

ROLAND R. ROPERS



The mountain village Tavertet – Catalunya/Spain

*“You will never find rest until you  
discover your inner Montserrat!”*

(Johann Wolfgang von Goethe)

## *Our Original Source*

my personal tribute to

Raimon Panikkar

(Barcelona 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1918 – Tavertet 26<sup>th</sup> August 2010)

*Listen to the always omnipresent sound  
Which is from eternity around  
Anywhere you breathe, stay and walk.*

*Welcome to the dynamism of silence and do not talk.  
OM - our dwelling place and Original Source  
And fill your life with abundant love and positive force.  
Unveil the all-pervading fascinating beauty  
In all creation - that is your life-long task and duty!  
The wind, the spirit, blows beyond our will,  
You feel it close and deep, when you are still.  
The cosmic harmony and reality so near -  
My friend, approach your heavenly centre here,  
Which is as well the divine mansion.  
Let go your troubles, tears and tension.  
Return and enjoy your powerful balance  
Which keeps you healthy in the everlasting presence.  
Go far beyond all bondages and extremes,  
Find peace and rest in realizing your dreams.  
Unlock, set free your innermost centre,  
That GOD or any other you want to meet can enter,  
Will rediscover your empty castle as fullness,  
Experience Sunyata and Nirvana as Ananda, as bliss.  
All past is gone, all future tomorrow,  
Only life here and now is without burden and sorrow.  
All busy speculation should cease and disappear,  
The present moment is your paradise to revere.  
Neither reason, nor reflect or project.  
Let the blissful permanence you seize and affect.  
Walk and proceed with faith and no goal  
And you'll enjoy equanimity in your soul.  
The restless search comes to an end,  
When the awareness of only NOW is at hand.  
Awake and alert - only to be,*

*Nothing to escape or to flee,  
Returned and arrived at the original home -  
Thanks GOD, you were never alone.  
Atman, Ruach, Pneuma, Spirit -  
Breathe and breathe, and never set a limit.  
Remain inspired, creative and in balanced motion,  
Liberate yourself from all attachments and ritualized  
devotion,  
Touch and embrace the vastness of this universe,  
And always dance and sing, don't stop to love and to rehearse.  
Rejoice! The lightness of life, the donation of love  
Will lift and lead you beyond and above  
All walls, conflict and dualistic relation  
Into the realm of contemplation and action,  
Where the experience of Advaita is to be found,  
OM SHANTI OM - the most beautiful sound.  
Go with the rhythm of life and breath,  
And realize: there is no death!  
There is no after, nor even before -  
Try to grasp the present moment more and more.  
Countless words, transformed and renewed by your heart,  
That, dear Raimon, is your ingenious talent and unique art!*

Above contemplative poem was originally written by me during a full-moon night in Tavertet in March 1998. I spent very intensive days with **Raimon** and prepared a book for his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday which Jesuit Father **Michael Windey** (1921 – 2009), our son **Benedikt** (baptized by Raimon in March 1990) and myself celebrated with Raimon in Tavertet in November 1998 – 4 men, young and old/wise only.

Over dinner Benedikt – then 8 years young – raised the question:

**“Who or what is GOD?”**

Raimon answered: **“Endless Light in Fullness!”**

Father Windey said: "**Pure LOVE!**"

On **November 7<sup>th</sup> 1998** Fr. Windey, Benedikt and I went to the **Benedictine monastery of Montserrat**, the famous place where **St. Ignatius of Loyola** (the founder of the Jesuit order) changed his previous life and attained "**enlightment**". Raimon always had a great love for that magic place.

The funeral service for his earthly farewell was held in **Montserrat** on September 4, 2010.

The famous German poet and world-thinker **Johann Wolfgang von Goethe** said: "**You will never find rest until you discover your inner Montserrat!**"



Montserrat and Raimon Panikkar

17<sup>th</sup> December 1994

On **17<sup>th</sup> December 1994** (88<sup>th</sup> birthday of **Bede Griffiths**, 1906 – 1993) the UNESCO-Conference in Barcelona with the **XIV. Dalai Lama** ended in Montserrat. We three had a wonderful talk together and afterwards I drove with Raimon back to Tavertet. It was full-moon. An unforgettable scenery. Raimon shared with me his experience from **Mount Kailash** in October 1994, and I inspired him to write it down. For me one of the best things he had ever written.

On September 1<sup>st</sup> 1994 Raimon wrote from Tavertet, that the book "**UNIVERSAL WISDOM**" had arrived and that he will start his pilgrimage.

1-IX-94 E-08511 Tavertet  
Prov. Barcelona/Catalunya  
Vista desde la Casa Can Felo

Heute ist  
Universal Wisdom  
angekommen. Morgen  
fange ich meine  
Pilgerschaft zu Kailasa  
(Tibet) an.  
Ein Segen  
für meinen  
Götter!

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Viele Dank!  
Raimon

Nearly 8 weeks later he wrote on 26th October, one week before his 76th birthday, from INDIA:

**„Unpronouncable! I thought I would not return...“**



**„Einfach unaussprechbar! Ich dachte nicht zurückzukommen! Warum stecken die Menschen nur in der Geschichte? 21 Tage, 6.000m. 4.000km. Alles unmöglich. Und doch - am Leben. Kann kaum sagen - noch fühlen. Nur lieben, leben, strahlen. Raimon“**