

Bhagat Kabir – Sabad 11
garab vaas meh kul nahee jaatee ||
Raag Gauri, Bhagat Kabir, Guru Granth Sahib, 324

garab vaas meh kul nahee jaatee ||
braham bi(n)d te sabh utpaatee ||1||
kahu re pa(n)ddit baaman kab ke hoe ||
baaman keh keh janam mat khoe ||1|| rahaau ||
jau too(n) braahaman brahamanee jaiaa ||
tau aan baaT kaahe nahee aaiaa ||2||
tum kat braahaman ham kat sood ||
ham kat lohoo tum kat doodh ||3||
kahu kabeer jo braham beechaarai ||
so braahaman kaheeat hai hamaarai ||4 ||7 ||

Summary: Labels that give identity, such as caste, class, and lineage, are human constructs — tools created to organise society, often misused to create hierarchies and divisions. However, in the realm of spiritual truth, these structures are irrelevant, calling us to think critically and let go of inherited assumptions and beliefs. The path to self-realization does not begin with a title, a ritual, or a genealogy; it starts with unlearning misconceptions. A radical spiritual thinker exposes the fragility and harm of these social and religious constructs, revealing them as illusions born of ego, not reflections of our true essence. True nobility is born not from bloodline but from deep spiritual reflection.

garab vaas meh kul nahee jaatee ||
The fetus developing in the womb has no ancestry or social status.

braham bi(n)d te sabh utpaatee ||1||
All creation originates from the same omnipresent energy. (1)

kahu re pa(n)ddit baaman kab ke hoe ||
Enlighten me, O scholar, since when have you held the position of the superior high caste?

baaman keh keh janam mat khoe ||1|| rahaau ||
Repeatedly claiming yourself to be the superior one, do not waste your life.
(1)(Pause)

jau too(n) braahaman brahamanee jaiaa ||
If you are superior, born of a high caste mother,

tau aan baaT kaahe nahee aaiaa ||2||
then why didn't you come into this world through some other path? (2)

tum kat braahaman ham kat sood ||
How are you regarded superior, as the high caste, and I am considered inferior as a low-caste?

ham kat lohoo tum kat doodh ||3||
Am I made of blood, and you are made from milk? (3)

kahu kabeer jo braham beechaarai ||
Kabir says those who contemplate the oneness of creation as the truth of existence,

so braahaman kaheet hai hamaarai ||4||7||
They are the only ones in our society who can be called the high caste, the superior.
(4)(7)

Essence: Bhagat Kabir challenges the deeply rooted illusion of social and religious hierarchy. He confronts the idea of superiority based on birth, reminding us that all beings come from the same source. Regardless of family background or social standing, we all share the same physical form and are born in the same way, through our mother's womb, delivered through the birth canal. This shared origin makes the concept of ancestral purity or inherited superiority meaningless. Our true essence transcends identity, raising questions: if we are all born through the same biological process, what makes one birth more sacred than another? What truly defines superiority in the social or religious domain? Those who understand and live by the truth of our unity in diversity are the ones who deserve this recognition and status. Bhagat Kabir warns of letting intellectual arrogance or religious pride dictate our identity clouds our self-awareness as it wastes the precious gift of life.

Sabad Interpretation by **Vininder Kaur & Amardeep Singh**

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