

Hare Krishna Society Prabhupada Disciples Association

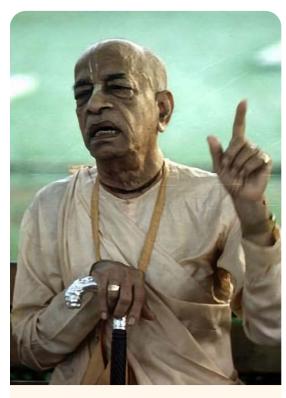


Monthly Newsletter

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May 2024

Under the Guidance, Inspiration and Authority of **His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda** Founder-Ācārya of the Krishna Consciousness Movement and Foremost Exponent of Krishna Consciousness in the Western World



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Śrīla Prabhupāda Explains Narasiṁha Līlā

Compiled by Yaśodā nandana dāsa

Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva Slays the King of the Demons (SB 7.8 Summary)

As described in this chapter, Hiraṇyakaśipu was ready to kill his own son Prahlāda Mahārāja, but the Supreme Personality of Godhead appeared in front of the demon as Śrī Nṛkeśarī, half lion and half man, and killed him.

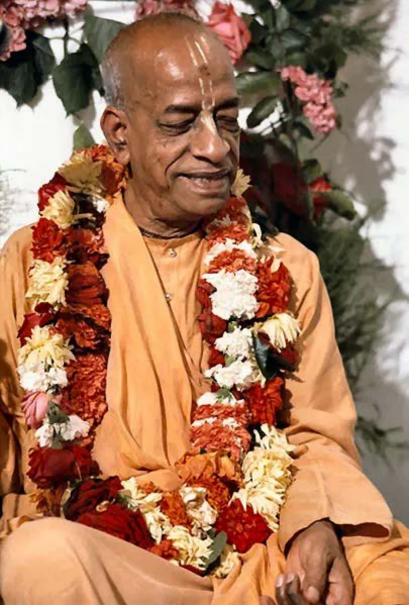
Following the instructions of Prahlāda Mahārāja, all the sons of the demons became attached to Lord Visnu, the Supreme Personality of Godhead. When this attachment became pronounced, their teachers, Sanda and Amarka, were very much afraid that the boys would become more and more devoted to the Lord. In a helpless condition, they approached Hiranyakaśipu and described in detail the effect of Prahlāda's preaching. After hearing of this, Hiranyakaśipu decided to kill his son Prahlāda. Hiraņyakaśipu was so angry that Prahlāda Mahārāja fell down at his feet and said many things just to pacify him, but he was unsuccessful in satisfying his demoniac father. Hiranyakaśipu, as a typical demon, began to advertise himself as being greater than the Supreme Personality of Godhead, but Prahlāda Mahārāja challenged him, saving that Hiranvakaśipu was not God, and began to glorify the Supreme Personality of Godhead, declaring that the Lord is all-pervading, that everything is under Him, and that no one is equal to or greater than Him. Thus he requested his father to be submissive to the omnipotent Supreme Lord.

The more Prahlāda Mahārāja glorified the Supreme Personality of Godhead, the more angry and agitated the demon became. Hiraņyakaśipu asked his Vaiṣṇava son whether his God existed within the columns of the palace, and Prahlāda Mahārāja immediately accepted that since the Lord is present everywhere, He was also present within the columns. When Hiraṇyakaśipu heard this philosophy from his young son, he derided the boy's statement as just the talk of a child and forcefully struck the pillar with his fist.

As soon as Hiraṇyakaśipu struck the column, there issued forth a tumultuous sound. At first Hiraṇyakaśipu, the King of the demons, could not see anything but the pillar, but to substantiate Prahlāda's statements, the Lord came out of the pillar in His wonderful incarnation as Narasimha, half lion



and half man. Hiraṇyakaśipu could immediately understand that the extraordinarily wonderful form of the Lord was surely meant for his death, and thus he prepared to fight with the form of half lion and half man. The Lord performed His pastimes by fighting with the demon for some time, and in the evening, on the border between day and night, the Lord captured the demon, threw him on His lap, and killed him by piercing his abdomen with His nails. The Lord not only killed Hiraṇyakaśipu, the King of the demons, but also killed



many of his followers. When there was no one else to fight, the Lord, roaring with anger, sat down on Hiraṇyakaśipu's throne.

