

## The Ways of Karma and Fate - Part 8

**Date:** 1 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Amogha-drk Krishna dasa

Dear Prabhus and Matajis,

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

In the previous offerings we have discussed the basic technicalities of karma in relation to Krishna consciousness. In the following offering we will discuss the concept of transferring of karma from one person to another.

The dharma shastras says that if we offend another person unjustly, for example by faultfinding him or lying to him, and also in the case of mistreating a guest, our stock of good karma goes over to to the person injured by our offence, while at the same time his bad karma is transferred to us.

The material world works in that we share in with the karma of those we serve. That's why dharma shastras also says that a chaste wife shares in the good karma of her husband and vice versa. So what happens when we take to devotional service? First of all we share the good position of the devotees we serve, headed by our spiritual master. By dint of their spiritual austerities, they are able to burn away any type of karma entering them - their gross or subtle body. That is because they serve their spiritual master who burn away the bad karma coming to them by serving their spiritual master and so on ending up at the adi-guru of Lord Brahma. Lord Brahma burns away the bad karma coming to him, by serving Govinda, the primeval Lord. *karmaani nirdahati kintu ca bhakti-bhaajaam* - the Lord minimizes or nullifies the reactionary influence of the devotee's past deeds. (Brahma samhita - 5.54)

The story of Nachiketa from the Vedas illustrates this. His father Aruni, engaged in karma-kanda rituals for the sake of attaining heaven, started giving away all he possessed to the brahmanas, but he did so without proper discrimination, including old cows unable to produce milk in the lot. As this would displease the demigods, Nachiketa asked his father Aruni to give him in charity. When Nachiketa asked Aruni, "Who will you give me to?", the father didn't reply. When he repeatedly asked, the father angrily replied he would give Nachiketa to Yama, the Lord of Death! The boy, wanting to keep his family's pride of obeying promises, promptly accepted the pledge. Arriving at the abode of Death, Yama was not there, so he patiently waited at his doorstep. After three days, when Yama finally arrived, he asked the boy, being unfed by Yama for three days, "What have you been eating the first day?" Nachiketa said, "Your offspring." "What have you been eating the second day?" Nachiketa replied, "Your cattle." "What have you been eating the third day?" "Your good karma," Nachiketa said. Quickly Yama offered to compensate his offense by satisfying three obligations to Nachiketa, which the boy chose to be

- 1) to make Nachiketa's father forgive him and become pleased seeing him return back from Death,
- 2) to learn the mystic fire sacrifice which leads to heaven,
- 3) to learn the secret of death itself.

So when we mistreat a guest, the first thing we will lose is our offspring, then we lose our possessions (like cattle etc) and then we lose whatever good karma is in our stock. Even Yamaraja was not an exception for this. So seeking forgiveness for keeping Nachiketa waiting, Yamaraj gave him the three boons which Nachiketa asked him.

Krishna willing we shall continue further on this topic in the subsequent offering.

Thank you very much,  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Amogha-drk Krishna dasa,  
Norway.

## The Ways of Karma and Fate - Part 9

**Date:** 2 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Amogha-drk Krishna dasa

Dear Prabhus and Matajis,

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

In the previous offerings we have been discussing about the story of Nachiketa and as to how when we offend someone or ill-treat someone, our stock of good karma gets transferred to that person. Now we shall see further.

Accepting something from another person, be it food, money etc. means we are accepting their karma. But in case of pure devotees, when we accept food or remnants of their food - we advance in devotional service.

One of the duties of a brahmana is to consume other people's sins, just like an incinerator. If he doesn't do anything to eradicate the accepted sin, the brahmana will fall down. So then, charity should only be accepted by a brahmana who is austere; who does tapasya. Tapasya literally means the effect of fire viz. heating, melting, burning etc. So by the fire of his austerities, a brahmana is able to relieve other's of their sins by accepting them in the fire of his tapasya. Thus when the brahmana acts as a guru by the process of diksha, as explained earlier, the guru now deals with his disciples bad karmas on the strength of his austerities. Yogic masters are even able to transfer a disease from a disciple unto themselves, but such cases are naturally extremely rare.

The point is that we have to be careful in offering proper gifts to a brahmana. In the Vedic story we discussed in previous offering, Yama goes on to teach Nachiketasthat the intended outcome of the external sacrifice is to ignite the real sacrificial fire on the altar of the heart (devotional service). That internal activity of sacrifice is what is going to bring us fortune, not the external one. Chitrugupta is the appointed servant of Yamaraja that notes the real intent of our actions impressed on the record of our subconsciousness (*chitta*) which is hidden (*gupta*). At the time of death we have to account for all our mistakes. But if we now start fanning the spark of bhakti-yoga (jnana-agnih) carefully in our hearts, chances are there that we may relieve Chitrugupta from a lot of paperwork; if we do it right, a flame will arise, and Chitrugupta's accounts may turn to ashes! Lord Krishna says in Bhagavad-gita verse 4.37 that,

*yathaidaamsi samiddho 'gnir / bhasma saat kurute 'rjuna  
jnaanaagnih sarva karmnaani / bhasma saat kurute tathaa*

**"As the blazing fire turns firewood to ashes, so does the fire of knowledge burn to ashes all reactions to material activities."**

Krishna willing we shall continue to explore how Krishna arranges the karma of devotees in the subsequent offering.

Thank you very much,  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Amogha-drk Krishna dasa,  
Norway.

## **Do Your Duty - Part 3**

**Date:** 3 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva.

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "Do Your Duty", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj about how

- 1) we should do our occupation duties carefully, without pride or feeling of proprietorship.
- 2) Human birth is very rare.

Maharaj went on to explain the various sufferings which we face in human birth. Now we shall hear further.

We are suffering from all these difficulties and regarding suffering we remember a nice verse from Bhagavatam - verse 3.9.8. Lord Brahma says

*kshut-trt-tridhaatubhir imaa muhur ardyamaanaah  
sheetoshna-vaata-varashair itaretaraac ca  
kaamaagninaacyuta-rushaa ca sudurbharena  
sompashyato mana urukrama sidate me*

**"O great actor, my Lord, all these poor creatures are constantly perplexed by hunger, thirst, severe cold, secretion and bile, attacked by coughing winter, blasting summer, rains and many other disturbing elements, and overwhelmed by strong sex urges and indefatigable anger. I take pity on them, and I am very much aggrieved for them."**

Beautiful verse from third canto. This gives a picture of our suffering. After coming to human birth also, it is not a comfortable situation as we take it for granted. - "I am getting my prasadam daily, taking bath. I

am quite alright." No. It is not a comfortable situation. That Prabhupada reminds us. And because we are not in a comfortable situation, we must analyse by what we are suffering. So this analysis is very nicely given in this verse.

The first thing that troubles us is *kshut* - hunger. We have eaten so much food, we don't know how many trucks of rice we have digested so far - This is *kshut*. Then *trt* - thirst. This *kshut* and *trt* - they disturb our life-air. Suppose we are hungry and don't eat, then your life-air is completely disturbed. So in order to keep our life-air intact, we have to have some prasadam. We have to have something to drink. Then the body behaves in a funny way sometimes. In order to take care of these sufferings, what we do, we start eating. May be in our young age, we were having 25 chappatis. As soon as I advance in age, we think may be I should consume 50. But Ayurvedic regulations is completely opposite to this. As soon as you advance in age, *agni* goes *manda* - the fire of digestion decreases. As soon as fire of digestion decreases, you should be very controlled in taking prasadam. Otherwise, the miseries increases.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi.

## Do Your Duty - Part 4

**Date:** 4 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "**Do Your Duty**", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj about how

- 1) we should do our occupation duties carefully, without pride or feeling of proprietorship.
- 2) Human birth is very rare.
- 3) With advancement in age, we should have a regulated and controlled diet as fire of digestion decreases.

Now we shall hear further.

Apart from hunger and thirst, we have suffering due to the *tridhaatus* - *kapa*, *vaatha* and *pitha* - mucus, bile and air according to Ayurveda shastra. If *kapa* increases we are in trouble, if *vaata* - wind increases then again we are in trouble. This *vaata* - wind is responsible for all aches in our body. Irregulated wind in the body is the reason for our diseases like arthritis etc. And again heat in the body (bile) troubles us. All these keep troubling us again and again and *muhur ahya maanaaha* - We are troubled again and again by hunger. Again and again we are troubled by thirst. Again and again we are troubled by *kapa* and *vaatha* and bile. If we cannot digest, then we are full of mucus. If you change the country, the whole atmosphere is changed and again you are caught by *kapa*. Never it leaves us alone. It is very difficult. And one thing

which should be confidentially understood is that this mucus (*kapa*) is required for our body. Our lungs, stomach are all made by mucus. So we cannot get rid of it. But we should not have it in excess. We should have them only in the required quantity.

