

to suffer, the worst torture.\*

**Appendix**—In fact the men of demoniac nature have already been condemned to hells because they have been given over to desire and anger and they are burning in the fire of the feeling of shortages. Consequently they are doomed to dreadful hells.

Attainment of the higher worlds or condemnation to hells depends on a man's thoughts rather than on his actions and objects. Thoughts have special value. Actions are reflections of the thoughts. Therefore the Lord has described the thoughts cherished by men possessed of demoniac nature.



*Link:—After describing, the evil fate of the people of demoniac nature, the Lord, in the next four verses describes, the evil feelings born of evil conduct, and disastrous consequences, of those evil feelings.*

आत्मसम्भाविताः स्तब्धा धनमानमदान्विताः ।

यजन्ते नामयज्ञैस्ते दम्भेनाविधिपूर्वकम् ॥ १७ ॥

ātmasambhāvītāḥ stabdhā dhanamānamadānvitāḥ  
yajante nāmayajñāiste dambhenāvidhipūrvakam

Self-conceited, stubborn, filled with the pride and intoxication of wealth, such devils perform sacrifices (yajña) only in name, with ostentation, disregarding, scriptural ordinances. 17

*Comment:—*

'Ātmasambhāvītāḥ'—They are puffed up with unbounded pride, of their wealth, honour, praise, name and fame etc. They have a very high opinion, of their caste, social order, intellect, learning, rank and position etc. Regarding themselves as superior to others, they consider themselves worthy of their adoration.

\* In the hells a being attains the body which has to suffer tortures. If that body is broken into pieces or boiled in oil or burnt in fire, it does not die so long as the being does not reap the fruit of his evil actions.

'Stabdhā'—They are too arrogant, to behave politely even with saints and an incarnation of God and to bow to these. If under unavoidable circumstances, they have to bow to their superiors, they bow to them haughtily.

'Dhanamānamadānvitāḥ'—They remain intoxicated with, the wine of wealth and pride. They are proud of their acquaintance, with people who hold high ranks and positions. They rely on riches and on their status. They think, that they have such resources, that they can acquire anything they desire, and they can destroy anyone, as they have an approach, with high officials and ministers.

'Yajante nāmayaājñāiste dambhena'—They perform ostentatious sacrifices, in order to, win honour, name and fame. They feed people of the priestly class, with meagre food, and show that they have fed them with rich and delicious dishes.

They perform sacrifices, and offer charity, without paying attention to scriptural ordinances, only to influence people. They decorate temples and conduct special religious celebrations, for pomp and show, and self advertisement, when some distinguished dignitaries visit a temple. This sort of worship, in temples is actually, not for adoration but for gaining name and fame, or for pleasing officers, for their own self-interest.

The operators of cowpens feed the healthy cows properly, but underfeed the crippled, disabled and dry cows. Moreover, they misuse funds, for their selfish motive. They make a lot of collections, but spend only little, to run religious institutions and use such funds for their own family expenses.

Even strivers, observe hypocrisy. They engage themselves in meditation, adoration and telling the beads of a rosary etc., when they see anyone coming, otherwise, they remain engaged in playing cards and worldly gossips etc. All this hypocrisy, is to win honour, name, praise and money.

When there is ostentation, even in strivers, what can be said,

about ostentation of people possessing demoniac nature?

'Avidhipūrvakam'—They act against scriptural ordinances. They perform sacrifices, without reverence and faith. Similarly, they offer charity to the, undeserving. They view, all things in a perverted way (Gītā 18/32).

**Appendix**—The people, endowed with the demoniac nature, are jealous of others and they perform sacrifices in order to show that they are in no way inferior to others, rather they are superior to them. They perform sacrifices in order to win name and fame, they don't believe in its reward. If anyone else performs a sacrifice, they think that he also does it in order to win name and fame. Having no faith in God and in the other world, they disregard scriptural ordinances. Only those people who believe in God and in the next world and also believe that a particular action will bring a particular result, care for the scriptural ordinance.

All the activities of the demoniac natured people are ostentatious. But they take the pride within, that their sacrifice will be far better than that of others. Being proud of their learning they consider themselves as learned and wise and regard others as foolish and ignorant. In fact they live in a fool's paradise.



अहङ्कारं बलं दर्पं कामं क्रोधं च संश्रिताः ।

मामात्मपरदेहेषु प्रद्विषन्तोऽभ्यसूयकाः ॥ १८ ॥

ahaṅkāraṁ balaṁ darpaṁ kāmaṁ krodhaṁ ca saṁśritāḥ  
māmātmaparadeheṣu pradviṣanto'bhyasūyakāḥ

Overwhelmed by egoism, brute force, arrogance, lust and anger, these detractors despise Me, Who is seated in their own bodies, and in the bodies of others. 18

*Comment:—*

'Ahaṅkāraṁ balaṁ darpaṁ kāmaṁ krodhaṁ ca saṁśritāḥ'—