

Akram Youth

August 2024 English

Dada Bhagwan Parivar



Shree Krishna Means

The One Who Became a Narayan (God) From a Nar (Human)!

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Year: 12. Issue: 4
Cont. Issue: 136
August 2024

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Printer & Published by

Dimple Mehta on behalf of
Mahavideh Foundation
Simandhar City, Adalaj - 382421.
Taluka & Dist - Gandhinagar

Owned by & Published from :

Mahavideh Foundation
Simandhar City, Adalaj - 382421.
Taluka & Dist - Gndhinagar

Printed at :

Amba Multiprint
Opp. H B Kapadiya New High School,
Chhtral-Pratappura Road,
At-Chhatral, Tal. Kalol
Dist. Gandhinagar – 382729.

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Total 24 Pages with Cover page



Editorial

Lord Shree Krishna was present thousands of years ago, yet even today, people remember Him with great devotion and worship Him. Around the world, people are making efforts to incorporate the teachings of the Gita given by Lord Shree Krishna into their life. But do we truly know Lord Shree Krishna and what was in His heart?

Lord Krishna Himself said in the Bhagavad Gita to Arjun, “Oh, Arjun! You have not recognized my true form.” So then what is the true form of Lord Krishna? Is Lord Krishna the baby swaying in the cradle, or the mischievous son of Nand performing Raas (an Indian folk dance) with Radha and the Gopis? Is He the cowherd with the flute, or Arjun’s charioteer on the battlefield of Kurukshetra?

Shree Krishna is the one who became a Narayan (God) from a nar (human)! Param Pujya Dada Bhagwan gives us the true understanding of Lord Shree Krishna. He reveals what was in His heart. This issue is an attempt to give you a glimpse inside the heart of Lord Shree Krishna. The hope is that through this issue, on this Janmashtami, we will be able to worship Lord Shree Krishna with the true understanding of His form.



Who was He?



“Hey Harry! Will you write the script for a mythological film?” one of Harry’s friends asked in surprise.

“There must be a big offer, otherwise Harry wouldn’t do something like this!” another friend said.

“Seriously, someone who has never seen any religious serials in his life, someone who doesn’t even know if the golden deer was in the Ramayana or the Mahabharata, and today he’s going to write a mythological script! Too much!” a third friend added.

Everyone burst out laughing!

“Hey friends, it’s not just me. If you hear the director’s name and the offer, you’ll all be ready to write the script too,” said Harry, making everyone go silent.

“What are you talking about? Who is it?”

“What’s the offer?”

Harry called all his friends close by and whispered the answer in their ears.

“Wow! What are you saying! This is like winning the lottery, man!” one of Harry’s friends exclaimed loudly.

“Right. I have no interest in mythology, and I don’t even have any knowledge of it! But with an offer like this, I’ll study mythology. And working with such a young and successful director will be fun too,” Harry clarified.

“But friend, his scripts are very powerful, and you don’t even know the ‘M’ of mythology.”

“Well, then I accept the challenge!” Harry responded confidently.

Amongst his friends, Harry put on a brave face. But inside, he was really stressed. When he got home, he couldn’t sleep.

The next day, Harry caught the train to Mumbai and immediately got started. A week later, there was a meeting with the director. Harry decided to learn everything he could about Lord Krishna before that.

He started gathering as much information as possible by Googling, visiting various religious websites, using artificial intelligence tools, and watching the Mahabharata series.

Not only that, but there was a Lord Krishna temple on the campus where he was staying. He began visiting that temple as well as all the nearby temples in the area. Whenever he met a priest, a saint, or a guru, Harry would engage with them. At one place, there was a discourse on the Gita, and he even attended that.

