

Opening up the Soul

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Several years ago, I asked a friend of mine why she did not look inside to discover the causes of her unhappiness. She replied, “I’m afraid of what I might find out.” While many today have the courage to bring some, at least, of their sub- and unconscious conditioning to the surface, so that it can be looked at in the bright light of day and its effects dissolved with intelligence, my friend was speaking on behalf of many millions of people.

Why is this? Why are people so reluctant to open up the soul and so realize the exquisitely beautiful rewards for doing so? Well, over the years people have found many ways to explain this very odd behaviour of a subspecies that has rather arrogantly called itself *Homo sapiens sapiens* ‘wise, wise human’. For instance, the myths and fairy tales of all cultures in the world allegorically tell us that the treasure is defended and protected by demons and monsters, which need to be slain if we are to return Home to Paradise, where we are conceived both as individuals and as a species.

In another metaphor, an anonymous fourteen-century English mystic said that there is a cloud of unknowing that needs to be dispersed to allow the radiant light of Consciousness to shine brilliantly through the psyche, lighting up these nether regions. Such ignorance of the Divine, Cosmic energies that cause us to behave as we do is called *avidya* in Sanskrit. So humanity’s struggle to understand what it truly means to be a human being—in relationship to God and the Cosmos, and in distinction to the other animals and machines, like computers—has a long history.

In the language of modern holistic science, we can see why this is so. All structures in the Universe have a tendency to maintain themselves in equilibrium, to preserve the status quo, called *homeostasis*. We could also call this self-preserving predisposition *autosoteric*, from the Greek *soteria*, ‘preservation, salvation’, in, for instance, the propensity of people to defend the religious or economic beliefs that give them a precarious sense of security and identity in life. Abraham Maslow called our reluctance to realize our fullest potential as Divine, Cosmic beings the ‘Jonah syndrome’.

Once such conservative behaviour patterns become established, they tend to habitually repeat themselves, as Rupert Sheldrake points out in *The Presence of the Past*. They then percolate through a culture through morphic resonance. Such implicit spread of energy patterns is explicitly reinforced through the education system, which attempts to stultify people’s innate intelligence. For people thinking for themselves, intelligently questioning the beliefs and assumptions of the prevailing culture, are extremely dangerous, a threat to the status quo. So anyone who does not fit in with the consensus of the group tends to be ignored or even attacked, like an antelope herd expelling an albino born in its midst or the immune response of the body rejecting a life-saving organ transplant. There are many examples in the history of human learning, from Pythagoras and Socrates onwards.

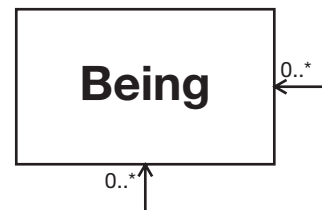
For myself, my soul was opened by an apocalyptic eureka moment in April 1980, when I suddenly realized that there are nonphysical, mental energies at work in the Universe as well as the physical energies that I had learnt something about at school in the 1950s. This idea shattered my mind into little pieces, totally demolishing the Tower of Babel that represents the world of learning, even digging up the foundations on which Western civilization is based. In Hindu terms, by starting afresh at the very beginning, it was as if Shiva, the destroyer, had acted through my psyche, enabling Brahma, the Creator, to rebuild 25,000 years of human learning on the Truth.



This was not something I did as an act of conscious choice. No one in their right mind would set out to deliberately destroy their business career, home, and relationships with family and friends all at once. But that is exactly what happened to me in the early 1980s, kindly helped through this life-

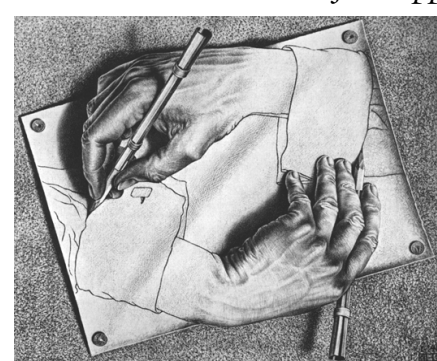
changing crisis by David Bohm, similarly seeking Wholeness, breaking free of science's mechanistic worldview. As a consequence, my soul is now wide open. To integrate all knowledge in all cultures and disciplines at all times into a coherent whole, the hedges that academics erect around their specialist fields of study have disappeared. As an extension, the armour plating that people dress themselves up in to protect their beliefs and ways of life has also been removed in my own psyche.

For my individual consciousness has expanded to such an extent that it is now coterminous with Consciousness itself. I can best explain this with this diagram, which depicts the overall design of the Universe in the notation of the Unified Modeling Language (UML), often used by information systems architects to build business systems. Being, here, is any idea, theory, philosophy, opinion, belief, worldview, or cosmology that anyone has ever entertained throughout the entire history of ideas. All attempts to create a universal synthesis of everything, for instance, are thus subsets of what I call the Unified Relationships Theory (URT), the Holy Grail or Philosophers' Stone of human learning.



Now having no protective armouring means that I am utterly naked, vulnerable, and hypersensitive, which makes relationships with my fellow human beings extremely difficult. I can only describe how evolution has become fully conscious of itself within me, carrying me to its glorious culmination at what Pierre Teilhard de Chardin called the 'Omega point', by questioning the many beliefs and assumptions that people have acquired from the culture or subculture they belong to. On the other hand, as I am Wholeness, I don't belong anywhere. To even say that I am like an extraterrestrial being visiting the planet wondering just what on earth is going on is misleading.

Paradoxically, what separates me from virtually everyone else on Earth is the Principle of Unity, the fundamental design principle of the Universe, which can be expressed in seven words—



Wholeness is the union of all opposites—or six mathematical symbols: $W = A \cup \sim A$. For instance, the Principle of Unity shows that in Reality the observer and observer are one, the notion that brought David Bohm and J. Krishnamurti together around 1960. In other words, to create a self-inclusive map of our rapidly changing society, the process of creating the map must be included in the territory being mapped. This is rather like a television camera filming itself filming, as the lithograph of *Drawing Hands*, by M. C. Escher, well illustrates, quite possible with self-reflective Intelligence, the Divine quality that distinguishes human beings from the other animals and machines.

Because the Principle of Unity has healed my fragmented, split mind in Wholeness, the innermost secrets of the Universe have been revealed to me: what it is, how it is designed, and our origin and destiny as a species. Specifically, because the URT includes a comprehensive model of the psychodynamics of society within the context of an integral theory of the whole of evolution, it can explain why evolution is currently passing through the most momentous turning point in the fourteen billion years of its history and why humanity is not adapting to this unprecedented rate of change, putting the health, well-being, and even survival of our species at very great risk.

The only way forward for humanity is thus to awaken to Total Revolution, in Vimala Thakar's terms. A tsunami needs to emerge from the depths of Ocean of Consciousness that will sweep away the seven pillars of unwisdom on which Western civilization is based, allowing us to enter the Age of Light, rebuilding society on the seven pillars of wisdom with open souls. The imminent collapse of the global economy would provide such a global life-shock. But when this happens, the people need to understand why it is doing so, otherwise there will be widespread panic. My flyer *The Central Issue of Our Times* outlines some of the tasks that we need to perform in order to prepare intelligently for this apocalyptic event. But this will only happen if the people who are over absorbed in their own projects work together with a common vision for the good of the Whole. Only a completely new work ethic will resolve the great psychospiritual crisis we all face today.