

## चत्वारिंशोऽध्यायः

## Chapter 40

Extent of *Caturyugas*

शक्र उवाच

तिष्ये मायामसूयां च वधं चैव तपस्विनाम्।  
साधयन्ति नरास्तत्र तमसा व्याकुलेन्द्रियाः॥१॥

Indra said—

During the age of Kali, the people overpowered with *tamoguna*, get upset with confusion, jealousy and bickering. They never hesitate even to kill the ascetics. They are always overpowered with jealousy.

कलौ प्रमादको रोगः सततं क्षुद्भयानि च।  
अनावृष्टिभयं घोरं देशानां च विपर्ययः॥२॥

During the age of *Kaliyuga*, the lethargy, ailments, hunger and fear or danger are quite widespread. There is always danger of draught conditions due to shortage of the rainfall. Different part of the country are always in turmoil, upheaval or mutiny.

न प्रामाण्यं श्रुतेरस्ति नृणां चाधर्मसेवनम्।  
अधार्मिकास्त्वनाचारा महाकोपालपचेतसः॥३॥

People do not believe the Vedas as authentic or an authority. People resort to the sinful activities. The people are sinful,

irritable and narrow-minded and even resort to misbehaving.

अनृतं ब्रूवते लुब्धास्तिष्ये जाताश्च दुष्प्रजाः।  
दुरिष्टैर्दुरधीतैश्च दुराचारैर्दुरागमैः॥४॥

They are greedy, wicked and practice utter falsehood. They are always influenced with evil desires, evil learnings, indulge in misbehaviour and follow the misleading literary works.

विप्राणां कर्म दोषेण प्रजानां जायते भयम्।  
नाधीयन्ते तदा वेदान्न यजन्ति द्विजातयः॥५॥

Because of the blemished activities of the Brāhmaṇas, the people are panic stricken. The Brāhmaṇas neglect the study of the Vedas and fail to perform even the prescribed *yajñas*.

उत्सीदन्ति नराश्चैव क्षत्रियाश्च विशः क्रमात्।  
शूद्राणां मंत्रयोगेन संबन्धो ब्रह्मणैः सह॥६॥  
भवतीह कलौ तस्मिञ्शयनासनभोजनैः।  
राजानः शूद्रभूयिष्ठा ब्राह्मणान् बाधयन्ति ते॥७॥

The people face destruction. Even the Kṣatriyas and Brāhmaṇas start falling gradually. During the age of Kali, the Śūdras try to link themselves with the Brāhmaṇas, in the field of sleeping, seating and the taking of food. Usually, the kings belong to the Śūdra races and cause trouble to the Brāhmaṇas.

भ्रूणहत्या वीरहत्या प्रजायन्ते प्रजासु वै।  
शूद्राश्च ब्राह्मणाचाराः शूद्राचाराश्च ब्राह्मणाः॥८॥

The killing of foetus and the killing of heroes become widespread. Śūdras adopt the lifestyle of the Brāhmaṇas and the Brāhmaṇas behave as the Śūdras.

राजवृत्तिस्थिताश्चौराश्चौराचाराश्च पार्थिवाः।  
एकपत्न्यो न शिष्यन्ति वर्ध्निष्यन्त्यभिसारिकाः॥९॥

The robbers function as the rulers, while the rulers behave as robbers. The chaste

ladies cease to exist and the unchaste ladies increase in number.

वर्णाश्रमप्रतिष्ठानो जायते नृषु सर्वतः ।

तदा स्वल्पफला भूमिः क्वचिच्चापि महाफला ॥

The stability and discipline of the four castes and sages of life known as *āśramas*, disappear from all the places. The earth, at that point of time, yields very little fruits in one place and in abundance at other places.

अरक्षितारो हतारिः पार्थिवाश्च शिलाशन ।

शूद्रा वै ज्ञानिनः सर्वे ब्राह्मणैरभिवन्दिताः ॥ ११ ॥

O Śīlāsana, the rulers no more act as the protector of the people, but act as the usurpers of their wealth and their killers. The Śūdras become learned and are honoured by the Brāhmaṇas.

