

Ramana Maharshi's sharing about the holy hill, Arunachala

Question: What is the significance of Arunachala? Last night there were so many people going around the hill!

Answer: It is not an ordinary hill. It is spirituality Itself. It has a powerful, magnetic pull to the Self. Seekers who come to this place with the intention of realizing the Self will have untold benefits when circumambulating Arunachala on a full moon. There is water everywhere under the ground, but there are some places where it is easier to get to.

Likewise, the Self is everywhere; there is no place that is without it, but it is also true that there are certain places, certain people, around which the presence of the Self can be more easily felt. In the proximity of this holy hill the presence of the Self is more powerful and more self-evident than anywhere else. Indian mythology speaks of a wish-fulfilling tree. If you find this tree and tell it what you want, your wish will be granted. Arunachala also has this reputation. This is why so many people come here on a full moon night and walk around it. But very few people come here and ask for their complete freedom, for undisturbed peace. All beings are ultimately searching for undisturbed peace, so it is surprising how few people ask directly for it.

Question: Is it faith in Arunachala that produces results, or is there some inherent power that is independent of my belief in it?

Answer: Arunachala is a light. It shines whether or not you believe in it. It is the light of the Self, and the light of the Self will continue to shine on you whether you believe it or not.

Question: Is Arunachala the only place that is like this, or are there other places? I have heard there are some very powerful places in India and the Himalayas.

Answer: There are other holy, powerful places in the world, but none have the power of Arunachala. There is a huge amount of shakti, or spiritual energy, here. We can take as much as we want, but no matter how much we take, the original amount is never diminished. Even before Bhagavan came here, there were innumerable sages who discovered the power of Arunachala's liberation for themselves. Many came here, realized the Self and attributed their realization to the power and grace of the mountain. Bhagavan always maintained that the power of this mountain was not a matter of belief. He said that if you sit in the shade of a tree, whether or not you believe in the shade, it is a physical fact. He said, "If you go around this hill enough times, it will give you grace, even if you do not want it."



21-Day Pilgrimage to Arunachala, India

January 31st to February 20th, 2017

To register

Please send a non-refundable (can be applied to a later pilgrimage) deposit of \$400 to the address below in the form of a cashier's check or postal money order in US funds. Or please write Ramana at ramana@radicalawakening.org for online cart instructions for visa/mc/discover/amx/paypal.

Payments/Full Payment Discounts

Total cost of Pilgrimage, which includes lodging, meals, most ground transportation as well as private time with Ramana: \$1900. After the initial \$400 deposit, \$500 is due by September 30, 2016, and the balance of \$1000 is due by October 30, 2016. Initial deposit non-refundable, but can be transferred to any pilgrimage. Please send only cashier's checks, postal money orders, or Visa/MC/Amx/Discover/Paypal. After October 30th, 2016, there can be no refunds because of reservations made for you (except by extenuating circumstances approved by Ramana). All monies can be transferred to another pilgrimage. Discount for early full payment: \$100, if balance is paid in full at time of registration (cc charges excluded, cashier's checks/postal money orders only) .

Upon receipt of your first payment, a complete, 12 page confirmation/orientation packet covering every aspect of your journey's preparation will be emailed to you.

Make checks out to 'Carey Hasegawa' (in US funds) in cashier's check or postal money order and mail to:

Carey Hasegawa/Ramana
3415 Clover Street
Pittsford, NY 14534

or call Radical Awakening Seminars at (716) 803-8032 or write ramana@radicalawakening.org for online cart instructions (Visa /MC/Discover/Amex/ Paypal)

Arrival and Departure Dates

Arrival date in Chennai Airport: Jan 30th (early morning) to Jan 31, 2016

Last day of Pilgrimage: February 20st after lunch

For more information please email Ramana at ramana@radicalawakening.org or call (716) 803-8032.

Prerequisites:

A Radical Awakening Seminar or a private Radical Awakening session with Ramana, as well as his personal approval.

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The call of Arunachala

If you hear the call to Arunachala, you must go! It is the most silent place on the planet. –Papaji

Arunachala, where true knowledge can be acquired without rituals, book learning or elaborate religious injunctions; where even an ignorant person can gain enlightenment by smearing on the forehead sacred ash; where all residents overcome obstacles and obtain the supreme knowledge without conscious effort.

Thus, just thinking about Arunachala purifies the mind. Likewise, the sight of the mountain purifies the eyes, to speak of it purifies the tongue, and to hear about it purifies the ears. The Supreme Being abides on this earth in the form of Arunachala. The moment one sees it, ignorance is destroyed.

– Ramana Maharshi speaking of references to Arunachala in ancient Vedic texts.

For more info, go to www.radicalawakening.org and go to 'Pilgrimage to India.'

Radical Awakening Seminars

ramana@radicalawakening.org

www.radicalawakening.org

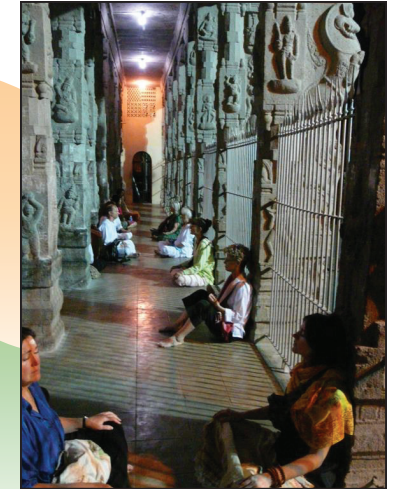
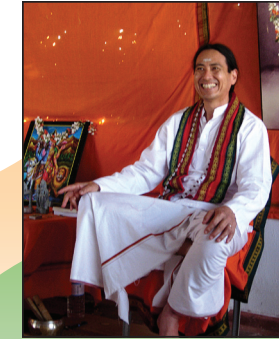
An overview of the structure of the Pilgrimage

For most of the participants on the pilgrimage, this is their first trip to India. India is not the easiest place to travel; I am making the transition from the West as easy as possible. You will be personally taxed (no Indian buses or trains) directly from the airport to your room in Tiruvannamalai.

The food will be cooked by a gourmet chef trained in Indian cooking for 'the most sumptuous, hygienic meals ever.' You will be oriented regarding how to do everything—from Indian customs to how to get your clothes washed. Every effort will be made to make your stay as comfortable as possible.

Once you arrive in Tiruvannamalai, you will immediately be 'wired in.' It has taken me 12 years to find all of the teachers, power spots and activities which will generate the deepest experiences.

The beginning of the pilgrimage will be structured, as you will be oriented to all of the teachers and activities. As time goes on, you will find the activities/teachers with which you resonate, and will eventually find your own schedule. We will, however, meet on a regular basis to pull the group energy together.



The Pilgrimage often includes:

- Inside orientation to the Ramana Ashram (which includes the satsang/meditation room, samadhi sites, bookstore, library and main hall (where pujas, chanting and bajans take place).
- Meditating in the caves on the mountainside, where Ramana Maharshi spent over 20 years.
- Satsangs and private appointments with Ramana.
- Special Private Satsangs with little known enlightened 'gems'.
- Circumambulation (circling around Arunachala), which includes many holy sites.
- A field trip to the main Shiva temple (the largest in all of India). Inside stories and orientation to the sacred sites there.

- A special puja in the inner sanctum of the main Shiva temple (a rare opportunity almost never offered to Westerners).
- Excursions around little known places and caves around Arunachala
- An optional field trip to a village school for a first-hand experience of the local culture.
- A temple tour around the mountain, where you will be oriented to customs, background and lore few Westerners know about.
- Just being and deepening into the Silence
- A guaranteed life-transformational experience

