

Inspiring the soul to roar instead of to miaow.

***Interview with Faisal Muqaddam
about the Diamond Logos
By the German teachers***

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We meet Faisal in Italy, in a majestic monastery in the room where since three days the teachings are being delivered. Along with the German teachers some other teachers are present. The atmosphere is crisp, clear and intimate. The room overlooks the luscious gardens of the monastery with their giant trees as well as the rolling hills of northern Italy. Wherever the eye reaches there are towers of churches and monasteries. The sun is shining, the birds give an ongoing concert and every hour the church bells ring to remind us of time. (or of prayer?) It seems to be the perfect setting for our interview.

Question: What is the Diamond Logos?

Faisal: The Diamond Logos is a path that aims at liberation and salvation. Liberation includes the realization, integration and actualization of our Being. We have a Being and this Being has been left out of the picture for so long and we suffer, because we do not have the resources of our Being that can enable us to live a fulfilled life. So the teachings aim at recognizing this Being and at owning and living it. This is the liberation, which involves these three stages.

The other part is salvation. Salvation means the instruction for the soul, for our real self, to navigate with grace, with optimum efficiency and with the ability to be in alignment with the kingdom. There is a kingdom and it has rules and laws on how it functions. Knowing that, the soul not only gets liberated, but it also receives the right instructions to function in life without leaving behind so many traces of trouble, which catch up with us later on.

So liberation is the emphasis the Diamond Logos on how to work. It has teachings, it has methodologies, and it has specific guidance that weaves our personality-structure with our essential nature, while salvation has something to do beyond our work. Salvation can come only through grace. Through all of our work we will be free, we will be happy, we will be integrated, but in the last stage of the journey, all of that is not fulfilling. The soul longs for something even more than liberation and that comes through grace only. So our work, our path is a mixture of both, work and grace.

Since the focus of the Diamond Logos is so much on the retrieving of essence, can you say a bit more about the essential domain?

Faisal: Let me say something, which might explain reality and how it is designed: it is composed of three domains. One is obvious, it is our worldly existence. This is rich, this is amazing and mind-exploding with the knowledge that is in it. Rich on every level, be it it on the level of physics, o biology, of music or of art.

We are in an existence that is really stunning. And we can perceive it. This is our worldly existence. We as human Beings live in this world but we are not of this world.

We are Beings that reincarnate into this world, into this body, and seek evolution. We seek so many things, and by time we think these things exist only in this worldly realm. Little by little we fall from the perception that there is a greater kingdom and that the answers we need, exist in other domains we focus

only on this worldly domain. We try to find love, happiness, joy and all of these things, in a domain where they do not belong. They are not from this domain. This domain is high-tech-phenomena, an incredible phenomenon, but it cannot bring us what we seek.

Essential domain

Deeper than this domain there are two other domains of subtler presences that feed this domain and give it aliveness, a sense of meaning and a sense of sustainability. The first, the closest to us, is what we call *the essential domain*. It is made of different kinds of energies, of substances. We call them essences. They have different textures and colors, they affect our moods, and they affect our emotions, our body, and our way of interacting with this reality. In fact, so much of what we really need and try to find in the worldly domain belongs to this part of the kingdom. We want happiness, we want love, we want joy, and we want all of these things. These are qualities, energies or frequencies existing in this essential domain. But humanity tries to find it in the worldly domain and therefore suffers.

In our work we point to the existence of such an essential domain which affects us as human beings and to the fulfillment that comes from reaching this domain, accessing and integrating it into our daily life, into our heart, mind, body and soul. This is the essential domain. It is a vast interactive domain. It interacts with this physical universe. If there is no essence, life diminishes in this existence.

