

GOD Canada newsletter – September 2021

North America wide Krishna Janmashtami Celebration

<http://godivinity.org/news/north-america-wide-krishna-janmashtami-celebration-via-zoom/>

Cherished Memories - The Sole Protector Against Evils

This series chronicles interesting experiences recounted by the devotees of HH Maharanyam Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji.

Whenever Sri Guruji visited our city, His ardent devotees would invite His Holiness to their respective houses. Sri Guruji, amidst His hectic schedule, somehow finds time in between his programs and graces them by visiting their houses. One such visit was paid to a devotee's home during His recent trip to Bangalore.

Along with Sri Guruji, we reached this devotee's house sometime in the morning. As usual the devotee and his entire family happily welcomed Sri Guruji into their house. They prostrated before Sri Guruji once He was seated. However, His Holiness, from his usual calm and composed nature,

quickly became anxious and restless. He began walking all around the house; He walked through the hall, peeked into the pooja room, moved to the kitchen and finally to the backyard, as if he was looking around for something. Once back inside the house, He began questioning the devotee's wife (DW).

G – 'Did anyone visit your house recently between my previous visit and this one? and did that person hand over any Rakshai or Chakram(talisman or amulets)?'.

Unfortunately at that moment the devotee being so overwhelmed with Sri Guruji's act, couldn't remember anything at all!

DW – 'No'.

Ofcourse our Guruji, the wire-puller of everything knows exactly what he was doing. He began asking rather relentlessly all the questions over and over again.

G – 'Are there any new items added to your pooja room?'

DW – 'No'.

Meanwhile the devotee just didnt seem to remember or couldnt relate to what Guruji was asking.

G – 'Did anyone give you a mantra upadesa?'

DW – 'No'.

However Guruji went ahead with what seemed like an interrogation, ofcourse only to help the devotee. As a silent spectator of this entire episode, I simply began praying to the Lord Almighty to help this devotee's wife remember and answer what exactly our Guruji was asking about.

G – 'Did anyone give you some prasadam or vibuthi?'

It just flashed then and she answered 'Yes'.

She continued saying 'A Sadhu came on a thursday. I was reading the 'Sat Charithra'. He knocked on the door and said he was from Shirdi and he gave some vibhuti'.

G – 'Did he give a packet full of vibhuti or did he simply made it appear in his hands and then gave it to you?'

DW – 'Yes Guruji, he made it appear out of nowhere and then gave it to me. I gave him Rs.100/-, he didnt accept it, then i gave him Rs.500/-, he still refused to take it. Finally he settled for Rs. 2000/-'.

To which our Guruji said 'Did you not understand then and there that he was a quack and was here only for money? Why didnt you give some money and send him away? Why did you fall for his gimmicks and take things from him?'. Later that day, the family had found the vibhuti turned into a jasmine flower like state.

G continued, 'Did he give anything else? To anybody else in the family?'

DW – 'Yes that person also gave rudrakshams...'

G – ‘Did he say or give anything to your daughter-in-law and to your grandson as well?’

DW- ‘Yes one rudraksham for my daughter-in-law’.

Sri Guruji now seemed upset and raised his voice saying – ‘Get all of those things immediately.....’

Then all those things were collected and Sri Guruji asked the devotee’s son to get rid of the same by throwing it all in a lake.

The entire episode is literally another miracle right before my eyes and I was actually trembling to sit beside him in the car later that day.

The very moment He had stepped into that devotee’s house, He had felt disturbed with some negative vibes and His Holiness, out of sheer compassion, guided the family to safety.

Sri Guruji then asked the family to organise a Nama-Chanting session at their house. The family duly obeyed our Guruji’s instruction and happily conducted the same within the following few weeks.

This instance is testimonial to the fact that our Guruji, his holiness, even though is upset with some of us for getting distracted so easily inspite of his immense guidance, is indeed still the sole protector of his devotees. We are very fortunate to have a caring and wonderful Guruji who protects us against all evil, day in and day out.

Originally Published in Maduramurali Magazine.

