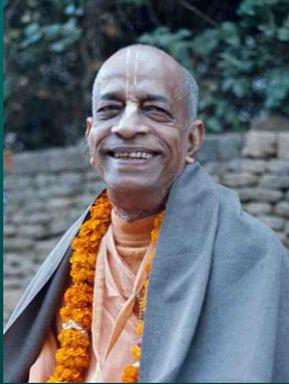


ŚRĪ MAHĀNET

Since the beginning of the Millennium

May 2021



Srila A.C. Bhaktivedanta
Swami Prabhupada

The secondary purpose of Lord Krishna's appearance is to annihilate the upstart *asuras* and to stop the nonsense of atheistic propaganda by less intelligent persons. By the Lord's causeless mercy, the *asuras* who are killed personally by the Personality of Godhead get salvation. The meaningful appearance of the Lord is always distinct from ordinary birth. Even the pure devotees have no connection with the material body, and certainly the Lord, who appears as He is, in His *sac-cid-ānanda* form, is not limited by a material form.

(Prabhupada Purport SB 3:1:44)

ŚRĪ ŚRĪ PRAPANNA-JIVANAMRTAM

by Śrīla Bhakti Rakṣhaka Śrīdhara

Deva Goswāmī Mahārāja

Verse 3.9

sarvatra tad anumāna darsanād eva tat-siddhiḥ –

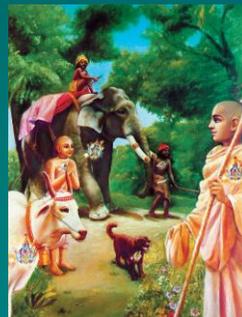
*tat te 'nukampam susamīksamano
bhujana evatma-kṛtam vipakam
hrd-vag-vapurbbhir vidadhan namas te
jiveta yo mukti-pade sa daya-bhak*

Sri Brahmanah

Constant remembrance is accomplished only when one can see the grace of the Supreme Lord in every situation –

"One who, in the hope of achieving Your grace, goes on enduring the inauspicious fruit of his own karma, and passes his days practicing devotion unto You in every thought, word, and deed - such a person is heir to the land of freedom: he attains to the plane of positive immortality."

- Lord Brahma



The Supreme Lord in all living entities

WORDS OF OUR GUARDIANS

Śrīla Bhakti Rakṣaka Śrīdhara Deva Goswāmī Mahārāja
from *The Loving Search for the Lost Servant*

Beneath the Loving Eye of God

"Neither existence nor consciousness are complete in themselves. Consciousness alone hankers for ecstasy. And existence without consciousness is to exist with no purpose. But when existence is endowed with consciousness, it can search for its own good: ecstasy." *Vishnu Padam* "The divine feet of our holy Lord are like the vigilant eye of a grand guardian hanging over our heads like the sun, and we are living beneath the glance of that vigilant eye. We shall always try to live not in the objective but in subjective relativity. We should think: above my consciousness is Super-consciousness; the vigilant

guardian's eye is always watching over me." *The Rg Veda mantra* says:

Om tad visno paramam padam sada pasyanti suraya diviva caksur atatam

The divine feet of our holy Lord are like the sun above our heads. His holy feet are like the vigilant eye of a grand guardian hanging over our heads like the sun, and we are living beneath the glance of that vigilant eye. We are interested not in objective, but in subjective reality. We shall always try to live not in objective but in subjective relativity. We should never think, "Under my feet I have firm ground to stand on; I am big. I shall stand erect." Rather we should think, "Above my



*Srila Bhakti Rakshak
Sridhar Deva Goswami
Maharaj*

*"We are
consciousness and
we are meant for
Krsna consciousness
- that is our
relationship."*

consciousness is super-consciousness; the vigilant guardian's eye is always watching me. I am living under the glance of that eye." Our support comes not from below, but from above. He is our shelter. We are hanging from that substantial upper world wherein He resides; our support is found there.

We must always be conscious of that. This is a principle mantra in the Rg Veda. Before anyone approaches a new duty, he should think about his own position. We have been instructed by this verse from the Vedas to think in this way: "You are under the vigilant eye of your guardian, and that great eye is as living as the sun; its glance is just like that of the sun which is over your head. Like a light that can pierce through to see anything within you, His piercing glance is upon you." With this understanding of

identity we should approach our duty. We are never encouraged to think that we stand firmly here on solid earth, and that on the basis of a strong position, independent of His grace we can carry out our dharma.

