# Reaction of the cowherd men

- 3 Vrajabasis headed by NM all come to spot where trees fell
- 3 Astonished to see how the two great trees had fallen
- Fuzzled because they could find no reason
- 3 When they saw K bound, they must have thought it was some demon
- 3 Otherwise how could it happen
- 3 Simultaneously perturbed because so many events seemed to be happening to K
- 3 While contemplating what might have happened, NM asks the children present what had happened
- 3 Kids: K made fall
- 3 Two effulgent personalities emerged
- 3 They bowed to K and then headed North

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- 3 Most did not believe the kids
- 3 Some did believe and told NM that his child was not ordinary
- 3 NM then came forward and undid the knot binding K
- 3 NM untied K & put K on lap
- 3 Embraced and smelled
- 3 Rebuke MY
- 3 Gave 100 cows in charity

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- 3 K then went to the laps of the elderly gopis
- They took K outside to the courtyard and began to sing and clap of his activities

# Durvāsā Muni's Vision of the Māyā Potency

- 3⁵ One day Durvāsā M comes to Vraja to see K
- 🕉 Saw K near Mahāvana on Yam's shore
- 3 DM began to wonder why supremely opulent SPG would roll on ground with kids
- 🕉 This must be some other Nanda's son
- 3 This can't be K who is greater than the greatest

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- 3 While DM thinks in this way K comes and sits on lap
- 3 K leaves, laughs and then comes back
- **ॐ** As K laughs, DM enters K's mouth

Description is an amalgamation of those found in Srimad Bhagavatam (Krishna Book) and Garga Samhita (Canto 1, chapter 19)

Description is found in Garga Samhita (Canto 1, chapter 20)

September 10, 2010 1 | P a g e

- There DM saw great realm without people
- 3 Wandering in many forests DM says: Where am I?
- 3 It was as if were swallowed by a great serpent
- 3 DM saw entire universe will all planets and outer space
- 3 Stood on great white mountain top
- 3 Worshipping K performed austerities for 1 billion years
- 3 When time for cosmic annihilation came, universes became fearful place
- **3** Rushing oceans flooded earth
- 3 DM could not see an end to the water
- 3 1,000 yugas passed
- 3 Submerged in water he forgot everything
- 3 As wandered through waters he saw another universe
- 3 He entered the second universe and went to the heavenly planets
- There passed a life as long as Bramha's
- 3 Then one day saw an opening
- **3** He entered it and left universe
- 3 Outside he the causal ocean
- 3 Saw many universes in the ocean
- 🕉 Saw Virajā River
- 🕉 Crossing Virajā entered realm of Goloka
- 3 Gazing at Vṛndāvana forest, GH, Yam's shores DM became very happy
- Then entered forest grove filled with gopas, gopīs, and millions of surabhi cows
- There in a circle of light as splendid as countless millions of sons, DM saw K
- 3 AS K was laughing DM was expelled from him mouth
- 3 DM gazes at NM's son
- **ॐ** Now understood K=SPG

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- **ॐ** Offered prayers
- 3 With all my heart I bow down before Nanda's gently-smiling, sweetly graceful, handsome son,
- 3 Whose large eyes are hundred-petal lotuses,
- 3 Whose lips are bimba fruits,
- 3 And whose complexion is splendid as a monsoon cloud.
- 3 I offer my respectful obeisances to He who,
- 3 Decorated with jingling anklets and ornaments,

September 10, 2010 2 | P a g e

- 3 A belt of nine jewels,
- 3 A beautiful necklace, and a string of lion's nails, glorious with dots of black musk,
- 3 And his glance removing all sufferings, plays as a child on the Yamunā's shore.
- 36 Obeisances, obeisances to You, who are Balarāma's companion and Nanda's son, whose bowed head is a lotus flower, and above whose full-moon face curly locks of hair glisten like new dark monsoon clouds

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- 3 DM bows down
- 🅉 Leaves for Badarī-āśrama

## Krishna serves his parents

- 3 Sometimes MY would ask K to bring a wooden plank for sitting.
- 36 The plank was too big for a young children to carry, but still K would somehow or other bring.
- 3 Sometimes NM would ask K to bring wooden slippers
- 3 With great effort K would put on head and bring
- Figure 13 If unable to lift a heavy item, would wave arms

Description is found Srimad Bhagavatam (Krishna Book)

#### The fruit vendor

- 3 One day a fruit vendor came and visited the house of NM
- Fig. "If anyone wants fruits please come and take them from me!"
- 35 Upon hearing the vendor call K immediately took some grains in His palm and to trade for the fruits.
- 3 In those days exchange was by barter; therefore Krsna might have seen His parents exchange fruits and other things by bartering grains, and so He imitated.
- 3 But His palms were very small, and He was not very careful to hold them tight, so He was dropping the grains.
- The vendor who came to sell fruits saw this and was very much captivated by the beauty of the Lord, so he immediately accepted whatever few grains were left in His palm and filled His hands with fruits.
- In the meantime, the vendor saw that his whole basket of fruit had become filled with jewels. The Lord is the bestower of all benediction. If someone gives something to the Lord, he is not the loser; he is the gainer by a million times.

