

mence. An aspirant is he who tries to sublimate the senses by associating them always with the Sublime.

A brother and sister were playing in a dense and bushy garden. All on a sudden the brother was missing. While the other was anxiously searching for him, a bear came out of a bush. The girl became stunned with fear. Finding the joke too severe for her, the brother threw off the mask of the bear and presented himself in his true form. The terrified girl came then to her senses and wondered that it was all the play of her own brother. In this manner Brahman puts on the mask of the phenomenon and allures or frightens the ignorant. But the Enlightened One is no more frightened or enticed. He transcends the senses.

— Sri Ramakrishna

The nature of the uncontrolled senses :—

यततो ह्यपि कौन्तेय पुरुषस्य विपश्चितः ।

इन्द्रियाणि प्रमाथीनि हरन्ति प्रसभं मनः ॥ ६०

यततः हि अपि कौन्तेय पुरुषस्य वि-पश्चितः ।

इन्द्रियाणि प्र-माथीनि हरन्ति प्रसभम् मनः ॥

*yatatō hy api kaunteya puruṣasya vipaścitaḥ ।*

*indriyāṇi pramāthīni haranti prasabham manaḥ ॥*

यततः *yatatāḥ* of the striving हि *hi* indeed अपि *api* even कौन्तेय *kaunteya* O Kaunteya पुरुषस्य *puruṣasya* of man विपश्चितः *vipaścitaḥ* (of the) wise इन्द्रियाणि *indriyāṇi* the senses प्रमाथीनि *pramāthīni* turbulent हरन्ति *haranti* carry away प्रसभम् *prasabham* violently मनः *manaḥ* the mind

The excited senses, O son of Kunti, impetuously carry away the mind of even a wise man, striving for perfection.

60

Treacherous are the senses. They are as impetuous as wild horses newly harnessed. Riding on