

Śrī Manah-śikṣā

Splendid Instructions to the
Mind

by Śrī Raghunātha dāsa Gosvāmī

Verse-6

Commentary

by

Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

Verse-6

are cetaḥ prodyat-kapaṭa-kuṭi-nāṭi-bhara-khara-
kṣaran-mūtre snātvā dahasi katham ātmānam api mām
sadā tvam gāndharvā-giridhari-pada-prema-vilasat-
sudhāmbhodhau snātvā svam api nitarām mām ca sukhaya

O ruffian mind (**are cetaḥ**)! Why do you burn (**katham dahasi**) yourself and me [the soul] (**ātmānam api mām**) by bathing in the trickling urine (**ksaran-mūtre snātvā**) of the great donkey (**bhara-khara**) of full-blown hypocrisy and duplicity (**prodyat-kapaṭa-kuṭi-nāṭi**)? Instead, you should always bathe (**sadā tvam nitarām snātvā**) in the nectarean ocean (**sudhā ambhodhau**) of love emanating from the lotus feet of Śrī Śrī Gāndharvikā-Giridhārī (**gāndharvā-giridhari-pada-prema-vilasat**), thereby delighting (**sukhaya**) yourself and me (**tvam api mām ca**).

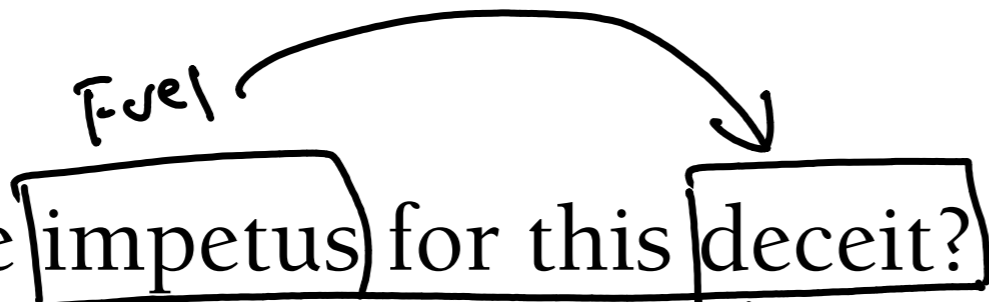
The Lord and His Internal Energy

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

The contamination of deceit and hypocrisy can lodge in the heart of the aspiring devotee.

Raghunātha Dāsa Gosvāmī says to stop this hypocrisy, this deceit, this cheating.

What is the impetus for this deceit?



The diagram consists of two rectangular boxes. The first box on the left contains the word 'impetus' and is underlined. Above it, the word 'Fuel' is written in a handwritten style. A curved arrow points from 'Fuel' down to the 'impetus' box. The second box on the right contains the word 'deceit' and is also underlined. A curved arrow points from the 'deceit' box down to the text 'The material energy'.

The material energy.

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

We may think, “I may not be able to come to the real standard, but I am getting some nourishment) from what’s within reach.

↳ intoxication → malnourishment.

I may not have purified my heart and developed love for Kṛṣṇa, but I can be a sharp Vaiṣṇava dresser and play spiffy mṛdaṅga beats and sing like a professional, and then all the perks come in.

Women are looking at me, and people are giving me money.

And if I am coming from India to America, the green card is within reach.”

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

One hardly needs a greater impetus for cheating than that.

The green card is like the next best thing to an entry ticket to Indraloka.

But if we tell the mind to give up deceit, the mind will say, “Then what am I supposed to do? I have to be active. You’re torturing me; you’re going to make me stop everything.”

You don’t want me to bathe in donkey urine, but I have to bathe somewhere.”

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

So Raghunātha Dāsa Gosvāmī describes the real business of the mind.

He says, gāndharvā-giridhara-pada-prema-vilasat sudhāmbhodhau snātvā, “bathing in the ocean of love emanating from the lotus feet of Śrī Śrī Gāndharvikā-Giridhārī”

Śrīla Bhaktivinoda Thākura says, “Gāndharvā refers to Śrīmatī Rādhikā, who is the internal energy of the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

Giridhārī refers to Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, who possesses all unlimited inconceivable potencies, and is thus known as śaktimān-puruṣa.

