

*Dedicated to*

His Divine Grace

**A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada**

Founder Acharya:

International Society for Krishna Consciousness

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## PREFACE

Our ancient Vedic literatures of India are replete with moral and spiritual instructions that could be practiced at home, in our school or profession, in our dealings with relatives, friends, superiors, God and everyone else. They help us to mold our lives in such a way that we can live happily now and forever.

The most valuable asset that we all possess, is our eternal loving relationship with the Supreme Lord, the Father of all species, Sri Krishna. He is our heart-to-heart friend who stays and moves with us wherever we go and whatever we seek in various species of lives. Right now, we have forgotten our connection with Him. That is why we are suffering continuously not knowing what to do.

The Puranas, especially Bhagavata Purana gives inspiring, thought provoking histories of great personalities, devotee Kings, who lived a life of great ideals setting an example for all people of the world. It also gradually takes us from attraction to temporary material assets of this world to the permanent spiritual world to revive our lost sweet loving relationship with the Supreme Lord.

At ISKCON-NVCC, You will find super-excellent pastimes of the Lord with his devotees showcased in various displays. You will find pastimes of Dhruva Maharaj- how he came with his heart tainted with

material desires and how he cleansed his heart with practice of devotional service. Subsequently pastimes of Prahlad Maharaj-the pure hearted boy. His unflinching determination in worshiping Vishnu and his nobility towards his demoniac father are a great inspirational lesson for all of us. Lastly you will find pastimes of Krishna with His various devotees. These are the superexcellent pastimes of pure love with absolutely no tinge of any material motivations. Such pure love is the last word in transcendence. Besides these you will also find many valuable paintings reliefs inside the temple too.

The purpose of these displays is to give a chance to all of you, sincere visitors of our temple, to learn and share these valuable teachings from scriptural pastimes with your children and family members. We want to thank His Grace Sundervar prabhu, who got all these relief works made, several days and nights, through a team of artists from Bengal. If you felt inspired by these paint reliefs, we will consider our efforts successful. Our goal in presenting this is to help us all remember these spiritual histories, revive the pure love hidden in our hearts for Supreme Lord by taking inspiration from the lives of great souls. I also would like to thank HG Revatipati Prabhu, HG Suvarnagaurhari prabhu , Bhakta Tushar and Bhakta Hemant for assisting in preparing this booklet. Hare Krishna.

*-Radheshyam Das, M.Tech. IIT, Powai  
President, ISKCON Pune*



*Section ~ I*  
*Sri Sri Radha Urindavanchandra*  
*Temple Hall ~*  
*Deities, Dioramas and Paintings*

## 1. *Altars* (from left to right)

### Sri Sri Gaura Nitai:



In order to teach how to practice devotional service Lord Krishna appears in the guise of his own devotee as Lord Chaitanya. He is known as Channa Avatar or hidden incarnation but there are many evidences in scriptures to confirm this truth. Around 520 years ago Lord Chaitanya appeared in Nabadwipa, West Bengal. He is also called as Gauranga due to his golden complexion. He inaugurated the religion of the age of Kali, nama-sankirtan. He has predicted that the Hare Krishna

Mahamantra will be chanted in every town and village of this earth.

Also Lord Balaram appeared as Nityananda prabhu in the town of Ekachakra, West Bengal. He assisted Lord Chaitanya in His sankirtan movement.

### **Sri Sri Radha Vrindavan Chandra**



The Supreme Lord Krishna kindly appears in his deity form called as ‘archa vigraha’ to accept service from his devotees. The deity is carved using stone, metal, wood etc. as per the description given in

Vedic literature and is non-different from the Lord. Although Lord is everywhere, we have no realization to see Him everywhere; thus He appears in the deity form in the temple, to give us opportunity to see Him, serve Him, worship Him and benefit from His association.

Srimati Radharani is the topmost devotee of Krishna. Her every activity is for the pleasure of Krishna. Srimati Radharani carries a garland in her right hand to offer to Krishna. We can pray at her Lotus feet to offer our self to Krishna.

### **Sri Sri Jagannath Baladev Subhadra:**



Lord Jagannath is Sri Krishna in an ecstatic form. Baladev is Lord Balaram and Subhadra is Their sister. The original temple of Lord Jagannath is located in Jagannath Puri, Orissa. There are many pastimes describing the appearance of Lord Jagannath. Lord was present in Nilachala as Nila Madhava for first 50 years of Lord Brahma and for next 50 years Lord appears as Jagannath. Once in a year the three Lords ride on their beautiful chariots known as Rathayatra festival to show mercy to all people without discrimination.

Srila Prabhupada out of his great compassion established worship of Jagannath Baladev Subharda in many ISKCON centres' worldwide and now rathayatra is celebrated in all major cities of the world.

## *2. Srila Prabhupada*

His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada is a pure devotee of Lord Krishna coming in the Brahma-Madhva-Gaudiya Sampradaya. He was born in Kolkata in the year 1896. Since childhood he was attracted to devotional service. His father wanted him to be a pure devotee of Srimati Radharani.



In 1922 he met his guru- Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Maharaj, who gave him an instruction to preach Lord Chaitanya's message in English specifically in the western countries. Prabhupada at age of seventy went alone to USA in 1965. With many challenges he established the International Society for Krishna Consciousness, ISKCON, in New York and within 12 years he established 108 temples, published more than 80 books, and initiated thousands of disciples around the world. Now there are over 600 ISKCON centres all over the world.

### 3. Main Dome

*Radha and Krishna, The Divine Couple*



The dome represents Goloka Vrindavan, in the spiritual sky. Radha and Krishna are one, but They have divided into two for the sake of relishing pastimes of spiritual romance. The love between them is comparable to gold, while the so-called love affairs of this material world are comparable to iron. Thus in the Goloka Vrindavana, the topmost of the Vaikuntha planets, Radha and Krishna are served by millions of devotees as the Supreme object of love. In the Jhulan pastime (swing) the devotees



enjoy seeing Them enjoy a swing ride. They are assisted by eight principal gopis. Their names are Lalita, Vishakha, Citra, Indulekha, Campakalata, Tungavidya, Rangadevi, and Sudevi – all of them in each of the petals around, rendering different types of seva for the pleasure of Divine Couple.

#### *4. Twelve Mahajanas*

According to Srimad-Bhagavatam, there are twelve mahajanas, or great souls who teach us the path of devotion to the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and these are: (1) Brahma, (2) Lord Siva, (3) Narada, (4) Vaivasvata Manu, (5) Kapila (not the atheist, but the original Devahutiputra Kapila), (6) Kumaras, (7) Prahlada, (8) Bhisma, (9) Janaka, (10) Bali, (11) Shukadeva Gosvami and (12) Yamaraja. (Srimad Bhagavatam 6.3.20-21).

In the modern times, the whole world is misled by false mahajans like atheistic scientists, mundane scholars, pseudo religionists and self-styled new age gurus who pamper body and mind without educating us about knowledge of soul, God and eternal loving relationship between them. It is difficult to come to conclusive understanding of Absolute Truth by studying Vedic literature because of its vastness.





Bramha



Shiva



Narada



Vaivasvata Manu



Kapila



Kumaras



Prahlada



Bhishma



Janaka



Bali



SukadevaGosvami



Yamaraja

Both Srimad Bhagavatam and Mahabharata assert that the only sure way to understand the name, form, qualities and pastimes of Supreme Lord and the method of pleasing Him can be known by following in the footsteps of these Mahajananas. One will be safely led to the ultimate destination of Spiritual world, only by following carefully the teachings, mood and behaviour as taught by the following great mahajananas, great souls.

**Brahma:** Lord Brahma is the ruler of the mode of passion and the one who, under the direction of the Lord Krishna, creates the material universe. From him all the species of life within the universe descend. As the first created being, Lord Brahma was personally manifested and initiated into spiritual realization by Lord Krishna Himself, who revealed Vedic knowledge in Brahma's heart at the dawn of creation. He gave it to Narada who in turn gave it to Vyasa and thus Brahma is the original acarya of the Brahma-Madhva-Gaudiya Sampradaya to which ISKCON society belongs to.

