

Commendable acts are those which are conducive to the general welfare of man. They are designated as *dharma*. Prohibited acts are those which deprave man and ruin his career. They are condemned as *adharma*. The good always conform to *dharma*. Animals are not altogether ignorant of *dharma* and *adharma*. Instinctively they understand what to do and what to refrain from. But men of the Asura type are devoid of discrimination in this respect. Impure thoughts alone sprout in their minds. Their physical habits and doings are anything but clean. Utterances coming out from them are distorted, diabolical and devoid of truth. Pollution of the entire personality is what is found in them.

If the demoniac be asked as to why they behave malignantly, the justification they make betrays their disposition.

असत्यमप्रतिष्ठं ते जगदाहुरनीश्वरम् ।

अपरस्परसंभूतं किमन्यत्कामहेतुकम् ॥ ८

अ-सत्यम् अ-प्रति-स्थम् ते जगत् आहु अन्-ईश्वरम् ।

अ-परस्पर-सम्-भूतम् किम् अन्यत् काम-हेतुकम् ॥

*asatyam apratiṣṭham te jagad āhur anīśvaram ।*

*aparasparasambhūtam kim anyat kāmahaitukam ॥ ८*

असत्यम् *asatyam* without truth अप्रतिष्ठम् *apratīṣṭham* without moral basis ते *te* they जगत् *jagat* the world आहुः *āhuḥ* say अनीश्वरम् *anīśvaram* without a God अपरस्परसंभूतम् *aparaspara sambhūtam* brought about by mutual union किम् *kim* what अन्यत् *anyat* else कामहेतुकम् *kāmahaitukam* with lust for its cause