



Sri Krishna Kathamrita Bindu

तव कथामृतं तप्तजीवनम्
tava kathāmṛtaṁ tapta-jīvanam

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PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS

*His Divine Grace A. C.
Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada*

Now there is presidential election. So everyone is thinking, "If I could become the president." That is everyone's desire. Those who are not so fit do not stand for election, but those who are a little fit stand, make competition, "I am the president." If you are president, why do you require election? The simple truth. If you are actually president, then why do you depend on others' vote? You become president. No. Artificial president. Simply by votes he is president. Actually he is not. He is the servant of the voters, but he is thinking, "I am president." This is called *māyā*. (Lecture, 15 July 1976.)

Nature is so cruel. In America, President Kennedy, he was thought to be the most fortunate man, happy man, young man. Was elected President, nice wife, children, honor all over the world. (snaps fingers) Within a second, finished. Temporary. Now what is his condition? Where is he? If life is eternal, if the living entity is eternal, where has he gone? What is he doing? Is he happy or is he distressed? Has he been born in America or China? Nobody can say. But it is a fact that as living entity, he's eternal, he's existing. (Room Conversation, 11 September 1969.)



His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

DISSERVICE TO THE BHAGAVATAM

*Srila Bhaktisiddhanta
Saraswati Thakura Prabhupada*

There are a number of commentaries on *Śrīmad Bhāgavatam*, such as *Hari-līlāmṛta*, *Muktā-phalam*, and so on. Sri Madhvacharya also wrote a commentary on *Śrīmad Bhāgavatam*. There are eight or ten devotees in the Madhva *sampradāya*, headed by Vijaydhvaj Tirtha, who also wrote commentaries on *Śrīmad Bhāgavatam*. Two devotees from the Ramanuja *sampradāya*, headed by Viraraghava, wrote commentaries on this literature as well.

None of the followers of impersonalism have written a commentary on *Śrīmad Bhāgavatam*. They fool people by saying that there are discussions of impersonalism in the *Śrīmad Bhāgavatam*. But we had never seen such a thing. It is never possible to understand *Śrīmad Bhāgavatam* or present a commentary on it by those who are situated thousands of *yojanas* away from it. There is an impression among people that Madhusudana Saraswati is a *vaiṣṇava* who preaches *Śrīmad Bhāgavatam*. But this is not a fact. He is an impersonalist.

Demons like Aghasur, Bakasur and Putana also closely associated with Krishna. But Krishna killed eighteen such demons like Aghasur and Bakasur within *Mathurā-maṇḍala*. The main business of demons is to try and destroy Krishna, but Krishna smashes their sinful endeavours. Although the *Bhagavad-gītā* is a worshipable literature of the *vaiṣṇavas*, people from [the impersonalist group named] Panchayati Akhada have attacked the spontaneous faith of the *vaiṣṇava* religion by advertising *Bhagavad-gītā* as their main object of worship and by writing commentaries. They have also tried to use *Śrīmad Bhāgavatam* in this way, but by doing so they oppose the true principle of *Śrīmad Bhāgavatam*. ❀

Excerpt from Lecture 7. *Śrīmad-bhāgavata-tātparya*. Translated by Bhumipati Das. Edited by Purnaprajna Das. Rasbihari Lal and Sons. Vrindavan. 2005.

DON'T STAY IN DARKNESS

Sri Srimad Gour Govinda Swami Maharaja

If you go to Spain, you'll see that it is a very sinful land. Many sinful activities are going on. Sachinandan Swami had already told me that Spain is a most sinful country. There are such great demons there.

They are killing the bulls there so brutally. That is their national festival and they get pleasure out of it. Thousands of people look at it and clap. What sort of pleasure is it from brutally killing a bull? Yet you get pleasure, and therefore there is no rain, no electricity. For the first time in the West I saw no electricity, no water supply. It is a dark place. We reached New Vraja Mandal at night and they were burning oil lamps, like glow worms. What is this, glow worm! "It's an oil lamp," they said, "We have had no rain for more than one year."

They produce hydro-electricity but there is no water. How will the water be produced? So dark. Then why are you in darkness? Because you are committing so much sinful activity. Such ignorant fools! You are in so much darkness. Are you not crying for the light? *tamaso mā jyotir gamaya* – Don't stay in the darkness; come out to the light. Krishna is all-enlightenment, such effulgent splendour. Effulgence is coming out from his body. He is not different from *kṛṣṇa-kathā*, *gaura-kathā*. Why don't you engage yourselves? You devotees should do *hari-kathā* there. ❀

— From an arrival lecture in Bhubaneswar, 20 August 1992.

