

## Gita Chapter 7 – class #18

- Verses 1-3: introduction to chapter 7
- Verses 4 to 12: the central teaching of chapter 7  
- the nature of God. ईश्वर सवरूपं
- Note that this only reflects all the teaching of Vedas – Vedanta.  
Gita is only a restatement (श्रुति -> स्मृति)
- **So let us review the Upanisadic teaching:**
- God is to be understood in 3 stages, based on the maturity/readiness of the person  
- stage 1: as a person, Siva, Vishnu, Devi and so on  
- stage 2: as the entire cosmos, with all forms and qualities  
- stage 3: as the all-pervasive consciousness; [as I](#)
- Here, the teaching starts with stage 2
- God as the cause of the universe. ईश्वर जगत् कारणं
- Any creation has 2 factors:
  1. The material for creation उपादान कारणं
  2. Intelligence निमित्त कारणं  
(even robots are to designed by a conscious person)
- So even before creation, God is there with both factors
- Generally the 2 factors are separate, but with exceptions
  1. The spider
  2. The dreamer
- So the nature of God:
  - intelligence – परा प्रकृति
  - material - अपरा प्रकृति

- Common between the 2: both are beyond time and space. अनादि. Called स्वभाव of ईश्वर
- 4 differences between them:
  1. Sentience and insentience चेतन, जड
  2. Without qualities and with qualities निर्गुण सगुण
  3. Changeless and always changing निर्विकार सविकार
  4. Independent and dependent स्वतन्त्र परतन्त्र (मिथ्या)
- So there is no real creation; just an appearance, a manifestation. This is in 2 stages:
  1. Intermediate – like a seed sprouting into a sapling
  2. Full. the plant becomes a tree
- V 5-6
  - intermediate contents: 8 elements (indivisible) भूतं
  - space, air, fire, water, earth (solidity), mind, intelligence and I thought.
  - full contents: elementals भौतिकं infinite combinations of the elements
- Notes:
  - matter and energy are convertible, and not destroyed
  - energy within itself converts – electrical, mechanical, sound etc.
  - matter and energy are both inert, अपरा प्रकृति
  - consciousness is not energy; cannot be evaluated, seen, not subject to scientific analysis
  - it is the nature of the observer, only revealed by words of authority (शाब्द प्रमाणं)
- V 6
  - conversion from the intermediate stage to the full stage
  - example of elementals: a living body
- The creation itself is the Cosmic Person – the only person
  - everyone else is a reflection
- “May you see everything as my manifestation”
  - may you see the phenomenon of manifestation and un-manifestation
  - the whole universe is designed in circles
  - means there is no beginning, no end