Bhakti-Rasāmṛta-Sindhu

By Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī

The Southern Section

Defining the Components of Rasa

Mangalacarana of Madhurya Kadambini

bhaktih pūrvaih śritā tām tu rasam paśyed yad-ātta-dhīh tam naumi satatam rūpanāma-priya-janam hareḥ

Though there are others who in the past have taken up the path of devotional service to the Lord (pūrvaiḥ tām bhaktiḥ śritā tu), I pay my continual obeisances (tam satatam naumi) to Srila Rupa Goswami, who is dearmost to the Lord (rūpa)nāma nareḥ priya-janam). By his mercy, humanity has received the intelligence (yad atta dhīḥ) to see all rasas (relationships with the Lord) revealed by bhakti (devotion to the Lord) (rasam paśyed).



III – Definition ofVibhāva

A. Ālambana

III – Definition of Vibhāva A. Ālambana Jiva Goswami

- Raty-ādeḥ (rati and other items) means the main sthāyi-bhāvas (five) and the seven secondary ones such as hāsa (humor), which will be explained later.
- The rati experienced within a person will be that which is being cultivated by the experi-encer, and should not be dissimilar.
- It would be considered different if it were not related to the internal inclinations (samskāra) of the experiencer.

III – Definition of Vibhāva A. Ālambana Jiva Goswami

- If it is dissimilar but is not contradictory to his natural inclination in rati, that type of rati acts as a stimulus (uddīpana) (being observed by him in others) but the person does not directly act as the ālambana by directly experiencing that dissimilar rati.
- In what manner a person becomes the shelter of contradictory rati will be explained later in the text.

tatra śrī-kṛṣṇaḥ –
nāyakānām śiro-ratnam
kṛṣṇas tu bhagavān svayam |
yatra nityatayā sarve
virājante mahā-guṇāḥ |
so 'nyarūpa-svarūpābhyām
asminn ālambano mataḥ ||17||

Now Kṛṣṇa as the object of rati is discussed (tatra śrī-kṛṣṇaḥ):
Kṛṣṇa, Svayam Bhagavān (kṛṣṇas tu bhagavān svayam), is the crest
jewel of heroes (nāyakānām śiro-ratnam), in whom (yatra) all great
qualities (sarve mahā-guṇāḥ) shine eternally (nityatayā virājante).
He is considered (sah mataḥ) the ālambana or support for rati
(viṣaya) (ālambanah) through His svarūpa (asminn svarūpābhyām)
and through other forms that He may assume (anyarūpa).

anyarūpeṇa, yathā — hanta me katham udeti sa-vatse, vatsa-pāla-paṭale ratir atra — ity aniścita-matir baladevo vismaya-stimita-mūrtir ivāsīt ||18||

"How is it (hanta katham) that I have developed rati (me ratir udeti) for the calves (sa-vatse) and the cowherd boys (vatsa-pāla-paṭale) similar to my rati for Kṛṣṇa (atra)?" In this way (ity) Balarāma (baladevah) with indecision (aṇiścita-matih) remained struck with wonder (vismaya-stimita-mūrtir iva āsīt).

The "other forms" are now explained as follows

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• How has Balarāma's rati for Kṛṣṇa arisen in relation to the calves and cowherd boys?

• Stimita means stunned.

- Iva is used as an ornament of speech (and does mean "somewhat astonished.")
- In this example the object of affection or rati is still Kṛṣṇa but in the form of the calves and cowherd boys.

atha svarūpam – āvṛtam prakaṭam ceti svarūpam kathitam dvidhā ||19||

The svarūpa as the ālambana is now discussed (atha svarūpam):

The svarūpa takes two forms (svarūpam dvidhā kathitam): covered and manifested (āvṛtam prakaṭam ca iti).

atra āvṛtam – anya-veśādinācchannam svarūpam proktam āvṛtam ||20||

The covered svarūpa is explained (atra āvṛtam):

The svarūpa is called covered (svarūpam āvṛtam proktam) when it is covered or disguised (ācchannam) by others' clothing (anya-veśa ādinā).

tena, yathā –

<u>mām snehayati kim uccair</u>

<u>mahileyam dvārakāvarodhe'tra</u> –

<u>mām viditam kutukārthī</u>

vanitā-veśo hariś carati ||21||

An example of a disguised svarūpa is given (tena, yathā):

Why does this queen (kim iyam mahilā) in the inner chambers of Dvārakā (dvārakā avarodhe atra) attract meso much (mām uccaih snehayati)? Ah! I can understand (mām viditam) that Kṛṣṇa (harih) has assumed the dress of a queen (vanitā-veśah) out of curiosity (kutuka arthī) and is wandering about the palace (carati).

