

Who are we?

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An Advaita sage or Zen master would probably answer the question “Who are we?” with another question “Who wants to know?” The answer to the second answers the first in some sense. Putting the ineffable into words, *We are Oneness*. However, this answer would not enable me to deal with the practicalities of life, to do the job of an information systems architect in business, for instance.

The function of information systems architect emerged at the dawn of the Information Society in the 1970s in order to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of enterprises, viewed as monetary machines. Following the economic imperative of our times, the task is to model and design business systems as a coherent whole, regarding both humans and computers as workers in the mechanistic economic system.

Now to do this job with full understanding of what I am doing, I realized forty years ago this autumn that I needed to understand what it truly means to be human, in contrast to machines with so-called artificial general intelligence. At the time, I was developing an innovative marketing programme for Decision Support Systems for IBM in London, in which humans directly interact with computers.

For, as a holistic visionary, I could see that following the invention of the stored-program computer thirty years earlier the global economy holds the seeds of its own destruction within it and could well disintegrate into chaos when my children were bringing up children of their own. There were two possible ways in which both capitalism and communism could collapse.

First, if robots could manage and operate the economy quite well without human involvement—as some computer scientists and physicists have claimed—then the fundamental cycle of humans being both workers and consumers in the economy would be broken. On the other hand, if technological development could not drive economic growth indefinitely, then humans must have a potential for the awakening of intelligence far in excess of any level of ‘superintelligence’ that machines might aspire to achieve.

The second scenario was the one I naturally preferred. But I saw that I could only know what it would be like to live in a post-monetary society—giving everyone the opportunity to realize their fullest potential as humans—by actively living in such an awakened, liberated world. This would mean following the time-honoured maxim “Know yourself,” free of any culturally induced preconceptions of what I might discover.

As a first step in this life-giving exercise in self-inquiry, I spent the winter of 1979 and 1980 pondering the most critical unanswered question in science: *What is causing scientists and technologists, aided and abetted by computer technology, to drive the pace of scientific discovery and technological development at unprecedented exponential rates of acceleration?*

I was given the answer to this question in a revelatory eureka moment on 27th April 1980, resigning from my business career with IBM three weeks later. By adopting the most radical change in the work ethic since the invention of money some 4,000 years ago, I set out to invoke Self-reflective Intelligence and use my skills as a mathematician and computer scientist to develop a cosmology of cosmologies that would unify the psychospiritual energies that had been revealed to me with the four forces recognized by physicists.

To prove beyond any shadow of a doubt that no machine could solve the ultimate problem of human learning, I embarked on a thought experiment, not unlike those that Albert Einstein had visualized to develop the special and general theories of relativity. I imagined that I am a computer that turns itself off and on again so that it has no programs within it, not even a bootstrap program to load the operating

system. By starting afresh at the very beginning with a *tabular rasa*, this computer then had the task of integrating all knowledge in all cultures and disciplines at all times into a coherent whole, like the Internet.

Such a coherent body of knowledge is the much sought-for Theory of Everything, which I call the *Unified Relationships Theory* or *Panosophy*, the complete unification of science, philosophy, and religion and of all the sciences and humanities. Its Cosmic Context, Gnostic Foundation, and coordinating framework is *Integral Relational Logic*, the holographic, nonaxiomatic art and science of reason that we all implicitly use every day to form concepts and organize our thoughts in tables and semantic networks.

These cognitive structures became manifest within my psyche because evolution took the most radical change of direction in its 13.8-billion-year history since the most recent big bang in April 1980. Evolution changed from the horizontal to the vertical dimension of time within me, although it would take me some thirty years to understand that I had been led into the Eternal Now. In effect, a big bang erupted in the utmost depths of my psyche on that fateful day, enabling Life to heal my fragmented mind in Wholeness.

As all the divergent strands of evolution have converged within me, I have been carried from the Alpha to the Omega Point of evolution and back again, much as Pierre Teilhard de Chardin prophesied in *The Human Phenomenon*, posthumously published in the 1950s, but written in the 1920s and 30s. For, as Teilhard realized, we can only understand evolution as a whole by studying humans as Divine, Cosmic beings, at its leading edge. And this happens through introspection, not by pointing telescopes at outer space or by watching the antics of subatomic bits of matter in particle accelerators.

So, today I answer the question “Who are we?” by saying *We are Wholeness*, as the union of all opposites, the fundamental law of the Universe. Wholeness is the union of Wholeness and Oneness and that of Nonduality and duality, with a primary-secondary relationship between them, which I call the *Principle of Unity*. Our apparently separate body-mind-souls are just that—illusory. We are all interconnected.

Sadly, however, my ontogeny is unprecedented in the entire history of human learning. So I don’t know anyone else on Earth who understands the megasynthesis that has been joyfully revealed to me or who fully accepts the Principle of Unity as an irrefutable, universal truth, on which Peace is based. No one has yet joined me in setting up the Alliance for Mystical Pragmatics in the post-apocalyptic Age of Light. Its principal goal is to complete the final revolution in science—recognizing that Consciousness is Ultimate Reality—just as Johannes Kepler and Isaac Newton completed the first heliocentric revolution in the 1600s.

But maybe this no longer matters. Today, there is an even greater existential threat than machines taking over the workplace: abrupt climate change, which is likely to bring about the extinction of *Homo sapiens* ‘wise human’ within the next ten to fifty years, before my granddaughters have grandchildren of their own. So how am I to live during the last few years of human life on Earth? Is it possible that I could still make a positive contribution to humanity at these end times we live in?

As Wholeness is our True Nature, I am both everything and nothing as a Panosopher. So I am mostly invisible to specialists, who are still working within the unsustainable global economy, even when seeking to be free from the prevailing materialistic and mechanistic paradigm in order to end the long-running war between spirituality and science. But do I really want to be seen? If some influential folk ever acknowledged that the eleven unread books I have written during this decade on transcultural, transdisciplinary Panosophy complete the final revolution in science, that would make the name of *Paul Hague* as famous as those of Newton, Darwin, and Einstein. And in today’s celebrity culture, such a prospect fills me with horror.

So, at best, all I can do in life is live quietly in Stillness in the Presence of the Divine. This is essential to prepare for the death of our species, knowing that we humans are never separate from the Immortal Ground of Being that we all share for an instant. Then, we can know that our Divine Essence is Love, another answer to the most fundamental question we can ask ourselves, as a species: “Who are we?”