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THE BEAUTIFUL JOURNEY OF RADHA GOPINATH

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NOTES BY SUMEET UTEKAR (ISKCON MUMBAI,)

NOTES

Date: 21.07.2024

Topic : The Beautiful Journey of Radha Gopinath

- In krishna's eternal home of Vrindavan, the first original temple that is still present today is builded by sanatan goswami,he is our sambanda acharya and his temple madanmohan is our sambanda murthi of our Parampara.
- as elder brother and guru of rupagoswami, he taught us and lcm arranged in such a way that his life and stories is the president in which our Parampara is built.
- sanatan goswami was from very highly learned scholarly brahmana family and due to circumstances, he have to serve the govt in the situation where he was declared to be the outcast. In the process, he became very powerful, famous, learned, and he and rupagoswami,at that time, they were praying and crying that to engaged all their talents in the service of radhamadanmohan.
- when they first met lcm in ramakeli, they did not approach as prime ministers which they were, they didnt approach as learned scholars, wealthy but they approached as a fallen servant and falling on the dust of the ground, lcm lifted them up that your humility is breaking my heart.
- and there wonderful prayers from the hearts that revealed the nature of their devotion. and lcm later told his devotees and saw the humility and surrender of these two devotees and I personally empowered them with my own love and devotion.

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- to serve lcm mission, sanatan goswami was willing to go from palace to prison where he was shacked by chain and with the help of his brother and managed to escape and now the leader of the state he became a future theif and he cannot even walk in main road and walked in jungle and met lcm in Varanasi and sanatan goswami approached lcm that I dont know who I am and nor I do know that why I am suffering and what I am about to do and what I m not to do, please instruct me, LCM said, sanatana goswami that u r so much qualified that u r fit to be my guru and it is the nature of Vaishnava to thinking, willing and feeling like you are speaking you are.
- LCM gave teachings to sanatan goswami and sent to Brindavan and now he is doing madhukari and sleeping in streets and the crests jewel of renunciants and wealthy person approached him to make an offering and sanatan goswami manifested madanmohan and now its after 500 years also, that temple is symbol of Brindavan and however extraordinary, beautiful and large temple is there, but still madanmohan is the symbol of Vrindavan, not because of elaborate structure but because of the feelings and history manifested from the sanatan goswami.
- sp began iskcon when he was having nothing and there is now 100s of 10000s of temples, devotees home, and distributed the books to many and sp about to say this was the mercy of my guru maharaj and sp even in 1960s that devotees were not known much but still he gave all the credits to his disciple because you are assisting me in the serving my guru maharaj.

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- beginning of radha Gopinath temple when we were celebrating ramanavmi that when shyamsunder pr came to radhagopinath temple that how he came to this place only Gopinath and radharani knew this.
- this building was an orphanage and in one sense in 1986, we were among whoever was there at that time we were also like an orphan and it seems that krishna has master plan and that time maithilipriya devi,srinathji pr,and giving prasad on regular basis and no one can ever imagine and through that one small room in the ground floor and half of the part of the room all we have and few devotees and few congregations and shy to say name but there were so many devotees and if I say some names then I feel bad that I wouldn't say all names and few congregation around is there and somehow initially, around the Laxminarayan temple and plan was to build the roofs there so that we can worship them nicely and temple hall is all about were in bhola classes, schools, pharmacy and divided in the 4 section for 4 classroom and before school starts, we do chanting, japa, kirtan, bhagavatam class, in front there was yoga international schools, they were doing yoga and we were doing bhagavatam class, chanting japa, kirtan and this room was very much small and no one has given anything to contributed and i didnt saw any photographs to be filmed because it was so much downtrodden and i am in there for 10 to 11 months and when i came back there were deities here. and we installed them and we given the name as radha Gopinath.

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- radhagopinath brought for the janamastami and nobody comes here and how to get people to come here in temple? so they brought deities and deities that I was explained that they cane bring people to come and we decided that let keep here and now its radha Gopinath here and no one know about deity worship and thats how we began.
- gradually, in the beginning of temple, we would have program in the evening in every other devotees house and our temple began in the various homes of devotees thats when devotee of our congregation increases. and people started to come to the different homes in the bombays they have started to come here in this temple. and In beginning started to various colleges, various homes going flat to flat to flats and after sometime, wonderful community came and it was build on the principles in the early days was so much challenging that how sp each and every devotee appreciated one of those who were assisting him and he identified every disciple is the representative of his guru maharaj and that is the spirit is the only qualification for any of us have for developing anything and to whatever we appreciated, werespect, and we united in that level and willing to adjust in all sorts of different nature for the higher principle whatever extent we do that that radha Gopinath has blessed us.
- when sp was giving class at vidyabhavan and when came out of the vidhyabhavan after the lecture of prabhupada and prabhupada lifted the cane and point right ahead of him and asked shyamsunder prabhu and his disciples that we should have temple here. and shyamsunder pr said that he was pointing exactly where radha Gopinath temple is.. we did not know that but radha Gopinath knows that.

