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SHIKSHAPATRI BHASHYA SHLOK 38

|| *My devotees should not wear clothes that are likely to cause indecent exposure* ||

Discussion:

- Why has Maharaj mentioned about what we should wear?
- Which clothes are considered decent and indecent?

This shlok applies to both men and women, today's fashion has taken its course to a point where this shlok becomes important!

In Shikshapatri Bhashya, Shatanand Swami has stated that clothes that are torn, have oil marks, have been stitched up too much, dirty or netted should not be worn. This applies to everyone except for a person who is really poor. Maharaj has said to wear nice clean clothes according to ones status. This does not mean that you should spend money buying really expensive clothes; neither does it mean to buy clothes that are not going to cover your body fully. You simply need something that will cover your body adequately without revealing any body parts which will catch someone's attention.

By wearing a cloth with a smallest tear is considered being naked! That tear would show our skin, which again, would reveal the body. By wearing skimpy revealing clothes, we are the ones inviting problems in our community, e.g. rape etc. This paap is not carried by the person doing the deed, it's a paap created by you as well. Even if someone's eye fall on you because of what you are wearing is a paap on yourself. This does not mean you are not allowed to be fashionable, wear what is comfortable and covers your body.

Discussion:

- How does the way we dress affect satsang/bhakti?

Maharaj has instructed his saints and devotees to wear simple clothes. Our attentions in Satsang gets deviated by what we wear, hence fashion is not going to bring us any closer to Maharaj. Also, indecent clothes are not going to increase our bhakti, thus there is no need of wearing something that is not going to make Maharaj happy.