#### Rohini and MY call K & B for lunch

- 36 One day K & B and the other children were playing on the bank of the Yamuna
- 3 It was already late in the morning, Rohini went to call them back home.

September 10, 2010 3 | P a g e

- But Balarama and Krsna were so engrossed in playing with Their friends that They did not wish to come back;
- 3 They just engaged Themselves in playing more and more.
- 36 When Rohini was unable to take Them back home, she went home and sent mother Yasoda to call Them again.
- Mother Yasoda was so affectionate toward her son that as soon as she came out to call Him back home, her breast filled up with milk.
- 3 She loudly cried, "My dear child, please come back home.
- **ॐ** Your time for lunch is already past."
- 3 My dear Krsna, O my dear lotus-eyed child, please come and suck my breast.
- 3 You have played enough. You must be very hungry, my dear little child.
- 3 You must be tired from playing for so long."

38

- 36 She also addressed Balarama thus: "My dear, the glory of Your family, please come back with Your younger brother Krsna immediately.
- 3 You have been engaged in playing since morning, and You must be very tired.
- 3 Please come back and take Your lunch at home.
- 3 Your father Nandaraja is waiting for You.
- 3 He has to eat, so You must come back so that he can eat."

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- 3 As soon as Krsna and Balarama heard that Nanda Maharaja was waiting for Them and could not take his food in Their absence, They started to return.
- Their other playmates complained, "Krsna is leaving us just at the point when our playing is at the summit. Next time we shall not allow Him to leave."
- 3 His playmates then threatened not to allow Him to play with them again.
- 36 Krsna became afraid, and instead of going back home, He went back again to play with the boys.

#### Janmastami abhiseka

- 3 At that time, mother Yasoda scolded the children and told Krsna, "My dear Krsna, do You think that You are a street boy?
- **3** You have no home?
- Flease come back to Your home!
- 3 I see that Your body has become very dirty from playing since early morning.
- 3 Now come home and take Your bath.
- Besides, today is Your birthday ceremony; therefore You should come back home and give cows in charity to the brahmanas.

September 10, 2010 4 | P a g e

- 36 Don't You see how Your playmates are decorated with ornaments by their mothers? You should also be cleansed and decorated with nice dress and ornaments.
- Flease, therefore, come back, take Your bath, dress Yourself nicely, and then again You may go on playing."
- 36 When mother Yasoda's children, Krsna and Balarama, came home, she bathed Them very nicely and dressed Them with ornaments.
- 36 She then called for the brahmanas, and through her children she gave many cows in charity for the occasion of Krsna's birthday.
- 3 In this way she performed the birthday ceremony of Krsna at home.

# The elderly cowherd men consult on how to stop the great disturbances

- 3 After this incident, all the elderly members of the cowherd men assembled together, and Nanda Maharaja presided.
- 3 NM calls assembly of Upanandas, Vṛṣabhānus, elders and friends
- Description is an amalgamation of those found in Srimad Bhagavatam (Krishna Book) and Garga Samhita (Canto 2, chapter 1)
- 3 They began to consult amongst themselves how to stop great disturbances in the Mahavana on account of the demons.
- 3 NM: "Please tell what should be done. Many calamities have come to Mahāvana."
- 3 In this meeting, Upananda, brother of Nanda Maharaja, was present.
- 3 He was considered to be learned and experienced, and he was a well-wisher of Krsna and Balarama.

Description is found Srimad Bhagavatam (Krishna Book)

- **3** He was a leader, and he began to address the meeting as follows:
- 35 "My dear friends! Now we should leave here for another place because we are continually finding that great demons are coming here to disturb the peaceful situation, and they are especially attempting to kill the small children.
- 3 Just consider Putana and Krsna. It was simply by the grace of Lord Hari that Krsna was saved from the hands of such a great demon.
- 38 Next the whirlwind demon took Krsna away in the sky, but by the grace of Lord Hari He was saved, and the demon fell down on a stone slab and died.
- For example, this child was playing between two trees, and the trees fell down violently, and yet there was no injury to the child.
- **ॐ** So Lord Hari saved Him again.
- 3 Just imagine the calamity if this child or any other child playing with Him were crushed by the falling trees!
- 3 Considering all these incidences, we must conclude that this place is no longer safe.
- 3 Let us leave.

September 10, 2010 5 | P a g e

- 36 We have all been saved from different calamities by the grace of Lord Hari.
- 36 Now we should be cautious and leave this place and reside somewhere where we can live peacefully.
- 3 I think that we should all go to the forest known as Vrndavana, where just now there are newly grown plants and herbs.
- 3 It is very suitable for pasturing ground for our cows, and we and our families, the gopis with their children, can very peacefully live there.
- Near Vrndavana there is Govardhana Hill, which is very beautiful, and there is newly grown grass and fodder for the animals, so there will be no difficulty in living there.
- I therefore suggest that we start immediately for that beautiful place, as there is no need to waste any more time. Let us prepare all our carts immediately, and, if you like, let us go, keeping all the cows in front.

