

Chapter 8

Akshara Brahma Yoga

The Yoga of Imperishable Brahman

Arjuna said: 1. What is that BRAHMAN? What is the ADHYATMA ? What is 'action' ? O best among men, what is declared to be the ADHIBHUTA? And what is ADHIDAIVA said to be?

2. Who, and how, is ADHIYAJNA here in this body, O destroyer of Madhu? And how, at the time of death, are you to be known by the self-controlled?

The new technical terms, used all of a sudden in the last two stanzas of the previous chapter (the Essential Being, the Essential Deity, the Essential Sacrifice etc.), which are to be known so that such Men-of-Wisdom "CONTINUE TO KNOW ME EVEN AT THE TIME OF DEATH STEADFAST IN MIND" (VII-30) confuse Arjuna.

The chapter opens with the seeker questioning his teacher with a view to get an exact definition for each new term