**Lord Shiva:** Lord Shiva is the ruler of the mode of ignorance and he is responsible for universal destruction. Srimad Bhagavatam describes him as greatest of the Vaishnavas. He elevates fallen living entities like ghosts, hobgoblins etc. by

his association. He is the initiator of the Rudra sampradaya from which bonafide knowledge about the devotional service unto Krishna is passed in disciplic succession.

**Narada:** Narada muni is son of Lord Brahma who travels in all the three worlds, singing glories of the Lord. He is spiritual preceptor of great souls like Prahlada, Dhruva and Vyasdeva.

**Vaivasvata Manu:** He is the progenitor of humanity, all the human beings in all the races descend down from him.

**Kapila:** the son of mother devahuti: He is the incarnation of Supreme Lord and He expounded the Sankhya philosophy which involves analytical study of body and soul and devotional service to the Supreme.

**The Kumaras:** The Sanak, Sananda, Sanatana and Sanat Kumar are four mind born sons of Lord Brahma who sought to remain as a five year old children and celibate throughout life to focus on spirituality. They are originator of the Kumar sampradaya, one of the four bonafide lines of disciplic succession.

**Prahlada:** Prahlad Maharaj practiced devotional service since his childhood. He was tortured in various ways by his demoniac father Hiranyakashipu

for his pure devotion unto Lord Vishnu but he fearlessly took refuge in remembrance of the Lord and was protected from all sorts of dangers by the grace of the Lord.

**Bhishma:** Bhishma is son of king Shantanu & mother Ganga. Although being a powerful Kshatriya he took a difficult vow of being a lifelong celibate and abstinence from the kingship, for this vow he is known as Bhishma. He is pure devotee of Lord Krishna in chivalrous mellow. Thus he fought on the side of Kauravas as per the will of Krishna to behold the beauty of Krishna picking up the wheel and charging toward him in the battle. He left his body meditating on beautiful face of Krishna as per his desire.

**Janaka Maharaj:** Janak maharaj is king of Videha province and he is father of Sitadevi, the consort of Lord Rama. He is known for his great sense control and detachment despite surrounded by the opulences of a King.

**Bali:** King Bali is a grandson of great devotee Prahlad. In charity to Lord Vamana, he offered his own self as ‘atmanivedanam’ when he was left with nothing, exemplifying great quality of surrendering oneself completely before the Lord, thus conquering the heart of Lord Vamana.

**Shukadeva Goswami:** Shukadeva Goswami is son of celebrated writer of Vedic literature Srila Vyasdeva. He was completely renounced & on liberated platform right from his birth. He was chosen amongst all the great sages to delineate the message of Srimad Bhagavatam to Parikshit Maharaj and audience consisting of ascetics, demigods and many others.

**Yamaraj:** Yamaraj is the Lord of death and he supervises punishment and reward as per the past activities of the person. In his heart he is great devotee of Lord. He came as Vidura in Krishna lila.

## 5. Krishna Lila Diorama

### 1. Krishna Welcomes His Friend Sudama



“Lord Krishna had Sudama, his dear childhood brahmana friend, seated on His own bedstead and personally brought all kinds of fruits and drinks to offer him. Lord

Sri Krishna is the supreme pure, but because He was playing the role of an ordinary human being, He immediately washed the brahmana’s feet and,

for His own purification, sprinkled the water onto His head.” -Krishna Book, Chapter 80

## 2. The Deliverance of Manigriva and Nalakuvera



These trees were formerly two demigods, Nalakuvera and Manigriva, sons of Kuvera, who were enjoying wine and women in Ganga

shamelessly. Narada Muni cursed them to become trees in Vraja and benedicted them to be delivered by Krishna. Crawling Krishna, to fulfill the truthfulness of the words of Narada, went between the two trees with the big mortar, uprooted the trees and they crashed to the ground. The two personalities were freed and they offered their obeisances and prayers to Sri Krishna, desiring to simply serve Him with their senses.

### 3. Krishna & Balarama taking lunch



Nanda Maharaj feeds Krishna and Balaram at their palace in Gokul. 'Bhuktam madhuram, Suptam madhuram' it is said. Even Lord's eating and sleeping is sweet to see. As Jagannath, Krishna is eating Lord and as Ranganath, He is a sleeping Lord. Thousands of devotees throng to see Lord in these divine forms. Every act of Krishna simply increases devotees love for Him.

### 4. Please give us some pearls!

Once Krishna miraculously grew pearls in his field in Vrindavan. He requested gopis for milk to nourish the pearl plants. When they refused, mother Yashoda gave Him milk. Later gopis saw all over Vraj, even monkeys and cows were wearing pearl garlands given by Krishna. The gopis also tried to plant their pearl necklaces, but nothing came out. Being afraid that their mothers will chastise them for loosing the pearls, the gopis





requested Krishna to lend them some pearls in exchange of jewels. Though Krishna refused in the beginning, later He sent a cart load of boxes with names of gopis engraved in each of the boxes.

## 5. Mother Yashoda Dresses Krishna

Mother Yashoda dresses Krishna in jewels and silk clothes, and Krishna's friend Jambu places anklebells on His lotus feet. Out of their love and affection for Krishna, everyone is eager to serve Him, before Krishna goes out for herding cows and calves. His friends especially cannot stop looking at Him through the window or the door, because of the quality of loving relationship they have with Him.



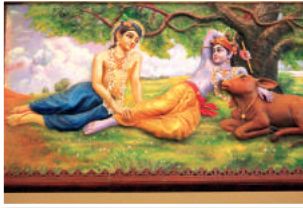
## 6. Gopal milks cow



Gopal milks the cow as Lord Balaram drinks the milk directly. Other gopas watch this in amazement. Such pastimes in Goloka

Vrindavan in the mood of friendly intimacy is a special feature of Goloka unlike Vaikuntha. Thus these cowherd boys are better to even siddhi-aspiring yogis and mukti-aspiring jnanis, because they are accepted and dealt as the friends of God in spiritual sky.

## 7. Krishna & Balaram under a tree



When Krishna is enjoying Himself with Balarama on the mountain slopes, playfully wearing a flower garland on the top

of His head, He engladdens all with the resonant vibrations of His flute. Thus He delights the entire world. At that time the nearby cloud, afraid of offending a great personality, thunders very gently in accompaniment. The cloud showers flowers onto his dear friend Krishna and shades Him from the sun like an umbrella. -Srimad Bhagavatam 10.35.12-13.

In spiritual world nothing is inanimate; everyone and everything is conscious of Krishna, unlike the material world.

## 8. Baby Krishna and the Parrots

Baby Krishna looks out his window to see the birds and trees. Krishna has a loving relationship with each and every living entity. The parrots Shuka and Sari even discuss among themselves about the divine qualities and attributes of Radha and Krishna.



## 9. Krishna Lifting Govardhana Hill



In order to destroy the pride of Indra and to protect the Vrajvasis Krishna lifted Govardhan hill on His little finger for seven days and seven

nights. The residents of Vrindavana entered under the hill and their minds were pacified. Krishna also fulfilled Vrajvasis desire to see him all day and night. -Srimad Bhagavatam 10.25

This pastime teaches that Krishna is the Supreme and all other devatas like Indra are subordinate to

Him. Also the residents of Vraja surrender their hearts and lives to Krishna and thus protected by Krishna to teach us the glory of Krishna's shelter.

