

Identification of a Genuine Adept

In today's webinar, we will explore how to determine if spiritual guides, Ascended Masters, or other beings that appear to you in meditation are genuine, or are products of your imagination, or products of the Psychic Realm, the world of the Divine Imagination. We will share a recent article, and some direct responses to question and answers posed to Swami Prabhu Maharaj.

The Gentle Art of Siren Detection

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One of the trials of Ulysses in the *Odyssey* was to navigate through the perilous straits of the whirlpool, Charbydis, and the six-headed monster, Scylla. He had to face the temptations of the beautiful sirens: if he or his men followed them, Ulysses would crash his ships of the treacherous rocks, and he, and his entire crew would be lost.

Spiritual seekers must also cross their own perilous straits: this is the journey across the Psychic Realm. At this level of the Continuum of Consciousness, they may be contacted by entities that identify themselves as:

- Departed ancestors
- Native American guides
- Angelic beings
- Biblical prophets
- Ascended Masters
- God
- Extraterrestrials and members of the Galactic Federation
- Historical figures
- Ancient beings from Atlantis and Lemuria
- Yogi Preceptors
- Gurus of sundry traditions

So compelling are these visions and voices that you may see these seekers

- Leave their jobs
- Quit school
- Change their name
- Begin doing uncharacteristic or strange behaviors
- Adopt odd beliefs
- Become increasingly distracted and otherworldly

When you talk to them, they might

- Disclose they have had revelations from Ascended Masters and Gurus
- Tell you that a spiritual Master materialized in their room
- Intimate they have gone surgery aboard a flying saucer or had an encounter with an extraterrestrial
- Reveal that they have acted on a command from an Ascended Master to carry out a mission from God
- Report to you unabashedly that they are Almighty God, and karma no longer binds them

You might conclude that your good friend, the seeker, has gone off the deep end—and has become delusional, or perhaps is having a psychotic episode.

From one perspective, your observation is correct. Your friend, the seeker, has indeed left behind the boundaries that formerly bound him to the rational limits and paradigmatic barriers of modern science, which we have defined as consensual reality.



But before you refer your friend to the psychiatrist, there is some good news. This journey across this realm of the Divine Imagination is a temporary dance with madness; most individuals begin to regain their sanity when they reach the shores of the Wisdom Plane. Like adolescents undergo their turbulent period of experimentation and exploration, and finally become mature adults; so those who sojourn through the Psychic Realm eventually learn to gain discernment, assess what is genuinely valuable, and begin to develop wisdom.

The Indelicate Persistence of Illusion

Even after aspirants have moved beyond the Psychic Realm, their psychic vehicle continues to operate, bringing its incessant stream of vision and voices. Departed loved ones, angels, Ascended Masters, and Gurus continue to appear, offer counsel, bestow blessings, and sometimes, give specific directions.

How do seekers discern the genuine from the illusory? How do they detect the Sirens of the Astral from the True Adepts?

We recommend that aspirants consider the following factors:

1. What is the content of the message?

Psychic Realm messages have a distinctive quality and content. We describe these types of messages in our book, *The Psychic Realm: Finding Safe Passage through the Worlds of Illusion*.

2. What is the context of the message?

Notice in what setting or locale you receive the message. For example, does someone communicate the message in a Spiritualist Church or New Age gathering? You would likely find, more often than not, that these messages come from the Psychic Realm.



3. At what level of awareness are you when you are receiving the message?

Are you in the waking state of awareness, receiving the message via your intuition? Are you in a state of meditation, in contact with your vehicle on the Psychic Realm? Did you receive it on a Plane beyond the Psychic Realm?

4. If a guide form appears to you and communicates a message, what is the nature of the form that appears to you?

Is it a thought form or astral animation that your imagination is creating? Try dissolving it or un-creating it.

Is it an astral body that is manifested from the Jet of Spirit of the Mother Father God at the top of the Psychic Realm? Seek to determine what is the level of spiritual development of the being that manifests this form. [Later in this article, we describe the details of how you do this.]

Is it a spiritual being that inhabits the Plenum of the dimensional worlds of the Psychic Realm, like a departed relative or an angelic being? You will need to hone your intuition to tune into these vibrational strata of the Psychic Realm.