The thing is there are living cells in our body. Crores of living cells. Millions and millions of living cells. This body has so many living entity already staying in it. This, we don't have a idea at all. We don't even know what we are carrying with our body. And we want to pamper this obnoxious body by giving it nice prasadam, by giving it more sleep, not working, by being lazy. This is what is known as pampering of the body. Over-eating, drinking in excess are all constant trouble. I don't know why we don't realise these things. ***Bhagavatam insist that constant remembrance of these things will keep us on the right line. If you constantly remember these things, then we will not hate anybody, we will not have any misunderstanding with anybody. Because this body is not worth carrying at all. But somehow or the other - 'the best use of this bad bargain' as Srila Prabhupada says is to somehow or the other you use this dirty and obnoxious thing, just to know and realise the Absolute Truth.***

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi.

## Do Your Duty - Part 5

**Date:** 5 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "Do Your Duty", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj about how

- 1) we should do our occupation duties carefully, without pride or feeling of proprietorship.
- 2) Human birth is very rare.
- 3) With advancement in age, we should have a regulated and controlled diet as fire of digestion decreases.
- 4) Make best use of this bad bargain.

If we don't use the body to realise the Absolute Truth, then there is no use - moham paartha sa jivati. Uselessly the living entities continue their existence, if they are not serious regarding these things. We have seen it is not just inquisitiveness, but we must be seriously inquisitive. We should remember the statement of Srila Prabhupada in the purport to Srimad Bhagavatam verse 1.2.12 - **"Devotional service, which is based on the foreground of full knowledge combined with detachment from material association and which is fixed by the aural reception of the Vedanta shruti, is the only perfect method by which the seriously inquisitive student can realize the Absolute Truth."** This is the main thing to be understood. Now we can go to the next line (Maharaj continued with the bhajan *bhajahu re mana*

)

*sheeta aatapa baata barishana / e dina jaamini jaagi re  
biphale sevinu krpana durajana / capala sukha-laba laagi' re*

**"Day and night I remain sleepless, suffering heat and cold, wind and rain. For a bit of flickering happiness I have vainly served wicked and miserly men."**

This sentence we have to quote here. *biphale sevinu* - This human existence is not easily available. But even after getting this rare existence, we don't have anything to do with it. we just serve the people who are not to be served. It is said in Srimad Bhagavatam (verse 2.2.5) - *dhanam durmadaandhaan* - **Those who are puffed up by their own possessions, we try to serve them and that is again a useless activity we perform.** Instead of glorifying other living entities like the newspapers, we should glorify the Supreme Lord - Newspapers glorify one man today and next day they drag him down. So that glorification is not permanent at all and it doesn't help the public. These newspapers, I remember before 50 years - hardly 3 newspapers were coming and people were not reading them at all because they thought there is nothing useful in it. And now every shop has 2 or 3. How much time is wasted by this non-sense literature. This is the main thing to be understood.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna,  
Thank you very much,  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Do Your Duty - Part 6**

**Date:** 6 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva.

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "**Do Your Duty**", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj that since our human existence is very rare we should glorify Krishna and not waste our time in glorifying other living entities. Now let us continue to hear further.

Earlier there were three newspapers in a town. Now there are so many different kinds of newspapers and so much time is wasted in these things. And what do we do in them - just glorifying living entities who are going to die. When the living entity is in a big position like Prime Minister or President, then he is glorified. After that he is forgotten. This is *biphale sevinu* - without any serious consideration of whom to apply the glorification, we just apply to the wrong person and here Prabhupada insists in purport that glorification must go to Krishna and we remember one verse in 10th Canto about the jaya - glorification. That verse gives the point of the glorification, which Prabhupada is giving here. Because we want to do glorification, but we don't know whom to glorify. Prabhupada's example is best example. He did not

glorify anybody. He glorified Krishna. This verse (Srimad Bhagavatam 10.31.1) puts us in right track

*gopya uchuhu  
jayati te 'dhikam janmanaa vraja  
shrayata indiraa shashvat atra hi  
dayita drshyataam dikshu taavakaas  
tvayi dhrtaasavas tvaam vicinvate*

"The gopis said: **O beloved, Your birth in the land of Vraja has made it exceedingly glorious, and thus Indira, the goddess of fortune, always resides here. It is only for Your sake that we, Your devoted servants, maintain our lives. We have been searching everywhere for You, so please show Yourself to us.**"

The gopis say that the Vraja bhumi is very much glorified. They have full idea that Vrajabhumi has same type of land, as it is present all over the world, same stones are there, same dry places are there, same roads are there, same trees are there, everything is same. But why it is glorified ? They give the reason - "*janmanaa vraja*" - "Because You (Krishna) have appeared there. That is why it is glorified." This is the point. You go to Bhagavatam and you get the right direction.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.  
Thank you very much,  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Do Your Duty - Part 7**

**Date:** 7 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva.

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "**Do Your Duty**", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj that Krishna is the ultimate object of our glorification as very nicely mentioned by gopis in Srimad Bhagavatam verse 10.31.1. Now let us hear further.

*gopya uchuhu  
jayati te 'dhikam janmanaa vraja  
shrayata indiraa shashvat atra hi  
dayita drshyataam dikshu taavakaas  
tvayi dhrtaasavas tvaam vicinvate*

The gopis said: "**O beloved, Your birth in the land of Vraja has made it exceedingly glorious, and thus Indira, the goddess of fortune, always resides here. It is only for Your sake that we, Your devoted servants, maintain our lives. We have been searching everywhere for You, so please show Yourself to us**"

."

***If Bhagavatam is giving us the right direction, why should we leave it even for single second?*** There are 18000 verses in it. How many will we be able to read. Daily if you study for even 2 hours, hardly you can read one or two chapters in a da. But you need so much time to think about it. And then we have to derive the practical instruction from the gopis. Because unless you derive practical realisation, then it will be just speculation. So what we understand here? Vraja bhumi is glorified or Dwaraka dham is glorified - What is great here? Dwaraka is like desert area. The water we get here is also salty and there is so much austerity to stay here. But even then, thousands of people daily visit this land. Why is it glorified? Same sand is there, same ocean is there. Miles of long beaches are there all over the Indian coast. But why people come here and take snaan in Gomati river ? Because Krishna was here for 100 years. And if we want to be glorified, we have to give place for Him (Krishna) in our lives. But instead of giving place for Him, we give place for her/him. We misplace the glorification and when we are in difficulty we cry out, "Where is Krishna?"

It doesn't matter even if you may have her/him in life. But we should keep Him (Krishna) in center. But unfortunately we forget Him and run after her/him. By Krishna's arrangement, you may come together with some living entity. But He has to be glorified. This is the instruction of the gopis.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Do Your Duty - Part 8**

**Date:** 8 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "Do Your Duty", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj how when we keep Krishna as center of our life and glorify Him, everything becomes glorious. Now let us hear further.

**Depend on Devotional Service:** How to glorify Krishna? By keeping Krishna as center in your life. By doing your prescribed duties nicely. Part of the fruits received out of prescribed duties can be spent for Him. And always glorification should go on. And Prabhupada's example is in front of us. Because He glorified Krishna, 24 hrs a day, he is being glorified throughout the globe. Every latitude we have temples. (Maharaj inquired a devotee) You are from Argentina. Which city do you belong to? (Devotee replied Buenos Aires) Do you have temple there? How many temples are there? (Devotee replied that there is farm community, temple in the farm community and one in the city) In London also we have temple in the city and one in the farm as well.

We have to remember that in our life, ABCD may come and go. But we must be always following Srila Prabhupada. And Prabhupada always insists devotional service. Don't depend on people coming and going in your life. That is not important. What matters most is that whether you are following the process or not. If you depend on people, you will be cheated. So you please depend upon devotional service. That is the point. Why can't we learn this in so many years? In our life, whenever we were in some difficulty, we did not stop devotional service. Instead we were concentrating more on devotional service. This is the main thing to be understood. You are self-sufficient. Please remember always that you are very self-sufficient.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Do Your Duty - Part 9**

**Date:** 9 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "**Do Your Duty**", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj how we should depend on Srila Prabhupada and continue with devotional service, irrespective of people coming and going in our lives. Now let us hear further.

