

॥ अथ श्रीगीतामाहात्म्यम् ॥

THE GREATNESS OF THE GITA

श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ श्रीराधारमणाय नमः ॥

Salutation to Sri Ganesha !

Salutation to Sri Râdhâramana !

[*Ganesha* is the God of wisdom and remover of obstacles ; hence He is invoked and worshipped at the commencement of every important undertaking. *Râdhâramana*—the Lover of *Râdhâ*,—Sri Krishna.]

धरोवाच ॥

भगवन्परमेशान भक्तिरव्यभिचारिणी ॥

प्रारब्धं भुज्यमानस्य कथं भवति हे प्रभो ॥१॥

Dharâ (the Earth) said :

.(1). O Blessed Lord, O Supreme Ruler, how may one, who is held back by his *Prârabdha Karma*, obtain unswerving devotion ?

[*Prârabdha Karma*—Karma has been divided into three principal kinds, having regard to the time in which its fruit is to be reaped : *Agâmi*, *Sanchita*, and *Prârabdha*. *Agâmi* is that whose fruit will be reaped in the next incarnation. *Sanchita* consists of those seeds, as it were, which will bear fruit in the remote future. *Prârabdha* is that Karma which we have already begun to reap. This is the only Karma from which there is no escape. The first two can be destroyed by perfect knowledge. They then become “like fried seeds.” But *Prârabdha Karma* must be reaped to the end.]

विष्णुर्वाच ॥

प्रारब्धं भुज्यमानो हि गीताभ्यासरतः सदा ॥

स मुक्तः स सुखी लोके कर्मणो नोपलिप्यते ॥२॥