

Varuṇa’s servant arrest NM

- ॐ The Govardhana-pūjā ceremony took place on the new-moon day.
- ॐ After this, there were torrents of rain and hailstorms imposed by King Indra for seven days.
- ॐ Nine days of the waxing moon having passed, on the tenth day King Indra worshiped Lord Kṛṣṇa, and thus the matter was satisfactorily settled.
- ॐ After this, on the eleventh day of the full moon, Ekādaśī, Mahārāja Nanda observed fasting for the whole day,
- ॐ and just early in the morning of the next day, Dvādaśī, he went to take a bath in the river Yamunā.
- ॐ He entered deep into the water of the river, but he was arrested immediately by one of the servants of Varuṇadeva.
- ॐ This servant brought Nanda Mahārāja before the demigod Varuṇa and accused him of taking a bath in the river at the wrong time.
- ॐ *According to astronomical calculations, the time in which he took a bath was considered demoniac. The fact was that Nanda Mahārāja wanted to take a bath in the river Yamunā early in the morning before the sunrise, but somehow or other he was a little too early, and he bathed at an inauspicious time. Consequently he was arrested.*
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- ॐ When Nanda Mahārāja was taken away by one of Varuṇa’s servants, Nanda’s companions began to call loudly for Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma.
- ॐ Immediately Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma could understand that Nanda Mahārāja had been taken by a servant of Varuṇa.
- ॐ Thus They went to the abode of Varuṇa, for They were pledged to give protection to the inhabitants of Vṛndāvana, who were all unalloyed devotees of the Lord.
- ॐ Devotees, having no shelter other than the Supreme Personality of Godhead, naturally cry to Him for help, exactly like children who do not know anything but the protection of their parents.
- ॐ The demigod Varuṇa received Lord Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma with great respect and said, “My dear Lord, actually at this very moment, because of Your presence, my life as the demigod Varuṇa has become successful.
- ॐ Although I am the proprietor of all the treasures in the water, I know that such possessions do not make for a successful life.
- ॐ But at this moment, as I look at You, my life is made completely successful because by seeing You I no longer have to accept a material body.
- ॐ Therefore, O Lord, Supreme Personality of Godhead, Supreme Brahman and Supersoul of everything, let me offer my respectful obeisances unto You.
- ॐ You are the supreme transcendental personality; there is no possibility of imposing the influence of material nature upon You. I am very sorry that my foolish man, by not

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knowing what to do or what not to do, has mistakenly arrested Your father, Nanda Mahārāja.

- ॐ So I beg Your pardon for the offense of my servant. I think that it was Your plan to show me Your mercy by Your personal presence here.
- ॐ My dear Lord Kṛṣṇa, Govinda, be merciful upon me—here is Your father. You can take him back immediately.”

Kṛṣṇa rescues NM and reveals the universal form

- ॐ In this way Lord Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, rescued His father and presented him before his friends, bringing them great jubilation.
- ॐ Nanda Mahārāja was surprised that although the demigod was so opulent, he offered such respect to Kṛṣṇa.
- ॐ That was very astonishing to Nanda, and he began to describe the incident to his friends and relatives with great wonder.
- ॐ The friends of Nanda Mahārāja, all the cowherd men, became eager to know if Kṛṣṇa was actually the Supreme Personality and if He was going to give them all salvation.
- ॐ When they were all thus consulting among themselves, Kṛṣṇa understood their minds, and in order to assure them of their destiny in the spiritual kingdom, He showed them the spiritual sky. *Generally, ordinary persons are engaged simply in working hard in the material world, and they have no information that there is another kingdom or another sky, which is known as the spiritual sky, where life is eternal, blissful and full of knowledge. As it is stated in the Bhagavad-gītā, a person returning to that spiritual sky never returns to this material world of death and suffering.*
- ॐ Hearing their inquiries, Kṛṣṇa immediately thought that His devotees in Vṛndāvana should be informed of the spiritual sky and the Vaikuṅṭha planets therein.
- ॐ Thus Kṛṣṇa showed them the eternal, ever-existing spiritual sky, which is unlimited and full of knowledge.
- ॐ Thus Kṛṣṇa led all the cowherd men, headed by Nanda Mahārāja, to the lake where Akrūra would later be shown the Vaikuṅṭha planetary system.
- ॐ They took their bath immediately and saw the real nature of the Vaikuṅṭhalokas. After seeing the spiritual sky and the Vaikuṅṭhalokas, all the men, headed by Nanda Mahārāja, felt wonderfully blissful, and upon coming out of the lake, they saw Kṛṣṇa, who was being worshiped with excellent prayers.