

Manah siksha verse 6

Commentary by Srila Bhakti Vijnana Goswami Maharaja

are cetaḥ prodyat-kapaṭa-kuṭināṭī-bhara-kharakṣaran-mūtre snātvā dahasi katham
ātmānam api mām sadā tvaṁ gāndharvā-giridhara-pada-prema-vilasat
sudhāmbhodhau snātvā svam api nitarāṁ mām ca sukhaya

Are: "Hey, you fool!"
(a crude way of
address)

Bhara khara : great
ass (and not just an
ass)

Kapata: Deception
Kutinati: Hypocrisy

"Mind, whom are you cheating? You yourself feel the fire of remorse for having bathed in that filth. I am burning, you are burning, and we both are burning. Why are you doing this?"

Instead of bathing in the urine of a big ass, we need to bathe in the ocean of nectar. That shining nectar is prema for the lotus feet of the divine couple.

"If you always bathe in that nectar, then both you and I will be happy."

Deception and Cheating

Ignorance in our heart takes the form of deception, kaitava. Ignorance is here defined as vānchā, desire, for dharma, artha, kāma, and mokṣa.

ajnāna-tamera nāma kaḥiye 'kaitava'
dharma-artha-kāma-mokṣa-vānchā ādi saba

WHY

All these life goals, in one way or another, put us in the center.

When we forget our true nature, focusing on the body and the interests related to the body, this focus is called cheating.

SVCT explains that the living beings are eternal servants of God. So their main duty is to serve.

Cheating:

1. Desire for dharma
2. Desire to be pious
3. Desire for moksha
4. Desire for artha, wealth
5. Kama, lust

worst is desire for moksha

Those who say, "I want to serve Kṛṣṇa," but instead keep on serving themselves are cheating.

Under the cover of serving Kṛṣṇa, we serve our own interests, petty desires, ambitions.

cheating is exact opposite of love

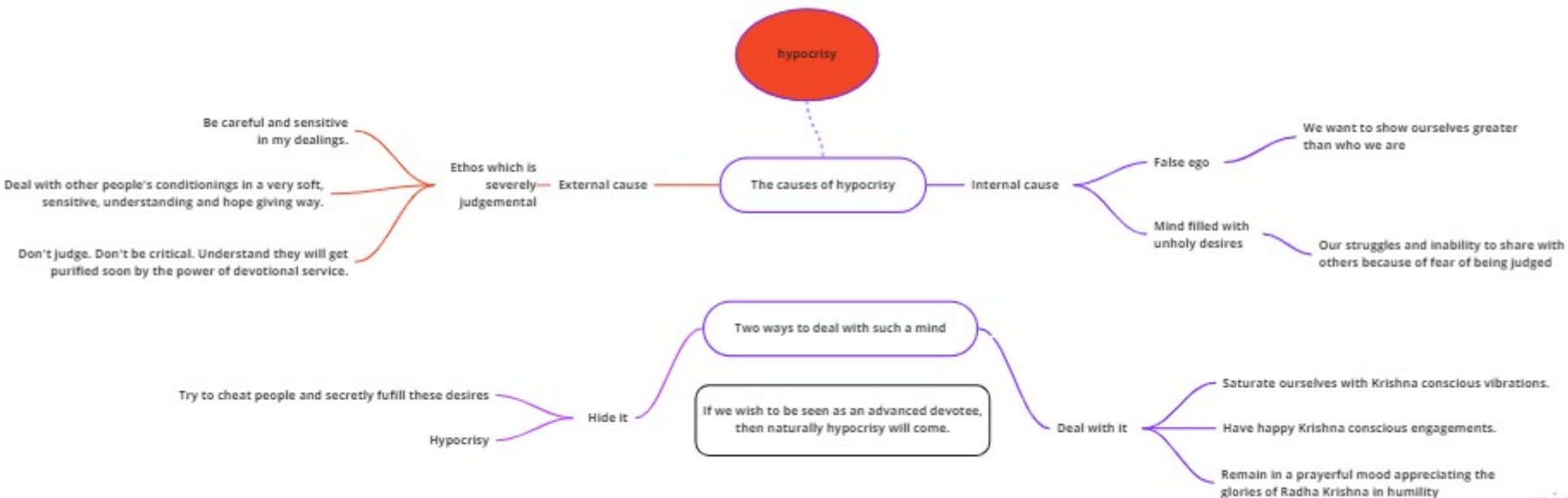
Since KC greatest path, the definition of cheating is very strict.

Dharmic enjoyment is allowed for SKY but it is cheating from the point of view of NKY. Because it cheats the person of their goal of moksha. And from the point of bhakti, the desire for moksha is cheating because it distracts us from pleasing Krishna.

