Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam

Canto Ten: The Summum Bonum

With the Sārārtha-darśinī commentary

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Canto Ten – Chapter Seven The Killing of the Demon Trnāvarta

Section – I

Pariksit Maharāja's eagerness

to hear Kṛṣṇa's other

childhood pastimes (1-3)

|| 10.7.1-2 || śrī-rājovāca yena yenāvatāreņa bhagav<u>ān harir īśvara</u>h karoti karna-ramyāni mano-jñāni ca nah prabho yac-chṛṇvato 'paity aratir vitṛṣṇā sattvam ca śuddhyaty acirena pumsah bhaktir harau tat-purușe ca sakhyam tad eva hāram vada manyase cet

King Parīkṣit said: My lord, Śukadeva Gosvāmī (prabho), all the various activities exhibited by the incarnations of the Supreme Personality of Godhead (yena yena avatārena bhagavān harir īśvaraḥ karoti) are certainly pleasing to the ear and to the mind (karṇa-ramyāṇi mano-jñāni). Simply by one's hearing of these activities (yac-śrnvato), the dirty things in one's mind immediately vanish (pumsah aratir acirena apaity). Generally we are reluctant to hear about the activities of the Lord, but Kṛṣṇa's childhood activities are so attractive that they are automatically pleasing to the mind and ear. Thus one's attachment for hearing about material things, which is the root cause of material existence, vanishes (sattvam ca śuddhyaty aratir), and one gradually develops devotional service to the Supreme Lord, attachment for Him (bhaktir harau), and friendship with devotees who give us the contribution of Kṛṣṇa consciousness (tat-puruse ca sakhyam). If you think it fit, kindly speak about those activities of the Lord (vada manyase cet).

The seventh chapter shows the aiśvarya (power and majesty) aspect of Kṛṣṇa's childhood pastimes.

Kṛṣṇa broke the cart after taking His bath and going to sleep.

He killed Trnavarta and showed the whole universe to mother Yasoda.

By sucking Putana's breast, Kṛṣṇa showed the power of His lips.

In the pastime of demolishing the cart, Kṛṣṇa showed the power of His feet, and by killing Trnavarta, Kṛṣṇa showed the power of His hands.

He showed His unlimited powers by revealing the universe twice (in this and the next chapter) to His mother.

"My mind is attracted to the pastimes of Kṛṣṇa's other avataras, but I am especially greedy to hear about Kṛṣṇa's childhood pastimes."

With this intent, Pariksit speaks this verse.

"Hearing the pastimes of the different avataras of the Lord fills me with bliss.

But, if you agree then please speak about those pastimes which will destroy one's apathy and lack of taste for hearing them.

Hearing Kṛṣṇa's transcendental pastimes creates a hankering to hear more, and it purifies the mind of filthy desires.

At first rock candy tastes bitter to a man suffering from jaundice, but eventually one regains the power to taste its sweetness.

Similarly, a conditioned soul has no attraction to hearing hari-katha, but continual hearing will quickly produce attachment (asakti), rati (bhava) and finally prema.

In the beginning, one will develop friendship with Kṛṣṇa's devotees, and at the stage of prema one will feel love for all living beings."

Hearing anything about Bhagavan Sri Kṛṣṇa gradually rids one of indifference to hearing about the Lord and helps one attain prema.

But hearing the pastimes of Kṛṣṇa's childhood quickly brings about kṛṣṇa-prema.

athānyad api kṛṣṇasya
tokācaritam adbhutam
mānuṣam lokam āsādya
taj-jātim anurundhataḥ

Please describe other wonderful pastimes of Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality (atha anyad ap) kṛṣṇasya tokācaritam adbhutam), who appeared on this planet earth (mānuṣam lokam āsādya), imitating a human child and performing wonderful activities like killing Pūtanā (taj-jātim anurundhatah).

In his enthusiasm, Pariksit repeats his request to clarify his intention.

Being requested by mankind, the Lord appeared on earth (rather than being requested by demigods and appearing on Svarga).

In this way Sri Krsna especially blessed the humans on earth.

