

What is the Third Eye?

Dear Ram,

Months have passed, since our last email-contact. Therefore some questions have gathered.

Harold: Why are enlightened persons mostly single ?

Ram: Probably because they don't like emotional problems.

Harold: Could You lead a married life ?

Ram: Yes. I was married once and liked it. I would still be married but my wife went mad. I think I will get married in a year or two.

Harold: What do you think about the following statements regarding *atman*, witness and mind:

“Who perceives the mind (bundle of thoughts)?

Answer: The witness.

Now the question: Is the witness a part of the mind ?

Answer: **Without one the other cannot be, yet they are not one. Both the perceived and the perceiver come and go together. That which makes both possible is neither 'this' nor 'that' but pure awareness. There is no knowing when this awareness is turned on itself but when it is turned outwards all knowables come in to being.”**

Ram: Correct, so far.

“In *namasmarana* or *japa* you are at the last point between the mind and the witness and this *sadhana* leads to the merging of both into the awareness or the reality. The witness is a part of the mind, but in such a subtle way, that Atmananda says that realizing the witness, is enough to free one from the cycle

of birth and death. So to abide as the witness is the best place to abide of all places! And remember, it is never an object, so whatever it sees, cannot be it. The witness is pure, objectless seeing and can't be grabbed or made an object of."

Harold: Could You subscribe this?

Ram: Yes. Consciousness is only a witness if objects appear in it. But if the *vasanas* are active, consciousness 'becomes' a witness. It does not witness like a doer witnesses. It is the 'light' in which objects are revealed.

Harold: Do You know, why it is said, the 3rd eye does not belong to the mind?

Ram: The 'third-eye' is the teachings of Vedanta. They let you 'see' awareness by removing your ignorance. The self is the 'third-eye.' You have two physical eyes through which the 'eye' of consciousness sees. It is symbolic.

Did You stay at Arunachala till now?

No. I came back in February. I will go back in December.

Mooji, Sivasakthiammayar, Aum Amma, Nanagaru, Karl Renz, Radha Ma, Lakshmana Swami and some, I have not seen. It's good, to have so many flowers in that garden. One day I want to go back.

Love,

Ram