

I AM

SHIAMAK DAVAR Choreographer

For me, spirituality is everything. It is the very purpose of our existence. I feel being spiritual is not about being ritualistic; it is about having faith in God and following His path through prayers, positive thoughts and doing good selflessly. It is also about believing in the after-life without asking for evidence it exists.

I totally believe in God. I think of Him as my best friend. Having said that, i am not a God-fearing person; i am a God-loving person. I reach out to Him through prayers and strive to spread His word. I feel prayer cleanses my aura. I don't believe in amulets or lucky charms.

People turn to God in times of adversity. I think it's unfair to do this when life hits a rough patch. God is with us all the time. So, i feel it is our duty to reach out to Him always — even in times of happiness and out of a sense of gratitude. My philosophy in life is that of selfless service. All my life i have been a seeker. As a result, i perceive things differently from most people. When i was young, i would gaze at the stars and felt i had friends up there — guardian angels who love and look after me.

*My family taught me to be respectful of all religions. In due course, i became a firm believer in Shirdi Sai Baba and told him about my deep yearning for a spiritual master. It was then that i came across this wonderful lady called Korshed Bhavnagri. The knowledge i gained about the afterlife through Korshed aunty and the book *The Laws of the Spirit World* was more like a recognition than discovery. It was something i already knew. To me, the afterlife is simply an extension of this life.*

My spiritual experiences have been incredible and miraculous. One night when i was being driven home after rehearsals, i was asleep in the car and somehow my driver also dozed off behind the wheel. Suddenly, i woke up and don't know how, but my hand just reached out for the steering wheel and turned it around. Had this not happened, we would have gone off the road, into a ditch perhaps. I know God saved us.

My current state of mind is active. I am focussing all my energies on making dance education available to the masses with the dance institute and my Victory Arts Foundation. And of course, there is the Dance Premier League. I want to make sure that it is the best and the biggest dance reality shows India has ever seen.

(As told to Insiya Amir)

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life/spirituality/mind-over-matter/I-AM-Shiamak-Davar/articleshow/5232790.cms>