Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta Madhya-līlā, Chapter 19

Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu Instructs Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī

Study notes of H.G. Gaurānga dāsa

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jaya jaya śrī-caitanya jaya nityānanda
jayādvaita-candra jaya gaura-bhakta-vṛnda

All glories to Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu!
All glories to Lord Nityānanda!
All glories to Advaitacandra!
And all glories to all the devotees of the Lord!

Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu Instructs Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī

(CC Madhya-līlā : Chapter 19)

I. What Rūpa and Sanātana Gosvāmīs do on returning home

(i) Plan their renunciation

TEXT 4

dui-bhāi viṣaya-tyāgera upāya sṛjila
bahu-dhana diyā dui brāhmaṇe varila

The two brothers devised a means whereby they could give up their material activities. For this purpose, they appointed two brāhmaṇas and paid them a large amount of money.

TEXT 5

kṛṣṇa-mantre karāila dui puraścaraṇa
acirāt pāibāre caitanya-caraṇa

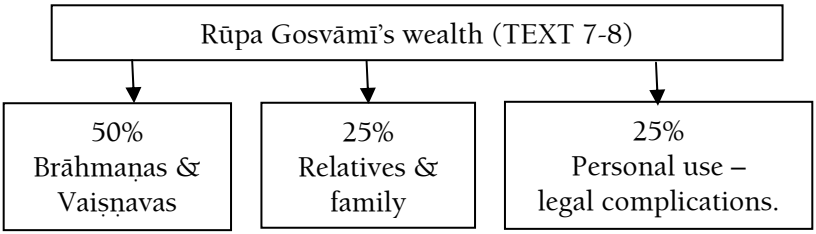
The brāhmaṇas performed religious ceremonies and chanted the holy name of Kṛṣṇa so that the two brothers might attain shelter at the lotus feet of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu very soon.

PURPORT: TEXT 5

- ✓ **Puraścaraṇa**
  - o Ritualistic ceremony performed under the guidance of an expert spiritual master or a brāhmaṇa.
  - o Performed for fulfillment of certain desires
- ✓ (a) Rises, (b) Chants, (c) Performs ārati & (d) Deity worship

(ii) Rūpa Gosvāmī divides wealth

- ❖ Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī – boats with riches (TEXT 6)



- ❖ 10,000 coins – Śrī Sanātana Gosvāmī, in custody of local Bengali grocer. (TEXT 9)
- ❖ Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī finds out Caitanya Mahāprabhu's travel plans to Vṛndāvana – sends 2 people to Jagannātha Purī (TEXS 10-12)

(iii) Sanātana Gosvāmī's thinking

- ❖ Nawab pleased with me.
- ❖ I have obligation. (TEXT 13)
- ❖ If Nawab – angry – relieved (TEXT 14)
- ❖ Bad health, home – gave up govt. seva – didn't go to royal court (TEXT 15)

TEXT 16

lobhī kāyastha-gaṇa rāja-kārya kare
āpane svagṛhe kare śāstrera vicāre

The greedy masters of his clerical and secretarial staff performed the government duties while Sanātana personally remained home and discussed the revealed scriptures.

PURPORT: TEXT 16

- ✓ Sanātana Gosvāmī – minister – Govt. secretariat – assistants — undersecretaries & clerks – kāyastha community.
- ✓ Kāyasthas – clerical & secretarial staff – post called later
- ✓ Could not identify himself as brāhmaṇa, kṣatriya, vaiśya or śūdra, he used to introduce himself as a kāyastha to get a wealthy and honorable position.
- ✓ If one cannot give identity of his caste, he calls himself a kāyastha.

- ✓ Kāyastha – mixture of all castes & includes those engaged in clerical or secretarial work. Such people are always busy occupying responsible government posts.
- ✓ Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura commentary
  - o Sanātana Gosvāmī – Relax, Reluctant, Retire
  - o Kāyasthas – Eager, Expert
  - o Sanātana Gosvāmī – brāhmaṇa in Sārasvata brāhmaṇa community – resigned – subordinate - Purandara Khān - occupied post.