**Concentrate on Devotional service:** You are self-sufficient. Please remember always that you are very self-sufficient. Just you have to do one thing and that is *dhrada* - very determined effort. And that determined effort is required to learn these things. Even now with all the atmosphere around us, we are wasting our time. If we are conscious not to waste our time, then it is very easy to learn these things. Prabhupada is glorified for putting Krishna's glorification first. Why can't we follow Prabhupada? We should also glorify Krishna day and night. The way to glorify Him is given here - *shrotavyah* - you please continue to glorify, think about it and the best way to do this is to preach.

Ours is a preaching society. We don't sit silent. We speak about Krishna to anybody. And when you speak,

you realise your own knowledge more correctly. This is essence of preaching. We have studied this verse many times. But when we study again, some new thing comes out because Krishna is situated in our hearts. This is how instead of diverting our attention from this point to any other obnoxious behaviour, it is our pious duty to concentrate on this. The more difficulties are there, the more we should be determined to understand these things. This is the main thing to be understood. Otherwise everytime some body leaves us, we will be completely gone and thinking that, "He has gone, he has gone", and we will stop our devotional service.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.  
Thank you very much,  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

**Moderator's Note:** Today is the most auspicious occasion of the appearance of Srimati Radharani. She is mercy personified. Let us pray for Her mercy and more opportunities to be engaged in Their service.

## Do Your Duty - Part 10

**Date:** 10 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva.

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "Do Your Duty", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj how we should depend on Srila Prabhupada and continue with devotional service, irrespective of people coming and going in our lives. Now let us hear further.

**Use every moment for realizing Krishna:** This is how *please be self-sufficient with Srimad Bhagavatam and Bhagavad-Gita. We read yesterday that we should never leave these two scriptures. Bhagavad-Gita should be in the tip of the tongue. You go on reciting daily and that is direct association of Krishna. Bhagavatam is about Krishna and since it is about Krishna, it is non-different from Krishna.*

And if you give the place to Krishna in your life, then eventually you also become non-different from Him. Non-different means mean that you are God. But to the best of our ability we are His sevak, servant, kinkar. This is the main thing to be understood. And as soon as you come to this, everything becomes clear. Please recite this verse 1.2.14 from Srimad Bhagavatam

*tasmaad ekena manasaa / bhagavaan saatvataam patih  
shrotavyah kiritavyash ca / dhyeyah pujoyash ca nityadaa*

**"Therefore, with one-pointed attention, one should constantly hear about, glorify, remember and worship the Personality of Godhead, who is the protector of the devotees."**

Regarding worship, I think Shyamananda Pandit did manasik puja. He wanted to offer sweet rice for the Lord. So he prepared the sweet rice in the mind. He had a bowl and so he placed it in a bowl. And he wanted to see if it is too hot to be served and as soon as he put his finger in, it burnt. ***So Krishna accepts this maanasik puja also. But when we can, we should really worship Him nicely.*** If you are in train or something, then you can do maanasik puja. If you cannot worship in the mind, then atleast keep some verses with you, keep some diary with you. And recap the verses. From here to Bombay we can read atleast 10 verses while travelling. But what we do, we either sleep or snore or look out of the window or look around. Instead of this we can't do anything useful. Why can't we use our time properly? ***Those who utilise every moment of their time to go through and realise these things, they alone can go to Krishna. Please understand this and try to make the best use of your youth and may Lord bless you.***

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Do Your Duty - Part 11**

**Date:** 11 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "**Do Your Duty**", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj how we those who properly utilise time to realise Krishna alone can go back to Him. Now let us hear further.

To remember the Lord, there is one very nice verse which tells us how we should meditate on Him. We have full idea that He has ten main incarnations. And those ten incarnations are given in one verse. So you can remember the whole Bhagavatam through that one verse and you should study about those incarnations, what that incarnation is doing and how it helped mankind. And this rough idea we must have through the pages of Bhagavatam - tenth canto particularly. And then you will always meditate on every incarnation. The first line gives three incarnations. (Maharaj lovingly sings the below verse from Dashavatara stotram of Sri Jayadev Goswami)

*vedaam uddharate jaganti vahate bhū-golam udbibhrate  
daityam daarayate balim chalayate kshatra-kshayam kurvate  
paulastyam jayate halam kalayate kaarunyam aatanvate  
mlecchaan murchayate dashakrti-krtē krishnaaya tubhyam namah*

**"O Lord Krishna, I offer my obeisances unto You, who appear in the forms of these ten incarnations. In the form of Matsya You rescue the Vedas, and as Kurma You bear the Mandara Mountain on Your back. As Varaha You lift the earth with Your tusk, and in the form of Narasimha You tear open the chest of the daitya Hiranyakashipu. In the form of Vamana You trick the daitya king Bali by asking him for only three steps of land, and then You take away the whole universe from him by expanding Your steps. As Parashurama You slay all of the wicked kshatriyas, and as Ramacandra You conquer the rakshasa king Ravana. In the form of Balarama You carry a plow with which You subdue the wicked and draw toward You the River Yamuna. As Lord Buddha You show compassion toward all the living beings suffering in this world, and at the end of the Kali-yuga You appear as Kalki to bewilder the mlecchas [degraded low-class men]."**

*vedaam uddharate jaganti vahate bhū-golam udbibhrate* - Very nice line - *vedaam uddharate* and that is fish incarnation or Matsya incarnation was to save the Vedas. So when the devastation waters were there, it was horrible water - You cannot imagine that water. Just you had storm and how much water was there. And sea was on the ground. This you should try to understand and in order to save the Vedic knowledge, He took the incarnation of fish. To the fish's horn, small boat was joined and He saved all the Vedas which were in that boat. That is Matsya incarnation. This is the first incarnation.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Do Your Duty - Part 12**

**Date:** 12 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "Do Your Duty", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj as to how the below shloka from Dashavtara stotram of Sri Jayadev Goswami helps us to meditate on Krishna.

*vedaan uddharate jaganti vahate bhugolam udbibhrate  
daityam daarayate balim chalayate kshatra-kshayam kurvate  
paulastyam jayate halam kalayate kaarunyam aatanvate  
mlecchaan murchayate dashakrti-krti krishnaaya tubhyam namah*

Maharaj explained about Matsya avatar. Now let us hear further.

*vedaan uddharate jaganti vahate* - Lord did *uddhaar* of the Vedas in the Matsya avataar and then we have second incarnation - Kurma avatar - the tortoise. On the back of tortoise, the whole of Mandara mountain was put because nobody was able to carry the Mandara mountain. When the demons and demigods wanted to carry the Mandara mountain, they were crushed under it. They were not able to really move it. So then Lord had to incarnate as tortoise incarnation because the back of tortoise is very strong. So even if you hit it with anything, and back will be protecting the tortoise. So His back is very strong. So Bhagavan out of kindness to help the demigods He incarnated as tortoise incarnation. And then He took the Mandara mountain on His back and the demons and demigods were able to churn the ocean. And when the Mandara mountain was moving on the back, it was just like somebody scratching His back. His back is so very strong.

This gives an idea of His immense, inconceivable strength. Why can't we meditate on strength of Krishna? Why can't we meditate on His kindness to save the knowledge. Veda means knowledge. In the first incarnation, He saves the knowledge. In the second incarnation, He saves the demigods by churning the ocean. And we know how so many things came out. Shiva drank the poison and Mohini murti came to save the nectar. The whole lila is given in the pages of Srimad Bhagavatam. Then what we should do? We should learn this verse and take out the main points from each incarnation and those shlokas should be added to this shloka and it becomes a nice meditating point. You go on thinking about it. This is how mind should never be left vacant. Vacant mind is devil's workshop.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Do Your Duty - Part 13**

**Date:** 13 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "Do Your Duty", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. In previous offering we heard from Maharaj as to how we should meditate on the various incarnations of the Lord and must not keep our mind vacant. Now let us hear further.

We are not using our brain power to the fullest extent. It was researched in America that whatever we have capacity, our mind, we are only using 10% of the capacity throughout our life. We have so much immense capacity and so much intelligence is there and whatever intelligence is required also comes from Him. You know Lord Krishna assures in Bhagavad Gita's third seed verse 10.10

*teshaam satata yuktaanaam / bhajataam priti purvakam  
dadaami buddhi yogam tam / yena maam upayaanti te*

**"To those who are constantly devoted to serving Me with love, I give the understanding by which they can come to Me."**

*dadaami buddhi yogam tam* - This we forget completely that He is there to supply you and even then, we engage our mind in different things and don't know what we need to do. Just like how Gajendra remembered the prayers from last life, unfortunately or fortunately if we have to take birth again, atleast this tendency will be there. Because even if we change the body, mind we will be taking with us, mind, intelligence and false-ego. So these points should force us to understand the importance of carrying out these things.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.  
Thank you very much,  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Do Your Duty - Part 14**

**Date:** 14 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva.

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "**Do Your Duty**", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. Now we shall hear the answers which Maharaj gave to devotees on performing duty.

