

defects in those he is fond of. Detached love is what is wanted. Man is not fond of a poisonous snake, but he fears it. Fear is born of ignorance; it deprives man of manliness; it is worse than death. Fearlessness is the message of the Upanishads. The *Jnani* fears nothing including death. Practice of fearlessness is imperative for not only the seeker of wisdom, but also for all who want to thrive in life. Bhima the brother immediately elder to Arjuna is one not at all attached to the Kauravas and in no way afraid of them; but he was bitterly angry with them. Anger unbecomes an ethically and spiritually evolving one. It robs one of discrimination. The mind that is free from attachment, fear and anger evolves in excellence. The *Brahma-jnani* is necessarily established in these virtues.

Muni is he whose mind delights in the Self as steadily and uninterruptedly as the unbroken flow of oil poured from its container.

The man given to envy, anger and timidity never grows in spiritual stature.

— Sri Ramakrishna

How does the man of wisdom contact the external world? The answer comes :—

यः सर्वत्रानभिस्नेहस्तत्तत्प्राप्य शुभाशुभम् ।

नाभिनन्दति न द्वेष्टि तस्य प्रज्ञा प्रतिष्ठिता ॥ ५७

यः सर्वत्र अन्-अभि-स्नेहः तत् तत् प्र-आप्य शुभ-अशुभम् ।

न अभि-नन्दति न द्वेष्टि तस्य प्रज्ञा प्रति-स्थिता ॥

*yaḥ sarvatrā 'nabhisnehas tat-tat prāpya subhāsubham ।
nā 'bhinandati na dveṣṭi tasya prajñā pratiṣṭhitā ॥*