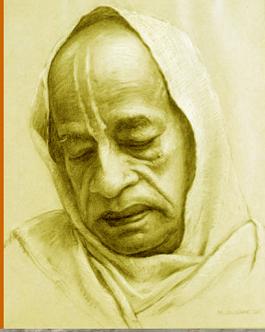




Voice of Cows

The Newsletter of
Bhaktivedanta Swami Goshala Vrindavan

May 2012 - Vol 12 - Issue 5



Krishna Gives Cows in Charity

Cow Shed Renovation

Cow as Mother

New Baby

Back to Vrindavan Village



The purpose of a king's going out to conquer the world is not for self-aggrandizement. Maharaja Pariksit went out to conquer the world after his ascendance to the throne, but this was not for the purpose of aggression on other states. He was the Emperor of the world, and all small states were already under his regime. His purpose in going out was to see how things were going on in terms of the godly state. The king, being the representative of the Lord, has to execute the will of the Lord duly. There is no question of self-aggrandizement. Thus as soon as Maharaja Pariksit saw that a lower-class man in the dress of a king was hurting the legs of a cow and a bull, at once he arrested and punished him. The king cannot tolerate insults to the most important animal, the cow, nor can he tolerate disrespect for the most important man, the brahmana. Human civilization means to advance the cause of brahminical culture, and to maintain it, cow protection is essential. There is a miracle in milk, for it contains all the necessary vitamins to sustain human physiological conditions for higher achievements. Brahminical culture can advance only when man is educated to develop the quality of goodness, and for this there is a prime necessity of food prepared with milk, fruits and grains. Maharaja Pariksit was astonished to see that a black sudra, dressed like a ruler, was mistreating a cow, the most important animal in human society.

The age of Kali means mismanagement and quarrel. And the root cause of all mismanagement and quarrel is that worthless men with the modes of lower-class men, who have no higher ambition in life, come to the helm of the state management. Such men at the post of a king are sure to first hurt the cow and the brahminical culture, thereby pushing all society towards hell. Maharaja Pariksit, trained as he was, got the scent of this root cause of all quarrel in the world. Thus he wanted to stop it in the very beginning. SB 1.16.5

His Divine Grace
A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami
Prabhupada