**Devotee:** At work can we read Bhagavad Gita or Bhagavatam?

**Maharaj:** *At work, devotional service is to that you should do your work very carefully, very very carefully. That is your devotional service. That is absorption.* Why we are absorbed? Because we are thinking from His point of view. It doesn't matter whether He pays you 1000\$ or 100000\$ per month. We don't see that. We don't have the fruit in our eyes. But we know that we are working for Him and so we will do the work carefully. That's it. Then that becomes devotional service. Suppose you work very carefully for 12 months or 2 years or 4 years, then you may have Krishna's mercy and get some amount at your disposal, so that amount will help you to get Krishna book and you read for one year. You leave the job and read for one year. That is how it is. In this Kaliyuga, you must have some backing. Otherwise you have to beg and begging is completely barred by the scriptures - *vinaa dainyena jivanam* (not to be dependent on others for one's daily maintenance). Everyday you can't be begging, "Come on, give me something." People will be tired of you and they will run away after seeing you or they will just put 2 paisa and ask you to get out. (laughter)

Begging is completely undesirable. So we have to make some arrangements. Some arrangements means you have to get absorbed in the work. *If you are in preaching, then get absorbed in it, if you are preacher; If you are helping others, then get absorbed in helping others. If you are doing some clerical work, do it nicely. If you are doing some managerial work, then do it nicely.* Then only the firm will get profit or the boss will be satisfied. And if boss is pleased, - even if boss is pleased or not, we are not doing the work to please him. *We are doing the work nicely to please ourself. At the end of day I must feel that I have done my duty. So duty is duty. There in Krishna book or Bhagavatam should not come in between. Otherwise, you can't do the duty.* If you want to devote yourself to Bhagavatam and Krishna, then there are other circumstances for that. You go to the temple and join there.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi

## Do Your Duty - Part 15

**Date:** 15 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "**Do Your Duty**", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. We were listening to Maharaj's answers to devotees questions on whether it is appropriate to study Gita and Bhagavatam at work. We heard Maharaj say as to how we should not be studying scriptures at work. Now we shall hear further.

**Devotee:** Maharaj, we heard you say that at work we should not carry any book and read from it. But if I

get some mails on shlokas and I read it, in the break time at work, is it correct or not?

**Maharaj:** *You must be very careful that it does not disturb your work. And that too if the firm objects to it, then we should not do it.* Many times what happens, these organizations don't want Godly people. They want gross karmis, so that they go on working like donkeys. Now see these labourers are working here. If someone takes a Bhagavad-Gita and starts reading during the work hours, would we allow them to continue that? (laughter) ***Bhagavad-Gita has to be read constantly. But that doesn't mean that you take out Bhagavad-Gita during working hours.*** And may be when one is working in the temple, if he plays the kirtans or lecture and does the service, then it is fine. We can understand that, "Oh, it is nice that he is hearing and doing the service." But anywhere else if he plays the record, then they will say, "Rascal, He just plays the record and does not do the work." The boss will just sack you, "Get out of the work." ***Instead, if you are just absorbed in the work, then the boss will be pleased. The end result must be the satisfaction of our own soul and everybody. yayaatma suprasidati - ahaituki apratihataa - This is bhakti.*** For the labourer, the duty is to mix the cement and without any motive - *ahaituki* he should do that and continuously he should do it - *apratihataa*. If he doesn't do his job for 8 hours, then he will not be here now. Doing the work nicely is his bhakti now. No doubt, he might have got up in the morning, chanted his round and did a bit of reading. That is different thing.

***To carry out the material duties we have to have some enthusiasm.*** And in order to have that enthusiasm people resort to artificial means of enthusiasm like drinking tea, whisky or smoking. These are all artificial ways. Whereas we people gain enthusiasm by following the eternal process of chanting Krishna's names or do some sadhana. We perform some sadhana before leaving to work and feel very enthusiastic. This is how Indian people work. I remember there is a corner shop in England near the tube station wherein they sell sweets, ciagrettes, newspapers etc. There would be daily customers and if the customer on his way to catch the trains, shouts from outside - "Hey Patel, I want newspaper". And the owner of the shop knows which one he reads and he sends the boy who runs to deliver it to him. This is devotional service - *ahaituki apratihataa*. We forget that devotional service applies to everything. That we forget. And we take it for granted that only reading from Gita and Krishna book is devotional service, reading Bhagavatam is only devotional service. And it is. But has it given you the insight? These scriptures should give you the nice insight. And insight is that we should put ourselves in others's shoes. Whether we are working or selling or whatever it is, if we look to others' interests, then they will be very friendly with you. They will give you more money if you are friendly. They may part with 100 or 200 dollars more. But if you are not friendly and if you want to squeeze then it is anti-devotional service.

Krishna willing we shall continue to hear more nectar from Maharaj in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi

## **Do Your Duty - Part 16**

**Date:** 16 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in conclusion of the previous offering titled, "**Do Your Duty**", wherein we have been hearing one of the nectarean Bhagavatam class given by our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.32.6 in Brisbane. We were listening to Maharaj's answers to devotees questions on duty and devotional service, how we should put ourselves in the shoes of others and discharge our duties. Now we shall hear further.

If we are friendly, people may part with 100 or 200\$ more. But if we are not friendly, and if you want to squeeze, then it is anti-devotional service in your work. And then your reactionary work is not getting over-coated by devotional service. **Don't think that our reactionary work has got to be over-coated by chanting** . (chanting during working hours). This is wrong understanding. So please be careful about these things. Then what we do, we neglect our duties - whether we are inside the temple or outside the temple - we are completely careless. **Under the name of devotional service, we are careless and that is very bad.** Because we don't understand the correct meaning of devotional service.

And this is how devotional service can be done without break. You may perform sadhana in the morning. But in your work also, you are devoting. **You are devoting to work and that is 'devotee'. Because that is your main duty.** And prescribed duty must be overcoated with this thinking of others and doing your duties immaculately well. And then it is devotional service. Through this process many devotees are liberated. We have the story of cobbler and the brahmana and Narada and how the cobbler went back to Krishna. He was liberated in that life itself. Through his work, he was liberated. He was just mending shoes, repairing and stitching the soles all day. We have so many such cobblers in India. They are satisfied with their work. They might not have a shop. They may be sitting in some crude place, under a tree in Mumbai. But they do their work quite nicely. They do demand some money. But money is not the main consideration. That is devotional service.

**And immaculately we should do our prescribed duties very carefully, very carefully. More carefully than whatever we do normally, because it is from that duty we get our own existence. More so in the temple area, because here that is the only survival point, to do our seva immaculately.** For sadhana there is separate time. We are chanting, we are reading Bhagavatam. But the whole endeavour is to put us on nice serious line, instead of wasting our time.

(Maharaj appreciating a cleaning service done by one of the devotees, said) You cleaned the mess in that area. It was very shabby. But within half hour or one hour, you cleaned it. Now it is completely clean. You did it within no time. So if you keep cleaning like this always, then in no time, this place will be like Vaikuntha. But we just hang around - and just run for prasadam. Just imagine if the devotee engaged in cooking does his work half-heartedly, then some rice is uncooked and you will have upset stomachs and then toilets are ready. (laughter) And everything is completely spoiled. Why? In the temple also we are lazy. Once Prabhupada saw a devotee just moving around the temple. Prabhupada asked him what is he doing. The devotee replied, "I have nothing to do Prabhupada. I have already completed my service." Prabhupada said, "Rascal, come and clean this area. It is dirty." (laughter) Like this there are unlimited cleaning opportunities in the compound. But we don't want to do that. Instead we want to eat uncooked rice, because it is ready. Why can't you come to devotional service?

Our heartfelt thanks to Maharaj for this thought provoking class on duty and devotional service, for giving us a totally different perception, and opening our eyes blinded by ignorance. Srila Gurudev ki Jai ! Srila Prabhupada ki Jai !

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

## Personal Deliverer

**Date:** 17 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Vaijayanti mala devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

Please accept my humble obeisances! All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev!