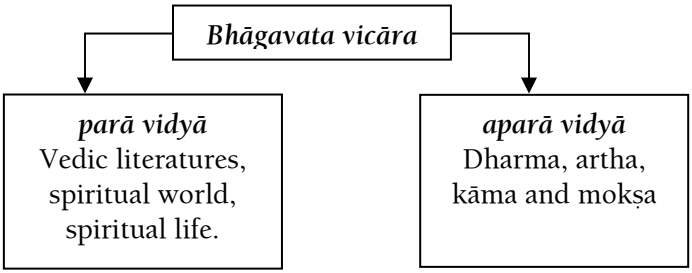
TEXT 17

bhaṭṭācārya paṇḍita biśa triśa lañā
bhāgavata vicāra karena sabhāte vasiyā

Śrī Sanātana Gosvāmī used to discuss Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam in an assembly of twenty or thirty learned brāhmaṇa scholars.

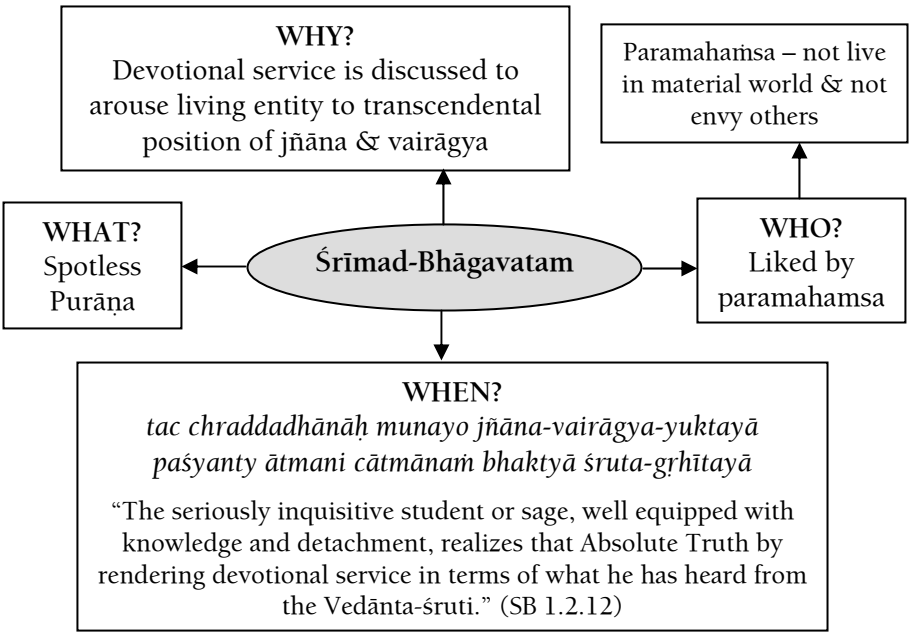
PURPORT: TEXT 17

Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura says



SB 12.13.18

śrīmad-bhāgavataṁ purāṇam amalaṁ yad vaiṣṇavānāṁ priyaṁ
yasmin pāramahaṁsyam ekam amalaṁ jñānaṁ paraṁ gīyate
yatra jñāna-virāga-bhakti-sahitaṁ naiṣkarmyam āviṣkṛtaṁ
tac chṛṇvan supaṭhan vicāraṇa-paro bhaktyā vimucyen naraḥ



- ✓ Naiṣkarmya –
  - Relief from dharma, artha, kāma and mokṣa
  - No longer interested in sense gratification.

(iv) Nawab of Bengal appears with another person

TEXT 18

āra dina gauḍeśvara, saṅge eka-jana
ācambite gosāñi-sabhāte kaila āgamana

While Sanātana Gosvāmī was studying Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam in the assembly of learned brāhmaṇas, one day the Nawab of Bengal and another person suddenly appeared.

PURPORT: TEXT 18

- ✓ Ālāuddīna Saiyada Husena Sāha Seripha Makkā – ruled Bengal for 23 years, from 1498 to 1521 A.D.
- ✓ Sanātana Gosvāmī – SB 1502 A.D.

TEXT 19

pātsāha dekhiyā sabe sambhrame uṭhilā
sambhrame āsana diyā rājāre vasāilā

As soon as all the brāhmaṇas and Sanātana Gosvāmī saw the Nawab appear, they all stood up and respectfully gave him a sitting place to honor him.

