

The difference between Western and Eastern culture

Without sex life one cannot be materially enthusiastic. And if you stop sex life, then you become spiritually advanced. This is the secret. If you stop sex life, then you become spiritually advanced, and if you indulge in sex life, then you will be materially enthusiastic. That is the difference between Western and Eastern culture. The whole Eastern culture is based on how to stop sex life, and here in the Western countries, how to increase sex life. They are eating meat, eggs, drinking wine. These things will enthrone sex life. And as soon as you get very satisfactory sex life, you become enthused to work hard. Therefore *karmis*, marriage is necessary, because without sex life they cannot work. And for *jnanis*, *yogis*, *bhaktas*, sex life prohibited. Actually they do not know the science of life, this Western civilization. Their life means this body. Their life means this body. That means they do not know what is life. And as soon as the life is gone, the body is there — they cannot explain. This is their ignorance. Why the life is stopped? And they are very proud of advancement. And bring in life again. That they cannot do. That means the whole basic principle is ignorance.

Srila Prabhupada — October 18, 1975, Johannesburg