Śrī Bṛhad-bhāgavatāmṛta

by Śrīla Sanātana Gosvāmī

Volume - 2

Śrī-goloka-māhātmya

The Glories of Goloka

Part 6

Abhīsta-lābha

The Attainment of All Desires

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Text 119 tathā pānaka-jātam ca kacolā-bhṛtam uttamam bhṛṅgārikā-bhṛtāś cāpo madhye madhye pibañ śivāḥ

Now and then (tathā madhye madhye) He also drank (piban ca) all sorts of splendid beverages (uttamam pānaka-jātam), carried (bhṛtam) in large bowls (kacolā), and pure water (ca śivāḥ āpaḥ) carried in pitchers (bhṛṅgārikā bhṛtāḥ).

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Text 120

ādau su-mṛṣṭam utkṛṣṭam koṣṇam sa-ghṛta-śarkaram pāyasam nāḍikāpūpa-pheṇikā-roṭikā-yutam

At the start of the meal (ādau) He ate warm sweet rice (koṣṇam pāyasam) with ghee and sugar (sa-ghṛta śarkaram)—very tasty (su-mṛṣṭam utkṛṣṭam) —together with (yutam) cakes (apūpa), pies (pheṇikā), jalebīs (nāḍikā), and flatbreads (roṭikā).

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Text 121

anyāni ghṛta-pakvāni rasālā-sahitāni ca dadhi-dugdha-vikārotthamiṣṭānnāny aparāṇy api

He ate other items (anyāni) fried in ghee (ghṛta-pakvāni), and He also had sweetened yogurt (rasālā sahitāni ca) and various things (aparāṇi miṣṭa-annāni api) made from (uttha) transformations (vikāra) of yogurt and milk (dadhi dugdha ca).

Text 122

madhye sūkṣmam sitam bhaktam

koṣṇam surabhi komalam

vaṭakaiḥ parpaṭaiḥ śākaiḥ

sūpaiś ca vyañjanaiḥ paraiḥ

In the middle of the meal (madhye) He ate fine (sūkṣmam) white (sitam) rice (bhaktam), warm (koṣṇam), fragrant (surabhi), and tender (komalam), with fried dāl balls (vaṭakaih), and dāl wafers (parpaṭaiḥ), and leafy greens (śākaiḥ), and soups (sūpaiḥ), and other vegetable dishes (paraiḥ vyañjanaiḥ ca).

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Text 123

madhurāmla-rasa-prāyaiḥ prāyo go-rasa-sādhitaiḥ kaṭu-cūrṇānvitair amladravyaiḥ sa-lavaṇair yutam

He ate other items made (sādhitaiḥ) mostly (prāyaḥ) of milk products (go-rasa) and mainly (prāyaiḥ) sweet (madhura) and sour (amla) in taste (rasa), plus (yutam) sour things (amla-dravyaiḥ) mixed with (anvitaiḥ) salt (sa-lavaṇaiḥ) and pungent (kaṭu) spices (cūrṇa).

Among the spices used were hot pepper and a mixture of salt and roasted cumin seeds.

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Text 124

ante punah śikhariṇim

vikārān dadhi-sambhavān
hingv-ādi-samskṛtam takram
bubhuje mām ca bhojayan

Toward the end (ante) He once again (punaḥ) ate sweetened yogurt (śikhariṇīm), various other items (vikārān) made from (sambhavān) yogurt (dadhi), and buttermilk (takram) garnished (saṃskṛtam) with asafetida and other spices (hingu-ādi). And while He Himself ate (bubhuje), He also fed me (mām ca bhojayan).

The Rāja-nighanṭu dictionary gives a recipe for the sweetened yogurt preparation known as śikhariṇī.

To yogurt are added cinnamon, rock sugar, ground black pepper, and ground green cardamom, as well as honey and ghee.

Then the mixture is kept for some time in a vessel packed in ice.

Text 125

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Neither (na) words (vacasā) nor the mind (manasā api) can form a picture of (gamyā) how Kṛṣṇa's lovely tongue (sā cāru jihvā), rising (udyat) to His dawn-pink upper lip (aruna adhara) while He chewed (carvana), sported (vilāsa-bhangī) within the cheeks (gaṇḍa-sthala) of His lotus face (ānana-saroja), a face resplendent (vidyotitā) with the beautiful (śrī) dancing (nartana) of His lotus eyes (locana-saroruha) and bowlike (cāpa) eyebrows (bhrū).

Even how Kṛṣṇa chews on jalebīs and other foods is a wonder to behold.

Everything the Supreme Lord does is attractive, and so too is everything done by His fully surrendered devotees.

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Text 126 gopikābhiś ca miṣṭānnam ānīya sva-sva-gehataḥ kṣīrājya-śarkarā-pakvam yaśodāgre dhṛṭam tadā

The gopīs (gopikābhiḥ) brought (ānīya) from their homes (sva-sva-gehataḥ) many sweets (miṣṭa-annam) cooked (pakvam) in milk (kṣīra), ghee (ājya), and sugar (śarkarā ca) and placed them (dhṛtam tadā) before Mother Yaśodā (yaśodā-agre).