In the pastime of Lord Brahma stealing the cow-herd boys and calves in Srimad Bhagavatam, we see that while Krishna and His friends were eating their lunch in the forest, the calves being allured by the green grass, went far away, deep into the forest. When Krishna saw this, and saw that His friends were frightened, He told His friends to not stop eating and He said that He will bring the calves back by personally going after them Himself. He says in Srimad Bhagavatam 10.13.13 "*aneshye vatsakaan aham*" - "**I Myself shall bring back the calves.**" Then Krishna carrying His yogurt and rice in His hand, immediately went out to search for the calves of His friends. To please His friends, He began searching in all the mountains, mountain caves, bushes and narrow passages.

This straying away of the calves, being allured by green grass can be compared to the living entities who stray away from Krishna looking for pleasure in sense gratification. Just like Krishna takes personal care to bring back the calves, the Lord being *alaya* – one who is never inattentive or idle for the purpose of our deliverance, becomes the personal deliverer of the living entities and picks us up from material existence.

Srila Prabhupada in his purport to SB 10.13.14 very nicely states, "*The Vedas (Svetaasvatara Upanishad 6.8) assert that the Supreme Personality of Godhead has nothing to do personally (na tasya kaaryam karanam ca vidyate) because He is doing everything through His energies and potencies (paraasya shaktir vividhaiva shruyate [Cc. Madhya 13.65, purport]). Nonetheless, here we see that He took personal care to find the calves of His friends. This was Krishna's causeless mercy. mayaadhyaakshena prakrtih suyate sa-caraacaram: [Bg. 9.10] all the affairs of the entire world and the entire cosmic manifestation are working under His direction, through His different energies. Still, when there is a need to take care of His friends, He does this personally. Krishna assured His friends, "Don't be afraid. I am going personally to search for your calves." This was Krishna's causeless mercy.*" Srila Prabhupada repeats the words "*This was Krishna's causeless mercy*" two times in the same purport.

In this regard, there is a nice story of Akbar and Birbal. One day King Akbar asked Birbal, "Why is it that your God behaves so strangely? Doesn't your Lord Krishna have any servant? Each time a devotee calls for help, the Lord runs Himself. Surely He can employ others to do such work?"

"Oh! Yes" said Birbal, having a plan to explain the fact to the King.

Birbal knew that King Akbar loved his grandson very much. He asked a statue maker to make a dummy of the grandson and dress it with the same costume as that of Akbar's grandson. Then he asked the guardian of the grandson to carry the dummy doll to the lake and wait for his signal. The guardian agreed. Birbal came to the lake with King Akbar. At Birbal's signal the guardian slipped the dummy doll into the lake. As soon as King Akbar saw this, he jumped into the lake's cold water to rescue his grandson. He realized that it was just a wax doll. Birbal commented, "Your Majesty, why did you jump into cold lake to rescue young Prince while you have so many guards and servant at your service?" King replied "Oh, I have hundreds of them, but my grandson is precious one, so I couldnt stop myself." "Now you see, Your majesty, that's why

Lord Krishna, who loves each of his devotees, comes to their help Himself" Birbal replied. As always King Akbar agreed with Birbal smilingly.

Thank you very much  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev  
Vaijayanti mala devi dasi  
Abu Dhabi.

## Darshan - Part 1

**Date:** 18 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Vaijayanti mala devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisnaces! All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev!

By the unlimited causeless mercy of our spiritual masters, Srila Prabhupada and the Supreme Lord, many of us have either deities or pictures of the Lord at home and we have the fortune that first thing in the morning, we are having *darshan* of the Lord. Since we do this every day, we have the tendency to take it for granted and do not realize the value of this opportunity and the fortune bestowed on us.

In the amazing pastime of Lord Vamana bestowing mercy on Bali Maharaj, we see that the Lord asks Prahlada Maharaja also to go to the Sutala planet and be there with his grandson Bali Maharaj. While instructing this, the Lord very nicely says in Srimad Bhagavatam 8.23.10

*nityam drshtaasi maam tatra / gadaa-paanim avasthitam  
mad-darshana-mahaahlaada / dhvasta-karma-nibandhanah*

The Supreme Personality of Godhead assured Prahlada Maharaja: "**You shall be able to see Me there in My usual feature with conchshell, disc, club and lotus in My hand. Because of your transcendental bliss due to always personally seeing Me, you will have no further bondage to fruitive activities.**"

Srila Prabhupada writes in the purport, "*Karma-bandha, the bondage of fruitive activities, entails the repetition of birth and death. One performs fruitive activities in such a way that he creates another body for his next life. As long as one is attached to fruitive activities, he must accept another material body. This repeated acceptance of material bodies is called samsaara-bandhana. To stop this, a devotee is advised to see the Supreme Lord constantly. The kanishta-adhikari, or neophyte devotee, is therefore advised to visit the temple every day and see the form of the Lord regularly. Thus the neophyte devotee can be freed from the bondage of fruitive activities.*"

When King Citraketu Maharaj had darshan of the Lord he experienced complete purification and in his purport to Srimad Bhagavatam verse 6.16.31 Srila Prabhupada writes, "*The word tad-darshana-dhvasta-samasta-kilbishah is very important in this verse. If one regularly sees the Supreme Personality of Godhead in the temple, one will gradually be disinfected of all material desires, simply by visiting the temple and seeing the Deity. When one is freed from all the results of sinful activities, one will be purified, and with a healthy mind, completely cleansed, he will increasingly make progress in Krishna consciousness*"

Krishna willing, we will continue further on this topic in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.  
Thank you very much,  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev,  
Vaijayanti mala devi dasi  
Abudhabi.

## Darshan - Part 2

**Date:** 19 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Vaijayanti mala devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances! All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev!

This is in conclusion of the previous offering titled "**Darshan**" wherein we were seeing how daily darshan of the Lord purifies us. Now we shall see further.

In the presence of the Lord, the Pracetas experienced the same and is described in 4.30.21

*maitreya uvaaca  
evam bruvaanam purushaartha-bhaajanam  
janaardanam praanjalayah pracetasah  
tad-darshana-dhvasta-tamo-rajo-malaa  
giraagrnan gadgadayaa suhrttamam*

The great sage Maitreya said: "**After the Personality of Godhead spoke thus, the Pracetas began to offer Him prayers. The Lord is the bestower of all success in life and is the supreme benefactor. He is also the supreme friend who takes away all miserable conditions experienced by a devotee. In a faltering voice, due to ecstasy, the Pracetas began to offer prayers. They were purified by the presence of the Lord, who was before them face to face.**"

Because the Lord appeared before them, naturally all the contaminations of the material qualities of *rajas* and *tamas* completely disappeared. The question that may arise in our minds is that, we may not be personally present during the period when the Lord incarnated in various forms in this material world. We may be in situations where we may be living in places where there are no temples of the Supreme lord. We may even be in situations where we may not have the deities or pictures of the Lord. In those situations how do we have the *darshana* of the Lord. This is answered in SB 7.4.25 wherein the Lord says

*mad-darshanam hi bhutaanaam sarva- shreyopapattaye*

**"Become My devotees by hearing and chanting about Me and offering Me prayers, for these are certainly meant to award benedictions to all living entities."**

Herein our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj asked us to go very carefully through the word to word equivalents and the word *mat-darshanam* is explained as — '**the seeing of Me (or offering of prayers to Me or hearing about Me, all of which are absolute)**'. Srila Prabhupada writes in his purport to that, "*Because all these devotional activities are absolute, there is no fundamental difference between worshipping the Deity in the temple, seeing Him and chanting His glories. Indeed, all these are ways of seeing Him, for everything done in devotional service is a means of direct contact with the Lord.*"

This makes us understand the real meaning of *darshana* which is direct contact with the Lord through either seeing the lord, or chanting His glories or hearing His glories and these can be performed under all situations. Let us make sincere endeavour for this most merciful *darshan* of the Lord which is most purifying.

Thank you very much  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev  
Vaijayanti mala devi dasi  
Abudhabi.

## Prescribed Duties - Part 1

**Date:** 20 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva.

For the past few weeks we have been hearing from our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj about the importance of doing our duty and the mood which we do the same. *Maharaj always insisted that we should "do" the work to become free from the work and not postpone or refrain from doing it.* Maharaj's words apply to all class of people - whether we are student or housewife or working in a firm. For example if student does not perform his prescribed duty of studying his daily lessons, then he/she has tough time at the time of exams. Same holds true for people in other varnas and ashramas as well. Delaying the duty always results in disastrous condition. By not doing our duties, we make our own lives more miserable. In Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.29.15 Kapila Muni while instructing his mother about the importance of prescribed duties says,

*nishevitenanimittena / sva-dharmena mahiyasaa  
kriyaa yogena shastena / naatihimsrena nityashah*

**"A devotee must execute his prescribed duties, which are glorious, without material profit. Without excessive violence, one should regularly perform one's devotional activities."**

Let us try to meditate on some of the important lessons which we can learn from this verse. His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada mentions nicely in the purport that a devotee must execute his prescribed duties. In the pretext of devotional service, we should not become lazy. When we are student, if we simply chant and

go unprepared for the exam, it is not reasonable to expect that Krishna should assure us that we pass in the exam.

