

Re: Miser[ies]

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Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev.

As a follow-up of Shyam Charan Prabhu's recent mail on "Misers and Miseries", I found another nice reference. The same word *kṛpaṇāḥ* is analyzed in the purport to the verse 2.49 of Gita. Srila Prabhupada quotes the definition of the word *kṛpaṇāḥ* from the Brhad Aranyaka upanishad 3.8.10 'yo vā etad akṣaram gārgy aviditvāsmāl lokāt praiti sa *kṛpaṇāḥ*'. (One who departs from this world without knowing this akshara (imperishable supreme being) is a *kṛpaṇāḥ* (miser). Actually a miser is one who has more wealth and does not use it both for himself and for others. This human body is a greatest wealth and one can use it to attain Lord Vishnu and to the best of his ability help others to attain Lord Vishnu. But a person who completely wastes this wealth by engaging in unnecessary pursuits is a *kṛpaṇāḥ* (miser). The opposite of the word is brahmana. *ta etad akṣaram gārgi viditvāsmāl lokāt praiti sa brāhmaṇāḥ*. One who departs from this world knowing the imperishable Vishnu is a brahmana. So both brahmana and *kṛpaṇā* has to depart from this world. The difference is that a brahmana does not come back because he knows Lord Vishnu and *kṛpaṇā* comes back as he lacks the knowledge of Lord Vishnu. Srila Prabhupada by his causeless mercy made *kṛpaṇās* in this world into top class brahmanas.

Your servant,
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