

as his, he views it as the temple of the Lord. Whatever karma takes place with that body as the instrument is the doing of Iswara and none else. This frame of mind helps him erase egoism. The belief that he is a faithful servant of the Lord induces him to do his duty with zeal and firmness. Nobody in the world has turned out so much beneficial work as the devotees of the Lord.

He who is attached to the fruit of his work gets elated in success and dejected in failure. But that other man who does his duty as the command from the High, appears as the agent while he is actually the instrument. When the archer misses the target, it is no fault of the arrow; when he shoots it successfully on the target, the credit does not go to the arrow. He who is a genuine instrument in the hands of the Lord behaves as if he were an arrow. Success and failure are not his. An unaffected and unperturbed mind is his. Such an agent is endued with *Sāttvika*.

That soft soil alone which is free from pebbles and stones is favourable for the seeds to sprout. Similarly, the mind of that devotee alone untainted by perversion and conceit, is best suited for the Lord to reveal Himself in.

— Sri Ramakrishna

रागी कर्मफलप्रेप्सुर्लुब्धो हिंसात्मकोऽशुचिः ।

हर्षशोकान्वितः कर्ता राजसः परिकीर्तितः ॥ २७

रागी कर्म(न्)-फल-प्र-इप्सु. लुम्-तः हिंसा-आत्मकः अ-शुचिः ।

हर्ष-शोक-अनु-इ-तः कर्ता राजसः परि-कीर्तितः ॥

rāgī karmaphalaprepsur lubdho himsātmako 'śuciḥ ।
harṣasokānvitaḥ kartā rājasah parikīrtitaḥ ॥