PURPORT: TEXT 19

- ✓ When a person occupies an exalted executive post, one should consider that he has acquired the grace of Lord.
- ✓ BG 10.41: *yad yad vibhūtimat sattvaṁ…*

1 **Lesson 1: Whenever we see something exalted, we must consider it part of the power of the Supreme Personality of Godhead.**

2 **Lesson 2: A powerful man is one who has obtained the grace of the Lord or has derived some power from Him.**

PURPORT: TEXT 19

- ✓ BG - *tejas tejasvinām aham*: "I am the power of the powerful."
- ✓ Learned brāhmaṇa scholars showed respect to Nawab Hussain Shah because he represented a fraction of Kṛṣṇa's power.

(a) Nawab speaks

- ❖ Physician reports healthy. (TEXT 20)
- ❖ I am depending on you to carry out my activities – you given up govt. duties to sit here at home. (TEXT 21)
- ❖ You have spoiled all my activities. What is your intention? Please tell me frankly. (TEXT 22)

(b) Sanātana Gosvāmī replies

No longer expect any service from me. Please arrange for someone else to tend to the management. (TEXT 23)

(c) Nawab angry

- Elder brother – plunderer (TEXT 24)
- Killing jivas - elder brother destroyed Bengal
- You are destroying all my plans. (TEXT 25)
- Sanātana Gosvāmī said – "Supreme ruler of Bengal & completely independent. Whenever someone commits a fault, you punish him accordingly." (TEXT 26)

(d) Intimate relationship between Nawab & Sanātana Gosvāmī

TEXT 27

eta śuni' gauḍeśvara uṭhi' ghare gelā
palāiba bali' sanātanere bāndhilā

Hearing this, the Nawab of Bengal stood up and returned to his home. He ordered the arrest of Sanātana Gosvāmī so that he would not be able to leave.

PURPORT: TEXT 27

- ✓ Relationship between Nawab & Sanātana Gosvāmī - very intimate.
- ✓ Nawab – "I am your elder brother, - only conquest – not state management.
- ✓ Talk was based on family relationship & Sanātana Gosvāmī also replied in an intimate and joking way.
- ✓ Sanātana Gosvāmī Not enthusiastic for performing his duty
- ✓ Nawab should dismiss him from his service.
- ✓ Nawab could understand intention of Sanātana Gosvāmī's statement.

(e) Nawab invites Sanātana Gosvāmī to attack Orissa

"Come along with me."

TEXT 29

teṅho kahe,—yābe tumi devatāya duḥkha dite
mora śakti nāhi, tomāra saṅge yāite

Sanātana Gosvāmī replied, "You are going to Orissa to give pain to the Supreme Personality of Godhead. For this reason I am powerless to go with you."

(f) Nawab arrests Sanātana Gosvāmī & keeps him in prison

- ❖ Caitanya Mahāprabhu departed for Vṛndāvana from Jagannātha Purī. (TEXT 30)

II. Rūpa Gosvāmī informs Sanātana Gosvāmī of Caitanya Mahāprabhu's departure for Vṛndāvana and requests him to get released and meet Them

- ❖ I have left 10,000 coins grocer. Use that money to get out of prison. (TEXT 34)
- ❖ Get released & come to Vṛndāvana (TEXT 35)
- ❖ Rūpa Gosvāmī's younger brother – Śrī Vallabha – Anupama Mallika. (TEXT 36)

III. Rūpa Gosvāmī and Anupama Mallika in Prayāga

- ❖ Bindu Mādhava – 100s & 1000s people – laugh, cry, roll, "Kṛṣṇa! Kṛṣṇa!" (TEXTS 38-39)

(i) Cry

TEXT 39

keha kānde, keha hāse, keha nāce, gāya
'kṛṣṇa' 'kṛṣṇa' bali' keha gaḍāgaḍi yāya

Some of the people following the Lord were crying. Some were laughing, some dancing and some chanting. Indeed, some of them were rolling on the ground, exclaiming "Kṛṣṇa! Kṛṣṇa!"

(ii) Flood

TEXT 40

gaṅgā-yamunā prayāga nārila ḍubāite
prabhu ḍubāila kṛṣṇa-premera vanyāte

Prayāga is located at the confluence of two rivers—the Ganges and the Yamunā. Although these rivers were not able to flood Prayāga with water, Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu inundated the whole area with waves of ecstatic love for Kṛṣṇa.

