

Gangaji Podcast
Being Yourself
Episode 56
Host Barbara Denempont
Sacred Land, Ancient Blessings
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GANGAJI: Often, the search for Truth, or the what's called the search for Truth, is really the search for superiority - to get rid of a feeling, or feelings of inferiority.

BARBARA DENEMPONT, HOST: Hello and welcome to *Being Yourself, Self-Inquiry with Gangaji*. My name is Barbara Denempont. Today I want to share a monologue with you for several reasons actually. First, just the topic of seeking spiritual superiority is an important one because it is such a source of human suffering and I think we can see how that functions in our lives. Another reason I chose this recording is because of when and where this meeting happened. It was in 1996 and Gangaji had been invited to hold meetings in Australia for the very first time. So this particular monologue is taken from one of those first public meetings in Byron Bay. Let me paint a little picture for you. The venue was just filled to the rafters with about eight hundred people and the venue itself was very, very unlikely. It was an old livestock slaughterhouse that was transformed into this amazing space by the team of volunteers there in Byron. And if that's not enough, here is the most essential reason I want to share this with you. It is because, as I listened to it, it was reflecting to me how we, along with the ancient elders, are part of a timeless totality, that we are an aspect of this great mystery.

(Excerpted from Byron Bay, Australia, Satsang with Gangaji, October 29, 1996)

GANGAJI: Welcome to Satsang. I want to pay respects to the Kay Sisters of the Arako tribe who are the - playing the role of ancient protectors of this holy area, called Bundjalim country. You know, this spot where we are holding formal Satsang was one time a spot for holy gatherings. And then the white man came and it became a slaughter house. And now here is Satsang, on top of the slaughterhouse. But deeper than the slaughterhouse was the original purpose of this land, to celebrate and pay respect to the formless, unseen and yet seen in everything, force of Spirit or Truth. So the Aboriginal people are ancient people and for thousands of years this has consciously been the role they play. So especially those of us who play the role of white people coming into any place need to bow and *pranam* to those who have always been here. Not as duty but as responsibility.

There is a particular kind of spiritual conditioning that I have noticed, and maybe you have too sometime or another, where there is an actual feeding of the ego. You know, this human mind loves to play with ideas of superiority and inferiority. And often, the search for Truth, or the what's called the search for Truth, is really the search for superiority. To get rid of a feeling, or feelings of inferiority. To exchange them, to turn them in for some good feelings of superiority. So, often in spiritual circles there is a kind of arrogance, based on some kind of category of experience 'Well this. I've had a satori', or 'this happened to me', or 'this master looked my way', or... and a puffing up. Satori is a beautiful experience but if it is truly honored and respected, it is one that erases all notions of either the inferior or superior. Inferior, the tendency to feel worthless and abandoned and no good, is an attack from the

demon realm. Superior, the tendency to feel above others and “better than” you know, the white man’s disease, is an attack by the Gods. So the willingness to withstand all attacks from all areas, from all directions, is the willingness to be nothing. To be nothing at all. It is, this must be what Jesus meant, when he said “the meek will inherit the Kingdom of God.” To be nothing. Not to be nothing as “Oh, I’m nothing. I am nothing.” That’s still something, using the disguise of nothing. To be nothing, to be nobody, is to be still, is to realize who you are. And then, as the appearance of the world and all the polarities appear and disappear, to participate in That, playing something, being nothing. Playing some role that some mysterious prior force generated, called ‘human being’, called ‘westerner’, ‘easterner’, ‘follower’, ‘seeker’, ‘finder’, ‘disciple’, ‘guru’. Playing those roles, but realizing, all to be Nothing. Then what a nothing. Not a nothing that the mind can ever know or grasp, but a nothingness that is radiant, boundless, intelligence of Being, bowing to Itself in all disguises, in all roles.

I have the great good fortune to appear in many spiritual centers, many areas that are power spots around the world, where there is a true, unpolluted, undiluted, conscious nature as consciousness. And you are lucky also, because this is one of those spots. But to honor that luck is to be humbled by it. Not to swagger with it, but to be prostrate in the face of it. To recognize it as the most mysterious blessing that somehow, by some unknowable means, has appeared in your life as a force, as a thunderbolt, to slay all your notions of you as somebody, of you as some thing. To reveal yourself, to be That which is no-thing at all, boundlessly, consciously no-thing at all, in love with Itself as That.

BARBARA: I am filled with such gratitude for every single event volunteer and donor that gave their community the opportunity to come together in *Satsang* like this.

Celebrating the Gangaji Foundation’s thirtieth anniversary this year really, it’s the celebration of our volunteers and donors who, who made all of Gangaji’s worldwide tours happen. And now this recording is the fruit of that loving labor and it is available where Gangaji could never have traveled to – and now, Gangaji’s traveling days are over. But still, here we are, very much connected. So, she might not come to your town, but you can come to hers and you can also meet with Gangaji and the whole global community online every month. Just go the website Gangaji.org that’s Gangaji.org to learn more about the global gatherings, access more podcasts and videos, and you can also find out how you can make this invitation available for the next thirty years.

I am Barbara Denempont. Until next time.