KRISHNA — MY ONLY REFUGE

Sri Vallabhacharya's Kṛṣṇāśraya-stotram

*sarva-mārgeṣu naṣṭeṣu kalau ca khala-dharmini
pākhaṇḍa-pracure loke kṛṣṇa eva gatir mama*

In this age of Kali, replete with cheating religion, all other bona-fide paths to attain the absolute truth (*yoga*, *jñāna*, *karma*, etc.) have been destroyed. Now that irreligiosity is vehemently rampant in the world, Krishna is my only refuge. (1)

*mlecchākṛānteṣu deṣeṣu papaika-nilayeṣu ca
sat-pīḍā-vyagra-lokeṣu kṛṣṇa eva gatir mama*

All holy places (Kuruksheetra, Varanasi, etc.) have been completely infested with cow-eating *mlecchas*. Thus these places have turned into abodes of sin. The ordinary people are horrified to see the saintly souls suffer. In such a condition, Krishna is my only refuge. (2)

*gaṅgādi-tīrtha-varyeṣu duṣṭair evāvṛṭṣv iha
tirohitādhi-daiveṣu kṛṣṇa eva gatir mama*

Sacred places of pilgrimage such as the Ganga have been taken over by ruffians. Seeing this,



Painting by by_ S M Pandit

Radha and Krishna on the bank of the Yamuna

the presiding deities of these sacred places have disappeared. In such a precarious condition, Krishna is my only refuge (3)

*ahaikāra-vimūḍheṣu satsu pāpānuvartīṣu
lābha-pūjārtha-yatneṣu kṛṣṇa eva gatiṛ mama*

Having seen that even those respected as saintly souls are now blinded by arrogance, and having seen how they are now engaged in sin and putting forth great efforts to obtain worldly fame, worship and fortunes, Krishna is now my only refuge. (4)

*aparijñāna-naṣeṣu manreṣv avrata-yogiṣu
tirohitārtha-deveṣu kṛṣṇa eva gatiṛ mama*

Since the knowledge pertaining to various [Vedic] mantras has been destroyed, and since the practitioners who chant these mantras are devoid of a sacred lifestyle, therefore the presiding deities of these mantras have disappeared [thus leaving the mantras fruitless]. In such a precarious condition, Krishna is my only refuge. (5)

*nānā-vāda-vinaṣeṣu sarva-karma-vratādiṣu
pākhaṇḍaika-prayatneṣu kṛṣṇa eva gatiṛ mama*

All good Vedic rituals, vows, and beneficial practices are now destroyed by various arguments. Seeing that people nowadays are putting their efforts only in fake show-bottle spirituality, Krishna is my only refuge. (6)

*ajāmilādi-doṣāṇām nāśako 'nubhave sthitaḥ
jñāpitākhila-māhātmyaḥ kṛṣṇa eva gatiṛ mama*

He who destroys the sins of sinners such as Ajamila, he who is still experienced (by his devotees), he who gives complete knowledge of his divinity to the eager souls — that Krishna is my only refuge. (7)

*prākṛtāḥ sakalā devā gaṇitānandakam bṛhat
pūrṇānando haris tasmāt kṛṣṇa eva gatiṛ mama*

All demigods are completely under the control of the material nature [and thus they cannot bestow spiritual joy]. Even the joy of merging in the impersonal Brahman is of a limited nature [and cannot satisfy the soul]. Only Lord Hari is the unlimited source of joy, and therefore Krishna is my only refuge. (8)

viveka-dhairya-bhaktiyādi-rahitasya viśeṣataḥ
pāpāsaktasya dīnasya kṛṣṇa eva gatir mama

Especially for a person like me who is fallen, attached to sin, and completely devoid of wisdom, patience, devotion and other qualities, Krishna is the only refuge. (9)

[**Translator's Note:** To understand in detail what Sri Vallabhacharya means by the terms 'wisdom', 'patience', etc., please see his *Viveka-dhairya-āśraya-stotram* (published in Bindus #370, #371 and #372).]

sarva-sāmarthya-sahitaḥ sarvatraivākhilārtha-kṛt
śaraṇastha-samuddhāraṁ kṛṣṇaṁ vijñāpayāmy aham

[The devotee thus offers this prayer to Krishna] "O Lord! You have unlimited ability [to achieve anything], and in all times, places and circumstances you can fulfil the devotee's desires. O Lord! For the surrendered souls, you are the complete redeemer from this world. I offer these prayers to you, O Krishna!" (10)

kṛṣṇāśrayam idaṁ stotraṁ yaḥ paṭhet kṛṣṇa-sannidhau
tasyāśrayo bhavet kṛṣṇa iti śrī-vallabho 'bravīt

To whomsoever recites this *kṛṣṇāśraya-stotram* before the deity of Lord Krishna, that Lord Krishna



Unknown artist

Krishna plays his enchanting flute

bestows complete shelter. This fact is certified by Sri Vallabha. (11) ॐ

— Translated by Hari Parshad Das from *Kṛṣṇāśraya-stotram* with six commentaries. Published by Vrajratna Lal Goswami. Surat. India. Vikram Samvat 2036 (~ 1979 A.D.)

MADANA-MOHANA'S DOG

Srila Prabodhananda Saraswati's *Vṛndāvana-mahimāmṛtam (2.67)*

varam iha vṛndārānye suvarākī madana-mohana-dvāri
api saramāpi ramā-priya-sakhy api nānyatra no ramāpi syām

I would consider myself fortunate to stay as a poor little female dog at the door of Madan Mohan here in Sri Vrindavan, as compared to being anywhere else even as the dear friend of Lakshmi Devi or even to be Lakshmi Devi herself. ॐ

— Translated by Hari Parshad Das from the Sanskrit available at Gaudiya Grantha Mandira (www.granthamandira.com).



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