Founder-Acharya
International Society for Krishna Consciousness

Bhaktivedanta Swami Goshala

Ramam Reti, Vrindavan,
Mathura District,
281121, U.P. India

For General Enquiries:
Sanak Sanatan Das
+91 9897878111

For Donations:
Pundarik Vidyaniidhi Das
+91 8979307180

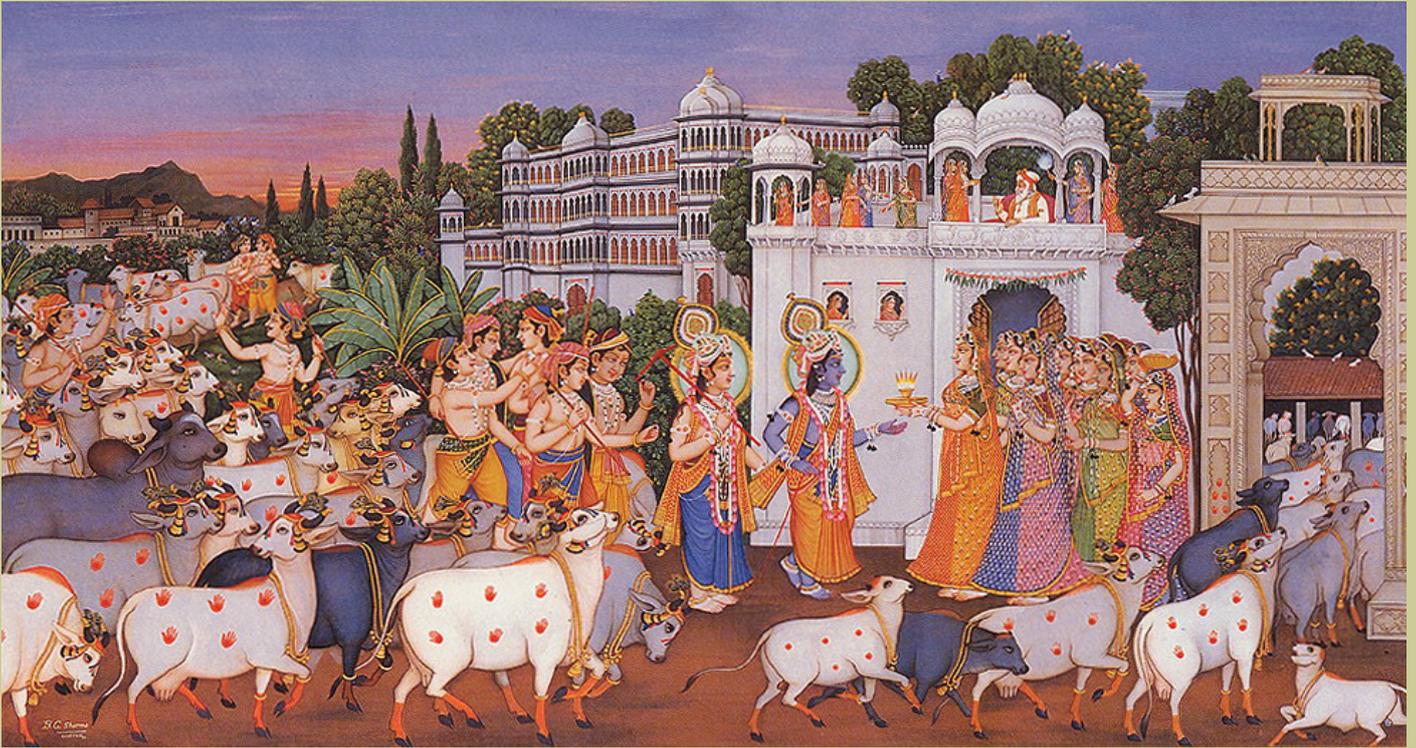
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gomataproducts@gmail.com

E-mail:
goshala@iskconvrindavan.com

Website:
www.goshala.com

Krishna Gives Cows in Charity

Article compiled by H.G.Radhika Krpa Devi Dasi.



An extract from Krishnahnika Kaumudi by Srila Kavi-Karnapura.

While Krishna rouses from sleep His eyes look very beautiful as they repeatedly open and close. It appears like He is half awake and half asleep. Nidra-devi, the goddess of sleep, seems reluctant to leave Him due to the pain of separation. The very fortunate young servant girls then perform aratika by slowly moving a splendid ghee lamp inlaid with auspicious jewels before Krsna. The joyful young male and female servants become absorbed in various services. The boys have beautiful turbans tied on their heads, and necklaces sway on everyone's chests. Their bodies are as fragrant as lotus pollen, and they wear colorful garments of dark blue, green, white, red and yellow colors. They are all adorned with the noblest of qualities.

Rising from bed, Krishna sits gracefully upon a beautiful footstool that is illuminated by four different jewels. With cheerful hearts all the male and female servants begin to serve Krsna. As the male servants pour a stream of camphor-scented water into His cupped palms, Krishna slowly washes the lotus-whorl of His face. After drying His face and hands with a soft tooth-brushing twig from His servants. While Krishna gently brushes His teeth reflecting the radiance of His jeweled finger ring, His earrings swing back and forth to fill the eyes of all with happiness.

Krishna holds the two ends of a jeweled, golden tongue-scraper with His thumbs and forefingers and cleanses His tongue, reddened from chewing tambula. A sparkling diamond bracelet caresses Krishna's wrist. Krishna then calmly cleanses His face with pure water and dries it. Casting a charming glance from His restless eyes, Krishna makes the splendid mirror before Him bear witness to all this. Holding a ruby-inlaid comb in her lotus bud hand, one seva-dasi, servant girl with an innocent smile gently combs Krishna's hair. The comb and her bangles tinkle sweetly as she moves her hands. As the day begins, one servant-pujari, who is expert in the fine arts, removes Krishna's nightclothes and dresses Him in fresh ones. He then washes and dries Krishna's lotus feet, and deftly wraps a turban around His head.