The source, the absolute

Then there is a third domain, which is even subtler than the essential domain. It is the source from which the essential domain emerges. That source is a state of pure simplicity, pure Being. It is what most spirituality aims at and advocates. When we attain to that stage, to simplicity, to openness, to the basic nature of where all things come from and go back to, great freedom can be reached. This is what they call Being, or some people call it God, Allah, or Buddha Nature. It is source itself. In our work we call it *source, the absolute or the field*. It is a fertile field; it is a field of pure potentiality. We interact with it. What we plant in it, emerges as a reality in this realm. In that realm creativity is abundant, inspiration is abundant and fulfillment is abundant. But it is not necessarily on the material plane. In that domain you can wish and you can get what you wish, but not necessarily money, power, prestige but *the essence* of those things. What do you want of money? Happiness? You get happiness. You want manifestation? You get manifestation. The source gives you the field of the essential domain, the fulfillment of paradise. Essence is like paradise; it is the nirvanic field, where joy and fulfillment happen.

Knowing this map helps us to navigate so that we don't knock on the wrong door wondering why we are unfulfilled. Our fulfillment comes from unfolding the essential domain and from integrating it, because it is the paradisiacal nature of who we are. Thus the emphasis in our work is not only on transcending these two realms and just being in the Absolute, but on the retrieval of essence.

How do you see the function of the Ego? Other spiritual teachings aim at getting rid of the Ego while in the Diamond Logos it seems to have a central place and is an important function.

Faisal: We as human Beings are souls, are Beings, entities that are alive, intelligent and creative, but also susceptible to influences... Influences from the environment, from the great mind. We can be trapped or limited in our sense of freedom and creativity.

When a soul comes it has so much potential to grow and evolve. But during childhood, the child struggles with so much conditioning. During this time it begins to try to cope with the variety of situations. In that process it cultivates an Ego, an organ that helps it to survive, that helps it to navigate. It is like a map. And by time the soul even forgets the map and takes the map to be reality. It takes the identity that it is struggling with, which becomes an image of the real self, to be itself. That structure is not an enemy. That structure is a quest of a soul, trying to figure out reality.

In this structure there are many elements of Being. To turn against this part of our soul, even if it is wrong, even if it is off, means creating an inner battle that is useless, that is exhausting. It is like a crusade of "kill the ego, kill the ego". What is there to kill? If you talk about the structure of the ego, there is nothing to kill. It is a structure of ideas and belief systems. Some of it is off, due to childhood misunderstandings and needs to be corrected. Some of it is useful. Part of your ego knows the speed limit, and that is helpful if you want to keep your drivers license. So what are we killing?

Another part of the ego is the part of our soul that is childlike and the structure we just talked about, is trying to preserve it. This part is very precious. Why going on a holy war to kill the structure and the little part of the living soul within us and to do damage and destruction by throwing the baby with the bathwater? Why not sort out the puzzle, correct the offness of the structure, put in a new structure and retrieve the divine speck inside. Because within this structure is a speck, a part of our soul, that is most precious. We built a structure to protect it and to preserve it. I believe that the idea of creating a holy war against the ego is beastly. I feel that it is something that has been mis-used. It has caused a huge stumbling block in the spiritual evolution. It created a splitting within us. We are fighting something within us, which was trying to do the best it could in a situation that was so difficult. I believe that trying to apply compassion, understanding, steadfastness and impeccability to deal with the structure in order to differentiate it, is more useful than being a samurai trying to kill the ego, which is absurd to me. We cannot kill the ego. There is nothing to kill in the first place, we only damage ourselves.

Absolutists

Thank god that we have an ego and thank god that this ego is narcissistic. It is self-absorbed. Its position is not holding the post of the absolute and is not holding the post of the being itself. It's not all about that. That is important, that's our home. But the absolutists made the journey about the Absolute and

the Absolute only. To me, it is not about that. The ego is holding the position of the individuated soul, of the uniqueness of who I am and who you are. It is about us journeying in this kingdom. If this is eliminated, we become absolutists. If we become absolutists, we don't perceive the meaning and the purpose of this reality. We become transcendentalists, we always put down this reality. We make this reality wrong and then we turn against so many precious elements in it. We turn against our family; we turn against our children; we turn against society; we turn against the earth. We say that it is all illusion. The ego will not buy into that. Its resolution is not that you go to the absolute and that you transcend and damage the kingdom. Its position is to go back to being this citizen of this kingdom. Only when you find and become the true citizen of this kingdom, the ego unwinds. To me it has a divine purpose. Why would the Being allow something like that to happen? Because it's meaningful, it's profound. It's just like a child that's lost. It needs to be found and it needs to be corrected. It is not easy. But at least we know the meaning of it. We know why it is here. I think that this is a more compassionate approach to our self than killing the ego and killing a part of us. We damage our mind and our psyche and there is no need for it.