अक्षत्रियाश्च राजानो विप्राः शूद्रोपजीविनः ।

आसनस्था द्विजान्दृष्ट्वा न चलन्त्यल्पबुद्धयः ॥ १२ ॥

The people other than Kṣatriyas become the rulers. The Brāhmaṇas depend over the Śūdras. The foolish Śūdras do not get up from their seats on the arrival of the Brāhmaṇas.

ताडयन्ति द्विजेन्द्रांश्च शूद्रा वै स्वल्पबुद्धयः ।

आस्ये निधाय वै हस्तं कर्णं शूद्रस्य वै द्विजाः ॥ १३ ॥

नीचस्येव तदा वाक्यं वदन्ति विनयेन तम् ।

उच्चासनस्थान् शूद्रांश्च द्विजमध्ये द्विजर्षभ ॥ १४ ॥

ज्ञात्वा न हिंसते राजा कलौ कालवशेन तु ।

पुष्पैश्च वासितैश्चैव तथान्यैर्मगलैः शुभैः ॥ १५ ॥

शूद्रानभ्यर्चयन्त्यल्पश्रुतभाग्यबलान्विताः ।

न प्रेक्षन्ते गर्विताश्च शूद्रा द्विजवरान् द्विज ॥ १६ ॥

सेवावसरमालोक्य द्वारे तिष्ठन्ति वै द्विजाः ।

वाहनस्थान् समावृत्य शूद्राञ्छूद्रोपजीविनः ॥ १७ ॥

सेवन्ते ब्राह्मणास्तत्र स्तुवन्ति स्तुतिभिः कलौ ।

तपोयज्ञफलानां च विक्रेतारो द्विजोत्तमाः ॥ १८ ॥

The foolish Śūdras, who are short of wisdom, beat the learned Brāhmaṇas. During the age of Kali, due to the move of destiny, the Brāhmaṇas, placing their hands against their mouths, whisper in the ears of Śūdras. O excellent Brāhmaṇa, even the king finding a - Śūdra seated over a high seat among the Brāhmaṇas, fails to punish him. They worship the little educated Śūdras with flowers, fragrance and auspicious things. O Brāhmaṇa, the arrogant Śūdras do not even notice the presence of Brāhmaṇas. The Brāhmaṇas provide an opportunity to serve the Śūdras and attend on them at the gates of the latter. In the age of Kali, the Brāhmaṇas live at the mercy of the Śūdras and return on their vehicles. They offer prayers to the Śūdras. During the age of Kali, the Brāhmaṇas sell out the fruits of their *tapas* and *yajñas*.