5. Could the appearance of this spiritual form you are seeing be the result of suggestion?

For example, you have just read one of Baba Ram Das' books about his Guru, Neem Karoli Baba. Suddenly, you behold—to your surprise and delight—that Neem Karoli Baba has appeared in your meditation. Is it likely he is actually showing up in your meditation? Probably not. It is your creative mind at work. [Want to check this? Notice if Neem Karoli Baba looks exactly like the pictures you saw in the book.]



Neem Karoli Baba

6. What is the quality you feel emanating from this form?

Excitement and dramatic revelation of secrets? Probably Psychic Realm

Pious, sentimental religiosity and patriotic fervor? Probably First Exoteric Initiation

Wordless love and beauty? The sweetness of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit with no mental content? Probably First Mesoteric Initiation

Power, great conviction, with the utterances of decrees? Probably Second Initiation

7. What is your take away from the encounter? How did you synthesize this experience? For example, what did you learn? What is the entity you encountered requesting that you do?

Did you receive messages that tell you the world is illusion, that you create your reality, and you are going to make your Ascension with the secret techniques that the Ascended Master will reveal to you, and you will transcend the need to be born again? Probably Psychic Realm

Did the message tell you to reflect upon your experience, and look for the opportunity to learn, forgive, and understand? Probably Wisdom Plane

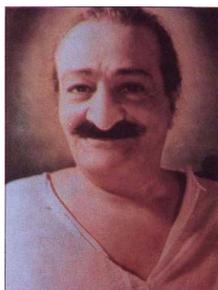
Did the message urge you to lead a moral life, to have faith in God, to read the scriptures, and to expect the Advent of a Savior or Messiah? Probably First Exoteric Initiation

Did the message exhort you to love God, to contemplate virtue and weed out your character faults, and to pray to God and His saints for their succor and mercy? Probably First Mesoteric Initiation

Did the message speak of the mysteries of the Arcanum, and hint at higher degrees or Initiations? Was the message seeded with cryptic, mysterious, and ambiguous phrases with multiple meanings, with references to astrology, numerology, alchemy, and myths and themes from ancient Mystery religions? Probably First Exoteric Initiation

Did it inspire you to invoke and activate your Mighty I AM Presence, or speak the channeled decrees from Ascended Masters? Probably Second Initiation

If you will build these discernment criteria into your evaluation of the numinous encounters you have and the communications you receive from them, you will better be able to determine which messages come from a genuine Master, and which arise from the Planetary Astral Plenum—this encompasses the band from the Psychic Realm to the top of the Second Planetary Initiation—where fantasy, imagination, and emotional enthusiasm reign. With these criteria in place, you will increasingly be able to detect which messages are genuine and reliable, and which are suspect.



Avatar Meher Baba

Q: A Master has appeared within me. How do I know if he or she is genuine?

A: Your imagination can create a Master's form. Suggestion can mold the Astral Plenum into any shape. So to determine what is genuine, you can use the aura scan technique for the form that appears before you.

You will gaze at the form before you and gather information about this spiritual being from the chakras of this form:

Brain	The level of the Master's being [Later in this article, we will give you a method to detect this—a genuine Adept will have reached the Monadic Plane or above]
Point between the eyebrows	This grants the ability to give attunements, to send telepathic guidance, and to initiate
Throat	Inspired speech or satsang, the power of command and decree [Note the quality and content of the communication that is given to you]
Heart	Unconditional love, compassion, and Grace [If this is a genuine Master, this will be palpable and unmistakable]
Solar Plexus	Radiant virtue, purity [if when you contemplate this center, you feel greed, manipulation, desire to impress you or gain your approval, you are not encountering a genuine Master]
Navel	Sublimation of passions, remembrance of a spiritual essence [Notice what spiritual essence this form leads you to remember and identify]
Base of spine	Power of awareness [Observe to what level your awareness is lifted]
Feet	Stream of Light showing you the Path ahead [If you follow this guide form, monitor to what level he or she guides you]

If you receive a message from this guide form, you need to assess what value you receive from the communication. For example, you might consider:

- *Is it practical?* Does it have relevance for your life and personal problems?
- *Is it useful?* Does it show you how to overcome your problems or the obstacles you encounter on the Path?