You often speak about the journey of the spirit, as opposed to the spiritual journey. Can you please comment on that?

Faisal: *Yes, I think this is so important. We received the spiritual teaching from spiritual people. Maybe that is their job, to preserve the spiritual work and spiritual teaching. Not every person in existence came to do spiritual work or put on the hat of being a spiritual teacher. Certain souls came to do that, to preserve that. They can be monks, nuns or teachers. But sometimes these people also advertise that spirituality is the only real thing there is. It is their narcissistic supply. Those are not really awakened.*

The fully awakened ones advertise the integration of the totality of life. They know that everything is precious, every element is precious. It is all needed to create this symphony we call life. We are spirits, we are Beings that are made of light, that can dwell in the material world and that can exist in the essential domain. When we die we are still there, we can also reach enlightenment, be open and awaken in the absolute. We are those spirits, able to journey in all those domains, in this holistic kingdom. The material, the essential and the absolute. All constitute one kingdom. We are spirits that are here to inherit this kingdom. And there is no rest in our soul; there is no fulfillment until we reach this again. We need to recognize that this is our home; this kingdom is ours, both the spiritual and the worldly part of it. We are not made to be spiritualists, even though we are made of spirit.

But if we have forgotten the spiritual domain, then we have to awaken to that. There are so many things we have forgotten - our essences, our awakened state. Some souls, they don't incarnate. They are sitting in spiritual land and they are so afraid to descend and fulfill what their spirit wants to fulfill in life. They need to embody. They need to feel the courage to be here, to learn the skillful means, to get some education, some sustenance; they came to do

certain jobs in life. So, the spirit is not about just living in the spiritual domain. Otherwise there will be no life. We would all be in the spiritual domain.

But the material world, this world, is also spiritual. This material world is made of pure spirit. And pure spirit is jelling into form and structure. To divide it this way and that way puts, puts the spirit, the human spirit, in a dilemma... that it is not right to live a worldly life, it has to be spiritual. And those who are in spirit feel unfulfilled, but they feel bad to come and incarnate and have a life.

I had to break this ideal for myself, this spiritual ideal. It is an ideal that many people feel. They are regarding their life as meaningless unless they become spiritualist and do a spiritual life. Then they become transcendentalists and turn against their body, turn against this worldly existence, while we are meant to have all of it. We are the Alpha and the Omega. We are everything: the Body, the Ego, the Soul, the Essence, and the Absolute... If we are less than that we are incomplete. And most importantly we are a Soul, a Spirit, or a Higher Self that is meant to inherit this whole kingdom and live in it, and navigate and evolve forever. There will never come a time, in which this being of light will join the Absolute and become absolutely Being and Mahanirvana. Mahanirvana does not mean that. Mahanirvana means the entanglement around the soul is released so it can be in any domain for as long as it wants and can bring the blessings of the domains into this existence.

A lot of confusion happened that made the spiritual journey as the only thing there is for the spiritual seekers and that made them renounce so much of their life and they suffered a lot from this loss. For me, I don't just want to work on spiritualizing humanity, which is really needed. In our work we tell humanity that there is spirit, abundance and being that we can turn to, but also a humanized spirituality. Because spirituality on one level has become narcissistic, elitist: "This is the real thing and this is not." or "My guru is better than your guru!"

