



S.K.S. SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE (LONDON) – BAL YUVAK MANDAL

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SHIKSHAPATRI BHASHYA SHLOK 30

||One shall never drink unfiltered water or milk nor bathe with water which contains many organisms ||

Note that the filter used should be a piece of cotton cloth, other utensils such as sieves, nylon and other fabric are not sufficient and the liquid will be considered unfiltered. Cotton expands when wet and hence holds anything that's not liquid. A normal cotton cloth will filter out the bacteria contained in water. It is also important to filter oil before using it. Butter should be melted and filtered before use, you should never directly apply it to chapattis, bread etc.

Also the Smrutis explain that if you drink water from a leather bag or unfiltered water, this is the same as eating meat. Similarly, milk, yogurt, butter or ghee (collectively called Gavya) which is kept in a tamba pot (copper pot) is equal to liquor. A tamba pot for Gavya can only be used for Dev pooja, yagnas, milking, serving or for use by an ascetic.

Water filtered stays pure for 6 hours, after which it must be filtered again. Drinking unfiltered drinks carries the same paap as the paap a fisherman has accumulated for 6 months! Note that milk and oil can be filtered once.

Why should we not drink unfiltered liquids?

- May contains small organisms not visible to the naked eye
- Water comes through pipes which may contain rust, insects etc
- Milk may still have cow hair, pieces of dead skin in it.

- Prayaschit for drinking unfiltered milk (i.e. cow hairs): Upvaas

- Prayaschit for drinking unfiltered water (i.e. water containing insects, worms dirt): live off Gomutar (cow urine), Gochaarna (cow excrement) for 3 days!

Filtering water/ liquids is something that many households have stopped doing so it is important to stress the consequences of not doing so. It is not OK to just filter the milk/ water we offer Maharaj in His thaal, don't forget that Maharaj also resides within our bodies, so we must keep them pure. Remind the yuvaks/ yuvatis that bottled and canned drinks have not been filtered; this applies to mineral water also.