Here one is advised to bathe in the viśuddha-cid-vilāsa, the ocean of nectar of transcendental spiritual transformation.

This nectar arises from love of the shelter of Gandarva-Giridhārī's lotus feet.”

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

Here śakti and śaktimān indicate energy and the possessor of energy.

Parāsyā śaktir vividhaiva śrūyate.

The Absolute Truth is possessed of energies, vividhaiva—so many different kinds of energies.

Kṛṣṇa has three principal energies—the material energy, the marginal energy and the spiritual energy.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

Without energy, you have impersonalism.

Without energy there is no meaning to “Personality of Godhead;”
you just have a homogeneous substance.

But the śāstras say otherwise.

The Absolute Truth has so many different kinds of energies.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

viṣṇu-śakti parā proktā
kṣetrajnākhyā tathā parā
avidyā-karma-saṁjnānyā
tṛtīyā śaktir iṣyate

There are three kinds of energies—material, spiritual, and marginal.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

eka-deśa-sthitasyaagner
jyotsnā vistāriṇī yathā
parasya brahmaṇaḥ śaktis
tathedaṁ akhilaṁ jagat

Say you have a fireplace. If there were a fire in that fireplace, then heat and light would spread throughout the room. Although the fire is in one place, the energy is distributed . The heat of the fire wouldn't just be in the fireplace.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

There must be heat. There must be light.

Otherwise, what is the meaning of fire? Can it be cold?

No, there must be heat and light. Then it's called fire.

Just as “sun” means there must be sunshine, and “sunshine” means there must be sun, “Kṛṣṇa” means Kṛṣṇa with his energies.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

Without energies there's no meaning of Kṛṣṇa, and without Kṛṣṇa how can the energy exist?

So now we're hearing of the svarūpa-śakti (the internal energy).

That energy is Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī, the pleasure potency of the Personality of Godhead.

And Śrī Kṛṣṇa is śaktimān, the person to whom the energy belongs.

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

Together, they are described as Gāndharvā-Giridhārī, Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa yugala.

Together they are the complete Absolute Truth.

Their activities are viśuddha citta vilāsa; citta vilāsa (spiritual activities) and viśuddha (completely pure).

Not only śuddha but viśuddha (absolutely pure). So this energy is exactly the opposite of the energies of the material world.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

In the material world everything is motivated, contaminated, and unconstitutional because those who are meant to give enjoyment to Kṛṣṇa are trying to enjoy independently, as if they were Kṛṣṇa.

They're trying to do that through the medium of the material energy, which they are trying to exploit while at the same time getting entangled.

Manah-ṣaṣṭhānīndriyāṇi, prakṛti-sthāni karṣati (Bhagavad-gītā 15.7).

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

The soul struggles with the mind and senses—the physical body, and the mental, subtle body.

Prakṛti-sthāni karṣati—struggling and trying to enjoy.

But the loving dealings of Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa are manifestations of purity.

They have nothing to do with the contaminated business of this material world.

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

Therefore Srīla Raghunātha Dāsa Gosvāmī advises us (or advises his mind) to turn away from hypocrisy, from deceit, from the false project for enjoyment in the material world, and turn toward the service of the Absolute Truth: Kṛṣṇa with his spiritual internal energy.

That's the plea to the mind, the direction to the mind, the instruction to the mind.

