



Insights About the MAHANTA, the Living ECK Master

These quotes from Sri Harold may help you give your children a greater understanding of the MAHANTA.

THE LIVING ECK MASTER'S JOB

The MAHANTA, the Living ECK Master is the spiritual leader of ECKANKAR. He is the spiritual guide for those on the path of ECK. . . .

In ECKANKAR this divine force [Holy Spirit, or the ECK] works both in the Outer Master and also through the Inner Master. That means those on the path of ECK have the additional benefit of a Master who can come to them in the dream state and teach them there. Or sometimes by direct Soul Travel. Sometimes through contemplation. The Inner Master is there, working when the individual sleeps, or prays, or meditates, or contemplates. And the Outer Master is out here to provide the books, the discourses, and to give talks and things of this nature.

But the Outer and Inner Master are not two separate things—they're just two different aspects of one being who serves the Holy Spirit. . . .

The sole purpose of the MAHANTA, the Living ECK Master is simply to help Soul find Its way home to God.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
*A Modern Prophet Answers
Your Key Questions About Life,*
Book 1, pp. 264–65

HOW THE LIVING ECK MASTER IS CHOSEN

The Living ECK Master is chosen always by God. (In ECK we call God SUGMAD.) And there is a circle of candidates who are in training for the position of spiritual mastership.

Sometimes they move forward spiritually, then they move backward, then they move forward again. This process can go on for years until the final moment when the successor to me is chosen. At that point, God chooses the person, and I will tell others who this person is. I will tell them one way or another, either personally or by written record.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
*A Modern Prophet Answers
Your Key Questions About Life,*
Book 2, p. 254



CHANGING OF THE GUARD

When I joined ECKANKAR, as a child, you were the Living ECK Master. So I have not experienced the passing of the Rod of ECK Power. Do you have any guidance on how to help my children understand the transition from one Living ECK Master to another? . . .

Rebazar is the Torch-bearer. His role is to act in the event the current Living ECK Master leaves before October 22. He fills in until then, when the new Living ECK Master steps in.

The new Master enjoys your respect as the highest state of consciousness in the world. He has earned the title of the MAHANTA, the Living ECK Master.

The changing of the guard is always an exciting time. When it happens, some chelas hang on to their old Master, but if they truly listen to their hearts, they will turn their guidance and loyalty over to the new Master.

For any other questions, go to the Inner Master. Peace and love to you.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
*A Modern Prophet Answers
Your Key Questions About Life,*
Book 3, pp. 68–69



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PURPOSE
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the Living ECK
Master is simply
TO HELP SOUL
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home to God.





ASPECTS OF THE MAHANTA

I read that the MAHANTA can be with all chelas at once. How is this possible?

In his physical body, the MAHANTA, the Living ECK Master is like everyone else and can only be in one place at a time.

In the Soul body, however, he is like the air that you breathe. He is everywhere. As the ECK, the Holy Spirit, he can easily be with you and thousands of others in the very same moment.

To put it another way, you can think of the MAHANTA as a body and yourself as one tiny cell within his body. Millions of other cells are in it too. The MAHANTA is always with all the cells within his body, whether they are in his toe or in his head.

You can know the MAHANTA's presence most directly by a feeling of warmth and love in your heart.

Some see the Blue Light. Others find the image of the MAHANTA in their Spiritual Eye (the place above and between the eyebrows) or hear the Sound Current.

In whatever way you sense him, he is always with you.

This is one of the miracles of the ECK, to be sure. The fact is that behind the face of every ruler of every plane of God is really the MAHANTA, the Living ECK Master. The MAHANTA is the ECK and is therefore everywhere at once.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
Youth Ask a Modern Prophet About Life, Love, and God, p. 278

In the
SOUL BODY
he is
LIKE THE AIR
you breathe.

THE ROD OF ECK POWER



What does the Rod of ECK Power look like? Will I be there on the inner planes when the Rod of ECK Power is given to the next Living ECK Master?...

The Rod of ECK Power has been depicted in a painting as a shaft of light beaming down and engulfing the Master and his successor. It's a more subtle force than that, but the painting gives a fair idea of what It is.