- *Is it transformative?* Does it help you change in a positive way? Does it help you develop greater virtue and purity, enhance your abilities and knowledge, or promote insight and deeper understanding?
- *Is it appropriate to your stage of development?* Does it take into account where you are on the spiritual Path and in your personal life?
- *Is it targeted?* Does it speak to you and answer your questions? Or is it so general it could apply to anyone?
- *Is it compassionate?* Does it acknowledge your suffering, your difficulties, your frailty, and your humanness? Or does it hold you to unattainable, rigid, and absolute standards that feel unattainable to you?
- *Is it integrative?* Does it promote synthesis and global understanding of your place along the Continuum? Does it communicate to you, what is your purpose, and what is your current stage on the Path? Does it detail the steps you need to accomplish to make your next step of spiritual and personal growth?

It is inspiring and powerful to have the vision of the guide form of an authentic Master. Once you experience the genuine, you will not again mistake the Sirens of the Astral for real, Grace-Bestowing Adepts.

Q: In Sant Mat, they give a mantra to determine if the form that appears to their inner eye is a genuine Sat Guru, or if it is an illusion of the mind. Are there reliable methods that aspirants can use to test their numinous appearances?

A: In Sant Mat, they use the five holy names of God, which they call simran, to test whether the radiant form the aspirant beholds is genuine; it also grants them entry to the locked gate of the Second Transcendental Path.

Those that take the Mudrashram® Advanced Course in Meditation learn the Mudrashram® mantra, which enables students to verify whether the appearances of the Mudrashram® Masters—Swami Prem Dayal, Swami Charan Das, or Swami Prabhu Maharaj—are genuine, and opens the inner gates of many spiritual paths that would normally be closed to the aspirant.

These two “mantramic-testing” methods are specific to these paths, and would not be applicable to verify other Ascended Masters, Yogi Preceptors, Gurus, or Sat Gurus, who might appear on the inner Planes. It may be there are similar “secret names” that Initiates in other traditions give, but you would need to receive that either “mouth to ear” in the physical presence of that Master, or directly from their empowered spiritual essence on the higher Planes—and not from a guide form that appears to you on the inner Planes.

Q: How do you determine whether a Master has attained a particular level?

A: You can read them through the aura of their radiant form through gazing at their brain chakra. You would here use known markers—someone who has already attained that stage of development, and compare. Are they at the same level as beings that have already attained this station of Mastery on the Path? For example:

Band of the Continuum	Path	Master
Transcendental Sphere	T7	Sat Guru Balyogeshwar Paramahansa (Prem Pal Singh Rawat)
	T5	Sri Paul Twitchell, Sri Harold Klemp
	T3	Avatar Meher Baba, or one of the five Qutubs
	T2	Huzur Baba Sawan Singh, Sant Kirpal Singh. Sant Darshan Singh, Sant Rajinder Singh

Band of the Continuum	Path	Master
Supracosmic Sphere	Omkara Plane	Osho
	Wahi Guru Plane	Guru Nanak and the Sikh Gurus, Yogi Bhajan
	Orzhmad Plane	Zoroaster
	Allah Plane	Hazrat Inayat Khan, the Prophet Mohammed, Bahauallah
	Vishnu Plane	Avatar Satya Sai Baba, Srila Prabhupada Bhaktivedanta Swami
	Shankara Plane	Adi Shankara, Laotse, Kungtse (Confucius)
	Brahma Plane	Maharishi Mahesh Yogi
	Buddha Plane	The Dalai Lama, Padmasambhava
	Shiva Plane	Mahavatar Babaji, Subramuniya Swami, Sri Aurobindo, Ramakrishna, Gurumayi Chidvilasananda
Cosmic Sphere	Cosmic Masters	Maha Genii Turriziani, Astral Soul forms of the Masters of the Cosmic Hierarchy
	Light Masters	John Roger Hinkins, John Morton
	Yogi Preceptors	Paramahansa Yogananda, Swami Sivananda
Transplanetary	Adept Masters	Monadic forms of the Masters of the Planetary Hierarchy

If the energy you feel projected through the brain center of the radiant form before you comes from the same place as these other Masters, you can intuit that the attainment is similar. So if you sense this guide form emanates the same quality of energy and location on the Continuum as Subramuniya Swami, you can feel reasonably confident that the one before you has attained Mastery of the Shiva 1 Path.