### 10. Krishna blesses the fruit vendor



When the fruit vendor came to Vrindavana, Krishna took some grains and immediately went as if to barter with her. On the way He dropped most of the grain. Still, the fruit vendor who was charmed by Krishna's beauty, filled Krishna's hands with fruits and immediately her basket became filled with jewels and gold. From this incident one should learn that for anything offered to Krishna with love and affection, Krishna can reciprocate many millions of times over, both materially and spiritually

### 11. Krishna shows Vishwaroopa to Arjuna



Krishna reveals Vishwaroopa to declare His supremacy to those, who cannot see Him with eyes of love, but are envious of Him, considering Him some

ordinary human being. Arjuna who always dealt with Krishna as an intimate friend, was now filled with wonder as he looked upon the Universal Form; and he began to pray to Krishna with folded hands and begged forgiveness for any mistakes done. Arjuna soon requested Krishna to return to His two handed sweet form to continue his loving relationship with Him as a friend. Since Vishwaroopa form and four-handed Visnu forms emanated from Krishna's form, Krishna can be understood as the ultimate realization of God in pure love.

## 12. Krishna Shows Mother Yashoda the Universe in His Mouth

When Balarama complained that Krishna has eaten dirt mother Yashoda asked Krishna to open His mouth. When Krishna opened



His mouth wide she saw within His mouth the entire Universe with all moving and non-moving entities, outer space, and all directions, along with mountains, islands, oceans, the surface of the earth, the blowing wind, fire, the moon and the stars.' This proves Krishna's supremacy for the atheists. Can

any child's mouth show anything like this?

### 13. Naughty Krishna



Unlike stealing in the material world which brings grief to others, Krishna steals butter from the gopis homes to increase the happiness of His devotees, who like to see His childish pranks. Gopis would make butter specifically for his stealing so that after stealing they will get chance to speak about Krishna while complaining to mother Yashoda. In spiritual world, every act is done by devotees out of love for Krishna and Krishna also reciprocates with their love through His acts.

### 14. Maha-Vishnu at the time of Creation



“The Maha-Vishnu, into whom all the innumerable universes enter and from whom they come forth again simply by His breathing process, is a plenary expansion of Krishna. Therefore I worship Govinda, Krishna, the cause of all causes.”

-Brahma-samhita 5.48 Krishna since being source of Maha Vishnu from whom all the universes come out is known as Ananta-Koti-Brahmanda-Nayak.

## 15. Gajendra Appeals to Lord Vishnu

After a long battle with the crocodile, the king of elephants, Gajendra, took a lotus flower in his trunk and offered



prayers to the Lord. Gajendra was a great devotee in his previous birth and was therefore able to chant the Lord's holy name. The Personality of Godhead came at once riding on Garuda, saved him from the crocodile, and delivered him. The world we live in, called as Samsara is also like a crocodile and all of us are caught in its clutches and are suffering. If we call out to Krishna by chanting His holy names, then Krishna will uplift us to His abode and offer us eternal service.

## 6. Chaitanya Lila Diorama

### 1. Advaita Acharya Prays For The Appearance Of The Lord



Seeing that the people were becoming ritualistic and mundane scholars and hardly few had inclination for practicing pure devotional service Advaita Acharya felt that Lord Krishna should Himself appear in this world to teach people devotion to Himself. He worshiped Shaligram shila with tulasi and Ganges water and loudly appealed to Lord Krishna to appear. -Chaitanya-charitamrita, Adi-lila 3.98-110

### 2. SitaThakurani Visits Lord Chaitanya



SitaThakurani, wife of Advaita Acharya, came to the house of Sachidevi, bringing with her many kinds of eatables, dresses and other gifts, she was astonished to see the newly born child, for she appreciated that except for a difference in color, the child was directly Krishna of Gokula Himself. -Chaitanya-charitamrita, Adi-lila 13.115



### 3. Nimai and mother Sachi

One day mother Sachi brought a dish of sweets for her child Nimai to eat. When she walked away to return to her household duties, Nimai began to eat dirt. She saw this and immediately rushed back to Him and asked Him why He was eating dirt. Nimai replied that all sweets and other eatables are transformations of dirt, so what is the difference between them. Mother Sachi was astonished at His words on Mayavada philosophy, and she gave him this example, “In a water pot, which is a transformation of dirt, I can bring water very easily. But if I poured water on a lump of dirt, the lump would soak up the water, and my labor would be useless.” The Lord accepted His mother’s explanation and asked her why she hadn’t taught Him this practical philosophy from the beginning. Thus everything is not one, but everything is simultaneously one and different. e.g. A spark of fire is equal to fire in quality being fire but not in quantity similarly we are also equal to God in quality being spiritual in nature like God but not in quantity as we are eternally individual & separated



tiny fragmented part and parcel of the Lord and we can never become God. This is philosophy of Lord Caitanya, called ‘acintya-bheda-abheda tattva’ which synthesizes all the philosophies such as Dvaita, Advaita, Vishishtadvaita etc.

#### 4. Lord Chaitanya leads mass sankirtan



Lord Chaitanya, Lord Nityananda, Advaita Prabhu, Gadadhara Prabhu, Srivasa, and other devotees and followers would go out to the streets to have kirtan and attract everyone to engage in glorifying Krishna’s names.

#### 5. Jagai & Madhai delivered



When Nityananda prabhu tried to preach to Jagai and Madhai, two greatest of the demoniac and sinful people, they became very angry and Madhai hit Nityananda prabhu on the head with an earthen pot. Seeing this, Lord Chaitanya wanted to kill them with His

Sudarshan chakra. Nityandanda prabhu, however, requested the Lord to forgive them and show them His mercy. Lord Chaitanya delivered the brothers bestowing upon them love of Krishna, absolved them of all their sins and engaged them in chanting and dancing of Hare Krishna mantra. This is the speciality of the descent of Gaur-Nitai. They don't kill people, but kill the demoniac mentalities in their hearts by transforming them into Krishna's devotees through the chanting of holy names of Krishna.

-Story told in SrilaPrabhupada's purport, Sri Chaitanya-charitamrita, Adi-lila, 17.17

## 6. Lord Chaitanya Sees Krishna In The Ashoka Tree

One full-moon night Lord Chaitanya entered Jagannath-vallabha garden in Puri. There were many beautiful trees and creepers.



A mild breeze was blowing, carrying the fragrance of aromatic flowers. There under an Ashoka tree He suddenly saw Lord Krishna. Krishna smiled and disappeared. Having first gotten Krishna and then

having lost Him again, Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu fell to the ground unconscious in trance.

-Chaitanya-charitamrita, Antya-lila 19.78-87

## 7. Lord Chaitanya, Lord Nityananda, And Associates Circumambulate Lord Jagannath



Before departing for South India tour Lord Chaitanya with His associates went to the temple of Lord Jagannath. Seeing Lord Jagannatha, Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu

begged His permission. The priest then immediately delivered prasada and a garland to Lord Chaitanya. Thus receiving Lord Jagannatha's permission in the form of a garland, Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu offered obeisances, and in great jubilation prepared to depart for South India.

-Chaitanya-charitamrita, Madhya-lila 7.54-57  
Painted in 1975.

## 8. Sarvabhauma Bhattacharya and Lord Chaitanya

Lord Chaitanya heard Sarvabhauma Bhattacharya's explanation of Vedanta philosophy for seven days,

never saying a word to indicate whether He thought it was right or wrong. Later Lord Chaitanya said that “Vedanta philosophy is as clear as the Sun but your explanations are like the clouds that cover the Sun.”



Sarvabhuama Bhattacharya was proponent of Mayavada school which falsely holds God is impersonal in nature and he has no form. But Lord Chaitanya convinced him about the personality & supreme spiritual form of God and subsequently Lord Caitanya by powerful explanations on Vedanta converted Mayavadi Bhattacharya into a great devotee of Krishna.