(iii) See Caitanya Mahāprabhu

- ❖ Crowd - 2 two brothers – secluded place – Caitanya Mahāprabhu ecstatic to see Lord Bindu Mādhava. (TEXT 41)
- ❖ Loudly chant "Hari! Hari!" – dance – ask everyone to chant "Hari! Hari!" (TEXT 42)
- ❖ Astounded to see greatness of Caitanya Mahāprabhu (TEXT 43)

(iv) Deccan brāhmaṇa

- ❖ Invited Lord for meals and took Him to his place. (TEXT 44)
- ❖ Rūpa Gosvāmī and Sanātana Gosvāmī come to meet the Lord at the house of Deccan brāhmaṇa.

IV. Rūpa Gosvāmī and Anupama Mallika meet the Lord

(i) The two brothers meet the Lord

TEXT 46

dui-guccha tṛṇa duṅhe daśane dhariyā
prabhu dekhi' dūre paḍe daṇḍavat hañā

Seeing the Lord from a distance, the two brothers put two clumps of straw between their teeth and immediately fell down on the ground like rods, offering Him obeisances.

TEXT 47

nānā śloka paḍi' uṭhe, paḍe bāra bāra
prabhu dekhi' premāveśa ha-ila duṅhara

Both brothers were overwhelmed with ecstatic emotion, and reciting various Sanskrit verses, they stood up and fell down again and again.

TEXT 48

śrī-rūpe dekhiyā prabhura prasanna haila mana
'uṭha, uṭha, rūpa, āisa', balilā vacana

Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu was very pleased to see Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī, and He told him, "Stand up! Stand up! My dear Rūpa, come here."

TEXT 49

kṛṣṇera karuṇā kichu nā yāya varṇane
viṣaya-kūpa haite kāḍila tomā dui-jane

Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu then said, "It is not possible to describe Kṛṣṇa's mercy, for He has delivered you both from the well of material enjoyment.

TEXT 50

na me 'bhaktaś catur-vedī
mad-bhaktaḥ śva-pacaḥ priyaḥ
tasmai deyaṁ tato grāhyaṁ
sa ca pūjyo yathā hy aham

"[Lord Kṛṣṇa said:] 'Even though a person is a very learned scholar of the Sanskrit Vedic literatures, he is not accepted as My devotee unless he is pure in devotional service. Even though a person is born in a family of dog-eaters, he is very dear to Me if he is a pure devotee who has no motive to enjoy fruitive activities or mental speculation. Indeed, all respects should be given to him, and whatever he offers should be accepted. Such devotees are as worshipable as I am.'"

TEXT 51

ei śloka paḍi' duṅhāre kailā āliṅgana
kṛpāte duṅhāra māthāya dharilā caraṇa

After reciting this verse, Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu embraced the two brothers, and out of His causeless mercy He placed His feet on their heads.

TEXT 52

prabhu-kṛpā pāñā duṅhe dui hāta yuḍi'
dīna hañā stuti kare vinaya ācari'

After receiving the Lord's causeless mercy, the two brothers folded their hands and in great humility offered the following prayers unto the Lord.

TEXT 53

namo mahā-vadānyāya
kṛṣṇa-prema-pradāya te
kṛṣṇāya kṛṣṇa-caitanya-
nāmne gaura-tviṣe namaḥ

"O most munificent incarnation! You are Kṛṣṇa Himself appearing as Śrī Kṛṣṇa Caitanya Mahāprabhu. You have assumed the golden color of Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī, and You are widely distributing pure love of Kṛṣṇa. We offer our respectful obeisances unto You.

TEXT 54

yo 'jñāna-mattaṁ bhuvanaṁ dayālur
ullāghayann apy akarot pramattam
sva-prema-sampat-sudhayādbhutehaṁ
śrī-kṛṣṇa-caitanyam amuṁ prapadye

"We offer our respectful obeisances unto that merciful Supreme Personality of Godhead who has converted all three worlds, which were maddened by ignorance, and saved them from their diseased condition by making them mad with the nectar from the treasure-house of love of God. Let us take full shelter of that Personality of Godhead, Śrī Kṛṣṇa Caitanya, whose activities are wonderful."