The point is that whoever receives the Rod of ECK Power becomes the Godman. His responsibility is now the spiritual development of all Souls.

So who is at the actual ceremony? All the ECK Masters gather in the Valley of Shangta to see the departing Master pass the Rod of ECK Power to his successor, and to greet him.

Nearby gather ECK Initiates of every level who have a special need to be there. That could include you.

—Letter of Light,
October 2022

REBAZAR TARZS'S ROLE

Rebazar is usually seen with a staff. Does this symbolize something?

His staff symbolizes the Rod of ECK Power. He steps in as the central channel for the ECK should the MAHANTA, the Living ECK Master vacate his post before October 22.

At midnight on that date, the Order of VAIRAGI Adepts meet to greet the new Master, who may already be serving in the outer leadership role. He then receives the Rod of ECK Power.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
A Modern Prophet Answers Your Key Questions About Life, Book 3, p. 173



THE LIVING ECK MASTER CARES ABOUT YOUTH

Will the next Living ECK Master care as much about the children, youth, and young adults—the future of ECKANKAR—as you do?...

Please know that he'll care as much about the ECK children, youth, and young adults as I do.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
A Modern Prophet Answers Your Key Questions About Life, Book 2, pp. 252–53





WHAT THE MAHANTA KNOWS

Do you know everything?

As the MAHANTA, yes; as Harold, the Living ECK Master, no. There is simply far too much information for any human mind to hold everything. . . .

Yet I do know a lot about a lot of things, just not everything. Thank you for asking.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
A Modern Prophet Answers Your Key Questions About Life,
Book 3, p. 166



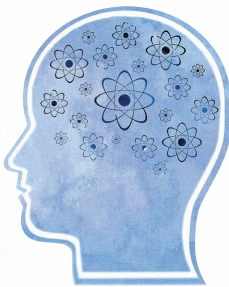
FEMALE ECK MASTERS

Why can't a female be the MAHANTA, the Living ECK Master?

. . . Women can and do become ECK Masters, as you know. The reason for this choice of a male for the position of the MAHANTA, the Living ECK Master is a spiritual one.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
A Modern Prophet Answers Your Key Questions About Life,
Book 2, p. 247

A candidate for the position of spiritual leader always chooses to incarnate into a male body. The male body has the required arrangement of atoms. There are spiritual mysteries about the atom destined to elude science for some time to come.



—Letter of Light, July 2025

SOUL HAS NO GENDER

Soul Itself has no gender; It is both masculine and feminine in the worlds of God.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
ECKlopedia: The ECKANKAR Lexicon, p. 218

HOW THE MAHANTA WORKS WITH YOU

If I ask for you as the MAHANTA to be with me, how do I know you are really there or if it is just me pretending you are there?

. . . Pay more attention to your dreams, your spiritual exercises, and the little "coincidences" that gently flow in and out of your life. Not just to the ones that turn out in your favor. But look also for the moments when a little thing seems to go wrong for you—yet teaches or reminds you of what is right or wrong.

Those little incidents will be examples of the MAHANTA's presence. There is also a spiritual principle that you are already doing: "Act as if." For example, if you want the MAHANTA in your life as a spiritual guide, act as if he is.

He is anyway, of course, but it will help you to stay aware of his presence. . . .

Keep your eyes and heart open. I am always with you.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
A Modern Prophet Answers Your Key Questions About Life,
Book 2, pp. 246–47



BUILDING YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MAHANTA

Would you like to have an inner experience with the MAHANTA, or build an even stronger relationship with him?

As a student of ECKANKAR, you can connect with the MAHANTA, the Living ECK Master anytime just by turning your attention to him. . . . You may feel a gentle nudge or hear his voice as the inner whispering of your heart.



Imagination is a good place to start your communication with the MAHANTA. Use your creativity to imagine the Inner Master walking and talking with you. Practice holding conversations with him, and one day you will suddenly realize that what began as imagination is now a very real experience. . . .

Getting to know the Inner Master is just like getting to know a new person at school. Be patient, and your awareness will grow.

—Sri Harold Klemp,
The Wonder Within You,
pp. 167–68

“Getting to know the INNER MASTER is just like getting to know A NEW PERSON at school.”