The focus of our life should be to please Krishna. In trying to please Krishna, one will automatically become dharmic or pious. But that should not be our focus!

In SB canto 8, Bali Mahārāja quotes Mother Earth saying, "I can bear all kinds of sinners, but I cannot bear someone who is cheating."

Cheating: Anything that distracts us from the mood of being the servant of Krishna



Pretense

Pretending to be something that we are not

Pride manifests as lack of humility, lack of tolerance and inability to offer respects to others.

pride makes us pretend.

We try to always impress others and get appreciation from them.

In doing so, we are constantly thinking about ourselves and become so self-absorbed that we are unable to think of Krishna.

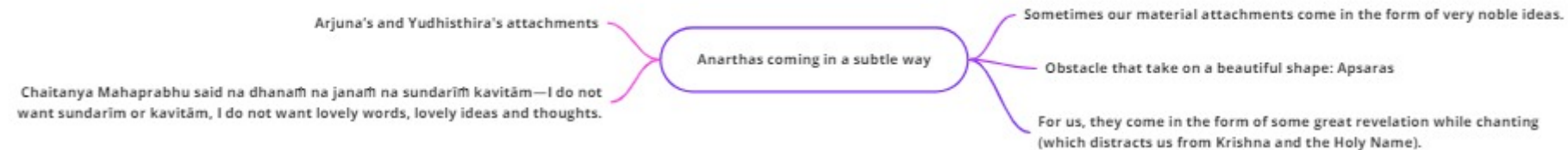
That's why, we are unable to recognize Krishna who comes to us in many ways (through the words of our spiritual master, in the heart of every living being etc).

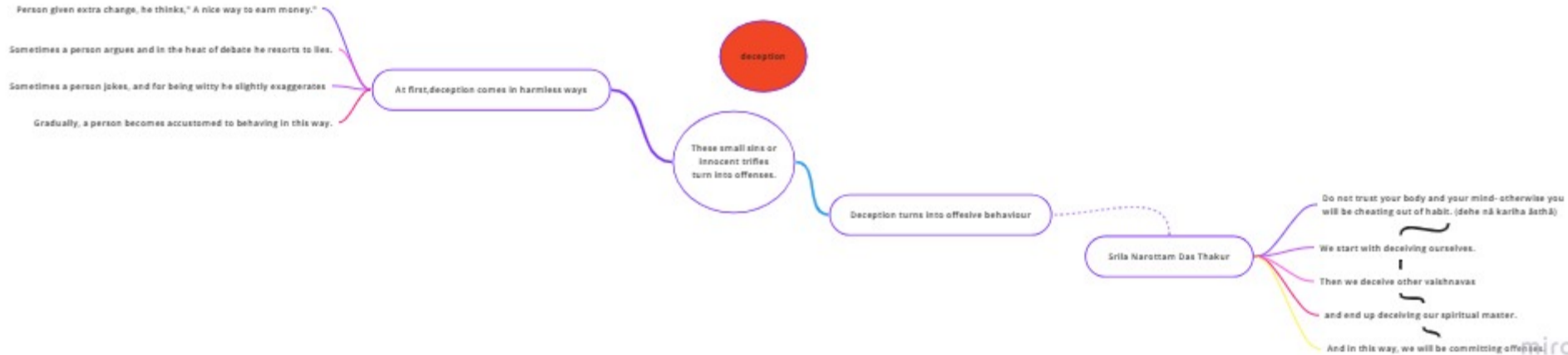
We want to be recognized. We want to be respected. We want to be glorified. We want to be the centre of everyone's discussion.

The desire for recognition

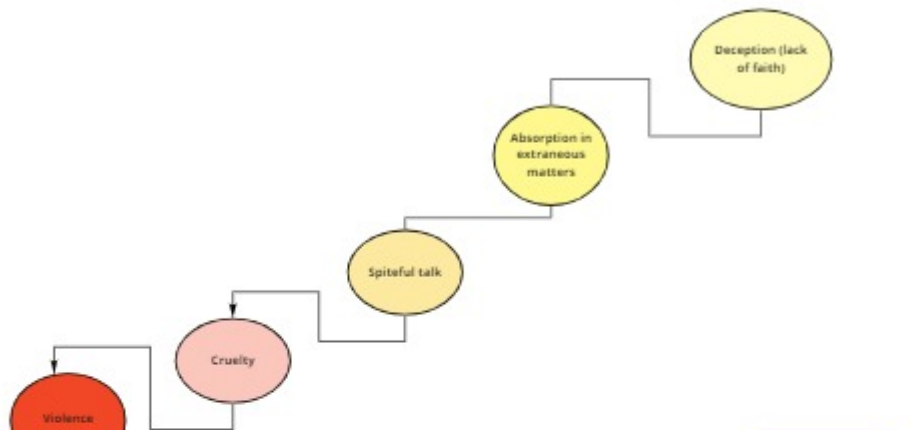
The desire for recognition and honor is a most dangerous anartha because we begin seeking satisfaction of this anartha in the society of devotees.

desire for recognition : most subtle desire for sex









people appear to be serving Kṛṣṇa while doing they do not respect the Vaiṣṇavas, then they are committing an offense and Kṛṣṇa will not accept their so called service.

