

Laghu-Bhāgavatāmṛtā

-Srila Rupa Goswami

Part 1: The sweetness of  
Kṛṣṇa

Chapter 4 :  
Manvantarāvatāras, Yugavatāras,  
Āveśas and Avasthas

Āveśas are jivas

Text 44

Thus it should be understood that calling the āveśas forms avatāras of the Lord is a secondary designation (since they are actually jivas).

Prābhava and Vaibhava  
forms

Text 45

Those forms of the lord with less power than the parāvastha forms are described according to the degree of power that they show.

*The prābhava forms have less power*

and

*the vaibhava forms have more power.*

## 2 types of prābhava forms

### Text 46

According to the scriptures the prābhava forms are of two types.

The first type :

appears for a **short period of time** and is **not well known**.

These are Mohinī, Haṁsa, sukla as well as other yugāvatāras.

### Text 47

The second type are Dhanvantari, Ṛṣabha, Vyāsa, Dattatreya and Kapila. They are writers of scriptures and act like sages.

These forms remain visible for a longer period of time.

In Bhāgavat-sandarbhā, Jiva Gosvāmi indicates Ṛṣabha as āveśāvatāra.

Point from class discussion:

Kṛṣṇa-dvaipāyana Vyāsa is a prābhava form of Lord.

But Vyasa of other yuga cycles can be āveśāvatāra.

Total 21 vaibhava forms

Text  
48-49

There are twenty-one vaibhava forms:

- 1) Kūrma
- 2) Matsya
- 3) Nara-Nārāyaṇa
- 4) Varāha
- 5) Hayagrīva
- 6) Pṛśni-garbha
- 7) Baladeva
- 8) the 14 manvantara-avatāras

6 vaibhava forms are considered  
similar to parāvastha forms

Text  
50-51

Vaibhava forms, considered similar to  
parāvastha forms:

Among the nava-vyūha:

- 1) Varāha
- 2) Hayagrīva

Among the manvantara-avatars:

- 3) Hari
- 4) Vaikuṅṭha
- 5) Ajita
- 6) Vāmana

Among the twenty-one vaibhava forms,  
these are outstanding because of having  
additional powers.

Nava-vyūha consists of Vasudeva, Saṅkarṣaṇa,  
Aniruddha, Pradyumna, Nārāyaṇa, Nṛsimha,  
Hayagrīva, Varāha, and Brahmā.

## Abodes of some of the avatāras

### Text 52

The places where some of these avatāras reside within the universe will now be described according to scriptures.

The statements of Viṣṇu-dharmottara and other scriptures are presented as proof.

## Residence of Kūrma

### Text 53

In the Viṣṇu-dharmottara it is said:

Above Talātala is the place called Mahātala, the fifth hellish planet of a similar dimension. It is red in color. It has a lake measuring one hundred thousand yojanas.

In that place Kūrma resides.

## Residence of Matsya

### Text 54

Above Talātala and of the same dimension, lies another planet (Rasātala), with an attractive lake measuring three hundred yojanas.

Matsya resides there.

### Residence of Nārāyaṇa

#### Text 55

Nārāyaṇa the friend of Nara lives in Badarikāśrama.

### Residence of Varāha

#### Text 56

The abode of Varāha, who is in half human and half boar is in Mahar-loka.

It measures three million yojanas.

### Residence of Śveta-varāha

#### Text 57

The next abode, charming like Lord Śeṣa's measures five hundred thousand yojanas.

#### Text 58

It is said that the abode of Varāha is self-effulgent.

It is below the other planets, and it touches the shell of the universe.

The white colored Varāha lives there.

Residence of Hayaśīrṣa  
(Hayagrīva)

Text 59

Above this lies another abode called **Gabhisti-tala**.

It is yellow in color.

It is the fourth planet from the bottom.

Hayaśīrṣa resides there.

He is white like a hundred moons, and wears gold ornaments.

Residence of Pṛśni-garbha

Text 60

The abode of Pṛśni-garbha lies above the planet of Brahmā.

Abode of Balarāma

Text 61

The abode of Balarāma is the same as that of Kṛṣṇa.