

**Panchatatva Mantra**

jaya sri-krishna-chaitanya  
prabhu nityananda  
sri-adwaita gadadhara  
shrivasadi-gaura-bhakta-vrinda

“I offer my respectful

obeisances unto Sri Caitanya

Mahaprabhu, Lord

Nityananda, Sri Advaita,

Gadadhara Pandit, Srivas

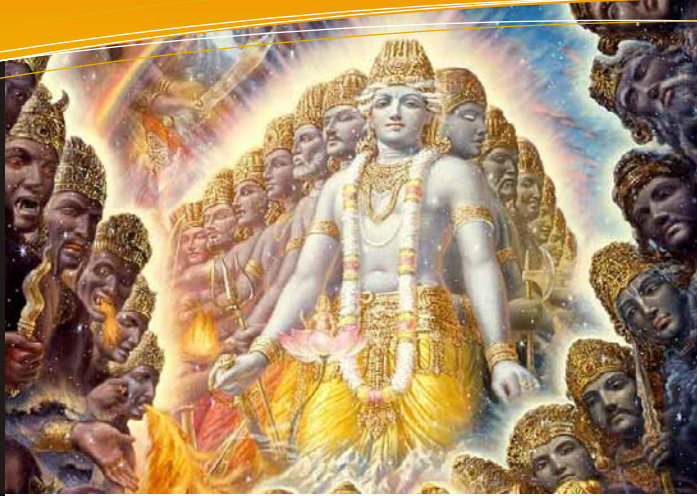
Thakur, and all the devotees  
of Lord Caitanya”.

**Maha Mantra**

**Hare Krishna  
Hare Krishna  
Krishna Krishna  
Hare Hare**

**Hare Rama  
Hare Rama  
Rama Rama  
Hare Hare**

**Chant Hare  
Krishna Mantra  
and be happy...**

**this issue**

One God, Worship One **P.2**

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**The Supreme Personality of Godhead**

Hare Krishna Friends,

Please accept our respectful obeisance!

We have understood the importance of Human form of life. We at the same time understood about our self "Who am I" – and realized that we are Spirit Soul, we understood its nature, characteristics etc. Now let us understand about God which is the second step in the path of Spiritual Perfection. We understood that God exists, but who is this God? Let us try to understand more about this Supreme Personality of Godhead in this issue.

This is very important for us, especially in a country like India where we find in each and every home, a complete wall is covered with Photos of all Gods! Have you ever wondered why people worship so many gods? And amongst so many of them – Ganesh, Kartikeya, Shiva, Brahma, Kali,



Vishnu, Krishna etc., who is actually The God? People have so many gods to believe and get confused. Each morning you are in a hurry to get to work, etc, have very little time but you want to offer some pooja and now you are wondering what to do. If I offer arati to this god, will the other one not get angry and so on. You want to please all and displease none, but at the same time you have a bus to catch to reach your work place and don't have much time to spare. Can we worship anybody? Or are we supposed to worship everybody? Very few fortunate, intelligent people think about these questions in life; others just go on with their routine rituals without much understanding.

## If all Gods are one, then focus on only one

One lady was asked a question by her young daughter once. The child said, "Mum, why can't you be faithful to one God? Monday you visit a temple of one particular God, Tuesday another God and so for each day of the week you visit different God temples. Why aren't you fixed upon one God? Why don't you remain faithful to one God instead of visiting different Gods each day of the week?"

The lady was upset at this questioning. But, unfortunately she did not have a proper answer. Finally she said that **ALL GODS ARE ONE**.

Daughter replied "**IF ALL GODS ARE ONE, THEN MORE SIMPLE, FOCUS ON ONLY ONE**". The mother then got bewildered and got confused more.

This is a very grave and deep problem. Many people are in a similar situation. Let us then turn towards the Bhagavad Gita which is the infallible source of knowledge, to understand who is the cause of all causes, who is the supreme controller, proprietor and enjoyer.

The Bhagavad Gita says that the cause of all causes, Supreme controller, proprietor and enjoyer is the speaker of the Bhagavad Gita, i.e. Lord Sri Krishna.

