

*38. Among punishers I am the 'Sceptre' ; among those who seek victory, I am 'Statesmanship' ; and also among secrets, I am 'Silence' ; and I am the 'Knowledge' among knowers.*

OF THE CHASTISERS, I AM THE SCEPTRE --- The ruler and the ruled must both prevail in the State, if they desire progressively to push ahead the standard of living in the various communities. The law-giver must see that he governs by enforcing the laws. In the function of the government, the governor will, of necessity, become the punisher of the unsocial members of the community, who are tempted, in their selfishness, to disobey the existing laws in the community. The ruled, in their loyalty and reverence to the existing laws, generally succumb to the punishments meted out to them by their rulers. But, in fact, who is that who really gives the powers, to the King or the President, to punish the misbehaving individuals? After all, in modern states, individuals have no right to take the law into their own hands.

The King wields the sceptre, which is the symbol of his power to punish. To the President in a democratic institution, the sanction to punish is given by the public will of the people. In the policeman at the street-corner, the power to arrest is attached to his uniform. A King devoid of his sceptre, a President who has been thrown out, or a dismissed policeman --- none of them has any longer the power to chastise the wicked. Naturally, therefore, "OF ALL THOSE WHO PUNISH," the Lord says, "I AM THE SCEPTRE." Without the symbol of the