(ii) Caitanya Mahāprabhu asks about Sanātana

- Caitanya Mahāprabhu sat them - "What news - Sanātana?" : arrested by Hussain Shah – kindly save him, he can be liberated from that entanglement. (TEXTS 55-56)
- Brāhmaṇa requested Caitanya Mahāprabhu to accept His lunch. (TEXT 58)
- Balabhadra Bhaṭṭācārya invited 2 brothers (TEXT 59)
- Caitanya Mahāprabhu – Triveṇī, Rūpa Gosvāmī & Śrī Vallabha near Lord's (TEXT 60)

V. Caitanya Mahāprabhu's meeting/ dealings with Vallabha Bhaṭṭa

(i) History

- ❖ Staying at Āḍāila-grāma

PURPORT: TEXT 61

- ✓ In the beginning very much devoted to Caitanya Mahāprabhu, but since he thought that he could not receive proper respect from Him, he later joined the Viṣṇu Svāmī sect and became the ācārya of that sect.

Vallabhācārya-sampradāya

- Son of Lakṣmaṇa Dīkṣita – 16 miles from Niḍāḍābhalu – Kāṅkaḍabāḍa village.
- 5 sections of brāhmaṇas – Bella-nāṭī, Vegī-nāṭī, Muraki-nāṭī, Telagu-nāṭī and Kāśala-nāṭī.
- Vallabhācārya – Bella-nāṭī in 1478 A.D.

- ✓ Opinion: s/o Lakṣmaṇa Bhaṭṭa Dīkṣita – Campakāraṇya - family surnamed Khambhaṁpāṭībāru
- ✓ Cāṅpā-jhāra-grāma, near Rājima in Madhya Pradesh.
- ✓ 2 sons – Gopīnātha & Viṭhṭhaleśvara – 1530 A.D. – passed away
- ✓ Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam commentary – Subodhinī

(ii) Meets Caitanya Mahāprabhu

- ❖ Lord embraced Vallabha Bhaṭṭa – discuss Kṛṣṇa – Caitanya Mahāprabhu ecstasy check – rage within – Vallabha Bhaṭṭa detects – invites Lord for lunch – Lord introduces Rūpa and Vallabha to him – Rūpa Gosvāmī & Śrī Vallabha offer obeisances with humility (TEXTS 62-66).
- ❖ Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya walked toward them - ran away – untouchable – sinful – don't touch (TEXT 67)

TEXT 67

bhaṭṭa milibāre yāya, duṅhe palāya dūre
'aspṛśya pāmara muñi, nā chuṅiha more'

When Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya walked toward them, they ran away to a more distant place. Rūpa Gosvāmī said, "I am untouchable and most sinful. Please do not touch me."

TEXT 68

bhaṭṭera vismaya haila, prabhura harṣa mana
bhaṭṭere kahilā prabhu tāṅra vivaraṇa

Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya was very much surprised at this. Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, however, was very pleased, and He therefore spoke to him this description of Rūpa Gosvāmī.

TEXT 69

'iṅho nā sparśiha, iṅho jāti ati-hīna!
vaidika, yājñika tumi kulīna pravīṇa!'

Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu said, "Don't touch him, for he belongs to a very low caste. You are a follower of Vedic principles and are a well experienced performer of many sacrifices. You also belong to the aristocracy."

PURPORT: TEXT 69

- ✓ Generally brāhmaṇas are puffed up with false prestige because they belong to the aristocracy and perform many Vedic sacrifices.
- ✓ In South India especially, this fastidious position is most prominent.
- ✓ Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu
  - revolution against brahminical system
  - Regardless of caste, creed, color or social position.
  - Purified due to transcendental position of devotional service
  - Brāhmaṇa should not neglect devotee in Hari nama
- ✓ Rūpa Gosvāmī – brāhmaṇa – fallen + excommunicated

PURPORT: TEXT 69 Cntd…

- ✓ Due to advanced devotional service, Caitanya Mahāprabhu accepted him as a gosvāmī.
- ✓ One who is a devotee is above caste and creed, yet Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya felt himself prestigious.

- ✓ Head of Bombay mutt – Dīkṣita Mahārāja
  - Friendly
  - Praises
  - Life member
  - Accepts ISKCON
  - Considers its members bona fide devotees of Lord Viṣṇu.

