



EGO

Where is Ego to be found?

Extract from 13/1/09 Satsang

Om Shri Paramatmane Namaha

Q: Where is Ego to be found?

A: Where does Ego exist? One has to consider one's own Ego only and not the Egos of others. One may consider oneself beautiful, rich or learned and one thinks that one is like that. The scriptures say that this 'considering oneself to be something' is Ego. Why do you consider yourself to be something in particular? Why have you created these shackles?

This bondage is your own creation. Nobody is forcing you to think that you are very beautiful or wise. No committee ever decided that you are the wisest man and that now you have to consider yourself to be so. Nothing compels you to think this. Sometimes you may make a mistake and then maybe for a moment you think that you are not intelligent: "I have committed a mistake. I am a fool." Now, who compelled you to consider yourself as such? Nobody compelled you to consider yourself an intelligent man, and nobody compelled you to consider yourself a fool.

People around you at a particular time may have less money than you, and you consider yourself rich. But the next day a person turns up who is much richer than you and then you say: "I am nothing. I am poor." Nobody compelled you to consider yourself rich or poor. You decided it yourself.

Your problems are of your own creation. You may have freedom to continue having the problems or do away with them. For example, I am sitting here by Divine arrangement. It would be my problem if I considered myself to be a really wise person, a guru or an enlightened man, and also if I thought of the people in front of me as my disciples. I would have created it. Nobody has ever decided for me that henceforth I should consider myself a *gyani* (a wise person).

In the same way, if I considered myself to be lacking in enlightenment and wisdom, it would also be a mistake. Thus, whatever we believe ourselves to be, we are caught in that bondage and we have to eliminate it.
