

Tridandisvami Sri Srimad Bhaktivedanta Narayana Maharaja

THE 'EXTRA' MONTH OF PURUSOTTAMA

Nilacala Gaudiya Matha, Jagannatha Puri Dhama

October 2, 2001 (evening)

[Just as the kirtana was ending, a pujari from the Jagannatha Mandira came up to the stage where Srila Narayana Maharaja was seated, put a garment from Jagannatha-deva around his neck, tied it with a knot, offered his obeisances, and left. Later, as the program continued, Srila Maharaja called on his sannyasa disciple, Sripad Madhusudana Maharaja, to shed light on the meaning of Purusottama Mas (Month). Madhusudana Maharaja spoke in Hindi, and his explanation was translated by Sripad Madhava Maharaja.]

[Sripad Madhava Maharaja:] According to solar calculation a year is 365 days and 5 hours. According to lunar calculation, that is, the movements of the moon, each month is 29.5 days long. When that is multiplied by 12 months, it comes to 354 days. The difference between the solar calculation and lunar calculation is thus 11 days and 5 hours. After 32 months, or 2 years and 8 months, an extra full month (11 days and 5 hours x 32) is then seen. This extra month is called 'adikha mas' in Hindi. (One of the benedictions received by Hiranyakasipu from Brahma is that he would not be killed in any month. He was thus killed in this 'extra' month.)

Smarta brahmanas call this month 'Mala Mas', the rejected month, because there is no need for it. It is extra. Vaisnava sastra, however, calls this month Purusottama Mas. The history is that the personified Mala Mas, being very disturbed, went to see Visnu and said, "No one wants to do any good deeds in my month. What can I do?" Visnu took him to Krsna who told him, "Don't worry. I will become the presiding deity of your month and give it my name." This month then became as auspicious as Karttika, and Mala Mas became happy. The niyama-seva, rules and regulations and prescribed duties, of this month are the same as those of Karttika.

[Srila Narayana Maharaja (speaking partly in English, partly in Hindi, and partly in Bengali):] I remember when I used to come with my paramaradyatama (most worshippingable) Sri Gurudeva and his disciples to Purusottama-ksetra during the Rathayatra car festival, and after that we all returned here for one month to observe Purusottama Vrata, the vows of this month. Along with Gurudeva were many of his god-brothers who were prominent disciples of Srila Prabhupada Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura. From here we went to all the places of Caitanya Mahaprabhu's pastimes. We heard hari-katha three times each day, twice in the morning and once in the evening, and it was very, very wonderful. Whatever I have heard from their mouths, and especially from my Gurudeva, I am now telling to you.

Tomorrow morning, after mangala-arati and kirtana, we will go to the Gambira, and from there we will go to Srila Haridasa Thakura's bhajana-sthali. Western devotees should not

be worried that they are banned from entering Jagannatha's temple. You can see Patitapavana Jagannatha-deva on the doorway and pray to Him from there.

It was here in Purusottama Dhama that Srila Rupa Gosvami established the mano'bhutam of Mahaprabhu. He established the identity of Caitanya Mahaprabhu and also that of Radha-Krsna. If he had not done so, no one would have known.

Krsna plus Srimati Radhika's inner mood and gaura-kanti (golden complexion) is Sacinandana Gaurahari. When Sacinandana Gaurahari is minus that golden beauty and intrinsic mood, He is Krsna. Mahaprabhu came to this world to taste the essence of prema and to give raga-marga-bhakti to the world. We have called you all from so many places around the world. Why? In this way we will explain to you the moods of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, and how He wanted to give raganuga bhakti and especially rupanuga-bhakti, the service to Srimati Radharani.

We have no direct relationship with Krsna. Our svamini is Srimati Radhika. Our relationship is with Her, and Krsna is Her most beloved. We will explain this principle for the next 15 days, and if you are qualified to accept a sprinkle of what Mahaprabhu wanted to donate, your life will be most successful. That is why I have called you.

We will discuss what Mahaprabhu did in Navadvipa and Godavari, how He tasted Radha-bhava in the Gambira, what He donated to the animals in Jarikhanda, how He made elephants mad, and how He changed the hearts of tigers, bears, and deer, and made them all friends. Such is His mercy. This is the nature of Krsna. Krsna is love and love is Krsna. .

We see nowadays, in the name of religion, "We should destroy all those who do not want to be in our religion." Real religion never gives such teaching as this. Now there are terrorists all over the world, and they want to destroy all those who do not surrender to them and their conception of God. Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu never killed anyone, and even when Krsna and Rama 'killed', They gave salvation and love and affection. But what can the terrorists give? They are in fact against religion. I pray to Krsna to change them. We should pray to Krsna to give love and affection to all; to every tree and every creeper. Krsna is very powerful and He can do so.

I think that from tomorrow onward, from 3-4 p.m., you should all sit together in different groups and explain all these lilas and tattvas from Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta.

Gaurapremananda