After a week, there was a meeting with the director. The director was pleased to see Harry's enthusiasm. He had read some of Harry's other scripts, and the fact that a young guy had come to Mumbai to write a script on Lord Krishna was impressive to him. However, to test Harry, the director said,

"Harry, here are a few topics for some scenes. Write a draft script for any three of them. I'll give you two weeks' time. But yes! My rule is that we must present the truth to the world. Whatever you include must be backed by solid references, and make sure our script stands out from all the others. It must be unique." Saying this, the director extended his hand.

"Sure, sir. I won't disappoint you!" Harry responded, shaking the director's hand.

The fact that a young guy had come to Mumbai to write a script on Lord Krishna was impressive to him. However, to test Harry, the director said,



Harry's excitement knew no bounds. He was on the verge of landing a big contract.

After reaching his room, he looked at all the topics. The first scene was "Govardhan Mountain." Harry searched. He read that Lord Krishna had lifted up the Govardhan Mountain with just his pinky finger.

Harry thought, 'How can someone lift an entire mountain on his pinky finger? And why would he do that? Is this really true?'

Govardhan

on His Finger



Harry Googled, “Is the story of Shree Krishna and Govardhan Mountain true?” And what he read gave him a completely logical answer to this question.

Questioner: Is the story of lifting the Govardhan Mountain with his pinky finger true or a myth?

Krishna’s Govardhan – Cows’ Vardhan (Increase in Population)!

Dadashri: During the time of Lord Krishna, there was a significant increase in violence. So what did Lord Krishna do? He lifted the Govardhan Mountain with one finger. Now, lifting the Govardhan Mountain with one finger is the literal meaning. But people did not understand the subtle meaning. Govardhan means to increase the

population of cows. He did everything necessary for govardhan and goraksha (protection of cows). This is because the primary livelihood of the people of Hindustan depended on this. So, when violence increases significantly, leave everything else and prioritize protecting this first. And as for the carnivorous animals, we don’t need to do anything for them. These animals are anyways carnivorous. You don’t need to do anything for them. No one kills them, and they can’t be eaten either! Who would eat a cat? Who would eat a dog? No one eats them and no

one can eat them either. So, govardhan and goraksha, these are the two things to be prioritized first.

There should be many efforts made for govardhan. What Lord Krishna did by lifting Govardhan on one finger was a very noble act! He established govardhan all over and started many cow shelters. He ensured that thousands of cows would be nurtured. He emphasized these two things: govardhan and goraksha. By providing them protection, the violence against them stopped. And then, milk, ghee, and all such things became available everywhere! Therefore, instead of just saving cows, it is crucial to increase the population of cows.

There are this many benefits to keeping cows; there are this many benefits in cow milk, and there are this many benefits in cow ghee. All this should be openly discussed, and while it may not be a mandatory thing, it should be explained to people, and there should be a promotion of cows in every village so that the cow population increases significantly. Earlier, they used to maintain cow shelters everywhere, keeping thousands of cows. So, there is a need to increase the number of cows. Now, the cow population is not increasing. But we cannot force this on anyone. However, if we don't speak up, it would be a sin.

Questioner: We don't free the cows, but we do prevent them from going (to the slaughterhouse).

Dadashri: Yes, stop them from going. Explain to their owners not to do this. Right now, focus on govardhan and goraksha; these two should be prioritized first. Everything else is secondary! Once these are accomplished, then move on to other things.

That is why Lord Krishna emphasized govardhan and goraksha. And the people who performed govardhan were the gops and gopis. Gop means those who take care of cows!

Questioner: This concept of govardhan is entirely new to me.

Dadashri: Yes, there are indeed many such things. But if they are explained in detail, then it will be beneficial. Otherwise, there are many such stories, and they are all true. But people took them literally. They say, "He lifted the Govardhan Mountain." Then the foreign scientists say, "This is nonsense. How could someone lift a mountain? If he could lift it, then why didn't he lift the Himalayas? And why did he die from the mere strike of an arrow?" But it wasn't like that.

He did govardhan in a very beautiful way, because at that time, violence had increased significantly.

Harry really liked what he read.