But it is not like that. It is about a magnificent being that is able to live in the flesh, in the spirit, in all those domains. And we are those beings. So the work shifted from an emphasis on the absolute to emphasis on the individuated soul. In this existence there are mandala's. At the center of each Mandala, is the individuated being. So each one of us is a Mandala, the center of it is you, and you exist in this magnificent field, and each one of us is the center of this field. This field is amazing, it has 6.500 million centers. Every individual is a centre of the universe. It is an amazing phenomenon! To me that resolves the conflict, the splitting between the material and the spiritual... shall I be in the spiritual or shall I be in the world, shall I be this or shall I be that. Part of me felt like "Why am I divided? I find that I am divided between mom and dad, between matter and spirit." That took away the division, the simplicity and this allowed me to see that all of these elements need to be integrated. So we moved the work from being a spiritual work to working in the evolution of the spirit that integrates the spiritual and the worldly, to create a harmony between the two... one foot in this world, one foot in the other.

You use the word "soul" and you use the word "real self". Can you say a bit more about what is the soul in your understanding?

Faisal: Yes. The spiritual dictionary is full of so much confusion about this. They don't know how to sort it out. I mentioned a variety of names referring to one thing. Because some people call it spirit, some people call it soul, some people call it individuated self, some people call it higher self. There are so many names that the individual seekers get confused. Is the soul the same as the spirit? Then you read definitions that the soul is different from the spirit. You name it. It is like a bazaar, there are so many!

In our terminology there is an individuated entity, a Being, which is made of precious elements, of consciousness, of love and of beauty. It is made of the essential domains. This Being is so beautiful, so majestically enchanting. It looks like us, it is like a person, and it has a form. The form is made of light, of intricate jewels of light. It is not like the body that seems to be naked. It has crowns of diamonds and jewels and gold, it has crystals and necklaces, it has robes. It is described in the bible, it is described in the Koran, it is described in so many lineages; it is described in the psychic domain.

They all talk about a magical Being, the most beautiful Being there is. This being is made of the most precious elements, in the highest of form. They all say that this being of the highest form has fallen, has gotten caught in the cobweb of mind and the cobweb of Samsara. Why, we don't know. There is a purpose somewhere and it will be revealed. All we know is that this Being exists. A seer will see a person that is like you, but made of the most precious elements, glowing with light. Some people see it as an angel, some people see it as a fairy, and some people see it as an actual person made of jewels, diamonds, gold... all of these things. It can be seen, it can be felt. That to me is the entity, which comes and reincarnates, lives in one body after another. When we die, it does not die. The body dies, but it continues. It is made of aliveness itself. This entity we call a "point of light", or an "individuated higher self" or the "essential self".

We call the ego the image of that self, the representation of that self. But that self exists. It can be contacted and can be guided in this lifetime, or after we die to be liberated. This individual soul, this individual entity, is what is sometimes called "spirit". Some people call it "soul", some "identity". But no matter what the names are, such a being exists.

Then there is the "basic nature", the "luminosity", the "awareness", the "field" itself, and some people call that the self. In our work we don't call it the self, we call it "selfhood". It is the basic nature of all selves that is made of that. But selfhood has no uniqueness. When you feel it, you feel that everybody is the same, even the trees, even the mountains. They are made of the same. It is a field of pure awareness, of pure potentiality. In that field there are no differences. We are all the same: I am ok, you are ok. Everybody is ok. Everything is the same. But if that is taken to be the only self, then it negates the uniqueness of this individual self. In nature we are all the same, made of this field. But we remain a unique combination of those elements. And this

uniqueness needs to be honored, needs to be preserved, and needs to be guided, because that is who we are. That is who reincarnates. That is the one that can fall and rise, that can accumulate negative karma or positive karma. It is really important to see, that this being is susceptible to the law of existence. So we better give it guidance and instruction in how to navigate without inflicting damage on itself or others. But if we think we are only a stream, or we are only an illusion, then who is going to suffer karma? Who is going to reincarnate?

I think that many have not been able to decipher this being or they have thrown the baby with the bathwater. They realize the ego is an image of it, so they throw the image but they would not allow the real self to emerge in their field. And they became stuck in the Absolute. They got caught in the prejudice of enlightenment. There is a prejudice there that makes them not see reality.

