God" figure, either childishly accepting or adolescently rejecting it. He also gave us the means to go beyond this disposition.

In 2008, Avatar Adi Da completed an essay that summarizes all that He has said on this subject. In it, He contrasts the concept held by many of God as a "Parental Deity" with Real God, or "the One to Be Realized". While the Parental Deity is something we feel is separate from us, Adi Da explains, Real God is our own True Nature, realized when the separate self sense is gone beyond.

This issue of Open Eyes presents excerpts from this essay.

The Parental Deity and The One to be Realized

There is a common notion people have which they associate with "God" (or the Divine), and which they commonly identify as a basic "religious" feeling or concept. It may be described as a feeling that, even when you are alone, there is "Somebody Else" in the room. This is just the opposite (or the antithesis) of the Disposition of Real Transcendental Spiritual life. I Speak about God all the time—but I am Speaking from a Disposition that is entirely different from the "point of view" of conventional "religion". Perhaps, by contrast, you could say that the Disposition of Real Transcendental Spiritual life is summarized in the notion that, no matter how many people are in the room, there is still only One Person there!



The entire domain of conventional "religion" is (commonly) the domain of immaturity—of childishness and adolescence, rather than real human maturity. When people believe in "God", what they are actually believing is that everything that is "outside" of themselves is ultimately epitomized in some Person, Force, or Being that is not merely making and controlling everything, but is in charge and is going to protect them—and, especially, that this "Other" Person will protect them and even help them to get a lot of things they want, if they will enter into a special kind of relationship with that One. That relationship is very similar to the one that you were called to enter into with your parents: "Be good—and we will love you, and protect you, and give you things that you want."

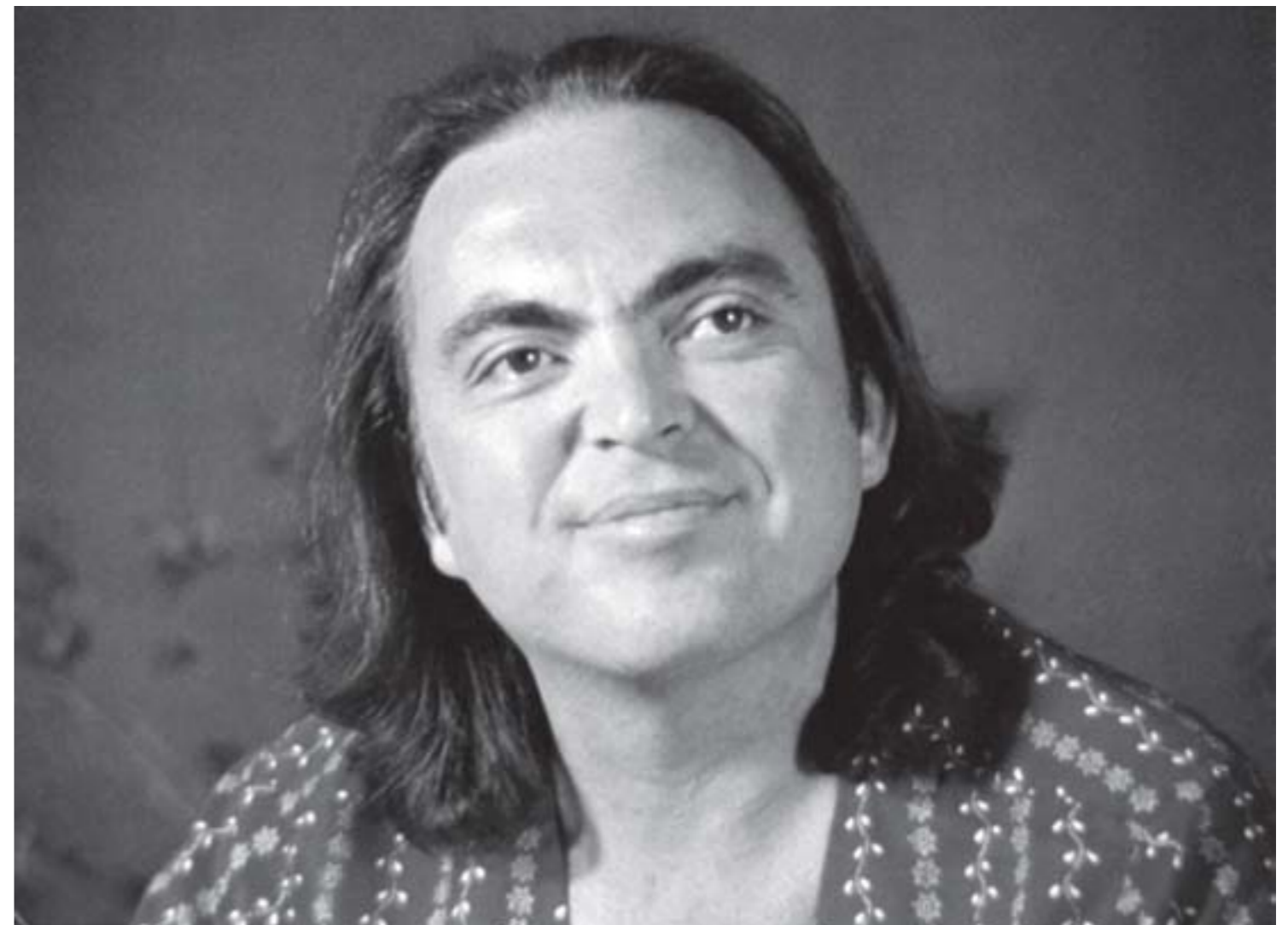
Thus, popular (or conventional) "religion" is largely a cultural domain of social morality. People are asked to behave in one or another fashion that one would call "good" in order to maintain a good association with the parent-like "God", so that they will be loved and protected by that One and given the things they want (while they are alive, and after death).