He wrote the first scene immediately. On one side, he kept the metaphor of Lord Krishna lifting the Govardhan Mountain with his pinky finger, and on the other side, he wrote the script based on its true meaning.

"Phew! The first scene is done. Let's see, what should I write about next!" Harry started researching the details of the next scene given by the director.

Dancing on the Head of A Deadly Serpent



“Oh! Suppressing the serpent Kaliya.”
When Harry started his research, he first came across a story.

The young Kanudo (Lord Krishna's childhood name) is bringing the cows to the riverbank to have them drink water. His friends are playing the game Gilli Danda nearby. They invite Kanudo to join them in the game. As they all play, the ball falls into the river.

Kanudo says, "The ball fell because of me. I'll go into the river and fetch it."

But his friends warn him, "Don't go into the river. The deadly serpent Kaliya lives here. He's very poisonous and is probably sleeping right now!"

Despite his friends' warnings, Kanudo jumps into the river to get the ball. Kaliya the serpent is indeed sleeping at that time. When Kaliya's wife sees a small boy in the river, she warns him to run away.

"Oh child, run away. If our master wakes up, he will kill you!"

But why would Kanudo listen? He stubbornly wakes up the serpent.

Kaliya becomes furious, turning red with anger. He approaches Krishna to kill him. But the young Kanudo fights the serpent and defeats him, then dances on his head.

Seeing all this, Kanudo's friends are left astonished on the riverbank. The entire village gathers to witness the scene. Eventually, the serpent leaves the river, and the water of the Yamuna River becomes pure again.

Harry read this story twice. Then a thought occurred to him.

'Oh, come on! This story doesn't seem true! How could a small boy fight a serpent in the river and dance on such a huge serpent's head?'

He was pondering this when suddenly, a ball came flying and hit the glass window of his house with force. The moment the ball hit the glass, it shattered. He opened the window to see some kids playing carelessly. Harry was irritated with them.

"You... nonsense! Playing cricket recklessly on the street? Who will repair this window now?" Harry was angry. But the kids were standing below, laughing. This made Harry even angrier.

"Laughing? Wait! I'll deal with you..." Harry, in his anger, went down to scold the kids more, but by then, they had all disappeared. Disappointed, Harry returned home, covered the broken glass with some paper, and got back to his work.

Instead of searching elsewhere for information about the defeat of Kaliya, he went back to the same website, www.dadabhagwan.org, and searched again.

As he read further, Harry learned something that completely changed his mood!



Dadashri: Five thousand years ago, the story of Kaliya the serpent was depicted as a metaphor. Krishna actually did not defeat the serpent Kaliya. The serpent represents the anger that arises in you, the anger that makes you frustrated.

To subdue a snake is the work of a snake charmer, so what does Lord Krishna have to do with it? Why would Lord Krishna need to subdue a snake? Didn't he know a snake charmer?

But people do not understand this and continue to take the metaphor literally. Whenever a serpent is defeated, Lord Krishna is present there. Here, the serpent represents anger. When you subdue your anger, you become like Krishna. The one who destroys his karma is Krishna!

Harry became deeply absorbed in thought. As he pondered, he moved closer to the window.

"I see! Kaliya the serpent, is actually a symbol of anger. He doesn't reside in the Yamuna River, but inside each of us. He poisons our lives and relationships. When someone provokes the serpent of anger within us, we erupt in flames and attack them!" Harry thought this over and then wrote the next scene.

But as he continued writing, Harry's heart softened. He remembered the anger he had felt towards the children just a while ago and felt regret. A thought occurred to him, "Lord Krishna subdued his anger, but I just let my anger take over!"

“Krishna was a Vasudev. What does a Vasudev mean? It means the enjoyer of all things, but also the one who is eligible for moksha, an extraordinary being!”

- Param Pujya Dada Bhagwan



The True Meaning



After that, Harry found himself reading more and more on the same website!

