

BELOW IS A FILE OF SHORT QUOTATIONS BY NATARAJA GURU OR FREQUENTLY CITED BY HIM, AND NOTED DOWN OUT OF CONTEXT:

Editorial note: the quotations from the Guru were noted in the margins of notebooks etc. from the flow of the Guru's talk. It has to be understood that most of his days were spent in talking. Some of it was structured lessons or seminars, but he even talked while brushing his teeth. The quotes are out of context and we are hesitant to present them in this way, but this is what the Guru said and it seems to be of interest. Some quotes are actually phrases also found in his printed works. (Pog)

Scott Teitsworth has added several pages; most of them have source citations. L&B is *Love and Blessings*, Guru Nitya's autobiography.

QUOTES HE LIKED FROM OTHERS:

The universe is a machine for making gods. (H.Bergson)

Horizontally viewed, one second can become a thousand years;
Vertically viewed, one thousand years can become one second.
(H.Bergson)

To seek to rise above intelligence is to fall outside it. (Plotinus)

“The medieval ideal of life for the sake of death needs gradually to be replaced by a natural conception of life in which the normal demands of men are thoroughly kept in mind, so that the desires of the animal sphere may no longer be compelled to drag into their service the high gifts of the intellectual sphere in order to find an outlet.” (C.G. Jung)

The gates of fate can open anywhere in this world if you knock.
(Kalidasa)

What you thought was fire is a gem that can be touched.
(Kalidasa, Shakuntala)

I am wandering and I want to fill my belly, and I also like money.
In vain I am wandering, and I do not know how to worship you.
(Sankara)

You must want wisdom as a deer caught in a forest fire wants to escape. (Sankara)

Meditation is cleansing the mind, according to Sankara.

Philosophy is that intelligence by which the landlady can tell if the tenant will pay the rent. (B. Russell)

Disease has its origin in affection. (Ayurveda Shastra)

Beware of:

- 1) Those who talk too much.
- 2) Those who put religious marks all over their bodies.
- 3) Women who peek out of their saris. (Ramakrishna)

Is it a wonder that man can understand the universe, man in whose very being the universe exists, in whom there stands a representative of God in miniature: or is it right to believe that man has Sprung from elsewhere than from heaven?

He alone stands in the midst of the citadel, a conqueror, his head erect, and his shining eyes fixed upon the stars. (Manilius)

NATARAJA GURU QUOTES:

Only understand!

Meditation has the final result, not of solving mysteries but rather of making the sense of the mysterious live in the heart of man forever.

Enthusiasm for the Absolute to prevail is the only medicine for states of depression. The human mind is so constituted that its instructive dispositions need a strong numerator interest: a passion for Truth, Justice or Beauty. When one supplies this element all blues and troubles vanish. (L&B)

A bad disease needs a drastic remedy. The rot of confusion has to be stopped before it worsens. (Gita 121)

The whole of the planet is waiting for you. You don't have to go to the moon. (Bennington's Journal- BJ)

Wait until a problem comes up before you worry about it. (BJ)

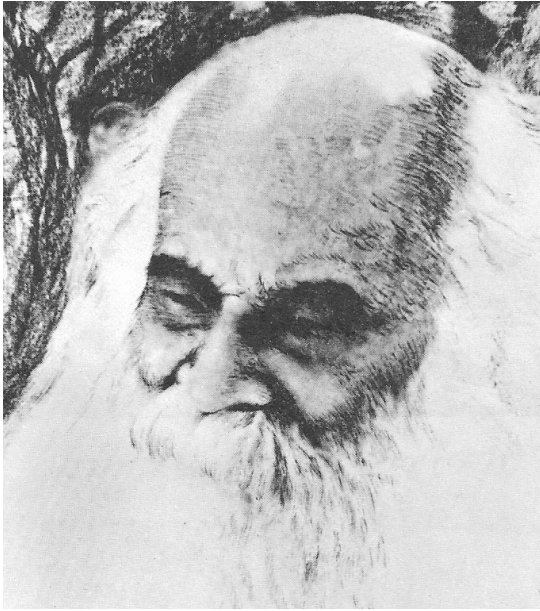
The element of chance in life is called God. The element of chance is still operating in life, so God works even today in the modern world. (BJ)

Don't make rules without allowing chance to have its free play. Don't make rules so rigid as to exclude God from it. (BJ)

If you are brave enough to create a vacuum, nature abhors it, and the vacuum will immediately be filled. (L&B 166)

Strictly speaking, Vedanta has no eschatology. (Gita 310)
(Eschatology is belief concerning death or the end of existence.)

Such meditation has the final result, not of solving mysteries, but rather of making the sense of the mysterious live in the heart of man forever. (Word of the Guru, 95)



All life, and more especially the inner and outer life, has to be equated, balanced, or cancelled out to lead to *samadhi*, which is none other than the supreme state of equality, bliss or peace.

A contemplatively harmonized woman is not beautiful but she is Beauty itself.

