

dehydrated. Every crystal has its own water of crystallisation, which, when removed, causes the crystals to lose their distinct shapes and forms and get pulverised into a fine powder. These are days when vegetables and food materials are dehydrated for purposes of preservation. This is possible because these substances contain moisture-molecules within them. The Supreme Consciousness contains nothing other than Itself and therefore, annihilation through the process of dehydration is not possible.

Apart from this direct word-meaning, on the whole, the stanza indicates deeper significances which are better brought out in the next stanza, where Lord Krishna gives out how and why the truth is Eternal.

FOR WHAT REASON? WHY AND HOW CAN WE RECOGNISE THE SELF TO BE ETERNAL?

*24. This Self cannot be cut, nor burnt, nor moistened, nor dried up. It is eternal, all-pervading, stable immovable and ancient.*

It is amply clear that if a thing cannot be annihilated by any of the known methods of destruction of nature, or those invented and perfected by man, then that given object must be everlasting.

Here, in the second line, we have a series of qualities listed, indicating the Truth; they are not a haphazard collection of terms picked up at random and used in haste.