

Aug 2022

Charanāmṛta

ŚrīPāda
ŚrīVallabha
bhakṭha Samājam



*Just an other boat, as He ferries us towards the 'Golden Kuruvapur'.
Let's sail our way from limited awareness to HIS eternal Consciousness...
the shore of love, light and bliss.*

svāgatam



Charanāmṛth



Episode 24, August 2022

Special Episode : Celebrating Sri Krishna's Presence

On the eve of this auspicious Chitha Nakshathra, Charanāmṛth is here bringing with it, the message of Love and Kindness.

Indeed, pure Divine love is indeed the highest vibration in this Cosmos.

As one talks of Divine Love, the Name of Sri Krshna comes across. For His Avathar exemplified the 'bhav' (expression) of Love from all angles.

Charanāmṛth is a result of ŚrīPāda's love.

This Edition is made all the more special marking Sri Krishna Ashtami, the Coming of Krishna... and His Continuous presence in our midst....

We all know Sripada Vallabha is not different from Sri Krishna. And here, we are celebrating His presence in this Edition of Charanāmṛth.

Greetings

Sri Krishna's Flute... The Eternal Call...

From the Dwarakamai

No man is an Island

The Purana – Now and Forever

From ŚrīPāda Vallabha Sahāsrānāma

Sri Krishna's Message of Love

From Charithāmṛtham

Until we meet again...

Sri Krishna's Call....

The music from the Flute rings in the air.... sending its notes of Love to longing hearts...

As inseparable are the eye and its lid, so are Sri Krishna and the Flute.

Any picture or portrait of Lord Krishna is just incomplete without His flute.

So what does the Flute convey?

Radha's desperateness to answer the call of the Flute – is symbolic of a human heart's despair to return to the Source. Until then, the heart is at unrest; the mind does not find its calm.

Blessed are the gopis and gopikas – those innumerable souls who answered the call of the Flute. The souls' immense thirst is finally quenched at Sri Krishna's Feet – as they answer His call and meet face to face with Him. There, in HIS Presence, the mind finds its rest.

Thoughts are never to be – beating a hasty retreat. When thoughts are at rest, there is neither the place for fear or pain; for desire or anything else. The being is at Peace....

Sri Krishna is ever Present. His presence is realised through other names or other manifestations of His'. He is realised as Sai Baba of Shirdi. He is seen in Sripada Vallabha.

To the surrendered one, the music of His flute is still chiming in their ears.

The musical notes are still echoing in the breeze... Its strains are found in our Guru's Charithra.

When wholesome is the surrender, the call is heard louder and closer.

When the heart is drenched with undemanding love, there is never the trouble in finding the Player of the Flute. He reveals Himself right there, where there is nothing but pure love.

So let's in our heart of hearts, meet with Sripada Vallabha, our Krishna, after offering the purity of Love unto Him!



From the Dwarakamai

*I do not take anything from anybody.
It is the Masjid Mai (presiding deity of the Masjid)
Who asks for what is owing to Her. The giver is then
free from debts.*

*I am free in all respects. What need I have for the
money?*

*But debt, enmity and murder have to be atoned for,
as there is no escape. People take vows to some Deity
at a time of need. But it is a problem for Me, Who is
trying to uplift them. Without knowing the Truth,
what is the point of imploring Me at the time of
Need?*

Blessed is the devotee who has his debts cleared.

- Sainath Maharaj
(Chapter 36)





No Man is an Island

Oneness ~ Adwaita

When the mind is completely purified in love of Godhead, the mind becomes the mind of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. **The mind at that time does not act separately, nor does it act without inspiration to fulfill the desire of the Lord.** The individual liberated soul has no other activity.

The devotee has no other concern than to fulfill the Word of the Lord. That is the highest stage of perfection, called nirvāëa or nirvāëa-mukti. At this stage the mind becomes completely free from material desire.

The best citation of the same is found in Bhagavad Gita.

How Arjuna's mind was not functioning on its own. It was immersed in the Ocean of Love for Sri Krishna. So much so, at one point, the mind was absent.

Only love for the Lord drenched his heart. Nothing else mattered to him, than the Word of Sri Krishna.

