

# O Outreach

July | August 2003

TSG Foundation  
USA & UK

Practical tools for ethical living • Publishing & Distribution • Spiritual Education



## Mission

The purpose of TSG Foundation and The Torkom Saraydarian University (operated under the auspices of T.S.G. Publishing Foundation, Inc.) is to be a pathway for self-transformation based on the Core Values and Higher Principles of the Ageless Wisdom. We offer a complete line of spiritual products and services, including intensive spiritual training on site and by correspondence. T.S.G. Publishing Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization.

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## Illumination The Unpublished Archives

Articles from the published and unpublished writings of Torkom Saraydarian

*In this issue of Outreach we are happy to present a Chapter from an unpublished book by Torkom Saraydarian titled **Initiation and the Path of Service**. We have also reprinted a beautiful poem taken from **Buddha Sutra**. We hope you enjoy these articles and find in them much inspiration.*

Enlightenment or illumination starts when a person becomes aware of his own condition as a whole. People think this is very easy to do, but in reality it is very difficult. To see yourself as you are, to see the conditions in which you live, and to see the condition of your physical, emotional, and mental nature needs very sincere and honest efforts.

Many people think they are great scientists when they earn a bachelor's degree. Many think they are philosophers when they read a few philosophical books. Many think they are great artists when they paint a few trees and lakes. Many think they are unique leaders when they are promoted to leadership positions. It is also true that some people

think very little of themselves; they think they have no value.

Thus most people are deluded by their superiority or inferiority complexes; they cannot see exactly what they are. To see yourself as you are, physically, emotionally, and mentally, is a great progress. This is, in itself, illumination.

Sit down and try to see whether you know yourself as you are mentally, emotionally, and physically. You will be surprised how ignorant you are about yourself as a personality. Dispelling this ignorance and seeing your real condition leads to illumination.

You cannot have Cosmic enlightenment, you cannot take great initiations until you really know the condition of the vehicles in which you live and the condition of life or the environment where you live. Many people claim to have "Cosmic consciousness," but at the same time they do not know how to dress or even where their stomach is and what it does.

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Enlightenment means to see things as they are. This is the first step. The next step will be to know exactly who and what your immediate associates are. This is more difficult, but it helps you to know yourself better. Many people mix their memories, impressions, fears, prejudices, past events, expectations, glamors, and illusions through their imagination and reach wrong conclusions. If you want to be enlightened, you must try to see not only yourself as you are, but also those who are associated with you in their true reality.

We cannot really understand and know people as they are unless we first understand and know ourselves as we are. When people try to know others before they know themselves, they see their own image in others, and they see in others those qualities which they hate within themselves. This creates around them a world of unreality, which does not lead to enlightenment.

In Asia there is a technique of getting to know yourself called the mirror technique. You are going to face yourself and see yourself as you are, not only physically but also emotionally and mentally. See what you represent as a person, mentally and spiritually. See if you are aware of the conditions in which you live.

For example, a condition exists in your home. Do you see exactly what the condition is, or are you just imagining it? Or because of your past wounds — physical, emotional, or mental — or because of many shocks, are you evaluating the situation correctly or the situation incorrectly? Because you do not see things as they really are, you may take wrong actions.

If you want illumination, you must start seeing things as they really are. Your success in life depends on the clarity of your vision and your true appreciation of the conditions. You will not fail when you are

enlightened. Failure is the proof that you could not see things as they are. We know that every one of us has failed or is failing. But why are we not learning to make our practical, daily life really successful, powerful, beautiful, joyful, and enlightened?

How can you develop this enlightenment? Not by sitting and repeating mantrams. You must try to see - to open your eyes. Do not be swayed by your emotions, thoughts, nerves, irritations, anxieties, desires, drives, and urges because all these things will mislead you. Instead of you leading your own life, they will lead you.

The future servants of humanity must have common sense. Common sense means to see things as they are. We are not learning these things to benefit only ourselves. We want to raise the standard of humanity and awaken humanity in any degree possible. The future of humanity depends on the present students aspiring toward enlightenment. If more and more people start to be enlightened, your government will be enlightened, your police will be enlightened. If you do not become enlightened, the blind will lead the blind. Blindness means that you do not have enlightenment, or it means that you are seeing things through the windows of your glamors, illusions, maya, inertia, urges and drives, jealousies, hatreds, or irritations.