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- 3 Sannanda, an elderly gopa (GS) and NM's younger brother (Vraja Vilasa Stava) puts K & B on lap and begins to speak:
- 36 We should leave this place and go where there are no calamities
- **3** K is your life
- 3 He is the life of all residents of Vraja
- **3** He is the wealth of Vraja
- **3** He is shining lamp of your family
- **3** He is charming with his play
- 🕉 He escaped Pūtanā, Sakata, Tṛnāvarta and now these fallen trees
- **ॐ** What will happen next?
- 3 There we should all go to Vrn with the children
- 36 When the calamities have passed we will return

#### The nature of Vrndavana

- 🕉 NM: How far is Vṛndāvana from Vraja
- 3 Plz tell us the nature of Vrndāvana

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- Sannanda: Mathurā-maṇḍala is northeast of the country of Bārhiṣat, south of the Yadus' capitol city, and west of the city of Śoṇa
- The wise say Vraja Mathurā-maṇḍala is 21 yojanas(168 miles) in circumference
- In Vasudeva's palace I heard from Garga Muni's mouth that even Prayāga, the king of holy places, worships splendid and transcendental Mathurā-maṇḍala
- 3 Of all the forests there Vṛndāvana is the best

Description is found in Garga Samhita (Canto 2, chapter 1)

September 10, 2010 6 | P a g e

- 3 It is where GPS performs pastimes.
- Francis There is no place better than Vaikuntha
- 🕉 Still Vṛndāvana is better than Vaikuntha...
- 3 Where Gov Hill is manifest...
- 3 Where Yamuna's shores are the abode of auspiciousness...
- 3 Where there is the mountain known as Brhatsānu...
- 3 Where there is the mountain known as Nandīśvara...
- 3 Where there are great forests for 24 krosas
- 3 Beautiful Vrnda in ideal place for cows, gopas and gopis
- **3** It's filled with vines and groves

# Prayaga worships Vrndāvana

3 NM: when Vrn worshipped by Prayaga

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- 3 Sannanda: As Brahma slept during the cosmic annihilation, the demon Śaṅkāsura stole the Vedas from Brahmaloka
- (This is a different Śańkāsura than the two mentioned in KB chapters 34 and 45)
- **3** He took and hid in the ocean
- 🕉 With the Vedas gone the demigods lost strength
- 3 Matsya appeared and fought with Śaṅkāsura in the ocean of devastation
- 🕉 Śaṅkāsura threw tridents at Matsya
- 3 With cakra Matsya broke trident into 100s of pieces
- **ॐ** S strikes M on chest
- 3 M doesn't waver
- 3 M takes club (with fin) and hits S in back
- 3 S, wounded, strikes M with fist
- **ॐ** M decapitates S with cakra
- 3 M goes with demigods to Prayaga to return Vedas to Br
- 3 Br then performs Vedic yajna
- 🕉 Crowns Prayaga king of all holy places
- 3 As it were a toy parasol an eternal banyan tree provided shade
- 3 Ganga, Yamuna fanned with camara
- 3 All holy places in Jambudvipa brought offerings to P
- 3 Bowed and returned home

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7 | Page

- 3 Narada Muni approached P
- 3 Narada: O austere king of holy places
- 3 All important holy places worship you today and gave you offerings
- 3 But the holy places headed by Vṛndāvana did not come.
- 3 They insulted you, O King

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- 3 P, angry, then goes to Hari
- 3 Bows
- **3** Circumambulates
- 🕉 Pranama mudra

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- **ॐ** P: you made me king of holy places
- 3 All holy places came to worship me
- 🕉 Except Mathurā-maṇḍala
- 3 They have insulted me
- 3 I have come to inform you

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- 3 Hari: I made you king of holy places on Earth
- 3 But not of my abode
- 36 Why are you upset as if you were the king of my abode?
- 3 O King, hear my works, and then return home
- 3 Mathura is my home
- **3** It's above the 3 worlds
- 3 Not destroyed during the cosmic annihilation

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- 3 Hearing this P was surprised
- 🕉 Pride gone, P approached Vraja Mandala of Mathura, bowed and worshipped.
- 3 Circumambulated
- **3** Returned home

# Mathurā Vraja-maṇḍala breaks the Earth's pride

- Sannanda: I have now told you about Mathurā Vraja-maṇḍala, which broke the earth's pride
- 3 What more do you want to hear?

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September 10, 2010 8 | P a g e

- 3 NM: how did Mathurā Vraja-mandala break the Earth's pride?
- 3 Plz tell me

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- 3 San: In beginning of this kalpa (Varaha), Hari assumed form of boar
- **3** Lifted earth with tusk
- 3 On tip of tusk Earth spoke to Varaha as traveled trhough the waters
- 3 Dharā (earth): Where will you put me down?
- 3 I see the universe is flooded with water

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- 3 V: When you see trees standing from the water I will put you down
- 3 Look for trees

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- 3 D: All immovable things rest on me
- 3 What other things do trees rest on?
- **3** It is I upon whom all things rest

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- 3 Just then D saw beautiful trees ahead
- Fride vanished, D glanced at V and spoke
- 3 D: in what placed do these trees grow?
- **3** It fills my heart with wonder

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- 3 V: You see Mathurā Vraja-maṇḍala, which is part of Goloka and is not destroyed by the universal devastation
- 3 D became astonished and prideless
- For this reason, Vraja is the best of all holy places

## Govardhana's birth

- 3 NM: we have heard about Mathurā Vraja-maṇḍala, now tell us of GH's glories
- 3 Why is he known as Giriraja (king of mountains)?
- 3 Where did the river Yam come from?