But you first have to identify some of these beings that have attained Mastery at these different levels, so you can determine: has someone reached the same level? So as you contemplate some of the great Masters of humanity, you will want to ascertain:

- What is their form at the Monadic level? Do they maintain a form of Mastery in the Planetary Hierarchy?
- Where is their cosmic consciousness center? Is it in one of the thrones of the Yogi Preceptor? With which of the nine lineages are they affiliated?
- What is their form at the Astral Soul level? Do they maintain a form of Mastery in the Cosmic Hierarchy?
- What is their form at the Supracosmic level? Do they function as a Supracosmic Master on one or more of the Paths of the Supracosmic Sphere? Do they maintain a form of Mastery in the Supracosmic Hierarchy on the Omkara Plane?
- What is their form in the Transcendental Sphere? Have they attained Mastery on one or more of the Transcendental Paths? Do they maintain a form of Mastery in the Transcendental Hierarchy?

If you will make the effort to identify where the Great Masters of humanity dwell on the Great Continuum of Consciousness, you will have a touchstone to determine whether the being that presents before you is a genuine Adept, or not.

Q: What are the skills one must attain to be able to detect a Master's Guide form on the inner Planes?

A: There are three key skills: Tratakam, Dhyan, and Shruti.

Tratakam is the ability to gaze at the centers of the Master's radiant form, and read that form. This is the same skill you might use if you were going to read someone's aura, but you are here applying it to the radiant form that appears before you. You are paying attention to the qualities, the energy, and the depth to which this form "pulls" your attention.

Dhyan is the ability to contemplate. The traditional form of Guru Dhyan is when you place your attention at the feet of the Guide Form, and he or she moves ahead of you. You follow that form to the new place where it is located. When you focus your mind on this location, you contemplate the contents of that focal point.

If you are able to receive the telepathic thought impulses of the Guide, you will often hear the Guru or Master describe to you what you are seeing. For example, you are seeing an orange-red sun behind three mountains, while you are contemplating the Second Transcendental Path: the Guide may say to you, "and this stage is Trikuti, the highest point on the Causal Plane."

Shruti is the ability to hear subtle sounds. In one instance, it can refer to the ability to hear the telepathic thought transmissions of the spiritual Master. It also means that you can focus your attention and listen for an inner resonance. [You have learned to use this technique to contemplate the different octaves of transformational mantras in the Mudrashram® Advanced Course in Meditation.]

A Guide can be standing next to you, but if you have not developed these faculties, he or she will remain invisible to you. So if these faculties are somewhat underdeveloped in you, we will encourage you to go back and review them in the Advanced Course workbook, and practice them until you are more proficient in them. Then you will be able to detect the Master's presence.

For some of you, these faculties are highly developed, but your challenge is to determine what is genuine and what is imagination. For this, you need to consider the criteria discussed in this webinar, and apply them.

Q: My guide tells me he is [name of an Adept], but the Adept in question cannot verify that he communicated the message. How do I know that it is accurate?

A: You need to apply the tests we have discussed in this webinar. Any entity can say they are Meher Baba or Satya Sai Baba or any other spiritual Master or Ascended Master. An entity comes to you and says, "I am the Ascended Master, El Morya Khan. Take dictation, for the words I speak to you are the words of the Living God!"

You have to know what is the actual spiritual attainment of the being that is standing before you, and the level from which his or her communication is transmitted. There is a difference in the message that is transmitted on the Psychic Realm and on the Third Initiation, and what is sent directly from the Master's forms in the Hierarchy.

What you are taught is different at each of the levels of the Continuum, so the message will be different. Just like school: the teaching you receive is different in each grade.

You need to discern: What is the quality of the message that this entity is giving to me? What level is it coming from? What is the attainment of the being that is giving this message?

You can't go by, "oh, well he identified himself as the Master Morya, and he was glowing with Light, so he must be Morya." Or one of the Mudrashram® Masters showed up and told me to give some guidance to someone.

You need to not assume that what appears to you is true. There are all kinds of Sirens on the inner Planes, and all is not as it seems. This is why you need to develop discernment; this is why you need to test and verify.

Thank you for attending our webinar today!

