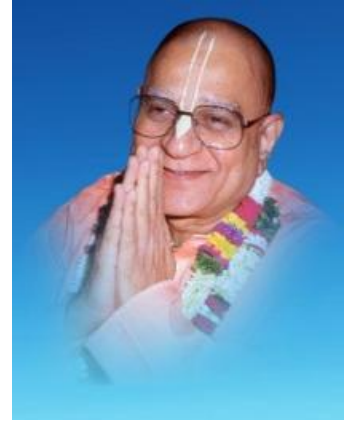


Bhagavat Kathamrita

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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Volume 1 Issue 21

Highlights

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

*"Everybody tries to enjoy here, forgetting the fact that only Krishna is the enjoyer.
This, nobody accepts!"*

— Excerpt from Peace Formula

Rarity of Human Life

-continued from the previous issue.

What is religion? Religion means obedience to the law of God. What is the difficulty in obeying the law of God? God is not demanding anything unreasonable from us. You know, when there is a birthday of the father....father comes home from office. When he opens the door, his three year old son gives him 25-rupees worth of gift. "Daddy, this is for you. Happy birthday!" Dad gets very happy..he hugs him, kisses him. But he knows where did this boy get the 25 rupees from. From the father only. And he has given him the gift. Similarly. When we give to Krishna, Krishna knows, yes, I've only given him this but the sense of gratitude, the love with which he offers that, Krishna is sold on that. The love for Krishna is dormant in all the living beings. This is a fact! That right now, we're not realizing but the urge to love is there.

*viṣayā vinivartante
nirāhārasya dehinaḥ
rasa-varjam' raso 'py asya
param' dṛṣṭvā nivartate*

Arjuna was in confusion. The supreme lord is giving him knowledge. He says when you experience a superior taste, the inferior taste will leave you automatically. We all have taste for material enjoyment right from birth. This is natural. But this is natural in sense that in this artificial environment, it is natural. But in the natural atmosphere, it's not natural. What is that natural atmosphere? Natural atmosphere is...there is a spiritual world outside this material world. Outside this material universe, there is a spiritual world. We have a spirit soul inside; this body is only a covering. When you are covering yourself means you're conditioned. When you're conditioned, you're unhappy. Simple, isn't it? Because when you're conditioned means you have no freedom of movement. The spirit soul inside us is conditioned. Therefore, we're unhappy all the time....no matter what you do. Whether you become rich, become highly educated, or you may become very beautiful, but all this is useless. Why can't I be free? No..you can't be free here. This is an artificial atmosphere. The lord says there is a spiritual world where you appear in your original form. In that, you can be free. And what is the beauty of the spiritual world? Four things are absent there. Four disadvantages are not there. What are the four disadvantages here? You have to take birth, you have to grow old, you have to become diseased, and ultimately, you have to die. In that spiritual world, these four are not there. So

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it is not sensible to go there rather than stay here? What do you think? In the spiritual world, there is only Saturday and Sunday, means all the time you can be happy there. There is no cause for distress in the spiritual world. Krishna says in Gita,

*paras tasmāt tu bhāvo 'nyo
'vyakto 'vyaktāt sanātanaḥ*

“Yet there is another unmanifest nature, which is eternal and is transcendental to this manifested and unmanifested matter. It is supreme and is never annihilated.”

Sanatanah means eternal. This is ephemeral, temporary. There, nobody takes birth, nobody dies. So, we have to develop taste for the spiritual world. Because right now, we have a taste for this world...enjoyment here. For that he says, *param dr̥ṣtvā nivartate*- meaning when you experience a superior taste, the inferior taste will automatically leave you without your extraneous endeavor to push it out.

- Continued in the next issue.

Quest

Why do Hindu Swamijis always speak about the ‘other world’? What is wrong in the enjoyment of this world that is also God’s creation?

It is because this world is full of miseries. There is no real happiness. If anyone feels happy, that is only imaginary. Fleeting and momentary pleasures are nothing but some relief between two periods of distresses. Hence, where is the enjoyment here? How can a sick man say, “I am enjoying myself?” He only suffers because of illness and there is no question of enjoyment. As long as one remains in this material world, he is subjected to four disadvantages: birth, old age, disease and death. Can anyone escape these? We are forced to take birth, may be in a health condition or with polio or as a deaf or dumb entity or with any such handicap. Children are born in palatial mansions or in a slum. We don’t have the option to pick and choose. No one wants to grow old but is compelled to grow old. None can stay young forever. Becoming diseased is one thing nobody likes but who can

avoid it? Even the best physicians will suffer from various diseases. Finally, have you ever heard of anyone effectively counteracting death? No, die one has to. There is nothing sure as death. This is stated in Bhagavad Gita, “Jatasya hi dhruvo mṛityu” - “One who has taken birth is sure to die.” Hence, it is not merely Hindus, any intelligent person will try to ascertain the possibility of existence of a realm superior to this atmosphere which is free from these four defects.

Krishna’s Kids Korner

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Across

- 1 - Mother of Adityas
- 2 - Wife of Gautama Rishi
- 3 - Husband of Tara
- 4 - One of 12 mahajanans
- 5 - Guru of Kauravas and Pandavas
- 6 - One of 10 Prajapatis

Bottom

- 7 - Son of Rudra and Diti

- Answers posted in the next issue

- Previous issue’s answers:

- Across 1. Narada 2. Amba 3. Kusa 4. Ugrasen
- 5. Lava 6. Anjana

Bhagavat Kathamrita

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