

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

(Description of the qualification, time and place for Devayajña etc.)

The sages said:—

1. O Sūta, foremost among those who know everything, please expound to us the place etc.

Sūta said:—

The pure house accords normal benefit in the rites of Devayajña etc.

2. The cowshed is of ten times more benefit than that. The bank of a tank is of ten times more benefit than that and the root of Tulasī plant or of Bilva or Aśvattha trees is again of ten times more benefit than that.

3-5. Similarly a temple, the bank of a holy tank, the bank of an ordinary river, the bank of a holy river and the banks of the seven holy Gaṅgās are each of ten times more benefit than the previous. The seven holy Gaṅgās are Gangā, Godāvarī, Kāverī, Tāmraparnikā, Sindhu, Sarayū⁷⁸ and Revā. The shores of the sea are of ten times more benefit than the previous. The summit of a mountain is of ten times more benefit than the shores of the sea.

6-7. The place where the mind is quite at home is the most excellent of all places. Yajña, Dāna etc. accord full benefit in the Kṛta age. In the Tretā age they yield three-fourths of the benefit. In the age of Dvāpara the benefit derived is half. In the age of Kali only one fourth of the benefit is obtained. When half of the Kali age passes on, the benefit is only three-fourths of this one-fourth.

8. A holy day accords a normal benefit to a pure-souled devotee. O Scholars, the period of transit of the sun from one Zodiac to another yields ten times more benefit than that.

9. The period of equinoxes, the period of tropical

78. It is a well known river, mentioned in the RV. (V.53.9) along with the rivers Sarasvatī, Sindhu, Gaṅgā, Yamunā, and Śutudrī. Ghar-ghara (Ghāgrā) and Tamasā (Tons) are its tributaries. It is a sacred river of Northern Kosal, with Ayodhyā, the sacred city of great antiquity, lying along its bank.