

Bhagat Ravidas – Sabad 9
tum cha(n)dan ham ira(n)D baapure sa(n)g tumaare baasaa ||
Raag Asa, Bhagat Ravidas, Guru Granth Sahib, 486

tum cha(n)dan ham ira(n)D baapure sa(n)g tumaare baasaa ||
neech rookh te uooch bhe hai ga(n)dh suga(n)dh nivaasaa ||1||
maadhau satasa(n)gat saran tum(h)aaree ||
ham aaugan tum(h) upakaaree ||1|| rahaau ||
tum makhtool suped sapeeal ham bapure jas keeraa ||
satasa(n)gat mil raheeaai maadhau jaise madhup makheeraa ||2||
jaatee ochhaa paatee ochhaa ochhaa janam hamaaraa ||
raajaa raam kee sev na keenee keh ravidaas chamaaraa ||3||3||

Summary: Virtuous refers to characteristics that inspire a sense of well-being. Being in their company creates a feeling of peace and joy. Virtuous companionship is an impressionable guide on our journey through life, and a bridge to awareness. Iron glows and is malleable when placed near fire; similarly, our mind radiates with insights in the company of the virtuous, enhancing our perspective and elevating our thoughts and actions. What truly matters in life is not the pursuit of ambition or material wealth, but rather the cultivation of inner peace and authentic connections. In this nurturing space, our imperfections transform into valuable opportunities for growth that enrich our lives.

tum cha(n)dan ham ira(n)D baapure sa(n)g tumaare baasaa ||
You are the fragrant sandalwood, and I am an ordinary castor plant, dwelling in your presence. This reference to "you" symbolizes awareness and reflects on how this association can influence our mindset.

neech rookh te uooch bhe hai ga(n)dh suga(n)dh nivaasaa ||1||
From an ordinary shrub, I have blossomed into a majestic tree; my stench has been overtaken by your enchanting fragrance, now infused within me. This transformation reflects the profound impact of meaningful connections on our perceptions. (1)

maadhau satasa(n)gat saran tum(h)aaree ||
O beloved omnipresent force, the mind gains protection by associating with truthfulness. This suggests that positive associations foster a sense of authenticity, shielding us from negative thoughts.

ham aaugan tum(h) upakaaree ||1|| rahaau ||

The self is filled with limitations, while the all-pervading awareness is the benevolent force. This recognition shows that conceit arises from our ego, while humility comes from the wisdom that nurtures awareness. (1)(Pause)

tum makhtool suped sapeeal ham bapure jas keeraa ||

You are the purified silk thread, transformed from white to golden hue, and I am an insignificant worm seeking glory. This reflects that the wise do not chase validation, while the ignorant crave it.

satasa(n)gat mil raheeaai maadhau jaise madhup makheeraa ||2||

Sustain the company of the truth after attaining it, O beloved awareness, just as the bee cherishes honey. (2)

jaatee ochhaa paatee ochhaa ochhaa janam hamaaraa ||

My social class is deemed low, my lineage is low, and my birth is considered inferior. This highlights the unfair social hierarchies that define worth by external status rather than internal merit.

raajaa raam kee sev na keenee keh ravidas chamaaraa ||3||3||

Sovereignty of oneness of creation is not honoured, says Ravidas, the low-caste cobbler. This is a rejection of social injustice, emphasizing that true lowliness lies in neglecting to embrace universal unity. (3)(3)

Essence: Bhagat Ravidas emphasizes that his low caste, humble lineage, and seemingly insignificant birth serve as powerful reminders of the societal hierarchies that undermine the worth of individuals. He urges us to recognize the inherent value in every person and to reflect on the importance of serving the oneness of creation. He rejects social injustice, arguing that true enlightenment lies in our commitment to serving and promoting universal unity. He metaphorically represents transformation through wisdom as a silk thread that evolves from plain white to radiant gold. In humility, he compares his ignorance to that of a worm and expresses a desire for positive influences to embrace unity, like a bee drawn to honey. This seeking illustrates the need to gain wisdom that fosters deeper awareness.

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

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