

**PRASNOTTARA  
RATNA MALIKA  
of  
Sankara Bhagavatpada**

1. भगवन् किं उपादेयम् ?  
O Lord, which is to be taken ?  
गुरुवचनम्  
Utterances of the preceptor.
2. कः पथ्यतरः?  
What is more beneficial than anything else?  
धर्मः  
Righteousness.
3. किं विषम्?  
What is poison ?  
अवधीरणा गुरुषु  
Transgression of preceptor's orders.
4. किं मनुजेषु इष्टतमम्?  
What is most desirable for human beings ?  
स्व-पर-हिताय उद्यतं जन्म।  
Life dedicated to one's and others' welfare.

5. के च दस्यवः?  
Who are thieves ?  
विषयाः।  
Objects of sense.
6. को वैरी?  
Who is the foe ?  
यस्तु अनुद्योगः।  
It is but idleness.
7. किं गुरुतायां मूलम् ?  
What is the cause of greatness ?  
यत् एतत् अप्रार्थनं नाम ।  
That which is known as not asking favours.
8. किं दुखम्?  
What is unhappiness ?  
असन्तोषः।  
Cheerlessness.
9. किं जाड्यम् ?  
What is unintelligence ?  
पाठतोऽपि अनभ्यासः।  
Not repeating what is learnt.
10. नलिनी-दल-गत-जलवत्-तरलं किम् ?  
What is transient like the water on the lotus leaf ?

यौवनं, धनं च आयुः।  
Youth, wealth and life.

11. किं च अनर्घम् ?  
What is priceless ?  
यदवसरे दत्तम् ।  
That which is given at the right moment.
12. आमरणात् किं शाल्यम् ?  
What paid like a shaft till death ?  
प्रच्छन्नं यत् कृतं पापम् ।  
The sin committed in secrecy.
13. कुत्र विधेयो यत्नः?  
Where is the effort ordained ?  
विद्याभ्यासे सदौषधे दाने ।  
In learning, good medicine, charity.
14. केन जितं जगदेतत् ?  
By whom is this world conquered ?  
सत्य-तितिक्षावता पुंसा।  
By the person who has truthfulness and endurance.
15. कस्य वशे प्राणिगण ?  
In whom control lies the community of creatures ?  
सत्य-प्रियभाषिणो विनीतस्य।  
One who speaks the truth, is kindly and humble.

16. क्व स्थातव्यम्?

To what should one stick ?

न्याय्ये पथि दृष्ट-अदृष्ट-लाभाढ्ये।

To the right path wherein the seen and the unseen profits abound.

17. किं दानम् ?

What is charity ?

अनाकाङ्क्षम् ।

Expecting no return.

18. किं मित्रम् ?

Who is a friend ?

यो निवारयति पापात्।

One who saves from sin.

19. किं तद्वदन्ति भूयो विधूततमसो विशेषेण ?

What do those who have destroyed dark ignorance specially urge repeatedly ?

दानं प्रियवाक्सहितं, ज्ञानं अगर्वं, क्षमान्वितं शौर्यम्, वित्तं त्यागसमेतं, दुर्लभमेतत् चतुर्भद्रम्॥

Charity along with sweet words, knowledge with humility, courage with patience, wealth with renunciation. These four auspicious things are hard to attain.

20. किं शोच्यम्?  
What is to be grieved over ?  
कार्पण्यम्।  
Miserliness.
21. कः परिहर्यो देशः?  
Which place is to be shunned ?  
पिशुनयुतो लुब्धभूपश्च।  
One abounding in wicked people and ruled by a  
greedy king.
22. इह भुवने को शोच्यः?  
Who is to be grieved over in this world ?  
सत्यपि भुवने यो न दाता।  
One who is not a giver even when there is wealth.
23. किं अहर्निशं अनुचिन्त्यम्?  
What is to be contemplated day and night ?  
भगवच्चरणं न संसारः।  
The feet of the Lord, not the worldly life.
24. किं सम्पाद्यं मनुजैः?  
What is to be earned by people ?  
विद्या, वित्तं, बलं, यशः, पुण्यम् ।  
Knowledge, wealth, strength, fame, merit.

25. कः सर्वगुणविनाशी?  
Which is the destroyer if all good qualities ?  
लोभः।  
Greed.
26. शत्रुश्च कः?  
Who is the enemy ?  
कामः।  
Lust.
27. का सुरक्षया ?  
What is to be well protected ?  
कीर्तिः पतिव्रता नैजबुद्धिश्च।  
Good name, devoted wife and discernment.
28. का कल्पलता लोके ?  
What is the Kalpa creeper in the world ?  
सच्छिष्याय अर्पिता विद्या।  
Knowledge imparted to the earnest student.
29. पातकं च किम् ?  
What, too, is heinous ?  
हिंसा ।  
Cruelty.

30. सम्भावितस्य मरणात् अधिकं किम् ?  
What is more painful than death to a respected person ?  
दुर्यशो भवति।  
Infamy.
31. को वर्धते ?  
Who grows ?  
विनीतः।  
The humble.
32. किं भाग्यं देहवताम् ?  
What is good fortune for those who have body ?  
आरोग्यम्।  
Health.
33. को जगद्धर्ता ?  
Who is the protector of the world ?  
सूर्यः।  
The Sun.
34. सर्वेषां को जीवनहेतुः?  
What is the cause of livelihood for everyone?  
स पर्जन्यः।  
That is rain.

35. कः शूरः?  
Who is brave ?  
यो भीतत्राता।  
One who protects those in fright.
36. त्राता च कः?  
And who is the protector ?  
स गुरुः।  
It is the preceptor.
37. प्रत्यक्षदेवता का ?  
Who is the perceptible goddess ?  
माता।  
Mother.
38. पूज्यो गुरुश्च कः?  
And who is the preceptor to be honoured?  
तातः।  
Father.
39. पात्रं किं अन्नदाने?  
Who is the fit recipient of the gift of food ?  
क्षुधितम्।  
The hungry.