

Sri Vyasa Puja Offering August 22, 2011

By Yasoda nandana dasa

nama om vishnu padaya krishna prsthaya bhutale

srimate bhaktivedanta swamin iti namine

namaste sarasvate deve gauravani pracarine

nirvisesa sunyavadi pascaya desatarine

bhaktisiddhanta sisya bhaktivedanta namine

prasannaya prasantaya tasmai sri gurave namah

(Sri Ananta ram sastri- Srila Prabhupada stotram 1976)

bhagavad vandana khadyam guru vandana purvakam

ksiram sarkaraya yuktam khadate hi visesatah

(Sri Vedanta desika- Stotra Ratna Bhasya)

akshnoh phalam tvadrsa darsanam hi

tanoh phalam tvadrsa gatra sangah

jihva phalam tvadrsam kirtanam hi

sudurlabha bhagavata hi loke

(Hari Bhakti sudhodaya)

In 1977 in late May, I had the opportunity to render some menial service to your Divine Grace just prior to your taking rest. One such occasion you asked me to massage your lotus feet as you were gradually dozing. After some time you seemed to fall asleep. I kept chanting and massaging your feet and I noticed how Your Grace occasionally would murmur Sri Krsna Caitanya Prabhu Nityananda and then rest again. Then after some time, the names of Lord Krsna would manifest again on your tongue. It dawned on me that you never really went into tama-guna-svapna or sleep in the mode of ignorance, but you were always fully conscious of your beloved Lord Krsna even while resting. Such is your transcendental perfection.

You have described this amazing level of suddha-sattva in your English rendition of Srila Rupa Goswami Prabhupada's Bhakti-Rasamrta-Sindhu, The Nectar of Devotion:

"...It may be questioned why devotees of Krsna should be attacked by dizziness, which is usually considered a sign of the modes of ignorance. To answer this question, Śrī Jīva Gosvāmī has said that the devotees of Lord Krsna are always transcendental to all the modes of material nature; when they feel dizziness or go to sleep,

they are not considered to be sleeping under the modes of nature, but are accepted as being in a trance of devotional service. There is an authoritative statement in the *Garuda Purāna* about mystic *yogīs* who are under the direct shelter of the Supreme Personality of Godhead: "In all three stages of their consciousness—namely, wakefulness, dreaming and deep sleep—the devotees are absorbed in the thought of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Therefore, in their complete absorption in the thought of Kṛṣṇa, they do not sleep..."

Books : The Nectar of Devotion - 1970 Edition : NoD 30: Further Features of Ecstatic Love for Kṛṣṇa : Dizziness

You have clearly explained the unique and amazing position of such Maha-bhagavatas in your lucid purport of the Srimad-Bhagavatam, First Canto:

etad īśanam īśasya

prakṛiti-stho 'pi tad-gunaih

na yujyate sadātma-sthair

yathā buddhis tad-āśrayā

This is the divinity of the Personality of Godhead: He is not affected by the qualities of material nature, even though He is in contact with them. Similarly, the devotees who have taken shelter of the Lord do not become influenced by the material qualities

Purport

"... Even His learned devotees are not affected by the influence of the material modes. The great six Gosvāmīs of Vṛndāvana all came from greatly rich and aristocratic families, but when they adopted the life of mendicants at Vṛndāvana, superficially they appeared to be in wretched conditions of life, but factually they were the richest of all in spiritual values. Such mahā-bhāgavatas, or first-grade devotees, although moving amongst men, are not contaminated by honor or insult, hunger or satisfaction, sleep or wakefulness, which are all resultant actions of the three modes of material nature. Similarly, some of them are engaged in worldly dealings, yet are unaffected. Unless these neutralities of life are there, one cannot be considered situated in transcendence. The Divinity and His associates are on the same transcendental plane, and their glories are always sanctified by the action of *yogamāyā*, or the internal potency of the Lord. ..."

Srimad-Bhagavatam "Creation" Lord Krsna's Entrance into Dvaraka : SB 1.11.38

Srila Prabhupada, you have mercifully revealed why a pure devotee's voice and sound vibration are so potent.

My dear Lord, You are glorified by the selected verses uttered by great personalities. Such glorification of Your lotus feet is just like saffron particles. When the transcendental vibration from the mouths of great devotees carries the aroma of the saffron dust of Your lotus feet, the forgetful living entity gradually remembers his eternal relationship with You. Devotees thus gradually come to the right conclusion about the value of life. My dear Lord, I therefore do not need any other benediction but the opportunity to hear from the mouth of Your pure devotee.

Purport

"... A pure devotee always engages in the service of the Lord, taking shelter of His lotus feet, and therefore he has a direct connection with the saffron mercy-particles that are strewn over the lotus feet of the Lord. Although when a pure devotee speaks the articulation of his voice may resemble the sound of this material sky, the voice is spiritually very powerful because it touches the particles of saffron dust on the lotus feet of the Lord. As soon as a sleeping living entity hears the powerful voice emanating from the mouth of a pure devotee, he immediately remembers his eternal relationship with the Lord, although up until that moment he had forgotten everything.."

Srimad-Bhagavatam "The Creation of the Fourth Order", Lord Visnu's Appearance in the Sacrificial Arena of Maharaja Prthu : SB 4.20.25

Srila Prabhupada, Let us always be strive to hear your transcendental divine instructions and ambrosial voice. You have brought this sublime transcendental sound from the spiritual world.

"... This chanting of Hare Krsna, this transcendental vibration is not any material thing. It is imported from the transcendental abode, golokera. Goloka means the transcendental abode of Krsna. *Golokera prema-dhana.* From there, the transcendental abode of Krsna. Just like the sunshine, wherefrom it has come? From the sun planet. Everyone knows it. Although you cannot go there, it is far, far beyond your reach, but you can understand that the sunshine is coming from the sun globe. There is no doubt about it. Similarly this vibration, this shining, is coming from Krsna, Goloka. *Golokera prema-dhana.* And *prema-dhana* means this chanting is in love with Krsna. *Golokera prema-dhana, hari-nāma-sankīrtana,...*"

Lecture -- Los Angeles, November 13, 1968

Srila Prabhupada, You are the captain of the ship for those who are desirous to cross over the ocean of material existence and obtain the lotus feet of Sri Krsna. You are the true representative of Suta Goswami.

Tvam nah sandarsito dhatra

dustaram nititirsatam

kalim sattva-haram pumsām

karna-dhāra ivārnnavam

We think that we have met Your Goodness by the will of providence, just so that we may accept you as captain of the ship for those who desire to cross the difficult ocean of Kali, which deteriorates all the good qualities of a human being.

Purport

Learned men, therefore, must be cautious of this age, and if they at all want to cross over the dangerous ocean of Kali, they must follow the footsteps of the sages of Naimisāranya and accept Śrī Sūta Gosvāmī **or his bona fide representative as the captain of the ship**. The ship is the message of Lord Śrī Krsna in the shape of *Bhagavad-gītā* or the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*

Books : Srimad-Bhagavatam "Creation" : SB 1.1: Questions by the Sages : SB 1.1.22

“...The Supreme Lord and His transcendental abode are both *sanātana*, as are the living entities, and the combined association of the Supreme Lord and the living entities in the *sanātana* abode is the perfection of human life. The Lord is very kind to the living entities because they are His sons. Lord Kṛṣṇa declares in *Bhagavad-gītā*, "*sarva-yoniṣu...ahaṁ bīja-pradaḥ pitā*." "I am the father of all." Of course there are all types of living entities according to their various *karmas*, but here the Lord claims that He is the father of all of them. Therefore the Lord descends to reclaim all of these fallen, conditioned souls to call them back to the *sanātana* eternal sky so that the *sanātana* living entities may regain their eternal *sanātana* positions in eternal association with the Lord. **The Lord comes Himself in different incarnations, or He sends His confidential servants as sons or His associates or ācāryas to reclaim the conditioned souls...**”

Books : Bhagavad-gita As It Is - Macmillan 1972 Edition : Bg: introduction :

You have indirectly referred to your advent and position as a nitya-siddha Maha-bhagavata in some of your beautiful bhāsyas.

"...Therefore each and every *avatāra*, or incarnation of the Lord, has a particular mission, and they are all described in the revealed scriptures. No one should be accepted as an *avatāra* unless he is referred to by scriptures.

It is not a fact that the Lord appears only on Indian soil. He can advent Himself anywhere and everywhere, and whenever He desires to appear. In each and every incarnation, He speaks as much about religion as can be understood by the particular people under their particular circumstances. But the mission is the same-to lead people to God consciousness and obedience to the principles of religion. Sometimes He descends personally, and sometimes He sends His bona fide representative in the form of His son, or servant, or Himself in some disguised form..."Bhagavad-gita As It Is - Macmillan 1972 Edition Transcendental Knowledge : Bg 4.7 :

PURPORT :

“...When there are too many *asuras* in the world, then it becomes a hell for those who are devotees of the Lord. Due to the growth of the *asuras*, the mass of people who are generally devoted to the Lord by nature and the pure devotees of the Lord, including the demigods in higher planets, pray to the Lord for relief, and the Lord either descends personally from His abode or deposes some of His devotees to remodel the fallen condition of human society, or even animal society. Such disruptions take place not only in human society but also among animals, birds or other living beings, including the demigods in the higher planets...”

Srimad-Bhagavatam : Canto 1:"Creation" Dhrtarastra Quits Home : SB 1.13.50

“...*Bhagavad-gītā* (4.11) states: *ye yathā māṁ prapadyante tāṁs tathaiva bhajāmy aham*. “Although the Lord is equally kind to every living being, the living beings, for their own part, are able to please the Lord to either a greater or lesser extent.” The demigods are called *sakāma* devotees, or devotees with material desires in mind, while the pure devotees are called *niṣkāma* devotees because they have no desires for their personal interests. The *sakāma* devotees are self-interested because they do not think of others, and therefore they are not able to satisfy the Lord perfectly, whereas the pure devotees take the missionary responsibility of turning nondevotees into devotees, and they are therefore able to satisfy the Lord more than the demigods. The Lord is unmindful of the nondevotees, although He is sitting within everyone’s heart as well-wisher and Supersoul. However, He also gives them the chance to receive His mercy through His pure devotees who are engaged in missionary activities. Sometimes the Lord Himself descends for missionary activities, as He did in the form of Lord Caitanya, but mostly He sends His bona fide representatives, and thus He shows His causeless mercy towards the nondevotees. The Lord is so satisfied with His pure devotees that He wants to give them the credit for missionary success, although He could do the work personally. This is the sign of His satisfaction with His pure, *niṣkāma* devotees, compared to the *sakāma* devotees. By such transcendental activities the Lord simultaneously becomes free from the charge of partiality and exhibits His pleasure with the devotees...”

Books : Srimad-Bhagavatam The Status Quo" Brahma's Prayers for Creative Energy : SB 3.9.12

The Personality of Godhead Lord Viṣṇu descends by His will to the material planets in His innumerable incarnations for particular purposes, and again He goes back to His own abode. When He descends He is called an *avatāra* because *avatāra* means “one who descends.” Neither the Lord Himself nor His specific devotees who come to this earth are ordinary living entities like us

Books : Srimad-Bhagavatam : Canto 3: "The Status Quo" :The Appearance of Lord Varaha : SB 3.13.47

It is clearly stated here that the material world is not created by the personal will of the Supreme Lord; it is created by His external energy because the living entities want to enjoy it. This material world is not created for those who do not want to enjoy sense gratification, who constantly remain in transcendental loving service and who are eternally Kṛṣṇa conscious. For them, the spiritual world is eternally existing, and they enjoy there. Elsewhere in the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* it is stated that for those who have taken shelter of the lotus feet of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, this material world is useless; because this material world is full of danger at every step, it is not meant for the devotees but for living entities who want to lord it over the material energy at their own risk. Kṛṣṇa is so kind that He allows the sense-enjoying living entities a separate world created by Him to enjoy as they like, yet at the same time He appears in His personal form. **The Lord unwillingly creates this material world, but He descends in His personal form or sends one of His reliable sons or a servant or a reliable author like Vyāsadeva to give instruction.** He Himself also instructs in His speeches of *Bhagavad-gītā*. This propaganda work goes on side by side with the creation to convince the misguided living entities who are rotting in this material world to come back to Him and surrender unto Him. Therefore the last instruction of *Bhagavad-gītā* is this: "Give up all your manufactured engagements in the material world and just surrender unto Me. I shall protect you from all sinful reactions

Books : Srimad-Bhagavatam : Canto 3: "The Status Quo" Conversation Between Manu and Kardama : SB 3.21.20 : PURPORT :

Out of your immense compassion for the fallen souls you descend to the middle class platform to reach and reclaim the fallen souls.

"If one is expert in Vedic literature and has full faith in the Supreme Lord, then he is an *uttama-adhikārī*, a first-class Vaiṣṇava, a topmost Vaiṣṇava who can deliver the whole world and turn everyone to Kṛṣṇa consciousness." (Cc. *Madhya* 22.65) With great love and affection, the *mahā-bhāgavata* observes the Supreme Personality of Godhead, devotional service and the devotee. He observes nothing beyond Kṛṣṇa, Kṛṣṇa consciousness and Kṛṣṇa's devotees. **The mahā-bhāgavata knows that everyone is engaged in the Lord's service in different ways. He therefore descends to the middle platform to elevate everyone to the Kṛṣṇa conscious position.**

Books : Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta - 1975 Edition The Lord's Attempt to Go to Vrndavana : Madhya 16.74

One requires Kṛṣṇa's special power in order to be able to do this. People forget their relationship with Kṛṣṇa and work under the spell of *māyā* life after life, transmigrating from one body to another. This is the process of material existence. The Supreme Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa personally descends to teach people that their position in the material world is a mistaken one. The Lord again comes as Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu to induce people to take to Kṛṣṇa consciousness. **The Lord also empowers a special devotee to teach people their constitutional position**

Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta - 1975 Edition Lord Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu Instructs Srila Rupa Gosvami : Madhya 19.114

The *nitya-baddhas* are always conditioned by the external energy, and the *nitya-muktas* never come in contact with the external energy. **Sometimes an ever-liberated personal associate of the Supreme Personality of Godhead descends into this universe just as the Lord descends. Although working for the liberation of conditioned souls, the messenger of the Supreme Lord remains untouched by the material energy.** Generally ever-liberated personalities live in the spiritual world as associates of Lord Kṛṣṇa, and they are known as *kṛṣṇa-pāriṣada*, associates of the Lord. Their only business is enjoying Lord Kṛṣṇa's company, and even though such eternally liberated persons come within this material world to serve the Lord's purpose, they enjoy Lord Kṛṣṇa's company without stoppage. **The ever-liberated person who works on Kṛṣṇa's behalf enjoys Lord Kṛṣṇa's company through his engagement.** The ever-conditioned soul, provoked by lusty desires to enjoy the material world, is subjected to transmigrate from one body to another. Sometimes he is elevated to higher planetary systems, and sometimes he is degraded to hellish planets and subjected to the tribulations of the external energy

Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta - 1975 Edition The Process of Devotional Service : Madhya 22.14-15 :

janme janme prabhu sei

divya jnana hrde prakasito

Srila Prabhupada, our master, kindly bless us so that we always situated at your lotus feet and absorbed in your divine unrevised teachings and instructions.

You eternal servant

Daso'smi

Yasoda nandana dasa