

Sample Online Consultation: “From Godhead to Godheart”

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Question: One of the very unique aspects of your approach in teaching spiritual development is your emphasis on “authentic thinking,” whereas most other teachers and teachings, such as Eckhart Tolle and your own tradition Zen Buddhism, emphasize not-thinking or “no mind.” Now after studying with you for nearly three years, I am starting to sense that what you call Authentic Thinking not only goes beyond usual “information shuffling” or intellectual thinking but also comes more from the heart than from the mind. Am I correct? Would you elaborate more on the connection between thinking and the heart?

Answer: Albert Einstein and other great scientists have stated that in their scientific quest for knowledge they were motivated by the desire to know the Mind of God. However, the Heart of God is ontologically more primary than the Mind of God. We can understand (*stand under*) the Mind of God from the deepest of all epistemological foundations when we can innerstand (*stand within*) the Heart of God. Let us call the Mind of God “Godhead” and the Heart of God “Godheart.”

Godheart is Supreme Oneness-Divine Chaos while Godhead is Supreme Wholeness-Divine Cosmos from which the Phenomenal Universe as the Dynamic Multiplicity-Cosmic Integrity emerges in the eternal moment of Now as the timeless momentum of Eternity. Godheart is Ultimate Simplicity as such while Godhead is the Origin of Dynamic Multiplicity. Godheart is the metacosmic locus of Divine Love and Unity while Godhead is the metacosmic origin of Divine Thinking and Creativity. In Reality, there is only the Heartmind that is the Divinity itself, not the Heart *and* the Mind of God, but in speaking in this manner, we can emphasize the ontological primacy of the Heart dimension over the Mind dimension.

Spiritual evolution or the evolution of consciousness consists of two fundamental dimensions or vectors: (1) to immerse with and innerstand Godheart; and (2) to consciously participate in the creative process and evolutionary movement of Godhead, which includes the progressive understanding of Godhead or the Mind of God. Authentic Thinking powerfully integrates both of these two dimensions into a single unified movement of spiritual evolution. Through Authentic Thinking, you become an activated Divine-human continuum, and you evolve forth as this continuum. In an essential sense I came to this realization very early in my life but it has taken many years to unfold and formulate a spiritual philosophy and path that enables the development of authentic thinking for the evolution of human consciousness.

Just before my 16th birthday, I bore witness to an event of cosmic spiritual illumination that engulfed my whole being for the first time in this life (for there was a recollection at that time that I had had the same experience before.) It was an experience or rather ‘imperience’ of the Light that is Consciousness shining upon itself without any other object to shine upon. A pure consciousness was present with which I was at one and of which I was the witness, simultaneously, that was not only wholly aware of the eternal moment of Now but also the timeless momentum of Eternity.

In that timeless instant a tremendous amount of Sublime Information was nonlinearly and holistically unconcealed to my consciousness—that consciousness with which I was at one and of which I was the witness, simultaneously—while my intellectual/interpretive mind was in suspension. I knew everything and nothing at the same time.

In my late teenage years following that initial illumination, while studying the ancient Japanese language I learned that the modern Japanese term for “to think” *kamgaeru* comes from *kamikaeru*, which means “to return (*kaeru*)” to and from “the realm of the gods” (*kami*). I realized that *kamikaeru* or “to think” precisely described my own spiritual enlightenment experience or imperience. A further study revealed that *kami* actually has three meanings which denote three aspects of Divinity. *Kami* means (1) the Invisible (to the senses); (2) the Radiant (connoting intelligence); and (3) the Conjoining (connoting love). Therefore, *kami* signifies the invisible, spiritual realm of divine intelligence and love, and *kamikaeru* signifies the two-way movement of returning to and from *kami*.

Kamikaeru beautifully describes the inner movement of what is called Meditation: To meditate means to immerge with *kami*, the spiritual realm beyond thought, and to think thinking or to create creating, that is, to bring forth thinking or creating, from *kami*. Authentic Thinking, which is my English translation of *Kamikaeru*, is this two-way movement of Meditation—of inward turning and inner seeing (returning to *kami*) and thinking or creating (returning from *kami*). By returning to *kami*, we consciously immerge with Being in Eternity, while by returning from *kami*, we consciously partake in the evolutionary movement of becoming in time.

Now, Eckhart Tolle is an enlightened spiritual teacher. Every generation has several teachers of his kind but this generation is embracing his kind of teaching on a much larger scale than ever before. Countless Chinese, Korean, Japanese, and Vietnamese Zen masters have been teaching the same kind of teaching for centuries but for the mass audience in the West the “Power of Now” seems to be still new. Yet, Eckhart Tolle’s teaching, Zen teaching, and other similar teachings *as understood by most people* are only one half of the story of spiritual evolution. The whole story is *Kamikaeru* or Authentic Thinking.