Conventional "religion" is largely an enterprise of childhood—of the dependent, childish state. When people become adults, however, they have more hard facts to deal with in life. They feel much less protected than they did as children in the household of their parents. So they begin to question and to doubt the existence of this Parental Deity. Such individuals may continue to be conventionally "religious" in some sense, willing to play the game of social morality and good behavior—but they carry on a rather adolescent relationship of dependence-independence, or embrace and withdrawal, relative to this "God-Person".

Atheism is the ultimate form of denial of the Parental "God". Atheism is not founded on real observation of the ultimate facts of the universe. Rather, it is a kind of adolescent development of the human species. What characterizes the doctrine (or dogma) of atheism is not a discovery that there is no "God", but a refusal to acknowledge every kind of parent (or parent-like authority), including (therefore) the Parental "God" of childish "religion".

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The only-by-Me Revealed and Given Reality-Way of Adidam (or Adidam Ruchiradam) is not a form of this childish (or conventional) "religion". When I Speak of Real (Acausal) God (and I also use other terms than "Real Acausal God", but that is one of the forms of reference I use), I am not speaking of a Parental Deity. I have frequently had occasion to Criticize this childish mode of relating to "God" and to the entire Process of Transcendental Spiritual life. I could compare the true Disposition that I "Consider" with you to the conventional (or childish) "religious point of view" by saying that the True Transcendental Spiritual Process (or the Way of Reality Itself) is not founded in the primitive feeling that, even when you are alone, there is always "Someone Else" present. Rather, I Describe the basis of the True Transcendental Spiritual Process as a mysterious intuition that—no matter how many others are present, no matter how many people are present, including yourself, no matter what is arising—There Is Only One Reality, One Self-Nature, One Self-Condition, One Source-Condition, One Self-State.



Avatar Adi Da in the 1970s

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The Truth That is to be Realized may be summarized simply as the Realization that, no matter what is arising, no matter how many others are present, There Is Only One Being. This is precisely different from the childish proposition that, even when you are alone, there is always "Someone Else" present.

—Avatar Adi Da, "The Parental Deity and The One To Be Realized"



Adi Da Samraj has created a body of work that surpasses in its force and insight that of any other author and teacher of our time.

—Paul E. Muller-Ortega,
Professor of Religion,
University of Rochester USA;
author *The Triadic Heart of Shiva*.

I regard Heart-Master Adi Da as one of the greatest teachers in the Western world today.

—Irina Tweedie, Sufi teacher;
author, *Chasm of Fire*.

About Capitalisation

In His written word, Avatar Adi Da uses a unique style of capitalisation, in which words describing the Divine Self or Spiritual realities are capitalised.