

यावान् अर्थः उद-पाने सर्वतः सम्-प्लुत-उदके ।

तावान् सर्वेषु वेदेषु ब्राह्मणस्य वि-जानतः ॥

*yāvān artha udapāne sarvataḥ samplutodake ।*

*tāvān sarveṣu vedeṣu brāhmaṇasya vijānataḥ ॥*

यावान् *yāvān* as much अर्थ. *arthaḥ* use उदपाने *udapāne* in a reservoir सर्वतः *sarvataḥ* everywhere सप्लुतोदके *samplutodake* being flooded तावान् *tāvān* so much (use) सर्वेषु *sarveṣu* in all वेदेषु *vedeṣu* in the Vedas ब्राह्मणस्य *brāhmaṇasya* of the Brahmana विजानतः *vijānataḥ* of the knowing

To an enlightened Brahmana all the Vedas are as useful as a tank when there is a flood everywhere. 46

It is evident that a tank containing water is very useful in a place where water cannot be had from any other source. But nobody ever pays any attention to such a tank in a locality submerged everywhere with pure water. Likewise the Vedas and the scriptures are of use to those who are still in ignorance. By faithfully following the sacred books happiness can be obtained on earth and in heaven which are both in the region of the phenomenon. But the various spheres of relative existence become meaningless to the one illumined with *Brahma-jnanam*. It is infinite beatitude. All earthly and heavenly happinesses are mere rays of that endless brilliance. The food consumed in dream does not nourish the body; whereas what is consumed in the wakeful state gives succour both in the wakeful state and in sleep. Likewise *Brahma-jnanam* which leads to the absolute existence enriches the *Prakriti*-bound relative existence also abundantly.