यतयश्च भविष्यन्ति बहवोऽस्मिन्कलौ युगे ।

पुरुषाल्पं बहुस्त्रीकं युगांते समुपस्थिते ॥ १९ ॥

निन्दन्ति वेदविद्यां च द्विजाः कर्माणि वै कलौ ।

कलौ देवो महादेवः शङ्करो नीललोहितः ॥ २० ॥

प्रकाशते प्रतिष्ठार्थं धर्मस्य विकृताकृतिः ।

ये तं विप्रा निषेवन्ते येन केनापि शङ्करम् ॥ २१ ॥

कालिदोषान् विनिर्जित्य प्रयांति परमं पदम् ।

श्वापदप्रबलत्वं च गवां चैव परिक्षयः ॥ २२ ॥

साधूनां विनिवृत्तिश्च वेद्या तस्मिन्युगक्षये ।

तदा सूक्ष्मो महोदको दुर्लभो दानमूलवान् ॥ २३ ॥

चातुराश्रमशौथिल्ये धर्मः प्रतिचलिष्यति ।

अरक्षितारो हतारो बलिभागस्य पार्थिवाः ॥ २४ ॥

युगान्तेषु भविष्यन्ति स्वरक्षणपरायणाः ।

अट्टशूला जनपदाः शिवशूलाश्चतुष्पथाः ॥ २५ ॥

प्रमदाः केशशूलिन्यो भविष्यन्ति कलौ युगे ।

There would be a large number of recluses. At the end of *Kaliyuga*, the number

of women would be much more than the number of man. So much so that the Brāhmaṇas would denounce the Vedas as well as the *yajñas*. During the age of Kali, Mahādeva, Śaṅkara and Nīlakaṇṭha shall take to the deformed way. Such of the Brāhmaṇas, who serve the lord Śiva in whichever way, it is possible for them to do so, they, overpowering the blemishes of the age of Kali, achieve the highest position. The number of the beasts would decline and similar would be the case with the number of cows. With the reaching of the end of the Kali age, the ascetics would be away from the wealthy atmosphere. You should well understand it. They are firm over their *dharma*, which is conclusive to the good results and difficult of access, which has its roots in charitable gifts, becomes shaky due to instability in four stages of life. The kings misappropriate shares from oblations, offered to gods. Towards the close of the *yuga*, they will be more interested in protecting themselves. In Kali age, cooked food will be kept for sale in living places. The selling of the Vedas and other sacred literature will occur in cross streets. Young women will sell even their honour.

चित्रवर्षी तदा देवो यदा प्राहुर्युगक्षयम् ॥ २६ ॥  
 सर्वे वणिग्जनाश्चापि भविष्यन्त्यधमे युगे ।  
 कुशीलचर्याः पाषण्डैर्वृथारूपैः समावृताः ॥ २७ ॥  
 बहुयाजनको लोको भविष्यति परस्परम् ।  
 नाव्याहतक्रूरवाक्यो नार्जवी नानसूयकः ॥ २८ ॥  
 न कृते प्रतिकर्ता च युगक्षीणे भविष्यति ।  
 निंदकाश्चैव पतिता युगांतस्य च लक्षणम् ॥ २९ ॥  
 नृपशून्या वसुमती न च धान्यधनावृता ।  
 मण्डलान् भविष्यन्ति देशेषु नगरेषु च ॥ ३० ॥  
 अल्पोदका चाल्पफला भविष्यति वसुंधरा ।

गोप्तारश्चाप्यगोप्तारः संभविष्यन्त्यशासनाः ॥ ३१ ॥

The rain gods, at the time of the end of Kali *yuga*, resort only to drizzling. The traders shall apply unfair means in the conducting of business. They will be uselessly surrounded by pomp and show. The people would mostly be comprised of beggars and suitors and shall denounce each other. At the end of *yuga*, no one would ever think of repaying the kindness done by others. The people who are soft spoken, those who do not denounce others, or the simple people will be nowhere to be found. The fallen people or those who denounce others, will criticise this time of Kaliyuga. The earth would be deprived of the kings and lack the production of cereals. The earth will be filled with the groups of conspirators. There would be shortage of fruits and water. The warrior who would be required to protect the people, would fail in their duty. They would get undisciplined.

हर्तारः परवित्तानां परदारप्रधर्षकाः ।

कामात्मानो दुरात्मानो ह्यधमाः साहसप्रियाः ॥ ३२ ॥

प्रनष्टचेष्टनाः पुंसो मुक्तकेशाश्च शूलिनः ।

जनाः षोडशवर्षाश्च प्रजायन्ते युगक्षये ॥ ३३ ॥

The people would usurp the wealth and riches of others and defile the chastity of others' wives. They would be lustful, wicked, degraded, having no enthusiasm. The people would be deprived of their consciousness. They would be unable to value the things correctly. They shall have dishevelled hair. During the time of the decline of Kaliyuga, the people would be born with only sixteen years of age.

शुक्लदंताजिनाक्षाश्च मुण्डाः काषायवाससः ।

शूद्रा धर्मं चरिष्यन्ति युगांते समुपस्थिते ॥ ३४ ॥

At the end of the Kali age, the Śūdras will follow *dharma*. They shall possess while teeth, deer skin, rosary of Rudrākṣa, shave their heads and clad themselves in the ochre-coloured garments.

सस्यचौरा भविष्यन्ति दृढचैलाभिलाषिणः ।

चौराश्चोरस्वहर्तारो हर्तुर्हर्ता तथापरः ॥ ३५ ॥

The people would steal plants and cereals. They would try to grab whatever cloth is seen by them. The thieves shall steal the property of other thieves. A plunderer will usurp the belongings of the other plunderer.

