

Six Qualities that Enhance Bhakti

7. Utsāha - Enthusiasm

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

→ act of SG → Qualification for K
Karma arises from lust, *→ X knowledge → J → Qualification for J*
jñāna arises from indifference, and bhakti
arises from faith in the Supreme Lord.

The person who has attained faith is naturally disgusted with material activities.

He accepts without attachment (only those activities) (that are favorable for increasing his faith in the Lord.)

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

Without the material body one cannot cultivate devotional service.

So there is no benefit if one renounces the activities that are needed to maintain the physical body, thinking them to be the source of misery and lust.

The fruits of those activities, which are the source of misery for others, are therefore enjoyed by the devotees, who condemn them as insignificant.

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

devotee → affection for P
→ controlling may succumb to material enjoyment.

They worship Kṛṣṇa with devotion and firm faith while enjoying the fruits of their work as they fulfill the necessities of life.

↓ 2 benefits of practicing bhakti
a) kleśāgni → destruction of suffering
b) śubhā → bestowal of auspiciousness

Those who enjoy the results of material activities with ardent affection are called attached. → kaṁi

↓ affection for material enjoyment.

↓ a) bestowal of laziness.

→ devotee

Those who neglect the results of karma, but accept only what is favorable to devotional service are called unattached.

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

does not mean they don't do it. → they do it with detachment.

Although they are unattached to material activity they work enthusiastically in devotional life.

The process of advancement for the practitioner of devotional service is stated in the Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam (11.20.29-30, 35) as follows:

Auspiciousness

- a) Vaiṣṭhikā → material → THINKING
- b) brāhmin → Ruci, āsakti → Liberty
- c) Aśiṣṭvan → bhāva prāna → bits of personal relationship with P
- a) Sad guṇāḍi Pradātva → bestowal of all good qualities.
- b) Jāgat Prīṇāvan → HE becomes very attractive to all living entities.
- a) Sarva jāgatān anukṛtā → HE develops great compassion towards all LIVES
- d) Sukha Pradātva → Bestowal of happiness.

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

Process of advancement for the seeker

proktena bhakti-yogena bhajato māsaḥ muneh
kāmā hrdayyā naśyanti sarve mayi hr̥di sthite

When an intelligent person (muneh) engages constantly in worshiping me (māsaḥ bhajatah) through bhakti (bhakti-yogena), as previously described by me (proktena), all material desires within the heart are destroyed (sarve kāmā hr̥dayyā naśyanti), since I am situated in the heart (mayi hr̥di sthite).

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

bhidyate hr̥daya-granthiḥ
chidyante sarva-saṁśayāḥ
kṣīyante cāsyā karmāṇi
mayi dr̥ṣṭe 'khilātmani

Ahaṅkāra is cut (bhidyate hr̥daya-granthih) and all doubts are destroyed (chidyante sarva-saṁśayāḥ). On seeing the Lord in the mind and with the eyes (mayi dr̥ṣṭe akhilātmani), all karmas are destroyed (kṣīyante ca asya karmāṇi).

↓
karma-vāśe

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

nairapekṣyam param prāhur
niḥśreyasam analpakam
tasmān nirāśiso bhaktir
nirapekṣasya me bhavet

It is said (**prāhur**) that the process which is without dependence on other processes or results (**nairapekṣyam**) is the best process (**param analpakam niḥśreyasam**). Therefore (**tasmān**) a person who does not desire any rewards (**nirāśiṣah**) and does not depend on other processes (**nirapekṣasya**) develops bhakti for me (**me bhaktir bhavet**).

निर्भय-कर्मि
अन्यथा

अन्यथा-कर्मि
अन्यथा

उत्साह भक्ति

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

The purport is this: It is useless trying independently to destroy ignorance and lust in the heart.

↓ generate enthusiastic endeavor for
anartha-hiṅśā for jñāna, vairāgya,
yoga etc → it not @ all needed.

But ignorance, lust, fruitive activities, all doubts, and material bondage are destroyed by the mercy of the Lord in the course of cultivating devotional service.

↳ S'. Enthusiasm should be there only for D.S

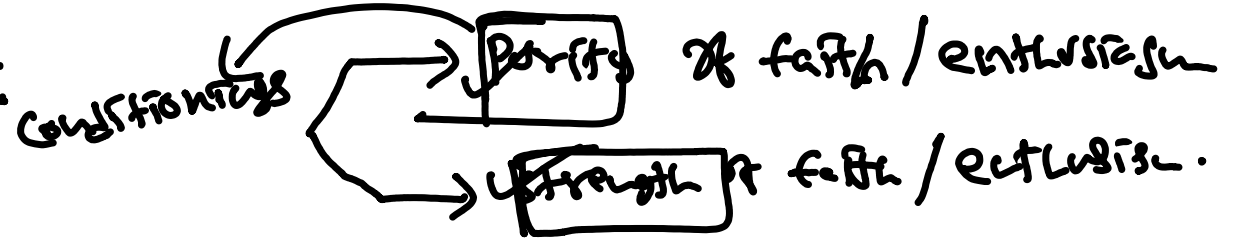
The endeavor of karmis and jñānīs does not yield such results.

