12

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER OF
HARINAAM
SANKIRTAN
SEVA SAMITI

# Spiriton



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### **Panchatatva Mantra**

jaya sri-krishna-chaitanya prabhu nityananda sri-adwaita gadadhara shrivasadi-gaura-bhakta-vrinda

"I offer my respectful
obeisances unto Sri Caitanya
Mahaprabhu, Lord
Nityananda, Sri Advaita,
Gadadhara Pandit, Srivas
Thakur, and all the devotees
of Lord Caitanya".

### **Maha Mantra**

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare

> Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare

Chant Hare Krishna Mantra and be happy...

# God v/s Demigods

Hare Krishna Friends,

Please accept our respectful obeisance!

We have understood that Bhagavan means one who possesses all opulences and we concluded that Krishna is the only Supreme possessor of all opulences. Let us understand who is a Demigod to understand the difference between God and Demigods.

Demigods are the representatives of the Supreme Personality of Godhead Sri Krishna, and are present to manage the affairs of the universe or this world. Just like we have the Prime Minister and along with him so many ministers and parliament members. These Members manage various portfolios like; Defence, Finance, Home Ministries etc. But all these MP's are under the control of the Prime Minister. This is the kind of difference between Supreme Personality of Godhead Sri Krishna and the Demigods.

Briefly the main difference between God and Demigods is that the demigods are many, but Supreme Personality of Godhead Sri Krishna is only one. Na dwitiya there is no Second one. There are 33 crore demigods! Just to run this universe. Chiefly there are 8 and under them, their secretaries, their subordinates etc. to manage all affairs.



# Sri Krishna is the Yajna-Purusha



The Supreme Lord, who is also known as the Yajna-purusha, or the personal beneficiary of all sacrifices, is the master of all the demigods, who serve Him just as the different limbs of the body serve the whole. Demigods like Indra, Chandra and Varuna are appointed officers who manage material affairs, and the Vedas direct sacrifices to satisfy these demigods so that they may be pleased to supply air, light and water sufficiently to produce food grains. When Lord Krishna is worshiped, the Demigods, who are the different limbs of the Lord, are also automatically worshiped; therefore there is no need to separately worship the Demigods.

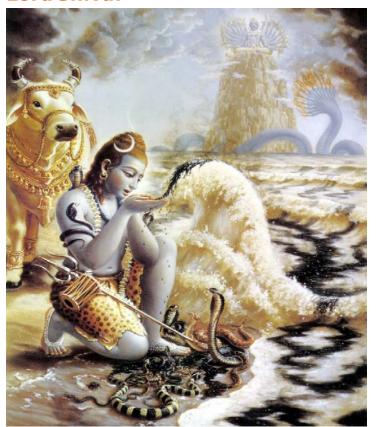
A perfect analogy for this can be seen in out Indian Democratic Government, We have one Prime Minister, Under him many MP's and under them so many MLA's, so many secretaries, all of them just to run a little state, and together one country! You can imagine to run the affairs of the whole universe, department of air, department of water, department of light, department of knowledge, department of wealth, finance ministries, heat and energy dissipating, and then there is water supply, so all these departments are held by specific demigods, whereas the Supreme Lord is only one i.e. Lord Sri Krishna. All the demigods are described in the Bhagavad-Gita to be part and parcel of Supreme Lord Sri Krishna having different grades of power to manage this material world.

The demigods are different parts of the body of the Supreme Lord. Not only are demigods parts of the Supreme Lord, but ordinary living entities are too. Regardless of the situation, if one knows that both the demigods and all living beings are part and parcel of the Supreme Lord, his knowledge is perfect. But if he does not understand this, he achieves different planets where the demigods reside but this is not the same destination, the devotee of Sri Krishna reaches.

The results achieved by the demigods' benedictions are perishable because they are within the material world planets. All results achieved by worshiping demigods are perishable, and such worship is performed by the less intelligent living entity. The pure devotee engaged in devotional service of the Supreme Lord Sri Krishna, achieves eternal blissful existence that is full of knowledge. The Supreme Lord is unlimited; His favor is unlimited; His mercy is unlimited. Therefore, the mercy of the Supreme Lord upon His pure devotees is unlimited. Demigods are the devotees of Lord Krishna. The greatest benediction a demigod can offer anyone is to provide them with devotional service to Lord Krishna.



## **Lord Shiva:**



Lord Shiva is unlimitedly glorious. Lord Shiva is in fact far above the other demigods like Indra and Brahma. The others are all jivas; they are conditioned living beings empowered in various ways to carry out the administration of the material world. But Lord Shiva is above all of them. He is the expansion of Lord Vishnu Himself.

The Brahma-samhita explains with an example how Lord Shiva is the expansion of Lord Vishnu. It says that Lord Vishnu is like milk whereas Lord Shiva is like yogurt. There is no difference between yogurt and milk. Still, milk is the original substance, of which yogurt is a transformation.

According to the Shrimad Bhagavatam (12.13.16), Lord Shiva is the greatest of all Vaishnavas, or devotee of Lord Vishnu. The relationship between Lord Vishnu and His devotees is very intimate and sublime, and especially so with the greatest of His devotees, Lord Shiva.

