

WHAT IS RAJASIC 'Dhriti'?

34. But the "fortitude, " O Arjuna, by which one holds fast to duty, pleasure and wealth, from attachment and craving for the fruits-of-actions, that "fortitude, " O Partha, is RAJASIC (passionate) .

The constancy with which a person holds fast to duty (*Dharma*), wealth (*Artha*) and pleasure (*Kama*), encouraged by his growing desire to enjoy the fruit of each of them, is the steadiness or "fortitude" of the *Rajasic* type. It is interesting to note that in the enumeration Krishna avoids *Moksha* and only takes the first three of the "four ends of man" (*Purushaarth*), for, a *Rajasic* man is satisfied with the other fields of self-effort and has no demand for spiritual liberation.

The constancy of pursuit of such an individual will be in these three fields of duty, wealth and pleasure, and he will be pursuing one or the other of them with an extreme desire to enjoy the resultant satisfactions. He follows *Dharma*, only to gain the heavens; he pursues *Artha* so that he may have power in this life; and he pursues *Kaama* with a firm belief and faith that sensuous objects can give him all satisfactions in life.

The steadiness with which one with such an "understanding" would strive and work in these fields is classified as *Rajasic Dhriti*.