Gopi does not refer to any woman. The term Gop refers to a person who cares for and protects cows, and that's how the name Gopi came to be.

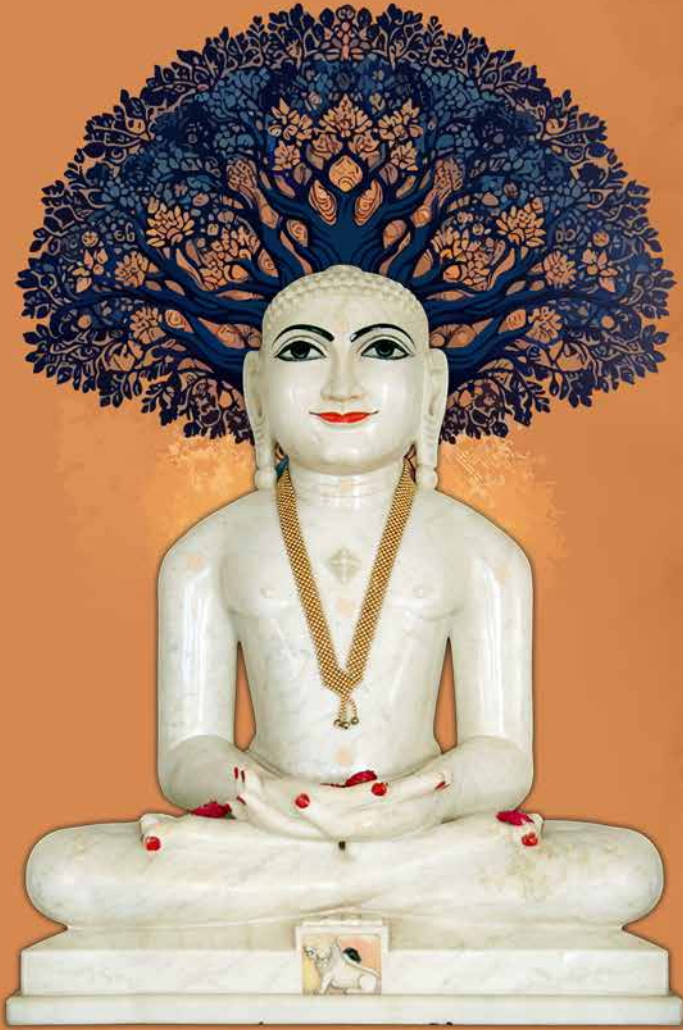
The word Radha is derived from the word Radh. The effort to become one with the divine is called Radh, which means worship or devotion. Where there is the worship of the Lord, meaning where there is Radha, there Krishna will surely be present!



Lord Shree Krishna's Sudarshan Chakra was not a weapon. Instead, it symbolized the Samyak Darshan (Right Vision of 'I am pure Soul') that Lord Shree Krishna received from Lord Neminath, who was his paternal cousin and a Tirthankar Lord. When one realizes that the one with a name and a body is not the true Self, all wrong beliefs shatter, and the right belief, 'I am pure Soul' takes its place. This right belief is what is known as Samyak Darshan.

“Oh! We had always heard that Shree Krishna played raas leela (an Indian folk dance) with the Gopis and Radha! But now I've learned the fact! I feel that Lord Krishna is still a secret to the whole world.”

As Harry continued to learn more about Lord Shree Krishna, his devotion towards Him grew deeper and deeper!



A Future Tirthankar Lord



Harry became curious about what the scriptures have written about Shree Krishna. He read a book on the subject and learned something entirely new.

Lord Shree Krishna was married, but he had great reverence for all celibates and renunciates!

Vasudev Shree Krishna once told Lord Neminath, the Tirthankar Lord, that while he could not take initiation into monkhood himself, he was willing to adopt everyone in his kingdom who wished to do so. He said he would celebrate their initiation into monkhood as if it were his own son or daughter's event. He promised to take care of their entire family for life, ensuring their well-being and protection.