## 9. Chaitanya Cleanses The Gundicha Temple

The day before Rathayatra Lord Chaitanya and His associates cleaned the temple of Gundicha. They cleaned every



portion of the temple by brooming it twice and washing with water. Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu washed and cleansed the temple in great jubilation, chanting the holy name of Lord Krishna all the time. Similarly, all the devotees were also chanting and at the same time performing their respective duties.”  
-Chaitanya-charitamrita, Madhya-lila 12.84-85

## 10. King Pratraparudra Sweeping In Front of Jagannatha



While Lord Jagannath was being carried from the throne to the Rath, King Prataparudra personally engaged in the Lord's service

by cleansing the road with a broom that had a golden handle. Although the King was the most exalted respectable person, still he accepted menial service for the Lord. He, therefore, became a suitable candidate for receiving the Lord's mercy.”  
-Chaitanya-charitamrita, Madhya-lila 13.15-17

## 11. Lord Chaitanya Dances at Ratha-Yatra

Lord Chaitanya felt ecstasy in tasting the mood of Srimati Radharani as soon as He saw Jagannath on the Ratha-Yatra car. Lord arranged for seven kirtan parties



around the car and personally danced in great ecstasy. Lord Chaitanya is the Yuga avatar for the age of Kali yuga and has brought the holy names of Krishna, which is the Yuga dharma for this age. ‘Harer Nama Harer Nama Harer Namaiva Kevalam’. It is said that chanting of Krishna’s holy names is the only way in this age of Kali yuga. Thus Lord Chaitanya instituted public Harinam Sankirtans during Rath Yatra at Puri to inspire and invite one and all to join this wonderful process.

## 12. Lord Chaitanya dances with forest animals at Jharikhanda

Lord Chaitanya sometimes walked through the jungle, chanting loudly. ‘When Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu said,



“Chant Krishna!  
Krishna!” the tigers  
and deer began to  
dance and chant,  
“Krsna!” When all  
the tigers and does  
danced and jumped,  
B a l a b h a d r a

Battacharya saw them and was struck with wonder.’  
- Sri Chaitanya-charitamrita, Madhya - lila 17.40-  
41. Every living being has love for Krishna hidden  
in the heart. Lord Chaitanya could awaken that  
love by His spiritual inspiration. Similarly Srila  
Prabhupada awakened the hippies of the West and  
made them happies by giving them the Supreme  
charity of Holy names of Krishna.

### 13. Lord Chaitanya Displays His Form as Radharani and Krishna Combined



Lord Sri Chaitanya  
M a h a p r a b h u  
revealed His real  
form to Ramananda  
Raya. Upon seeing  
this form,  
Ramananda Raya



almost lost consciousness in transcendental bliss. Unable to remain standing, he fell to the ground. -Chaitanya-charitamrita, Madhya-lila 8.282-283. Since Chaitanya is non-different from Radha and Krishna, devotees learn the pastimes of Radha and Krishna through His teachings (vichar) and His behavior (achar). Without that, many people are cheated by pseudo religionists leading to misunderstanding these sublime pastimes.

#### 14. Passing away of HaridasaThakura

Haridas Thakur although born is Muslim family was chosen by Lord to illustrate the process of chanting by once own example.



He used to chant three hundred thousand names of the Lord every day. Hence he was known as 'Namacharya', the preceptor for chanting holy names. Haridasa Thakura gave up his body while chanting the holy name of Sri Krishna Chaitanya and crying tears of ecstasy. Lord Chaitanya placed the body of

Haridasa Thakura on his lap and began to dance in great ecstatic love. All of the devotees present also began to dance and chant enthusiastically seeing Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's love. -Summarized from Chaitanya-charitamrita, Antya-lila 11.55-60

Through this episode, Lord Chaitanya showed the world, how much He loved, valued and respected Krishna's devotee as the greatest asset to this world.

## 15. Radha Krishna Lila and Gaura Lila



Krishna is always amazed to see Radha's devotion for Him. In order to understand Her love, He appeared as Lord Chaitanya (Gaura). Lord

Chaitanya is Krishna, but He has taken the mood of Radha to practice the behavior of a devotee, to teach the world how should a Krishna's devotee conduct his life and awaken one's love for Krishna. Lord Chaitanya's Sankirtan movement is non-different from Radha-Krishna's rasa lila, since both of them are centered around pleasing the Divine Couple.

## 7. Chaitanya Lila Paintings

### 1. Chaitanya Mahaprabhu Pushes Rathayatra Cart With His Head



All the devotees had tried to pull the ratha yatra cart, but it would not move. The king brought wrestlers & elephants to try to move it. Still the cart would not budge. Lord Chaitanya then approached the ratha yatra cart, He began to push it from the back of cart with His head. Only then did the cart begin to move automatically, and from then on it moved along so effortlessly that the devotees did not even need to pull, they simply held the ropes in their hands.

- Summarized from Chaitanya-charitamrita, Madhya-lila 14.47-56

### 2. Sanatan Goswami surrenders to Lord Chaitanya

Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu told Sanatana numerous truths about Lord Krishna, such as His personal opulence and the glories of devotional

service. Sanatana put a straw in his mouth out of humility and bowed down. He glorified Chatanya Mahaprabhu for His causeless mercy. -Summarized from Chaitanya-charitamrita Madhya lila, Chapter 20.



He exemplified the spirit in which one should approach the spiritual master, in the mood of humility and submission.

### 3. Lord Chaitanya and leper Vasudeva



“When the leper Vasudeva came to Kurma brahmana’s house to see Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, he was informed that the Lord had already left. The leper then fell to the ground unconscious. When Vasudeva, the leper brahmana, was lamenting due to not being able to see Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, the

Lord immediately returned to that spot and

embraced him. place. By the touch of Lord Chaitanya, Vasudeva was cured of leprosy. Indeed, Vasudeva's body became very beautiful, to his great happiness.” -Chaitanya-charitamrita, Madhya-lila 7.139-141

#### 4. Chaitanya On Jewel Road



“When Sri Nrisimhananda Brahmachari heard that Lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu would go to Vrindavana, he became very pleased and mentally began decorating the path.” -Chaitanya-charitamrita, Madhya-lila, 1.155

#### 5. Lord Chaitanya mistaking sand dune to Govardhana



Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu mistook the sand dune for Govardhana Hill and ran toward it to embrace it.

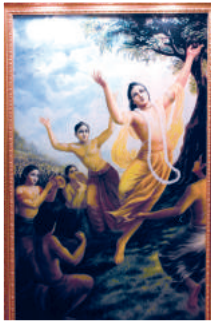
-Chaitanya-charitamrita, Antya-lila, 14.85

## 6. Lord Chaitanya at the House of Srivasa Thakur



“Not wanting to waste the night time, Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu regularly led congregational chanting of the Hare Krishna Maha-mantra in the house of Srivasa Thakur every night for one full year. with his friends” -Chaitanya-charitamrita, Adi-lila 17.34

## 7. The Sun and Moon of Lord Chaitanya and Lord Nityananda



Lord Chaitanya and Lord Nityananda are like the sun and the moon, who have arisen to dissipate the darkness of ignorance and bestow benedictions on all.

## 8. Krishna Lila Paintings

### 1. Kamsa Threatens Devaki



“Kamsa was driving the chariot, but as soon as he heard the omen that his sister’s eighth child would kill him, he gave up the reins, caught hold of his sister’s hair, and with his right hand took up a sword to kill her.” - Srimad Bhagavatam 10.1.35

### 2. Birth of Lord Krishna



Lord Krishna’s birth is not like any ordinary mortals birth in this world. When Lord Krishna took His birth as the son of Vasudeva and Devaki, He told them that He had appeared in His Vishnu form just to convince them that He was the same Supreme Personality of Godhead.

### 3. Vasudeva carries Lord Krishna to Vrindavana



Kamsa had Devaki and Vasudeva imprisoned. While in prison, Devaki gave birth to Krishna. That time all the doorkeepers were overwhelmed with deep sleep and the palace doors automatically opened. Vasudeva carried Krishna through thunder and rain crossing Yamuna which gave him a way. Lord Sesha spread

His hoods over the head of Vasudeva to give him shelter. - Krishna Book, Chapter 3

### 4. Killing of Putana Demon



Demon Putana came with poisoned breasts to kill Krishna. Krishna sucked life air out of her breasts and killed her. But Krishna was so kind that He gave demoness Putana the position of mother in Spiritual world.



