

32. Eternal Vedic religion is the heritage of all mankind

But there is some concern today in this Bharath, the birthplace of those holy persons who nursed and fostered this sacred *dharma*. New modes are being accepted as one's *dharma*, and the Eternal Religion (*Sanathana Dharma*) itself is being ignored; it is being kept aside for people of other countries by people who have not even tested the sweetness of the *dharma*, who have not grasped its meaning, and who have smothered it in empty disputation.

The reason for this is, of course, the absence of proper guides who could show the way. But even when there are such guides, people yield to these modern modes and get attached to them. These are really like little food treats (*pakorras*). They attract by their smell and are bought by people who do not discriminate. Though their own duty (*swa-dharma*) is the pure Eternal Religion (*Sanathana Dharma*), the fascination exercised by outward show is absent, so it gets neglected. Truth has no need for such decorations. Taste is the important thing.

The basic reason for this problem is the fact that people today are motivated by mere whim and fancy. It has become the habit to reject reality and accept the *dharma* of another. This is a great mistake. It is against *dharma* for *Bharathiyas* (Indians) to be attracted by external forms and outward show. No other *dharma* has, or will have, truth and highest love above and beyond that contained in the Eternal Religion. The Eternal Religion is the veritable embodiment of truth. It is the heritage of all. There can be no boundary for holiness. Holiness is one without a second, right?

Those who have attained liberation in this life by adherence to this Eternal Religion, who have earned the grace of God, who have understood the nature of truth, who have achieved realisation —they are all *Bharathiyas*. *Bharathiyas* have adored those who have reached that holy stage, without distinction of caste, creed, or sex. The holiness of that stage burns to ashes all such limitations. It is only until that stage is reached that it becomes impossible to consider everything as equal. So, it is necessary to determine boldly on the realisation of the Eternal Religion. This is the birthright of *Bharathiyas*.