Fond Memories Of Bliss – Part 11

This series chronicles interesting experiences recounted by the devotees of HH Maharanyam Sri Sri Muralidhara Swamiji. These articles are from the series, “Fond memories of Bliss” that is published Namadwaar.org

This incident occurred almost 20 years ago. Sri Swamiji was in a constant state of vicharam those days. Sri Swamiji was immersed in self-enquiry and thoughts about the atman, impermanence of the body and mind. Anything and everything that occurred would trigger self-enquiry and He would dive deep within His self spontaneously.

On this particular afternoon, Sri Swamiji happened to pass by a rather quiet street. A few vehicles were speeding past up and down the street. There was a lamp-post on one side. As Swamiji walked down that street, he accidentally bumped into the lamp-post. What would an average person do in such a situation? What would be his reaction? He would probably curse the lamp-post or himself and move on in a hurry.

But what was Sri Swamiji’s reaction? At first He thought “ Oh! The lamp-post has hit me” No sooner did that thought appear than a second thought that rose immediately “ No! Wait! Did the lamp-post hit me or did I strike the lamp-post?” This thought had a cascading effect and drove him inward into self-enquiry. He went deeper and deeper within his Self and totally lost himself. It was as if He got struck with that thought and went into a deep trance. Hours rolled by and there was no movement at all. The passers-by would have, naturally, wondered if something was wrong with Him. This lasted for a very long duration after which He slowly regained consciousness. That is when Sri Swamiji realized how long He had been standing there.

GOVINDA'S FAMILY – GOVINDANUKKU

AATPATTA KUDUMBAMAMMA 3

(Family beholden to Govinda!)

This series was originally published in Tamil MadhuraMurali monthly magazine in India, as a 12-part series. Based on Sri Swamiji's Madhuraageetham, "Govindanukku Aatpatta Kudumbamamma Engal Kudumbam", it speaks beautifully of how the family members of our satsang lead / need to lead their lives.

This is the translation of the fourth article in this series. We shall see each of the following parts in the coming issues.



Image courtesy: MadhuraMurali magazine

(How will the fortunate family, that leads a life of servitude to Govinda, be? Our Sri Swamiji's Madhuraageetham beautifully picturizes and shows this...)

Dharma is of two types – one is the Vedic Dharma of daanam (charity), vratham (fasting), tapas (penance), homam (sacrificial offerings), japam (chanting), learning the Vedas, dhyanam (meditation), etc. that are in the form of sadhana; and the second called Bhagavata Dharma, which is the fruit of the sadhana. Even if both these dharmas are part of our Sanatana Dharma, we call the first dharma which is in the form of sadhana as 'saamaanya dharma' ('generic' dharma) and the second dharma that is in the form of its fruit of bhakti, jnana, vairagyam as the visesha (special) 'bhagavata dharma'.

If we take care of and grow a good crop, then we can harvest and enjoy the abundant grains. These two dharmas are like this only.

Due to Govinda's causeless compassion, as the result of merits of many crores of births, some families get the association of a great Satguru. As a result of following saamaanya dharma earnestly, for many crores of births, some families obtain entry into the visesha dharma of 'bhagavata dharma'.

Govinda's grace is indeed Guru's grace – can there be a difference between these two? This Madhuraageetham paints the way of life of these satsang families who are protected by Govinda's grace.

gOvindanukkATpaTTa kuDumbammaA engal kuDumbam

1.illaRatthil irundiDuvOm, nallaRangaL seydiDuvOm

'ellAm avan iShTam' enDru eNNi allal paDamATTOM

Govinda's grace is also like the great shower of rain from which He protected His Gopas – yes this is also a great, nectarine shower of rain! This is a sweet rain that pours on everyone, without seeing any differences. But somehow only a few fortunate people truly feel this grace. It is the same Govinda, who takes care of and protects innumerable worlds, who also

takes care of and protects all the families in this world too, isn't it? Satsang families who have received the grace of the Guru realize this and feel blessed! This Madhuraageetham is indeed like the song sung by them, like an expression of their feeling of blessedness and fortune, and like their deep reminiscence of Bhagavan's grace.