Upon completing His morning duties, Krishna quickly goes to the gigantic goshala to milk the cows. Afterwards, Krishna and all His dear friends, who are similar in nature to Him, head to the jewel-bedecked wrestling arena. Eager to engage in their cherished daily pastime, they joke and laugh along the way. With great displays of individual strength, anger and boasting they wrestle with each other.



After resting a while, Krishna and few of His friends, who have accumulated heaps of pious credits, enter the massage parlor to be massaged with oil by some affectionate, sweetly smiling servants. Then a group of servants bathe, dress and decorate Krishna. Using a mixture of saffron and sandalwood paste one servant decorates Krishna's beautiful forehead with a circular tilaka mark that looks like the full moon. Afterwards, Krishna dons His beautiful deep blue Kastuba gem, the king of all jewels. In this way, when Krishna's decoration with pearls, shark-shaped earrings, armlets inlaid with emeralds, bracelets, finger-rings with colored jewels and ruby, diamond studded cummerbund, string of bells and a pair of tinkling ankle bells inlaid with diamonds, is went on by various servants. Then one servant holds up a splendid jeweled mirror before Krishna's shining moonlike face.

Meanwhile, one servant, bearing the order of King Nanda, enters Krishna's dressing room and announces, "Hey Krishna! Your father requests You to donate thousands of cows to the local brahmana community." Obeying His father's order, sweet faced Krishnacandra, who is a treasure house of good qualities, binds his hair with a turban and dons His yellow upper cloth. After sipping water for purification, Krishna offers thousands of cows in charity within His sanctified mind.

Inference from the teachings of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada's Books --

First and foremost is about giving charity. Lord Krishna the Supreme personality of Godhead teaches personally performing pious activities. Charity is for the purification of the heart. If charity is given to suitable persons, it leads one to advanced spiritual life. Lord Krishna says in Bhagavad-gita chapter number 17 verse 20 that

*dātavyam iti yad dānam
diyate 'nupakāriṇe
deśe kāle ca pātre ca
tad dānam sātṭvikam smṛtam*

Translation

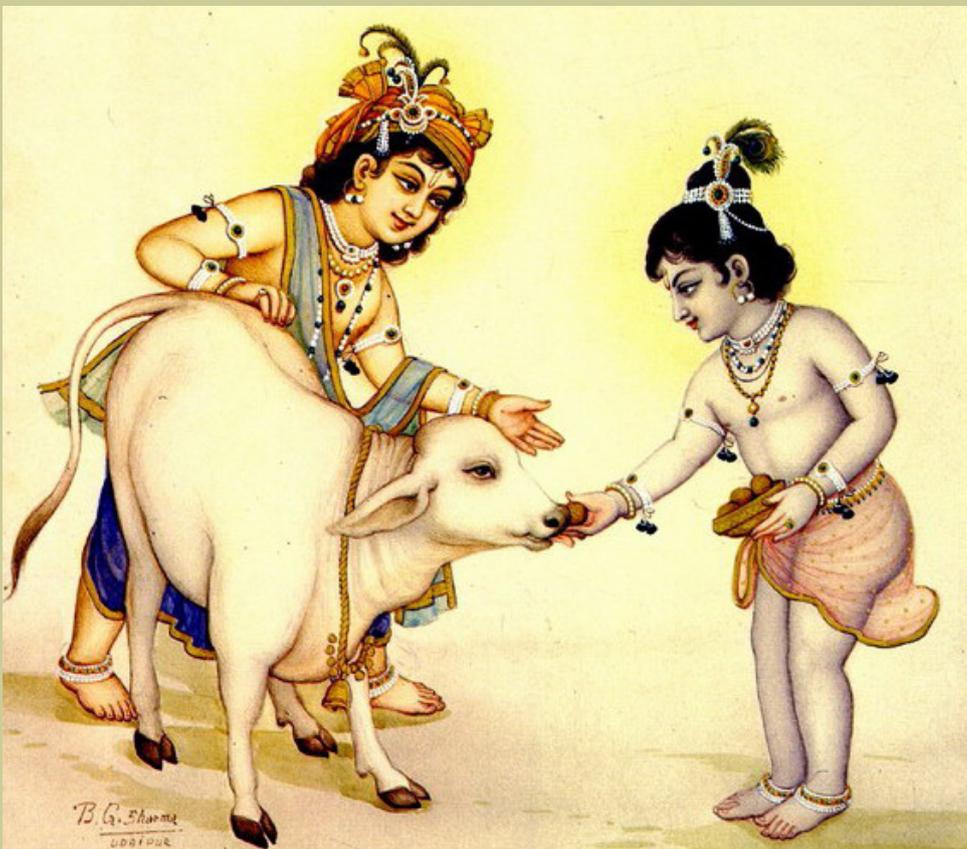
Charity given out of duty, without expectation of return, at the proper time and place, and to a worthy person is considered to be in the mode of goodness.