❖ Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya understood Lord's hint because he heard the holy name vibrated by 2 brothers (TEXTS 70)

TEXT 71

'duṅhāra mukhe kṛṣṇa-nāma kariche nartana
ei-dui 'adhama' nahe, haya 'sarvottama'

Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya said, "Since these two are constantly chanting the holy name of Kṛṣṇa, how can they be untouchable? On the contrary, they are most exalted."

3

Lesson 3: Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya's admission of the brothers' exalted position should serve as a lesson to one who is falsely proud of his position as a brāhmana.

PURPORT: TEXT 71

- ✓ Sometimes brāhmaṇas do not recognize our European & American disciples as devotees or brāhmaṇas
- ✓ Some are so proud that they do not allow them to enter temples.

- ✓ Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya
  - Great authority on brahmanism
  - Learned scholar
  - Admitted chanters as brāhmaṇas & Vaiṣṇavas → exalted.

  - ❖ *aho bata śva-paco 'to garīyān...* (TEXT 72)
  - ❖ Caitanya Mahāprabhu also quotes sastra: *bhagavad-bhakti-hīnasya...* (TEXT 75)

(iii) Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya takes the Lord for lunch

- ❖ Boat – Caitanya Mahāprabhu – Yamunā – ecstatic love – jumped – back on boat – dance – weight – water – sink – shore – Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya with Lord (TEXTS 77-84)
- ❖ Home – sitting place – washed feet – sprinkle water – new underwear & garments (TEXT 85-86)
- ❖ Arti – cook – eat – offer mahā to Rūpa Gosvāmī & Kṛṣṇadāsa (TEXTS 87-89)

- ❖ Spices to purify mouth – rest – Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya massaged – take prasādam - return to lotus feet of the Lord. (TEXT 90-91)

VI. Lord meets Raghupati Upādhyāya

TEXT 96

śrutim apare smṛtim itare bhāratam anye bhajantu bhava-bhītāḥ
aham iha nandaṁ vande yasyālinde paraṁ brahma

Raghupati Upādhyāya recited, "Those who are afraid of material existence worship the Vedic literature. Some worship smṛti, the corollaries to the Vedic literature, and others worship the Mahābhārata. As far as I am concerned, I worship Kṛṣṇa's father, Mahārāja Nanda, in whose courtyard the Supreme Personality of Godhead, the Absolute Truth, is playing."

TEXT 106

śyāmam eva paraṁ rūpaṁ
purī madhu-purī varā
vayaḥ kaiśorakaṁ dhyeyam
ādya eva paro rasaḥ

"'The form of Śyāmasundara is the supreme form, the city of Mathurā is the supreme abode, Lord Kṛṣṇa's fresh youth should always be meditated upon, and the mellow of conjugal love is the supreme mellow.'"

- ❖ Caitanya Mahāprabhu embraced Raghupati Upādhyāya & dance (TEXT 107)

VII. Vallabha-bhaṭṭa takes Caitanya Mahāprabhu back

- ❖ 2 sons – Gopīnātha & Viṭhṭhaleśvara also dandavats (TEXT 108)
- ❖ Villagers went to see – devotees of Kṛṣṇa. (TEXT 109)
- ❖ Brāhmaṇas of village – eager to extend invitations – Vallabha Bhaṭṭācārya forbade them (TEXT 110)
- ❖ Vallabha Bhaṭṭa –Caitanya Mahāprabhu through Ganges to Prayāga.

VIII. Caitanya Mahāprabhu instructs Rūpa Gosvāmī

(i) Why Daśāśvamedha-ghāṭa?

TEXT 114

loka-bhiḍa-bhaye prabhu 'daśāśvamedhe' yāñā
rūpa-gosāñire śikṣā karā'na śakti sañcāriyā

Due to the great crowds in Prayāga, Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu went to a place called Daśāśvamedha-ghāṭa. It was there that the Lord instructed Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī and empowered him in the philosophy of devotional service.

PURPORT: TEXT 114

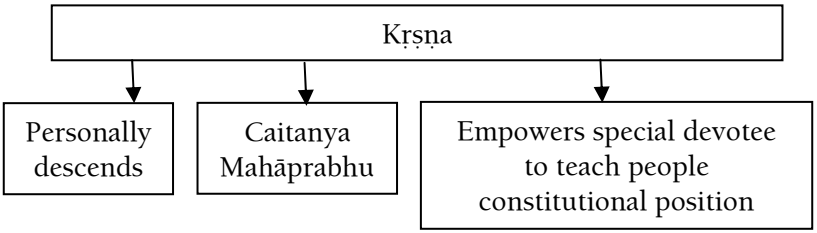
- ✓ *Parāsya śaktir vividhaiva śrūyate…* [Cc. Madhya 13.65, purport].

