

# ŚRĪ MAHĀNET

All Glory to Śrī Guru and Śrī Gaurāṅga May 16 – 31, 2006

## ŚRĪ ŚRĪ PRAPANNA- JĪVANĀMṚTAM

"Positive and Progressive Immortality"  
by Śrīla Bhakti Rakṣhaka Śrīdhara Deva  
Goswāmī Mahārāja

Chapter Nine: Śrī Śrī Bhagavad-  
vacanāmṛtam – Words of Nectar from the  
Supreme Lord

9.39

*kaivalyāc-chreyaḥ sālokyādikam api  
necchanti –*

*mat-sevayā pratītam te,  
sālokyādi-catuṣṭayam  
necchanti sevayā pūrṇāḥ,  
kuto 'nyat kāla-viplutam*

*Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 9.4.67*

Nor do they aspire for even positive liberation, beginning with residence in the Lord's abode, which is infinitely superior to ultimate emancipation of oneness in Brahman –

"When My dedicated pure devotee never accepts any of the four kinds of positive liberation (*sālokyā*, etc.) even if they avail themselves to him by dint of his service unto Me, then why will he ever wish for materialistic enjoyment and ultimate emancipation in Brahman (*sāyujya-mukti*), which are very swiftly vanquished by the march of time? By *sāyujya-mukti*, the soul's eternal status falls into the jaws of death. Thus, sense enjoyment and monistic liberation hold no permanence."

## WORDS OF OUR GUARDIANS

"Sermons of Devotion V"  
by Śrīla Bhakti Rakṣhaka Śrīdhara  
Deva Goswāmī Mahārāja (*excerpt*)

Surrender, devotion, serving  
temperament

The negative side is aspiring to surrender wholesale at the Lord's disposal. Those devotees think, "It is the Lord's sweet will that we can be utilized for His own purpose." In this way it is by our faith that our own self-determination to surrender to His divine will reaches the Lord and this transaction gives a chance for the *jīva* to be utilized by the Supreme Himself. On the whole, the negative can attract the positive. That capacity is there. So, surrender, devotion, serving temperament and offering everything to the Lord – that has got its intrinsic value. It is not assertive; it is dependent. Still, in the Absolute Realm, it has got some real value. It is not without value. It does not go unrecognized. In the *Srimad Bhagavatam* (9.4.63), the Lord says:

*aham bhakta-paradhino,  
hy asvatantra iva dvija  
sadhubhir grasta-hrdayo  
bhaktair bhakta-jana-priyah*

"Although I am free, I still feel as if I am subordinate to My devotee's affection. My devotee surrenders everything and expects nothing in return without My sanction. How can I not give Myself to

such surrender? Although constitutionally I am free – still, their attraction, affection, earnestness, sincerity and dependence captures Me. Attracted by My devotee’s love, I offer Myself at their behest.”

The corresponding side is like that. But in the Absolute sense, He is free and we are always dependent. Generally, the Potency is dependent on – is owned by – the Potent, the substance. Substance and Potency are co-related, in fact, inseparable. We say that Substance is the main Subject and Potency is dependent on Him. This is the normal conception in the proper state of existence. And the *jiva* is part and parcel of His Potency. So, constitutionally, we are dependent on His mercy.

#### The Zone of Dedication

We want affinity in intimacy with Gurudeva, and it is he who has the connection with the Center – with the Substance. If I can maintain a bona fide relationship with Gurudeva, then automatically I shall get Him. This is also there. In a bona fide negative position, the devotees have also got their attraction to draw the Lord towards them and vice-versa. But presently, we are outside that zone. We are to enter that zone of dedication and proper transaction with Gurudeva.

*prati anga lagi kande,  
prati anga mora  
(Vaisnava-padavali)*

“Every atom of one spiritual body is the Negative for every atom of the Positive. Every atom of the Absolute Counterpart (The Potency) is crying to be united with the corresponding atom of The Potent Himself.”

Radha–Krsna comprise the negative–positive represented wholesale. One is Beauty Personified and Another is absorbing that Beauty and distributing it to others.

Sri Chaitanyadev is both Radha and Krsna combined. He is Krsna in the mood of Radha searching for Himself, both Positive–Negative combined. Sri Sankara and others say this combination produces equilibrium, but in Vaisnava philosophy this equilibrium is dynamic. The Positive is searching for Himself in the mood of the Negative – serving His own Positive Self. In this way the Positive, Sri Krsna, is distributed to the public in the mood of the Negative, Sri Radha. This is Sri Chaitanyadev personified. The higher, closer associates of the Lord disclose to us such impressions. We will be able to understand according to the intensity of our faith.

#### The Importance of Faith

Faith is the only instrument by which we, the finite, can measure the Infinite. All other methods are futile – useless. Faith is the widest substance within us. It is not imagination. Faith can carry us a long way. Faith has got a tangible position within us. When we disconnect from all phases of knowledge and experience then we can live only in the plane of faith. When all the wealth of our experience – the whole world of our experience – finally retires and wholesale dissolution ensues then we shall find faith is there dutifully attending us. This is the innate nature of the soul. It is fundamental.



