

According to the Gītā, performance of action for the welfare of others is 'Yajña'; to remain cheerful everytime is 'Tapa' and to offer the thing to a person with the conviction that 'it belongs to him', is 'dāna'. The performance of sacrifice; penance and charity with a selfish motive is the demoniac or devilish nature.



यत्तु प्रत्युपकारार्थं फलमुद्दिश्य वा पुनः ।
दीयते च परिक्लिष्टं तद्दानं राजसं स्मृतम् ॥ २१ ॥

yattu pratyupakārārtham phalamuddiśya vā punaḥ
diyate ca parikliṣṭam taddānam rājasam smṛtam

A gift, which is made with the hope of a return or in expectation of a reward, or in a grudging spirit is said to be, rājasika (passionate). 21

Comment:—

'Yattu pratyupakārārtham'—A rājasika gift, is made with the hope of return. Rājasika people, think that if they make a gift to the family priest, of their relatives, the relatives will also give gifts to the former's family priest. Thus, their family priest will get money. Similarly they want to offer a gift to the priest, who is an astrologer, so that he may tell them the lucky moment of the marriage of their sons and daughters, and also of their journey, and business etc. Moreover, they want to make the gift to a priest, who is a physician, so that he may give them valuable medicines. Thus the gift, which is made to expect a return, is called 'Pratyupakārārtha'.

'Phalamuddiśya vā punaḥ'—This gift, is made with a view, that it will bring some unseen reward or heavenly pleasure. Rājasika people, make a gift at places of pilgrimage, (the Ganges, the Yamunā, Kurukṣetra etc., and on sacred occasions, such as the last day of a dark fortnight (Amāvāsyā), the full moon (Purnimā) and eclipses etc., and to deserving learned

priests, who have studied the Vedas. But, because of the desire for reward, it has been called rājasika. So Lord Kṛṣṇa, has not mentioned, that it should be made, at a proper place and time and to a worthy person.

Here, the term 'punah' (then or again), has been used to denote, that such a person first thinks of the man, to whom he is indebted or from whom he expects a reward, and then he makes a gift.

'Dīyate ca parikliṣṭam'—A rājasika gift, is made in a grudging and helpless mood, under compulsion or force. Whatever they give, is given, in a miserly manner, by being grieved, at heart. They believe, that by giving more, the habits of a donee will get spoiled, while they could suffer loss. So, it will be difficult for them, to run their lives smoothly. Thus they make petty gifts, in a higgling way.

'Taddānam rājasam smṛtam'—Such a gift, is said to be rājasika (passionate).



अदेशकाले यद्दानमपात्रेभ्यश्च दीयते ।

असत्कृतमवज्ञातं तत्तामसमुदाहृतम् ॥ २२ ॥

adeśakāle yaddānamapātrebhyaśca dīyate
asatkṛtamavajñātaṁ tattāmasamudāhṛtam

A gift, which is made at a wrong place and time, to an unworthy person, without respect or with contempt, is held to be, tāmasika (of the mode of ignorance). 22

Comment:—

'Asatkṛtamavajñātam'—A tāmasika gift, is made without respect, in a disdainful spirit. When a priest, comes to receive the gift, to the house of tāmasika people, they treat him with contempt and say that he did not come to their house, when his presence was required. Another member of the family says, that