

There are marks to indicate that a man has reached perfection and that he no more needs to be born again. Such a man is ever contented in the Self. The body is hanging on him like a shadow. The activities of that body take place meticulously in spite of his having withdrawn the mind from it. While actively in the world, he is not of the world.

The immediate future birth of a man attached to karma may also be inferred now and here. Death and rebirth are like sleep and reawakening. The man who goes to sleep gets up in the same body and the man who dies wakes up in another body. A bad man going to sleep wakes up a bad man and so is the case with a good man too. There are people who wallow in hell even here on earth. There are the others who behave like brutes. Yet others walk the earth as celestials and they make a heaven of this world. Still others exhibit all human traits only. All these varying characteristics go along with them when they relinquish the existing bodies and choose to build new bodies. Their rebirths are according to their traits. The sequence is maintained.

The fruit of action is his who thinks of himself as the author of karma. Happiness and misery come to him as a result of this thought. But is man in reality the originator of karma? The exposition comes:—

The Components of Karma — 13-16

पञ्चैतानि महाबाहो कारणानि निबोध मे ।

सांख्ये कृतान्ते प्रोक्तानि सिद्धये सर्वकर्मणाम् ॥ १३