

The gift that is given at the wrong place or time, to unworthy persons, without regard or with disdain, that is declared to be Tāmasic.

ओं तत्सदिति निर्देशो ब्रह्मणस्त्रिविधः स्मृतः ॥
ब्राह्मणास्तेन वेदाश्च यज्ञाश्च विहिताः पुरा ॥२३॥

XVII. 23.

ओं Om तत् Tat सत् Sat इति this ब्रह्मणः of Brahman त्रिविधः triple निर्देशः designation स्मृतः has been declared तेन by that ब्राह्मणाः the Brāhmanas च and वेदाः the Vedas च and यज्ञाः the Yajnas पुरा of old विहिताः were made.

“Om, Tat, Sat”: this has been declared to be the triple designation of Brahman. By that were made of old the Brāhmanas and the Vedas and the Yajnas.

[*Om, Tat, Sat*: Om is the principal name of the Lord, because it means all that is manifest and the beyond. It also means “Yes.” *Tat* means “That”; the Indefinable, that which only can be described indirectly as “That which.” *Sat* means Reality; which is ever permanent in one mode of being.]

तस्मादोमित्युदाहृत्य यज्ञदानतपःक्रियाः ॥
प्रवर्तन्ते विधानोक्ताः सततं ब्रह्मवादिनाम् ॥२४॥

XVII. 24.

तस्मात् Therefore ओं Om इति उदाहृत्य uttering ब्रह्मवादिनां of the followers of the Vedas विधानोक्ताः as enjoined in the ordinances यज्ञदानतपःक्रियाः the acts of Yajna, gift and austerity सततं always प्रवर्तन्ते proceed.