Such was the incredible support and encouragement from Lord Krishna. Because of him, many people could take initiation into monkhood and make efforts to attain salvation.

On one occasion, he even prostrated in front of a total of 18,000 saints. It is said that he should have felt more fatigue from showing heartfelt respect to 18,000 saints than the physical fatigue he felt from fighting 360 battles, but instead, the fatigue he had accumulated over many lifetimes was relieved!

What did Lord Shree Krishna achieve by offering such heartfelt respect to 18000 saints? Lord Shree Krishna attained Kshayak Samkit (right belief of 'I am pure Soul') and bound the status as a Tirthankar! This means that in the next cycle of 24 Tirthankar Lords, Lord Shree Krishna will be one of them!



A Naishthik Brahmachari

Despite Having Thousands of Queens

Harry became very happy. He gathered more information from the website www.dadabhagwan.org. He learned that there is a Nishpakshpati Trimandir (impartial temple) in Borivali, Mumbai, where Lord Shree Krishna is also enshrined. Harry thought that to do further research, he should visit this temple.



He caught a direct local train and got off at Borivali. From there, he reached the temple and did darshan of Lord Krishna. For the first time, he saw that in one temple, there were various forms of Lord Shree Krishna such as Bal Krishna, Shrinathji, Garudji, Tirupati Balaji, and Yogeshwar Shri Krishna; all were present!

After doing darshan, Harry started looking for the priest. He saw a man wearing a simple white lengho and kurta who was praying. Harry felt that this person might be living here. He approached him and asked, "Excuse me! I'm writing a script on the life of Lord Krishna. I visited your website, and it was very interesting, so I came to this temple. I want to learn a bit more about Him." Harry said in one breath.

"Sure. What is your name?" the man asked.

"Harry... I mean Harsh!" Harry replied.

"What would you like to ask, Harshbhai?" the man asked calmly.

"I read that Radha is not a person, but a metaphor for anyone who worships Lord Krishna. And Lord Krishna was a naishtik brahmachari. I don't understand this."

"Yes, indeed. A naishtik brahmachari is one who has the constant inner intent to follow celibacy," the man replied calmly.

"Celibacy means being single, right? But how is that possible? He had thousands of queens," Harry asked immediately.



“Yes, let me ask you a question, Harshbhai. Tell me, if a person gives charity outwardly but, in his mind, he thinks, ‘Why should I give charity to these people? Instead, I should take from them!’ Would that still count as a donation?”

“It would and it also would not. Outwardly, it counts as a donation, but not through the mind.” Harry answered with his understanding.

“Right. So, outwardly, it is an act of charity, but through inner intent, it isn’t charity,” the man explained. “Similarly, if another person commits theft, but internally, he constantly regrets it and feels, ‘I shouldn’t be stealing,’ then he may steal outwardly, but through his inner intent, he isn’t truly a thief. Isn’t that correct?”

“Oh, I see!” Harry began to understand. “So, is it like, even though Lord Krishna had so many queens, his inner intent was for celibacy?” Harry clarified his understanding.

“Exactly. What we do outwardly is not as important as the intent in our heart. However, Lord Krishna was an extraordinary being. He enjoyed all things but was also eligible for moksha! That’s why it was possible for him,” the man explained. “But we don’t have the strength to manage thousands of queens, do we?” he joked. Harry couldn’t help but laugh.

“Do you live here?” Harry enjoyed talking with the man, so he tried to learn more about him.

“Outwardly, it is an act of charity, but through inner intent, it isn’t charity,” the man explained. “Similarly, if another person commits theft, but internally, he constantly regrets it and feels, ‘I shouldn’t be stealing,’ then he may steal outwardly, but through his inner intent, he isn’t truly a thief. Isn’t that correct?”

“Yes, we live here and serve the temple,” the man replied briefly.

“So, you live here with your family?” Harry asked further.