Śrīla Jīva Gosvāmī

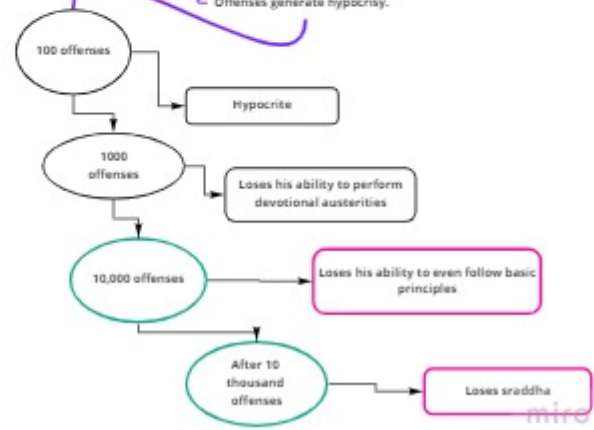
Story: Duryodhana and Krishna

The relationship between Offense and cheating

Cycle of offenses and deceit

Hypocrisy generates offenses.

Offenses generate hypocrisy.



In order to give up deceit we must give up offenses.

If Bhakti is powerful why it wont work for some

Offenses obstruct purification

Holy Name is capable of immediately purifying us. But because of our offenses and because of bathing in the urine of an ass, we are becoming dirtier.

Our heart becomes hard instead of becoming soft!

By bathing in the nectar of prema of Radha and Krishna, our heart will instead get purified and all the best qualities will emerge in us.

Result of careless execution of Devotional service :
weeds get reinforced more strongly.

Simplicity and Determination

4 essential qualities needed for a devotee

- 1. Simplicity or Frankness.
- 2. Being focused on the purpose.
- 3. Determination or having one goal
- 4. Not depending on the opinion of others.

Litmus test for gauging our sincerity to attain Krishna

Respect towards Krishna's tediya (things, places, persons, objects etc)
If we can not respect tediya of Krishna, we don't have a sincere desire to please Krishna.

Above all, we must respect devotees and never talk ill of them.

Simplicity

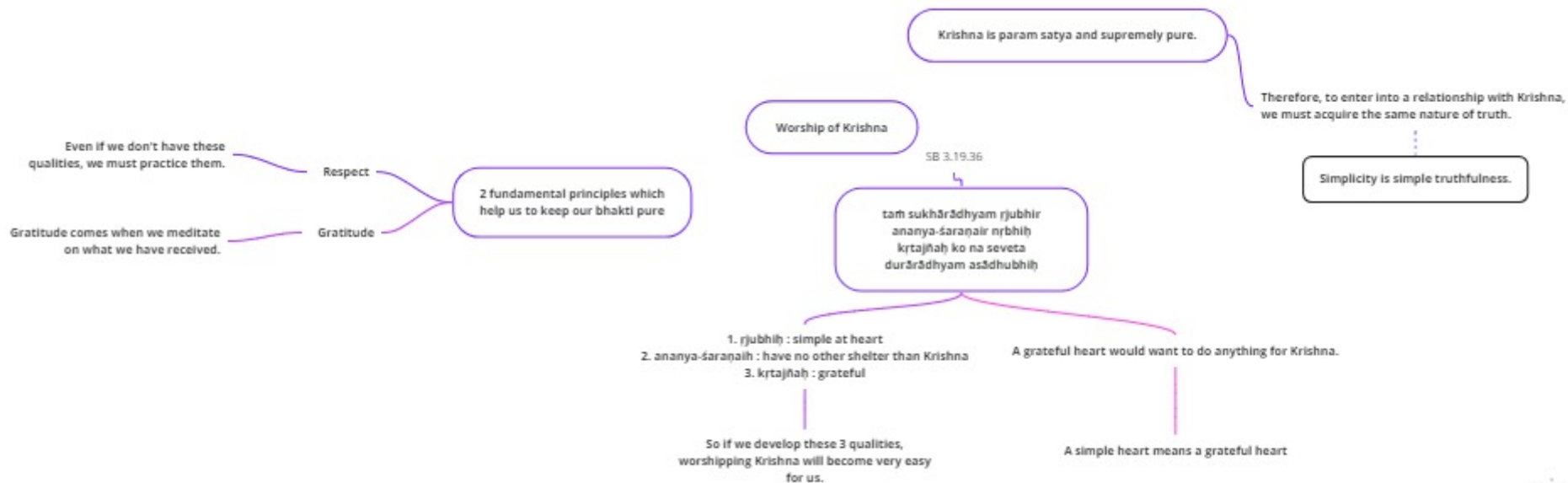
- 1. Protect us against offenses.
- 2. Help us preserve pure simple faith.

