

Laghu-Bhāgavatāmṛtā

-Srila Rupa Goswami

Part 1: The sweetness of  
Kṛṣṇa

Chapter 4 :  
Manvantarāvatāras

Manvantara-avatāra appears  
to assist Indra

Text 1

The manvantara-avatāra, who is an incarnation of Mukunda among the devatās, generally assists the person who presides as Indra during that time period by killing Indra's enemies.

The avatāra who appears during the reign of a Manu is called a manvantara-avatāra.

The Lord appears to help the Indra for the duration of that Manvantara by killing that particular Indra's enemies during that time period.

Personalities changing after every manvantara :

1. Manu
2. Manu-putrās
3. Manvantara-avatāra
4. Indra
5. Other devatās
6. Sapta-ṛṣis

Why are these avatāras specifically called manvantara-avatāras ?

Text 2

Though it is reasonable to call Yajña and others kalpāvatāras,

these are called Manvantara avatāras

because they give protection specifically for the duration of a particular Manvantara.

Text 3

The manvantara-avatāras starting from the Svāyambhuva Manvantara, named Yajña, and ending with Bṛhadbhānu, will be described one after the other.

1

Svāyambhuva manvantara : Yajña

Text 4

Yajña, the first, appearing during Svāyambhuva Manvantara:

Because he has been described previously he will not be described here.

Yajña has been described in Laghu-Bhāgavatāmṛtā, chapter 3, texts 37-38.

2

Svārociṣa manvantara : Vibhu

Text 5

Vibhu, the second, appearing during Svārociṣa Manvantara:

Vedaśirā was a very celebrated ṛṣi. From the womb of his wife, whose name was Tuṣitā, came the avatāra named Vibhu.

SB 8.1.21

Text 6

Vibhu remained a brahmacāri and never married throughout his life. From him, eighty-eight thousand saintly persons fixed in their vows took lessons on proper conduct.

SB 8.1.22

3

Uttama manvantara : Satyasena

Text 7

Satyasena, the third, appearing during Uttama Manvantara:

In this Manvantara, the Supreme Lord appeared from the womb of Sūnṛtā, who was the wife of Dharma, the demigod in charge of religion.

The Lord was known as Satyasena and appeared with devatās known as the Satyavratas.

SB 8.1.25

The Lord named Satysena was born along with his brothers called Satyavratas.

Svāyambhuva manu begot in Śatarūpā two sons, Priyavrata and Uttānapāda.

SB 3.12.56

Mahārāja Priyavrata also had a second wife, in whom he begot three sons named Uttama, Raivata and Tāmasa. All of them were elevated to the post of Manu.

SB 5.1 Summary

Text 8

Satyasena, along with his friend Satyajit, who was Indra, killed all the untruthful, impious and misbehaving Yakṣas, Rākṣasas and ghostly living entities, who gave pain to other living beings.

SB 8.1.26

4

Tāmasa manvantara : Hari

Text 9

Hari, the fourth, appearing during Tāmasa Manvantara:

In this Manvantara, the Supreme Lord took birth from the womb of Hariṇī, the wife of Harimedhā, and was known as Hari.

Hari saved Gajendra from the mouth of a crocodile.

SB 8.1.30

Text 10

Those performing proper sadhana daily remember Hari, the deliverer of Gajendra, in order to destroy all evil.

5

Raivata manvantara : Vaikuṅṭha

Text 11

Vaikuṅṭha, the fifth, appearing in the Raivata Manvantara:

From the combination of Śubhra and his wife, Vikuṅṭhā, there appeared the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Vaikuṅṭha, along with demigods who were His personal plenary expansions (sva-kalayā).

SB 8.5.4

### Text 12

Just to please the goddess of fortune, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Vaikuṅṭha, at her request, created another Vaikuṅṭha planet, which is worshiped by everyone.

SB 8.5.5

Just as the Lord's appearance is called a birth, so the appearance of the Lord's abode is called "creating" a planet. It is not a material creation, since the Lord and his abode are both eternal. They are described similarly, with the intention of saying that they are eternal.

Krama-sandarbha says "This Vaikuṅṭha planet of the son of Vikuṅṭhā is the same as the original Vaikuṅṭha beyond the eight coverings of the universe seen by Brahmā before he created the living entities, as described in the Second Canto."

**SVCT commentary SB 8.5.5**

### Text 13

He created an all-pervading, indestructible Mahā-Vaikuṅṭha planet above Satya-loka.

With no regard for me, He destroyed my capital, Amarāvātī, and built a new residence for Himself, above.

BBA 1.2.22

Indra alludes here to an incarnation of Lord Visnu named Vaikuṅṭha.

The eternal spiritual planet Lord Vaikuṅṭha manifested within the material world is called Ramāpriya, "dear to the goddess of fortune."

It is located above all other planets, even Lord Brahmā's.

Strictly speaking, this spiritual kingdom displayed within the material universe is never created or destroyed.

But because from our point of view the planet Ramāpriya appeared at a certain time and place, we consider it "new" compared with the eternal manifestation of the same kingdom of God outside the material realm.

The Lord may pretend to "create" it as His pastime, but He is only unveiling before material eyes what normally cannot be seen in this world.

**Srila Sanatan Goswami, BBA 1.2.22 commentary**

## Text 14

Ajita, the sixth, appearing during the Cākṣuṣa Manvantara:

In this sixth Manvantara, Viṣṇu, the master of the universe, appeared in his expansion as Ajita, begotten by Vairāja in the womb of his wife, Devasambhūti.

SB 8.5.9

## Text 15

By churning the Ocean of Milk, Ajita produced nectar for the demigods.

In the form of a tortoise, He moved here and there, carrying on His back the great mountain known as Mandara.

SB 8.5.10

Apart from his appearance as Kūrma, Lord Ajita also appeared on the top of the mountain.

Manifesting Himself with thousands of hands, the Lord then appeared on the summit of Mandara Mountain, like another great mountain, and held Mandara Mountain with one hand.

SB 8.7.12

To balance Mandara Mountain while it was being pulled from both sides, the Lord Himself appeared on its summit like another great mountain.

SP purport, SB 8.7.12

S.No.	Manvantara	Manvantara avatāra
1	Svāyambhuva	Yajña
2	Svārociṣa	Vibhu
3	Uttama	Satyasena
4	Tāmasa	Hari
5	Raivata	Vaikuṅṭha
6	Cākṣuṣa	Ajita