

न *na* not अन्यम् *anyam* others गुणेभ्यः *guṇebhyaḥ* than the Gunas कर्तारम् *kartāram* agent यदा *yadā* when द्रष्टा *draṣṭā* the seer अनुपश्यति *anupasyati* beholds गुणेभ्यः *guṇebhyaḥ* than the qualities च *ca* and परम् *param* higher वेत्ति *vetti* knows मद्भावम् *mad bhāvam* my being सः *saḥ* he अधिगच्छति *adhigacchati* attains to

When the seer perceives no agent other than the Gunas, and knows Him who is higher than the Gunas, he enters into My Being. 19

The Prakriti is the agent for all karmas. The Gunas being none other than the Prakriti, they are equated with it. The Gunas are therefore held as agents for all the activities, no matter where they take place. The senses and the objects of the senses are all nothing but the modifications of the Gunas. To outgrow the inferior Gunas and ascend to the superior Gunas is the plan and purpose of the mundane life. Is the goal of life reached when one gets at the pure *Sattva*? Gaining the pure *Sattva* is the climax of the earthly life; but even that state has to be transcended. *Nirguna Brahman* is beyond the three Gunas. Getting into that Absolute State is the goal of life. There is neither karma nor agency in that State. It is the Highest Goal to be attained, though It cannot be defined in words.

What are the indications of Iswara revealing Himself in the heart of the devotee? The dawn is the harbinger of the sunrise. Similarly, selflessness, absence of agency, purity and such like divine qualities precede the spiritual vision of Iswara.

— Sri Ramakrishna

What is the benefit that befalls the one that transcends the Gunas? The blessing is portrayed:—