

When this state is veiled by tamas and disturbed by rajas, the mind starts seeing things other than Reality. The body, mind and intellect turned towards objects, emotions and thoughts create vāsanās. To exhaust these vāsanās fresh bodies have to be taken. This going and coming (samsāra) of the individuality from one equipment to another, from one time to another, from one place to another, is called ‘transmigration’.

When the Consciousness gets reflected in the sattva mode of the mind, It illumines the inert, insentient world around, just as the sun illumines them during the day. The light of the sun itself is imperceptible. If there is light on this book and if it is coming from the window, there must be light between the window and this book. This light between the window and the book cannot be perceived. Light itself is imperceptible. When it falls on an object and gets reflected, the reflected light alone can be seen.

The Ātman cannot see anything, nor know any object, nor illumine anything because in Brahman, there is nothing for It to illumine. It is one without a second. We generally recognise the things in the world with our intelligence. Intelligence is the light of Consciousness reflected in the intellect. Therefore, when the intellect is agitated, the intelligence is less. Since the reflecting surface is not steady, the reflection of Consciousness gets shaky and so Its brilliance becomes dimmed. If the reflecting surface is unclean, the reflected beam must be dim. When the intellect is under the influence of tamas, it is rendered dull (as when he is under chloroform), he cannot understand anything within or without him.

Therefore, when rajas and tamas are mixed with sattva, there is little intelligence in an individual. But when rajas and tamas are reduced in one’s personality, the proportion of sattva increases. The light of Consciousness reflected in the intellect becomes more and more clear. Thus out of the stupid personality of today, a great brilliance of intelligence can be produced when the personality gets purified.