

Part-III

The Ten Nama-Aparadhas

a) **Vaisnava Ninda**

The Third Shower of Nectar

- Sadhu ninda, or criticism of Vaishnavas, is the first of the ten offenses against the Holy Name.

- The word ninda means animosity or malice.

a) Affection
b) Sensitivity.

Part-III

The Ten Nama-Aparadhas

a) Vaisnava Ninda

Potency of a Sadhu

The Third Shower of Nectar

Potency of a Vaisnava

→ perfectes devotees

- "In the pure Vaisnava resides Kṛṣṇa's energies of bhakti, hlādinī and samvit.
- Thus by contacting a Vaisnava one can also receive Kṛṣṇa bhakti.
- For this reason also, the food remnants, the foot water and the foot dust from the pure Vaisnavas are three powerful articles for creating bhakti.

The Third Shower of Nectar

Potency of a Vaisnava

- If one stays near a pure Vaiṣṇava for some time, one can receive the bhakti energy flowing from his body.
- If one can bind that energy within one's heart, after having developed strong faith, bhakti will develop and one's body will begin to tremble in ecstasy.

The Third Shower of Nectar

Potency of a Vaisnava

- Thus, by living close to a Vaiṣṇava, soon devotion will appear in one's heart.
- First, such a person will begin chanting the holy name, and then, by the power of the name, he will receive all good qualities.
- This is the particular power of the uttama adhikārī

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The Ten Nama-Aparadhas

a) Vaisnava Ninda

Who is a Sadhu or Vaisnava?

The Third Shower of Nectar

Who is a Sadhu or Vaisnava?

- First let us define what sādhu or Vaiṣṇava is.
- In the Eleventh Canto of the Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, Kṛṣṇa enumerates to Uddhava the characteristics of a sādhu:

The Third Shower of Nectar

Who is a Sadhu or Vaisnava?

- dayālu—merciful,
- sahiṣṇu—tolerant,
- sama—equal,
- droha-sūnya-vrata—penance without injury to the body,
- satya-sāra—truthfulness,
- viśuddhātmā—purified,
- parahita-rata—engaged in the welfare of mankind,
- kāñe akṣubhita-buddhi—intelligence free from lust,
- danta—restrained,
- akiñcana—devoid of concept of ownership,
- mṛdu—gentle,
- śuci—clean,
- parimita-bhojī—regulated eating and other habits,

The Third Shower of Nectar

Who is a Sadhu or Vaisnava?

- śāntamān—peaceful,
- anīha—apathy to materialism,
- dhṛimān—patience,
- sthira—steadiness,
- apramatta—attentive, alert,
- sugambhira—very grave,
- vijita-ṣaḍguṇa—conquering over the six gunas, (hunger, thirst, lamentation, envy, old age and death),
- amānī—not expecting honor from others,
- mānada—giving respect to others,
- dakṣa—skillful,
- avāñcaka—nonhypocritical,
- jñānī—knowledgeable of the scriptures.

The Third Shower of Nectar

Who is a Sadhu or Vaisnava?

- By these characteristics one can know who is a sādhu.
- However, here there are two types of characteristics: principal and marginal.
- The principal characteristic is exclusive surrender to Kṛṣṇa, while all others are dependent upon it.

The Third Shower of Nectar

Who is a Śadhu or Vaisnava?

अनिर्वात सुखी

- By some good fortune one may get the association of Vaiṣṇavas, and then attain a taste for the name, chant the name and take shelter of Kṛṣṇa's lotus feet.



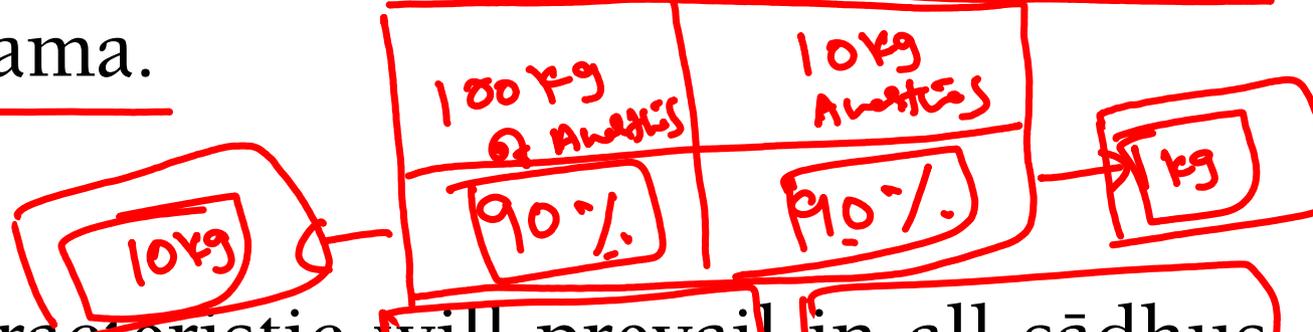
- This becomes the chief characteristic, and by continuing to chant the name, all the other characteristics make their appearance.

