

Laghu-Bhāgavatāmṛtā

-Srila Rupa Goswami

Part 1: The sweetness of Kṛṣṇa

Chapter 2 : Description of the Puruṣāvatāras and Guṇāvatāras

The Guṇāvatāras - Rudra

Text 26

Rudra has eleven expansions and eight types of forms.
Generally these have five heads, three eyes and ten arms each.

The word “generally” is used because it is seen that there is also a one-headed Rudra in the water.

11 expansions of Rudra:

ŚB 3.12.12

1. Manyu
2. Manu
3. Mahinasa
4. Mahān
5. Śiva
6. Ṛtadhvaja
7. Ugraretā
8. Bhava
9. Kāla
10. Vāmadeva
11. Dhṛtavrata

Mahābhārata
12.201.18

1. Aja
2. Ahirbudhnya
3. Virupākṣa
4. Raivata
5. Hara
6. Bahurūpa
7. Tryambaka
8. Sāvitra
9. Jayanta
10. Pinākī
11. Aparājita

Eight types of form:

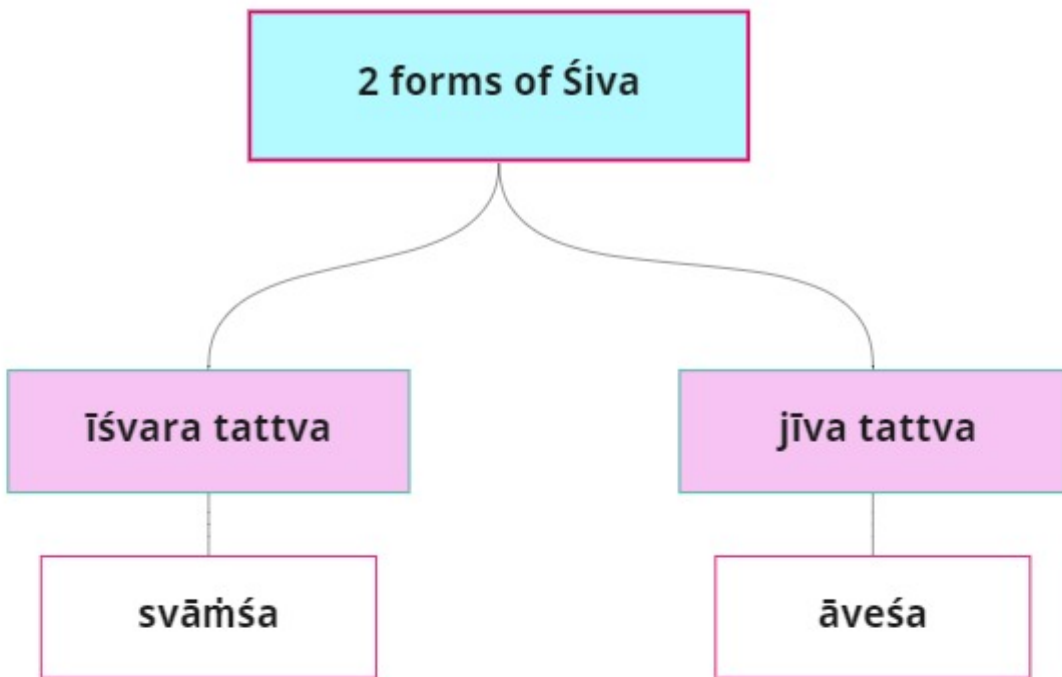
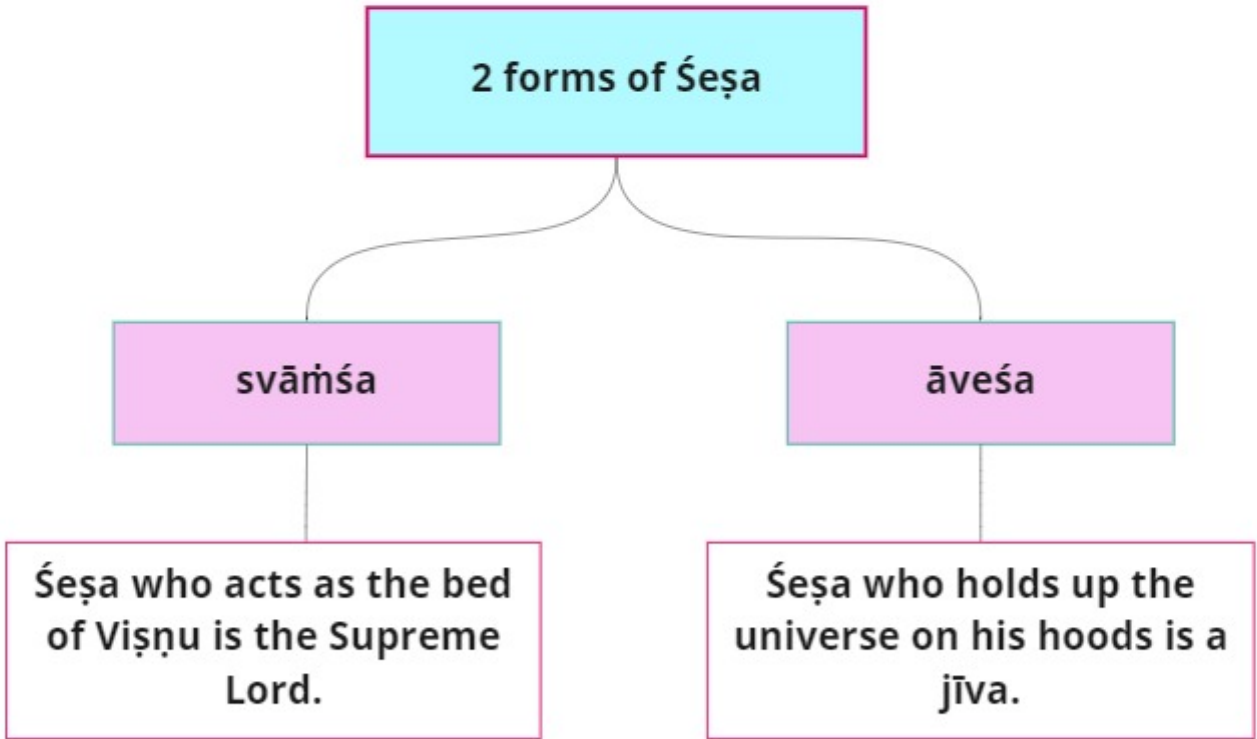
1. earth
2. water
3. fire
4. air
5. ether
6. the sun
7. the moon
8. the performer of sacrifice

Śiva is the presiding deity of these items

Text 27

Sometimes a special jīva takes the role of Śīva, in a manner similar to Brahmā.

Śīva should be considered like Śeṣa, with two forms, since Śīva is also glorified as an aṁśa of Viṣṇu.



This verse (verse 27) describes a jiva taking the role of Śīva.

Srila Baladeva Vidyabhusana in his commentary to this verse quotes many verses from different scriptures to illustrate a jiva taking the role of Śīva.

Text 28

Śiva is without a touch of the material guṇāś since he is the Lord.

However, the ignorant perceive him, among the guṇāvatāras, to be contaminated by tamo-guṇā.

Śiva described here is a svāṁśa of Lord and not a jīva.

Because that Śiva is a form of the puruṣa, a svāṁśa of GaV, he is certainly without material guṇāś.

By his own will he is covered by tamo-guṇā .

He thus appears to be contaminated, by those who are ignorant.

But actually he is not contaminated at all.