

# No Innate Intelligence

Ram (James Swartz)

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Source: <http://www.shiningworld.com/site/satsang/read/598>

**Julia:** Dear James, I've assumed in the past (1) that the intelligence and life force I have felt behind all things, including the gross body, was an intelligence within the design. Now it's good to clear up that the design, which owes its existence to self, is like a computer program just animated into being. Though impressive and stunning in its complexity, and sacred too, it has no innate intelligence – yes? Only program-like intelligence – yes? That I get. It's obvious in some ways because it's all automatic, my body does its own thing, I'm just noticing what it's doing. And (2) that creation is intelligent independently.

I get at every level of my being that only self is real, unmoving, undivided, ordinary and actionless. Yes, past inspired insights are being placed on the altar, so to speak, some are happily dying, others deepening and being claimed fully. Sorry for my lack of clarity. Your help is really appreciated.

~ All the best to you, Julia

**James:** Dear Julia, lovely email. I was a bit worried that you might take it in the wrong way. But it clarified your thinking, obviously, because this one is very clear. Yes, the *dharma* field has no innate intelligence, only program-like intelligence. It “borrows” its intelligence from awareness, like the moon borrows its light from the sun. And yes, you, actionless awareness, are the only reality. I particularly like your statement about inspired insights being winnowed. Vedanta is all about discrimination, knowing what is valuable and what isn't. Inspiration is great, but it needs to be tempered by wisdom. The next time it hits, write it down and let it sit, then go back in a week or so and look at it dispassionately. Look for the contradictions. If you can't spot them or resolve them, be sure to write. It is a pleasure *satsanging* with you.

~ Love James