Actually, in our subjective relationship with divinity, we are just like the rays of the sun. Where do the sun's rays stand? They stand on the sun - that is their source. In the same way, we should think that our stand is in the realm of divinity; we are so many particles of consciousness, and our stand, our motherland, is that conscious area. God consciousness means Krsna consciousness.

We are consciousness and we are meant for Krsna consciousness - that is our relationship. We should always be conscious of this fact. We are connected with Krsna consciousness. We are members of the Krsna conscious world. And we

have come to wander in the foreign land of material consciousness, *mayika* misconception, thinking that we are units of this material world, but it is not so. We are units of the conscious world - the Krsna conscious world - and somehow we have come within this material conception of existence, the world of matter. Matter is what we can exploit, the objective side of reality, and the subjective side is the element we should revere. Our relationship with the subjective is that of reverence and devotion to the higher entity, and not that of exploitation or enjoyment. Real enjoyment, divine enjoyment, comes from service - not from exploitation.

We must understand all these basic principles. Bhaktivedanta Swami Maharaja once remarked to me that although the engineers in New York have built so many skyscraper buildings that will stand for ages,

they were never mindful of how long their own bodies would last. The buildings will stand for a long, long time. But those who will live in those buildings have forgotten how long their bodies will stand. In this way people are very busy on the objective side, but they are neglecting the subjective values. Their concern is with objects and not with who will use them. They think that no subjective cultivation is necessary for the user of the objective world. In this way they give all importance to the objective side, neglecting totally the subjective side.

Consciousness Rays

Our real position is like the rays of the sun. A sun ray touches the earth. Where is its home? A sun ray comes to our plane and touches the hills and the water, but what should be considered as its home? Necessarily the sun, and not the

earth it touches. Our position is similar.

As rays of consciousness, we pertain not to the material world, but to the conscious world. Our home connection is there: in the sun - the spiritual sun. We are advised by the Vedas to consider:

"Although you have been cast in a hole of this earth, still your native soil is the conscious sun. You emanate from there, you are sustained from there, and your prospect is there. You have to conceive of reality in that way. Because you are conscious, your home is the source of consciousness. "

DIVINE INSTRUCTION

Srila Bhakti Sundara Govinda Deva Goswami Maharaja
from "Revealed Truth"

THE TRANSCENDENTAL VIBRATION OF KRSNA'S FLUTE- SONG

Srila Rupa Goswami Prabhu has written a very nice *sloka* describing the transcendental, attractive power and activity of the sound of Krsna's flute.

*rundhann ambu-bhrtas
chamatkrti-param
kurvan muhus tumburum
dhyanaad antarayan
sanandana-mukhan
vismapayan vedhasam
autsukyavalibhir balim
chatulayan*

*bhogindram
aghurnayan
bhindann anda-kataha-
bhittim abhito
babhrama vamsi-
dhvanih*

(*Vidagdha-madhava:*
1.27)

*Bhindann anda-kataha-
bhittim abhito
babhrama*, when Krsna plays His flute, the sound, *vamsi-dhvani*, travels not only everywhere throughout His divine abode but throughout all universes. The sound of

Krsna's flute travels through universe after universe, through sky after sky, across all time and space. *Rundhann ambu-bhrtas*, the clouds within all the different skies lose their movement.

Chamatkrti-param kurvan muhus tumburum, the *Gandharvas*, the singers and musicians of the heavenly planets, as well as Indra, Chandra, Vayu, etc., are astonished to hear the sweet sound of Krsna's flute and cannot understand where it is coming from.



Srila Bhakti Sundara
Govinda Deva Goswami
Maharaja

The four *kumaras* who are always in meditation—Sananda, Sanaka, Sanatana, and Sanat—cannot believe they are hearing Krsna’s flute-song because they are never aware of anything in their external environment. They wonder, “Where has this sound come from? How has it captured our attention?”

Vismapayan vedhasam, even Lord Brahma, the creator of the universe, is very astonished to hear that sound, “This sound is not my creation, where is it coming from?”

