

Tridandisvami Sri Srimad Bhaktivedanta Narayana Maharaja

## **APPEARANCE DAY OF SRINIVASA ACARYA**

## **DISAPPEARANCE DAY OF SRILA MADHAVENDRA PURI**

Badger, California: May 15, 2003 (Part 1)

Whether it be the appearance or disappearance day of Srila Madhavendra Puripada and Srila Srinivasa Acarya – both are the same.

You should know that Krsna was controlled by Madhavendra Puripada. Madhavendra Puri is superior to Sri Prahlada Maharaja in various ways. I think Prahlada Maharaja cannot touch the lotus feet of Madhavendra Puri.

Madhavendra Puripada is the root of prema-bhakti, the prema kalpataru (the desire tree of love of God). The deity Srinatha (Krsna, the lifter of Govardhana) manifested to him and gave His constant darsana. Prahlada Maharaja and Nrsimhadeva had association for only a moment, and Bhagavan often gave his association to Bali Maharaja in the planet Sutala, but Madhavendra Puripada is a special maidservant of Radhika.

Madhavendra Puri has special love and affection for Radha and Krsna Conjugal. His devotion is so high. He is the root of Vraja-rasa (the mellow of conjugal love for Krsna), for he brought such love to this world. Sri Isvara Puripada received that gopi mood from him and then gave it to Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. Such wealth was then bestowed upon Sri Svarupa Damodara, Sri Raya Ramananda and the Six Gosvamis, and it is thus coming down in disciplic succession.

Srinivasa Acarya was the disciple of Srila Gopal Bhatta Gosvami, and He was trained by his siksa-guru, Srila Jiva Gosvami. He introduced many melodies for kirtanas, and he was such an exalted devotee that our Srila Rupa Gosvami and the other Gosvamis depended upon him. They directed him: "You should go and preach in Bengal, and distribute all the literature written by us (Srila Rupa Gosvami, Srila Sanatana Gosvami, Srila Jiva Gosvami, and the other Gosvamis.)" Along with his associates, Srila Narottama dasa Thakura and Srila Syamananda Prabhu, he took their order and books, bound for Bengal.

Along the way, some dacoits looted all the books. They thought they'd gained a trunk full of jewels. An astrologer had told the dacoits' leader, "This trunk is full of treasure", and for this they had stolen the cart with all the books. The three devotees became mad in separation from the manifest heart of the Gosvamis – their writings. Srinivasa Acarya sent both his associates to Bengal, telling them, "I'll stay here until I discover the location of the books."

The local king was the leader of all the dacoits, but he was also a devotee. Though he used to loot so many things, he would also meditate and hear scriptures – Srimad Bhagavatam especially. There was a Bhagavata pandita in his council who read aloud and explained Srimad Bhagavatam. Srinivasa Acarya, in a very simple dress, went there one day when a Bhagavata discourse was taking place. He humbly sat in that assembly,

hearing from the court pandita. After the Srimad Bhagavatam discourse was finished for that day, Srinivasa requested, "May I comment on what he has explained?"

The king said, "Oh yes, very well; you may explain something about these topics." The pandita had been speaking on Gopi-gita, but he was not able to explain it very deeply.

Srinivasa Acarya stood up and began to explain it, weeping and making the audience weep. He gave the explanations that were also given by Srila Visvanatha Cakravarti Thakura, Srila Sanatana Gosvami and Srila Jiva Gosvami in their purports to Srimad Bhagavatam.

The king at once approached Srinivasa Acarya and offered dandavat pranama, begging, "I want to take diksa initiation from you, and I want to hear Srimad Bhagavatam." Srinivasa accepted the king and gave him initiation. Then the king offered, "I want to give you some donation for this – guru-daksina. As you like, I can give."

Srinivasa replied, "Oh, you are promising? Then you should try to arrange to get our cart full of all the books."

The king immediately answered, "Oh, it is with me! It is with me! My astrologers told me that 'three persons are coming, devotees from Vrndavana, with lots of jewels – more than jewels.' And that is why we took the trunk. We could not tell in what way they are jewels; but now, hearing from you, I know that they are so much more than jewels."

Jewels cannot give Krsna-bhakti. They cannot help us. Those books can help us thousands of times more than jewels. You are coming here only by the grace of those books.

In this way Sri Caitanya-caritamrta, the books of Srila Jiva Gosvami, Srila Sanatana Gosvami, Srila Rupa Gosvami, and all the other Gosvami literature were saved. So this was Srinivasa Acarya, a very high class of devotee.

We pray to the lotus feet of Srila Madhavendra Puri and Srila Srinivasa Acarya to sprinkle their mercy on us.

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