- These are the words of Uddhava.
- The attraction caused by the queen is the same as that directed to the Lord.
- This incident is supported by the show of Kṛṣṇa's power of yoga-māyā in Dvārakā described in the Bhāgavatam:

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avyakta-lingam prakṛtiṣv antaḥ-pura-gṛhādiṣu kvacic carantam yogeśam tat-tad-bhāva-bubhutsayā

Somewhere (kvacit) Kṛṣṇa, the Lord of mystic power (yogeśam), was moving about (carantam) in disguise (avyakta-lingam) among the homes of ministers and other citizens (prakṛtiṣu antaḥ-pura-gṛhādiṣu) in order to understand what each of them was thinking (tat-tad-bhāva-bubhutsayā). SB 10.69.36

prakaṭa-svarūpeṇa, yathā — ayam kambu-grīvah kamala-kamanīyākṣi-paṭimā — tamāla-śyāmāṅga-dyutir atitarāṁ chatrita-śirāh | dara-śrī-vatsāṅkaḥ sphurad-ari-darādy-aṅkita-karaḥ karoty uccair modaṁ mama madhura-mūrtir madhu-ripuḥ ||22||

An example of the manifested svarūpa is given (prakaṭa-svarūpeṇa, yathā):

This sweet form (ayam madhura-mūrtih) of the enemy of the demon Madhu (madhu-ripuḥ) gives me intense bliss (mama uccaih modam karoty). He has a neck like a conch shell (kambu-grīvaḥ), beautiful eyes envied by the lotuses (kamala-kamanīya-akṣi-paṭimā), and the bodily glow of the dark tamāla tree (tamāla-śyāma-aṅga-dyutih). His head is sheltered by an umbrella (atitarām chatrita-śirāḥ), His chest is marked with the śrīvatsa whorl (dara-śrī-vatsāṅkah), and His hands are marked (aṅkita-karaḥ) with cakra, conch and other symbols (sphurad-aridarādy).

- These are also the words of Uddhava.
- Kṛṣṇa has extreme beauty in His eyes, which are desired by the lotuses (kamala-kamanīyākṣi-paṭimā).
- The effulgence of His body shines like the blackness of the tamāla tree (tamāla-śyāmāṅga-dyutiḥ).
- There are other versions of the verse, but these have been rejected.

- He has the mark of the Śrīvatsa, in the form of a whorl of very fine (dara), white hair.
- His hands are marked with the signs of the cakra (ari) and conch (dara).
- At all times (atitarām), His head is sheltered by an umbrella.

The Qualities of Kṛṣṇa as components of Viṣaya

atha tad guṇāḥ —
ayam netā suramyāngaḥ)
(sarva-sal-lakṣaṇānvitaḥ)
(ruciras) tejasā yukto)
(balīyān vayasānvitaḥ) ||23||

The qualities of Kṛṣṇa will be described (atha tad guṇāḥ): The hero Kṛṣṇa (ayam netā) has beautiful limbs (suramyāngaḥ), has all auspicious bodily features (sarya-sad-lakṣaṇa-anvitah), is pleasing to behold (rucirah), possesses vitality (tejasā yuktah), is strong (balīyān) and is endowed with ideal age (vayasānvitaḥ).

- Qualities function in two ways: as primary indicators and as secondary indicators.
- If we talk about the beautiful limbs of Kṛṣṇa, the emphasis is placed on the quality of Kṛṣṇa, the beautiful limbs.
- In this case, acting in a primary way, the quality acts as uddīpana.