Autsukyavalibhir balim chatulayan, Bali Maharaj who lives in *Patala-loka*, the underworld, hears that sound and becomes *chaichala*, crazy, “Where is this sound coming from?”

Bhogindram aghurnayan, Satya-raja Vasuki, Lord Ananta Sesa who holds the Earth planet upon His head, is struck by that sound and shakes His head. In this way the one tune of Krsna’s flute makes the whole transcendental and mundane universe mad and attracts everyone

everywhere.

Within Krsna’s divine abode of *Goloka Vrndavan* His flute song is the very life of everyone, *vamsi priya-sakhi*. Through the transcendental sound vibration of His flute Krsna communicates with the hearts of all His devotees. All of Krsna’s associates find their existence in *vamsi-dhvani*, the sound of His flute. By Krsna’s sweet will everyone hears His flute-song and is inspired by it according to their relationship with Him. All the devotees, in their relationships of *santa*, *dasya*, *sakhya*, *vatsalya*, and *madhura rasas*, are filled with affection and instruction by Krsna’s flute-song which inspires them as to how they can next serve Krsna.

Krsna’s mother Yasomati hears Krsna’s flute-song and begins preparing many opulent foods that Krsna likes. Krsna’s friends are inspired to play with Krsna. Krsna’s girlfriends are inspired to meet with Krsna. Krsna’s flute-song simultaneously reveals His desires to everyone according to their relationship with Him and inspires them in their devotional mood.

THE SOURCE OF KRSNA’S INSPIRATION AND ATTRACTIVE POWER

Krsna is irresistibly attractive as He plays His flute. Krsna’s devotees become completely charmed by His attracting power as He plays His flute and they cannot separate their existence from their desire for Krsna.

*sri-krsna-rupadi-nisevanam vina
vyarthani me ’hany akhilendriyany alam
pasana-suskendhana-bharakany aho
bibharmi va tani katham hata-trapah*
(*Sri Chaitanya-charitamrta: Madhya-lila 2.28*)

Krsna’s devotees feel, “If we cannot feel and touch Krsna’s divine form then all of our senses are useless. Why do we even have eyes if we cannot see Krsna?”

*vamsi-ganamrta-dhama,
lavanyamrta-janma-sthana,
ye na dekhe se chanda vadana*

*se nayane kiba kaja paduk tara
munde vaja se nayana rahe ki karana.*
(*Sri Chaitanya-charitamrta: Madhya-lila, 2.29*)

“As Krsna plays His sweet song on His flute His moon-like face is filled with unlimitedly attractive attachment and heart felt affection.”

Srila Guru Maharaj has explained why Krsna’s flute-song is so powerfully attractive. We know that the *Gayatri-mantram* comes from the sound of Krsna’s flute. So through the *Gayatri-mantram* we can understand the mood and intention of Krsna as He plays His flute.

*gayatri muralista-kirttana-dhanam
radha-padam dhimahi*
(Srila Bhakti Raksak Sridhar Dev-Goswami Maharaj)

‘*Gayatri*’ means *murali-dhvani*, the sound of Krsna’s flute. *Muralista-kirttana: murali* wants *kirttan*; through His flute Krsna performs His desired *kirttan*. *Murali-ista, ista* means Krsna wants to perform *kirttan* of His dearest-most—Radharani.

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE

*Srīla Bhakti Nirmal Acharya Maharaja
from "Guidance" - Volume 1*

Ego: a Play of Kali

8 December 2010



Srila Bhakti Nirmal Acharya Maharaja

"Ego is very bad, and it can come even through service."

Continued from our April 2021 issue...

Question: We hear about *abhimān* all the time, but still we cannot overcome it. Sometimes people get some qualification, but instead of *abhimān* going down, it goes up... How to proceed and get rid of it?

Only by the mercy from *Vaiṣṇavs*, mercy from Gurudev. No other way. Ego is very bad, and it can come even through service.

Somebody may be a temple manager, and they do not want to clean toilets, "I am the temple president, why should I clean the bathroom?" On the other hand, I saw Siddhāntī Mahārāj: when Gurudev went to a foreign country, Siddhāntī Mahārāj always sat by Gurudev's side, he

always helped Gurudev, but he had no ego—he would come to Nabadwīp and clean the toilets. I saw it. I saw Āśram Mahārāj also: even though he is the head of a temple, he goes to *gośālā* and serves there. You must learn something from them.

