



CLASS SEVEN: JOYFUL EFFORT AND RENUNCIATION (Guide 7.60-65)

संक्लेशपक्षमध्यस्थो भवेद्दृप्तः सहस्रशः ।

saṅkleśapakṣamadyastho bhaveddr̥ptaḥ sahasraśaḥ ।

दुर्योधनः क्लेशगणैः सिंहो मृगगणैरिव ॥६०

duryodhanaḥ kleśagaṇaiḥ siṃho mṛgagaṇairiva ॥60

**When you find yourself in the enemy's camp,
And surrounded, look for a thousand ways
To shield yourself from them;
Be like a lion with foxes and such,
Never allowing the mass of mental
Afflictions to break through to you.**

महत्स्वपि हि कृच्छ्रेषु न रसं चक्षुरीक्षते ।

mahatsvapi hi kṛcchreṣu na rasaṁ cakṣurikṣate ।

एवं कृच्छ्रमपि प्राप्य न क्लेशवशागो भवेत् ॥६१

evaṁ kṛcchramapi prāpya na kleśavaśago bhavet ॥61

**A person may find themselves in the middle
Of a desert forsaken, yet still they try
To act to protect their eyes.
You may be the same, and find yourself
Hard pressed, but never allow
Your afflictions to master you.**



यदेवापद्यते कर्म तत्कर्मव्यसनी भवेत् ।

yadevāpadyate karma tatkarmavyasanī bhavet ।

तत्कर्मशौण्डोऽतृप्तात्मा क्रीडाफलसुखेप्सुवत् ॥६२

tatkarmaśauṇḍo'ṭrptātmā krīḍāphalasukhepsuvat ॥62

**Like those who seek a feeling of fun
From playing a game, these ones as well
Should cultivate a craving for
This work, all those that work for them,
And come to be insatiable
In seeking it, and taking joy.**

सुखार्थम् क्रियते कर्म तथापि स्यान्न वा सुखम् ।

sukhārtham kriyate karma tathāpi syānna vā sukham ।

कर्मैव तु सुखं यस्य निष्कर्मा स सुखी कथम् ॥६३

karmaiva tu sukham yasya niṣkarmā sa sukhī katham ॥63

**People work for happiness,
But there's no certainty that what
They do will make them happy.
How can you ever be happy if
You fail to do that single work,
Their own, which makes you happy?**

कामैर्न तृप्तिः संसारे क्षुरधारामधूपमैः ।

kāmairna ṭrptiḥ saṁsāre kṣuradhārāmadhūpamaiḥ ।

पुण्यामृतैः कथं तृप्तिर्विपाकमधुरैः शिवैः ॥६४

puṇyāmṛtaiḥ katham ṭrptirvipākamadhuraiḥ śivaiḥ ॥64

**You never feel satisfied
With objects of desire, honey
Smeared on a razor blade;
Why at the same time are you always
Content with the sum of merit you have
For the happiness of the fruits, and peace?**



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तस्मात्कर्मावसानेऽपि निमज्जेत्तत्र कर्मणि ।

tasmātkarmāvasāne'pi nimajjettatra karmaṇi ।

यथा मध्याह्नसंतप्त आदौ प्राप्तसराः करी ॥६५

yathā madhyāhnasantapta ādau prāptasarāḥ karī ॥65

Therefore when a job has been completed,
One should throw oneself into another job,
Just as an elephant who is sweltering in the midday sun
Immediately plunges into a lake.