

A person does not need purification after contacting the following items, for they are considered pure: items for sale in the market; goods received by begging; the mouth of a goat or a horse; mongooses; cows (except a cow's mouth, which is impure); elephants; horses; bees; a calf taking milk; cow urine, dung, milk, yogurt, ghee, and rocana; fried or roasted foods (other than meat, fish, or eggs); the hands of a craftsman, such as a potter; rays of the sun or moon; fire, wind, dew, or running water; the shadow of a tree; kusa grass, honey, fruit, or essences; or anything certified as pure by an authoritative person.

Because Deity prasada is pure, a Vaishnava is careful to eat only Deity prasada, if at all possible. Since prasada is pure, after taking prasada one does not have to take a bath before worshiping the Deity. If when taking prasada a devotee does not touch his mouth with either his hand or a utensil, such as a cup or spoon (when taking a small portion of maha-prasada, for example), then he does not have to change his cloth before worshiping the Deity. However, if his hand touches his mouth when he is eating, he must put on clean cloth to worship the Deity.

However, the pujari must thoroughly rinse his mouth and wash his hands and feet; then he must perform full achaman. He may not brush his teeth unless he takes a bath afterward. It is best not to eat prior to worshiping the Deity, since one may offend the Lord by belching! Also, with a full stomach one cannot concentrate properly on one's services to the Lord. Service performed directly in the Deity room should be done with full attention, not in a routine manner, for the pujari should always be aware of being in the direct presence of the Lord.