35

- 3 San: One day in Hastinapura, as many people listened, Pāndu asked Bhīsma:
- 3° P: As Kṛṣṇa, who is the king of Goloka, was about to depart in order to remove the Earth's burden, K said to R: you should come too
- 3 R: I can't be happy where there is no Vrn forest, no Yamunā, no GH

Description is found in Garga Samhita (Canto 2, chapter 2)

September 10, 2010 9 | Page

- 3 K then sends 47 krosa portion of his own abode along with GH and Yamunā
- 3 That land of 47 krosas came here also with 24 forests
- 3 It is worshipped by all worlds
- 3 West of Bhārata-varṣa, in the middle of Śalmalī-dvīpa (not Jambudvipa), Govardhana was born from the wife of Mount Drona.
- 3 Demigods showered flowers on GH
- 3 Headed by Himālaya and Sumeru, all the mountains came
- 3 Great mountains circum, worship
- 36 Glorify GH: In Goloka, which is filled with gopas, gopīs, and cows, you are the mountain of Lord Kṛṣṇacandra, the Original Supreme Personality of Godhead.
- 3 You are named Govardhana. You are splendidly manifest in the world of Vṛndāvana and you are the king of all us mountains.
- 36 Obeisances to you, who are the crown of Goloka and who sit on Vṛndāvana's lap! Obeisances to Govardhana, the parasol of the Supreme Personality of Godhead!
- 3 Then mountains returned home

## Pulatsya's curse

- 3 One day while traveling Pulatsya Muni saw GH
- **3** GH filled with flowering mādhavī vines
- **3** Heavy with abundant fruits
- **3** Filled with the sounds of gushing streams
- 3 Peaceful,
- 3 Auspicious with many caves,
- **3** Suitable for performing austeritiies,
- Filled with jewels, .
- 3 Charming,
- 3 Wonderful with many colorful minerals,
- 3 Beautiful with graceful slopes,
- Filled with many birds, deer, and nectar trees, and
- 3 Decorated with peacock calls, and
- 36 Which gave liberation for they who yearn for it

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- **ॐ** P wants GH so approached Drona
- **ॐ** P: Drona you are the king of mountains
- **3** You are worshipped by all demigods
- 36 You are filled with trans med herbs and thus you restore people's lives

September 10, 2010 10 | Page

**3** I have one request

**3**<sup>∗</sup> I am a sage 3 I live in Kaśi 3 Plz give me your son **3** Kaśi is the home of Viśveśvara 3 A sinner who dies there attains liberation 3 Gangā flows there **3** But there is no mountain **3** I will place your son there 3 I will perform austerities on GH 3 This is my desire 35 3 Drona's eyes fill with tears 3 Drona: I love my sone 3 He is dear to me **ॐ** Yet I fear your curse 3 Let me speak to him 3 (To GH): go with this sage at once 35 36 GH: O P, how will you carry me? Fig. 1 am 8 vojanas long, 5 wide and 2 tall (64 x 40 x 16 mi) (A big mountain – 84,480 ft tall) 35 F: Plz sit on my hand and I will carry you to Kaśi 35 3 GH: I will stay where you place me 3 I will not leave that place **ॐ** I promise 35 3 P: I will take you from Śalmalī-dvīpa to the country of Kauśala (est. distance 5.5 million miles 🕉 I will not put you down **3**<sup>∗</sup> I promise 38 35 GH cries, bows to dad, and climbs on P's hand **3** Carrying GH in right hand P showed his power to people

September 10, 2010 11 | P a g e

- 3 Moving slowly he came to Vraja Mandala
- Remembering previous life, GH said to self: Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Original Supreme Personality of Godhead, who is the master of countless universes, will descend to this place, Vraja, and enjoy childhood playing with the cowherd boys, and then the pastimes of youth.
- Free Lord Hari will enjoy pastimes of paying a toll and pastimes of jealous anger.
- For this reason I should not leave this place where the Yamunā flows.
- **3** GH made slf heavy in P's hand
- 3 Pbecame eshausted and could not remember past
- 3 Tormented by weight, puts GH down in VM
- 3 After bathing P says to GH: Get up!
- 3 When GH did not move, P grasped with mystic strength
- 3 Although P embraced GH and spoke sweet words, GH did not budge a finger
- 3 P: O best of mountains, don't make yourself heavy
- **ॐ** I know you are angry
- 3 Plz tell me why

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- 3 GH: There is no fault on my part
- 3 You put me down & now I will nvere move
- 3 That was my promise to you

36

- **3** P becomes angry and curses
- 🕉 P: O arrogant mountain, you would not fulfill my desire
- Therefore, everyday you will get smaller by the size of a sesame seed (estimated height when K appeared: 12, 736ft or 2.4 mi)
- **3** P left for Kasi
- **3** GH began to shrink