## DIVINE SERVITOR

Śrīla Bhakti Sundar Govinda Deva  
Goswāmī Mahārāja (*excerpt*)

**Question:** I have heard it said by the devotees that there is no such thing as love in this mundane world. Please can you explain this statement?

**Srila Govinda Maharaj:** It is true that there is no word in English to correspond with the divine love mentioned in the scriptures. Love and *prema* are not the same. Each *jiva*-soul has three kinds of qualities: willing, feeling and thinking, but in this mundane world the *jiva*-soul is covered by illusion; that is called "*Maya*." The *jiva*-soul in his clean position always worships his beloved lover, that is Kṛṣṇa, and that is the only duty he thinks of. The natural duty in the transcendental service world is love. The transcendental world is full of love. Kṛṣṇa is infinitely loving. He gives love infinitely, but by giving His love to one He is not reduced thereby so that He would not then be able to give His love to others. Mostly all the *jivas* are going there to that plane of the transcendental life of love, but unfortunately a few souls come here to this world. In this mundane plane they are always searching for love but here pure love is not to be found.

There is the plane of renunciation, the plane of dedication and the plane of exploitation. Real love is seen in the

plane of dedication and that is the transcendental world. By nature the *jiva*-soul is living. He must do something, and he is doing, but in this mundane plane his activity is always with the illusory plane of exploitation. Here everything is exploiting everything else but in the plane of dedication there is no possibility of exploiting, only for serving Kṛṣṇa and His associates. There, whoever is taking and whoever is giving – everybody is extremely happy. Someone is eating an apple: the devotee is happy, the apple is happy, ever one is happy. That is Kṛṣṇa-loka, Vraja-dham.

Srila Rupa Goswami gave a description of what love is:

*vyatitya bhavana-varttma  
yas camatkara bharabhuh  
hrdi sattojvale badham  
svadate sa raso matah*

Whatever is the extreme point of what we can guess here to be love, real love is far beyond that. What kind of happiness, joyfulness and fulfillment of life is there we cannot guess from this mundane position. But in *suddha-sattva*, in the heart free from the covering of illusion, then that ecstatic ocean, can be felt. In the mundane plane, what we see to be love is just a tiny shadow of those feelings. Therefore it is not possible to experience such things in this mundane plane without connection with the transcendental world. In this world we are living with only the shadow of that loving sense and with the identification of male and female. Sometimes we are trying our best together, and with each other, to get that essence. And sometimes for the non-disturbance of this mundane we are living together with some system for sympathetically dealing

with nature – with our hankering for real love. But by our activity here we are going in a circular way, again and again dying and taking birth. We are taking so many different types of birth in different forms of life and we are searching, "Where is love? Where is love?" like a blind fellow searching for the light of the world of dedication. We cannot see where is that world of dedication but our Supreme Lover, Krsna, can see everything. Seeing our hankering tendency He may sometimes distribute His merciful loving light through Sri Guru–vaisnava in order to prepare us to receive a drop of the ecstatic ocean of love.

## VAISNAVA CALENDAR

May 16 – 31, 2006

SRI DHAM NAVADWIP, INDIA

18. (Thu) Krishna-panchami. Disappearance of Srila Ramananda Raya.

23. (Tue) Krishna-ekadasi. Fast.

24. (Wed) Krishna-dvadasi. Parān (break fast with grains) after sunrise and before 9:22 a.m. Appearance of Srila Vrindavana das Thakur.

27. (Sat) Amavasya.

28. (Sun) Gaura-pratipad. Sree Chaitanya Saraswata Krishnanushilana Sangha, Dum Dum Park, Calcutta: Sri Sri Guru-Gauranga-Radha-Madana-Mohanjiu installation day festival.

31. (Sat) Gaura-chaturthi. Disappearance of Srila Bhakti Gaurava Giri Maharaj (Sripad Paramananda Vidyaratna Prabhu).

## LINKS TO ONLINE NECTAR

Home page of Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math, Navadwip Dham

<http://www.scsmath.com>

Pictorial updates of projects, news, programs

<http://scsmath.com/new.htm>

Audio Index of talks by Srila Govinda Maharaja

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California Math Web page in honor of Srila Govinda Maharaja

<http://california.scsmath.org>

Veranda Views – Topical photos from the Math

<http://verandaviews.com>

by Srimati Jamuna Priya devi dasi

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<http://krsna.cc>

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From Spd. Madhusudana Prabhu, Hawaii

Sri Vaishnava Tosani

<http://www.toshani.com>

From Spd. Srutasrava Prabhu

Daily Darshan

<http://dailydarshan.com>

From H.H. Bhakti Sudhir Goswami Maharaja

Weblog of an Itinerant Monk

<http://www.imonk.net>

Diary of H.H. Bhakti Lalita Akinchan Maharaja

Sacred Cybertemple of The Beautiful Goldenlord

<http://www.mahaprabhu.net>

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