

. परित्राणाय *paritrāṇāya* for the protection साधूनाम् *sādhūnām* of the good विनाशाय *vināśāya* for the destruction च *ca* and दुष्कृताम् *duṣkṛtām* of the wicked धर्मसंस्थापनार्थाय *dharma samsthāpanārthāya* for the firm establishment of righteousness संभवामि *sambhavāmi* I am born युगे युगे *yuge-yuge* in every age

For the protection of the good, for the destruction of the wicked and for the establishment of dharma I am born age after age. 8

Purgation is an unfailing process of Nature. The cleansing takes place at all levels in various ways. In the agricultural field it goes on as weeding and manuring. When the wicked become more in number in the world dharma would not thrive in their midst. War, pestilence, famine and such like forces inevitably come in both to strike a balance of the population and to set aright the perverts.

Among the three Gunas the predominance of *Rajas* and *Tamas* aggravates *adharma* which threatens to topple down the social fabric. The function of the Incarnation is to induce *Sattva*, the chief and foremost of the three Gunas into society. And along with it dharma begins to thrive. A balance of power among the three Gunas is necessary for social order to work on right lines.

A viceroy is deputed by the monarch to quell lawlessness and disorder in a distant dominion. Similarly an Incarnation is the man of authority sent by Iswara into society. He comes to put in order all lapses and deviations in the practice of dharma.