

The Glory of Bharatavarsha

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Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva.

The life-span of demigods in the upper planetary systems are many thousand times greater than the lifespan of humans on earth. Also in those planetary systems, the opportunities for sense-enjoyment is also million times more than the facilities available in earth. But still demigods wish to take birth in this holy land of Bharata-varsha. In Srimad Bhagavatam Canto 5 Chapter 19 verses 23 through 28 the demigods glorify the land of Bharata varsha and mention how much they hanker to be born in this holy land wherein there are so many opportunities to perform devotional service unto the Supreme Lord. The demigods say in verse 5.19.28 the reason for the same.

*yady atra nah svarga-sukhaavasheshitam
svishtasya suktasya krtasya shobhanam
tenaajanaabhe smrtimaj janma nah syaad
varshe harir yad-bhajataam sham tanoti*

"We are now living in the heavenly planets, undoubtedly as a result of our having performed ritualistic ceremonies, pious activities and yajnas and having studied the Vedas. However, our lives here will one day be finished. We pray that at that time, if any merit remains from our pious activities, we may again take birth in Bharata-varsha as human beings able to remember the lotus feet of the Lord. The Lord is so kind that He personally comes to the land of Bharata-varsha and expands the good fortune of its people."

Srila Prabhupada in the purport very nicely reveals to us as to how much fortunate we are to be born in a land - wherein demigods are also hankering to take birth. Quoting the words of Caitanya Mahaprabhu (Caitanya Caritamrta Adi lila 9.41) His Divine Grace says,

*bhaarata-bhumite haila manushya-janma yaara
janma saarthaka kari' kara para-upakaara*

"A human being born in the land of Bharata-varsha has the special prerogative to develop Krishna consciousness. Therefore those already born in Bharata-varsha should take lessons from the shastras and guru and should fully take advantage of the mercy of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu in order to be fully equipped with Krishna consciousness. By taking full advantage of Krishna consciousness, one goes back home, back to Godhead."

There are two fortunate things mentioned in the first line of the above verse - firstly we are born in bharata-varsha and secondly we are having this human birth. So it is important that we don't misuse this great fortune we have.

In one of the lectures on verse 2.2.1 Srila Prabhupada says, "**The more you become sincere servant of Krishna, the more your body becomes Krishna-ised, electrified. Therefore advanced Krishna conscious person is considered to have a spiritual body.** The same example, as I have given several times: just like iron rod. You put into the fire, it becomes warmer, warmer. The more it is connected with fire, it becomes warm, warm, warm. And at last it becomes red hot, so that at that time, if that iron is touched to any other thing, it burns. It does not act as iron; it acts as fire. Similarly, by this Krishna consciousness, continuous chanting, you will make your body spiritualized. At that time, wherever you go, wherever you touch, he'll be spiritualized. Similarly, the iron... Without being spiritualized, without being red hot, if you touch, it will not act. So every one of us, those who have come to this Krishna consciousness movement, expected to preach in the future and to become a spiritual master also in the future.

But first of all you must spiritualize yourself; otherwise it is useless. So Krishna-shakti vinaa nahe. Without... Just like without being red hot, you cannot burn any other thing. Similarly, without being fully spiritualized, you cannot make others spiritualized. Therefore we have to follow the parampara system. The disciplic succession, as we get the knowledge, as we get the power, as we get the instruction, so we have to follow.

That will help me to spiritualize myself. And when you are spiritualized... You'll have to wait for that time. Then, wherever you will preach, the result will be there."

As our beloved spiritual master HH Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj says in order **to reach the hearts of the hearers, first we must practise before we preach.**

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi