

The nature of the witness (sākṣī), is changeless and indifferent (avikāram-udāśinam).¹ He is not involved in the activities. The nature and properties of the house do not affect the lamp which illumines them. In this house of flesh I am the Consciousness which illumines all its objects, emotions and thoughts without being involved in any of their activities.

The light in the house illumines all that is happening in the house. Bereavement or marriage, the fight between husband and wife, birth and death, the light illumines them faithfully. It is not affected by any of them. Similarly, the nature of the body, the sense organs, the mind and so on, can never affect the Ātman who is the one illuminator.



रवेर्यथा कर्मणि साक्षिभावो
वहेर्यथा दाहनियामकत्वम्।
रज्जोर्यथाऽरोपितवस्तुसङ्गः
तथैव कृष्टस्थचिदात्मनो मे ॥ ५०७ ॥

*raveryathā karmaṇi sākṣibhāvo
vahneryathā dāhanyāmakatvam,
rajjoryathā''ropitavastusaṅgah
tathaiva kūṭasthacidātmano me. (507)*

507. Just as the sun is the witness of all men's actions, just as fire burns everything without distinction, just as the rope is connected with a superimposition, so too am I, the unchangeable Self, the essence of Intelligence.

You say, 'How bright and cheerful the sun looks today!' Actually the sun is the same everyday. Today you saw it as bright and cheerful because of the happy state of your mind.

¹ *avikāramudāśinam gr̥hadharmāpradīpavat dehendriyamanodharmāḥ naivāt-mānam spr̥satyaho.*