Purport

In the Vedic literature, charity given to a person engaged in spiritual activities is recommended. One should not give charity indiscriminately. For Spiritual perfection charity should be given at proper place to an eligible person and at proper time. It should be performed at the place of pilgrimage or in a temple, at lunar or solar eclipses or at the end of the month and to a qualified brāhmana or a Vaisanva (devotee). Such charities should be given without any consideration of return. Charity to the poor is sometimes given out of compassion, but if a poor man is not an eligible candidate, then there is no spiritual advancement. In other words, indiscriminate charity is not recommended in the Vedic literature. Bg 17.20

Secondly, Srila Prabhupada stresses that for a peaceful society, Cows and Brahmans are to be protected. The Lord is also known as "gau-brāhmana-hitāya ca", meaning He sees to the welfare of the cows and brahamans. Thus He set an example by giving cows with opulent ornaments and decorations in charity to the brāhmanas.

Describing the Lord's daily routine Srila Prabhupada tells He would touch auspicious articles such as milk, honey, ghee (clarified butter), gold, jewels and fire. Although the Lord is by nature very beautiful due to the perfect figure of His transcendental body, He would dress Himself in yellow garments and put on His necklace of Kaustubha jewels. He would wear flower garlands, smear His body with the pulp of sandalwood and decorate Himself with similar cosmetics and ornaments. It is said that the ornaments themselves became beautiful upon being placed on the transcendental body of the Lord. After decorating Himself in this way the Lord would visit a temple: thus establishing the ideals.



In this age of quarrel brahminical culture is nearly impossible to follow. The cow slaughter (gau-hatya), the biggest sin incurred on this planet is the cause of distress to the people trapped in the world of illusion. An endeavor to awaken the masses and to save them from further degradation, "Cow Protection" is necessary.

The only simple solution to overcome illusion and revive the inherent divine love is by engaging ourselves in serving the cows and by chanting the holy names of the Lord.

Our ISKCON society is working ardently for Cow welfare and protection. The Bhaktivedanta Swami Goshala popularly known as ISKCON Goshala founded by His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanata Swami Srila Prabhupada in 1976 has been till now successful in rescuing more

than 140,000 aged and sick cows from the clutches of butchers and slaughter houses. It is situated in the heart of Vrindavan just a five minute walk from the Sri Sri Krishna Balaram Mandir. Spread over 8 acres of land it hosts cows and oxen. The cows here are all well protected, safe and happy. It's a haven for the old and sick cows. Around 60 percent of them are aged. ISKCON-Goshala houses around 10 distinctive Indian breed cows, a few hybrid cows and oxen. We at the Goshala are committed to promote and conserve pure Indian cow breeds. At present ISKCON-Goshala houses more than 300 cows & calves.

The milk from the few of Indian cows is sent in the service of Their Lordships Sri Sri Krishna Balrama, Sri Sri Radha Shyamsunder and Sri Sri Gaura Nitai at Krishan Balrama Mandir. The milk and the milk products thus are used for the highest service. Pure cow ghee is used for all preparations in the Deity kitchen and also for sacrifices and lighting the lamps for arti's. Our main objective is to take care of old and sick cows. The milking cows are all in the service of Their Lordships; thus the ISKCON Goshala is at the service of the Omnipotent Lord.

It is revealed in the scriptures, "Go brahmanebhya shubhamasthu nithyam. Loka samastha sukhino bhavanthu." meaning "If cows are protected, they protect the living knowledge base of the society. May there be the well-being of all the people; may the rulers rule the earth along the right path; may the cattle along with good people have wellbeing forever; may all the beings in the world become happy, and peace be everywhere in the world.