A verse from Bhagavad Gita (13:27)

*samam sarvesu bhūtesu tisthantam parameśvaram
vinaśyatsu avinaśyantam yah paśyati sa paśyati*

*Meaning: The one who see the Lord as existing equally in all beings,
and as the one who is the imperishable among the perishable, he alone sees!*





Verse: 13:28

*samam paśyan hi sarvatra samavasthitam īśvaram
na hinasty ātmanātmānam tatao yāti parām gatim*

Meaning: Because he sees Ishvara (Lord) as the One Who is present in all and everywhere, he (the one who sees so) does not destroy himself. And therefore, he attains the ultimate goal.

To conclude, let's remind ourselves – No man is an island. It is only the name, the form, the ideas and such temporal distinctions, cause a man to presume that he is an individual and that he is distinct and separate from the Whole. While reality is not so! We are, but sparks from One Mighty Flame.

Through love, the sparks retrace their road to the Flame.

And our Baba too has stated, “he who sees Me in all Creatures, is indeed blessed.”





The Purāna - Now and Forever...

Purana are never fictitious - They are all present with varied currents of wisdom within each. One who sees the gross meaning, merely get what it grossly conveys. While one who dives deeper, perceives a different current. Still another, whose awareness is more expanded, might grasp a deeper meaning.

Once when the residents of Vrindhavan asked Sri Krishna on His exclusive love for Radha alone, Krishna smiled. Krishna asked the questioner to have a glance at the waters of Yamuna and to tell what he envisioned.

“It is a known fact, that the waters reflect. What is the question here, Krishna?”
The questioner asked casually.

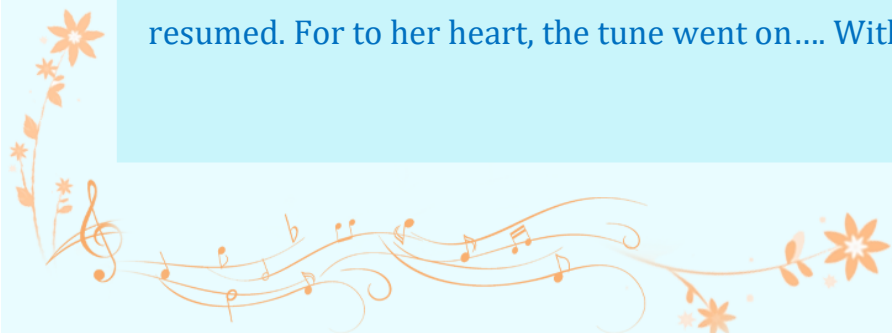
Krishna’s answer was already told. But none understood.

All of them were engrossed in doing about their chores.

A while later, Krishna commenced playing the flute. So engrossing was the music of the flute, that Radha sat entranced and fully drenched in the love that sprang forth from the tune. Some of the cowherd boys jokingly asked Sri Krishna, “You play Your music all the while. If we have to sit and listen, who will do our chores, Krishna?”

Lord Krishna responded, “*While everyone is engrossed in their own work, calculating their own debts and merits, bothering about the loads on their back... blessed is the one who has left it all behind and is here for Me. I have no other option, but to shoulder their loads, as they become Mine. That one becomes My responsibility.*”

Saying so, Krishna resumed his melody on the flute. All the while Radha remained engrossed. Of course, she was not even aware when He paused to play and when He resumed. For to her heart, the tune went on.... Without a break.





Thus Radha by her 'Madhurya bhakthi' taught us the way – the path to Moksha...
In other words, the path to Union with the Divine.

In fact Radha was not different from Krishna. She is an aspect of Krishna Himself.
But taking on the form of Radha, Krishna teaches us the path of a 'jivatma' when
shielded by 'maya'. One can escape from the clutches of maya by 'love'.

Only through spotless love, which is pure – undemanding in nature, one can verily
attain Sri Krishna.

The same has been cited in Sripada Charithamrutham, Chapter 4.

"I am the embodiment of Love. You will know Me through love only". These are the words
Of Sripada Vallabha, as recorded in Charithamrutham.

When Radha glances at the river, her heart is so full of love for Sri Krishna, that she sees
Only Krishna's form. Wherever she sets her eye, it is Sri Krishna's image for her.
The whole universe throbs with Sri Krishna to the one who has immersed her heart in
the Feet of Krishna...

Let us tune into this love – to see the image of our Guru wherever we turn!!





HE ~ The Embodiment of Love!