## 5. Killing of cart demon



Shakatasura demon had taken shelter of cart. Mother Yashoda busy in her affairs put Krishna under that cart. Not liking her inattention baby Krishna kicked it with His tender legs, breaking in into pieces and the demon was killed and He could attract attention of mother Yashoda too.

## 6. Killing of Tranavarta demon



The demon Trinavarta assuming the form of a whirl wind took Krishna, high in the air. Krishna, in the hands of Trinavarta, made Himself heavier like a mountain and Tranavarta tried to throw Him down, but Krishna simply held on with His arms around the demons neck, the demon choked. His eyes popping out, Tranavarta lost his life and fell to the ground.

## 7. Mother Yashoda and Krishna



Of all the different kinds of relationships we can have with the Supreme Person, Yashoda and Krishna eternally relate to one another as mother and son.

*Section - I I*

*Sri Sri Radha Urindavanchandra*  
*Temple Parikrama Marg-*  
*Dioramas*

## 9. Determination Of Boy Dhruva

### 1. Dhruva becomes angry



As the young boy, Dhruva, tried to climb onto his father's lap, Queen Suruchi, Dhruva's stepmother, stopped him. Out of pride and envy, she told

Dhruva that he was not qualified to sit on his father's lap, nor qualified to ascend the throne of his father because he had not taken birth from her womb. Dhruva began to breathe heavily, like a snake struck by a stick, and left in anger. -Srimad Bhagavatam 4.8.10-14

### 2. Suniti advises Dhruva



Suniti advised Dhruva not to harbor any malice towards anyone, instead to engage himself in worshipping the lotus feet of the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

She told him that nobody but Lord Vishnu is capable of relieving his distress, as He can give love of a million mothers.-Srimad Bhagavatam 4.8.23

### 3. Dhruva leaves for forest

After deliberate consideration and with intelligence and fixed determination, he left his father's house and went to forest wanting to get a position and kingdom greater than his grandfather, Brahma.-Srimad Bhagavatam 4.8.24



### 4. Narada muni tests Dhruva

Narada tested Dhruva's determination and when he saw that Dhruva would not be swayed from his determination



to fulfill his desires, he instructed him on the path of devotional service to the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Narada Muni gave Dhruva specific instructions on how he should worship the Supreme Lord, and told him to go to the forest of Madhuvana, make a deity of Supreme Lord and worship Him with whatever ingredients he can gather from the jungle.

### 5. Narada muni informs Uttanapada about Dhruva & his tapasya



The sage Narada Muni instructed Dhruva on how to properly meditate on the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and gave him the mantra: Om

namo bhagavate vasudevaya. Narada then went to visit King Uttanapada, Dhruva's father, knowing that he would be worried about the boy's safety. Narada assured the king that Dhruva was competent and was protected by the Supreme Lord; and that he would soon be returning home.

## 6. Penance of the Boy Dhruva

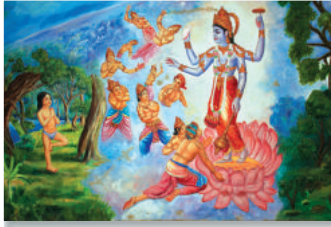
For the first month, Dhruva ate only fruits and berries. The second month, he only ate dry grass and leaves, and in the third month he only drank water. In the fourth month Dhruva became a master of his breathing and only inhaled on every twelfth day. By the fifth month, Dhruva Maharaja was able to stand on one leg perfectly, without movement, and concentrate his mind fully on the Supreme cause of all causes. -Srimad Bhagavatam 4.8.71-77



Thus by Regulation in eating, sleeping and recreation, one can easily bring mind and senses under control. By letting mind and senses loose, no one can accomplish any goal in this world.

## 7. Demigods choked up & approach Vishnu for help

Because of the penance of the Dhruva total universal breathing became choked up, and all the great



demigods in all the planetary systems felt suffocated and thus took shelter of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. -Srimad Bhagavatam 4.8.80. Thus one devotee's

intense devotion can have influence all over the universe. When Srila Prabhupada was preaching to hippies in the West and transformed them into great devotees of Krishna, eventually within 12 years he could establish 108 temples worldwide, that too in his old age. Such a magic is possible for a devotee who is pin-pointedly surrendered to Supreme Lord.

## 8. Lord Vishnu appears in the sky



Lord Vishnu being pleased with Dhruva's devotion got on the back of Garuda, who carried Him to the Madhuvana Forest to see His servant Dhruva. -SB 4.9.1



## 9. Dhruva offers obeisances to Lord

The brilliant form of the Lord on which Dhruva was absorbed in meditation within his heart, suddenly disappeared. When Dhruva opened his eyes he saw the Supreme Personality of Godhead standing before him, just as he had seen Him within his heart. Dhruva fell before the Lord like a rod and offered his obeisances.



## 10. Lord blesses Dhruva with Chonch

Dhruva wanted to offer nice prayers to the Lord, but being only a small boy, considering himself as one lacking sufficient knowledge, he hesitated; but by the mercy of the Lord,



as soon as the Lord's conchshell touched his forehead, he became completely aware of the Vedic conclusion.  
-Excerpt from SrilaPrabhupada's purport, Srimad Bhagavatam 4.9.5

### 11. Dhruva offers prayers to The Lord



Dhruva became transcendently inspired. He understood the Absolute Truth and he thus offered many prayers to the Lord.  
-SB 4.9.27

### 12. Dhruva returns home and Uttanapada receives Dhruva



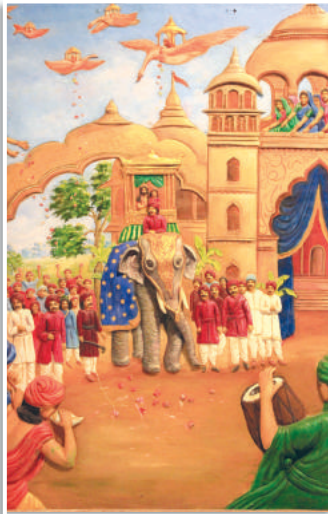
Dhruva returned to his home. Reunion with Dhruva Maharaja fulfilled King Uttanapada's long-

cherished desire, and for this reason he smelled Dhruva's head again and again and bathed him with torrents of very cold tears.

-Srimad Bhagavatam 4.9.44

### **13. Celebration in the Kingdom**

The king was very happy on return of Dhruva so he had Dhruva and his brother seated on the back of a she-elephant while returning kingdom. The whole city was decorated with columns of banana tree containing bunches of fruits and flowers, and betel nut trees with leaves and branches were seen here and there. There were also



many gates set up which were structured to give the appearance of sharks to welcome Dhruva.

## 14. Dhruva, his mother and Vishnudhutas in Plane



“Dhruva was seated in the transcendental airplane, which was just about to start, when he remembered his poor mother, Suniti. He thought to himself, “How shall I

go alone to the Vaikuntha planet and leave behind my poor mother?” The great associates of Vaikuntha loka, Nanda and Sunanda, could understand the mind of Dhruva Maharaja, and thus they showed him that his mother, Suniti, was going forward in another plane to Vaikuntha.”  
-Srimad Bhagavatam, Canto 4. 12.32-34

## 10. Great Devotion Of Prahlad Maharaj

There are two types of people in this world – godly called Suras and demoniac called Asuras. Those who are godly abide by the laws of God and always endeavor to please Him. Those who are demoniac break the laws of God, bring suffering to themselves and others. They are especially envious of the devotees of God and try to torture them in various ways. The history of Prahlad, son of Hiranyakashipu teaches the world, how a pure devotee of Krishna will never give up his devotional service to the Supreme Lord, even in the most trying circumstances. Such a devotee is a lover of Krishna and does not desire any material enjoyment; rather he only aspires to serve the Lord with all his heart, life and soul.

