

7. Know thou "RAJAS" (to be) of the nature of passion, the source of thirst and attachment; it binds fast, O Kaunteya, the embodied one, by attachment to action.

A seeker, who is striving to conquer his own mind must know all its subtle inclinations by which, again and again, his thoughts run amuck only to return and increasingly sabotage his inner personality.

KNOW "RAJAS" TO BE THE NATURE OF PASSION --- Where there is an onslaught of *Rajoguna*--Influences in the bosom, man's mind is wrecked with a hundred painful passions. Passions are the main symptoms of the working of *Rajoguna* in the psychological field. Passion expresses itself in a million different urges, desires, emotions, and feelings. Yet, all of them can fall only under two distinct categories: desires and attachments. Thus, in the Geeta, Lord Krishna mentions these two as the very sources from which all passions arise.

GIVES RISE TO THIRST AND ATTACHMENT --- The term used in Sanskrit for 'desire' is 'thirst'. When an individual is thirsty, nothing, for the time being, is of as much importance as water, which alone can satisfy his thirst. Just as a thirsty man would struggle and suffer, wanting nothing but water to relieve his pangs, so too, a human personality thirsts for the satisfaction of every desire that burns him down. Once the desire is fulfilled, a sense of attachment comes like a vicious passion to smother down all the peace and joy of the mind. DESIRE