

Mandukaya Upanishad, Class 74

Beginning from 75th verse to 86th, Gowdapadha is dealing with the cause of samsara. Ignorance of the thuriya atma, the fourth padha, which is our real higher nature is the cause of samsara. I am not viswa, taijasa, pragra; I am not kartha bothta or finite. Unfortunately, we have the problem of ignorance and we can't trace the origination of ignorance; The solution has to be removal of the ignorance and it can happen only with thuriya gyanam.

Ignorance generates samsara through:

Ignorance produces ahangara or misconception regarding my nature. When I forget that I am the waker lying on the bed, that ignorance becomes the cause for the dreamer. Self-ignorance is responsible for self-misconception. This is in the form of sthurala sareera abimana, becoming viswa or shukshama sareera abimana becoming taijasa or karana sareera abimana becoming pragra. These three put together is ahangara. For this ahangara I becomes real. When paramarthika sathyam is not known, vyavakariga sathyam becomes real. When the higher one is not known the lower one gets elevated. Therefore, the

physical

body becomes my real nature. My physical personality becomes my

personality. Old age, death etc. becomes serious issues.

Obsession

with the mithya dwaida prabanaja. Once I identify with the body as the

ultimate, anything that gives security to the body, that also becomes very

important. Mithya money, mithya people, mithya power – the entire mithya

jagradh prabanja becomes very important. The original reality is gone,

and one runs after the mithya prabanja. Mithya interaction becomes

addiction and no time for thuriya adhistanam. Every person is trapped in

pravirthi of mithya vasthu. The solution is to know the higher

nature. Just like the dream body and dream world is falsified by waking

up, this body and this world should be falsified by knowing higher

nature. Swapna prabanja and jagradh prabanja are both mithya – as good as

nonexistent.

There is a small different between

waking up from dream world and waking up from this world.

When I wake up

from dream world, dream world disappears. When the spiritual waking up,

the physical world does not disappear. Previously I experienced dwaida prabanja

and attributed reality to it but after gyanam I will continue to experience

dwaidā prabāṅjā but will not attribute reality to it. The difference is at the cognitive level. This is similar to studying in school, we know that the sun does not rise at all, but it is the earth that is rotating. We know that the sun rise is mithyā; we don't experience the earth rotating but we experience the stationary earth. Similarly, vedānta does not remove dwaidā experience but negates the attribute. Because of this change in understanding, one will not develop raga dwēṣhā towards a mithyā vāthū. The attachments will be gone. Once you understand the rope snake, it will not threaten you. Mithyā prabāṅjā can't generate attachment. Running after mithyā security will end and therefore mind withdraws from all struggles.

Mirage water not only does not quench the thirst, but because of running the thirst might increase.

Verse 80

The wise person does not seek mithyā vāsthū; he also gets security in the form of thuriyū; similar to a person discovering water right underneath. He will no more run after mirage water; he gets real water which removes thirst. A wise person withdraws

from mithya struggle, but that withdrawal is permanent; there is no repetition. He will have peace which is inexplicable. That peace of mind is not describable. That peace of mind is knowable only to wise people. It is accessible only for wise people.

In the scriptures, moksha is often equated to Brahman, even though moksha is only a state of mind. The reason is a wise person does not look up on his peaceful mind different than Brahman. That moksha enjoyed by a wise person is none other than Brahman, the never the same the never undisturbed. The worldly peace of mind is temporarily available. The uniqueness of gyanam is that is ever same. $2 + 2$ is always 4; it never changes; gyanam never changes. Therefore, gyanam based peace will never change. It is birthless; changeless and non-dual.

Verse 81

In this verse also Gowdapadha equates Moksha to Brahman. Moksha is a state of mind as a result of gyanam. That moksha is equated to Brahman because a gyani knows everything is not different from Brahman. That moksha is none other than dharma or atma. Usually dharma is either noble action or noble

result.

Here it means atma. Birthless indicates not connected with sthūla

sareeram. Dreamless means not connected with shukshma sareeram.

Sleepless indicates not connected with karana saareeram.

Once I cut off

the three-fold relationship, I know that I am viswa taijasa pragya vilakshanam;

therefore moksha is no different than thuriyam. Its nature is pure

consciousness. Viswa is associated with material sthula sareeram; taijasa

is associated with material sukshma sareeram; pragya is associated with

material karana sareeram; Thuriyam is not connected with any material sareeram

but pure consciousness. Consciousness is:

- Not a part or product of body; not a product created by brain
 - Independent, invisible entity that pervades body
 - Not limited or confined by boundaries of body
 - Survives even after the body dies
 - Surviving consciousness can't be recognized by us and is not available for transactions

Thuriyam is self-effulgent and is

ever effulgent. it is every evident. This consciousness' sentient

not borrowed from anywhere, it is conscious by its very

intrinsic nature.

Sentience of physical body is borrowed from sukshma sareeram.

Atma does not

borrow consciousness, it is conscious by very nature.

Verse 82

The problem faced by every

seeker: The moment I wake up and know that I am waker, the dream world

disappears and does not create a problem. In the case of spiritual

knowledge, by sravana manana nidhithyasanam, a seeker recognizes that I am

thuriyum and everything else is mithya. Even after waking up to this

thuriya knowledge, this mithya prabanja does not disappear because of the power

of prarabtha. This is similar to fan rotating after being switched

off. Because of the continuation of vyavakara, you get hungry etc.

It is the nature of body that there is hunger, thirst, dirt.

Vyavakara

can be reduced but it can't be totally stopped. Transactions and ashrama

duties will continue. Handling the body is common duty of gyani and there

are other duties associated with ashrama. If one of grahastha gyani,

gragastha duties will continues. One has to be extremely alert; every

transaction will invoke the viswa and ego personality. When the child is

in front of me, I the parent is invoked. Every transaction in

sthula

prabanja will invoke a viwsa property. The invoked viswa may become

prominent and it is possible that thuriya may become less prominent and go to

the background. When the thuriyum is forgotten, this person starts to

behave as though he is an agyani.