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- when hiranyaksipu asked Prahalad mahaaj that is your lord is in this pillar, prhalad said, yes. sp said to preserve the word of prhalad maharaj, narshimadev manifested from that pillar. and to preserve sp prophecy, radha Gopinath orchestrated and we are little puppets and how grateful we are that we can be the part of this plan which is infinitely beyond what we know and who we are..
- this festival is the opportunity to be grateful, to be grateful for founder acharya, SP,
- how many parents or grandparents ever heard of sanatangoswami? absolutely no one, but yet every single one of us is surrendering entire lives as rupanugas to follow on the footsteps of rupagoswami and that is the blessings of Prabhupada who brought us together and when we remember those early devotees who assisted sp to start the mission that how grateful to be! thats the quality of Vaishnava and within own community those who were before us or along with us who have engaged in the valuable service of krishna whether big or small, the value is sincerity in the service
- sometimes, we think that it is necessary for us to be grateful for previous acharyas and devotees to develop the communities that we are in, but thats incomplete unless we are grateful to all those devotees who are with us today because devotees who are and whatever level serving today they are maintaining and sustaining what sp has given his life to give us.
- it is the human nature sometimes we are grateful for those of the past but forget about being grateful for those in the present.
- SP said u can show your love how u can cooperate with my disciples.
- cooperation means to honor and respect and appreciate each other that forms community.

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- when sanatangoswami and other goswamis was living in Vrindavan, they were regularly meet and that sangam in the place of radha damodar where sp prepared to serve his guru maharaj for the worldwide movement.
- Vaishnava sanagam is the heart of LCM mission. whatever is being done in the progress of radha Gopinath temple and any of his projects thats according to how we valued the community.
- community is build upon individuals, its not an impersonal conception.
- to the extent individuals appreciate and empowwe each other, you have a Vaishnava community.
- Brahmacharis are taught that the ghrihasthas they are so empowered they could live with husband and wife and children and still be krishna conscious and they could be working jobs and still be krishna conscious and providing everything we have. and basic principles of radha Gopinathh temple is brahmacharis humble themselves that to feel inferior to the ghrihasthas and dependent on and ghrihasthas thinking they are giving everything to serve guru and krishna and we are stucks in so many karmakanda activities and humbling themselves and dependeny upon the spiritual inspiriation of the brahmacharis and because of these mutual respect, krishna empowers.
- when there was conflict between the ego of who is more imp than brahmacharis or ghrihatshas or sanyasis?
- sp said gadadhar pandit is brahamchari, nityanand pr was grhihastha, rupagoswami was brahmachari , advait acharya was ghrihastha, srivas pandit was brahmachari. who is better? can any of us dare to say who is better?

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- lcm was ghrihastha and sanyasi and established sankirtan movement and defeated chandkazi when he was ghrihastha and expanded more..
- kolavecha Sridhar was unknown person selling banana leaves.
- prataprudra maharaj was king of oddissa. who is better?
- when devotees humbled themselves with the grateful heart, to appreciate the contribution of others then we have a community that empowers where individuals empowers each other.
- its the principle that inspired by desires, inspiration and teachings of prabhupada thats actually our qualification for all of us. and radha Gopinath manifesting themselves eternally as being more and more and more beautiful in every moment and thats supreme reality that radha Gopinath their pastimes when they comes to this world to bestow their infinite grace and they come to the world to invite us to spiritual world, golokvrindavan and we all being giving the opportunity to be the part of their pastimes as the servant of the servant of servants to assists.
- the basis of radha Gopinath temple always been to help each other, to be enthusiastic and to chant the holy name of krsna and to hear the teachings of krishna and serve with others and share with as many people as possible.

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- our first yatra was about 20 people during the first yatra there were no arrangements for prasad and was walking around from 4am to till midnight. and when there were lunch time, devotees asking madhurakari and jaganath puri yatra there were 12k devotees and in one sense, devotees thinking it was so nice when there were 20 people, but prasad is much better now...and its so nice there is 10s and 10000s of devotees and what makes the nice? it is nice because krishna is pleased.
- because radha Gopinath is pleased and more devotees come to the yatra, more devotees come to the temple, and more devotees have an opportunity to serve and united in the service and feeling joy in seeing other people getting benefit thats what makes nice.
- to take ourself our of the center of how we values that happiness is and put radha Gopinath in the center thats gives pleasure to radha Gopinath
- once sp was in California and sp said to devotee that my little room in radha damodar temple simple floor this is so much opulent and that was simple and i am longing to go back there and for me to go back there would be sense gratification. because i can better serve here.
- so in whatever ways things are transforming this is the standards that we always need to remind each other.
- let us value each other that is pleasing our gurus, srila prabhupada and our radha Gopinath.
- 36years ago, radha Gopinath accepted Their name, They are eternally radha Gopinath but krishan humbles himself, we can name him, we can feed him, we can dress him, we can sing for him, dance for him. and we have come to help each other as a community to please to please Them.