# Yamunā's appearance

- 3 Ordered by K, the Yamunā (Kalindi) circum K and was about to descend
- 3⁵ The Viraja and spiritual Gangā entered Yam
- 3 Therefore Yamunā is the greatest river
- 3 The with great force Y breaks thru current in Viraja
- 3 Touching countless universes Y came to spir Gangā
- 3 With great force broke through G's waters

Description is found in Garga Samhita (Canto 2, chapter 3)

September 10, 2010 12 | Page

- The Y came to opening made by Vamana's left foot (same whole G uses)
- 3 Y came to L's abode in Dhruvaloka
- **3** Then to Brahmaloka
- **3** Then planets of the demigods
- 3 Then Mt Sumeru
- 3 Down slopes
- 3 Then to go south, left Ganga's path
- 3 Then Mt. Himavat (Himalayas)
- 3 The west to Mt. Kalinda
- 3 Because she is Mt. Kalinda's daughter is known as Kalindi
- **ॐ** Crashing down slopes
- **3** Carving rocks
- 🕉 Entered Khāṇḍava forest
- **¾** Y entered spir form to perform austerities, wanting to attain K
- Fiven today she stays in water house made by Mt. Kalinda
- 3 Then entered Vraja Mandala
- 🕉 Flowed thru Vṛndāvana, Mathurā and Mahāvana
- 3 Left Vraja overcome with separation
- 3 Therefore turned west & returned to Vraja
- 3 Then bowing to Vraja-mandala went to Prayaga
- 3 Then flowing with G, entered Kṣīra ocean
- 3 Demigods showered flowers and chanted "Jaya!"x2
- 3 Then Y entered ocean

# Yamunā and Gaṅgā glorify each other

- **ॐ** Y to G: you are fortunate
- **ॐ** You purify all the universes
- ₹ You are born from K's louts feet
- **3** Everyone bows to you alone
- 3 Now I will ascend to Hari's abode
- 3 Please also come
- 3 Never will there be any one more glorious than you

**3**5

- 3 G: I, who contain all holy places, bow down to you
- 3 Please forgive any improper words I may have said

September 10, 2010 13 | P a g e

- 3 O, Y, you are the fortunate one
- 3 You purify all the universes
- ₹ You were born from K's Left shoulder
- 3 Your form is full of transcendences
- 3 You are most perfect and complete
- 3 You are dear to K, the SPG
- 3 I bow to you the 1st queen of K
- 3 Holy places and demigods find it difficult to attain you
- Fiven in Goloka it is difficult to attain you
- 3 By K's order I must go to Patalaloka
- 3 I am unhappy to leave you, but I cannot go with you
- Fig. 1 will become a leader of many gopis in the rasa dance circle in Sri Vraja
- 3 O beloved of Hari, please forgive any improper things I may have said

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- 3 Bowing to each other, the two rivers parted ways
- **3** G went to Patalaloka
- Fin Patala, G is named Bhogavatī because she flows through the Bhogavatī forest
- 🕉 Śiva and Śeṣa carry her water on their heads
- Fraversing the 7 oceans, Y flowed through world of 7 islands
- 3 Y flowed to golden land
- 3 Then Mt. Lokaloka
- 🕉 Flowed down slopes
- **3** Then to Svartaloka
- **3** Then to Brahmaloka
- 3 Meets G and opening of universe again
- 3 Demigods shower flowers to Y
- 3 Y returns to Goloka

#### The cowherd men and families move to Vrndavan

- 3 After hearing Sannanda's words, NM became happy
- 3 Cowherd men immediately agreed
- 3 Loaded household furniture, utensils, etc. onto cart

Description is an amalgamation of those found in Srimad Bhagavatam (Krishna Book) and Garga Samhita (Canto 2, chapter 4)

- 3 All the old men of the village, the children and women were arranged on seats,
- 3 The cowherd men equipped themselves with bows and arrows to follow the carts.

September 10, 2010 14 | P a g e

- Decorated with Yaśodā, Rohiṇī, all the gopīs, many horses, chariots, soldiers, and brāhmaṇas, with many cows, carts, adults followed by children, musicians playing śankhas and dundubhis, and with His two sons, Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma, noble-hearted King Nanda, riding on a chariot, went, O king, to Vṛndāvana forest.
- ₹ Vṛṣa rides with R on lap and Kirtida by side
- 3 Accompanied by many cows and gopas
- 🕉 Riding on an elephant
- 3 Muscinans play mrdangas, tala, vinas and flutes
- 3 Then Nandas, Upanandas, and 6 Vrsas went to Vrn
- 36 All the cows and bulls along with their calves were placed in the front, and the men surrounded the flocks with their bows and arrows and began to blow on their horns and bugles.
- 3 In this way, with tumultuous sound, they started for Vrndavana.
- 3 After reaching Vrndavana they encircled Vrndavana and kept the carts all together.
- After seeing the beautiful appearance of Govardhana on the bank of the river Yamuna, they began to construct their places of residence.
- 3 Vrsa built a beautiful city with many assembly houses, pavilions, lakes, royal roads and 1,000 gardens
- 36 While those of the same age were walking together and children were talking with their parents, the inhabitants of Vrndavana felt very happy.
- **ॐ** K wandered in NM's city and Vrsa's city