To see things exactly as they are, good or bad; to see the facts means you are becoming a Master. Masters are not built in schools and colleges, in exoteric, occult, or metaphysical circles, or in meditation. Masters are built in the heavy and hard life of reality. In facing facts, you learn. When you have learned, then you can change the direction of your striving because you no longer deceive yourself.

Enlightenment means to come in contact with reality. If we look very deeply, we will see that sickness originates from self-deception. The best thing we can do for our health is to take off the masks be-

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hind which we are hiding and which are preventing us from seeing reality.

If we see reality or help others to see reality, we are enlightened persons. It is a matter of honesty — intellectual, spiritual, common sense honesty. There are some people who are poorly educated and seem to have few social graces, but they have sound judgment. This is their foundation, and the most important thing is to have the right foundation.

Some people say everyone is beautiful, but this is not seeing reality either. Only if you know his real situation can you help a person. For example, if your son is dirty you must say, "Your feet are dirty, your face is dirty, but I love you, my son. Now let's go and wash you." You must stand on reality and then expand yourself.

There is a difference between seeing the real condition and mental criticism. Criticism, even when it is based on reality, comes from your superiority complex. First criticize yourself. Then criticize others. Before you start thinking about others, look at yourself in the mirror — physically, mentally, emotionally, socially, morally, and spiritually.

Christ said two very important things: He said to keep awake and to see.

We are talking about practical life — about your shoes, your body, your eating habits, your kitchen, your relations with others. Illumination begins with these things because illumination is nothing else but the result of friction with reality. It is just like the result of two dry sticks that you rub against each other to produce a spark. If you face reality, you are enlightening yourself.

The greatest Master is reality. You do not need to go to the Himalayas to see Masters. Reality is in front of your nose, and that is the Master. The Master is the truth, the fact, the reality that you can meet everywhere, at any time. When you see facts, you are with God. Wherever truth is, God is. Wherever reality is, God is.

People may ask, "Why are we told that we must first seek the Kingdom of God?" The answer is that the Kingdom of God is reality. When you meet reality, you have everything. As Christ reminded Peter, "The Kingdom of God is within you."

Everything will be given to you when you are enlightened. You will know how to put people in the right places, what jobs to give them, how to give, what to give, when to give, what to say, and how to handle things.

Sometimes we are overwhelmed by the task of seeing ourselves as we really are and we feel trapped and frustrated. We see only our shortcomings, rather than the vision of the truth within us. Who says this is easy? It is not. We are always deceiving ourselves. Sometimes we think we are our stomach. Sometimes we identify ourselves with our sexual organs. Sometimes we think we are our mouth, head, or eyes. Sometimes we are spirit; sometimes only mud. Try to find your own right position within this confusion; try to see where you are and see yourself exactly as you are at any moment.

You must try to find your exact condition without any hallucinations, dreams, or imaginations. You must face reality with your mind and with your logic. When you have a realistic attitude, you try not to identify with confusion, mirages, hallucinations, or lies.

Unfortunately, our whole system is based on deception: how we can deceive each other to make a little more money, to gain a little more fame, a little more.... People deceive each other because they are deceiving themselves. You cannot deceive anybody else if you are not deceiving yourself.

Enlightenment is the ability to see a situation as it is and start im-

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proving yourself, step by step. If you are honest with yourself, life will make you meet the conditions needed to develop yourself. You may think that life is a blind chaos, but life is built with such minute, precise planning and mechanics that whatever happens to us is consciously planned or produced by our karmic actions or reactions. It is exactly that life in which we are going to live and find our way.

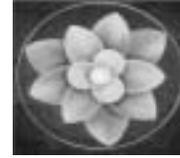
If you are honest, people will come and meet you; books will be dropped in your path; a friend or a problem will come and awaken you. Even a sickness or an accident will awaken you. The right person will come and tell you something and, because you are honest, your soul will be open for the truth.

There is a real light inside of us which knows, if we watch it. But we deceive that light. How many times do we know that we are doing something wrong, but we do it anyway? Do not be like the commander who, though he sees that his army is surrounded by the enemy, says, "We are strong; we can destroy the world." Try to see the true situation with your enemy. What is your enemy? Your fears, jealousies, hatreds, separative attitudes, racism, nationalism, deceptions, urges, drives, and imaginations are all your enemy. All these things form a huge wall around you. Do not hide behind that wall and think you are something which you are not.