### 1. Hiranyakashipu performs severe tapasya



Hiranyakashipu performed a severe type of austerity for becoming immortal. His penance produced a scorching heat that even disturbed the

planets of demigods in heaven. Lord Brahma, the

chief personality within this universe along with his associates personally went to see Hiranyakashipu.

## 2. Narada instructs Kayadhu



Demigods headed by Indra thought that the child in Kayadu's womb must be a great demon. So they went to kill the child as soon as it was born. As she was

being led away, crying in fear, the great sage Narada saw her and stopped King Indra. Narada said that the chaste Kayadu was sinless and the child in her womb was actually a great devotee. Narada muni protected Kayadu and instructed her and the child in the womb regarding devotional service to Supreme Lord Krishna.

## 3. Prahlada Maharaj instructs his school friends

As Prahlada grew up, he was admitted in the gurukul of Sanda and Amaraka, the seminal sons of Shukracarya.



They only taught Politics, Economics, Diplomacy which was of no interest to Prahlada, since he wanted to only practice pure devotional service

to Lord Hari. Still Prahlad continued to be a part of the school to please his father. In the lunch time, Prahlad would preach to his schoolmates about the goal of human life. He told them that Lord Visnu is the real object of our love. It is very easy to please the Supreme Lord even with a Tulsi leaf. And by performing His devotional service, we can go back home back to Godhead and get opportunity to eternally serve Him. Otherwise, if we waste our human form, living like animals doing eating, sleeping, mating and defending, then we will be put into the cycle of continuous birth and death. Thus one loses the true benefit of human life, which is to become Krishna conscious and solve life's problems.

#### **4. Prahlada Maharaj performs kirtan with his schoolmates**

When his demoniac teachers were absent, Prahlada taught his classmates the science of Krishna



consciousness,  
beginning with the  
chanting of the holy  
names. All the boys  
took his instructions  
very seriously and they  
became attached to

the Supreme Personality of Godhead, rejecting the  
materialistic instructions given by their teachers.

### 5. Hiranyakashipu throws Prahlada off his lap



Hiranyakashipu asked  
Prahlada “what did you  
learn in school?”.  
Prahlada said that one  
should dedicate one’s life  
for worship of Lord  
Vishnu, whom  
Hiranyakashipu  
considered his arch  
enemy. When his father  
heard this he became very  
angry and threw Prahlada  
on the ground.



## 6. Demons attempting to kill Prahlada

Hiranyakashipu wanted Prahlad to also become his rakshasa follower opposing Vishnu. But when he saw Prahlad behaving as a pure devotee of Vishnu, he decided to torture him in various ways through his men, to mend Prahlad to his own ways. The rakshashas began striking Prahlada with tridents and shouting, "Chop him up! Pierce him!" Prahlada, due to his complete faith in the Supreme Personality of Godhead, was fearless, and he sat silently, meditating on the Lord.



As the parents protect their child from winter and summer, the Supreme Lord protects His pure devotees personally, who are totally faultless and fully dependent on Him alone.

## 7. Prahlada amongst snakes

Hiranyakashipu arranged to lock Prahlad in a room full of deadly poisonous snakes.



The snakes would not bite Prahlada due to his full surrender to Krishna. Prahlad was fearlessly absorbed in full meditation on Krishna with full realization of the following statement, ‘Rakhe Krsna mare ke, maare Krsna rakheke’, “If Krishna wants to kill someone, who can protect him? If Krishna wants to protect someone, who can kill him?”

## 8. Prahlada is attacked by an Elephant



Demons kept Prahlad under the feet of a wild elephant to be trampled upon. But because Prahlada was protected by the will of Krishna, the elephants could not even approach Prahlad. In this world, sometimes a sickly child in the lap of crying parents passes away, as they cannot protect him. Even a wealthy man approaching the best doctor in the most famous hospital, surrounded by costliest medicines, dies pathetically. A drowning man's cry in an ocean is

unheard by a passing boat due to the roar of ocean waves. In all these instances, the protection is only possible if Krishna wishes. Prahlad was fully convinced about this truth.

## 9. Demons try to burn Prahlada in Oil

When Ravana had arranged to put Hanuman's tail on fire, it felt like Air conditioned tail for Hanuman, who was taken by surprise! Hanuman understood that



it is all due to prayers of Sita for his welfare and mercy of Lord Rama. Similarly, the demons tried to fry Prahlada like a poori in oil. But Prahlada continued to absorb himself in remembrance of Krishna without fear and came out unharmed by oil.

## 10. Hiranyakishipu attacks Nrsimhadev



As all demons reported to Hiranyakashipu about the situation of Prahlad, then Hiranyakashipu wanted to take up

the task of killing Prahlad upon himself. He demanded Prahlad whether Lord Visnu existed in a pillar in the palace; if He did exist, Hiranyakashipu challenged that let Him come to protect Prahlada. Saying this, he hit the pillar with his weapon. As the pillar cracked open, Lord Nrsimhadeva, in His half-man half-lion form, with a loud roar, appeared from the pillar creating fear in the hearts of all demons and joy in the hearts of all devotees. Supreme Lord appeared in this special form to destroy Hiranyakashipu fulfilling all the conditions put to Brahma by Hiranyakashipu before. Just as a small insect who flies forcefully into a fire Hiranyakashipu foolishly thought that he could kill the Lord. Lord Nrsimha played with the demon like a cat plays with a mouse for sometime before killing him.

## 11. Nrsihmadev slays Hiranyakashipu

Then Lord simply placed the demon on His lap and with the sharp nails on His lotus hands, He easily tore into Hiranyakashipu's body. Hiranyakashipu, simply by twisting of his eyebrows used to demand demigods to stop rain or shower rain, reduce or increase temperature of sun, produce fruits of his choice in any season etc. Such control over demigods and nature is unimitable by the modern man. But the Supreme Lord defeated such Hiranyakashipu effortlessly, to put a fullstop to all his nefarious activities and to prove to the world, how He personally cares for the protection of His pure devotees like Prahlad.



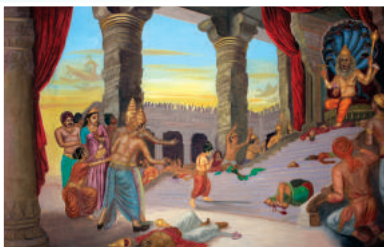
## 12. Nrsimhadev slays the demon soldiers

After killing Hiranyakashipu, Lord Nrsimhadeva's mouth and mane was sprinkled with drops of blood. Lord Nrsimhadeva pierced Hiranyakashipu's abdomen with His nails and wore his intestines as a garland, which enhanced the Lord's beauty.



He then uprooted Hiranyakashipu's heart and threw his body aside. The faithful soldiers of Hiranyakashipu came in thousands to fight with Him, raising their weapons, but Lord Nrsimhadeva killed all of them merely with the ends of His nails.

### 13. Demigods request Prahlada to Pacify the Lord

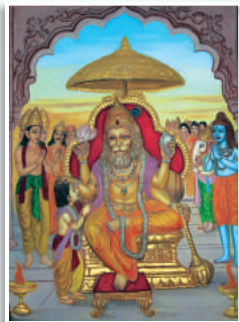


After Lord Nrsimhadeva killed the demon Hiranyakashipu, He continued to be very angry. All the saintly persons and demigods offered Him prayers of glorification and praise, but no one could pacify Him. Lord Brahma then requested Prahlada to go forward and appease Lord Nrsimhadeva. Prahlada gradually walked

toward the Lord and fell down to offer his respectful obeisances with folded hands.

## 14. Lord blesses Prahlada

“When Lord Nrsimhadeva saw the small boy Prahlada Maharaja prostrated at the soles of His lotus feet, He became most ecstatic in affection toward His devotee. Raising Prahlada, the Lord placed His lotus hand upon the boy’s head because His hand is always ready to create fearlessness in all of His devotees.” -Excerpt from *Srimad Bhagavatam* 7.9.5



## 15. Brahmaji coronates Prahlada

Lord Nrsimhadeva ordered Prahlada to accept the kingdom of his father and rule over the demons. He instructed Prahlada to perform the proper ritualistic ceremonies and then take charge of the kingdom, keeping his mind always fixed on Him. After the Supreme Lord disappeared from that place, Lord



Brahma, along with other great saints assembled there, coronated Prahlada as the king. Prahlad became an exemplary devotee King, eager to always remember and glorify the Supreme Lord, eager to associate with saintly devotees, inspiring all his citizens in the path of pure devotional service.