# K & B begin to heard the calves

- 🕉 (Lilas now begin to focus on sakhya rasa, previously was vatsalya)
- 3 At this time Krsna and Balarama were given charge of the calves.
- **3** The first responsibility of the cowherd boys was to take care of the little calves.
- 3 The boys are trained in this from the very beginning of their childhood.
- 3 Nanda Mahārāja liked this idea, but Mother Yaśoda did not like it. Kṛṣṇa was now 3 years old. Mother Yaśoda objected that Kṛṣṇa was too young, as she was still breast-feeding Him. But Kṛṣṇa insisted, and so Mother Yaśoda had to agree. He said: "Please don't stop Me. I find great pleasure in herding the calves."
- 3 It is described in Gopal Campu that Nanda Mahārāja personally selected a small group of calves for the occasion of Kṛṣṇa's first herding.
- 3 There was a big festival for the event. Kṛṣṇa was given a small reddish stick, a rope, buffalo horn and flute.
- 36 Before They went out Mother Yaśoda brought some nice shoes and an umbrella for Kṛṣṇa, and she told Balarāma to take care of His younger brother, and make sure He is wearing His shoes and using His umbrella. But Kṛṣṇa protested that He didn't want to use those

September 10, 2010 15 | P a g e

- things, because the calves were not. He refused to wear His shoes, unless all the calves were provided with four shoes each, and each had an umbrella and a man to carry the umbrella.
- 36 Kṛṣṇa told His mother "Dharmo raksati raksitah" if one is engaged in dharma then that dharma will protect one. So He said: "Taking care of the calves and cows is our dharma. Let us take special care of them, and they will take care of us."
- 3 On the first day Nanda Mahārāja and Mother Yaśoda came along to assist Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma. The two boys quickly mastered the art of herding calves. Then Kṛṣṇa requested Nanda Maharāja and Mother Yaśoda to go back, and Nanda Maharāja asked Them not to enter too deep into the forest, and to come home early and safely.
- 3 Along with other little cowherd boys, Krsna and Balarama went into the pasturing ground and took charge of the calves and played with Their playmates.
- 3 While taking charge of the calves, sometimes the two brothers played on Their flutes.
- 3 Sometimes They played with amalaki fruits and bael fruits, just like small children play with balls.
- 3 Sometimes They danced and made tinkling sounds with Their ankle bells.
- 3 Sometimes They made Themselves into bulls and cows by covering Themselves with blankets.
- The two brothers also used to imitate the sounds of bulls and cows and play at bullfighting.
- **3** Throwing things
- 3 Playing flutes
- 3 Making array of noises with mouths
- 3 Chasing birds' shadows
- 3 Decorating each other with leaves and flowers
- 35 Sometimes They used to imitate the sounds of various animals and birds. In this way, They enjoyed Their childhood pastimes apparently like ordinary, mundane children.

#### Vatsasura lila

- 3 Kamsa drew meeting of cohorts
- **3** Kamsa: what animal is dear to K?
- 3 Has anyone noticed he seems to have affinity for one type of animal
- 3 Demons: Cows!
- **3** Vats volunteers
- 3 Vatasura wasn't confident could kill Krsna, therefore took the form of a calf, thinking that if he were defeated at least Krsna wouldn't kill him because he was a cow after all.
- 36 Once, when Krsna and Balarama were playing on the bank of the Yamuna, a demon of the name Vatsasura assumed the shape of a calf and came there intending to kill the brothers.
- 3 By taking the shape of a calf, the demon could mingle with other calves.

September 10, 2010 16 | P a g e

- 3 Moves tail as runs among gopas and cows
- 🕉 Vats hardly fits in
- 36 Krsna, however, specifically noticed this, and He immediately told Balarama about the entrance of the demon.
- **3** K to Bal: to you recognize this calf
- 3 Bal: No, I think it's a demon
- 3 K: OK, I'll kill it
- $\mathfrak{F}$  B: that could be a problem.
- 3 We're cowherders, how can we kill
- 3 It will look bad
- **3** "He's a demon"
- **3** "Yes, but he's also a calf, and people will be very upset if we kill a calf"
- 3 "No, he'll reveal his original form at death"
- 3 Both brothers then followed him and sneaked up upon him.
- ₹ Vats kicks K with hind legs on shoulder
- **ॐ** Boys flee
- 3 Krsna caught hold of the demon-calf by the two hind legs and tail,
- 3 Whipped him around
- **3** Threw to ground very forcibly
- **ॐ** Picks up
- 3 Throws up into a kapittha tree.
- 3 The demon lost his life and fell down from the top of the tree to the ground.
- 3 Made other Kapittah trees fall like dominos
- 36 When the demon lay dead on the ground, all the playmates of Krsna congratulated Him, "Well done, well done,"
- Fig. Demigods in the sky began to shower flowers with great satisfaction and chant Jaya!x2
- From body comes great light that enters K (wasn't qualified to enter the spir world so achieves sayujya mukti).