We find this a little shocking. Until now we had logical explanation for everything. Everything was so scientific. Now, all of a sudden we need to make a quantum leap of faith. Because now we are relying on scriptures, which are the axiomatic truth, and we just have to depend upon it.

In the 10th chapter 8th verse of the Bhagavad Gita, Krishna Himself says,  
***aham sarvasya prabhavo mattah sarvam pravartate  
iti matva bhajante mam budha bhava-samanvitah***

Krishna says, aham sarvasya prabhavo, everything is emanating, originating from me, mattah sarvam pravartate, I am the source of everything, everything emanates from me, iti matva bhajante mam, one who worships me with this understanding, budha - is very intelligent, bhava-samanvitah and he can achieve the ultimate perfection of life-self realization.

There may be people who may say that there must be some one above Krishna too. The answer to this doubt is cleared in this sloka from Chapter 7, verse 7 which proves that there is no one above Him or equal to Him.



***mattah parataram nanyat kincid asti dhananjaya  
mayi sarvam idam protam sutre mani-gana iva***

Mattah parataram nanyat kincid asti dhananjaya - Arjuna there is no truth which is superior to Me, above Me, mayi sarvam idam protam everything is dependent on Me or connected with Me as pearls are strung on a thread. If you pull away the thread, everything falls apart, so everything that you see, is happening, is moving around, is because I am connecting them, underlying everything.

## Krishna is the Supreme Controller, Proprietor and Enjoyer



To show that Krishna is the Supreme Controller, Proprietor and Enjoyer, He says in Bhagavad-Gita 5.29 verse

***bhoktaram yajna-tapasam sarva-loka-mahesvaram  
suhrdam sarva-bhutanam jnatva mam santim rcchati***

**If anyone wants to find peace, then he must understand 3 things,**

bhoktaram yajna-tapasam - I am the supreme enjoyer of every activity. Why am I Bhokta? sarva-loka-mahesvaram , Eeshwara means controller, Maheswaram means supreme controller, Of the planet earth? No, then sarva loka of everything that exists, all the

planets in this universe, sarva-loka-mahesvaram and suhrdam sarva-bhutanam I am the only well wishing friend of every living entity.

One who knows this, and stops trying to become the Controller, Proprietor and Enjoyer himself, he will become happy, and will find peace, the ultimate peace. Krishna clearly establishes that no one is equal or above Him and also that He is the original source of everything.

## Krishna is the Bhagavan

Krishna is addressed in the Bhagavad Gita by Vyasadev, the author of Bhagavad Gita, in a particular way and from this, we can understand how important and how great a personality He is.

In the Bhagavad Gita, whenever Arjuna speaks, Vyasadeva has written as "Arjuna uvaca" when Sanjaya speaks, he says "Sanjaya uvaca", but when Krishna speaks, he says "Sri Bhagavan uvaca".

One may wonder, why this difference? He doesn't say Krishna uvaca. Why? Because if he had said, Krishna uvaca, we all would have happily and very conveniently thought of Krishna as an ordinary person, and would not have taken His message seriously.

If someone says Man Mohan Singh uvaca, people will think some singh is speaking and will not take his words seriously, but if you say Sri Prime Minister uvaca, then people immediately tune their ears to his speech. They listen with attention, because he is Prime Minister and his words carry lot of weight. Any statement that he makes, carries a lot of weight, and therefore immediately people will be very receptive and understand whatever this person speaks is the law. That is the law. Its going to hold good for the entire country.

The Bhagavad-Gita is a part of Mahabharat and is in the Bhishma Parva. Krishna speaks 18 chapters, which is the entire Bhagavad Gita. So, when Vyasadev compiled the Bhagavad Gita, in all the 18 chapters where Krishna speaks, he says, "Sri Bhagavan uvaca".



Now why does Vyasadev specifically use this word Bhagavan? Unfortunately today, many people attach the title “Bhagavan” to themselves, and have made this title cheap. Let us explore the real meaning of this word Bhagavan. Bhagavan can be split as Bhaga and Van. Van means, one who possesses, like Vidyavan, Gunavan, Balavan, Dhanavan, etc. Bhaga means opulence and Van means one who possesses. So, Bhagavan means one who possesses the opulences.