The interplay of subjective and objective value factors results in that neutral state of happiness called *nirvana*, which represents a positive and absolute value. The content of this value is none other than what the modern man would call Freedom with a capital letter.

The word Yoga implies the equalization of ambivalent tendencies in the spirit. It is a cancelling out or equipoise arrived at through the equality of contemplative counterparts.

Unitive understanding and universal brotherhood are corollaries of a good life understood contemplatively in the light of sound human common sense, which has to be necessarily though tacitly based on what is called wisdom or the Science of the Absolute.

As the dewdrop slips into the shining sea, so the flickering firefly of wisdom is lost in the brightness of the Value of values in the Absolute.

When the notion of the Absolute is filled with a living human content, it becomes a matter of absorbing interest above all other interests.

The Dedication to Unitive Understanding, Vol. II:

Dedicated to all kind and generous men and women, young or old, anywhere, any time, who seek in open and dynamic terms to abolish and absorb all polyvalent rivalries of relativistic values into the real and crystalline four-fold structure of universal selfhood that includes all opposites, which is none other than that value of all values, the Absolute.

From *Unitive Philosophy*:

The Guru's major contribution to Vedanta may be said to consist of this analysis of the content of the universe of contemplative or absolutist discourse, in which he gives equal place to the pure and the practical, the phenomenal and the noumenal, and a due place to the relative and the absolute, in a globally, unitively, and neutrally conceived normative notion of the Absolute. (245)

The notion of the Absolute is within the reach of normal human understanding. The mystery hitherto surrounding it is only due to an epistemological paradox which has to be shed, dissolved, abolished, or banished from our way of thinking. Then a content can emerge from behind it, as it were, helping us to give precise significance even to such a subtle and ultimate notion.

There is a paradox at the core of the Absolute.

If you try to resolve the paradox, if you try and pin it down, you get a chair or a table; it does not dance.

This from Charles Erickson:

Nataraja Guru's four stages of education

Negative education for infants and young children, Naturalistic education for older children and adolescents, Pragmatic education for adolescents and young adults, and Later Idealistic education for people generally, lifelong.

Follow anything wholeheartedly, and you will get the truth.

Fill your mind completely with overwhelming Absolute Beauty and you are a mystic.

Why is the Absolute kind? Because otherwise it would be of no value.

Armchair philosophy bakes no bread.

Schematize and you get the Absolute.

Structuralism is the highest function of the human mind.

My task in life is structuralism.

Our methodology is structuralism.

Anything that attains to the zero point conquers the world.

Maya is the principle of error generically conceived.

The gap between ends and means is Maya.

Science seeks certitude

Knowledge is a film (membrane), a form which we impose in order to determine objects in this world.

Who is this teaching meant for? It is intended for seekers of wisdom.

The Truth shall set you free.

We are dealing with a dynamism, not a static object.

The one who knows the Absolute becomes the Absolute.

Every action is a mistake. Make interesting mistakes and make them quickly!

But there is a secret that none of them know: knowledge releases from all sin.

Bergson's statement that the universe is a machine for the making of gods is just the converse of the usual proposition and is just as valid for Vedanta.

To a Vidyarthi (wisdom-seeker) everything is denied except the seeking of wisdom.

If you are crossing a forest and come to a crossroads, keep on going straight or you will go in circles.

Cosmology and psychology must coincide.

The vertical axis is happiness, the horizontal axis is suffering.

Marbles in reaction to one another are horizontal, a lake inside a lake, a cup inside a cup are vertical.

Space is like sitting inside an elephant.

Psychology is sex.

Yoga is a streak of lightning inside you.

When a beautiful fat housecat rolls in the sunlight, that is yoga.

Take the Bible and see if the Good Samaritan kissed his wife.

Someone asked the Guru what he should do to become a vegetarian.

The Guru answered: "Take a chicken, cut its head off, cut it up, cook it and eat it. Keep on doing this until you become a vegetarian."

Put the beauty of your girlfriend together with the sunset and you get god.

There is nothing closer to the Absolute than a 16 year-old girl.

There is no such thing as a sad Absolute.

Meditation consists of bringing all values inside yourself.

When you pour oil from one vessel into another, and the flow continues, that is meditation.

If you want to catch a train, look it up in the timetable or ask the stationmaster. It is the same with philosophy.

Experience the truth as a gooseberry in your fist.

Clear thinking tends to result in correct action.

There is no difference between wisdom and common sense, common sense is just sense that is common to everyone, everywhere.

The psyche is a woman.

A woman is a complete psyche.

The proper study of mankind is woman.

Biologically, the female is the type, the male a sub-type.

The structure of woman reveals the structure of the negative aspect of man, his psyche. Add the numerator to this feminine structure and you get the whole picture.

Some men are women and vice versa.

Sex has to be solved in and through itself.

Belly to belly lasts ten minutes, back to back lasts a thousand years.

Find God through the behinds of women.

The goddess is just a woman, any woman.

