

that predominantly rule over them; it is this *Maya* that gives them their individuality. An individual cannot, at any time, exist without all these three *gunas*, whatever be their relative proportion.

No sample of "coffee" is possible without its three ingredients, the decoction, the milk, and the sugar; but at the same time, the proportion in which they are mixed together may be different from cup to cup according to the taste of the partaker. He who has transcended the three *gunas* comes to experience the very plurality in the world as the play of the One Infinite. So, let us introspect and evaluate ourselves every day, every minute. Let us avoid the lower *gunas* and steadily work ourselves up towards the achievement of the *Sattwic* state. Only after reaching the status of the good (*Sattwic*) can we be ushered into the State of Godhood --- Perfection Absolute.

With these three measuring rods --- the qualities (*gunas*) Krishna classifies the entire community of man under three distinct types. The criterion of this classification is the texture of man's inner equipments which he brings into play for his achievements in his fields of activity. Accordingly, the Hindu scriptures have brought the entire humanity under a four-fold classification. So, its applicability is not merely confined to India --- BUT IS UNIVERSAL.

Certain well-defined characteristics determine the types of these four classes of human beings; they are not always