4

Lesson 4: Lord has a special potency by which spreads the Kṛṣṇa consciousness. *kṛṣṇa-nāma-saṅkīrtana/ kṛṣṇa-śakti vinā nahe tāra pravartana.* A devotee who receives this power from the Lord must be considered very fortunate.

PURPORT: TEXT 114

- ✓ The Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement is spreading to enlighten people about their real position, their original relationship with Kṛṣṇa.
- ✓ One requires Kṛṣṇa's special power in order to be able to do this.
- ✓ People forget their relationship with Kṛṣṇa + work under spell of māyā life after life, transmigrating from one body to another.



TEXT 115

kṛṣṇatattva-bhaktitattva-rasatattva-prānta
saba śikhāila prabhu bhāgavata-siddhānta

Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu taught Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī the ultimate limit of the truth about Lord Kṛṣṇa, the truth about devotional service and the truth about transcendental mellows, culminating in conjugal love between Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa. Finally He told Rūpa Gosvāmī about the ultimate conclusions of Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam.

TEXT 117

śrī-rūpa-hṛdaye prabhu śakti sañcārilā
sarva-tattva-nirūpaṇe 'pravīṇa' karilā

By entering the heart of Rūpa Gosvāmī, Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu empowered him to ascertain properly the conclusions of all truths. He made him an experienced devotee whose decisions correctly agreed with the verdicts of the disciplic succession. Thus Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī was personally empowered by Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu.

TEXT 119

kālena vṛndāvana-keli-vārtā
lupteti tāṁ khyāpayituṁ viśiṣya
kṛpāmṛtenābhiṣiṣeca devas
tatraiva rūpaṁ ca sanātanaṁ ca

"In the course of time, the transcendental news of Kṛṣṇa's pastimes in Vṛndāvana was almost lost. To enunciate explicitly those transcendental

pastimes, Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu empowered Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī and Sanātana Gosvāmī with the nectar of His mercy to carry out this work in Vṛndāvana."

(ii) Characteristics of Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī (TEXT 121)

- ❖ Dear friend was Svarūpa Dāmodara
- ❖ Very dear to Caitanya Mahāprabhu
- ❖ Replica of Caitanya Mahāprabhu's ecstatic love
- ❖ Naturally very beautiful
- ❖ Carefully followed Lord's principles
- ❖ Competent person to explain properly the pastimes of Lord Kṛṣṇa
- ❖ Caitanya Mahāprabhu expanded mercy to Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī just so he could render service by writing transcendental literatures.

(iii) Activities of Rūpa Gosvāmī and Sanātana Gosvāmī

- ❖ How Caitanya Mahāprabhu bestowed His causeless mercy upon Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī & Śrīla Sanātana Gosvāmī. (TEXT 122)

Respect

TEXT 123

mahāprabhura yata baḍa baḍa bhakta mātra
rūpa-sanātana—sabāra kṛpā-gaurava-pātra

Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī and Sanātana Gosvāmī were the objects of love and honor for all the great stalwart devotees of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu.

Topic for Discussion

- ❖ How are Rūpa and Sanātana doing in Vṛndāvana?
- ❖ What are their activities in the renounced order?
- ❖ How do they manage to eat?
- ❖ How are they engaging in devotional service 24 hours daily? (TEXTS 124-126)

TEXT 127

"aniketa duṅhe, vane yata vṛkṣa-gaṇa
eka eka vṛkṣera tale eka eka rātri śayana

"The brothers actually have no fixed residence. They reside beneath trees—one night under one tree and the next night under another."

TEXT 128

'vipra-gṛhe' sthūla-bhikṣā, kāhāṅ mādhu-karī
śuṣka ruṭī-cānā civāya bhoga parihari'

"Śrīla Rūpa and Sanātana Gosvāmī beg a little food from the houses of brāhmaṇas. Giving up all kinds of material enjoyment, they take only some dry bread and fried chickpeas."