*We know Sri Krishna to be the embodiment of Love.
ŚrīPāda ŚrīVallabha is not different from Krishna of
yore.*

*As endless are the many sports of Sri Krishna,
so inexhaustible are the many games sported by
Sripada Vallabha. They are forever in the breeze...*

The sincere heart is still witness to His many games.

"I am an embodiment of Love.

You will know Me through love only."

– Sripada Srivallabha, Chapter 4, Charithamrutham.





From ŚrīPāda ŚrīVallabha Sahāsrānāma

Aum Ananta-achinthya-prema vallabhā ya namaha

Meaning:

***Prostrations Him Whose love excels, Whose love is beyond
comprehension and boundless.***





Lord Krishna on Yoga

*yogasthaḥ kuru karmāṇi saṅgaṃ tyaktvā dhanañjaya
siddhyasiddhyoḥ samo bhūtvā samatvaṃ yoga ucyate*

*Meaning: Being equipoised, perform your actions Dhananjaya
Remain in equipoised in both success and failure.
This balance is attaining equanimity (calm and composed).
Which is the state of Yoga.*





Lord Krishna :: Sudharshana Chakra

Lord Krishna once while yielding the Sudharshana Chakra, told to Balrama, “The Whole of Creation stirs with the power of Love only. My Sudharshana Chakra too is yielded with the power of My Love. Hence it is the most potent in destroying all the evil forces and demoniac forces (asura) that cause obstruction to ‘asthika bhaktha jana’ (believers of God).”

With this explained so beautifully, it is not the only instance which talks of Love. The message of love is so loud and silent, all through Krishna’s Avathar.

From Bhagavath Gita, 10.10-11,

“To those who constantly see Me with love, which is undemanding and selfless – to him I shall show the way to reach Me. I shower on such a loving one, a special compassion by revealing to him the glory of My Light, dwelling within. The shining lamp of knowledge will chase the darkness born of ignorance.”

“He who loves Me more than anything else, to such a loving one, I stand indebted.”

- Sri Krishna.





Lord Krishna's Message of Love

Once when the people of Barsana hosted a fair, to collect funds for a cause, it so happened that due to vanity of a few, the expected funds were not generated. Instead, it was discovered towards the end of the fair, that additional costs only had to be borne and the demands from the merchants who gave on credit, weighed heavily on the village people.

That was when the merchant rulers of the neighbouring towns were seeking an apology from the rulers of Barsana, just to satiate their ego selves.

While such was the case, none at Barsana too, were ready to give in, fearing the loss of respect and pricing their self esteem.

As always, the Lord of the poor, Sri Krishna presented Himself at the spot.

He, offered to seek apology on behalf of the people of Barsana.

As such, Krishna's Name was well known across the towns and villages.

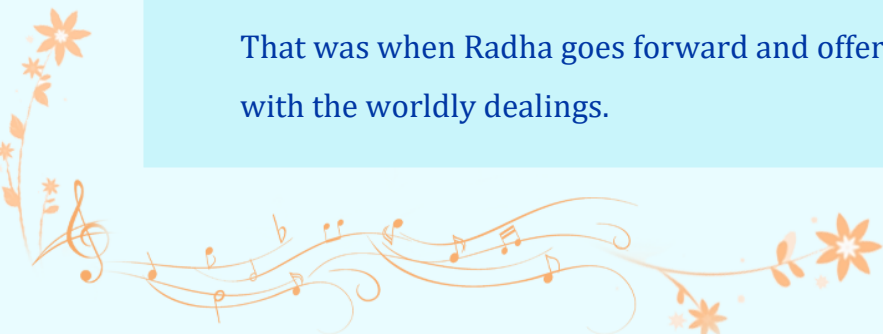
None could believe Krishna was Himself bowing down.

When the people of Barsana tried to stop Him, Krishna says,

"It doesn't matter, if one lowers his head. By bowing one's head, one does not lose anything. What really matters is, one should be ready to ground the 'ahankar' that rises in oneself, without allowing it to raise its head. Humility is indeed a crown, which blessed ones adorn themselves with."

When the question of debts came, there were three merchants from neighbouring towns who demanded a return.

That was when Radha goes forward and offers to each, an 'entity' which cannot be valued with the worldly dealings.





First was one of the head-gear wore by Sri Krishna.

When the merchant is clueless, Radha explains, “This symbolises emptiness. This humility adorns the head of Krishna, hence it is very special. It is filled Krishna’s love. At the sight of which, the beholder is filled with bliss.”

