SELF-KNOWLEDGE IS DIRECT KNOWLEDGE - Good morning my good friend, a couple of things I want to further share based on our skype conversation; There is no such thing as partial self-realization... Either the Self is realized as one’s own Self or one is still searching for it somewhere else. When you say that someone is not fully realized it only means that he/she has the indirect knowledge of the Self by experiencing IT, as a reflection on one's mind. A person who does much sadhana often mistakenly believes to be enlightened/realized because they experience great bliss, love, peace, movement of energies, epiphanies etc.

The ultimate experience for yogis is the total absence of objects of experience, also known as Nirvikalpa Samadhi. The problem with indirect Self-knowledge is that one becomes dependent on such experiences to feel content, unlimited and complete. When one is truly Self-realized he/she can say; I know/experience the Self "as the Self". This is direct knowledge! Only direct self-knowledge = Moksha/liberation, and provided it has canceled one’s dependence on objects of experience. The Self is not an object of experience; it cannot be objectified, and therefore can only be known/realized directly.

But since you are more inclined to the world of experience, we can also say that the Self can be “experienced directly”, and not merely mentally/theoretically as you said, but as an “EXPERIENCE OF IDENTITY”! Once you understand and assimilate the non-dual nature of reality, your sense of existence/identity shifts from the individual body-mind to the impersonal, unlimited, timeless, actionless, infinite and ordinary Consciousness we all are. The Self apparently realizes Itself thru the body-mind of the individual. It is like a joke!

**My friend;** … but I don’t care for experience; I care for having my instrument tuned in a way that I have my own truth revealed to me as myself…

Arlindo; The body-mind is the instrument and it is programed according to its own relative nature, one’s Vasanas which are constantly recycling themselves by the interaction with one’s environment. Yes, the subtle body needs to be tuned, or a better word is “purified” in order for the instrument, which is no other than the individual, to be able to recognize directly his true nature as the only Self there is. An instrument full of desires and aversions are in constant agitation and therefore unfit for contemplation and assimilation of Self-knowledge. Not that Self-knowledge is difficult… but it is extremely subtle and cannot be reached by the senses or the mind. That’s why only a very few in the spiritual world realize the self. Good luck.