#### Vatsāsura's pastlife

- 🕉 In prev life was Pramila, son of Muru
- 3 After conquering the demigods, Pramila entered entered Vasiṣṭha Muni's āśrama
- 3 Saw Kamadhenu cow Nandinī
- **3** Pram desired Nandinī
- 3 Transformed self into brahmana

Description is found in Garga Samhita (Canto 2, chapter 4)

September 10, 2010 17 | Page

- 3 Approached VM and begged for cow
- 3 VM had divine vision and stood silent
- 3 Nan spoke: You are a demon, Muru's son
- 3 You have assumed this brahmana's form to steal VM's cow
- 3 Therefore you now become a calf
- **3** Pram immed becomes a calf
- 3 Circum VM
- 3 Bows down
- 3 "Save me! Save me!"
- 3 Nan: o great demon, at the end of Dvarpara yuga when among calves you will attain liberation

## Mānasī Gangā (took place on Diwali)

3 After K kills Vatsasura He was advised by the gopas (boys) that He should bath in the Ganges to purify from sin of killing cow/calf



- 36 Not wanting to leave Vraja K informed the cowherd boys he would call the Ganges to appear in Vrindavan
- 3 K then meditated, and from within His mind the river Ganges manifested before Him in the form of Manasi Ganga. Manasi means mind. In other words, the Ganges manifested from the mind of K.

35

- 36 One day Nanda and Yasoda heard a story about the glories of the Ganges:
- 3 Garuda, the giant bird carrier of V had been searching for food and came across a snake.
- 3 G picks up and starts to fly away. When pass over Ganges tail of snake touches. Transforms into 4-armed form like V.
- 3 G sees this and places on back and takes to Vaikuntha
- 3 When N et al heard this they wanted to go the Ganga themselves.
- 3 Decided to go and began packing immediately.
- **3** K sees and asks where they are planning to go.
- 3 Informs K
- 36 K declares that it is unnecessary to visit any other holy place, all the tirthas are actually present in Vraja
- 3⁵ Nanda et al persist
- 3 K leads to center of GH & immed in front of them Ganga personified appeared
- Residents of V. offer ob. To G-devi

September 10, 2010 18 | P a g e

#### 3 All took bath

#### Bakasura lila

- 3 All the cowherd boys would daily go to the bank of the river Yamuna to water their calves.
- 3 Usually, when the calves drank water from the Yamuna, the boys also drank.
- 36 One day, after drinking, when they were sitting on the bank of the river, they saw a huge animal which looked something like a duck and was as big as a hill.
- 3 Its top was as strong as a thunderbolt.
- **3** Form like a white mountain
- 3 Gigantic
- **3** Quacking rumbled the clouds
- 36 When they saw that unusual animal, they became afraid of it.
- 3 Bakasura attacked Krsna with his pointed, sharp beaks and quickly swallowed Him up.
- 36 When Krsna was thus swallowed, all the boys, headed by Balarama, became almost breathless, as if they had died.
- 3 Demigods: "Alas! Alas!"
- 3 As Bakāsura came to attack Kṛṣṇa and the cowherd boys the demigods tried to attack him.
- 3 Indra threw his thunderbolt and knocked him to the ground
- 3 But he got up again.
- 🕉 Brahmā hit him with his brahmā-danda (brahmastra),
- 3 Knocked him unconscious for 2 ghațikās (48 minutes),
- 3 But then he got up again.
- 3 Śiva stuck him with his trident,
- 3 Cut off one wing,
- 3 Demon recovered.
- ₹ Vāyu struck him with his wind weapon,
- **3** Baka flew away.
- 🕉 Yama struck him with his yama-danda,
- **3** But the danda was broken.
- 35 Surya attacked him with a hundred sharp arrows but he still did not die.
- **3** Kuvera struck him with his sword
- 3 Cut off the other wing,

Description is an amalgamation of those found in Srimad Bhagavatam (Krishna Book) and Garga Samhita (Canto 2, chapter 5)

September 10, 2010 19 | P a g e

- **3** But he still did not die.
- 3 Soma attacked him with his ice weapon.
- 3 Tormented by the cold the demon fainted,
- 3 But then again stood up.
- 3 Agni attacked him with his fire weapon and burned all his feathers to ashes,
- 3 but he did not die.
- 3 Varuna bound him with his ropes and dragged him along the ground, which hurt him but he did not die.
- 3 Bhadrakali hit him on the head with her club and broke his head
- 3 He fainted and went into a deep coma.
- 3 But then he got up again, shook himself and roared like a cloud.
- **3** Karttikeya threw his sakti weapon
- 3 Cut one of his feet.
- **3** Bakasura attacked all the demigods and made them run away.
- 3 Demigods fly in sky and Baka chases after
- 3 Demigods offer blessings to K
- 36 When the Bakasura demon was swallowing up Krsna, he felt a burning fiery sensation in his throat due to the glowing effulgence of Krsna.
- 3 Quickly threw Krsna up and tried to kill Him by pinching Him in his beaks.
- **ॐ** K grabs tail and throws to ground
- 3 Baka again opens beak
- 3 K caught hold of the beaks of the great gigantic duck and, before His cowherd boy friends, bifurcated his mouth, just as a child very easily splits a blade of grass. (KB)
- 3 Or as an elephant breaks a tree branch (GS)
- ³ As Baka died light came from body and entered K (sayujya mukti)
- From the sky, the denizens of the heavenly planets showered flowers like the cameli, the most fragrant of all flowers, as a token of their congratulations.
- 36 Accompanying the showers of flowers was a vibration of bugles, drums and conchshells.
- 36 When the boys saw the showering of flowers and heard the celestial sounds, they became struck with wonder.
- When they saw Krsna, they all, including Balarama, were so pleased that it seemed as if they had regained their very source of life.
- 3 As soon as they saw Krsna coming towards them, they one after another embraced the son of Nanda and held Him to their chests.
- 36 Boys: Friend you are saved from Death's mouth
- 36 After this, they assembled all the calves under their charge and began to return home.