This to me is beginner's enlightenment. Advanced enlightenment is very different. E.g. the Dalai Lama says that everyone is an entity, including Buddha, and that this entity does not go. When Buddha attained Mahanirvana his entity was preserved. It was a great relief to acknowledge the presence of an entity that travels into time and space, lifetime after lifetime, and it enhanced that our work is so much about this entity, because it is you. It is the real you that is accountable for your evolution or devolution.

For those who want to see images of it, look at the Tibetan Thangkas. Look at Tara sitting on her lotus throne, ornamented with jewels. That is not imagination. That is a seeing. Somebody saw this deity. Tara was a person on earth. She evolved as she became enlightened and liberated and attained her jeweled body. Look at all of those pictures. They captured the beauty of her. They captured so much of the capacity of this Being, what it can do. And what it can do is awesome! It is really magnificent, it is beyond science fiction. And the ego is trying to "do" that, but the ego cannot do that. It is trying to do all this magic, but it is like a sad fellow that cannot do the job.

Do we have an equivalent to the Tara, in the western culture?

***Faisal:** Yes, we have so many high Beings in the west. We just turned against them, because they are obsolete. Who wants to go to Christ or Mary? It is better to go to Tara or Buddha! We are so much the spiritualists that renounce the deities that are with us all the time. The Christ is really the most magnificent Being that I have ever encountered in my journey. In his presence you bow to the beauty and the divinity of that Being. The Mary is gorgeous; it is not that broken woman. The Magdalena, the saints... there are so many... and maybe those Beings are not different from Buddha. They reincarnate. Maybe there are a bunch of them that have attained so much, and they come and go. They came to China this way, to Japan, to India or to the Middle East in that way, they come to us in another way. You know how it is. We rebel against our own culture and our own conditioning and we throw the baby with the bathwater. So*

yes, the same deities exist and they are dwelling in different domains and bring different streams and different blessings.

In which way can the Diamond Logos help the individual to cope with the present world situation?

Faisal: As we mentioned in the beginning, so many elements are needed to live and function in this life in an efficient way. When the soul comes into this life, it has so many alive attributes on the essential level. When you look at a baby, it is so alive. It has so many qualities glowing. Its essence is shining through. Its skin is like golden honeyed milk. It is a beautiful Being. This Being is not totally caught in personality now. If this Being is addressed as a precious Being and, as it develop its body mind and psyche, is allowed to slowly cultivate from the mind the right elements to have a healthy ego, then it will cope with this world more efficiently. The essential domain will enhance its heart to feel more love, its belly to feel more will and groundedness, and its mind to have more intelligence and knowledge-ability. The essence will help it to function in the world more efficiently. But when the Being is reduced to a few drops of blessings in the body, mind and psyche, then, when we try to use the body, the brain or the heart from this limited sense of ego, it is really difficult to meet this reality. It is like you take a beautiful bird, clip its wings and say: "Fly now". It cannot. It will fly a little bit and fall. So essence works as the supporting element, as the supporting agent, that helps the body to have more energy, helps the psyche to have more lightness and inspiration and the mind to have more clarity and objectivity in order to meet the difficulties of this life.

Life is difficult. People are suffering, many situations are challenging. If we have our essence, not only will we become more efficient for ourselves but also for others and for life situations.

We can become healers or teachers. We can do so much goodness and have a consciousness not to damage the earth. This consciousness that says, "Preserve the earth" is a higher consciousness, which comes from our essence. This love that embraces the others and the earth comes from our soul.

Our personality does not have that. They clipped our soul from having this; they limited us in a personality. And there is no blame. This is the trap humanity has fallen into. So when we gain our essence, we become more functional, more efficient, and more productive. We can add beauty, richness and healing to this existence. The maturity of the human being is so beautiful. It is unimaginable what one liberated human being can do. When I look at humanity and see what a regressed and limited life they live. And when I look at one of my teachers, a Tibetan guru, the difference is so vast.