Section – II

Utthāna ceremony and killing

of Sakatāsura (4-17)

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|| 10.7.4 ||

śrī-śuka u<u>vāca</u>

kadācid autthānika-kautukāplave janmarkṣa-yoge samaveta-yoṣitām vāditra-gīta-dvija-mantra-vācakaiś cakāra sūnor abhiṣecanam sate

Śukadeva Gosvāmī said: When mother Yaśodā's baby was slanting His body to attempt to rise and turn around, this attempt was observed by a Vedic ceremony (kadācid autthānika**kautukāplave**). (In such a ceremony, called <u>utthāna</u>, which is performed when a child is due to leave the house for the first time, the child is properly bathed.) Just after Krsna turned three months old, mother Yaśodā celebrated this ceremony with other women of the neighborhood (samavetayoṣitām). On that day, there was a conjunction of the moon with the constellation Rohinī (janma rkṣa-yoge). As the brāhmaṇas joined by chanting Vedic hymns (dvija-mantravācakaih) and professional musicians also took part (vāditra-gīta), this great ceremony was observed by mother Yaśodā (cakāra sūnor abhisecanam sate).

kadācit: some time;

means this incident took place within three months of the child's birth.

In the Bhagavatam (2.7.27) it is mentioned that the breaking of the cart occurred when Kṛṣṇa was three months old:

trai-māsikasya ca padā śakato 'pavṛttaḥ

The village ladies swelled with joy when baby Kṛṣṇa first rolled over (autthanik).

When the moon entered Kṛṣṇa's birth star (Rohini), Yasoda and her circle of gopi friends celebrated the event by bathing the child to the accompaniment of music, singing and chanting by the brahmanas.

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After completing the bathing ceremony for the child (krta-majjanādikam), mother Yaśodā (nandasya patnī) received the brāhmaṇas by worshiping them with proper respect (vipraih kṛta-svastyayanam supūjitaih) and giving them ample food grains and other eatables (annādya), clothing (vāsaḥ), desirable cows, and garlands (sragabhīṣṭa-dhenubhiḥ). The brāhmaṇas properly chanted Vedic hymns to observe the auspicious ceremony (krta-svastyayanam), and when they finished and mother Yaśodā saw that the child felt sleepy (sañjāta-nidrākṣam), she lay down on the bed with the child until He was peacefully asleep (asīsayac sanaih).

After being honored (supūjitaiḥ) by gifts of rice, cloth and money the brahmanas performed the auspicious birth rites.

Because Kṛṣṇa had sleepy eyes (saṇjāta-nidrākṣam), He was put to rest (aśīśayac).

Fo<u>r</u> fear that Kṛṣṇa might wake up, Yasoda held Him in her lap without moving.

Then she lay down with her beloved son on a cot under a cart situated in a spacious courtyard.

Upon understanding that Kṛṣṇa was fast asleep, Yasoda got up very slowly and carefully.

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| 10.7.6 ||
(autthānika)(tsukya-manā) manasvinī)
śamāgatān pūjayat) vrajaukasaḥ
naivāśṛṇod vai ruditam sutasya sā
rudan stanārthī caraṇāv udakṣipat

The liberal mother Yaśodā (manasvinī), absorbed in celebrating the utthāna ceremony (autthānika autsukya-manā), was busy receiving guests, worshiping them with all respect and offering them clothing, cows, garlands and grains (samāgatān vrajaukasaḥ pūjayatī). Thus she could not hear the child crying for His mother (sā na eva sutasya ruditam aśṛṇod). At that time, the child Kṛṣṇa, demanding to drink the milk of His mother's breast, angrily threw His legs upward (rudan stanārthī caraṇāv udakṣipat).

Because Yasoda was busy exchanging pleasantries and giving ornaments, garlands, candana, oil and sindura to the village ladies who had assembled for the festival, she did not hear Kṛṣṇa crying from hunger (stanārthī) upon His waking.

In anger, Kṛṣṇa kicked His legs upward while thinking, "Since you cannot hear My crying, maybe the sound of the cart breaking will catch your attention."

| 10.7.7 ||
| adhaḥ-śayānasya śiśor ano 'lpaka| yww. | y

Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa (śiśoh) was lying down underneath the handcart in one corner of the courtyard (anoh adhah-śayānasya), and although His little legs were as soft as leaves (alpaka-pravāla-mrdv-anghri), when He struck the cart with His legs (hatam), it turned over violently and collapsed (vyavartata). The wheels separated from the axle, the hubs and spokes fell apart (vyatyasta-cakra aksa), and the pole of the handcart broke (vibhinna-kūbaram). On the cart there were many little utensils made of various metals (nānā-rasa-kupya-bhājanaṃ), and all of them scattered hither and thither (vidhvasta).