The Supreme Personality of Godhead, Sri Krishna appears in various incarnations in this world as Matsya, Kurma, Varaha, Nrsimha etc to destroy the demons, protect the devotees and to re-establish religious principles in this world. But such incarnations especially come to give pleasure to the hearts of pure devotees, who are always hankering to see the beautiful face of the Lord and for opportunity to serve Him.



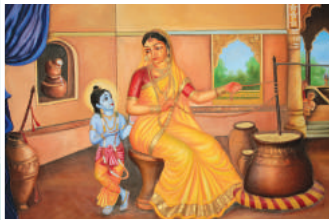
## 11. *Natkhat Gopal Lilas*

Lord Krishna is declared by all great acaryas such as Ramanujacarya, Madhvacarya, Shankaracarya, Lord Caitanya and others as the Supreme Personality of Godhead. He is addressed as ‘para-tattva’, the Supreme Truth, ‘sarva-shaktimaan’, the possessor of all potencies and ‘akhila rasamrta moorthi’, the reservoir of all transcendental mellows of loving exchange with His devotees. Although Lord Krishna is called, ‘asamaurdhva’, meaning no one is equal or superior to Him, still He kindly comes in a way as if equal to His devotees or even subordinating Himself to His devotees. For instance Lord Krishna drove the chariot of Arjuna. He behaved like cousin of the Pandavas. Still Queen Kunti addressed Krishna as ‘namasye purusham tva adyam’ ‘You are not Pandavas’ cousin; you are the Supreme Personality of Godhead’, since she knew His actual position. Krishna resides eternally in the Goloka Vrindavan, which is the topmost spiritual abode, even beyond Vaikuntha planets, where He performs ‘nityalila’, His eternal pastimes. He descends in to this world, once in a day of Brahma on the 28th millennium of the 8th Manu. Among His relationships and pastimes with His devotees, His Vraja lila in the holy land of Vrindavan is accepted by acaryas as

the topmost. The goal of a ISKCON devotee coming in the Brahma Madhva Gaudiya sampradaya is to simply lovingly assist in the service to Sri Krishna, through the agency of Srimati Radharani, the emblem of Mahabhagavata, in one of the five rasas, mellows – shanta (neutral), dasya (servant), sakhya (friend), vatsalya (parental), madhurya (conjugal love) – eternally, either in this world or in the spiritual world, Goloka.

The pastimes shown below are the highest possible exchange of love between God and living entity. Dhruva's pastime is an example of devotee with material desires. Prahlad's pastime is an example of a pure devotee with no material desires. And these Krishna's pastimes in Vraja constitute devotees who love and serve Krishna in the five rasas.

## **1. Krishna demanding mother Yashoda's attention**

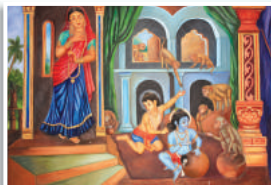


While mother Yaçoda was churning butter, Lord Krishna, desiring to drink the milk of her breast, appeared before her, and in order to increase her

transcendental pleasure, He caught hold of the churning rod and began to prevent her from churning. -Srimad Bhagavatam 10.9.4

## 2. Krishna feeding butter to monkeys

Krishna, at that time, was sitting on an upside-down wooden mortar for grinding spices and was distributing milk preparations such as yogurt and butter to the monkeys as He liked. Because of having stolen, He was looking all around with great anxiety, suspecting that He might be chastised by His mother. Mother Yashoda, upon seeing Him, very cautiously approached Him from behind. -Srimad Bhagavatam 10.9.8



## 3. The darling of Vraja

The residents of Vraja while doing all activities are always absorbed in singing Krishna's activities.



Krishna is centre of life of all Vraja residents. This is the sum and substance of Krishna consciousness movement – how to cultivate remembrance of Krishna always, in all situations, in all walks of life, whether we be brahmacaris or grihastas or vanaprasthas or sannyasis. Our role model are these residents of Vraja, who are most loved by Krishna, for the purity of their love for Him and the spontaneity of their affection for Him, untainted by any reverence or motivation. They treat Him, not as God, but as a Friend, Child or as a Lover.

#### 4. The butter Thief



When the milk and curd are kept high on a swing hanging from the ceiling and Krishna and Balarama cannot reach it, They arrange to reach it by

piling up various planks and turning upside down the mortar for grinding spices. Being quite aware of the contents of a pot, They pick holes in it. -Srimad Bhagavatam 10.8.30

## 5. Yashoda dresses Krishna

Just see how all  
Your playmates  
of Your own  
age have been  
cleansed and  
decorated  
with beautiful  
ornaments by  
their mothers.



You should come here, and after You have taken  
Your bath, eaten Your lunch and been decorated  
with ornaments, You may play with Your friends  
again. -Srimad Bhagavatam 10.11.19

Yashoda in the mood of a mother of Krishna, always  
is anxious to bathe Him, feed Him, dress Him,  
decorate Him and be with Him always without  
any separation. Krishna's friends are also eager to  
assist Yashoda in dressing and decorating Krishna.  
In ISKCON temples also, devotees decorate Sri Sri  
Radha and Krishna every morning with gorgeous  
outfits and jewelry and arrange Their Darshan for  
all devotees and visitors.

## 6. Yashoda sends Krishna to forest pastures



When Krishna reached his boyhood, He was given charge of taking care of the cows. Yosada dresses Krishna before He goes to the pasturing grounds.

Krishna's going for cowherding along with his friends into the jungle is a famous pastime that shows his intimate dealings with his devotees as His friends.

## 7. Krishna playing games with Gopas



Sometimes Krishna and Balarama would play on Their flutes, sometimes They would throw ropes and stones devised for getting fruits from the trees,

sometimes They would throw only stones, and sometimes, Their ankle bells tinkling, They would play football with fruits like bael and amalaki. Sometimes They would cover Themselves with blankets and imitate cows and bulls and fight with

one another, roaring loudly, and sometimes They would imitate the voices of the animals. In this way They enjoyed sporting, exactly like two ordinary human children.-Srimad Bhagavatam 10.11.39-40.

Lord shows human like behavior to preserve His intimate sweet relationships with His devotees. He also shows superhuman behavior like jumping off Pravarsana hills from a 90 miles height without any fracture to the legs [SB10.52.12] or showing Vishwarupa Darshan in His childish mouth to mother Yashoda [SB10.8.37], to prove to atheists about His Supremacy.

## **8. Krishna Enjoys Lunch With the Cowherd Boys**

After selecting a pleasing location on the riverbank, Krishna and His friends opened their baskets of food and began eating in great transcendental pleasure. Like the whorl of a lotus flower surrounded by petals, Krishna sat in the center, encircled by His friends, who all looked very beautiful. -Srimad



Bhagavatam 10.13.8.

Lord Jagannath is ‘eating Lord’; Lord Ranganatha is ‘sleeping Lord’ and Lord Caitanya is ‘dancing Lord’. Whatever the Supreme Lord does, it appears beautiful and attractive, thus charming the hearts of all souls towards Him. Thus Krishna mercifully extends Himself to all living entities, willing to reciprocate with their love. This unlimited capacity to exchange pure love with all living entities is the superexcellent nature of Sri Krishna.

### 9. Krishna reciprocates with the birds



The Supreme Personality of Godhead looked over that forest, which resounded with the charming sounds of bees, animals and birds, and which was

enhanced by a lake whose clear water resembled the minds of great souls and by a breeze carrying the fragrance of hundred-petaled lotuses. Seeing all this, Lord Krishna decided to enjoy the auspicious atmosphere.

