

kindly acts of God in order to increase his *Bhakti*. Prahlada's view is the view of every devotee who has effaced the ego.

However much you may try you will not achieve anything if you do not get the grace of the Lord. That grace again, is not easily obtained. All egoism ought to be wiped out as a prelude to it. If the egoistic feeling, "I am the doer," takes possession of your heart, that attitude would alienate you from Iswara. The Lord remains hidden in that heart which is tainted by egoism.

— Sri Ramakrishna

What is the harm created by egoism? The answer comes :—

यदहङ्कारमाश्रित्य न योत्स्य इति मन्यसे ।

मिथ्यैष व्यवसायस्ते प्रकृतिस्त्वां नियोक्ष्यति ॥ ५९

यत् अहम्-कारम् आ-श्रित्-य न योत्स्ये इति मन्-य-से ।

मिथ्या एषः वि-अव-सायः ते प्र-कृतिः त्वाम् नि-योक्ष्यति ॥

*yad ahaṁkāraṁ āśritya na yotsya iti manyase ।*

*mithyai 'śa vyavasāyas te prakṛtiḥ tvāṁ niyokṣyati ॥*

यत् *yat* if अहङ्कारम् *ahaṁkāraṁ* egoism आश्रित्य *āśritya* having taken refuge in न *na* not योत्स्ये *yotsye* (I) will fight इति *iti* thus मन्यसे *manyase* (thou) thinkest मिथ्या *mithyā* vain एषः *eṣaḥ* this व्यवसायः *vyavasāyaḥ* resolve ते *te* thy प्रकृतिः *prakṛtiḥ* nature त्वाम् *tvām* thee नियोक्ष्यति *niyokṣyati* will compel

If filled with egoism, you think "I will not fight," vain is this, your resolve; your nature will compel you. 59

Let it be supposed that a murder takes place in the presence of a babe. It is possible that the babe simply laughs at that ghastly happening. This is due