

क्षीरं क्षीरे यथा क्षिसं तैलं तैले जलं जले ।
संयुक्तमेकतां याति तथाऽऽत्मन्यात्मविन्मुनिः ॥ ५६७ ॥

*kṣīram kṣīre yathā kṣiptam tailam taile jalam jale,
saṁyuktamekatām yāti tatha'atmanyātmavinvnūniḥ. (567)*

567. Just as milk poured into milk, oil into oil and water each becomes united and one, so too, he who has realised the Ātman becomes one with the Ātman.¹

In order to illustrate the subtle idea described in the previous verse Śaṅkara, the Teacher, brings out yet another beautiful example. It is impossible for the human intellect to understand that at the moment of Realisation his entire, separative, egocentric sense will end and that he shall become the pure Self. This unique experience gained on transcending the intellect is being communicated here with worldly examples for the struggling intellect of the student.

Just as when oil is mixed with oil, they merge to become one homogeneous mass of oil, similarly, the Consciousness in the bosom, till now playing as an individual, when it transcends the BMI during moments of deepest contemplation and meditation, it merges with the Self to become one with the Self.

So long as the dreamer lives the dream, the Teacher in the dream can never make the dreamer understand that on awakening from the dream, the dreamer will become the waker.



एवं विदेहकैवल्यं सन्मात्रत्वमखण्डितम् ।
ब्रह्मभावं प्रपद्यैष यतिर्नावर्तते पुनः ॥ ५६८ ॥

*evam videhakaivalyam sanmātratvamakhaṇḍitam,
brahmabhāvam prapadyaiṣa yatirnāvartate punah. (568)*

¹ *jale jalām viyadvyonitejastējasi vā yathā. – Ātmabodha – 53.*

The idea in the verse can be profitably compared with *Kaṭhopaniṣad* – 2.4.15 and *Muṇḍakopaniṣad* – 3.2.8.