“Yes, my family, meaning my fellow brothers and I live together. We are celibate brothers,” the man said humbly.

“Oh, so you are also a celibate?” Harry asked.

“Yes, but without the queens!” the man replied with a laugh.

Harry and the man both burst into laughter.

The man then took Harry to the temple store and gave him a book, saying that it would help him learn more about Shree Krishna. Harry thanked the man, took his phone number, and they parted ways.

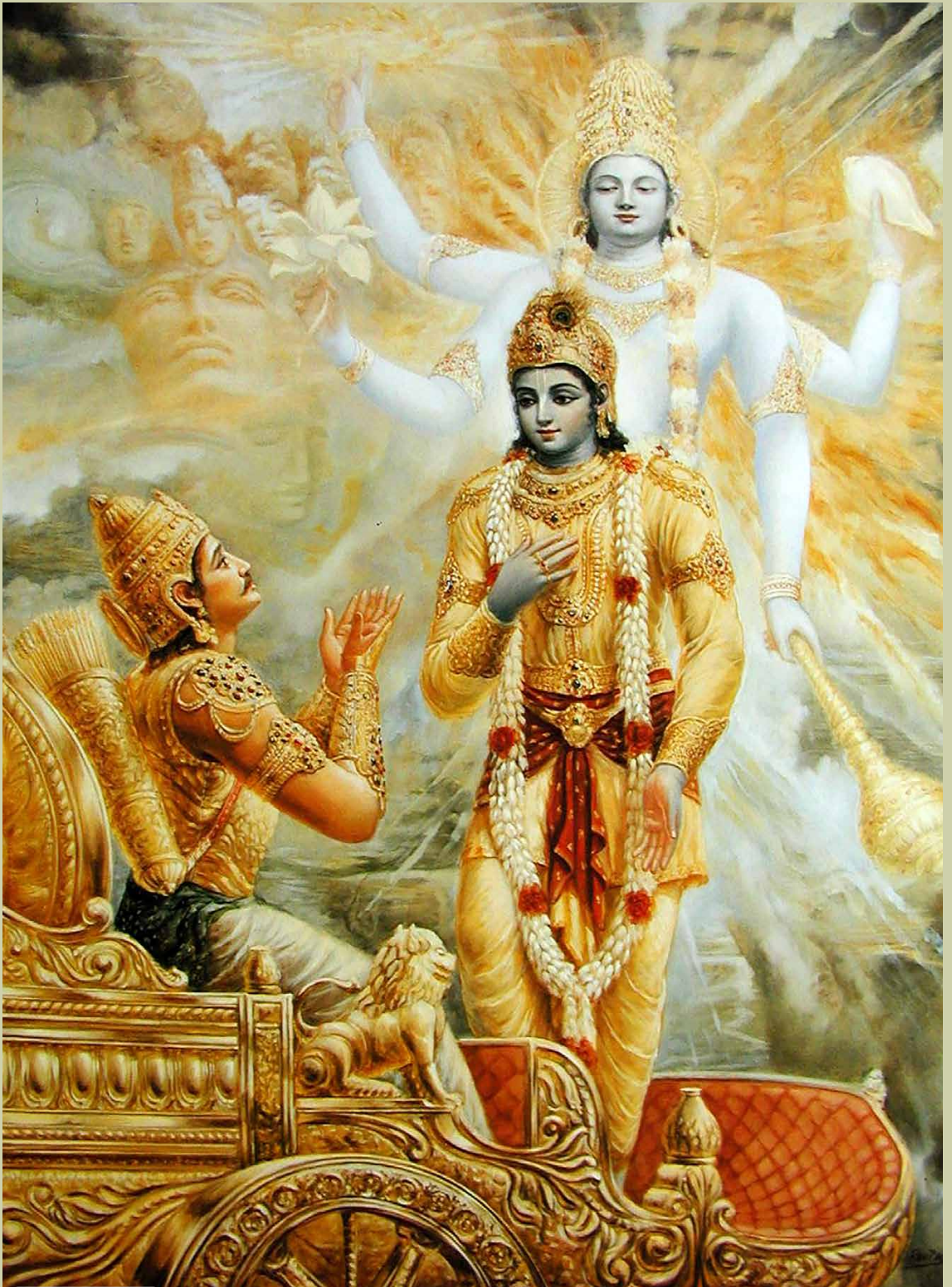
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Shree Krishna's Heartfelt Words



Late at night, while lying in bed, Harry began reading the book.