The words *svadharmena mahiyasaa* means that our prescribed duties are glorious. His Divine Grace very nicely mentions in purport to the above verse, "*Anyone can serve the Supreme Lord by performing his prescribed duties under the direction of a spiritual master, or representative of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. No one should think that his prescribed duties are inferior.*" Just like how serving Krishna in any capacity in the temple, be it welcoming guests, cooking prasadam, cleaning temple, doing arati, engaging in Deity service, washing vessels are all glorious and have same merit, like wise whatever prescribed duty we are being blessed with is also glorious. We may be sweeper in the street or Chief executive officer of firm. But all services are equally glorious as long as we perform it remembering Krishna, with service attitude, without hankering for material profit.

Krishna willing we shall continue more on this topic in subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi.

## Prescribed Duties - Part 2

**Date:** 21 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "Prescribed Duties", wherein we were meditating on Srimad Bhagavatam verse 3.29.15. In the previous offering we saw how

- 1) we should not evade from duties on the pretext of being a devotee
- 2) prescribed duties are all glorious.

Now we shall see further. In verse 3.29.25 of Srimad Bhagavatam Kapila Muni says,

*arcaadaav arcayet taavad / ishvaram maam sva-karma-krt  
yaavan na veda sva-hrdi / sarva bhuteshv avasthitam*

**"Performing his prescribed duties, one should worship the Deity of the Supreme Personality of Godhead until one realizes My presence in his own heart and in the hearts of other living entities as well."**

Prescribed duties and devotional service goes hand in hand. Kapila Muni goes on to explain how we should regularly perform devotional service and engage in deity worship. If we simply keep doing our prescribed duties alone, without remembering Krishna, then we will never advance in devotional service. Srila Prabhupada very nicely mentions in the purport to above verse, "*One should worship the Deity of the Lord until one appreciates the presence of the Lord in every living entity. In other words, one should not be satisfied simply by discharging his duties properly; he must realize his relationship and the relationship of all other living entities with the Supreme Personality of Godhead. If he does not understand this, then*

*even though he discharges his prescribed duties properly, it is to be understood that he is simply laboring without profit."*

While we are engaging in prescribed duties, we have so many kinds of interactions with people around us. Some are pleasing and some are not so pleasing. But in all such interactions, when we see Krishna's hand, Krishna's relationship with those people and our own relationship with Krishna, then we will be sane in our transactions or dealings with others.

His Divine Grace while explaining the meaning of word *sva-karma-krt* insists how we should not be lazy in executing prescribed duties. Our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj often told us, "***If you do not work hard in material life, you cannot work hard in spiritual life.***" So it is important that we don't remain lazy. Srila Prabhupada further mentions in the purport, "***One has to execute devotional service according to his prescribed duties. Sva-karma-krt means that one should discharge the duties prescribed for him without neglect.***" For example let us consider the case of the mother of a new-born child. We remember how Maharaj advised one of the mataji's who met Maharaj with her new born child as to how she has to perform devotional service according to her prescribed duty. Maharaj said, "If your child is hungry and crying for food when you are chanting, it is important that you take care of the child first and then continue with devotional service."

Our heartfelt thanks to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva for their practical and sublime instructions on prescribed duties and devotional service and we pray that we practice them in our day to day life.

Hare Krishna.  
Thank you very much,  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Serve or To be served ?**

**Date:** 22 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva.

Lord Krishna says in Bhagavad Gita verse 6.1

*shri bhagavaan uvaaca  
anaashritah karma phalam / kaaryam karma karoti yah  
sa sannyaasi ca yogi ca / na niragnir na caakriyah*

**"The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: One who is unattached to the fruits of his work and who works as he is obligated is in the renounced order of life, and he is the true mystic, not he who lights no fire and performs no duty."**

Real renunciation does not mean to remain lazy and idle. On the other hand it means doing one's duties expertly and with great care and always actively engages in service of Supreme Lord. Our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj says that *when we want to be served by others then we are in maya*. Whereas when we pray to Lord to be engaged in His devotional service and try to serve Lord, serve the living entities remembering Krishna, then we are out of it.

Today one devotee shared a very nice story with us. Once there was a man who was traveling from one place to another. On the way, he had to cross a forest. As he was very tired, he wanted to rest under a tree. While resting he could see a wolf with broken legs sitting under another tree. Soon he saw a tiger carrying flesh of deer coming towards the tree. Out of fear, this man got up and climbed the tree in order to save his life. The man could see that tiger after eating his share of the flesh dropped the remaining portion near the wolf and went away. Seeing this the man wondered, "The wolf did not make any endeavours. It was just sitting in one place all day. But still God arranged for his quota of food. So why not I also follow the same example?" Thinking like this man remained idle for the next few days. But he was not getting any food. So he cried to Lord and Lord replied, "I wanted you to take the example of the tiger. But unfortunately you took the example of the wolf." The man then realized his mistake.

As long as our body is in good working condition, we should use our senses properly and engage nicely in service, without giving way to lethargy. Maharaj says devotees offer this nice prayer to the Lord

*anaayaasena maranam / vinaa dainyena jivanam  
dehi me krpayaa krsna / tvayi me bhaktim acancalam*

**"Please bestow us instant death (so that we don't become burden to others). May we not be dependent on others for our maintenance and as long as we are alive, may we always be engaged in uninterrupted devotional service unto Your lotus feet."**

Hare Krishna.  
Thank you very much,  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

## Pleasing Attitude

**Date:** 23 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva.

Srila Prabhupada in his purport to Srimad Bhagavatam verse 1.5.11 very nicely mentions how quarrels, fights and war occur among people, without any reason. Referring to the Indo-China war that was happening in 1960s Srila Prabhupada says, "*There is no cause of quarrel between the two countries China and India over land which is not very suitable for habitation, and certainly there is no cause for fighting on this issue. But due to the age of quarrel, Kali, which we have discussed, there is always a chance of quarrel on slight provocation. This is due not to the issue in question, but to the polluted atmosphere of this age: systematically there is propaganda by a section of people to stop glorification of the name and fame of the Supreme Lord. Therefore, there is a great need for disseminating the message of Srimad-Bhagavatam all over the world. It is the duty of every responsible Indian to broadcast the transcendental*

*message of Srimad-Bhagavatam throughout the world to do all the supermost good as well as to bring about the desired peace in the world. Because India has failed in her duty by neglecting this responsible work, there is so much quarrel and trouble all over the world.*

Our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Maharaj once asked as to what was the time gap between the first and second world war. When devotees replied it was around 18 years, Maharaj asked, "Can anyone of you say, why we didn't have 3rd world war yet? It is almost 60 to 70 years since the second world war ended." Maharaj then smiled and referred to the above purport. It is because of the tireless efforts of Srila Prabhupada in disseminating Srimad Bhagavatam all over the world. As a responsible Indian, His Divine Grace practised what he wrote. And now we find so many people from England, Russia and China and many other countries in the world are enjoying the bliss of Krishna consciousness and they come to India, not with spirit of rivalry, but with spirit of devotion.

So it is our duty to continue the legacy by not just preaching the words of Srila Prabhupada to others, but also by practising it in our daily life. Few weeks ago one of the devotees shared with us how his neighbour purposefully put a broken egg at his door-step. When the devotee inquired him, the neighbour whose house was just opposite to the devotee's house replied, "I don't like you people placing your shoes at the door-step. The dust from the footwear is making the place dirty." The devotee replied that since they were having the Deities in the main hall, they had chosen to keep the footwear outside the house. Without losing his composure, or becoming agitated and angry, the devotee told the neighbour that if he had explained the problem, they would have removed the footwear and placed it somewhere down. Then the devotee cleaned the mess caused by broken eggs and placed the footwear elsewhere. After a week, the neighbour apologised to the devotee for his bad action.

Definitely this world is place wherein people are waiting to pick up fight even for slight provocation or even for no reason. But we can nicely learn from this devotee as the Bhagavatam way to deal things. In one of the daily quotes Maharaj says, "***See to that your attitude suits the other. When your good actions and behaviour flows with the nature of others they are pleased and inspired in their own actions. They may be younger or older, but we should be very pleasing to all.***"

Srila Gurudev ki Jai ! Srila Prabhupada ki Jai !

