

WHAT IS TAMASIC DHRITI?

35. The 'constancy' because of which a stupid man does not abandon sleep, fear, grief, depression, and also arrogance (conceit) , that "fortitude, " O Partha, is TAMASIC (dull) .

In this stanza we have the description of the dull type of "fortitude," and it is not very difficult to understand it because a substantial majority of us belong to this type! The steadiness-of-purpose with which one DOES NOT give up one's dreams and imaginations, fears and agitations, griefs and sorrows, depressions and arrogance, is the *Dhriti* of the *Tamasic* type.

The term dream (*Swapna*) is used here to indicate fancied imaginations thrown up by a mind that is ALMOST drowned in sleep. To see things which are not there but are delusorily projected by one's own fancy, is called a dream. The dull personalities project upon the world of objects a dream-like value of reality and false joy, and then laboriously strive to gain them.

FEAR (*Bhaya*) --- Such men of delusion will have many a fancied fear of the future, which, of course, may never come to pass, but it can efficiently destroy the equilibrium and balance, poise and peace in the individual's life. There are many among us who have experienced such fears by the hundred in the past. Some fear that they are going to die, but each following day a healthy man wakes up to