

THE MYSTERY OF CONCEALED EGO, PROJECTION & REFLECTION



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As a dear satsangi once said, "I always liked Aesop's Fable, 'The Two Bags'.. "Every man carries two bags about with him- one in front and one behind- and both are packed with faults. The bag in front contains his neighbors' faults, the one behind, his own. Hence it is that men do not see their own faults, but never fail to see those of others."

Russell Perkins pointed out, "Masters have said so much and spent so much energy teaching us not to judge or criticize.. or assign motives to others.. Nothing else is so dangerous to us [spiritually. The Masters warn us that we take on the karma of the person etc].. Yet. we just don't get it.. This instruction is not taken as seriously as many others. [We still do it]" Why is that? And when we are criticized, do we respond lovingly to being "disrespected" the way our Beloved Ishwar Ji did during a Q&A when he said, "I don't expect respect. I don't respect respect" after someone irately protested that another person had disrespected Him?

Let's explore what other Masters have said about criticism in relation to projection and reflection in a "mirror"; and then how Ishwar Ji so beautifully explains how this tendency comes about and how to overcome it.

Rumi: "Rid yourself of your own faults because what distresses you in another is really in yourself.. When you see a fault in another, the fault really lies in yourself, but you see it reflected in him.. Whatever you keep hidden in your heart, God manifests in you outwardly.. The world is a mirror in which you see your own image.. If you love yourself, you love others. If you hate yourself, you hate others. In relationship with others, it is only you- mirrored. The other is nothing but a mirror.. You cannot see yourself without a mirror.. If you are irritated by every rub, how will your mirror be polished?.. As you live deeper in the Heart, the mirror gets clearer and cleaner. The pure Heart is a spotless mirror in which images of infinite beauty are reflected.. Look at the Beloved, He is the brightest mirror."

Note: Prof. Lekh Raj Puri (Ishwar Ji's father) in his book, 'Mysticism The Spiritual Path', called the levels below Totality (causal, astral, physical etc) 'Reflections of Reflections' ". Kabir: "People.. have accepted their own reflections as reality.. deluded by this reflection". Tabrizi: "We can't find the Truth by only listening to our own voice's echo. We can find ourselves only in someone's mirror."

Ishwar Puri: "An enlightened person sees beauty inside and outside since they are the same.. Outside is a reflection of what is going on inside.. a projection of an inside world..

What does an artist do? All art in the world is an attempt to look at yourself outside yourself. The artist merely tries to find himself on canvas, on stage, in the instruments because he can't look inside.. It's the frustration of the artist at not being aware of himself which forces him to produce that in which he can see at least a part of himself. We're all great artists that way because we're all trying to see ourselves outside.. Some come to this formal art; some merely enjoy their image through many mirrors.. and more of us don't even care what the mirror says, we like to see the mirror of public opinion. .what others see.. as what we are..

The thinking machine keeps on..creating illusions.. We can't see our reflection.. Then how do we realize ourselves?.. by the art of shifting awareness ..the process of concentration of attention.. within..in meditation.. being more aware of..our Self.. that leads you to the spiritual experience of Oneness in which you experience Love. When you have experienced Love with your own Totality, you can't help but feel love with everything.. Why? You discover that everyone is the same Consciousness..

"The more we use our minds the more we see the differences between us.. we doubt.. we suspect.. Don't meet people with doubt ..Doubt begets doubt.. It leads to lack of understanding of each other..

We're made of Love, we want to Love.. we need Love.. Meet others with Love and trust.. an open heart.. the whole world.. [will reflect].. respond..with Love..

A satsangi seeing an apparent defect [in another] should..say 'Master.. Let me see if I have that defect within myself.. And the more you will do it, the more humility you will get, as distinguished from the concealed ego appearing as humility."

In a letter from Baba Jaimal Singh Ji to Baba Sawan Singh Ji, we can see just how important it is ultimately to develop humility and see our reflection in the "mirror" if we want to manifest the Radiant form: "There is no difference between [the Master's inner form] and the outer form. It is like seeing your face in the mirror; the face cannot be seen as long as the mirror is not clean. It is a mystery kept hidden by Anami Lord."

(Ishwar Puri Ji also says, "Perfect Living Masters, Who come here, are also projections from our consciousness.. You don't see your own self; you don't see your own high self. So you project us spiritual teachers outside." For an in-depth understanding, listen to Him explain the concept of reflection by using the analogy of "the moon, the pool and