Srīla Bhaktivinoda, in his commentary, says that Srī Rūpa Gosvāmī himself prays in Srī Prārthanā-paddhatiḥ of his Stava-mālā:

Verse-6 Bhajana Darpana

What is taking both in Ocean of vector

śuddha-gāṅgeya-gaurāṅgīm
kuraṅgī-laṅgimekṣaṇām
jita-koṭīndu-bimbāsyām
ambudāmbara-saṁvṛtām

- ① Studying & hearing their gurbles
- ② Expressing our fallen state
- ③ offering prayers

O Śrī Rādhā, I offer obeisance to you (**implied**). You have a complexion of pure golden hue (**śuddha-gāṅgeya-gaurāṅgīm**), possess of a pair of doe-like restless eyes (**kuraṅgī-laṅgim ikṣaṇām**), have a face that conquers the beauty of millions of full moons (**jita-koṭī indu-bimbāsyām**), and dress in dark cloud-like garments (**ambuda ambara-saṁvṛtām**).

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

Rūpa Gosvāmī gave up all material wealth and opulences (tyaktvā tūrṇam aśeṣa-maṇḍala-pati-śreṇīm sadā tucchavat) and took up the life of a beggar (bhūtvā dīna-gaṇeśakau karuṇayā kaupīna-kānthāśritau).

Yet here he is describing the beautiful qualities of a woman—beautiful limbs, beautiful eyes. That means he's not talking about a woman of this material world.

The Gosvāmīs had had everything. Raghunātha Dāsa Gosvāmī's wife, for example, was a young, aristocratic, beautiful girl, comparable to the goddess of fortune, but he gave her up.

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

The Gosvāmīs had no business going to Vṛndāvana and then discussing the features of a beautiful young girl.

But Rūpa Gosvāmī glorifies Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī, because her entire existence is a manifestation of Kṛṣṇa's spiritual energy.

As Kṛṣṇa is glorious, so his svarūpa-śakti is glorious and their pastimes are glorious.

The Gosvāmīs are teaching us this.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

This material world is the reflection of that reality, a perverted reflection.

The mind is attracted to that reflection. Why should you be so captivated by the reflection of reality?

Here is the actual reality, but not for enjoyment: for service.

Not “This is mine, this is mine.” The energy is Kṛṣṇa’s energy.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

When Hanumān went to Laṅkā, he saw beautiful women lying in the palace, half-drunk, vulnerable, but he wasn't attracted.

He thought, "I have come here not to enjoy but to serve."

And the most beautiful of all the women was Śrīmatī Sītā-devī.

Hanumān's concern was not to enjoy but to see Sītā restored to the side of Lord Rāmacandra.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

That's an example of pure consciousness.

In pure consciousness the devotee has no interest in enjoying; he is interested in serving.

Avoid Imitation

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

Rūpa Gosvāmī prays, “[O Śrīmatī Radhika] I, a distressed soul belonging to you, beg you with sweet words while rolling on the banks of the Yamunā!”

These are signs of advanced devotional service.

Raghunātha Dāsa Gosvāmī was situated on that platform of pure Kṛṣṇa consciousness, and his pleas to the Lord and his energies originate out of pure desire to be engaged in the service of the Lord.
The sahajiyās imitate these things.

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

They cry, they roll on the ground, they express their deep longings for Kṛṣṇa—and then they go smoke or go looking for their mistress, because it's all so-called prasādam.

It's that deceit and hypocrisy that Raghunātha Dāsa Gosvāmī condemns in the first part of the verse.

They want to be known as advanced devotees.

They want to get prestige and fame, so they superficially imitate Raghunātha Dāsa Gosvāmī and Haridāsa Thākura.

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

There's a story that Gaurakiśora Dāsa Bābājī was chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa in a secluded place and some imitator thought, "I will get prestige by also chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa in this sacred place."

So he set up a shop, so to speak.

He got himself a little bhajana-kuṭīr, not so far away, and he was chanting.

But Śrīla Gaurakiśora Bābājī Mahārāja commented that you can't have a child just by going to the maternity room and making noise.

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

The sahajiyās want to be seen as great devotees, but they don't want to follow the path of devotional service.


The path of devotional service is to be followed step by step (kramenaiva).

But sahajiyās want to jump from where they are to where they want to be without doing the work, without taking the steps in between.

Therefore they don't have foundation or substance.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami



Śrīla B.R. Śrīdhara Mahārāja commented one time that if you skip some step, the part you skipped will remain hollow. 

