

## From the teaching of Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche

Whenever clouds gather, the nature of the sky is not corrupted, and when they disperse, it is not ameliorated. The sky does not become less or more vast. It does not change. It is the same with the nature of mind; it is not spoiled by the arrival of mind; it is not spoiled by the arrival of thoughts; nor improved by their disappearance. The nature of mind is emptiness; its expression is clarity.

These two aspects of mind are essentially one's simple image designed to indicate the diverse modalities of the mind. It would be useless to attach oneself in turn to the notion of emptiness, and then to that of clarity, as if they were independent entities. The ultimate nature of mind is beyond all concepts, all definitions and all fragmentation.

"I could walk on the clouds!" says a child. But if he reached the clouds, he would find nowhere to place his foot. Likewise, if one does not examine thoughts, they present a solid appearance; but if we examine them, there is nothing there. That is what is called being at the same time empty and apparent. Emptiness of mind is not a nothingness, nor a state of torpor, for it possesses by its very nature a luminous quality of knowledge which is called Awareness.