Hundreds of committed ISKCON devotees have been working for the past 35 years on the principles set by Srila Prabhupada towards the cow protection and development programme. Thus ISKCON society is aiming towards the welfare of Cows & welfare of Society for the benefit of the masses. .

Omnipotent Lord Krishna demonstrated how to live blissfully with the cows, when he performed His intimate pastimes in Vrindavan just 5000 years ago. Supreme Lord Krishna loves His Cows so much so that even the demigods make their residence in the transcendental body of a cow. Cow is treated as holy animal and treated as Gomata & Kamadhenu (as more than 33 crore's gods & goddess reside in cow). Cow dung and urine is used as organic manure which makes land more fertile. For Happiness and Prosperity in a family, every family should take care of a cow and feed at least one Indian Breed Cow.

Therefore devotees derive great merits by performing Go-puja with incense, ghee lamp, sacred water, pure cloth, flowers, camara and vyanjana. By feeding the cow especially with Cow fodder, Gingelly Oil, Fruits and Jaggery and worshipping the cow, one can seek the blessings of Gomata / Kamadhenu and get relief from the pang of material sufferings and elevate oneself towards the abode of Supreme Lord Goloka Vrindavan.

We here at ISKCON Goshala, cordially invite you for Go-Puja (Cow Worship) and seek the blessings of the cows. We regularly hold Cow Worship ceremonies at the Goshala.

On request the date and time for cow worship arrangements can be made. Kindly inform us by email at goshala@gmail.com.

Go-mata ki Jai!



Artik performed by H.G.Sanaka Sanatan Prabhu. New calf was adopted for one year by Natalia Mataji from Russia. Her two teenage daughters suggested to give newly born calf the name "Anjali".

New Baby



Cow as Mother

Mata Sarva Devanam

By Madan Gopal Das

The scriptures say the following about the cow, "Tvam mata sarva devanam." - Means you are mother of all demigods as well. Cow is mother of all 33 crore demigods as well. Cow nourishes all in this universe and that is why she is called mother. She is mother of all the demigods, sages, humans and all living entities on face of the earth. The main pran (living force) for all living entities are received from Mother cow.



Vedic cow was mother of all entities in the past, present and will be in the future. Mother is one who can give life to her offspring. She is one who gives nourishment,

joy and life. One who gives death, disease and pain how can that be our mother. Mother cow nourishes our goodness in life. Cow nourishes the earth and living entities on it by her dung and urine. She nourishes men by her milk and curd. She nourishes demigods by her ghee. When demigods are nourished the rains and seasonal changes happen on time. As at present there is a lack of cow ghee all the above men, earth and demigods are not properly nourished. So we see so many natural calamities happening in quick succession. We might name them natural calamities but it is a lack of cow milk, curd, urine, dung and ghee.

We call such natural calamities as ecological imbalance but reality is lack of cows and her products (blessings). In this way cow sustains all living entities. What we take from the earth is returned to her through cow dung and urine. So in this way the earth is nourished. In the present day we are taking from the earth but what we are giving it back in form of fertilizers and pesticides.

We are returning only poison. If this continues earth will become barren and will not be able to grow anything as we are seeing slowly happening.

If sages (sadhakas) become worshipers of cows then they will quickly achieve their goals of spiritual emancipation.

So cow is the base of all creation. Without her this nature cannot go on properly. Cow is base of dharma, natural arrangements, civilisation, good impressions, health etc. Without cow none of the above are possible. Cows blessing are the best to please the Supreme lord. Cow's blessings are infallible. She is a mine of blessings.

We cannot understand all these glories of mother cow if we keep neglecting her and looking at her with disrespect.

Renovation of the Surabhi Cow Shed

By H.G.Radhika Krpa Devi Dasi

"The Surabhi Shed"- the home to the old, sick and milking cows situated at the Bhaktivedanta Swami Goshala dates back nearly four decades. For the past few years with the pace of time the shed was showing signs of wearing down. The plaster of the walls had started peeling off; the concrete of the roof and walls too was giving way. The home to the Lord's beloved cows was nearly going into a shambles.



