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Special Reprint – Prem Rawat
“Find Peace Within”



FIND PEACE WITHIN

Peace

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“Why am I here?” Through the ages, people have been searching for an answer to that fundamental question. Prem Rawat, also known as Maharaji, has been traveling around the world for decades offering a simple answer: “Could it be that we are here to collect as much joy, as much peace, as we possibly can?”

The joy—the peace that he talks about—is an inner experience, he says, and is not dependent on external circumstances. He calls it “the one simple reality that is knocking at the heart of every person.”

“The joy that is in this world requires a catalyst on the outside,” he explains. “But there is a joy inside of us that is always constant. It does not require a catalyst. It does not require beautiful scenery or other things that we think will bring joy. It requires only us. When we turn within, we can feel that joy.”

The idea that joy resides within us is not new. It can be found in all civilizations throughout history. Nevertheless, it seems hard to achieve. Unlike many others who talk about the importance of

turning within, Maharaji offers a practical way to find peace and joy within.

Born in India, Maharaji grew up listening to his father, who was also his teacher and who shared inspiration and guidance on how to find inner peace. Five years after his father’s death, Maharaji flew to London to bring his message to the West. He was only thirteen years old.



Since then he has spoken to more than 6.5 million people in over 250 cities in 50 countries. His addresses, delivered without prepared notes, capture the attention of audiences with economic backgrounds and cultures as diverse as those of Côte d’Ivoire and Taiwan, Fiji and Nepal, Finland and Japan. The joy he talks about is evident in his ebullient manner.

Here are some answers from Maharaji:



You talk about looking within to search for success. Is it wrong to look for social and professional recognition?

It's not that we don't want to be successful. We do. It's just that when we thirst for fulfillment, we can't make ourselves believe that the thirst is really for a plaque on the wall.

There is no gift greater than fulfillment. All the things we do in our daily routine, we do to be fulfilled. We want a better job. Why? Because we think that will fulfill us. We want a better home. Why? Because we think that will fulfill us.

We do so much in this world to make a better life. We do so much in this world to try to make ourselves comfortable. Everyone who can, in his or her own way, tries very hard to make themselves better, yet we spend little time trying to understand the dynamics of what causes this to happen. What is it inside every person in this world that is pushing them, forcing them, to evolve to a better situation, to be more content, to be more joyous? Perhaps we need to understand the dynamics of this incredible thrust that comes from within.

This being is made to contain one thing—peace. When it does, its purpose is fulfilled. When peace resides within, we have real success.

A lot of progress has been made in science, yet people still find it difficult to know themselves. Why is that?

We ask questions. This is what we have been doing all our lives. We think that by

asking questions we'll figure everything out. Consider a person who is thirsty in the desert. Should that person be asking questions? No. That person should be looking for water. It is the same if you want to satisfy the inner thirst for peace.

This has to do with your own thirst. A lot of people think it's really hard when I tell them, "Just get in touch with your thirst." It becomes complicated because we think we have the luxury of not responding to that thirst the way the thirsty person in the desert responds. For that person, it is a priority to find water to drink.

I make it simple because it is simple. Our life, our breath, our understanding, and our thirst are all simple. We are simple.

What exactly is it that you offer?

I talk to people about peace. A lot of people say, "That's nice. The world needs it." The world doesn't need it. We need it. I have the gift, the privilege, to be able to offer a way to be in touch with the tranquility, joy, peace that resides within. It does not matter what we call it. This is about fulfilling a need from within a person. It is about fulfilling a thirst that we feel in our life. It is about feeling that thirst and quenching that thirst.

Where did the idea for that come from?

Where did it come from? It is within you. It is within every human being. It came

about because of the thirst for fulfillment. There was a need. The need was and is so fundamental that, regardless of our technological advancements, it has survived.

What is your role in the process?

I'm here to put you in touch with a thirst that you have in your life, a thirst you have always had. I can help you find the thirst, I can help you prepare the field, and I can help you sow the seed. After that, I can only remind you. That's all. The rest is up to you.

I give directions. I'm not a know-it-all. My credentials are in being able to help you find that place of peace and contentment within you. Some people come to hear me and say, "I don't understand what he's saying." To that I say, "Fine. It's okay. Don't get bothered by it, because I'm not here to sell you anything."

Every day deserves to be filled with this beautiful joy. That's the only way to live. No excuses, no shortcuts, no going around it. How much time does it take? Each person proceeds at his or her own pace. It is your journey. I'm not going to make it faster or slow it down. I'm not going to make it easier or more difficult. I cannot touch it. It is your journey.

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