

burnt by the fire of knowledge तम् *tam* him आहुः *āhuḥ*
call पण्डितम् *panditam* a sage बुधा. *budhāḥ* the wise

Whose doings are all devoid of design and desire for results, and whose actions are all burnt by the fire of knowledge, him, the sages call wise. 19

Action actuated by design and desire has the power to bind the doer. But if the doer of action assumes the attitude that all actions emanate from Iswara and that whatever takes place through him as a mere instrument, is all the glory of the Lord, he is not bound by action. There is neither agency nor egoism in him. As a burnt string may retain its form but is unfit for tying, the doings of the yogi do not bind him. They are all burnt away in the fire of the knowledge that God alone is the real author of all that takes place in the universe. He is called the wise by the sages because of his being endowed with this supreme knowledge.

My Cosmic Mother is the real propeller of everything in the world. Beings are all puppets in Her hands. The ignorant think that they are the doers.

— Sri Ramakrishna ~

How is the wise man established in inaction in action ? The elucidation comes :—

त्यक्त्वा कर्मफलासङ्गं नित्यवृत्तो निराश्रयः ।

कर्मण्यभिप्रवृत्तोऽपि नैव किञ्चित्करोति सः ॥ २०

त्यज्-त्वा कर्म-फल-आ-सङ्गम् नित्य-वृत्त निर्-आ-श्रय ।

कर्मणि अभि-प्र-वृत्त अपि न एव किम्-चित् करोति सः ॥

tyaktvā karmaphalāsaṅgam nityavṛtto nirāśrayaḥ ।

karmany abhipravṛtto 'pi nai 'va kincit karoti saḥ ॥