Dadashri: In the Gita, Lord Krishna wishes to convey just two words. People are unable to understand these two words, so the entire Gita was presented in its vast form, and people wrote numerous commentaries to try to grasp its meaning.

Lord Krishna himself says, “What I want to convey in the Gita, only one in a thousand can understand the literal meaning. Out of the one thousand who understand the literal meaning, only one can understand the subtle meaning. Out of the one thousand who understand the subtle meaning, only one can understand the subtler meaning. And out of the one thousand who understand the subtler meaning, only one can truly understand the subtlest meaning, which is my true intent!” Only such a person can understand what Lord Krishna really wanted to say.

Now, in a population of 3.5 billion, who can truly understand Lord Krishna? The two words that Lord Krishna wished to convey can only be understood and spoken by someone who has become Krishna himself. It's beyond the reach of anyone else.

Today, 'we' have come as Krishna ourselves, so get your spiritual work done!

After reading this, many questions arose in Harry's mind!

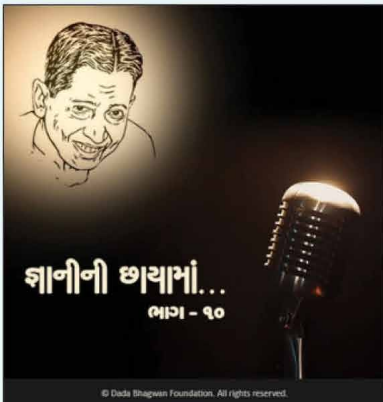
Who is this Dadashri?

What is the true meaning of the Gita?

What did Lord Krishna want to say?

Harry immediately realized that this was not the end of his understanding of Lord Krishna, but rather just the beginning. He decided to stay in Borivali for his research so that he could commute to the temple daily. He then made another resolve; to truly understand the real meaning of the Gita.

Spiritual Songs



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Gnani ni Chhaya ma - 10
06 Confusion Hay Kitni thi

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By Dada's Youth

Poem

Koi matki mor peenchthi olakhe, koi gay Govardhanthi jaane chhe...
Bhaktgan Jagannathna juda juda swarupni bhakti maane chhe...

Koi rizave Ranchhod vali koi baal swarupne laad ladave chhe...
Koi kahe gayonno Gopal, koi dwarkadhishne shish namave chhe...

Haath Sudarshan hova chhata samar bhoomi ma Arjun ne shu samjavve chhe?
Mool purushona hridayni vaat to koi viralo jag pase lave chhe...

Atma Gnani hata, naisthik brahmachari hata, puri olakh aape chhe...
Dada purna swarupne olakhine Yogeshwarni purn chhabi chaape chhe...

Dadani drashtie joya pachi e shamaliyo samajma aave chhe...
E Arjun tana Shree Sarathi sahune mokshni disha batave chhe...

Year: 12, Issue: 4
Cont. Issue: 136
August 2024

Date of Publication 22nd of every month
RNI No. GUJENG/2013/53112

The one who destroys his karma is Krishna!



Send your suggestions and feedback at: akramyouth@dadabhagwan.org
Publisher, Printer & Editor - Dimple Mehta on Behalf of Mahavideh Foundation
Printed at Amba Multiprint, Opp. H B Kapadiya New High School, Chhtral-Pratappura Road,
At-Chhatral, Tal. Kalol, Dist. Gandhinagar – 382729.