"The head of our family is indeed Govinda! From the smallest issue onwards, it is He who sincerely conducts everything. This is our fortune. Whatever is needed for us, He arranges that for us Himself. Whatever has to be taken away from our lives, He does so Himself. People in the world say that family life is a 'burden'! Learned Vedic scholars say that worldly life is full of fear! But we don't feel any burden; nor do we have any fear! This is because our Govinda so elegantly runs our lives and has taken on our family responsibility. If we ask, 'What are we doing then?'- because of the love we have for Him, thinking again and again with gratitude of His compassion, we are leading our lives without bringing a frown to His divine face, in a way that is approved of by Him. That's all! We live blissfully in His servitude!"

"gOvindanukkATpaTTa kuDumbamammA engal kuDumbam..."

"Oh what is the nectar that Govinda pours on us! Even the daughters-in-law and sons-in-law who come into our family live in satsang. Even before a little Kitta or a dear little Radhe come into our families, they listen to Bhagavatam, listen to the Mahamantra, and obtain the kataksha of our Satguru. So as a baby itself, their talk is all about Guru, Krishna, Radhai. This is how our family is completely... "gOvindanukkATpaTTa kuDumbamammA engal kuDumbam..."

"illaRatthil irundiDuvOm..."

In Srimad Bhagavatam, when explaining how those following householder dharma should be, Sri Krishna tells Uddhava Swami,

शिलोञ्छवृत्त्या परितुष्टचित्तो

धर्मं महान्तं विरजं जुषाणः ।

मय्यर्पितात्मा गृह एव तिष्ठन्

नातिप्रसक्तः समुपैति शान्तिम् ॥

shilonchavṛttyA paritushTa-chitto

dharmam mahAntam virajam jushANah

mayi arpitAtmA gruha eva tishThan

nAtiprasaktah samupaiti shAntim

“By leading his life in unchavritti dharma, he attains happiness of mind, stays free from desires for results, performs many good actions, keeps his mind absorbed in Me, lives without much attachment to family, and simply while living in the household, he attains the highest peace!”

“In this way, we live exemplifying the household that Krishna envisioned. ‘How is it possible?’ if one asks, it is all His grace only! While living in the household, we will wholeheartedly continue to perform good deeds that please Krishna-Guru such as bhagavata seva, gracious hospitality, charity to the needy, and whatever little that can be done within our means. What our Gurunathar sings also seems to show our fortune, doesn’t it?

shrl hariyE endan guruvAvAn (Sri Hari is indeed my Guru)

parivuDan ennai ATkoNDa (shrl hari) (He is one who has taken me over, with immense compassion)

aRivonDrumillAda endanai kuRiyAy (Targetting me, who has no intellect)

kuRaiyonDrumillAda gOvindanE koNDAn (Govinda, the faultless, has taken me over)

avan ATTivaikka nAn ADuginDrEn (I move as He moves me)

avan iTTa paDi iruppadilum sukham onDruNDu (There is a joy in living as He keeps me)

oppuyarvillAda gOvindaniDam (To that Govinda who has no equal)

oppuvitthEn endanai muraLIdharan nAnE (I, Muralidhara, have surrendered myself)

Just like Sri Krishna says “mayi arpitAtmA...”, we also think that everything is His wish, give all our responsibilities to Him, and watching and reminiscing again and again the leela of how He conducts our life, we remain “samupaiti shAntim” and never worry. Instead, thinking of the wonderful blessing where Govinda Himself takes the responsibility of our family on Himself and conducts it, we are overcome with awe! While learned scholars lament that this life of samsara is full of sorrow, we on the other hand say,

“illaRatthil irundiDuvOm nallaRangaL seydiDuvOm ‘ellAm avan iShTam’
enDru eNNi allal paDamATTOM”

(We shall live in the family, we shall perform good deeds, we shall lead our life without worries, thinking, ‘Everything is indeed His will!’)

Sri M. K. Ramanujam, Chennai, India

Originally published in Tamil MadhuraMurali magazine

Madhurageetham - Krishna Leelai - 02

We are now relishing Sri Swamiji's compositions on Krishna leela. This is the second song in this series.

Bhagavan Sri Krishna was born in a prison room, with 4 hands, carrying his conch & mace. Devaki matha and vasudeva were very much delighted at the sight of little krishna. However they were also afraid of Kamsa, Devaki's brother. He is waiting to kill little krishna. Sri krishna understood the predicament of his parents and so, he asks his father , Vasudeva, to carry him to gokula and leave him there and bring back the girl who was born to Nanda baba.

