

Laghu Bhagavatamrta

-Sri Rupa Goswami

Part 1: The sweetness of Krishna

Chapter 1:  
Defining the forms of the Lord  
Svayam-rupa, Vilasa, Svamsa, Avesa  
and Prakasa Forms of the Lord

Krishna appears in three forms in his abodes beyond the material world :

svayam-rüpa (essential form),

tad-ekätma-rüpa (forms which are non-different from it) and

äveśa-rüpa (empowered forms).

Text 11

How can the Lord have innumerable forms when

1. śruti says: he is one without a second. (Chändogya Upanishad 6.2.1)

2. smṛti says : he is one indivisible truth? (SB 1.2.11)

Krishna can manifest many forms through his acintya-śakti, without giving up one form.

Krishna living in one place pervades everywhere; though one, he manifests many forms.

Gopäla-täpani Upanishad

ekäneka-svarüpya: the Lord has one and many forms.

Vishnu Puräna 1.2.3

Men with pure intelligence worship You as the one Supreme Lord manifesting in multiple forms ( bahu-mürty-eka-mürtikam).

ŚB 10.40.7

vadanti tat tattva-vidas tattvañ yaj jñānam advayam brahmeti paramätmeti bhagavān iti śabdyate

ŚB 1.2.11

He is like the vaidürya stone which changes its color or is like a transcendental actor.

Text 12

**ananyāpekṣi** yad rūpaṁ **svayaṁ-rūpaḥ** sa ucyate

That form which is not dependent on others is called the svayaṁ-rūpa.

That form of Krishna which is self-manifesting and is ananyāpekṣi (not dependent on others for its appearance) is called svayaṁ-rūpa.

Proof for this definition of svayam-rupa

gopyas tapaḥ kim acaran yad amuṣya rūpaṁ  
lāvaṇya-sāram asamordhvaṁ ananya-siddham  
dṛgbhiḥ pibanty anusavābhinavaṁ durāpam  
ekānta-dhāma yaśasaḥ śriya aiśvarasya

ŚB  
10.44.14

The form of Krishna is self-perfect, ananya-siddham.

The definition of svayaṁ-rūpa or ananya-siddha seems to distinguish the form and qualities of the Lord from himself.

But viśeṣa, or apparent difference is implied rather than actual difference.

Text  
13

Īśvaraḥ paramaḥ kṛṣṇaḥ  
sac-cid-ānanda-vigrahaḥ  
anādir ādir govindaḥ  
sarva-kāraṇa-kāraṇam

Call Abhay.

It means : call the person named Abhay  
(conventional meaning)

Doesn't mean : call fearlessness (etymological  
meaning)

Rule : conventional meaning overrides  
etymology

Therefore, the conventional meaning of Krishna, the  
son of Yasodā, is taken.

conventional meaning of word Krishna : the supreme  
brahman in the form of Yashodā's son, having the  
complexion of a tamāla tree

author of  
Nāma-kaumudī

Iśvaraḥ and parama : describe Krishna, indicating that he is not dependent on any one else.

sat : refers to his beauty, for his body is composed of exceedingly attractive limbs.

sac-cid-ānanda-vigraha : He has a form which is knowledge (cid) and which is bliss.

Anādir : “one who is not accepted to be under anyone’s control.”  
He is viewed as such by the Yadus in Dvārakā.

Ādi: “he who is accepted as controlled by others,”  
and refers to his existence in Vraja.

Govinda : indicates his pastime of herding the cows.

- Sat does not mean all-pervading.
- Anādi should not be taken to mean “without beginning or cause”.
- Ādi should not be taken to mean “the head of others”.

Because these meanings are covered in the phrase sarva-kāraṇa-kāraṇam.

sarva-kāraṇa-kāraṇam : indicates the pastime of ruling infinite universes performed by Krishna’s svāmsa purusāvatāra, Mahāviṣṇu.

In Bhagavad gita, Krishna uses the word aham, mama etc in many verses even when the verse is talking about his expansions and not personally him.

**mayādhyakṣeṇa prakṛtiḥ sūyate sa-carācaram...**

Who supervises prakriti? Kāraṇodakaśāyī Viṣṇu.

**sarvasya cāhaṁ ḥṛdi sanniviṣṭo...**

Who is situated in everyone's heart? Kṣīrodakaśāyī Viṣṇu

Unless Kāraṇodakaśāyī and Kṣīrodakaśāyī Vishnus, these forms, did not belong to Krishna, how could Krishna say these verses!

The avatari can say aham, mama etc while addressing the avataras because they are his avataras.

Since Mahavishnu belongs to Krishna, Krishna can say srishti-leela to be his pastime.

Ex: Owner of Ford company says, 'Look at my latest creation.' And he shows his new car. But he might have never even stepped into the manufacturing unit. But still we accept that car to be creation of Mr. Ford.