Laghu - Bhāgavatāmṛta

Part-1
The Sweetness of Kṛṣṇa

Chapter-3

Description of the Līlāvatāras

śrī-dvitīye ca yatrodyataḥ kṣiti-taloddharaṇāya bibhrat krauḍīm tanum sakala-yajña-mayīm anantaḥ | antar-mahārṇava upāgatam ādi-daityam tam damṣṭrayādrim iva vajra-dharo dadāra || iti |

Varāha is described in the Second Canto also (śrī-dvitīye ca): When the unlimitedly powerful Lord (yatra anantaḥ) assumed (bibhrat) the form of a boar (kraudīm tanum), the form of all sacrificies (sakala-yajña-mayīm), as a pastime, just to lift the planet earth (kṣiti-tala uddharaṇāya), the Lord pierced with His tusk (adrim vajra-dharah iva tam damṣṭrayā dadāra) the first demon [Hiraṇyākṣa] (ādi-daityam) who was submerged in the great ocean of the universe (antar-mahārṇava upāgatam). SB

• T<u>his boar avatāra appeared during the reign of</u> Cākṣuṣa Manu.

• When the lord appeared (bibhrat) in the form of a boar (kraudīm tanum), he pierced with his tusks Hiranyāksa (ādi-daityam) who had submerged himself in the great ocean (just as Indra pierces a mountain with his thunderbolt).

dvir āvirāsīt kalpe 'sminn ādye svāyambhuvāntare | ghrāṇād vidher dharoddhṛtyai cākṣuṣīye tu nīrataḥ ||

The boar avatāra advented twice (dvir āvirāsīt kalpe asminn), first during Svāyambhuva Manvantāra (ādye svāyambhuvāntare), from the nostril of Brahmā (vidher ghrāṇād), in order to lift up the earth (dharā uddhṛtyaih), and a second time, during Cāksusa Manvantāra (cākṣuṣīye tu), appearing from the water (nīratāh).

Why and how did the first boar avatāra appear?

• When and how did the second boar avatāra appear?

• What were their colors and forms?

• As in the case of Matsya, the boar appeared twice in the kalpa or day of Brahmā.

 During the reign of Svāyambhuva, the boar appeared from the nostril of Brahmā and lifted the earth.

• This is described in the first verse describing the boar.

• The second verse describes the boar who appeared during the reign of the sixth Manu, Cākṣuṣa.

• He appeared from the water instead, lifted up the earth and killed Hiraṇyākṣa.

hiranyākṣam dharoddhāre nihantum damṣṭri-puṅgavaḥ | catuṣpāt śrī-varāho 'sau nṛ-varāhaḥ kvacin mataḥ ||

The boar with tusks (asau śrī-varāho) assumed the four-legged animal form (catuṣpāt daṃṣṭri-puṅgavaḥ) to kill Hiraṇyākṣa (hiraṇyākṣaṁ nihantuṁ) and lift the earth (dharoddhāre). According to some authorities however (kvacin mataḥ), this form is half man and half boar (nṛ-varāhaḥ).

The man-boar form is mentioned in the Padma Purāṇa.

kadācij jalada-śyāmaḥ kadācic candrapāṇḍarah | yajña-mūrtih sthaviṣṭho 'yaṁ varṇa-dvaya-yutah smrtah ||

Sometimes the boar avatāra is black like a cloud (kadācid jalada-śyāmah) and sometimes he is white like the moon (kadācid candrapāṇḍarah). With either color (varnadvaya-yutaḥ), he is the form of sacrifice (yajña-mūrtiḥ) and very strong (ayaṁ sthaviṣṭhah smṛtaḥ).

The black form appeared first (during Svāyambhuva-manvantara) and the white form appeared second (during Cākṣuṣa-manvantara).

daksāt prācetasāt sṛṣṭiḥ śrūyate cākṣuṣe ntare | atas tatraiva janmāsya hiraṇyākṣasya yujyate ||

It is stated in scriptures (śrūyate) that Hiranyākṣa was born (ṣṛṣṭiḥ) from Dakṣa, who was the son of the Pracetas (dakṣāt prācetaṣāt) during the reign of Cākṣuṣa Manu (cākṣuṣe ntare). Thus the appearance of the boar avatāra during the reign of Cākṣuṣa Manu (atas tatraiva asya janma) is confirmed by the information about the birth of Dakṣa during at that time (hiraṇyākṣasya yujyate).

• The verse quoted from the Second Canto starting yatrodyatah does not state that the boar appeared during the Cākṣuṣa-manvantara.

• This verse clarifies the situation.