

## Manah Siksha verse 7

pratiṣṭhāśā dhṛṣṭā śvapaca-ramaṇī me hṛdi naṭet  
kathaṁ sādhu-premā spṛśati śucir etan nanu manaḥ  
sadā tvaṁ sevasva prabhu-dayita-sāmantam atulaṁ  
yathā tāṁ niṣkāśya tvaritam iha taṁ veśayati saḥ

As long as the unchaste (dhṛṣṭā), dog-eating woman (śvapaca-ramaṇī) of desire for prestige (pratiṣṭhāśā) dances in my heart (me hṛdi naṭet), how can (kathaṁ) the chaste and pure (śucih) lady of love for Kṛṣṇa (sādhu-premā) touch it (spṛśati etad)? Therefore, O mind (nanu manaḥ), you should always serve (sadā tvaṁ sevasva) the incomparable (atulaṁ), beloved devotee commander of Kṛṣṇa's army (prabhu-dayita-sāmantam), who will immediately (yathā saḥ tvaritam) throw out the unchaste woman (tāṁ niṣkāśya) and establish the pure lady of love (taṁ veśayati) in the heart(iha).

## Pratistha-asha, Desire for prestige

Pratistha-asha is the subtlest layer of anartha.

### Desire for prestige :

people should recognize me, should appreciate me, should give me respect, should understand how advanced I am, etc (pooja, labha, pratistha)

The desire for prestige has been compared to an unchaste dog eating woman.

One may have overcome the gross and the subtle anarthas.

But the problem is that he thinks that , " People should give me the respect that I deserve. I have actually become advanced and overcome all the gross and subtle anarthas. Why are people not recognizing me?"

Actually he is expecting to get what he deserves. He is rightfully expecting. He is not like the hypocrite who is trying to hide his anarthas from others.

**hypocrisy:** expecting the respect which one does not deserve  
**pratistha-asha:** expecting the respect which one deserves

He is right in the sense that we should give him the respect he deserves.

But he is wrong in wanting that respect.  
In wanting that respect, he is closing the doors to Krishna Prema.

## Problem with pratistha-asha

As long as this unchaste dog eating woman is dancing in my heart, how is it possible for chaste and pure sadhu prema to dance in my heart?

### Sadhu prema:

prema for Krishna that sadhu has in his heart  
prema that the sadhu ( an exalted devotee) has for me  
how much love I potentially have for the sadhu

## Solution

My dear mind, you should always serve the incomparable beloved devotee commander of Krishna's army.  
( Serving very exalted devotees)

That exalted devotee will drive away this dog eating woman and will establish sadhu-prema within one's heart.

As soon as we give up the desire for prestige, the door of Krishna prema opens.

**Bhajana Darpana  
Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura**

Why is it that deceit still lingers in the heart despite one's having given up all material sense enjoyment?

This verse has been composed in order to answer this question.

**Ślokārtha: Meaning of the Verse**

**1.Dhṛṣṭā śvapaca-ramaṇī pratiṣṭhāśā**  
The desire for prestige is an unchaste, dog-eating woman

**pratiṣṭhāśā**

desire or hope for honour

Nourishes and generates the other forms of deceit

Unless one gives up this, it is not possible to give up kapata,kutinati etc in the long run.

**Dhṛṣṭā (Shameless/unchaste)**

This desire for honor is the root of all other anarthas, but since it is never able to recognize its own fault, it is shameless.

**śvapaca-ramaṇī**

Fame is like dog-flesh.

One who is eager for such fame : dog eating woman

## Desire for pratistha demonstrated by three sadhakas

1. Svaniṣṭha-sādhaka (householder with no obligation to set example for others, does not perform varnashrama duties)

wants to become renowned as religious, benevolent, and sinless

2. Pariniṣṭha-sādhaka (householder who sets examples for others by performing varnashrama duties)

hopes to be known as a devotee of Viṣṇu, as a knower of spiritual subject matters, and as detached

3. Nirapekṣa-sādhaka (babaji/ presenting oneself at the level of bhava or prema)

wants to be known as spotless and renounced,  
as a master of the conclusions of śāstra,  
and as having a perfect understanding of devotion

2. śucir-sādhū-prema  
Pure love of God

Prema (Sri Rupa Goswami)

When bhāva becomes extremely condensed, it is called prema by the learned. It softens the heart completely and produces extreme possessiveness of the Lord in the experiencer.

**Only when the desire for pratiṣṭhā is cast away, one's heart becomes softened.**

**3.prabhu-dayita-atula-sāmanta**  
**Powerful incomparable commanders of Śrī Kṛṣṇa**

**Prabhu-dayita:** a perfected devotee of Krishna  
**atula:** special, incomparable  
**sāmanta:** commander of an army

If we dedicate our life to serving a perfected devotee of the Lord, then we can overcome pratistha-asha.  
When we are engaged in serving a much more exalted devotee, how can we expect prestige for ourselves!

The rays of the Lord's internal pleasure potency are always reflected in the heart of such a pure devotee.

This potency can very easily flow and accumulate in the heart of another individual, which will cast away any misgivings and help pure love to grow there.

This flow of spiritual potency can happen through:

1. embrace
2. dust from their lotus feet
3. maha-prasad
4. instructions

**Lord Shiva to Parvati:**

**Of all kinds of worship , worship of Lord Viṣṇu is the best . Recommended more than worship of Viṣṇu is worship of the Vaiṣṇava.**

**-Padma Purana**

**By service to the devotees, intense rasa of bhava-bhakti to the Lord appears. (SB 3.7.19)**