Now let us understand what are the opulences that the supreme Lord possesses which is described in the scriptures.

Parashara Muni, a great sage and the father of Vyasadeva, who compiles all the vedic literatures, gave the following definition of God:

***Aishvaryasya samagrasya viryasya yashasah sriyah  
jnana-vairagyayos chaiva sannaam bhaga itingana***

Parashara Muni thus defines Bhagavan, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, as one who is full or complete in six opulences – who has full or complete strength, fame, wealth, knowledge, beauty and renunciation.

This sloka tells us that there are six opulences and which has to be found in God.

**AISHWARAYASYA** - God is all wealth, he is the richest person.

**VEERYASYA** - He is the most powerful person.

**YASHA** – He is the most famous personality.

**SREEYAHA** – He is the most beautiful personality.

**JNANA** – He is the most knowledgeable, and

**VAIRAGYA** – Even though He possesses all of these, He is totally renounced from everything.

### **AISHWARAYASYA – Wealthiest**

These days we find so many wealth people. People are listed as the world’s most richest etc. They own so many factories. Have plenty of offices across the globe. Have many villas, Bungalows etc. But they definitely cannot say that they own this entire world, or universe. God is the wealthiest, because He owns everything. Everything that exists is His property. So He is the wealthiest person. Even if somebody is wealthy, there is no guarantee that he will remain wealthy forever. Tomorrow he may be on the street by losing everything. From Crorepati he may become Roadpati, in a day, or sometimes, in 2 to 3 generations. All his wealth is exhausted, whereas with God there

is no dearth of wealth. We understand from the Srimad Bhagavatam, however, that when Krishna was present on this earth He had 16,108 wives, and each wife lived in a palace made of marbles and bedecked with jewels. The rooms were filled with furniture made of ivory and gold, and there was great opulence everywhere. These descriptions are all given vividly in the Srimad Bhagavatam. In the history of human society we cannot find anyone who had sixteen thousand wives or sixteen thousand palaces. Nor did Krishna go to one wife one day and another wife another day. No, He was personally present in every palace at the same time. This means that He expanded Himself in 16,108 forms. This is impossible for an ordinary man, but it is not at all very difficult for Krishna. If God is unlimited He can expand Himself in unlimited forms, otherwise there is no meaning to the word unlimited.



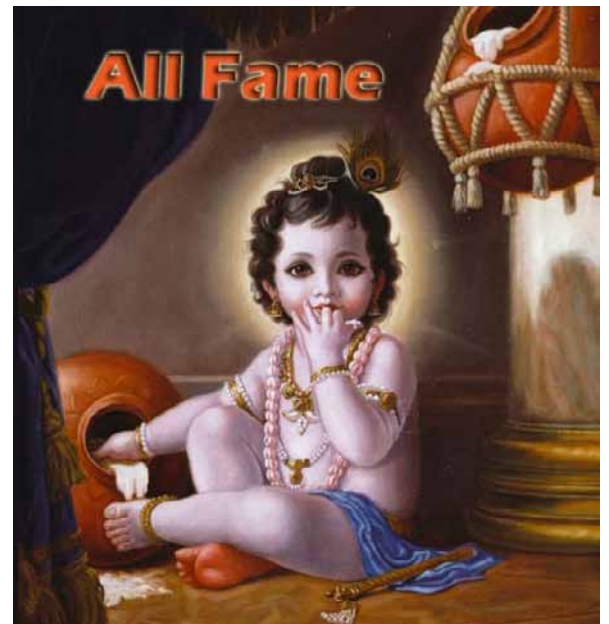
## VEERYASYA – Strength



Similarly, Krishna has unlimited strength. There are many powerful people featured on TV etc. One such well know person is Mohammad Ali, he was very proud to be the greatest boxer. He always said I am the greatest. But later he developed Parkinson disease, and now he can't lift even a small weight, and can't even walk without help. Where is all that power gone? Krishna's strength was present from the moment of His birth. When Krishna was only three months old, Putana demon attempted to kill Him, but instead she was killed by Krishna. This is God. God is God from the beginning. He doesn't become God by some meditation or mystic power.