-Srimad Bhagavatam 10.15.3



## 10. Krishna dances with the Gopas

As Krishna danced, some of the boys accompanied Him by singing, and others by playing flutes, hand cymbals and buffalo horns, while still others praised His dancing. -Srimad Bhagavatam 10.18.10



## 11. Radha and Krishna

The scriptures explain God is 'shaktimaan', the Supreme Potent. And His energy, the feminine counterpart is addressed as 'shakti', the Potency. Thus Supreme Lord is addressed as Radha-Krishna, Sita-Rama, Lakshmi-Narayana, indicating that the potent and potency are inseparable exactly as the Sun and Sunshine or the Musk and fragrance



are inseparable. Radharani is the compassionate nature of Absolute and the fountainhead of all spiritual love. People talk about love stories, love affairs, love novels etc in this world. Thus everybody wants to express love for someone or something and receive love from someone too. But love is often misunderstood as sexual relationship between a boy and girl. Sex is a biological function meant for the purpose of reproduction. Animals, birds, insects, aquatics – all are into it to expand their specie and they do it in the appropriate season. But Love is between hearts and that is why even students display a heart pierced by arrow to express love. What goes on in the name of love in this world is only lust, which is self-centered and exploitative in nature. But the love between Radha and Krishna is supremely pure, absolutely selfless and adored by great sainly personalities like Shukadeva Goswami, Lord Caitanya, Shankaracarya and many others, who are completely renounced and have nothing to give and take with any ordinary mundane affairs of this material world. Radha is called ‘abode of love’ and Krishna is called ‘object of love’. All living entities delight in the eternal spiritual romance of Radha and Krishna by taking part in various services like singing, dancing, playing instruments, garland making, feeding taambul, cooking, joking

etc.

The Rasa dance of Sri Sri Radha Krishna is witnessed even by Lord Siva, Lord Brahma and other demigods flying in their airplanes with their consorts showering flowers. Those who take to Krishna consciousness process can come to understand the supreme position of gopis headed by Radharani by hearing Bhagavatam in Guru parampara.

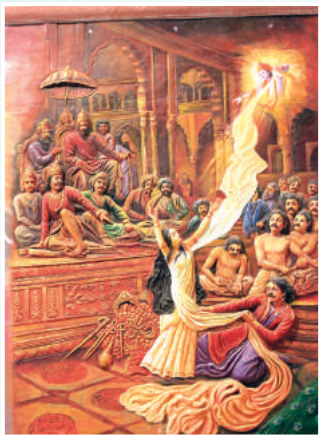
## 12. Peacock dance

Once during rainy season S r i m a t i Radharani saw peacocks and peahens looking at the beautiful monsoon clouds



and they danced together. And She became very, very much attracted and she expressed her desire to Krishna. So Krishna became peacock and Radharani became peahen and they danced together on top of this hill.

### 13. Krishna protects Draupadi



When Pandavas lost Draupadi in gambling match, Duryodhana wanted to insult Pandavas by arranging to strip off the clothes of Draupada in the public to see her naked. He called for Dushasana to disrobe her. It was a great predicament for chaste draupadi. She fixed her mind on Krishna, threw up her

hands up and cried for His help, “O Govinda! O Keçava! O beloved of the gopis!..”. Lord Krishna at that time was in Dwaraka about to begin eating His lunch in the palace of Satyabhama. He heard her prayers and at once got up from His place and appeared in Hastinapur supplying unending saree to Draupadi. Duhsasana after longtime of pulling the saree fainted unconscious. Thus Lord Krishna proved to the world, when all else fails, Krishna is the only shelter for His devotees.

## 14. Krishna instructs Arjuna

When Arjuna was confused about his duty in the beginning of the Battle, he surrendered to Krishna. Then Krishna spoke the famous words of wisdom 'The Bhagavad Gita' to Arjuna in Kurukshetra. All of us need a guide in our life, to know what decisions we should make in different situations of our life.



We do not know what is right and what is wrong. It is best to consult the Universal Guru, Sri Krishna (krsnam vande jagad gurum) by studying Bhagavad Gita regularly to gain direction in our lives to achieve success and perfection, as Arjuna intelligently did.

## 15. The ultimate goal of life –Krishna Prema

Gopakumara returned to Goloka after travelling through the various planetary systems, he saw Krishna playing on the banks of Yamuna. When Krishna saw that His dear friend has returned back, He embraced him and shed tears of joy. In the same manner, we were also residing in the spiritual world, serving the Lord happily, but before the time

immemorial we got desire to separately enjoy from the Lord & lord over material nature imitating the Lord. Lord being kind to fulfill our desires allowed us to come to material world- the world of misery. But since that time He is eagerly waiting for us. In our stay in the material world He accompanies us as Paramatma- Lord residing in our hearts and He sends Spiritual master in order to guide to go back to him. Now every one of us have the opportunity to chant “Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare | Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare||” , follow regulative principles given by Srila Prabhupada based on the scriptures, achieve perfection in our Krsna consciousness in this very life and go back home back to Godhead.



## Section III

# Lord Balaji Temple





## Story of How Lord Balaji came to ISKCON Pune

One day, Mr. Banerji, a retired, army officer visited the temple. He met HH Gopal Krishna Goswami, GBC of ISKCON Pune and told him how impressed he was with the devotees' Deity worship, and asked if they could help him take care of his Balaji Deity which he had. Later he was very happy to write off his house in ISKCONs name and requested his Balaji deity to be taken care as he had no wife or children. After he passed away, ISKCON Pune built the Balaji temple at NVCC as per his request to express our gratitude to him.

### Lord Balaji:

Lord Balaji is also famous as Govinda. 'Bala' means 'child' and 'ji' is a respectful address. Thus Krishna, son of Yashoda is non-different from Balaji. Yashoda had once expressed to Krishna that she could not get to see all the marriages that He had with Queens of Dwaraka. To fulfill her desire, Krishna comes as Srinivas Balaji and Yashoda comes as Vakuladevi.

Lord Balaji at Tirupati is world renowned for attracting millions of visitors. The surroundings of Tirumala awaken waves of bhakti for Lord Balaji and the name Govinda appears on the tongues of devotees. Balaji is called 'Venkat'. 'Ven' means 'suffering'. 'kata' means 'one who cuts'. Thus Lord



Venkateshwara Balaji, cuts all sufferings of His devotees in to pieces.

Lord Balaji stands with particular posture of His hands to indicate that ocean of material existence is only knee deep for his devotees. The same Lord Venkateshwara has descended in the city of Pune and similarly attracting thousands of people to His temple.

Inside sanctum sanctorum of the Balaji temple, there are utsava-murtis of Lord Vishnu, His consorts Sridevi, Bhudevi and Andal, and the weapon personified of the Lord-Sudarshan.



### Garudaji



Outside temple facing toward Lord Balaji is deity of Garudaji- the carrier of the Lord who is taking blessed Darshan of Balaji, always eager to serve Him, awaiting His Master's instruction.

## **Vision of ISKCON New Vedic Cultural Centre**

- Building a devotional community that inspires the visitors as one big family of members who possess love, care, concern, trust and respect for one another that comes as an outgrowth of one's devotion to the Supreme Lord.
- Offering the visitors an experience of their rich Vedic Cultural heritage of India through Deity Worship, Diorama shows, dance, drama, discourses, music, art, sculpture, etc. and abundant opportunity for the individuals to express their devotion and service to God through their talents.

## **Mission of ISKCON NVCC**

- Offering Education and training in the sublime wisdom and practical application of Vedas in the modern times, to bring out the best talents from the visitors, through seminars, courses, gatherings, camps, Meditation techniques, Multimedia theatre display, etc.

We want to create & maintain facilities like seminar halls, multimedia theatre, diorama shows for the service visitors of all age groups and likings. We want to give the unique privilege of helping for these facilities to many fortunate souls like you.