

क्वचिन्मूढो विद्वान् क्वचिदपि महाराजविभवः
 क्वचिद्द्रान्तः सौम्यः क्वचिदजगराचारकलितः ।
 क्वचित्पात्रीभूतः क्वचिदवमतः क्वाप्यविदितः
 चरत्येवं प्राज्ञः सततपरमानन्दसुखितः ॥ ५४३ ॥

*kvacinmūḍho vidvān kvacidapi mahārājavibhavaḥ
 kvacidbhrāntaḥ saumyaḥ kvacidajagarācārakalitaḥ,
 kvacitpātṛībhūtaḥ kvacidavamataḥ kvāpyaviditaḥ
 caratyevam prājñāḥ satataparamānandasukhitāḥ.* (543)

543. *Ever enjoying the blissful state of Wisdom the Realised man lives, sometimes a fool, sometimes a sage, sometimes with royal grandeur; sometimes roaming, sometimes like a motionless python, sometimes with a benignant expression, sometimes respected, sometimes insulted and sometimes unknown.*

How will a Man of Perfection live in this world after his final Realisation? No rules can be laid down for his behaviour. This verse tells us of some of the ways in which he lives.

Sometimes he behaves like a fool; sometimes as a man with brilliant intellect. The same man who was a rank idiot yesterday may be a formidable intellectual today. Sometimes he lives in regal glories with royal dignity; at other times he may wander like a mad man. All these outward judgements of him are from the standpoint of the world.

At times he may be very quiet, lying down still like a python. The python is the biggest snake of the jungle which lies down quietly in one place sometimes for six months at a stretch. It never goes out of its way for food. If anything by chance passes its way, it just draws it in and eats it. Else it goes without food. The Man of Perfection may behave in a similar manner sometimes. If you go and ask him. "Mahārāja, have you taken your food?"¹

¹ Food here need not necessarily mean the food that he takes by mouth but embraces in its all sense objects which are the food for the sense organs.