

the right understanding of the immortal culture of the *Vedas*. For this purpose was the Divine Song given out by Krishna.

Through action, to a purification of the inner instrument, applying which the seeker walks the 'Path-of-Knowledge' to reach ultimately the spiritual destination of self-development as indicated in this stanza. Hence it has been often quoted by all great writers on Hinduism.

FOR WHAT REASON, THEN, DOES A PERSON NOT ATTAIN PERFECTION THAT IS FREE FROM ACTIVITIES BY MERE RENUNCIATION, UNACCOMPANIED BY KNOWLEDGE? --- THE REASON THUS ASKED FOR IS GIVEN AS FOLLOWS:

*5. Verily, none can ever remain, even for a moment, without performing action; for, everyone is made to act helplessly, indeed, by the qualities born of PRAKRITI.*

Man is ever agitated under the influence of the triple tendencies of Unactivity (*Sattwa*), Activity (*Rajas*) and Inactivity (*Tamas*) inherent in him. Even for a single moment he cannot remain totally inactive. Total inactivity is the character of utterly insentient matter. Even if we are physically at rest, mentally and intellectually we are active all the time, except during the state of deep-sleep. So long as we are under the influence of these three mental tendencies (*gunas*), we are helplessly prompted to labour and to act.