This song narrates how vasudeva goes to Gokula and brings back maya in place of Shri Krishna. It was a dark night with heavy rains and the river , which Vasudeva had to cross to go to Gokula, was overflowing. Adhishesha provided cover from rain and the river split and gave path to vasudeva.

ராகம்: ஆஹிரி

தாளம்: ஆதி

01. காரிருள் தனிலே கார்முகில் பொழிய

இடியுடன் மின்னலும் விண்ணில் தோன்ற

சல சல என்றிடும் யமுனை வழிவிட

பலப்பல எண்ணங்கள் மனதில் தோன்ற

கோகுலம் செல்கின்றான் - வஸுதேவன்

02. கருணாமூர்த்தியை கமலநாதனை

கரங்களினால் பற்றி சிரஸினில் தரித்து

ஆயிரம் தலைநாகம் குடையாக நிற்க

மானிட உருக்கொண்ட மாயன் இவனுடன்

கோகுலம் செல்கின்றான் - வஸுதேவன்

03. கோகுலம் அடைந்து பரமனை பிரிந்து
தேவியை கொண்டு ஆனந்தமடைந்து
பைய பைய வியப்புடன் நடந்து
யாருமறியாமல் பாரோர் புகழும்
மதுரா செல்கிறான் - வஸுதேவன்

04. முழுமதி முகமும் நன்முத்து பற்களும்
அசைந்திடும் கண்களும் அழகிய அதரமும்
சுருண்ட கேசமும் மருண்ட பார்வையும்
இதயத்தில் தோன்ற பரவசமடைந்து
மதுரா செல்கின்றான் - வஸுதேவன்

rAgam: Ahiri

thALam: Adi

01. kAriruL thanilE kArmugil pozhiya
iDiyuDan minnalum viNNil thOnDra
chala chala enDriDum yamunai vazhi viDa
palappala eNNangaL manadil thOnDra
gOkulam selginDrAn - vasudEvan

02. karuNAmUrtthiyai kamalAnAthana
karangaLinAl paTri shirasinil tharitthu
Ayiram thalainAgam kuDaiyAga niRka
mAniDa urukkoNDa mAyan ivanuDan
gOkulam selginDrAn - vasudEvan

03. gOkulam aDaindu paramanaip pirindu
dEviyai koNDu AnandamaDaindu
paiya paiya viyappuDan naDandu
yArumaRiyAmal pArOr pugazhum
madhurA selginDrAn - vasudEvan
04. muzhumadi mugamum nanmutthu paRkaLum
asaindiDum kaNgaLum azhagiya adaramum
suruNDa kEsamum maruNDa pArvaiyum
idayatthil thOnDra paravasamaDaindu
madhurA selginDrAn - vasudEvan

Aug 2021 Edmonton Monthly Satsang Report:

By the immense grace of Sri Swamiji and Sri Madhuri Sakhi Sametha Premika Varadha Takurji, GOD Satsang families did Naama satsangs in August 2021.

Aug 2021 Toronto Monthly Satsang Report:

By the immense grace of Sri Swamiji and Sri Madhuri Sakhi Sametha Premika Varadha Takurji, Toronto GOD Satsang families had weekly satsangs in August 2021.

Apart from the weely satsangs, Toronto GOD satsang Family had the following special events.

Aug 05: Ekadasi Akanda nama from 5:30 am to 11 am

Aug 18: Ekadasi Akanda nama from 5:30 am to 11 am

Aug 22 - 28 - Srimad Bhagavada Parayanam via zoom to celebrate Sri krishna Janmashtami

Upcoming Events:

Sep 11 - Radha ashtami Satsang

60 days satsang to celebrate Sri G's 60th Jayanthi

Sep 9 – Sep 15	Nama Saptaham
Sep 16 – Sep 24	Srimad Ramayana Navaham (parayanam)
Sep 25 – Oct 08	Sri Madhuraageetham utsavam
Oct 09 – Nov 04	Srimad Bhagavatam Nakshatra Parayanam
Nov 05 - Nov 07	Sri Narayaneeyam
Nov 08	Guru Kirtan Utsav