The entire universe was thus relieved of the rule of Hiraṇyakaśipu, and everyone was jubilant in transcendental bliss. Then all the demigods, headed by Lord Brahmā, approached the Lord. These included the great saintly persons, the Pitās, the Siddhas, the Vidyādharas, the Nāgas, the Manus, the *prajāpatis*, the Gandharvas, the Cāraṇas, the Yakṣas, the Kimpuruṣas, the Vaitālikas, the Kinnaras and also many other varieties of beings in human form. All of them stood not far from the Supreme Personality of Godhead and began offering their prayers unto the Lord, whose spiritual effulgence was brilliant as He sat on the throne.

SB 7.8.28

taṁ śyena-vegaṁ śata-candra-vartmabhiś carantam acchidram upary-adho hariḥ kṛtvāṭṭa-hāsaṁ kharam utsvanolbaṇaṁ nimīlitākṣaṁ jagṛhe mahā-javaḥ

Translation: Making a loud, shrill sound of laughter, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Nārāyaṇa, who is extremely strong and powerful, captured Hiraṇyakaśipu, who was protecting himself with his sword and shield, leaving no gaps open. With the speed of a hawk, Hiraṇyakaśipu moved sometimes in the sky and sometimes on the earth, his eyes closed because of fear of Nṛsimhadeva's laughter.

SB 7.8.29

vișvak sphurantam grahaņāturam harir vyālo yathākhum kuliśākṣata-tvacam dvāry ūrum āpatya dadāra līlayā nakhair yathāhim garudo mahā-viṣam

Translation: As a snake captures a mouse or Garuda captures a very venomous snake, **Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva captured Hiraṇyakaśipu**, who could not be pierced even by the thunderbolt of King Indra. As Hiraṇyakaśipu moved his limbs here, there and all around, very much afflicted at being captured, Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva placed the demon on His lap, supporting him with His thighs, and in the doorway of the assembly hall the Lord very easily tore the demon to pieces with the nails of His hand.

Purport: Hiranyakaśipu had received from Lord Brahmā the benediction that he would not die on the land or in the sky. Therefore, to keep the promise of Lord Brahmā intact, Nrsimhadeva placed Hiranyakaśipu's body on His lap, which was neither land nor sky. Hiranyakaśipu had received the benediction that he would not die either during the day or at night. Therefore, to keep this promise of Brahmā, the Lord killed Hiranyakaśipu in the evening, which is the end of day and the beginning of night but is neither day nor night. Hiranyakaśipu had taken a benediction from Lord Brahmā that he would not die from any weapon or be killed by any person, dead or alive. Therefore, just to keep the word of Lord Brahmā, Lord Nṛsimhadeva pierced Hiraŋyakaśipu's body with His nails, which were not weapons and were neither living nor dead. Indeed, the nails can be called dead, but at the same time they can be said to be alive. To keep intact all of Lord Brahmā's benedictions, Lord Nrsimhadeva paradoxically but very easily killed the great demon Hiranyakaśipu.

SB 7.8.30

samrambha-duşprekşya-karāla-locano vyāttānanāntam vilihan sva-jihvayā asrg-lavāktāruņa-keśarānano yathāntra-mālī dvipa-hatyayā hariḥ

Translation: Lord Nrsimhadeva's mouth and mane were sprinkled with drops of blood, and His fierce eyes, full of anger, were impossible to look at. Licking the edge of His mouth with His tongue, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, **Nrsimhadeva, decorated with a garland of intestines taken from Hiraṇyakaśipu's abdomen, resembled a lion that has just killed an elephant.**

Purport: The hair on Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva's face, being sprinkled with drops of blood, was reddish and looked very beautiful. Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva pierced Hiraṇyakaśipu's abdomen with His nails, pulled out the demon's intestines and wore them as a garland, which enhanced His beauty. Thus the Lord became very fearsome, like a lion engaged in fighting an elephant.

SB 7.8.31

nakhāṅkurotpāṭita-hṛt-saroruhaṁ visṛjya tasyānucarān udāyudhān ahan samastān nakha-śastra-pāṇibhir dordaṇḍa-yūtho 'nupathān sahasraśaḥ

Translation: The Supreme Personality of Godhead, who had many, many arms, first uprooted Hiraṇyakaśipu's heart and then threw him aside and turned toward the demon's

soldiers. These soldiers had come in thousands to fight with Him with raised weapons and were very faithful followers of Hiraṇyakaśipu, but Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva killed all of them merely with the ends of His nails.

