

Religion is All Around Us

Religious Experience

This teaching material has been made at the University of Szeged, and supported by the European Union. Project identity number: EFOP-3.4.3-16-2016-00014.



SZÉCHENYI 2020

Európai Unió
Európai Szociális
Alap



BEFEKTETÉS A JÖVŐBE

Compulsory Readings

1. I was sitting in the dentist's chair waiting for the dentist to examine my teeth. I was alone and looking out of the window. It was a dull, overcast day, but suddenly the sun came out—golden and glorious. This was not the physical sun, but a wonderful golden light. With it came a feeling of great joy, peace and well-being. I was so full of love for all things that I felt my heart would burst, and such a feeling of Unity. (RERC 4384, in Maxwell and Tschudin 1996: 113–14)
2. “In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the center of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization that I loved all these people, that they were mine and I theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers. It was like waking from a dream of separateness, of spurious self-isolation in a special world... This sense of liberation from an illusory difference was such a relief and such a joy to me that I almost laughed out loud... And if only everybody could realize this! But it cannot be explained. There is no way of telling people that they are all walking around shining like the sun.” Thomas Merton: *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander*. Doubleday, New York (1989)
3. David Martin: *Selected Ghazaliyat (Love Poems) Translated from the Classical Persian of Khaqani, Sa'di, and Rumi In: Comitatus: A Journal of Medieval and Renaissance Studies*, 1984. 15(1) <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/6qg479xf>
Poem starting at page 26 as: “You are friend and cave to me...”.
4. Mirabai- Deep into the Night

O BELOVED,
Let us go to that place,
Let us go there together.
Tell me, what should I wear?—
A golden sari
with a yellow flower behind my ear?
Or shall it be a simple dress
with a string of pearls
along the part of my hair?
Let me be your handmaid.
I will plant myself in your garden
and there I will look upon your face
and sing your praises forever.
Let me be your servant
and let my only wages

be the sweetness of your Name.
I have dreamt of you
since the world began,
With a crown of peacock feathers on your head,
With robes of amber and yellow.
I see a garland of roses around your neck
as you take the cows out to graze.
O Krishna,
Charmer of hearts,
Lifter of mountains,
I hear your flute calling me—
Shall I come by the secret path
through the tall grass?
O Lord of Heavenly Blue,
My heart cannot rest until we are together,
until we walk along the banks of the Jamuna
deep into the night.

Harvey, Andrew (2014): *Teachings of the Hindu Mystics*. Shambhala. Boston and London. 94-95.

5. John of the Cross: *The Ascent to Mount Carmel*. In: Kieran Kavanaugh, Otilio Rodriguez (transl., 1991): *The Collected Works of St John of the Cross*. ICS Publications, Washington D. C.