One who thinks, speaks, and does the same thing is called mahātmanām.

The main quality of a devotee is frankness, simplicity, and absence of hypocrisy.

Determination

Help us overcome all obstacles in devotional service.



Beginning of the mistake

Bhakti is a goal in itself and not a means to achieve something else

But when we start using bhakti to get something for ourselves, we deceive Krishna and we commit offense.

Ex: Parasitic species on a tree

anarthas that grow along with bhakti :
"upāsaka" (secondary branch)

upāsaka

If we project the material tendencies onto the sphere of bhakti then they grow stronger and completely destroy our bhakti

How we commit offenses?

- Natural programming of mind : I am superior over others
- In spiritual life, we try to prove our superiority over Vaiṣṇavas, and in due course, over our guru and eventually over Kṛṣṇa.
- A person seems to be outwardly worshiping the Vaiṣṇavas, the spiritual master, the sādhus, and Kṛṣṇa, while inside disrespect for them is appearing
- Instead of seeing the essential quality of a vaiṣnava, such a person starts looking for material qualities in them so they can feel superior.

How the Woods of Decadence Grow

1. Kutinati --- fault finding

2. Pratistha asha -- desire for fama/recognition

3. Jiva himsa -- violence towards other jivas

4. nisiddha achara -- Prohibited behaviour

As a devotee we get an understanding of what is right and what is wrong. This sometimes can push them to become judgmental and start finding faults with everyone.

This leads to a super judgmental society and pushes people towards hypocrisy.

this tendency is polished to perfection, because as devotees we can better understand our own psychology

Devotional maturity : Do the right thing in a sensitive way so that it leaves the right impact.

Having an anartha is not an obstacle for practicing bhakti. Krishna himself considers a person sadhu if he is convinced of worshiping only Krishna irrespective of his asadhu habits.

A person overcomes his bad habits by long practice of bhakti.

But because of his offenses, he loses the ability and again engages in those bad habits.

Examples:

- 1) One of Srila Prabhupada's disciple again started taking LSD and also justified it saying that LSD was dust specks from the lotus feet of Srimati Radharani.
- 2) One ashrama where the faults of other vaishnavas were discussed regularly. They used to drink vodka and go on sankirtan.

Kutinati

pratistha-asha (The desire to be recognized)

- someone imitating Srila Haridasa Thakura
- To expect praise for my efforts or my talent if I made a dress for deity
- Expecting appreciation of our expertise in dressing the deities
- we preach to be admired for the number of followers that we have
- telling others about our extra endeavours in ekadashi fasting
- expecting appreciation of the lectures we gave

Jiva himsa / Cruelty/

Aghasura (devoured the cowherd boys)

Violence to devotees -

1. Exploiting devotees in the name of selfless service
2. Publicly condemning other vaishnavas and publishing articles demeaning them
3. Pointing out anarthas.
4. Non-cooperation.
5. Spreading false rumours.
6. Authoritarian management.
7. back-biting
8. Deriving pleasure when others are put down
9. Shouting in public
10. Character assassination
11. insulting in front of others
12. insensitive to others' struggles
13. Neglect devotees
14. controlling and micro managing
15. Physical assault
16. Gossip mongering
17. Taking sides
18. Criticism
19. Withholding appreciation
20. Not helping them

Nisiddha achara (a person loses the ability to follow pure behaviour)

All this starts from FAULT FINDING- when we focus on faults in others. So we must be careful with kutinati and avoid fault finding.

Srila Jiva Goswami's Analysis explaining consequences of aparadha

Kautilya - hypocrisy

asraddha - faithlessness

Focus on things that destroy our faith in Krishna

Things which can destroy our faith in Krishna:

1. Other non-devotional pramanas
2. Mayavada
3. Asat sanga
4. Seeing devotees falling down

Bhakti saithilyam - bhakti becomes weak

Pride for achievements in bhakti

Competing mood with vaishnavas (rather than cooperating)

Respect for oneself

Materialistic heart

Bhaktivinoda Thākura explains why a person does not get spiritually attached and instead the uncontrolled senses lead to hell

we have a certain subtle concept or ego which we have not given up, even having taken up the path of bhakti

only solution
surrender with complete
humility