TEXT 129

karoṅyā-mātra hāte, kāṅthā chiṅḍā, bahirvāsa
kṛṣṇa-kathā, kṛṣṇa-nāma, nartana-ullāsa

"They carry only waterpots, and they wear torn quilts. They always chant the holy names of Kṛṣṇa and discuss His pastimes. In great jubilation, they also dance.

❖ 24 hours seva + 1½ hrs sleep + chant Lord's name, no sleep at all.

TEXT 131

kabhu bhakti-rasa-śāstra karaye likhana
caitanya-kathā śune, kare caitanya-cintana"

"Sometimes they write transcendental literatures about devotional service, and sometimes they hear about Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu and spend their time thinking about the Lord."

TEXT 132

ei-kathā śuni' mahāntera mahā-sukha haya
caitanyera kṛpā yāṅhe, tāṅhe ki vismaya?

When the personal associates of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu would hear of the activities of Rūpa and Sanātana Gosvāmīs, they would say, "What is wonderful for a person who has been granted the Lord's mercy?"

PURPORT: TEXT 132

- ✓ Rūpa Gosvāmī & Sanātana Gosvāmī had no fixed residence – stay beneath a tree for one day only & wrote huge volumes of transcendental literature.
- ✓ prākṛta-sahajiyās – writing books or even touching books is taboo.
- ✓ They pose themselves as too elevated to exert energy for reading, writing and hearing.

Book Publishing

- ✓ Not for money, reputation
- ✓ Enlightenment for general populace
- ✓ Instructions of Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī
- ✓ establish temples
- ✓ Playing on great mṛdaṅga
- ✓ Become rūpānuga
- ✓ Publish as many books as possible & distribute

5

Lesson 5: Temple construction is meant for the general populace and neophyte devotees, but the business of advanced and empowered devotees is to write books, publish them and distribute them widely.

TEXT 133

caitanyera kṛpā rūpa likhiyāchena āpane
rasāmṛta-sindhu-granthera maṅgalācaraṇe

Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī has personally spoken about the mercy of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu in his auspicious introduction to his book Bhakti-rasāmṛta-sindhu [1.1.2].

TEXT 134

hṛdi yasya preraṇayā pravartito 'haṁ varāka-rūpo 'pi
tasya hareḥ pada-kamalaṁ vande caitanya-devasya

"Although I am the lowest of men and have no knowledge, the inspiration to write transcendental literatures about devotional service has been mercifully bestowed upon me. Therefore I am offering my obeisances at the lotus feet of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, who has given me the chance to write these books."

TEXT 135

ei-mata daśa-dina prayāge rahiyā
śrī-rūpe śikṣā dila śakti sañcāriyā

For ten days Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu stayed at Prayāga and instructed Rūpa Gosvāmī, empowering him with the necessary potency.

PURPORT: TEXT 135

kṛṣṇa-śakti vinā nahe tāra pravartana.

Lessons 6,7 & 8

6

EFFECT OF EMPOWERMENT
Unless one is specifically empowered by the Supreme Personality of Godhead, he cannot spread the Krsna consciousness movement.

7

SYMPTOM
An empowered devotee sees and feels himself to be the lowest of men, for he knows that whatever he does is due to the inspiration given by the Lord in the heart.

8

QUALIFICATION
One must engage 24 hours daily in the loving devotional service of the Lord.

PURPORT: TEXT 135

- ✓ **Because he was always eager to serve, he was a qualified recipient for the Lord's mercy.**
- ✓ A sincere devotee can therefore be empowered by the Lord regardless of his situation.
- ✓ Rūpa Gosvāmī described how he was empowered by the Lord: *īhā yasya harer dāsye karmaṇā manasā girā…*

9

Lesson 9: To keep oneself free from material contamination and attain the Lord's favor, one must be sincerely eager to render service to the Lord. This is the only qualification necessary.

10

Lesson 7: As soon as one is favored by the mercy of the spiritual master and the Lord, one is immediately given all the power necessary to write books and propagate the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement without being hampered by material considerations.

TEXT 137

pārāpāra-śūnya gabhīra bhakti-rasa-sindhu
tomāya cākhāite tāra kahi eka 'bindu'

"The ocean of the transcendental mellows of devotional service is so big that no one can estimate its length and breadth. However, just to help you taste it, I am describing but one drop."

* * *