Purport: Since the creation of the material world, there have been two kinds of men—the *devas* and the *asuras*. The *devas* are always faithful to the Supreme Personality of Godhead, whereas the asuras are always atheists who defy the supremacy of the Lord. At the present moment, throughout the entire world, the atheists are extremely numerous. They are trying to prove that there is no God and that everything takes place due to combinations and permutations of material elements. Thus the material world is becoming more and more godless, and consequently everything is in a disturbed condition. If this continues, the Supreme Personality of Godhead will certainly take action, as He did in the case of Hiranyakaśipu. Within a second, Hiranyakaśipu and his followers were destroyed, and similarly if this godless civilization continues, it will be destroyed in a second, simply by the movement of one finger of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. The demons should therefore be careful and curtail their godless civilization. They should take advantage of the Krsna consciousness movement and become faithful to the Supreme Personality of Godhead; otherwise they are doomed. As Hiranyakaśipu was killed in a second, the godless civilization can be destroyed at any moment.

Connect with Devotees Worldwide

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PDA on WhatsApp: chat.whatsapp.com/JevdrxyE15R9xdEOGWHsUC

PDA Facebook group: fb.com/groups/PrabhupadaDisciples

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Hiraṇyakaśipu: The Personification of Material Desire

SB 5.18.8

oṁ namo bhagavate narasiṁhāya namas tejas-tejase āvir-āvirbhava vajra-nakha vajra-daṁṣṭra karmāśayān randhaya randhaya tamo grasa grasa oṁ svāhā; abhayam abhayam ātmani bhūyiṣṭhā oṁ kṣraum.

om—O Lord; namah—my respectful obeisances; bhagavate unto the Supreme Personality of Godhead; nara-simhāya known as Lord Nṛsimha; namah—obeisances; tejah-tejase—the power of all power; avih-avirbhava—please be fully manifest; vajra-nakha—O You who possess nails like thunderbolts; vajradamstra—O You who possess teeth like thunderbolts; karmaasayan—demoniac desires to be happy by material activities; randhaya randhaya—kindly vanquish; tamah—ignorance in the material world; grasa—kindly drive away; grasa—kindly drive away; om—O my Lord; svāhā—respectful oblations; abhayam fearlessness; abhayam—fearlessness; ātmani—in my mind; bhūyiṣṭhāḥ—may You appear; om—O Lord; kṣraum—the bīja, or seed, of mantras offering prayers to Lord Nṛsimha.

Translation

I offer my respectful obeisances unto Lord Nrsimhadeva, the source of all power. O my Lord who possesses nails and teeth just like thunderbolts, kindly vanquish our demonlike desires for fruitive activity in this material world. Please appear in our hearts and drive away our ignorance so that by Your mercy we may become fearless in the struggle for existence in this material world.

Purport

In *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* (4.22.39) Sanat-kumāra speaks the following words to Mahārāja Pṛthu:

yat-pāda-paṅkaja-palāśa-vilāsa-bhaktyā karmāśayaṁ grathitam udgrathayanti santaḥ tadvan na rikta-matayo yatayo 'pi ruddhasrotogaṇās tam araṇaṁ bhaja vāsudevam

"Devotees always engaged in the service of the toes of the



Lord's lotus feet can very easily become free from hardknotted desires for fruitive activities. Because this is very difficult, the nondevotees—the *jñānīs* and *yogīs*—cannot stop the waves of sense gratification, although they try to do so. Therefore you are advised to engage in the devotional service of Kṛṣṇa, the son of Vasudeva."

Every living being within this material world has a strong desire to enjoy matter to his fullest satisfaction. For this purpose, the conditioned soul must accept one body after another, and thus his strongly fixed fruitive desires continue. One cannot stop the repetition of birth and death without being completely desireless. Therefore Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī describes pure *bhakti* (devotional service) as follows:

> anyābhilāșitā-śūnyaṁ jñāna-karmādy-anāvṛtam ānukūlyena kṛṣṇānuśīlanaṁ bhaktir uttamā [Cc. Madhya 19.167]

"One should render transcendental loving service to the Supreme Lord Kṛṣṇa favorably and without desire for material profit or gain through fruitive activities or philosophical speculation. That is called pure devotional

service."

Unless one is completely freed of all material desires, which are caused by the dense darkness of ignorance, one cannot fully engage in the devotional service of the Lord. Therefore we should always offer our prayers to Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva, who killed Hiraṇyakaśipu, the personification of material desire. *Hiraṇya* means "gold," and *kaśipu* means "a soft cushion or bed." Materialistic persons always desire to make the body comfortable, and for this they require huge amounts of gold. Thus Hiraṇyakaśipu was the perfect representative of materialistic life. He was therefore the cause of great disturbance to the topmost devotee, Prahlāda Mahārāja, until Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva killed him. Any devotee aspiring to be free of material desires should offer his respectful prayers to Nṛsiṁhadeva as Prahlāda Mahārāja did in this verse.





Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu's Visit to Jiyaḍa-nṛsiṁha Temple

Cc. Madhya 1.102

tabe ta' karilā prabhu dakṣiṇa gamana kūrma-kṣetre kaila vāsudeva vimocana

tabe ta—thereafter; *karila*—did; *prabhu*—Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu; *daksina*—to southern India; *gamana*—traveling; *kūrma-kṣetre*—at the pilgrimage site known as Kūrma-kṣetra; *kaila*—did; *vasudeva*—of the name Vāsudeva; *vimocana* deliverance.

Translation

After bestowing mercy upon Sārvabhauma Bhaṭṭācārya, the

Lord started for southern India. When He came to Kūrmakṣetra, He delivered a person named Vāsudeva.

Cc. Madhya 1.103

jiyaḍa-nṛsiṁhe kaila nṛsiṁha-stavana pathe-pathe grāme-grāme nāma-pravartana

jiyada-nṛsimhe—the place of pilgrimage known as Jiyadanṛsimha; *kaila*—did; *nṛsimha*—to Nṛsimha; *stavana*—praying; *pathe-pathe*—on the way; *grāme-grāme*—every village; *namapravartana*—introduction of the holy name of the Lord.

Translation

After visiting Kūrma-kṣetra, the Lord visited the South Indian temple of Jiyaḍa-nṛsiṁha and offered His prayers to Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva. On His way, He introduced the chanting of the Hare Kṛṣṇa mahā-mantra in every village.

Cc. Madhya 8.3

pūrva-rīte prabhu āge gamana karilā 'jiyaḍa-nṛsiṁha'-kṣetre kata-dine gelā

pūrva-rīte—according to His previous program; prabhu— Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu; āge—ahead; gamana—going; karila—did; jiyaḍa-nṛsimha—of the name Jiyaḍa-nṛsimha; kṣetre—at the place of pilgrimage; kata-dine—after some days; gela—arrived.

Translation

According to His previous program, Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu went forward on His tour and after some days arrived at the place of pilgrimage known as Jiyaḍa-nṛsiṁha.

Purport

The Jiyada-nrsimha temple is situated on the top of a hill about five miles away from Visakhapatnam. There is a railway station on the South Indian Railway known as Simhācala. The temple known as Simhācala is the best temple in the vicinity of Visakhapatnam. This temple is very affluent and is a typical example of the architecture of the area. In one stone tablet it is mentioned that formerly a queen covered the Deity with gold plate. This is mentioned in the Visakhapatnam Gazetteer. About the temple, there are residential quarters for the priests and devotees. Indeed, at the present moment there are many residential quarters to accommodate visiting devotees. The original Deity is situated within the depths of the temple, but there is another Deity, a duplicate, known as the *vijaya-mūrti*. This smaller Deity can be moved from the temple and taken on public processions. Priests who generally belong to the Rāmānuja-sampradāya are in charge of the Deity worship.

Cc. Madhya 8.4

nŗsiṁha dekhiyā kaila daņḍavat-praṇati premāveśe kaila bahu nṛtya-gīta-stuti *nṛsiṁha dekhiyā*—by seeing Lord Nṛsiṁha in the temple; *kaila* did; *daṇḍavat-praṇati*—offering of obeisances, falling flat before the Deity; *premāveśe*—in ecstatic love; *kaila*—did; *bahu*—all kinds of; *nṛtya*—dancing; *gita*—chanting; *stuti*—and offering of prayers.

Translation

After seeing the Deity of Lord Nṛsiṁha in the temple, Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu offered His respectful obeisances by falling flat. Then, in ecstatic love, He performed various dances, chanted, and offered prayers.

Cc. Madhya 8.5

"śrī-nṛsiṁha, jaya nṛsiṁha, jaya jaya nṛsiṁha prahlādeśa jaya padmā-mukha-padma-bhṛṅga"

sri-nṛsiṁha—Lord Nṛsiṁha with Lakṣmī; *jaya nṛsiṁha*—all glories to Lord Nṛsiṁha; *jaya jaya*—again and again glories; *nṛsiṁha*—to Nṛsiṁhadeva; *prahlāda-isa*—to the Lord of Prahlāda Mahārāja; *jaya*—all glories; *padma*—of the goddess of fortune; *mukha-padma*—of the lotuslike face; *bhṛṅga*—the bee.

Translation

" 'All glories to Nṛsimhadeva! All glories to Nṛsimhadeva, who is the Lord of Prahlāda Mahārāja and, like a honeybee, is always engaged in beholding the lotuslike face of the goddess of fortune.