He came as a young man to California. He was like a powerhouse of blessings and of joy and love. In no time he had an institute and a publication press. And in no time he wrote and published 15 books and trained so many teachers to do

what he was bringing. In no time he built not only a huge center, but also a Holy City somewhere in California, to preserve this energy and to bring the blessings to the west for another three hundred years! . It is dazzling! To think that this is only one human being, another person just like you and me! From the beginning he got the blessings and he was preserved. From the moment of birth he was recognized as a precious Being and was offered all the means of empowerment, of love, of the right teachings. So his ego is excited about life. It wanted to do so many things and the whole universe responded to his Being, provided for somebody, a refugee, to have this magnificent centre. It is called Odiyana, if you want to go. It is 2000 acres big, with temples and stupas. He wanted to download the Holy City (part of the essential domain) on earth, not just doing it as a structure. He is infusing the structure with the energies to emanate for three hundred years.

When I hear about something like that, it is not about ambition, it touches my heart so deeply and aspires me that I am going to work to be something like that, to be a healthy element in the human body. To turn myself into a healthy cell, that can enhance the human body. And that the whole the whole universe is there to support me.

So when I release the fears and the scarcity and the conditioning within me, then the being infuses me, infuses all of us, with capacities, aspirations and with guidance, to be a more efficient human Being. So we can contribute to what is happening now. The suffering is immense, the darkness is really unbearable, and people are really suffering. So if we can be little beacons in this time, it really helps.

To me this is what essence can do. Essence to me is practical, it is not a spiritual thing, and it is really a practical substance that I can use to help in this realm. It makes me happy, it makes me more fulfilled. It also makes me feel that I can do something good. It is such a beautiful feeling when you feel that you can really do something for your friends, for your loved ones or for the planet. It is not a spiritual journey, it is practical. I want to feel good.

So it is like the present world situation challenges us to reconnect with these healing and essential qualities.

Yes, to aspire, to have more. When you have family, and your family is suffering for one reason or the other, you feel motivated in your soul, you want to do more. And it does not feel like a burden, or martyrdom, it feels like the soul is aspired to roar instead of miaow... (Laughter) ...I don't know how to say it. I want to do this. I call upon more resources and I call upon the great Beings, the great souls who made it before me and are still holding the field for us, to please help us to reach these glorious moments.

Listening to you it appears to me that we don't have to be high Beings in order to help healing and support the world right now, but to really reconnect with our true selves, with our true being.

Yes, we are high beings already! We are made of the highest, but we got cut off from resources. When we get these resources, which we call essence and the basic nature, the soul blossoms, grows, as if our wings were folded. We have a thousand wings, poetically speaking. And one wing after another folded in childhood. And the work is about unfolding them again. And day after day, you feel more inspired, more motivated. If you don't want to do anything, if you want to sit in a monastery in Tibet or somewhere, you will be sitting there as a dynamo, generating blessings, pumping it into this existence to bring light. They say if those beings would not do the essential work, humanity would destroy itself in three days. We are so crazy, we are so lost, and we don't even have sense anymore.

I mean really look at what we are doing. How far could we get in our craziness to pollute the water we drink, poison the air we breathe and the food we eat? I mean, come on, what are we doing? We are damaging ourselves. It is absurd! Instead we can have a consciousness and say: "We purify the waters and the air". This earth is the most magnificent Being there is. There is no planet like this. They can look anywhere. The intricacies of what this planet is made of... some day we will know, what this planet really is and how it is designed. It is not a piece of rock that separated from the sun and just became like this. In all of this there were intricacies and forces that worked to create a planet that has seven spheres of energies in it. And those spheres, the frequencies, pass through them to manifest as a tree right in front of our eyes. It is not haphazard, it is not chaotic. It is designed with utmost wisdom, beauty, knowledge, science, all coming together. So we are seeing a magical being metamorphosing, and we are magical Beings metamorphosing, but nobody is home! We are asleep, we are so unconscious, living in the story of our trauma of the past, and the magical kingdom is unfolding. The essential work awakens us to the richness of what is here in the here and now. It includes the whole kingdom, not only just the pure Beingness itself. The pure Beingness, the cosmic citizen and the kingdom! It is beautiful. It really makes you cry every day to be touched by how this kingdom did come together. It is awesome. Really awesome!

Thank you very much!

To watch the full interview :

http://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=faisal+muqaddam&q=5&oq=faisal+mu