योग्यकर्मण्युपरते लोके निष्क्रियतां गते ।

कीटमूषकसर्पाश्च धर्षयिष्यन्ति मानवान् ॥ ३६ ॥

The useful and noble deeds would come to an end, the people would be inactive; then the worms and rats will cause pain to the serpents.

सुभिक्षं क्षेममारोग्यं सामर्थ्यं दुर्लभं तदा ।

कौशिकीं प्रतिपत्स्यन्ते देशान्क्षुब्धयपीडिताः ॥ ३७ ॥

It would be difficult to gain enhancement, welfare, good health and competence. The people who will be suffering from hunger, fear, shall reach the bank of the Kauśī river.

दुःखेनाभिप्लुतानां च परमायुः शतं तदा ।

दृश्यन्ते न च दृश्यन्ते वेदाः कलियुगेऽखिलाः ॥ ३८ ॥

उत्सीदन्ति तदा यज्ञा केवलाधर्मपीडिताः ।

काषायिणोप्यनिर्ग्रन्थाः कापालीबहुलास्त्वहः ॥ ३९ ॥

The people suffering from diversities, shall never enjoy a hundred years of their lives. Even all the Vedas can nowhere to be seen. The activities of performing of *yajñas* by the people would disappear due to the lack of faith. The recluses wearing the ochre-coloured costumes and the *Kapālikas* would be found in large number.

वेदविक्रयिणश्चान्ये तीर्थविक्रयिणः परे ।

वर्णाश्रमाणां ये चान्ये पाषण्डाः परिपन्थिनः ॥ ४० ॥

उत्पद्यन्ते तदा ते वै संप्राप्ते तु कलौ युगे ।

अधीयन्ते तदा वेदाञ्छूद्रा धर्मार्थकोविदाः ॥ ४१ ॥

The people would sell the Vedas, besides the sacred water of the holy places and shall derive undue advantage of the same. At the start of the age of Kali, then the deceitful people are also born and they oppose the traditions of the stages of life as well as the caste system. The Śūdras become spokesperson for the interpretation of the provision of *dharma*.

यजन्ते चाश्वमेधेन राजानः शूद्रयोनयः ।

स्त्रीबालगोवधं कृत्वा हत्वा चैव परस्परम् ॥ ४२ ॥

उपद्रवांस्तथान्योन्यं साधयन्ति तदा प्रजाः ।

दुःखप्रभूतमल्पायुर्देहोत्सादः सारोगता ॥ ४३ ॥

अधर्माभनिवेशित्वात्तमोवृत्तं कलौ स्मृतम् ।

प्रजासु ब्रह्महत्यादि तदा वै संप्रवर्तते ॥ ४४ ॥

The rulers of the Śūdra castes shall perform the *Aśvamedha* sacrifices. The people will harass others because of their women costumes and cows, and even kill one another and cause trouble to them. Because of the inclination of the people towards the evil ways, therefore, their activities will comprise of *tamoguṇa*. At that point of time, the sins like *Brahmahatyā* would become common.

तस्मादायुर्बलं रूपं कलिं प्राप्य प्रहीयते ।

तदा त्वल्पेन कालेन सिद्धिं गच्छन्ति मानवाः ॥ ४५ ॥

Therefore, during the age of Kali, the age, strength and beauty would be on the decline. The people would meet success in short duration and feel satisfied.

धन्या धर्मं चरिष्यन्ति युगांते द्विजसत्तमाः ।

श्रुतिस्मृत्युदितं धर्मं ये चरन्त्यनसूयकाः ॥ ४६ ॥

त्रेतायां वार्षिको धर्मो द्वापरे मासिकः स्मृतः ।

यथाक्लेशं चरन्प्राज्ञस्तदह्ना प्राप्नुते कलौ ॥ ४७ ॥

The excellent Brāhmaṇa would still follow the Vedas and the related literature and also follow *dharma* in an unblemished way even at the end of the age of Kali. During the *Tretāyuga*, the merit one gets by following *dharma* for a year, the same merit is earned in a month during *Dvāpara*, while during *Kaliyuga* a devotee achieves the same merit in a day.