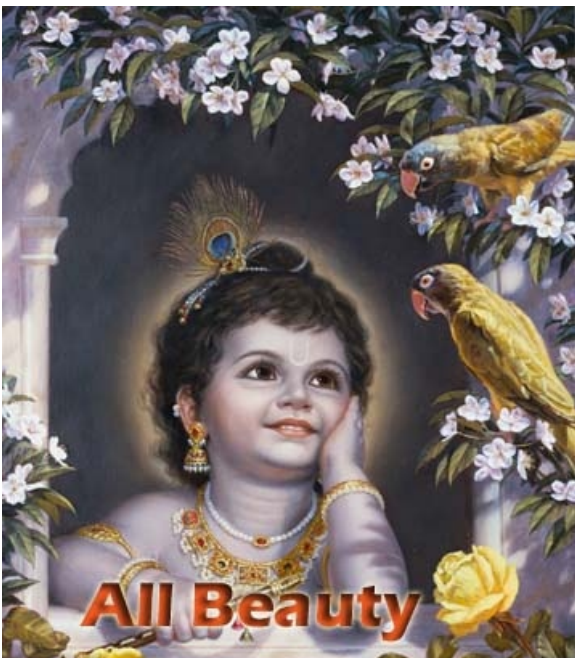
## YASHA – Fame

Krishna also has unlimited fame. People turn into celebrities and become very famous. But, one small issue and they become infamous. People who earlier garlanded with wonderful roses and gave lovely bouquets will now put a garland of shoes around the same neck and hit with bricks and bats. From Fame to Shame. Krishna has unlimited fame, of course, we are devotees of Krishna and know Him and glorify Him, but apart from us, many millions in the world are aware of the fame of the Bhagavad-Gita. In all countries all over the world the Bhagavad-Gita is read by philosophers, psychologists and religionists. We are also finding very good sales with our Bhagavad-Gita As It Is. This is because the commodity is pure Gold. The fame of the Bhagavad-Gita is Krishna's fame.

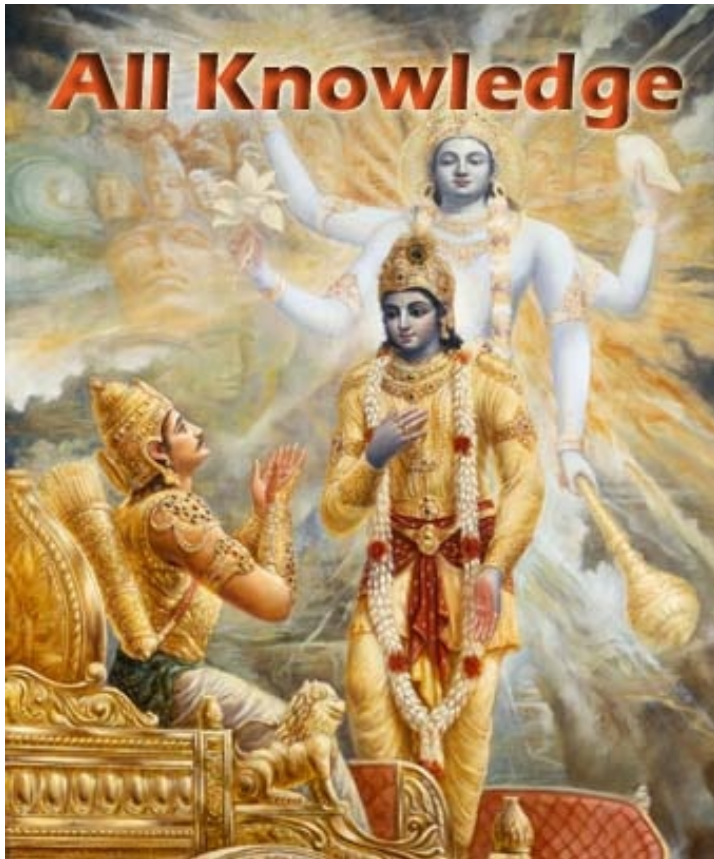


## SHREEYAHA – Beauty

Beauty, another opulence, is possessed unlimitedly by Krishna. Krishna Himself is very beautiful, as are all His associates. There are many youngsters today being crowned as "Miss Universe", "Miss World" etc. They are the chosen most beautiful people. But for how long will they hold this title? The next year they hand over the crown to another person who gets selected. So also does their beauty wither and fade away with time. He or she cannot remain beautiful for ever. The beauty starts shrinking or waning after sometime as they age. This planet is an insignificant planet within the universe, yet within this planet, one person has many attractive features. We can just imagine, then, how many attractive features must be possessed by Krishna, who is the creator of the entire cosmic manifestation. How beautiful must He be – He who has created all beauty.