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

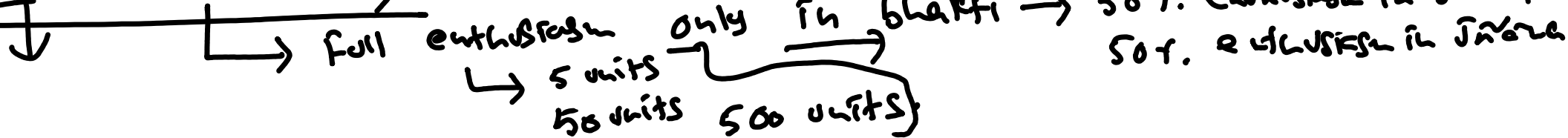
→ No enthusiasm for the goals of karma, jñāna & yoga → bhakti, mukti & siddhi

Therefore when one becomes (neutral) by giving up other desires and hopes, he attains pure devotional service to Kṛṣṇa.

We should not lose enthusiasm because we have no strength to destroy the reactions of karma.



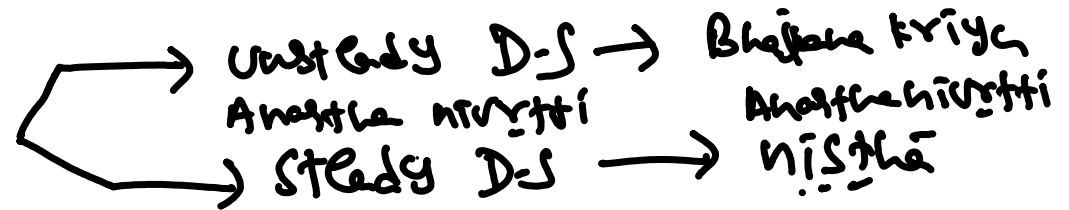
In the very beginning of devotional service the sādḥaka must have faith with (full enthusiasm)



Utsāha – Enthusiasm

→ विश्वनाथ चक्रवर्ती हेकरे.

One pure Vaiṣṇava ācārya has written that the process of bhajana-kriya, devotional practice, is of two types-niṣṭhitā, fixed, and aniṣṭhitā, flickering.



With faith, one should learn devotional service under the merciful direction of a sadhu; and when he attains the stage of firm faith, he engages in niṣṭhitā, fixed, devotional service.

Until he attains this fixed devotional service, his service remains flickering.

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

~~Overlapping Stages~~ → Stages

In this stage of devotional service there (are six symptoms): utsāha-mayī, false confidence; ghana-taralā, sporadic endeavor; vyūdhavikalpā, indecision; viṣaya-saṅgarā, struggle with the senses; niyamāksamā, inability to uphold vows; and taraṅga-ranginī, enjoying the facilities offered by bhakti.

↓ Mādhva's kaṇḍambinī →

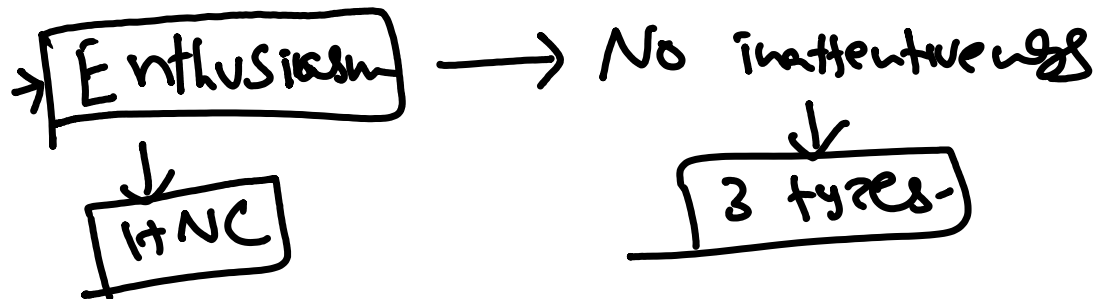
In Śrī Hari-bhakti-vilāsa carelessness is counted among the offenses against the holy name.

In that scripture the word pramāda is described as inattentiveness.

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

Śrī Hari-nāma-cintāmaṇi has further divided this inattentiveness in three ways.

Apathy, inactivity, and distraction are the three types of inattentiveness.



Until one gets free from these three types of inattentiveness, one cannot perform devotional service at all.

Utsāha – Enthusiasm

Even if one gives up all other nāmāparādhas, if he is still inattentive, he can never have attraction for the holy names.

If one has enthusiasm in the beginning of devotional service, and that enthusiasm does not become cold, then one will never become apathetic, lazy, or distracted in chanting the holy names.

Therefore enthusiasm is the only support for all types of devotional service.