- If we talk about beautiful-limbed Kṛṣṇa, the emphasis is on Kṛṣṇa, and the quality is secondary (intrinsic to His very self).
- The quality in this case acts as the ālambana.
- The qualities in their secondary function, acting as ālambana, will be described first.
- In this verse ayam netā means the hero or object of love, who is called Kṛṣṇa.

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(vividhādbhuta-bhāṣā-vit) (satya-vākyaḥ) priyam vadaḥ) (vāvadūkaḥ) supāṇḍityo) (2 buddhimān) pratibhānvitaḥ) ||24||
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He knows a variety of astonishing languages (vividhādbhuta-bhāṣā-vit), is truthful (satya-vākyaḥ), speaks in a pleasing manner (priyam vadaḥ), is eloquent (vāvadūkaḥ), learned (supāṇḍityah), intelligent (buddhimān), and filled with new ideas (pratibhānvitaḥ).

(vidagdhaś) caturo (lakṣaḥ)
kṛtajñaḥ) śudṛḍha-vrataḥ)
(deśa-kāla-supātrajñaḥ) 20
(śāstra-cakṣuḥ) (śucir) (vaśī) || 25||

He is aesthetic (vidagdhah), clever (caturah), skilful (dakṣaḥ), and grateful (kṛtajñaḥ). He keeps his vows (sudṛḍha-vrataḥ), is knowledgeable of time, place and person (deśa-kāla-supātra-jñaḥ), sees through the eyes of scripture (śāstra-cakṣuḥ), is pure (śucih), and controls His senses (vaśī).

(sthiro) dāntah (kṣamā-śīlo) 7 (gambhīro) dhṛtimān samaḥ) 7 (vadānyo) dhārmikah (šūraḥ) 32 (karuṇo mānya-mānakṛt)||26||

He is persevering (sthirah), patient (dāntaḥ), tolerant (kṣamā-śīlah), inscrutable (gambhīrah), steadfast (dhṛtimān), uniform (samaḥ), generous (vadānyah), virtuous (dhārmikaḥ), heroic (śūraḥ), compassionate (karuṇah), and respectful to persons worthy of respect (mānya-mānakṛt).

dakṣiṇo vinayi hrīmān (śaraṇāgata-pālakaḥ) 38 (sukhī bhakta-suhṛ) premavaśyaḥ sarva-śubhankaraḥ) 27|| 4\

He is compliant (dakṣiṇah), modest (vinayī), bashful (hrīmān), the protector of those who take shelter of Him (śaraṇāgata-pālakaḥ), happy (sukhī), friend of the devotees (bhakta-suhṛt), controlled by love (premavaśyaḥ), and the benefactor of all (sarva-śubhaṅkaraḥ).

(pratāpī) kīrtimān (rakta-) 40 lokaļ) sādhu-samāsrayaļ) | nārī-gaņa-manohārī) 47 sarvārādhyaļ) samṛddhimān ||28||

He is glorious (pratāpī), renowned (kīrtimān), the object of attraction for all (rakta-lokaḥ), the shelter of the devotees (sādhu-samāśrayaḥ), attractive to women (nārī-gaṇa-manohārī), worshipable by all (sarvārādhyaḥ), and endowed with the greatest wealth (samṛddhimān).

varīyān īśvaraś ceti guṇās tasyānukīrtitāḥ | samudra iva pañcāśad durvigāhā harer amī ||29||

He is the most important (varīyān) and the controller (īśvaraś ca). These fifty qualities (amī pañcāśad guṇāh) of Kṛṣṇa (tasya hareh) which have been listed (anukīrtitāḥ) are difficult to fathom (durvigāhā), like the ocean (samudrā iva).

jīyeṣu ete vasanto 'pi bindu-bindutayā kvacit | paripūrṇatayā bhānti tatraiva puruṣottame ||30||

These qualities (ete) are present (vasantah) even in the jīvas (jīveṣu api) to a very small degree (bindubindutayā) now and then (kvacit). However, they are present in full (tatraiva paripūrṇatayā bhānti) in the Supreme Lord (puruṣottame).