In India, buildings sometimes crumble because the cheapskate building contractors don't build according to code.

To save a rupee, they use less sand and cement, fewer steel rods—whatever they can skimp on.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

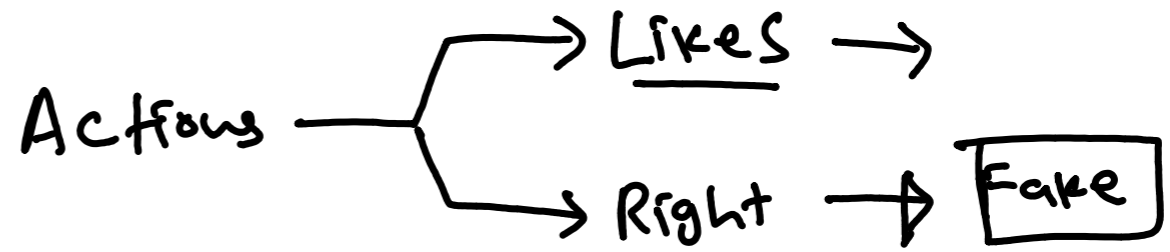
The building looks really good, and they book it all out, but then one day it crashes.

So if we don't follow the step-by-step process, that's what will happen.

One can look really good, but there is some hollow portion, and under pressure everything will come crashing down.

Sāttvika bhāvas

- ① Material impetus — material emotion
→ crying while watching a movie.
- ② Spiritual impetus → reminding one of material udāhāra (straw man)
- ③ Raty ābhāsa → when a materialist comes in touch with a pure devotee.
- ④ Genuine bhāva.
- ⑤ Sādhake crying.



Real Humility

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

Bhaktivinoda quotes Rūpa Gosvāmī's verse:

kṛtāgaske 'py ayogye 'pi
jane 'smin kumatāv api
dāsya-dāna-pradānasya
lavam apy upapādaya

Although I am unfit (ayogye 'pi), an offender (kṛtāgaske 'py) with a crooked mind (kumatāv api), please bestow on me (upapādaya) a fragment (lavam apy) of the gift of service to you (dāsya-dāna-pradānasya).

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

Śrīla Sanātana Gosvāmī comments that this mood is the necessary qualification for Kṛṣṇa consciousness: extreme humility.

The Gosvāmīs weren't just "being humble."

It wasn't just that they knew that they were supposed to be humble so they said things like "I am the lowest. I am the most fallen."

As Prabhupāda said, "You're not the most anything!"

Verse-6 Commentary by Srīla Jayadvaita Swami

Kavirāja Gosvāmī wrote, “I am lower than the worm in the stool.”

Prabhupāda says it’s not just that he is writing poetry—he genuinely feels that.

The Gosvāmīs genuinely feel that they are unqualified when they write this way.

It’s not just adherence to some traditional formula: “You are supposed to say something humble.” They genuinely felt that way.

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

Sanātana Gosvāmī avoided the main path to the Jagannātha temple and took the long way around the beach, walking over the hot sand, because he thought he might otherwise come in touch with pūjārīs and contaminate them.

Who can imagine the level of Kṛṣṇa consciousness the Gosvāmīs were speaking and acting from?

He writes, “I am an offender. I am unqualified. I have crooked intelligence.”

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

When he looks at himself he sees these things, but we see a pure devotee.

We see a devotee of the highest caliber, but the devotee of the highest caliber doesn't think, "I am a paramahaṁsa; I have attained perfection."

Bhaktivinoda also quotes this verse of Rūpa Gosvāmī: "This unhappy soul is not fit to be neglected by you, for you have a butter-soft heart that melts constantly by the warmth of your compassion."

Verse-6 Commentary by Śrīla Jayadvaita Swami

Narottama Dāsa Ṭhākura also says, patita-pāvana-hetu tava avatāra,
mo-sama patita prabhu nā pāibe āra: “I have some qualification that
I am fallen and you are the dīna-bandhu. You are patita-pāvana. So
what about me? What about me?”