

*svapāke* an outcaste च *ca* and पण्डित *panditāḥ* sages  
समदर्शिन *sama darsinaḥ* seeing equality

Men of Self-knowledge are same-sighted on a Brahmana imbued with learning and humility, a cow, an elephant, a dog and an outcaste. 18

Sunlight falls equally on all things. It makes no difference between the sacred Ganga and sewage water. The knower of Brahman cognizes Brahman only everywhere. The distinction which the worldly make among beings, is born of ignorance. To them an ideal Brahmana is one who is to be revered. An outcaste is one who is to be shunned. Among men the former is topmost in rank and the latter the last. Similarly, among animals the cow is to be revered, the elephant admired and the cur kept aloof. But the man of Self-knowledge does not see into the assumed differences in men, animals, birds and other creatures. He cognizes the same Omniscience present in all these forms which are unreal. The *Jnani* sees truly while the worldly see erroneously.

Nescience creates plurality and difference among beings. Omniscience reveals unity behind the seeming multiplicity.

— SRI RAMAKRISHNA

Is it possible for the worldly to rise up to this same-sightedness in all beings? The dictum comes —

इहैव तैर्जितः सर्गो येषां साम्ये स्थितं मनः ।

निर्दोषं हि समं ब्रह्म तस्माद्ब्रह्मणि ते स्थिताः ॥ १९

इह एव तैर् जितः सर्गः येषाम् साम्ये स्थितम् मनः ।

निर्-दोषम् हि समम् ब्रह्म तस्मात् ब्रह्मणि ते स्थिताः ॥