

The Meaning of Avalokiteshvara

Given in its simplest terms the definition of Avalokiteshvara is "The Great Master". But unless the student has succeeded in destroying the Great Illusion of Samsara or earth life he may fall into a serious misconception from this simple definition. The greatest error that man has ever made is the thinking of God as an objective being. This idea has been fostered by priestcraft and organized religion and thus these two have become man's greatest curse. The deeply rooted idea of an objective, extra-cosmic God is the greatest barrier to our attaining the most important realizations. This illusion must be destroyed before the fundamental nature of Mastery can be understood.

It is wholly wrong to think of the Great Master as an objective, individual Hierophant. It is a much more intimate and mystical fact than that. Every individual who has attained Mastery in the true sense of the word has realized Avalokiteshvara. But this is not realization by objective perception but by identification. Avalokiteshvara is the aggregate of all intelligences that have been or will be. He is the knower of all Knowledge, and it is only as we become Avalokiteshvara that we become also Knowers.

In the Kosmic sense Avalokiteshvara is the Light of Consciousness which sustains the Universe. Hence ~~It~~ is the Pranava AUM. It is the omnipresent Universal Spirit in Nature and Atman in man. It is the SELF, the SPIRITUAL SUN of which every Self in the individualized sense is a Ray. Now just as the rays of physical light appear to us separate from this plane but in reality they are one and inseparable with the sun, so the multiplicity of Rays which we seem to be are really identical with the Spiritual Sun. There is no Self but that SELF. It is the Realization of this fact which is the key to the Liberation from all bondage.

In one sense we may think of Avalokiteshvara as the combined Intelligence of all Dhyana Chohans, the intelligences which are directing human, planetary and sub-human evolution. Objectively we may differentiate between these intelligences as having different capacities and qualities, Subjectively they are all modes of the One Intelligence and that carries the mystic name Avalokiteshvara.

In the planetary sense, Avalokiteshvara is the Regent of the planet. In the Cosmic sense It is the Regent of the Solar System. While in the Kosmic sense It is the Logos, the Father which is one with the Son. In the microcosmic sense it is the Atman, the Self.

To realize that I am Avalokiteshvara is the goal of all Yoga.

This brief discussion should bring to students a better conception of the significance of the Order to which they belong. Deeper understanding must come from the awakening of the Light of Intuition.
Yogagnani.