If you fool yourself, you are doing a very dangerous thing: you are creating a double, even a multiple personality around you. Then you are confused as to which one you are. One day you will act this way, one day that way, another day that way.... Try to get rid of the prisons that you are living in and face greater beauties. In this way, you will increase your light, unveiling the reality in everything.

*(Excerpted from **Initiation and the Path of Service**, unpublished book by Torkom Saraydarian. Copyright The Creative Trust. All Rights Reserved. Reprinted by permission of Copyright holder.)*

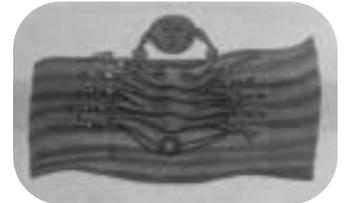
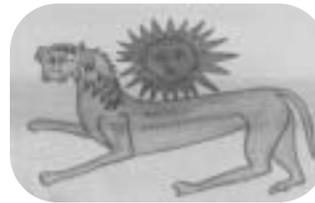
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The Lord Buddha and the Christ are the Cosmic Avatars of the East and the West. Torkom wrote profound Teaching regarding the life and Teachings of these Great Beings in the *Buddha Sutra* and *Dialogue with Christ*. The message of love, respect, tolerance, and true peace is ever present in these sacred poetries. We present to you an excerpt from the *Buddha Sutra*.



Turn to Page 5 for this month's poem

**THE VOW**

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# TSG News

♥Would you like to experience the beauty of taking a **meditation lesson at The Torkom Saraydarian University**? If you have always wondered how seed thought meditation is practiced and the positive effects of having a teacher guide you and work with you, this may be the next step for you to take. We have a series of meditation courses based on fundamental books by Torkom. When you purchase any of these books, you receive the first lesson free online. If you wish to continue, you simply sign up online and pay the registration fee and the fees for the lessons starting with lesson two. For details contact us or visit our website.

♥We have books with **slightly damaged covers** in our bookstore for **50% off**. Call us for available titles.

♥**Gita Saraydarian** was ordained as a minister by Reverends Allan and Jeannie Shoup of The Temple of The Ageless Wisdom in Fort Wayne Indiana, on November 10th, 2002. Gita has also been accepted as a seminarian at the Church of Antioch Liberal Catholic Church to continue her training.

♥**TSG (UK) Ltd.** offers a full bookstore for all our European customers. See [www.tsg-uk.org](http://www.tsg-uk.org)  
The London Seminar is scheduled for September 19-21, 2003. Contact TSG UK for details. A second seminar is being planned for Denmark. Call or email us for the latest details.

♥**Beginner Meditation Classes:** TSG (UK) is offering weekly beginner meditation classes in Edinburgh, Scotland. Contact John Dumigan for details: [jd@tsg-uk.org](mailto:jd@tsg-uk.org) or 0131 228 9101

♥**Books to Libraries:** In a bold new move, TSG is planning to give thousands of books to groups, churches, and libraries. See complete details online at: [www.tsgfoundation.org](http://www.tsgfoundation.org)

♥**Archive Project News:** Equipment costs have dropped to an affordable level so we will soon be starting the process of transferring Torkom's lecture videos to DVD and tapes to CD. To learn how you can be involved visit our website or call us at 480-502-1909.

## The Vow

*My Lord,  
from the beginning of Your path,  
Your direction  
was straight.  
With Your first step  
on the path,  
You took the vow  
and said,  
  
My whole labor  
will be to make  
every human being,  
every soul,*

*like Me,  
a Buddha,  
an Enlightened Being.  
  
You knew that  
all living beings  
have the capacity  
to be Buddhas.  
  
You knew  
that  
it was pure ignorance  
to claim  
superiority.*

*You knew that  
in all beings  
You were buried,  
and You wanted  
to resurrect Yourself.  
  
this vow  
was taken by You  
because of Your love  
for all beings,  
and from the moment  
of Your vow,  
the ray  
of the Central Magnet*

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*shone on Your forehead  
and gave You  
glory  
and strength  
to carry on Your labor  
of salvation.*

*The Central Magnet,  
my Lord,  
the source of dharma,  
streamed forth through You  
as a river  
of wisdom  
to enlighten  
all beings  
in all worlds.*

*Nothing can be done  
without a vow,  
without a firm  
commitment  
which can never be changed  
by any power in the world  
or in Space.*

*The Teaching You gave,  
my Lord,  
was a stream of light  
outpouring through You  
from the realms of wisdom,  
a wisdom that existed  
in Space  
before,  
and exists now beyond the stars.*

