

THE CRY OF FREEDOM

There is a river of thought-waves. Everyone is being washed downstream. Everyone is clinging to these thoughts and being washed away.

Just give rise to the single thought “I want to be free.” This thought will rarely come out of the entire population. The entire population of the planet is moving downstream. They are not destined to give rise to the thought “I want to be enlightened in this very span of time.”

So I call this thought of freedom going against the stream and toward the source. It does not require any effort to give rise to this thought. The thought “I want to be free” is itself free. This thought will take you to freedom. It is the most rare thought. Out of the entire population of six billion, only a handful give rise to this thought.

Master, I have been with you for four days now, and I am still not enlightened.

[laughing] Yes, I am surprised, a smart boy like you.

What should I do?

Let me tell you what my teacher told me. Just be quiet. This quiet does not involve talking or not talking. It does not involve any doing whatsoever. Just let the mind fall into silence. This is enough.

Now wait. I can't believe what you just said to him. I've been trained to think that it takes years and years of practice and lifetimes of training and hard work to reach liberation. Now you say it's simply a switch on the wall, a change of perception. Is that correct?

You need not switch on or off. For the sun to shine do you switch it on?

No.

Just like this. This light is always there. No switches at all. The sun has no switches. You turn your face away and you call it night. Sun has no night and no day. You are that sun. This is your own light and you are that. You don't need any switches. The switches are limitations. You have fixed these limitations yourself. Nature has not fixed any switches.

"I want this, I want that. I dislike this, I like that." If you remove this switch of like and dislike, how will you feel? Instantly you will be free. Likes and dislikes keep you in bondage and suffering.

There are no walls for the switches either. Walls are imaginary only, like walls between countries. You have constructed this wall between you and something else. You have to break this which does not exist.

The frontier you have created is the suffering. You have to demolish it by yourself. Nobody will help you.

What do you mean, "Nobody will help you"?

The Self has to help the Self; nobody else can help. Who else will drop this wall? You have to help yourself. Find out, is it possible to be out of the Self, ever?

First say, "I want help." Then discover who needs help. Self is not suffering. Self is not in bondage. Self is ever free.

So you are saying it is the mind clinging to the wall that is suffering?

Yes. Who has created separation? Mind has created separation, and no mind will remove this separation. The separation doesn't exist. Even to say "I am separate" is a joke.

It is only when there is a need for understanding that there is something to be understood. Once some of Krishnamurti's students came here to see me. They said there is only one difference between our teachings. They said, "Krishnamurti removes concepts from the vessel and Poonjaji breaks the vessel altogether." *[laughs]*

So allow yourself some time, a couple of moments. And in those moments there should be no trespassing. Make available a few seconds, and during this span nobody should trespass. I think you could well afford to be available for a few moments. You have spent all your life for others, and not even a minute for your Self.

Everyone possesses you. When you are born, your parents say you are "my son." Go to school next and you're "my student." Then marry and you're "my husband." Have children and you're "my father." Remove these possessions. Let no one possess you. Reject everything and see what happens.

You have to devote some time for your Self, either now or in some other lifetime. You have to reach your home. There is no escape. You have to return home, either now or tomorrow. You must decide if you want to play more. It doesn't matter. In the end, it doesn't matter.

You think it is taking time. It is no time that you are spending because you are already free; it is only your illusion that you are not. You have to allow time, once and for all, if you want to be happy. The moment you declare "I am free!"—standing on the mountaintop of your toes, arms up—eureka! There is the happy moment. Very happy moment.

What prevents you from freedom? What is the impediment?

That I often have lots of thoughts and it is very difficult to get rid of them.

What kind of thoughts do you have? Do you give rise to the thought of freedom?

Yes.

Hold on to this thought of freedom. Do you see any other thoughts simultaneously rising up?

No.

Mind can hold on to only one thought at a time.

I understand.

Tell which other thoughts replace this thought of freedom. Voluntarily bring another thought to replace this. Another thought that you like best. Do it . . . do it!

I don't want to reject this thought.

Very good. Very nice. When you like this thought, where will this thought take you? Where will other thoughts be? Where is freedom? How many kilometers away from you?

I don't think it is far away from me.

If it is not far from you, then how much time is needed for you to arrive here? How much time to be as you are? It is here and now. How much time to be here and now?

As little as possible.

Let us agree, as little as possible. Should we call it this moment? This instant? The least possible time. This instant is the time. Now look at this moment, the least time. Look into this instant, if it is not far away. Jump into it right now.

How?

Now! [*much laughter*]

Now, what is the thought now?

None. Only this now.

No thoughts troubling you now?

Only that I am looking for thoughts.

Yes, yes. Keep on looking for thoughts. Do you understand what you are saying?

Yes.

If you don't look for a thought, the thoughts will look for you. If you don't look, all the thoughts will attack you. Try. If you look for a thought, do you catch it?

They have disappeared.

Then when the thoughts have disappeared, who are you? [*silence*]

This is the best answer you can give me. Stay as such. If you step out of the silence, there is trouble. You don't need anything. Eternity is here. Happiness is here. No death can enter this silence. No trouble can enter here. Step out and there is samsara—the endless cycle of birth and death. No thought, no concept, can enter here. All desires are met here in emptiness. You walk out chasing after desires and they are never fulfilled.

All my life, even as a little boy, the desire for freedom has been stronger than all other desires. It doesn't really seem to be a desire; it's more like a longing. This desire seems to pull me back, while the other desires seem to pull me out. This desire for freedom mysteriously seems to stay, where the other desires come and go and change with my thoughts. The desire for freedom is always there, burning. It seems to be deeper than the mind. Is this true?

This is the most intense desire. All other desires are on the surface. They rise and fall, you see. The desire for freedom is intense and you must respond to it. When you respond, this desire will bring you back home. It will continue to trouble you if it is not fulfilled in this life span.

This desire must be fulfilled, whether you like it or not. That is why you come here. What a farce! This desire follows you wherever you go, in whatever incarnation you take. It will not leave you. How did it push you here? You left your job and your business; why did you have to come here? Just consider it. You must return home! How long can you stay at the market?

It seems the only response to the desire is to look within to where the mind originates. To go to the place where thoughts arise and stay with it. That is the response, isn't it?

Yes. You will unceasingly scan the mind. Unceasingly. And you will know who you are.