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi

## **Cunningness and Simplicity**

**Date:** 24 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

In our day to day lives we meet different kinds of people, some simple and some cunning. Dealings with simple people is always simple. But how to deal with cunning people? The talks and action of such cunning people interrupt and disturb our spiritual progress as well. When one of the devotee was

constantly being harassed by police to not distribute books, he wrote about this to Srila Prabhupada and His Divine Grace replied, "*I understand that you are feeling some inconvenience due to police interruption, but we have to make the best of a bad bargain. There is a Sanskrit proverb, sati shatyam samacharit, and this means if somebody is cunning, we must also become cunning. To a cunning person we must not be a simpleton. Krishna Conscious devotees are expected to be very intelligent, so we have to work very intelligently to prove our advancement in Krishna Consciousness. I think you should keep a table by the Sankirtana Party, a table with a charity box and our books and literatures for sale. You go on with your work as usual and when the police come you say you are not canvassing. You have simply kept a table and whoever wishes to purchase may do so. This is called sati shatyam samacharit.*"

His Divine Grace's words are true to the core. Life is never smooth and will never be smooth even to practise devotional service. We will have so many challenges from so many corners. But all we have to do is to make the best of a bad bargain. Just like how in the above instance, His Divine Grace is teaching how we can cunningly speak to the police-man and somehow try to continue with service, when we remain fixed in our ultimate goal of going back home, back to Godhead, then Krishna as Super-soul will definitely guide us as to what to speak or not to speak. Then we will not be affected by cunning nature of others, but proceed on with our constitutional position of serving the Supreme Lord. Srimati Kunti rani prays very nicely in Srimad Bhagavatam verse 1.8.42

*tvayi me ananya vishayaa / matir madhu pate 'sakrt  
ratim udvahataad addhaa / gangevaugham udanvati*

**"O Lord of Madhu, as the Ganges forever flows to the sea without hindrance, let my attraction be constantly drawn unto You without being diverted to anyone else."**

There are so many obstacles which Mother Ganges faces on her way to the ocean. But she never gets stuck anywhere and she just keeps moving on steadily to the ocean. Likewise we must also not get stuck by unfavourable people or circumstance around us and remembering our ultimate goal just proceed on with bhakti.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Real Unity Pleases Krishna**

**Date:** 25 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

When we are engaged in services, we come across people of different nature and talents. Whenever we see some nice talents, our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj says that we should remember that these talents are coming from Krishna as assured by Him in 7th chapter of Bhagavad-Gita ( *tejas tejasvinaam aham - prowess of all powerful men*) and we should feel happy that the people are nicely using their talents in service of Lord. But deluded by modes of nature, many times we fall prey to

envy.

Srila Prabhupada in one of his letter to his disciples on January 2 1972 very nicely mentions the difference between the competitive spirit in the material world and that in the spiritual world. His Divine Grace writes, "*Here, competition is for sense gratification. How much I can enjoy, my sense, and the other person sees how much he can enjoy his senses. In the spiritual world the competition is how to satisfy Krishna. There the center is one. If you draw innumerable circles they will not overlap. But here the circles will overlap. Even a small circle can overlap a large circle. This is because in the material world there are many centers, whereas in the spiritual world there is only one center. In the spiritual world whether the circles are big or small they will never overlap. In the spiritual world similarly, whatever or whoever is rendering the service, there is never competition of maliciousness.*"

The ultimate goal of whatever devotional service we are performing is to please Krishna. So it is important that we keep Krishna as the center and not our ourselves. We must also understand how we are very limited. We must make the best use of whatever talents he has bestowed and also learn to appreciate the talents in others. So when we do in such united spirit, Krishna is very very pleased. When Pracetas, the sons of King Prachinabarhi served the Lord in a united manner, the Lord says in Srimad Bhagavatam verse 4.30.8

*shri bhagavaan uvaaca  
varam vrneedhivam bhadram vo / yuyam me nrpa-nandanaah  
sauhaardenaaprthag-dharmaas / tushto 'ham sauhrdena vah*

**"The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: My dear sons of the King, I am very much pleased by the friendly relationships among you. All of you are engaged in one occupation—devotional service. I am so pleased with your mutual friendship that I wish you all good fortune. Now you may ask a benediction of Me."**

There is a proverb, "United we stand and divided we fall". So may we appreciate the talents and qualities of others and serve the Supreme Lord in a united manner. As His Diivine Grace mentions in the purport to the above verse - that is real unity and that unity will please Krishna.

Hare Krishna.  
Thank you very much,  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **The Supreme Occupation - Part 1**

**Date:** 26 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva.

The sages at Naimisaranya headed by Shaunka rshi, while performing the 1000 year sacrifice for the welfare of people of Kaliyuga ask Suta Goswami as to what he has ascertained to be the absolute and ultimate good for the people in general. In response to this Suta Goswami says in Srimad Bhagavatam

verse 1.2.6,

*sa vai pumsaam paro dharmo / yato bhaktir adhokshaje  
ahaituky apratihataa / yayaatmaa suprasidati*

**"The supreme occupation [dharma] for all humanity is that by which men can attain to loving devotional service unto the transcendent Lord. Such devotional service must be unmotivated and uninterrupted to completely satisfy the self."**

In the above verse the word *dharmā* is translated by Srila Prabhupada as '**occupation**'. Occupation refers to the service or activity which we are occupied with. Now each of us, according to our *guna* and *karma* are bestowed with different occupations - either in management, military, medical field, banking, engineering, teaching, government, preaching, household activities etc. Irrespective of the type of occupation - when we do that occupation remembering Krishna and using the fruits to serve Supreme Lord, then such unmotivated and un-interrupted service will satisfy the soul. Sometimes we have this tendency to begin with one type of occupation and then discontinue it after sometime and change over to something else. Such interruptions in occupational duty will also reflect in devotional service and so constantly changing our occupation will not help us both materially and spiritually. His Divine Grace in one of his letters to his disciple written on 2nd January 1973 advises as to how instead of hankering for more and more new challenges one has to work on the service which he/she has already begun.

His Divine Grace further says, "*Of course we are not ever very much anxious to repeat the same activity many times, that is the nature of the living entity, that he seeks to enjoy varieties of flavors. But mature understanding of activity means to take it as our occupational duty. That is to say, suppose I am established as good carpenter, then it will be foolish if after some time I am thinking, "Oh, I have done this cutting of woods so many times, now it is becoming boring and uninteresting, therefore let me become a doctor," no. That is not recommended by Krsna, neither is it common sense. Occupational duty means to stick with one type of occupation which is just suitable for me, considering that it is my duty, therefore I am throughout my life obligated to perform it to the best of my ability. This is mature understanding of occupation. That means I must not leave it even for so-called good cause, just like Arjuna wanted to stop his fighting activity just to avoid killing so many of his kinsmen, cousin brothers, and other friends. So we are preachers on behalf of Lord Krsna, that is our occupational duty, we haven't got to search any further some new challenge or change our engagement. No, that has been already settled up. Now best thing will be to develop more and more what we have begun.*"

Krishna willing, we shall try to meditate more on *dharmā* in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Transcendental Qualities of Krishna - Part 1**

**Date:** 27 Sep, 2016

**Author:** ??????Kalacakra Krsna das

Dear Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

We found a wonderful piece of treasure in Maharaj's diary which is originally taken from an article by H D G Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur about the transcendental qualities of Sri Krishna as exhibited in the 10th canto of Srimad Bhagavatam. A total of 141 transcendental qualities of Lord Krishna have been listed along with the verses and chapter. Here goes the transcendental writing from Maharaj's diary.

Place: Crouch end, London. Time: 12:20 pm Mid-day, Date: 27-02-04.

HDG Sri Srimad Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Goswami Maharaja Prabhupada, the author of this article, who is the spiritual master of the founder acarya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness may easily be accepted as the greatest scholar and devotee of the recent age. His numerous scriptural translations and commentaries in Sanskrit, Bengali and English and his establishment of 64 centers of Krishna consciousness throughout India attest to his identity as a powerful devotional force in spreading the personal philosophy of Krishna consciousness, the science of love of God. It is he who has caused a flood of God consciousness in the modern world through HDG A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, his emissary to the west.

HDG Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati listed these transcendental qualities of the Supreme Lord Sri Krishna in an essay which is too lengthy to be presented here in its entirety. However this authoritative listing, compiled by HDG in 1932, shines with its own value. All the references are to chapter and verse of the 10th canto of Srimad Bhagavatam, a scripture which describes the transcendental pastimes of Lord Sri Krishna.