- "Now and then" (kvacit) means that those jīvas who receive the mercy of the Lord exhibit the majority of these qualities.
- Even then, the qualities are present as small drops only.
- The qualities are present in others (who do not receive the Lord's mercy) only as a mere semblance (ābhāsa).
- This implies that those qualities are not real.

tathā hi pādme pārvatyai śiti-kaṇṭhena tad-guṇāḥ | kaṇdarpa-koti-lāvaṇya ity ādyāḥ parikīrtitāḥ ||31||

In this way (tathā hi), in the Padma Purāṇa (pādme), Śiva tells Pārvatī (śiti-kaṇṭhena pārvatyai parikīrtitāḥ) about the qualities of Kṛṣṇa (tad-guṇāḥ), starting with His beauty, which is greater than that of ten million Cupids (kandarpa-koṭi-lāvaṇya ity ādyāḥ).

eta eva guṇāḥ prāyo
dharmāya vana-mālinaḥ |
pṛthivyā prathama-skandhe
prathayāncakrire sphuṭam ||32||

The earth also (pṛthivyā) describes (pṛathayāncakrire) the qualities (eta eva guṇāḥ) of Kṛṣṇa (vana-mālinaḥ) clearly (sphuṭam) and extensively (pṛāyah) in order to instruct the deity of dharma (dharmāya), in the First Canto (pṛathama-skandhe).

- In this verse, dharmāya means "in order to teach the personification of dharma."
- The dative case (dharmāya) is used according to the rule kriyārthopapadasya ca karmaņi sthāninaḥ: dative case of a word is employed to denote the object of a sup-pressed infinitive. (Pāṇini 2.3.14)
- Thus dharmāya (dative case) means "The earth described Kṛṣṇa's qualities for dharma," or "The earth described Kṛṣṇa's qualities in order to teach the deity Dharma."

yathā prathame – satyam śaucam dayā kṣāntis tyāgaḥ santoṣa ārjavam | śamo damas tapaḥ sāmyam titikṣoparatiḥ śrutam ||33||

j<u>nānam viraktir aiśvaryam śauryam tejo balam smṛtiḥ</u> svātantryam kauśalam kāntir dhairyam mārdavam eva ca ||34||

p<u>rāgalbhyam praśrayaḥ śīlam saha ojo balam bhagaḥ |</u> gāmbhīryam sthairyam āstikyam kīrtir māno 'nahankṛtiḥ ||35||

i<u>me cānye ca bhagavan nityā yatra mahā-guṇāḥ |</u> prārthyā mahattvam icchadbhir na viyanti sma karhicit ||36||

In Him reside (1) truthfulness, (2) cleanliness, (3) intolerance of another's unhappiness, (4) the power to control anger, (5) self-satisfaction, (6) straightforwardness, (7) steadiness of mind, (8) control of the sense organs, (9) responsibility, (10) equality, (11) tolerance, (12) equanimity, (13) faithfulness, (14) knowledge, (15) absence of sense enjoyment, (16) leadership, (17) chivalry, (18) influence, (10) the power to make everything possible, (20) the discharge of proper duty, (21) complete independence, (22) dexterity, (23) fullness of all beauty, (24) serenity, (25) kindheartedness, (26) ingenuity, (27) gentility, (28) magnanimity, (29) determination, (30) perfection in all knowledge, (31) proper execution, (32) pos-session of all objects of enjoyment, (33) joyfulness, (34) im-movability, (35) fidelity, (36) fame, (87) worship, (68) pride-lessness, (39) being (as the Personality of Godhead), (40) eternity, and many other transcendental qualities which are eternally present and never to be separated from Him. SB 1.16.27-30

IV – Kṛṣṇa as the Viṣaya Ālambana The Qualities of Kṛṣṇa as components of Viṣaya atha pañca-guṇā ye syur amśena giriśādiṣu ||37||

Now, five qualities of Kṛṣṇa (atha pañca-gunā), which will also be present (ye syuh) in Śiva and others (giriśādiṣu) when they are the Lord's expansions (aṁśena), will be listed.