When I was a *brahmachārī*, it was 1994 or 1995, I went to *Hāpāniyā* to supervise the land cultivation, and there was a man ploughing our field. I said to him, "You do not know how to do it, let me do it." Another *brahmachārī* became angry with me, "You are a *brahmachārī*, you came here to supervise the temple, and now you are ploughing the field. What will people say?" I told him, "What? It is my work! What is anybody going to say if I cultivate the land? What of that? What is the difference, a *brahmachārī* or a *sannyāsī*?"

I also saw Gurudev's example. When I joined I saw Gurudev was managing everything himself—he looked after the *gośālā*, ordered bricks, ordered cement, and so on. He did

everything himself.

I remember once a man asked Gurudev for *sannyās*. Gurudev told him it was not necessary to wear a *sannyāsī* dress. It is not necessary to show, "Oh, I am a *sannyāsī*," and think it is an opportunity to use somebody to serve me. In Śrīla Prabhupād's time also many *sannyāsīs* served Kuñja Bābu, who was a *gṛhastha*. Many *bābājīs* and *sannyāsīs* served Bhakti Vinod Ṭhākur— from far away they would pay full obeisance to him, "Oh, such a big man is coming!" Many *sannyāsīs* also paid their obeisance to Puṇḍarīk Vidyānidhi—even Mahāprabhu paid obeisance to Puṇḍarīk Vidyānidhi!...

VAISNAVA CALENDAR for New York, New Jersey Area

May 2021

- 1 (Sat)** Krishna Panchami. Disappearance of Sripad Krishnadas Babaji Maharaj.
- 3 (Mon)** Krishna Saptami. Disappearance of Srila Abhiram Thakur.
- 6 (Thu)** Krishna Dashami. Disappearance of Srila Vrindavan Das Thakur.
- 7 (Fri)** Krishna Ekadashi. Varuthini Ekadashi (in New York). **Fast**. Disappearance of Sriyukta Saurindranath Bhakti Varidhi Prabhu.
- 8 (Sat)** Krishna Dvadashi. Paran between 05:45 and 09:00.
- 11 (Tue)** Amavasya. Appearance of **Srila Gadadhar Pandit Goswami**.
- 12 (Wed)** Gaura Pratipad. Appearance of Tridandi Swami Srimad Bhakti Aloka Paramahansa Maharaj.
- 13 (Thu)** Gaura Dvitiya. Appearance of Tridandi Swami Srimad Bhakti Vichar Jajavar Maharaj.
- 14 (Fri)** Gaura Tritiya. Beginning of 21 days Chandan Yatra of Sri Sri Jagannathdev. Aksaya Tritiya: a good day to start some works.
- 17 (Mon)** Gaura Panchami. Appearance of Sripad Shankar Acharya. Disappearance of Tridandi Swami Srimad Bhakti Vilas Gabhastinemi Maharaj.
- 19 (Wed)** Gaura Saptami. Jahnu Saptami. Sri Jahnvi Puja (Sri Ganga Puja).
- 21 (Fri)** Gaura Navami. Appearance of Nityananda-shakti, Sri Jahnava Devi. Appearance of Rama-shakti, Sri Sita Devi.
- 22 (Sat)** Gaura Dashami. Mohini Ekadashi (in New York). **Fast**.
- 23 (Sun)** Gaura Dvadashi. Paran between 05:32 and 10:26.
- 25 (Tue)** Gaura Chaturdashi. **Sri Nrisimha Chaturdashi: appearance day of Sri Nrisimhadev**. **Full fast** until after sunset, then no grains (anukalpa). Grand annual festival in honour of the Deity installation at Sri Nrisingha Palli Temple.
- 26 (Wed)** Purnima. Paran between 04:56 and 10:13. Sri Krishna's Phul Dol and Salila Bihar. Buddha Purnima: appearance day of Lord Buddha. Appearance of Srila Srinivas Acharya.
- 27 (Thu)** Krishna Pratipad. Disappearance of Tridandi Swami Srimad Bhakti Saranga Goswami Maharaj.
- 31 (Mon)** Krishna Panchami. Disappearance of Srila Ramananda Ray.

MBC TV

Mahaprabhu Broadcasting Channel

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