

# Śrīla Prabhupāda’s *KISS* Formula for Protection — and Perfection

***KISS!* — Keep It Simple, *Sādhu* — *KISS!***

## **(3) *Bhagavad-gītā As It Is* — The Protective Power of Transcendental Sound —**

**Lord Śiva said. “My dear Pārvatī, now I will relate to you the glories of the Ninth Chapter of *Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā*.**

There was once a town of the name Māhiṣmatī on the bank of the Narmadā River where a *brāhmaṇa* of the name Mādhava lived. That *brāhmaṇa* very strictly followed all the injunctions of the *Vedas* and possessed all the good qualities of the brahminical class. Due to his being so learned, he would receive a lot of charity. And with his accumulated wealth, he started to perform a great fire-sacrifice. A goat was bought for offering and when they started to cleanse it in preparation for sacrifice, to everyone’s great surprise the goat started to laugh and in a loud voice said; “Oh, *brāhmaṇa*, what is the benefit of performing so many fire-sacrifices that simply bind us to the wheel of birth and death. Just see my position due to my performing so many fire-sacrifices.”

When everyone gathered there heard the words of the goat they became curious, and the *brāhmaṇa* inquired with folded hands, “Dear Sir, how did you become goat? In your previous life, which caste did you belong to and what activities did you perform?” The goat replied, “Oh, *brāhmaṇa*, in my previous birth I was born in a very pure *brāhmaṇa* family and I very carefully performed all the ritualistic activities enjoined in the *Vedas*.”

One day my wife wished to worship Durgā, so that our child might be cured of his disease. For this purpose she requested me to buy a goat. When we sacrificed the goat at the temple of Mother Durgā, the goat cursed me, “Oh, sinful, lowest of all, you wish to make my children fatherless. For this reason you will also take birth as a goat.” Oh Mādhava, when the time for my death came I attained this body of a goat, but by the grace of Lord Govinda I can remember my previous births. If you wish to hear another interesting story, I will tell you. Please listen carefully.

In the place known as Kurukṣetra which is capable of giving liberation, there once lived a king of the name Candraśarmā, who was in the dynasty of the sun-god. Once, at the time of the solar-eclipse, the king wished to give charity to a *brāhmaṇa*. Included in that charity was a *śūdra*, whose body was completely black. After going with his priest and taking bath in the sacred lake, putting on clean cloth and applying sandalwood, he returned to his palace. With

devotion he gave charity to a qualified *brāhmaṇa*. After he had presented the charity, all of a sudden from that gifted black *śūdra*'s heart, a very sinful *caṇḍāla* (dog-eater) appeared and after a little while, a female *caṇḍāla* also appeared from that black *śūdra*'s body, and together they went very close to the *brāhmaṇa*. All of a sudden they entered in to his body. But that *brāhmaṇa* remained undisturbed and started to chant the Ninth Chapter of *Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā*, while remembering Lord Govinda. Witnessing all these activities the king was stunned and unable to say anything. As soon as the words of the Ninth Chapter of *Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā* came onto the lips of that *brāhmaṇa*, the Viṣṇudūtas appeared and chased away the two *caṇḍālas*.

At that time the king inquired from the *brāhmaṇa*, “Oh, learned one, who were those two persons and which *mantra* did you chant? Which Deity did you remember?” The *brāhmaṇa* replied, “Taking the form of a *caṇḍāla*, sin personified appeared, along with offense personified in the form of that female *caṇḍāla*. They tried to destroy me by entering my body. At that time I started chanting the Ninth Chapter of *Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā* which is capable of releasing one from all fearful situations. By reciting this Ninth Chapter of *Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā*, I am always able to remember the lotus-feet of Lord Govinda”.

Upon hearing this the king learned the chanting of the Ninth Chapter of *Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā* from the *brāhmaṇa*. Gradually he also managed to attain the lotus-feet of Lord Govinda. When Mādhava heard this discourse from the goat, he immediately freed him and started to engage in reciting the Ninth Chapter of *Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā* daily and thus he also gained the lotus-feet of Lord Govinda.

— Gītā-Māhātmya

**Please Cherish Your Relationship with  
*Bhagavad-gītā* As It Is  
— Please Don't Minimize It! —**