**Transcendental Qualities of Krishna:**

1. Krishna is possessed of an unlimited intellect (10.84.22)
2. Krishna is inaccessible to sensuous knowledge (10.16.46)
3. Krishna is the Lord of infinity of worlds (10.69.17)
4. Krishna wields the power of creating the unlimited (10.87.28)
5. Krishna carries the impress of limitless power (10.87.14)
6. Krishna is possessed of inconceivable potency (10.10.29)
7. Krishna is unborn (10.59.28, 74, 21)
8. Krishna solves all heterogeneous views (10.74.24)
9. Krishna is vanquished by exclusive devotion (10.14.3)
10. Krishna is the inner guide (10.1.17)
11. Krishna is the withholder of the energy of the wicked (10.60.19)
12. Krishna is the giver of salvation to jivas that are free from vanity (10.86.48)

13. Krishna ordains the worldly course of conceited jivas (10.86.48)

14. Krishna is the primal God/Deva (10.40.1)

15. Krishna is the primal person/Purusha (10.63.38)

(...to be continued..)

Even to list all the transcendental qualities is going to take several parts, and it is going to take lifetimes to meditate on them!! How glorious is our lineage, our acaryas and our spiritual masters, to have given us this great treasure!?!

Let us pray to our acaryas, Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva to bestow upon us the potency to understand and relish these beautiful qualities by meditating on the transcendental verses from Granthraj Srimad Bhagavatam.

Thank you very much.

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Kalacakra Krsna das

## The Supreme Occupation - Part 2

**Date:** 28 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Sudarshana devi dasi

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous offering titled, "The Supreme Occupation", wherein we were meditating on the verse 1.2.6 of Srimad Bhagavatam. In the previous offering we heard from Srila Prabhupada as how we should do our dharma or occupation duty with devotion. His Divine Grace insisted how it is important that we simply keep improving and developing on the service/occupation that we have already begun, instead of changing it whimsically. Now we shall see further.

The paro dharma or loving devotional service to Supreme Lord Adhoksaja should be done in an unmotivated manner and without any interruptions. Such unconditional service is not dependent on the type of ashram one is situated in. In previous offering we saw how the type of profession we are occupied with is not a hindrance to spiritual progress as long as we do with devotion. Like wise whether we are in brahmacarya, grhastha or vanaprastha or sannyasa stage - bhakti is not dependent on these ashramas. Particularly we have a tendency to think that grhastha ashram is not conducive for bhakti. In one of his letter (dated 4th January 1973) to his disciple, His Divine Grace very nicely clarifies as to how Krishna conscious marriage system should be.

"Krishna consciousness marriage system should not be taken in that way, that if there is any botheration that means something is hindering my spiritual progress, no. ***Once it is adopted, the grhastha life, even it may be troublesome at times, it must be fulfilled as my occupational duty.*** Of course, it is better to remain unmarried, celibate.....Krishna has informed us in Bhagavad-gita that even women and sudras and others inferior class of men can take refuge in Him. So the problem is there, the women must have a husband to

give protection....*We should never think of our so-called advancement as being conditioned by or dependent upon some set of material circumstances such as marriage, vanaprastha, or this or that. Mature understanding of Krishna consciousness means that whatever condition of life I am in at present, that is Krishna's special mercy upon me, therefore let me take advantage in the best way possible to spread this Krishna consciousness movement and conduct my spiritual master's mission.* If I consider my own personal progress or happiness or any other thing personal, that is material consideration."

Our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj used to give very nice example of devotees like Eknath, Tukaram and Narsi mehta. Eknathji had a very good wife who helped him in serving Supreme Lord. So he went and thanked the Lord, "Thank you Krishna. Because You had given me a good wife, I am able to serve You nicely." Tukaramji's wife always fought with him. So he said Krishna, "Thank you for giving me a difficult wife, so I am able to attach myself to You more." For Narsi mehtaji - his wife died early. So he told Krishna, "Thank you for helping me to detach from family life so that I can dedicate myself completely in Your service." Maharaj gives these examples to help us understand - that whether our life-partner is good or bad or if due to some unfortunate event we lose our life-partner, in all circumstances bhakti continues. We should not whimsically try to give up our responsibilities in married life in the pretext of devotional service.

Krishna willing, we shall try to meditate more on Dharma in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,  
Sudarshana devi dasi.

## **Transcendental Qualities of Krishna - Part 2**

**Date:** 29 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Kalacakra Krsna das

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous topic "Transcendental Qualities of the Supreme Lord" wherein we were meditating the Lord's qualities as listed by His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti-Siddhanta Saraswathi Maharaj from the 10th Canto of Srimad Bhagavatam. Our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj had listed all those 141 qualities in his diary. In the previous offering we saw 15 qualities. Now we shall see few more.

### **Transcendental Qualities of Krishna (continued...)**

16. Krishna is overwhelming flood of bliss. (Srimad Bhagavatam 10.83.4)
17. Krishna possesses fulfilled desires. (Srimad Bhagavatam 10.47.46)
18. Krishna is self-delighted.(Srimad Bhagavatam 10.60.20)
19. Krishna is the opponent of the sensuous.(Srimad Bhagavatam 10.60.35)
20. Krishna is sung by the best of hymns. (Srimad Bhagavatam 10.86.23)
21. Krishna is the dispeller of the night of pseudo religion. (Srimad Bhagavatam 10.14.40)

22. Krishna is devoid of increase and decrease. (Srimad Bhagavatam 10.48.26)
23. Krishna is the efficient and material cause. (Srimad Bhagavatam 10.10.29)
24. Krishna is the only truth.(Srimad Bhagavatam 10.14.23)
25. Krishna is the awarder of the fruit of work. (Srimad Bhagavatam 10.49.29)
26. Krishna is not subject to the consequences of work.(Srimad Bhagavatam 10.84.17)
27. Krishna is the seer of cause and effect. (Srimad Bhagavatam 10.38.12)
28. Krishna is a Person who is time.(Srimad Bhagavatam 10.1.7)
29. Krishna is Time's Own self.(Srimad Bhagavatam 10.70.26)
30. Krishna is even Time of Time.(Srimad Bhagavatam 10.56.27)

(to be continued...)

Krishna willing we shall list the remaining qualities in the subsequent offerings.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Kalacakra Krsna das.

## **Transcendental Qualities of Krishna - Part 3**

**Date:** 30 Sep, 2016

**Author:** Kalacakra Krsna das

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

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

This is in continuation of the previous topic "Transcendental Qualities of the Supreme Lord" wherein we were meditating the Lord's qualities as listed by His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti-Siddhanta Saraswathi Maharaj from the 10th Canto of Srimad Bhagavatam. Our beloved spiritual master H H Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj had listed all those 141 qualities in his diary. In previous offering we saw 30 qualities. Now we shall see few more.

### **Transcendental Qualities of Krishna.**

31. Krishna is present in heart of every animate entity, like fire inside wood. (10.46.36)
32. Krishna is grateful. (10.48.26)
33. Krishna is the augments (like the full moon), of the ocean,earth, demigods, twice-born and animals. (10.14.40)
34. Krishna is the tormentor of cannibalistic person. (10.14.40)
35. Krishna is the destroyer of the pride of the arrogant. (10.60.19)
36. Krishna is the root-cause of the origin etc, of the world. (10.14.23)
37. Krishna is the cause of the world. (10.40.1)
38. Krishna is the creator of the world. (10.70.38)
39. Krishna for the good of the world, appears as if possessed of a body like that of mundane entities. (10.14.55)
40. Krishna is the guru (center of gravity) of the world. (10.80.44)

41. Krishna is devoid of birth. (10.46.38)

42. Krishna is equally internal guide, cause and director of jivas. (10.87.30)

43. Krishna is destroyer of miseries of person who employ themselves in meditating upon Him. (10.38.10)

In the above matchless, transcendental qualities of the Supreme Lord, it is very interesting to note that Maharaj has wonderfully explained guru as center of gravity. Center of gravity is force which keeps us on the ground. Both Guru and Jagat Guru Krishna keep us always on the ground, whenever we forget our real position and get carried away by illusion. Also the root word of gravity is grave - which means to be humble and sober. Maharaj says that, "***if we are not grave when we are alive, we will be forced to be grave in the graveyard. So be grave, before you are forced to be grave.***"

Jai Srila Gurudev ki Jai ! Srila Prabhupada ki Jai ! Jagat Guru Sri Krishna Bhagavan ki Jai !

Krishna willing we shall continue more on this topic in the subsequent offering.

Hare Krishna.

Thank you very much,

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudeva,

Kalacakra Krsna das.