

Śrī Caitanya-Śikṣāmṛta

Nectarean Teachings of Lord Śrī  
Caitanya

by

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Thākura

# Chapter – 1

## Part – 6

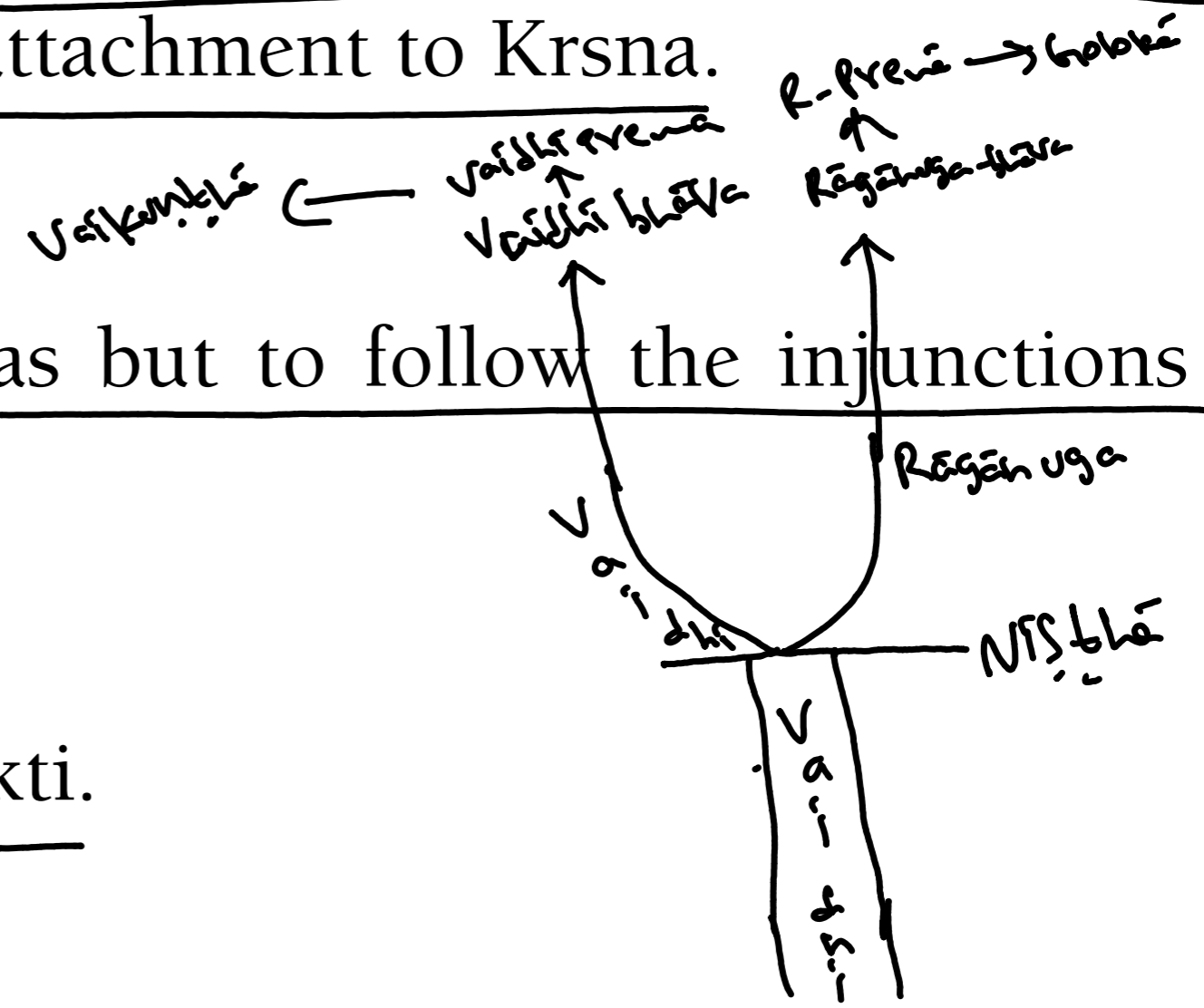
### Sadhana Bhakti

When bound jivas have great attachment for everything except Krsna, they have little room for attachment to Krsna.

There is no option for such jivas but to follow the injunctions of scripture.

This process is called vaidhi bhakti.

Performing activities from the perspective of what is forbidden and prescribed, taking the scriptural authority as absolute, is the first step on the path of good fortune.

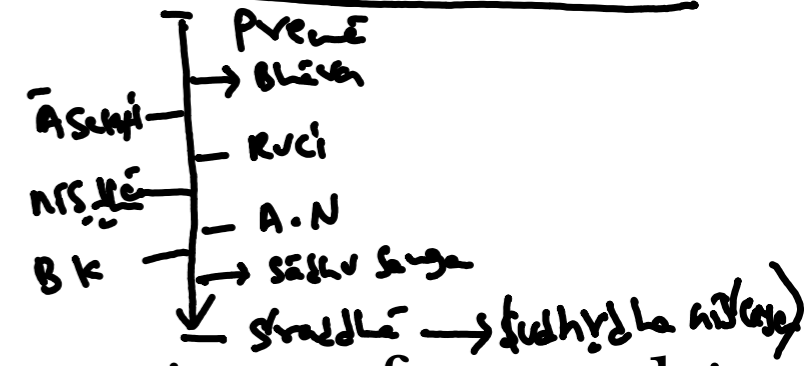


At this stage the stimulus for performing devotional service is the faith of the devotee in the words of scripture.

↓  
bhakti śāstra viśvāsamaya śraddhā  
↓  
komāla → madhyama

As this faith turns from tender (komāla), to firm (madhyama) and finally deep (uttama) faith, it is able to bring about the desired result.

↓  
uttama



When faith becomes deep (uttama), by the practice of worship (bhajana) in association of the devotees, it then transforms into steadiness, taste, attachment and finally bhava.

↑  
nisṭhā → Ruci → Eśāktī → Bhāva

Smartyach, Satatah, VISNOY

The rules also undergo a remarkable transformation. The practitioners then understand that Krsna alone is the object of remembrance, and that He should never be forgotten.

They understand that all rules--positive or negative-- follow from the principle of always remembering and never forgetting the Lord.

smartavyah satatam visnur  
vismartavyo na jaticit  
sarve vidhi nisedhah syur  
etayor eva kinkarah

One should always remember Viṣṇu (smartavyaḥ satatam viṣṇuḥ) and never forget Him (vismartavyo na jātucit). All injunctions and prohibitions (sarva-vidhi-niṣedhāḥ) are dependent on these two principles (etayor eva kiṅkarāḥ syuh).

Niyama-graha

Thus, at this stage, the devotees reject fanatical adherence to both injunctions and prohibitions, and, according to their qualification, give up some of the injunctions, and begin to practice some of the (previous) prohibitions.

॥ 11.20.26 ॥

sve sve 'dhikāre yā nisthā  
sa guṇaḥ parikīrtitaḥ  
karmaṇām jāty-aśuddhānām  
anena niyamaḥ kṛtaḥ  
guṇa-doṣa-vidhānena  
saṅgānām tyājanecchayā

When the jñānī or devotee remains situated according to his qualification (sve sve adhikāre yā niṣṭhā) it is praised as a good quality (sa guṇaḥ parikīrtitaḥ). With a desire to give up material enjoyment (saṅgānām tyājana icchayā), there should be restriction on karma for the practitioners of karma (anena niyamaḥ kṛtaḥ) who are innately impure (karmaṇām jāty-aśuddhānām), by following the rules and avoiding the prohibitions (guṇa-doṣa-vidhānena).



- Mahaprabhu has given a description of activities of sadhana bhakti in the Caitanya Caritamrta, which may be summarized as follows:

# Door to Devotional Service – The first 20 Angas (The Do's)

1. guru-pādāśraya – Taking shelter of a guru
2. kṛṣṇa-dīkṣādi-śikṣaṇam – Taking Dikṣa and acquiring  
knowledge from him
3. viśrambheṇa guroḥ sevā – Service to guru with respect

# Door to Devotional Service – The first 20 Angas

## (The Do's)

4. **sādhu-vartma anuvartanam** – Following the rules of the scriptures as approved by the acaryas
5. **sad-dharma-prcchā** – Inquiry about the real duties of life
6. **bhogādi-tyāgaḥ kṛṣṇasya hetave** – Renunciation of enjoyment to gain Kṛṣṇa's mercy

# Door to Devotional Service – The first 20 Angas (The Do's)

7. nivāso dvārakā ādau vā gaṅgāder api sannidhau – Residing in Dvārakā or other holy places, or near the Gaṅgā
8. vyāvahāreṣu sarveṣu yāvad-arthānuvartitā – Accepting only what is necessary in dealing with the body

# Door to Devotional Service – The first 20 Angas (The Do's)

9. hari-vāsara-sammāno – Observing the Ekādaśī vrata

10. dhātry-aśvatthādi-gauravam – giving respect to the āmalakī,  
aśvattha and other items