The worst came during the rainy season last year when a thunder storm hit Vrindavan. Down came a big part of the roof along with a portion of the wall. Cracks appeared in the other walls too; thus making it

quite a dangerous place to dwell.



"All Krsna's plans"; the Lord wanted a new beautiful shed for his 'beloved cows'. The cows were immediately evacuated to the pasture area of the Goshala with a temporary arrangement for them to stay. An appeal for help to the devotees was broadcast resulting in help pouring in. Devotees always eager to follow Srila Prabhupada's instructions donated generously. The scriptures glorify those who love cows and take care of them; such devotees of the Lord are the most dear to the Supreme Lord. One who donates

for the well being of a cow resides in Vaikuntha jagat.

Situated in the North east corner of the Goshala the shed went under a total new look. A big spacious shed was erected with strong concrete walls with neat nice partitions for different breeds. The airy shed constructed had a sturdy tin roof now with full iron supports. Lined up troughs were built for the cow fodder. All the needs and comfort of the cows were kept in mind in designing the shed.



Just over seven and a half lakh rupees were spent on the 'Surabhi Shed' that now houses the beautiful cows. The Laxmi spent, the pain taken in building the shed is worth it; the serene, tranquil look of the cows showers the love of their caretakers.



Renovation work is nearing completion



After renovation works completed



The Cows now enjoying their renovated Surabhi Shed

Thanks from Krishna and Balarama's Cows



We would like to take this opportunity to show our appreciation and thanks to those who have donated to the Goshala or have adopted a cow or a calf, their names are listed below with the name of the cow they have adopted.

Mr. Rajkumar Seith & Mrs. Kailash R. Seith from Mumbai, IN adopted Rupini.

Pradeep Omprakash Dua & Manoj Kumar from Delhi, IN adopted Surabhi.

Ganga Varuni Sutton from Boothwyn, USA adopted Lilavighraha.

Dharmendra Misra from Pune, IN adopted Sarashya.

Ajaykumar Yavagal from Bangalore, IN adopted Tulasi.

Natalia Barsukova from Moscow, Russia adopted Anjali (calf).

Shri. Niloba Pundalika Powar from Karwar, IN adopted Satyapriya.

S Anandan from Bangalore, IN adopted Devi.

Manu Das from Vrindavan, IN adopted Tejasvini.

Valeria Shirokova from Moscow, Russia adopted Narada.

Sriman.Vinod Lala from Haryana, IN adopted Sulaxana(Priya).

Sriman.Vijay Thapar Family from Ludhiana, IN adopted Laxmi.

H.V.Shruthi from Bangalore, IN adopted Devagita.

Shaji A.K. from Qatar adopted Rukmini.

Swapna Shaji from Qatar adopted Sandhya (calf).

Rupanuga Das and Ranga Devi Dasi from Auckland, NZ adopted Sreyasi.

Tripti Allan D'Souza from Mumbai, IN adopted Vrinda.

Andra Vijaya Sai from Bathinda, IN adopted Kastubh.

Anshuman Gupta from Gurgaon, IN adopted Pradnya (calf).

Kum. Nandini Venugopal adopted Nirmal.

Parul Chandok from Modinagar, IN adopted Nandini.

HOW CAN YOU HELP TO PROTECT KRISHNA'S COWS

Sponsor Krishna's cows in Sri Vrindavana Dhama
and obtain boundless mercy!

Sponsorship Opportunity	Amount INR
Adopt a cow/bull for one year on a monthly basis	1,500 per month
Adopt a cow/bull for one year	18,000
Adopt a cow/bull for life	1,80,000
Adopt a calf for life	2,70,000
Feed a cow/bull for one year	14,600
Maintain Goshala for one day	15,500
Medical expenses for one month	15,000
Feed the full herd for a month	4,54,000
Purchase of Grazing land for the cows per acre	6,00,000

If you visit our website, www.goshala.com and click on the **Cow Adoption** page you can then choose your cow or bull for adoption and the type of sponsorship as listed above. Or you can click on the **Sponsorship** page to make other donations as listed above, then click on your selection and simply follow the instructions on screen.

If you are unable to make donations online then you can deposit your donation directly into our bank account, there are separate accounts for national and international deposits, so please use the correct account depending on if you are in or outside of India.

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