Chapter 1 part 7

Prayojana- the goal of life (Bhava and Prema)

Prayojana- Prema

kṛṣṇe rati gāḍha haile 'prema'-abhidhāna kṛṣṇa-bhakti-rasera ei 'sthāyi-bhāva'-nāma Cc. Madhya 23.4

Krsna rati: bhava

When bhava becomes condensed, it is called prema.

This krsna rati or bhava is also called sthayi-bhava which is the basic relationship one has with Krishna in one of the 5 rasas.

Sadhana bhakti leads to bhava bhakti which leads to prema.

Sadhana bhakti: till the stage of asakti

<u>bhava bhakti</u>: when sadhana reaches the stage of bhava

Bhava is also called

1. rati

2.prityankura: priti (prema)+ankura (sprout)

(The sprout of prema is bhava.)

How sadhana leads to bhava?

What happens when devotees discuss Krishna katha with each other?

parasparānukathanam pāvanam bhagavad-yaśaḥ mitho ratir mithas tuṣṭir nivṛttir mitha ātmanaḥ

ŚB 11.3.30

When devotees come together to discuss Krishna katha,

3 things happen

mitho ratir: the affection between devotees increases
 mithas tuṣṭir: they feel very satisfied in that association
 mivṛṭṭir mitha ātmanaḥ: eventually they become detached from material enjoyment

mac-cittā mad-gata-prāṇā bodhayantaḥ parasparam kathayantaś ca māṁ nityaṁ tusyanti ca ramanti ca

Remembering and inspiring other devotees to remember the Lord who destroys all sins, the devotees will develop hairs standing on end in ecstasy by sadhya bhakti (bhava or prema) produced from sädhana-bhakti.

ŚB 11.3.31

Perfection is quickly attained by Raganuga bhaktas

Raganuga progresses faster to bhava compared to vaidhi. Therefore, raganuga devotees attain perfection quickly.

Example: sadhana-siddha gopis, cows, bushes etc

One can not achieve the purification achieved by devotees constantly engaged in sravana-kirtana merely by performance of vrata adibhih (vaidhi sadhana bhakti). [SB 6.3.32]

Raganuga bhakti : sravan kirtan adi bhakti Vaidhi bhakti: archana rupa bhakti (many rules and regulations acc. to scriptures)

I am not that easily attained by vrata (vaidhi sadhana bhakti) as easily I am attained by Raganuga bhakti. [SB 11.12.9]

How can we attain Raganuga bhakti?

1.By the association of right people and right literatures.
 2.By remaining chaste to the teachings of our acharyas and our parampara (gaudiya vaishnava sampradaya).

9 reliable symptoms of bhava

kṣāntir avyartha-kālatvam viraktir māna-śunyatā āśā-bandhaḥ samutkanthā nāma-gāne sadā ruciḥ

āsaktis tad-guņākhyāne prītis tad-vasati-sthale ity ādayo'nubhāvāḥ syur jāta-bhāvāṅkure jane

BRS 1.3.25, 1.3.26

1.kṣāntir: Tolerance, not agitated by material things

Example: Parikshit maharaja not affected by the fear of the snake while hearing SB.

2. <u>avyartha-kālatvam</u>: <u>not wasting a moment, utilising every moment in Krishna's service</u>

Example: Devotees offer their words, bodies, mind and finally their lives in Krishna's service. (Hari bhakti sudhodaya)

3. <u>viraktir</u>: <u>complete detachment from material enjoyment, mystic power, sense gratification</u>

Example: King Bharata gave up his wife, sons, friends and kingdom as if they were stool (one wants to get rid of the stool as soon as possible and feels relieved after giving it up)

4.<u>māna-śunyatā</u>: <u>considers himself to be the lowest/ utter humility/ expecting no respect</u>

Example: King Bhagiratha went out to beg at the house of his enemies and he used to offer respects to even dog-eaters

5<u>.āśā-bandhaḥ</u> : to have full faith that one will receive Krishna's mercy
Example: Prayer of Sanatan Goswami

6.samutkanthā: great eagerness to associate with the Lord

7. nāma-gāne sadā ruciḥ: great relish for the holy names and chanting the holy names constantly

8. āsaktis tad-guņākhyāne: attachment to describe the transcendental qualities of the Lord

9.prītis tad-vasati-sthale: residing in a place where Krishna's pastimes were performed