*When You wanted  
to share  
the splendors of wisdom,  
a shaft of Light,  
like a beam,  
extended from Your head  
into Space.*

*Through it poured out  
the wisdom  
You wanted to share  
with Arhats.*

*During this time,  
Your earthly body  
and Your mind  
were in total silence,  
and nothing  
worldly could distort  
or hinder  
the current of light  
pouring down  
through You.*

*Thus, my Lord,  
Your Teaching  
was as pure  
as the snows on the summits  
of the Himalayas.*

*Traditions says, my Lord,  
that during the hours  
of Your Teaching,  
the heavens  
used to precipitate*

*petals of the most fragrant  
and sacred flowers....*

*All Your listeners,  
blessed by Your presence  
and by the Teaching  
You shared with them,  
felt*

*oceans of joy  
in their hearts,  
and in great adoration  
they used to be fused  
with Your Light.*

*People think, my Lord,  
that You taught only  
humans,  
but You had in Your  
audiences  
not only devas and angels  
but also great Beings and Buddhas  
in other planes  
who used to hear  
Your voice*

*and listen to Your Wisdom.*

*Thus, my Lord,  
You were  
the Teacher of all  
who were ready  
to understand Your Teaching  
in all worlds.*

*And still You are.*

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*Many thousands of people  
living in all these worlds  
went ahead  
on the path of their perfection,  
and a multitude of  
beings  
in all worlds  
advanced from darkness to light.*

*You were, my Lord,  
a broadcasting station  
of Wisdom  
to invisible  
and visible worlds.  
And those who had  
antennas and receivers  
enjoyed  
every word uttered  
from Your blessed mouth.*

*My Lord, You not only  
taught all those millions  
of aspirants to Your Teaching,  
but also,  
in Your silent hours,  
You answered the questions  
directed to You  
from the Subtle Worlds.*

*Thus, You were busy  
not four hours  
or  
eight hours  
but twenty-four hours a day  
distributing Light,*

*solving problems,  
and answering questions.*

*When Your body was at rest,  
Your mind was in labor.*

*You told  
all those who listened to You  
that every one of them  
could  
become a Buddha.*

*My Lord,  
You never put any limitation  
on achievement,  
on good deeds,  
on sacrificial service,  
or on actualization of wisdom.*

*Your whole intention was  
to lead  
all lives into greater Light.*

*One of the amazing things  
You taught,  
O World-Honored One,  
was how to suffer consciously  
so that others could find  
the path of  
everlasting joy.*

*In caves, in deserts,  
in mountains, in cities,  
Your disciples worked hard  
to send arrows of  
precious thoughts to the world*

*and suffer for those  
whose karma otherwise  
would never allow them  
to find  
the path of Light.*

*The Light emanating  
from You  
not only carried Wisdom  
to all worlds  
but also  
illuminated  
the worlds in such a way  
that You made Your Arhats able  
to see  
the hidden beauty,  
the hidden wisdom,  
the hidden reality  
in those worlds.*

*Now, my Lord, You have  
millions of sons  
who are born  
from Your  
blessed mouth,  
who strive to live  
in peace,  
in harmony,  
with every living being.*

*(Buddha Sutra, A Dialogue With the Glorious One, by Torkom Saraydarian, pp. 91-98. © The Creative Trust)*

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## Calendar of Events: July/August 2003

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### **Cave Creek Schedule: TSG Foundation**

#### **Full Moon Celebrations:**

- **Sunday, July 13th**, 10:00 am to 11:00 am, Sun in Cancer.  
Lecture and meditation with Gita Saraydarian. Donation:  
Love offering.
- **Sunday, August 10th**, 10:00 am to 11:00 am, Sun in Leo.  
Lecture and meditation with Gita Saraydarian. Donation:  
Love offering.

**Have a healthy, safe, and breezy summer!**

### **Sedona Schedule: The Ageless Wisdom Group**

(Sedona Creative Life Center, 333 Schnebley Hill Road, Sedona, AZ. For Full Moon and lecture information call Damon Catizone: 928-284-3836)

### **TSG (UK) Ltd.**

For information on UK seminars contact Catriona Nason at  
TSG(UK): [info@tsg-uk.org](mailto:info@tsg-uk.org) / 020-8979-8444

For information regarding meditation courses in Edinburgh, Scotland contact John Dumigan at: [jd@tsg-uk.org](mailto:jd@tsg-uk.org) or 0131 228 9101

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