- Therefore they are called marginal or accompanying.

The Third Shower of Nectar

Who is a Sadhu or Vaisnava?

- The chief characteristic of a sādhu is his complete surrender to Kṛṣṇa, which is not dependent on a certain varṇa or āśrama.



- "This principal characteristic will prevail in all sādhus, no matter what varṇa or āśrama, gr̥hastha or sannyāsī.

- However, according to āśrama or varṇa, the secondary characteristics will differ to some degree.

Theme IV – Kapila establishes the supremacy of Bhakti over the other two paths (3.25.19-27)

Text 21

titikṣavaḥ kāruṇikāḥ
suhṛdaḥ sarva-dehinām
ajāta-śatravaḥ śāntāḥ
sādhavaḥ sādhu-bhūṣaṇāḥ

Such devotees are tolerant (titikṣavaḥ), merciful (kāruṇikāḥ), friendly to all beings (suhṛdaḥ sarva-dehinām), without enemies (ajāta-śatravaḥ), gentle (śāntāḥ), straightforward (sādhavaḥ) and respectful to other devotees (sādhu-bhūṣaṇāḥ).

Verse Summary: How to identify such a devotee? - Secondary characteristics of such a devotee – titiksava, karunika etc

Theme IV – Kapila establishes the supremacy of Bhakti over the other two paths (3.25.19-27)

Text 22

mayy ananyena bhāvena
bhaktim kurvanti ye dr̥dhām
mat-kr̥te tyakta-karmānas
tyakta-svajana-bāndhavāḥ

NO WORSHIP OF DEVS
KARMA / JĀNEVA / MĪSĀ.

They perform (kurvanti ye) steady bhakti to me (mayi dr̥dhām bhaktim) with exclusive devotion (ananyena bhāvena), giving up all actions to attain me (mat-kr̥te tyakta-karmāṇah), giving up friends and relatives (tyakta-svajana-bāndhavāḥ).

Verse Summary: How to identify such a devotee? - Primary characteristics of such a devotee – Ananya and drdha bhakti

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The Ten Nama-Aparadhas

a) Vaisnava Ninda

Don't Criticize a Sadhu based on
his secondary Qualities – Bhakti
will purify him

The Third Shower of Nectar

Don't Criticize a Sadhu based on his secondary Qualities – Bhakti will purify him

- "A Vaiṣṇava may be criticized on four counts:
 1. His caste by birth
 2. Previous sins or faults in this life
 3. An unpremeditated accidental act of sin
 4. Present traces of previous sinful activity.
- Though all these conditions may be present in a Vaiṣṇava, they are insubstantial grounds for criticism of a Vaiṣṇava.

The Third Shower of Nectar

Don't Criticize a Sadhu based on his secondary Qualities – Bhakti will purify him

- One who so blasphemes a Vaisnava will be punished by Yamarāja.
- Because the Vaiṣṇava is spreading the glories of the Lord's name, the Lord does not tolerate such criticism of a Vaiṣṇava.
- Giving up dharma, yoga, sacrifice and jñāna for the name of Kṛṣṇa, the Vaiṣṇava is the topmost person.

The Third Shower of Nectar

Don't Criticize a Sadhu based on his secondary
Qualities – Bhakti will purify him

- And even if there appears some bad element or fault in a person, if he has the chief characteristic, surrender to Kṛṣṇa, he must be considered a sādhu, and to be respected and served by all.
- This is Kṛṣṇa's statement in Bhagavad-gītā.

The Third Shower of Nectar

Don't Criticize a Sadhu based on his secondary Qualities – Bhakti will purify him

- "When one has developed a taste for chanting the pure name, it is said that chanting just one time will destroy the influence of all past sins.
- Some remnants of those sins may still remain, but they will completely vanish by the influence of the holy name.
- Since these traces of sin will quickly go, that person is known as the most righteous person.

The Third Shower of Nectar

Don't Criticize a Sadhu based on his secondary Qualities – Bhakti will purify him

- Of course, if the materialist sees those traces of sin in a Vaiṣṇava sādhu, he may consider that the sādhu is just like a materialistic sinner.
- If he should criticize the sādhu because the sādhu has a trace of sin coming from previous sinful activity, he is committing sādhu-nindā.