Why should I (the guru) be afraid of the goddess? She is just me upside down.

The bearded god of the Sistine Chapel is a woman.

Every time a woman opens her mouth, she is lying.

Question: "Why does all this seem to be directed only at men as wisdom-seekers?"

Nat. Guru: "Women are there already - all women are enlightened."

Question: "All of them?"

The Guru replied: "All of them."

Men think with their heads, women think with their behinds; the women are right.

When a woman looks into a mirror, she sees God.

If you understand a woman, if you really understand a woman, you understand God.

When a man in love sees a woman, what he really sees is his own self. *kami swatam pasyati* – “a man in love his own self sees.”

All of life is a love affair.

Someone quoted a poem of Tagore about how he could never be a Sannyasin (renouncer or monk) because he loved too much the sound of women's bangles jangling as they fetched water in the evening. The Guru said: “It is *because* I love the sound of women's bangles that I am a Sannyasin.”

A woman once asked the Guru why, as he was talking about eroticism all the time, he had not got married.
The Guru replied: “I want all of them.”

There are two levels to a woman, inner and outer: rejection outside, enjoyment inside. This is the paradox in religion also.

The contribution of Indian Civilization to spirituality is Erotic Mysticism - it was not repressed by patriarchal and prophetic religions that frowned on sensuality.

The Guru said that Indian spirituality was dealt a death-blow when the British abolished the temple dancing-girls (devadasis).

On Kandukavati: “There is no Indian Spirituality without the Dancing Girl. Take away the dancing girl and there is nothing left.”

On varieties of enlightenment: “There are many kinds of Yogis, but there are some few, the most fortunate ones, who can see the Absolute in a woman’s body.”

Hinduism is a woman.

If you want to produce a spark, you keep the positive and negative electric poles slightly apart, you don’t press them together. Indian tradition says that to get the maximum erotic spark between a man and a woman you should keep the length of a woman’s hair apart. (about 30 centimeters)

On another occasion the Guru said: “If a penis is correctly inserted in a vagina, the whole universe will burst into flames.”

Love is a vague word used by unscientific people about a feeling they don't understand.

Beautiful means normal.

Every beautiful girl is mind-produced by some god on high.

Reach out to the beauty that is within you.

Beauty could be described as two things saying the same thing from different angles.

Beauty consists of analogies between the beauty felt inside you and the beauty felt outside.

Art is the cancellation of the self and the non-self.

All appreciation of beauty and all mysticism is erotic.

Beauty emerges when two sides meet and cancel.

Beauty consists of analogies.

The feeling of beauty, to be absolute, must contain an “Oh!” or an “Ah!”

All aesthetics is erotic.

All proper meditation is erotic. Anyone who says that it is not so does not know what he is talking about.

The Absolute is tragic.

Education is learning to link name and form.

If you cannot explain your philosophy to a grandmother in Ettikulam (a nearby village), go back home and think again.

Siddhis (psychic powers) are psychophysical dynamisms. They are like plastic spoons, etc. soap-powder packets: free gifts of very little value.

Aruna (magenta color of dawn) and Karuna (compassion).
Between them are all the message of the Saundarya Lahari.

When the Guru was teaching a lesson on the Saundarya Lahari he noticed a student at the back of the room who was moved to tears. The Guru said: “At least someone has understood.”

The color solid exists inside you.

Understanding releases from all Karma.

Where Karma ends, the Tao shines.

All religions put some concept on a pedestal, but Vedanta alone cancels everything out.

We are going to change the world for a thousand years.

A bitch rolling on its back to feed puppies produces a mystical feeling.

Ontology is better than teleology.

If your religion makes you a better person, then it is a good religion for you. (paraphrase of Narayana Guru)

God, according to the Guru can be in three places: in your heart, in your mother's feet, or in heaven, between the eyebrows.

Why should I feel bad about dying when every day all over India there are young girls crying at the bus stop because they are being sent away to marry some old man they have never met?

Birth is sleeping and forgetting.

Reincarnation is like a caterpillar crawling from one blade of grass to another. At one time its front is on one, while the back legs are still on another, then after a time it is on the new blade of grass.

Chakras give you something on which to fix your attention, when trying to think of the Absolute.

The revolution is that we burst through all the chakras, instead of treating them as stages.

My birth on earth was a mistake.

When you say something about God, you are also saying it about yourself.

Vedanta is the art of finding an excuse for everything.

NARAYANA GURU QUOTES:

My Guru is God and humanity.

Narayana Guru substituted a cucumber for animal sacrifice in a temple - cf. the sacrifice of Isaac.

Nataraja Guru asked his Guru, Narayana: "I still do not understand why Arjuna had to fight at the end of the Gita, why was it?"

Narayana answered: "If he had not fought, he would have regretted it afterwards."

The husband does not merely adore the wife, nor the wife merely adore the husband; it is Self-Bliss alone that each adore, as lodged in every sensuous object.

I am a mad dog lying on the roadside.