The cart was struck by the soft lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa as if with very little force.

To break the cart Kṛṣṇa did not extend His foot high upward like Vamana in breaking the shell of the universe, nor did Kṛṣṇa's feet become hard like Nṛṣimha's nails to tear apart the hard body of Hiranyakasipu.

This rare display of power by Kṛṣṇa, which does not contradict the sweetness of His childhood pastimes, shows the completeness of Sri Kṛṣṇa in Vrndavana.

The cart turned upside down and the utensils of gold and silver scattered everywhere.

The wheels and axle fell apart and the steering pole broke.

The Brahmanda Purana states that because a heavy demon entered the cart, the wheels sank in the earth and the cart's height decreased.

Thus Kṛṣṇa's short baby legs could touch the cart.

When mother Yaśodā and the other ladies (yaśodā-pramukhā vrajastriya) who had assembled for the utthāna festival (autthānike karmaņi yāḥ samāgatāḥ), and all the men, headed by Nanda Mahārāja (nandādayaś ca), saw the wonderful situation (dṛṣṭvā adbhuta-darśana ākulāḥ), they began to wonder how the handcart had collapsed by itself (katham svayam vai śakaṭam viparyagāt). They began to wander here and there, trying to find the cause, but were unable to do so (implied).

Nanda, Yasoda and the other assembled women and guests became dismayed upon seeing that astonishing event.

They asked, "How could the cart fall apart on its own?"

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| 10.7.9 ||

<u>ucu</u> <u>avyavasita-matīn</u>

gopān gopīś ca bālakāḥ

rudatānena pādena
kṣiptam etan na samśayaḥ

The assembled cowherd men and ladies began to contemplate how this thing had happened. "Is it the work of some demon or evil planet?" they asked (implied). At that time, the small children present asserted (avyavasita-matīn bālakāḥ) to the assembled gopas and gopis (gopān gopīś ca) that the cart had been kicked apart by the baby Kṛṣṇa. As soon as the crying baby(rudatānena) had kicked the cart's wheel (pādena kṣiptam), the cart had collapsed (implied). There was no doubt about it (etad na samśayaḥ).

The children who had witnessed the event described it to the gopis, who could not discern what had happened.

The gopis asked, "Is this the work of some demon or evil planets?"

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|| 10.7.10 ||
na te śraddadhire gopā
bāla-bhāṣitam ity uta
aprameyam balam tasya
bālakasya na te viduḥ

The assembled gopīs and gopas (te gopā), unaware that Kṛṣṇa is always unlimited (na te viduḥ aprameyam), could not believe (na śraddadhire) that baby Kṛṣṇa had such inconceivable power (taṣya balam). They could not believe the statements of the children, and therefore they neglected these statements as being childish talk (bāla-bhāṣitam ity uta).

The cowherd men did not believe the statements of the children.

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|| 10.7.11||
rudantam sutam ādāya
yaśodā graha-śaṅkitā
kṛta-svastyayanam vipraiḥ
sūktaiḥ stanam apāyayat

Thinking that some bad planet had attacked Kṛṣṇa (graha-śaṅkitā), mother Yaśodā (yaśodā) picked up the crying child (rudantam sutam ādāya) and allowed Him to suck her breast (stanam apāyayat). Then she called for experienced brāhmaṇas to chant Vedic hymns (vipraiḥ sūktaiḥ) and perform an auspicious ritualistic ceremony (kṛṭa-svastyayanam).

Yasoda had the brahmanas perform svastyana, chanting mantras to ward off the demons.

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|| 10.7.12||

pūrvavat sthāpitam gopair balibhiḥ sa-paricchadam viprā hutvārcayām cakrur dadhy-akṣata-kuśāmbubhiḥ

After the strong, stout cowherd men (balibhih gopaih) assembled (sthāpitam) the pots and paraphernalia (sa-paricchadam) on the handcart and set it up as before (pūrvavat), the brāhmaṇas performed a ritualistic ceremony with a fire sacrifice to appease the bad planet (viprāhutvā), and then, with rice grains, kuśa, water and curd (dadhy-akṣata-kuśambubhiḥ), they worshiped the Supreme Lord (arcayām cakruh).

The cart was repaired and placed in its original position by some strong cowherd men.

This proves that the cart was very large.

The cowherd men worshiped the cart because the cart was one of their main possessions, being the abode of Laksmi, and the storehouse of their accumulated wealth.