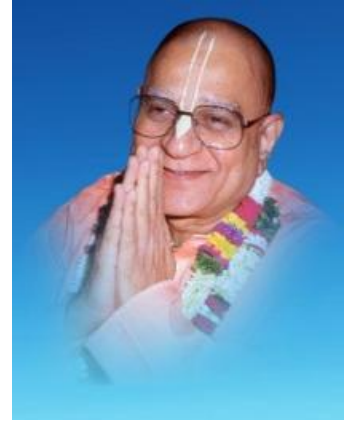


# Bhagavat Kathamrita

By His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti Swarupa Tirtha Goswami Maharaj



Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare  
Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare

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- Rarity of Human Life by His Divine Grace Srila B.S. Tirtha Goswami Maharaja
- Self Interest or Self Improvement by His Divine Grace Srila B.S. Tirtha Goswami Maharaja
- Krishna's Kids Korner

Hare  
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*"Nobody wants to give up this material world and material enjoyment. Even though he's in maximum difficulty, still he doesn't dislike the circumstances!"*

— Excerpt from Srimad Bhagavatam, 4<sup>th</sup> canto

## Rarity of Human Life

-continued from the previous issue.

Devahuti says,

*aho bata śva-paco 'to garīyān  
yaj-jihvāgre vartate nāma tubhyam  
tepus tapas te juhuvuh śasnur āryā  
brahmānūcur nāma grṇanti ye te*

*śva-pacah* means chandala or dog eater. You know, after sudras, there is a class called chandala. Why they're called chadala? Because sudra will only eat meat and fish. Chandala will eat even a flesh of a dog. They're call *śva-pacah*. So, Devahuti says, oh my dear Kapildeva, my dear son, even that chandala is very great. Why? *Yaj-jihvagre* - whose tip of the tongue, *nama tubhyam* - your name appears. Apparently, he's a chandala. But the moment he responds to you with a Hare Krishna, then he's come above Brahmana...instantly...not tomorrow. Although it is easy to chant, nobody will chant. Your intelligence is to train the child when they're small. At the age of 5, you have to train the child. That's why, Prahlada, when he was 7 yrs old, he was studying in the demoniac school, the boys will say, come on Prahlada, let's play. He said no play, come and listen to me. So he started speaking. What was he saying?

*kaumāra ācaret prājño  
dharmān bhāgavatān iha  
durlabham mānusaṃ jñama  
tad apy adhruvam arthadam*

*Kaumara* means age between one and four. *Bhagavata dharman* - devotional service - one should perform between that age. Why? *Durlabham manusam janma* - to get the human form of life is difficult. O.k. so I have gotten human form of life so I'll practice after 60. No, who has given you a guarantee that you will live up to 60? No guarantee! That's why *Kaumara acaret prajno*. Whatever little you can do...and the commonsense tells us which all of you will agree is that anything you want to teach a child, what age do you teach? Three years. That's *Kaumara* - between one and four. For swimming, you take the child when he's four or five years, when cricket playing, five or six years, cycling, around eight or ten years. But, when it comes to hari bhajan, why after 60 years? After 60, you cannot even sit properly. Isn't it? What bhajan you will do? What seva you will do? I should appoint somebody to serve you. One gentleman came and told me, Maharaja, you're exactly saying what I've seen throughout my whole life! So? "So, I've decided I'll serve the lord." So, what's your age, sir? "I'm 64." But you can stay at home and.... "No, no, the whole family is against me now." So, now you will serve the



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Lord? He said yes. I told him this is not vriddha asrama.....old man's asylum. You should have served the lord when you were 25. Now you're almost 65. If you join the matta, I have to appoint two brahmacaris to serve you. My point is, at four or five, you must teach all this. When you're in childhood, your mind is like a clean slate. Whatever you write, it will immediately register. Anybody teaches a child at age of four, immediately, he'll catch hold of it. That person has tremendous scope for advancement. Why? Because the mind is transparent up to age of 20. And then between 20 and 40, translucent. And after 60, opaque. Nothing will go in. That means we have missed the bus, we have lost the chance. See, we are all intelligent. We're all decent people, isn't it? But if not used for proper purpose, then what happens? Then it's useless...just like that maidservant who instead of using the 25 rupee duster, used the 650 rupee Bombay dyeing towel.

### Self Interest or Self Improvement

- continued from the previous issue.

Right from the time of the creation of this universe, the attraction between a man and a woman has persisted. According to the Vedic culture, this connection becomes regularized through sanction of marriage. This union is called 'hridaya granthi', an imaginary knot in the heart. This male-female relationship is the basis of conditioning that deludes the living beings and gives rise to the illusory identities of 'I' and 'My'.

Thus a householder becomes attached to his wife, children, property, and wealth. He does not realize that material life means walking from one catastrophe to another calamity till the end of his life - interspersed with a few meaningless so-called pleasures that occasionally satisfy his lusty bodily senses. Being unaware of the transient nature of his material possessions and physical relationships, the householder starts working very hard despite suffering from various disturbances and inconveniences. Thus a fruitive worker or 'karmi' is simply wasting his time to improve his standard of material life. This is just like the stupidity of one who has been awarded life imprisonment and starts petitioning the jail

authorities to provide amenities like an air-conditioner, a computer and a television. People who are addicted to fleeting and momentary material pleasures certainly lose the power to understand their higher spiritual existence. They are blind, just like Dhristarastra of the Mahabharat. Dhristarastra was not only externally blind but he had also lost his internal vision despite a saintly person, Vidura's periodic admonitions and intermittent advice.

- continued in the next issue.

### Krishna's Kids Korner

1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				

#### Across

- 1 - Among subduers, Krishna is
- 2 - Among birds, Krishna is
- 3 - Sukadeva Goswami's father
- 4 - Mother Devahuti's son
- 5 - Food offered to Krishna
- 6 - Of Snakes, Krishna is

- Answers posted in the next issue

- Previous issue's answers:
- Across 1. Agni 2. Meru 3. Yama 4. Wind
- 5. Rama 6. Lion Down 7. Kapila

### Bhagavat Kathamrita

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