In the ordinary wakeful state, which, according to Zen Buddhism, Gurdjieff, and other esoteric spiritual teachings and teachers, is merely a state of metaphysical slumber or sleep, thousands upon thousands of incoherent thoughts run through your mind, which you are unable to stop or control. In such a state, you are not thinking but you are being thought into existence by thoughts. However, underneath a myriad of those floating thoughts, there is a space within your consciousness where there is silence, where there is no thought, and where you can immerge with the Timeless or the Eternal Now. This is the fundamental message of Mr. Tolle and other similar teachers.

Yet, attaining this immergence with the Eternal Now is only one half of the story, for the whole story of spiritual awakening and evolution is the story of the evolution of the Being-becoming continuum, of the Timeless-time continuum.

Being is in becoming but becoming is also in Being in the continuum of Being-becoming—of Timeless and time. The human being is in reality the human being-*cum*-becoming, and therefore unless one becomes a master of both being and becoming and of the dynamic balance between the two, one is not a true master of Life in its totality. One must master both the Timeless (Being) and the time (becoming) dimensions of Life to be a master of one’s life. Mr. Tolle’s teaching appeals to the Western population because the West has gone too far in the direction of becoming and has forgotten Being and lost the balance between being and becoming.

However, to apprehend that Zen or Mr. Tolle teaches only non-thinking or no mind is to understand the deep implications of their teaching very superficially and only exoterically. In *Fukanzazengi* (Invitational Discourse on Zen Meditation) the celebrated Zen Master Dogen states (paraphrased): To meditate means to think in the realm of no-thinking; and to think in the realm of no-thinking means (thinking that is) non-

thought (which is thinking without thought-object). Therefore, Zen Buddhism teaches much more than no-thinking or no mind. In truth, Zen teaches Authentic Thinking (*Hishiryō* in the Zen Buddhist lexicon, which means the same as *kamikaeru*) and thereby it liberates and unleashes your authentic creativity. For this reason, many of the greatest Chinese and Japanese poems or paintings were composed or created by Zen masters.

When you deeply *imperience* and *innerstand* the nature of *Kami*, you will realize that it is the Heartmind of the Divine and therefore of the Kosmos—the Kosmos = the Cosmos (All the Knowable) + the Chaos (All the Unknowable). Because of my intellectual propensity and orientation, for a long time I missed the full significance of my own original insight into the Nature and Reality of *Kami*, but as I have delved deeper and deeper into *Kamikaeru*, Authentic Thinking, and therefore into *Kami*, I came to recognize the Kosmic order of the Heart and Mind of God, of Godheart and Godhead, and of the Divine Chaos and the Divine Cosmos.

Therefore, you are right in sensing that Authentic Thinking originates more in the heart than in the mind. In reality, it originates in your heartmind that is your soul. You return to the deepest of the deep of your heartmind which is the heart dimension, and then you return to the objective world from your heartmind inspired and pregnant with new and original ideas and visions. In the act of thinking and creating, in the external movement aspect of *Kamikaeru*, the heart gives rise to the mind which gives rise to creative and original thinking.

The Buddhists states that those who are unable to think are unable to feel, but the opposite is also true: Those who are unable to feel are unable to think. This is evinced by the fact that truly creative thinkers are deeply feeling people. You can be superb at 'information shuffling,' which is what people normally think thinking is and is the sole basis upon which they evaluate and measure human cognitive capacity or intelligence. However, authentic thinking, real original and creative thinking, is essentially different from mere information shuffling. The former requires that you be genuinely in touch with your feelings, while the latter can be accomplished in detachment from your feelings.

There is no Mind of God or Man apart from the Heartmind of God or Man, nor is there any Heart of God or Man apart from the Heartmind of God or Man. Yet, the Heart is more fundamental and primary than the Mind. This means that in the heart of the Kosmos there is Love, and that no knowledge that does not lead to Love or is not rooted in Love attains Meaning that it seeks to embrace.

Godheart is the Matrix of Mystery from which Godhead arises as the Matrix of Meaning. Therefore, no Knowledge can ever nor will ever efface the Mystery of the Kosmos or erase the Wonder of Life. Love in the Heartmind of God, Love as the Heartmind of God, remains forever more the Alpha and the Omega in the eternal evolution of this eternally regenerative Kosmos with which you and I are one.