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- Amsena here means "as His own expansions, where suitable."
- "Others" (ādiṣu) indicates that the Lord Himself assumes the positions of Brahmā and others during some of Brahmās' lifetimes.

SVCT

Giriśa means <u>Sadāśiva</u>.

(sadā svarūpa-samprāptah) (sarva-jño)hitya-nūtanah) (sac-cid-ānanda-sāndrāngah) 54 (sarva-siddhi-niṣevitaḥ)||38||

He is always situated in His eternal form (sadā svarūpasamprāptaḥ); He is omniscient (sarva-jñah); He is forever young (nitya-nūtanaḥ); He has a body made of condensed eternity, knowledge and bliss (sac-cid-ānanda-sāndrāngaḥ); and He possesses all siddhis (mystic powers) (sarva-siddhi-niṣevitaḥ).

- In the case of the Supreme Lord, condensed (sāndra) means that He possesses a body (aṅgaḥ) endowed with eternity, knowledge and bliss without the presence of any other substance.
- In the case of Śiva, sāndra means that Śiva (Sadāśiva) possesses a body which has become very similar in nature to the Lord who is eternity, knowledge and bliss.

athocyante guṇāḥ pañca ye lakṣmīśādi-vartinaḥ | avicintya-mahā-śaktiḥ koṭi-brahmāṇḍa-vigrahah | 39|| avatārāvalī-bījam hatāri-gati-dāyakaḥ | ātmārāma-gaṇākarṣīty amī kṛṣṇe kilādbhutāḥ | 40||

Now will be listed (athocyante) the amazing qualities (gunāh pañca) present in Kṛṣṇa but present also in Nārāyaṇa, and the puruṣāvatāras (ye lakṣmīśādi-vartinah). He has in-conceivable, great energies (avicintya-mahā-śaktih); He is the form which expands over tens of millions of universes (koti-brahmandavigrahah); He is the source of the numerous avatāras (avatārāvalībījam); He rewards even the enemies He kills (hatāri-gati-dāyakaḥ); and He attracts the ātmārāmas (ātmārāma-gaṇākarṣi). These qualities become even more astonishing in Kṛṣṇa (iti amī kṛṣṇe kila adbhutāh).

- Lakṣmīśa refers to Nārāyaṇa, the master of the spiritual realm of Vaikuṇṭha.
- The word ādi indicates the purusāvatāras and others.
- However, it should be understood here the inconceiv-able power is present in Nārāyaṇa but not the puruṣāvatāras, since He is their source.
- As the first puruṣāvatāra, He has a form which spreads itself throughout tens of millions of universes, since that is the function of Mahā-viṣṇu who glances over the material energy.

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- In the compound koti-brahmāṇḍa-vigrahaḥ the word vyāpī is missing.
- The phrase actually means koṭi-brahmāṇḍa-vyāpī-vigraha: He spreads himself throughout billions of universes.
- As Brahma-samhitā says:

yasyaika-niśvasita-kālam athāvalambya jīvanti loma-vila-jā jagad-aṇḍa-nāthāḥ viṣṇur mahān sa iha yasya kalā-viśeso govindam ādi-puruṣam tam aham bhajāmi

Brahmā and other lords of the mundane worlds (jagad-anda-nāthāḥ), appearing from the pores of hair (loma-vila-jā) of Mahā-Visnu (yasya), remain alive (jīvanti) as long as (avalambya) the duration of one exhalation (eka-niśvasita-kālam) of the latter [Mahā-Viṣṇu] (yasya). I adore (aham bhajāmi) the primeval Lord Govinda (tam govindam ādi-puruṣam) of whose subjective personality Mahā-Viṣṇu is the portion of portion (viṣṇur mahān sa iha yasya kalā-viśeṣo).

- The position as the origin of the avatāras applies to both Nārāyaṇa and the purusāvatāras, and to other suitable cases as well. (Nārāyaṇa is the source of the puruṣāvatāras. The puruṣāvatāras are the source of the līlāvatāras.)
- He awards the goal (gati) of Svarga or other places to the enemies He kills.
- This goal is generally hot possible for persons inimical to the Lord to attain by any other action except the Lord's.
- Usually, He condemns them.