REALITY 2. There exist seven billion and one realities in our world. Every human mind has constructed its own reality, which is formed with the help of one's perceptions and experiences - all of which are filtered through our religions, sense of nationalism, social mores etc. And these realities are all different, subjective and self-serving. Just look at a stone - a rock in a riverbed. To most it's no more than a piece of nature. But to someone - as he flings it to bounce along the water - it is a toy. Somebody else picks it up as a weapon and throws it to hurt or kill an adversary. Others use it as a doorstop, a paper-weight, a decorative ornament. But all along it is just a simple stone. Reality exists in a similar fashion: We can view the same facts and circumstances, the same situations and occurrences as entirely different realities. This is due to our ego, which provides us with our point of view, our sense of self-importance and functions such as judgement, intolerance, prejudice, control, delusion, fanaticism etc. But there is another reality. This is the true nature of everything, as realised by those devoid of ego. They don't suffer the limitations the rest of us are burdened with - by way of religion, patriotism and tradition. They rise above what separates us, what causes violence and war. We revere these individuals and call them gurus, saints or teachers. At any given time there are many such enlightened ones in the world. It is our duty to seek out and find them, to sit at their feet and listen to their discourses, to query them, to learn from them, to heed their teaching of the one true, all-important reality: All of humanity is one, all humans are equal and we shall love and respect one another.

> However, the Buddha has crucial advice for the seeker: Students shall never follow their teacher unquestioningly. And Krishnamurti - the greatest teacher of all - advises us we must follow our path all on our own, without a teacher.

> > see also KRISHNAMURTI, and my blogs 478, 593