September 10, 2010 20 | Page

## Bakasura's past life

- 3 In his previous life Bakasura was the son of Hayagriva, and was called Utkala.
- 36 He was extremely powerful, and not only gained dominion over the Earth, but all of the heavenly planets as well,
- 🕉 Fought with Vrtrāsura
- **ॐ** Stole Indra's parasol
- 3 Gaining an indomitable position, he enjoyed great opulence for 100 years of the demigods.
- 36 Once, while roaming his kingdom, he came to Gangasagar (the meeting place of the Ganges with the sea) where Jajali muni, a great mystic yogi, had his asrama (a leaf hut).
- 36 Showing a deplorable lack of respect for the muni, Utkala began to fish with a rod, eating the fish which he caught there.
- 3 Even when forbidden by the muni to do this near his asrama,
- 3 Utkala continued regardless.

35

- 3 Losing his patience, Jajali spoke to Utkala, saying:
- 3 "If you like to eat fish so much, then become a crane thus you will be relieved of the trouble of using a fishing rod!"

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This curse immediately took effect, and Utakala at once assumed the body of a crane, losing his entire bodily luster.

35

- Humbled by this sudden reaction, he grasped the feet of the sage, and began to implore him:
- "O best of sages, unfortunately I did not realize the magnitude of your severe austerities please save me from this dreadful fate!
- The association of sadhus like you is verily the gateway to liberation.
- Being truly equal to foe and friend, insult and honour, gold and stone, pleasure and pain, saints like you set the proper standard for all.
- 3 I do not think that there is a single desire in all of humankind that cannot be fulfilled by mahatamas like you.
- The positions of Brahma, Indra and great emperors can easily be obtained by the mercy of one such as yourself, what to speak of such paltry benedictions as religiosity, economic development and sense gratification.
- Fiven the mercy of the Supreme Lord Himself can also be obtained by your blessing."

35

September 10, 2010 21 | Page

Description is found in Garga Samhita (Canto 2, chapter 5)

- 3 Jajali Muni, who has performed austerities for sixty thousand years, became pacified by Utkala's show of humility.
- Taking compassion on the demon, he blessed him, saying:
- "In Vaivasvata Manvantara, when Dvarapa yuga is ending, in Vraja Mandala, Bharata Varsa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead Himself, Lord Krishna will be roaming the land while herding calves.
- 3 At that time you will merge with His body.
- I assure you that there is no doubt of this Even by an intense feeling of enmity towards Him, even inimical persons like Hiranyakasipu have been able to attain the topmost destination in the past."

38

- 3 In his next life as Bakasura, Utkala became the brother of Putana, and with Trnavarta, they all lived with Narakasura as his allies.
- Figure 25 Eventually Bakasura was defeated by Kamsa in combat and became his servant.

# The cowherd boys return home and MY & NM of the day's events

- 36 When they arrived home, they began to speak of the wonderful activities of the son of Nanda.
- When the gopis and cowherd men all heard the story from the boys, they felt great happiness because naturally they loved Krsna,
- Hearing about His glories and victorious activities, they became still more affectionate toward Him.

Description is an amalgamation of those found in Srimad Bhagavatam (Krishna Book) and Garga Samhita (Canto 2, chapter 5)

- Thinking that the child Krsna was saved from the mouth of death, they began to see His face with great love and affection.
- They were full of anxieties, but they could not turn their faces from the vision of Krsna.
- The gopis and the men began to converse amongst themselves about how the child Krsna was attacked in so many ways and so many times by so many demons, and yet the demons were killed and Krsna was uninjured.
- They continued to converse amongst themselves about how so many great demons in such fierce bodies attacked Krsna to kill Him, but by the grace of Hari, they could not cause even a slight injury. Rather, they died like small flies in a fire.
- Thus they remembered the words of Garga Muni who foretold, by dint of his vast knowledge of the Vedas and astrology, that this boy would be attacked by many demons. Now they actually saw that this was coming true, word for word.
- 3 All the elderly cowherd men, including Nanda Maharaja, used to talk of the wonderful activities of Lord Krsna and Balarama,
- 3 They were always so much absorbed in those talks that they forgot the threefold miseries of this material existence.

September 10, 2010 22 | Page