Purport

The goddess of fortune is always embraced by Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva. This is mentioned in the commentary on *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* written by the great commentator Śrīla Śrīdhara Svāmī. The following verse was composed by Śrīdhara Svāmī in his commentary on *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* (10.87.1):

> vāg-īśā yasya vadane lakṣmīr yasya ca vakṣasi yasyāste hṛdaye samvit taṁ nrsiṁham ahaṁ bhaje

"Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva is always assisted by Sarasvatī, the goddess of learning, and He is always embracing to His chest the goddess of fortune. The Lord is always complete in knowledge within Himself. Let us offer obeisances unto Nṛsiṁhadeva." Similarly, in his commentary on the First Canto of *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* (1.1.1), Śrīdhara Svāmī describes Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva in this way:

prahlāda-hṛdayāhlādaṁ bhaktāvidyā-vidāraṇam śarad-indu-ruciṁ vande pārīndra-vadanaṁ harim

"Let me offer my obeisances unto Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva, who is always enlightening Prahlāda Mahārāja within his heart and who always kills the nescience that attacks the devotees. His mercy is distributed like moonshine, and His face is like that of a lion. Let me offer my obeisances unto Him again and again."

Cc. Madhya 8.6

ugroʻpy anugra evāyam sva-bhaktānām nŗ-keśarī keśarīva sva-potānām anyeṣām ugra-vikramaḥ

ugrah—ferocious; *api*—although; *anugraḥ*—not ferocious; *eva*—certainly; *ayam*—this; *sva-bhaktānām*—to His pure devotees; *nṛ-keśarī*—having the body of a human being and a lion; *keśarī iva*—like a lioness; *sva-potānām*—to her young cubs; *anyeṣām*—to others; *ugra*—ferocious; *vikramaḥ*—whose strength.

Translation

" 'Although very ferocious, the lioness is very kind to her cubs. Similarly, although very ferocious to nondevotees like Hiraṇyakaśipu, Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva is very, very soft and kind to devotees like Prahlāda Mahārāja.' "

Purport

This verse was composed by Śrīdhara Svāmī in his commentary on *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* (7.9.1).

Cc. Madhya 8.7

ei-mata nānā śloka paḍi' stuti kaila nṛsiṁha-sevaka mālā-prasāda āni' dila

ei-mata—in this way; nānā—various; śloka—verses; padi—

reciting; *stuti*—prayers; *kaila*—offered; *nṛsiṁha-sevaka*—the priest of Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva in the temple; *mala*—garlands; *prasada*—and remnants of the food of Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva; *ani*—bringing; *dila*—offered.

Translation

In this way Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu recited different verses from the śāstra. The priest of Lord Nṛsiṁhadeva then brought garlands and the remnants of the Lord's food and offered them to Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu.

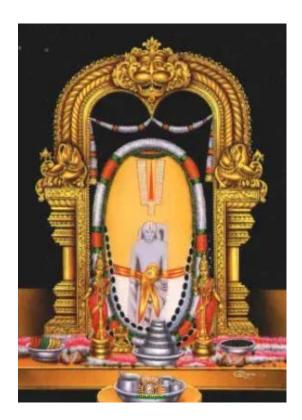
Cc. Madhya 8.8

pūrvavat kona vipre kaila nimantraņa sei rātri tāhāṅ rahi' karilā gamana

pūrva-vat—as previously; *kona*—some; *vipre*—*brāhmaṇa*; *kaila*—made; *nimantraṇa*—invitation; *sei rātri*—that night; *tāhān*—there; *rahi*—staying; *karila*—did; *gamana*—touring.

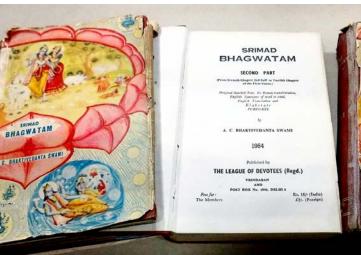
Translation

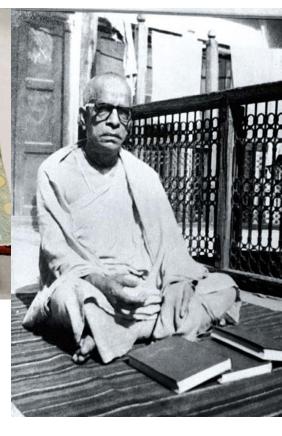
As usual, a brāhmaņa offered Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu an invitation. The Lord passed the night in the temple and then commenced His tour again.



Printing of the Original Delhi Bhagavatams

BHARTIVEDANTA SWAT





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