Laghu - Bhāgavatāmṛta

Part-1 The Sweetness of Kṛṣṇa

Chapter-5

Discussion of the Parāvasthā forms

yathā -

atha tatrasthā nanda-gopādayaḥ sarve janāḥ putra-dārādi-sahitāḥ paśu-pakṣi-mṛgādayaś ca vāsudeva-prasādena divya-rūpadharā vimānam ārūḍhāḥ paramam vaikuṇṭha-lokam avāpuḥ || iti |487||

It is said in the Padma Purāṇa:

All persons present in Vraja (atha tatrasthā sarve janāḥ) headed by Nanda (nanda-gopādayaḥ), along with their wives and sons (putra-dārādi-sahitāḥ), cows, animals and birds (pasu-pakṣi-mṛgādayaś ca), attained spiritual forms (divya-rūpadharā) by the mercy of Vāsudeva (vāsudeva-prasādena). They mounted an airplane (vimānam ārūdhāḥ) and went to the supreme Vaikuṇṭha planet (paramam vaikuṇṭha-lokam avāpuḥ). Padma Purāṇa 6.279.27

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• <u>Vāsudeva</u> here refers to the <u>Kṛṣṇa who appeared through</u> Vasudeva, and later merged with Nanda's son.

• By his mercy, the inhabitants attained spiritual forms suitable for Vaikuntha.

atra kārike – vrajeśāder aṁśa-bhūtā ye droṇādyā avātaran | kṛṣṇas tān eva vaikuṇṭhe prāhiṇod iti sāmpratam

Kṛṣṇa (kṛṣṇah) sent (prāhiṇod) the amśa of Nanda (vṛajeśāder amśa-bhūtā) named Droṇa (who had prayed to have Kṛṣṇa as his son in his previous birth) as well as the other amśas (ye droṇādyā avātaran) who had descended for pastimes on earth to Vaikuṇṭha (tān eva vaikuṇṭhe). This was the proper action (iti sāmpratam).

• The author explains the prose text.

• Droṇādyā means Droṇa and his associates.

preṣṭhebhyo 'pi priyatamair janair gokula-vāsibhiḥ | vṛndāraṇye sadaivāsau vihāraṁ kurute hariḥ

Kṛṣṇa (asau hariḥ) performs pastimes (vihāram kurute) eternally (sadaiva) in Vṛndāvana (vṛndāranye) with the inhabitants of Gokula (gokula-vāsibhih), who are dearer than the dearest persons (preṣṭhebhyo 'pi priyatamair janair).

Kṛṣṇa established the principal Nanda and others in the unmanifest Vraja and he remained with them.

skāndāyodhyā-mahimani saumitreķ śrūyate yathā

Saumitra speaks of this (saumitreḥ śrūyate yathā) in the Ayodhyā-māhātmya of the Skanda Purāṇa (skānda ayodhyā-mahimani).

"But how can you say that Drona and others merged into Nanda and others during the earthly pastimes and then later emerged from them and went to Vaikuntha? This is something unheard of!"

• The author quotes an example from the Skanda Purāṇa to illustrate this.

tathā hi -

tataḥ śeṣātmatām yātam lakṣmaṇam satya-saṅgaram luvāca madhuram śakraḥ sarvasya ca sa paśyataḥ

There it is said:

Then (tataḥ) while everyone was looking (sarvasya ca paśyataḥ), Indra (śakraḥ) spoke in a sweet voice (uvāca madhuram) to Laksmaṇa (lakṣmaṇam), who is always true to his promise (satya-saṅgaram), and within whom Śeṣa had merged (śeṣātmatāḥ) yātam).

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- Lakṣmaṇa had undergone a merging with Śeṣa (śeṣātmatām yātam).
- Śeṣa who holds up the bhū-maṇḍala below Pātāla-loka remained merged into Lakṣmaṇa, who is Saṅkarṣaṇa in the catur-vyūha, and who had appeared when Rāma advented on earth.
- When the work of helping the devatās was completed, Śesa emerged from Laksmaņa and went to Pātāla again, and Laksmaņa went to the spiritual world.
- It is not unprecedented that the amsa merges into the amsī and then emerges later.
- Rather, it is confirmed by the scriptures.