## JNANA – Knowledge



A person is attractive not only because of his beauty, but also because of his knowledge. There are many people today who claim good expertise in a particular subject or field and have thorough knowledge in a subject. But, all these people do not know each and everything about every subject. A person may be expert in one subject or at the most two subjects. Tomorrow we may find someone else who will defeat this person in an argument.

When Krishna descended, He exhibited all of these qualities to the fullest extent. Krishna is Bhagavan, the all opulent. We find His knowledge right and perfect. He spoke the Bhagavad-Gita 5000 years ago on the battlefield of Kurukshetra for 90 minutes. But since 5000 years, all great philosophers, great thinkers have been deeply delving into the Bhagavad-Gita and have still not found the width and depth of this knowledge. Not one statement of the Bhagavad-Gita has been proven as false. There have been no amendments made, nothing has been added or nothing has been deleted. Krishna did not do any prior preparation and then deliver it in front of Arjuna. Krishna never thought that I am going to

Stand on the chariot in the centre of the battlefield and speak like this. It was all very sudden. All of a sudden Arjuna on the battlefield suddenly got bewildered, and Krishna casually spoke and told him the Bhagavad-Gita. Without any preparation, He spoke the Bhagavad Gita for just 90 minutes and thousands of years later, all of us are taking shelter in this. This is just a tiny sample of His profound knowledge. No other knowledge has stood the test of time for such a long period of 5000 years!



## VAIRAGYA – Renunciation

At the same time, Krishna possesses full renunciation (vairagya). You may find a person to be much renounced, but what is renunciation? What do you have with you to renounce? We don't possess anything. We were born naked, we will die naked. Between this birth and death, we just steal Krishna's energy. What is there to renounce? So many things are working under Krishna's direction in this material world, but actually Krishna is not present here. A big factory may continue to function, although the owner may not be present. Similarly, Krishna's potencies are working under the direction of His assistants, the

demigods. Thus Krishna is aloof from the material world. This is all described and revealed in the scriptures. Krishna became the driver for Arjuna. It is a very cheap and menial job to become the driver for anyone. The duty of the driver is to wait to take his master wherever he wishes to go. Wait for him to come back, open the car door etc. So, if someone who is well educated and earning a handsome salary is asked to be a driver for a friend or relative and behave in the same way a paid driver does, do you think they will agree? Never. People will immediately say, What? Me? Your driver? Are you crazy? How can you ever ask me something like that? Why do they say this? Because they feel it's a very menial job and they don't like doing it. It's below my dignity, they say.

Krishna became Arjuna's Charioteer, driver during the Kurukshetra war. During the war, to communicate with the charioteer was difficult. There was noise all around, people screaming, trumpeting of the elephants, neighing of the horses, movements of other chariots etc. In those days, there were no walkie-talkies or mobile phones for communication between the warrior (one who was fighting the war) and the charioteer. So to communicate in which direction, he wanted the chariot to be moved, the warrior had to kick on the shoulder of the charioteer. If he kicked on the right shoulder, it meant to move right and if on the left, he had to move the chariot to the left. So, Krishna became the charioteer for Arjuna and he experienced all this. Krishna, the Supreme personality of Godhead, the owner, proprietor and enjoyer of all His creation! He behaved exactly the way a charioteer has to. He never told Arjuna, I am Krishna so you better don't kick me etc. Nor did he do the charioteer job with full hatred and anger. He did it with love.

This shows the aloofness Krishna had for all His wealth. He was not at all attached to it. We Possess so little, yet we exhibit so much of attachment to that very little itself.