Text 127 vicitra-līlayā tat tat sa-ślāgham bubhuje 'sakṛt tāḥ sarvāḥ rañjayan kiñcid bhojayan sva-kareṇa mām

With wonderful playful gestures (vicitra līlayā), Kṛṣṇa ate from all the dishes the gopīs had brought (tat tat), praising every item (sa-ślāgham) and eating from each dish more than once (bubhuje asakṛt). He thus made all the gopīs (tāḥ sarvāḥ) happy (rañjayan). And He also fed (bhojayan) some (kincit) of those items to me (mām), with His own hand (sva-kareṇa).

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Text 128
atha śrī-rādhikānīya
sā manohara-laḍḍukam
kṛṣṇasya vāmato dadhre
guṭikā-pūrikānvitam

Next (atha) Śrī Rādhikā (sā śrī-rādhikā) brought (ānīya) manohara-laḍḍus (manohara-laḍḍukam), both small round ones and large flat ones (guṭikā pūrikā anvitam), and set them down (dadhre) on Kṛṣṇa's left (kṛṣṇasya vāmataḥ).

The manohara-laddu is aptly named the sweet ball that "steals the heart."

Śrī Rādhā placed these laḍḍus on Kṛṣṇa's left, where He could easily reach them.

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Text 129

niṣkṛṣya tan nakhāgreṇa tarjany-aṅguṣṭhayoḥ kiyat jihvāgre nyasya cakre 'sau nimba-van mukha-vikriyām

Kṛṣṇa picked up (niṣkṛṣya) a few (kiyat) of those sweets (tat) with the nails (nakha agrena) of His thumb (aṅguṣṭhayoḥ) and forefinger (tarjanī) and put them (nyasya) on the tip of His tongue (jihvā agre). He (asau) then made (cakre) a face (mukha vikriyām) as if they tasted like bitter neem (nimbavat).

Text 130

bhrātuḥ smitam ruṣam mātus tasyām tātasya vismayam tanvan sakhīnām mugdhānām ādhim tasyā dviṣām mudam

Kṛṣṇa's brother (bhrātuḥ) smiled (smitam), His mother (mātuḥ) was angry (ruṣam) at Śrī Radhikā (tasyām), and His father (tātasya) was surprised (vismayam). Rādhā's innocent girlfriends (mugdhānām sakhīnām) were pained (ādhim tanyan), and Her antagonists (tasyāḥ dviṣām) were delighted (mudam).

Mother Yaśodā was angry at the girls for bringing Kṛṣṇa bitter sweets.

Nanda was surprised, doubting how the girls could possibly have done this.

Though the gopīs in rival parties were enlivened by the mistake, Śrī Rādhikā's innocent-minded sakhīs were upset by the thought that something bitter must have been put in the laḍḍus.

Among the sakhīs, however, the more clever could see a joke being played that would further highlight Śrī Rādhikā's good fortune.

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Text 131

tad-bhrātṛ-vamśa-jātasya mama cikṣepa bhājane tat sarvam parama-svādu bhuktvāham vismito 'bhavam

Since I (mama) was born in the family (vamśa-jātasya) of Rādhārāṇī's brother (tad-bhrātṛ), Kṛṣṇa threw (ciksepa) all the laddus (tat sarvam) onto my plate (bhājane). Surprised to find them (vismitaḥ abhavam) extremely tasty (parama-svādu), I ate them all (bhuktvā aham).

Śrīdāmā is the brother of Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī, and Sarūpa is also a member of their family.

So Kṛṣṇa thought it fit to dump the laddus onto his plate.

"These bitter laddus are not fit for Me. Her relatives deserve to eat them."

In truth, however, Kṛṣṇa knew that the laḍḍus were most perfectly prepared, and He gave them to Sarūpa out of great love.

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Text 132
rādhayā nibhṛtam kṛṣṇaḥ
sa-bhrū-bhaṅgam nirīkṣitaḥ
mṛdu-smitānatāsyas tām
kaṭākṣeṇānvarañjayat

Rādhā secretly (rādhayā nibhṛtaṃ) looked at Kṛṣṇa (kṛṣṇaḥ nirīkṣitaḥ) and arched Her eyebrows (sa-bhrū-bhaṅgaṃ), and Kṛṣṇa, nodding His head (ānata āsyah), gratified Her (anvarañjayat tāṃ) with a gentle smile (mṛdu-smita) and a sidelong glance (kaṭa-akṣeṇa).

To make sure that Śrī Rādhā was not ashamed and unhappy because Mother Yaśodā was angry at Her, Kṛṣṇa divulged His true feelings.

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Text 133

sadyo buddhā mayā līlā sā vidagdha-śiromaneh nija-prema-bharārtānām parama-prīṇanātmikā

Suddenly (sadyaḥ) I understood (mayā buddhā)—this was a pastime (sā līlā) by the crest jewel (śiromaṇeḥ) of skillful actors (vidagdha) to thoroughly (parama) please the devotees (prīṇana ātmikā) tormented (ārtānāṁ) by the weight of their love for Him (nija-premabhara).