

This framework of bones, plastered with flesh and filled with faecal matter is at all times, most impure and inauspicious. The container and the contained are both filthy. How can this be the ever pure, all-knowing Principle, the Ātman?

Here is one more argument clearly showing that the filthy body cannot be the pure and divinely holy Self.



त्वङ्मांसमेदोऽस्थिपुरीषराशौ
अहंमतिं मूढजनः करोति ।
विलक्षणं वेत्ति विचारशीलो
निजस्वरूपं परमार्थभूतम् ॥ १५९ ॥

tvaṅmāṁsamedo'sthipurīṣarāśau
ahammatim mūḍhajanaḥ karoti,
vilakṣaṇam veti vicāraśīlo
nijasvarūpaṁ paramārthabhūtam. (159)

159. The foolish man identifies himself with this skin, flesh, fat, bones and filth. But the man of discrimination knows that his Self is distinct from the body, unique and the only Reality.

Fools consider themselves to be this packet of filth, consisting of skin, flesh, fat and bones. These are, in themselves, nothing but filth, each one of them. Those who have the habit of correct analysis and right thinking, consider themselves certainly something other than this filthy body, filled with its contents which are equally filthy.

Correct analysis and right thinking will point to us man's real nature which is supreme Truth, pure Consciousness Itself. It is not the body, as Its nature is distinctly different (vilakṣaṇa), from the body and its component parts.