Secondly, she offers, a flute which was played by Krishna.

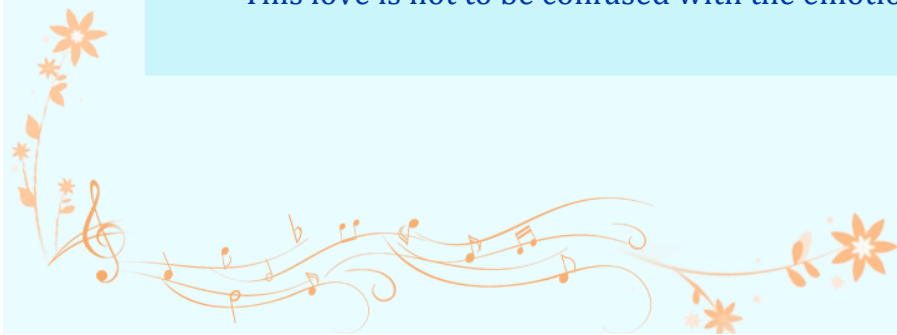
She explains, “This is the priceless flute which has been instrumental in transmitting Krishna’s love. The power of this flute is such that, it can stir the whole world to dance. Even the mountains bow down to the music from this Flute. All that the flute teaches is pure love. It is because of love, that it became empty. It is this emptiness which caused Krishna to use it. Such powerful flute, is now being gifted to you.”

Thirdly, she offers a peacock feather which had once decked Krishna’s headgear. She explains, “This lightness, as fragile and frail as this, could make up to Krishna’s crown. Nothing which weight heavy could near Him. This tenderness is akin to the Supreme Godhead’s heart. Its power is such that once who has felt the touch of this feather, will never be the same again. They will be immersed in supreme bliss.” Thus handing over, she says, that in exchange of these gifts of Love, even all the coins put together in this Creation cannot match its worth.

The recipients, though stunned for a moment, respond, “Indeed True. On coming in contact with it once, we feel lighter; a peace which we had never experienced. Truth! None of the coins in this Creation can ever match the worth of these objects of Love. They have filled us with love. It is a feeling, an experience of bliss which we have never experienced until now.”

Thus even the entities in touch with Sri Krishna, preach Love.

This love is not to be confused with the emotions of the world. It is far supreme.





This explanation too, is given to us by Krishna Himself in the Gita, (2.13).

As Krishna explains to Arjuna, “When one’s loving nature is contaminated by selfishness, they tend to love the falsities more than the Truth; the unreal more than the real; the externals than the internal. That is why they start devaluing the Truth, by contradicting Love to definite bindings. While Love is infinite; unbound and all encompassing.

This misdirected love forges misidentification with temporary bodily coverings and misleads one to self-centered desires.”

Virtuous Arjuna exemplifies the pristine loving soul. Hence the first hand lesson was handed down to him.

The battlefield setting of the Gita beckons all of us to become spiritual warriors and conquer the selfish lower self with the selfless higher self.

Just as the wisdom of the Gita empowered Arjuna, it can empower us too, for ushering in the rule of Love in our hearts as well, so that we may bring forth a difference to the world at large.

As devotees of the Lord, let us too, adhere to His call of Love.





From ŚrīPāda Charitrāmṛutham

The power of unconditional or selfless love is superior to all other powers. Its strength is infinite.

Baapanaarya, Narasimha Varma, Venkatappayya Sreshti are endowed with this peculiar yogic wealth.

All the three had abundant unconditional love and undemanding devotion towards Śrī ŚrīPāda.

With the power of their unconditional love, and virtuous thoughts, they can cause the fructification of any noble work with ŚrīPāda's blessings.

- **ŚrīPāda ŚrīVallabha Charithamrutham**
In Chapter 20.





punar darshanāya

punar darshanāya punar harshanāya *Śrī Guru kripā varshanāya*

Until we meet again, in a peaceful manner (on a note of contentment)
Let us all be showered with Sri Guru's blessings!

With Sri Guru's blessings, the next episode will be available at the link for
the next Chithra nakshatra @
<https://sripadavallabhabhaktisamaj.org/journals/charanamrth.php>

Jaya Guru Datta Digambara
Śrī Sainatha Digambara
Digambara Digambara ŚrīPāda Vallabha Digambara