Somebody may be very beautiful, but not powerful. Somebody may be powerful but not wealthy, somebody may be wealthy, but not renounced, and somebody may be very much renounced, but not very famous. But God by definition is He who possesses all of these six opulences to an unlimited degree eternally, time after time. So, anyone who possesses all these six opulences can be called as God and he can be rightfully called as Bhagavan. Otherwise anyone who claims himself to be Bhagavan so and so is simply a bogus cheat. In this way, all the opulences of the Lord Krishna were exhibited to the fullest degree during his time here on the earth.

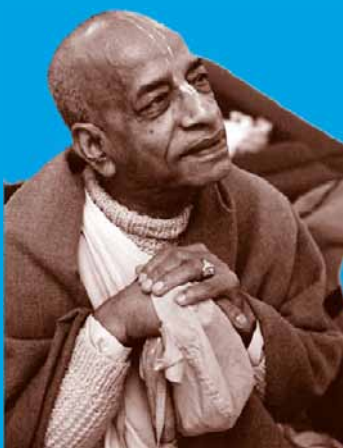
God, therefore, has many names according to His activities, but because He possesses so many opulences, and because with these opulences He attracts everyone, He is called Krishna. The Vedic literature asserts that God has many names, but "Krishna" is the principal name.

Therefore God means Krishna. Then what about other gods whom we are worshiping? Who are they? We shall understand the distinction between God and the Demigods in our next issue.

## Srila Prabhupada Speaks out

### **Bhagavan**

**The Supreme Personality who possesses all riches, all strength, all fame, all beauty, all knowledge and all renunciation is called Bhagavan. There are many persons who are very rich, very powerful, very beautiful, very famous, very learned, and very much detached, but no one can claim that he possesses all riches, all strength, etc., entirely. Only Krishna can claim this because He is the Supreme Personality of Godhead. No living entity, including**



**Brahma, Lord Siva, or Narayana, can possess opulences as fully as Krishna. Therefore it is concluded in the Brahma-samhita by Lord Brahma himself that Lord Krishna is the Supreme Personality of Godhead. No one is equal to or above Him. He is the primeval Lord, or Bhagavan, known as Govinda, and He is the supreme cause of all causes.**

*ishvara parama krishna sacidananda vigraha  
anadiradir govinda sarva karana karanam*



## Editors Desk

Life is one of those races like in nursery school where you have to run with a marble on a spoon kept in your mouth. If the marble falls, there is no point coming first. Same with life, where Self Realization is the marble. Your striving is only worth it if you know about yourself and about Supreme Personality of Godhead. Else, you may achieve the success, but this spark, this feeling of being excited and alive, will begin to die.

One thing about nurturing the spark - don't take life seriously only for material advancement. Material advancement is not to be taken seriously, as we are really temporary here. We are like a pre-paid card with limited validity. If we are lucky, we may last another 50 years. And 50 years is just 2,500 weekends. Do we really need to get so worked up? We are human beings with higher intelligence, not programmed devices. Lets try to understand about the Supreme Personality of Godhead, who created everything. Lets question who am I? Where did I come from? where is my real destination? This should be our long term goal in our life.

## Vaishnava SMS

### 2-Point Formula

**MATERIALLY** see those who are below you, having lower salaries, smaller houses and be satisfied with what you have. **SPIRITUALLY** see those who are above you, having more devotion for Krishna and follow in their footsteps.



## Vaishnava Calendar

- 20 May 2009 : Fasting for Aparā Ekadasi  
21 May 2009 : Dvadasi Break fast 08:30 - 10:09
- 3 June 2009 : Fasting for Pandava Nirjala Ekadasi  
(Total fast, even from water, if you have broken Ekadasi)  
4 June 2009 : Dvadasi Break fast 05:53 - 10:10
- 5 June 2009 : Panihati Cida Dahi Utsava  
(join us on the banks of river Kaveri near Srirangapatna)
- 18 June 2009 : Sri Srivasa Pandita - Disappearance
- 19 June 2009 : Fasting for Suddha Ekadasi  
20 June 2009 : Dvadasi Break fast 05:55 - 10:12

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