एषा कलियुगावस्था संध्यांशं तु निबोध मे।

युगेयुगे च हीयन्ते त्रींस्त्रीन्यादांस्तु सिद्धयः॥४८॥

This is the position in the age of Kali; the position of *Sandhyāṁśa kāla* is going to be narrated by me. You listen to me. The *Siddhis* found in the start of a *yuga*, the three-fourth of them get declined at the end of each one of the *yuga*.

युगस्वभावाः संध्यास्तु तिष्ठन्तीह तु पादशः।

संध्यास्वभावाः स्वांशेषु पादशस्ते प्रतिष्ठिताः॥४९॥

Only a fourth of the period of a *yuga* comprises of *Sandhyāṁśa*. Similarly, the form of *Sandhyāṁśa* is left in a *Sandhyāṁśa*. This means that during the *Sandhyāṁśa* period only one sixth ( $1/6^{th}$ ) of the *yugadharma* will prevail.

एवं सन्ध्यांशके काले संप्राप्ते तु युगांतिके।

तेषां शास्ता ह्यसाधूनां भूतानां निधनोत्थितः॥५०॥

गोत्रेऽस्मिन्वै चन्द्रमसो नाम्ना प्रमितिरुच्यते।

मानवस्य तु सौंशेन पूर्वं स्वायंभुवेन्तरे॥५१॥

समाः स विंशतिः पूर्णा पर्यट्चैव वसुंधराम्।

अनुकर्षन् स वै सेनां सवाजिरथकुञ्जराम्॥५२॥

प्रगृहीतायुधैर्विप्रैः शतशोथ सहस्रशः।

स तदा तैः परिवृतो म्लेच्छान् हन्ति सहस्रशः॥५३॥

When the *yuga* has come to a close and the period of junction too arrives, the chastiser of the wicked people, will rise up in order to kill the bad beings. He will be born

in the family of the Moon and will be called Pramiti by name. Previously in the Svayambhuva Manvantara, he had been born of the parts (*amśa*) of Manu (or the family of the Manu). For full twenty years, he will be roaming about on earth. He will be taking along with him a big army consisting of horses, chariots and elephants. He will be surrounded by hundreds and thousands of Brāhmaṇas wielding weapons. He will kill the Mlecchas (outcaste people) in hundreds.

स हत्वा सर्वशस्त्रैव राजस्ताञ्शूद्रयोनिजान्।

पाखण्डांस्तु ततः सर्वान्निःशेषं कृतवान् प्रभुः॥५४॥

नात्यर्थं धार्मिका ये च तान् सर्वान् हन्ति सर्वतः।

वर्णव्यत्यासजाताश्च ये च ताननुजीविनः॥५५॥

After killing all the kings born in the Śūdra race, he would wake up the lord completely. He shall kill the irreligious people, those who were born of the cross breed and those who depend on them.

प्रवृत्तचक्रो बलवान् म्लेच्छानामंतकृत्स तु।

अधृष्यः सर्वभूतानां चचाराथ वसुंधराम्॥५६॥

Thus, making himself quite strong, controlling an active army, he, the destroyer of the Mlecchas, invincible to all the living beings, will roam about in the universe.

मानवस्य तु सौंशेन देवस्येह विजविज्ञान्।

पूर्वजन्मनि विष्णोस्तु प्रमितिर्नाम वीर्यवान्॥५७॥

गोत्रतो वै चन्द्रमसः पूर्णे कलियुगे प्रभुः।

द्वात्रिंशेऽभ्युदिते वर्षे प्रक्रांतो विंशतिः समाः॥५८॥

In the earlier birth, he was born in the race of Manu, who himself was the incarnation of Viṣṇu. After completion of *Kaliyuga*, he will be born in the race of Moon as a powerful Pramiti. He will start his campaign in his thirty-second year and shall continue it for twenty years.