In a spirit of transcendental love, Lord Krishna, although the Supreme Lord, takes the role of a charioteer for a devotee like Arjuna, or a dependent child for a devotee like Yashoda. In this way, the Lord becomes the devotee of His devotee. Similarly, at Rameshwaram and elsewhere, the Lord acts as the devotee of His most exalted devotee Lord Shiva.

## **Lord Brahma:**

Lord Brahma was born from the lotus that sprung from the navel of Maha Vishnu. Therefore lord Vishnu is his father, lord Brahma is deemed as being the creator of the universe, but technically he is the engineer of the universe, maha Vishnu has already created the elements for creation, Brahma's job is to engineer them into the universe.

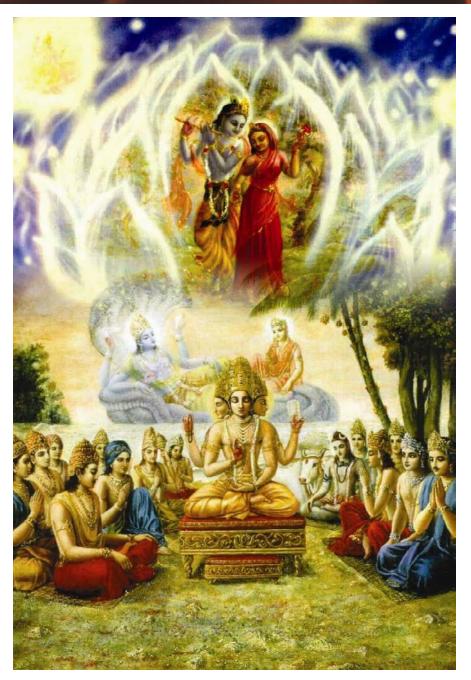
Lord Brahma is a jivatma which means that anyone of us also can one day become a Brahma because even Brahma is mortal.



## **Jesus Christ:**

In Christianity, though it is widely believed that Christ is the son of god, there are a few sects that believe that Christ is God. However Christ taught everyone Love of God, his father.

Christ is respected as being a Spiritual Guru in both Hinduism and Islam and is mentioned as being a pure devotee of the lord. Disciplic Succession was also advised in the bible by the verse "no man cometh unto the father except by the path of the son" in this verse, the word "son" does not refer to Jesus alone; however it refers to the Teacher of that time. The "Guru" for any qualified teacher is the son of god; we are all gods' children.



# om tad visnu paramam padam sada pasyanti surayah diviya caksur atatam

Sura means the demigods. It is given in the Rig Vedas, that all the 33 crore demigods are always looking at the lotus feet of Supreme Lord Vishnu or Krishna. The demigods always worship the Supreme as obedient servants whereas the Supreme Lord is Supremely worshipable.

The Srimad Bhagavatham describes:

yam-brahma-varunendra-rudra-marutah stunvanti-divyaye-stavaye vedayeh-sanga-pada-kramo-pani-shadair gayanti-yam-samagah

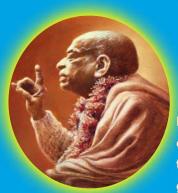
This verse says yam whom Brahma, Varuna, Indra, Rudra and Maruthaha, etc. Etc.

stunvanti-divyaye-stavaye means with beautiful prayers, with folded hands are worshipping that Supreme Lord Sri Krishna.

vedayeh-sanga-pada-kramo-pani-shadair gayanti-yam-samagah, the 4 Vedas and the Upanishads are all glorifying Him(Krishna) alone.

# Srila Prabhupada Speaks out

The Supreme Personality of Godhead Sri Krishna has declared in the Bhagavad-Gita that the worshipers of the demigods are not very intelligent. He has also declared that one has to give up all kinds of worship and simply concentrate on Krishna Consciousness. Krishna's invoking anger of Indra in Goverdhana Lila and later on chastising him us a clear indication to His devotees that those who are engaged in Krishna Consciousness have no need to worship any demigod, even if it is found that the demigod has become angry. Krishna gives His devotees all protection, and they should completely depend on His mercy



Bhagavad-Gita 7.23 declares that:
antavat tu phalam tesam
tad bhavanty apla-medhasam
devem deva-yajo yanti
mad-bhakta yanti mam api

Men of small intelligence worship the demigods, and their fruits are limited and temporary. Those who worship the demigods go to the planets of the demigods, but My devotees ultimately reach My supreme planet.

# **Editors Desk**

### World Peace Formula - PEACE or PIECE ??

The love of Power has overcome the Power of Love. There is only hate, anger all over the world. Peace marches and silent protests against terrorism and atrocities are being held daily all over the world. There is a dying thirst for PEACE in the world. Technology has reached the zenith in advancement, but sadly, humanity has sunk badly and is getting buried. We scream our voices hoarse about having United Nations and globally uniting the world as one, but even in uniting the world, there is difference of opinion at all stages. We have already witnessed 2 world wars and heading towards a final catastrophic world war! We want peace, but we are already cutting the world into many pieces with the birth of a new territory or a country every other day!

What is missing in our lives and is causing so much of distress? Why is there so much of turmoil all around? Srila Prabhupada explains this with a wonderful analogy. Suppose, we put a few dogs in one room and lock them up, anybody can guess what would be the result! The dogs will bark constantly at each other and there would be complete chaos in the room. Now, how can we achieve peace amongst these barking dogs? Vedic knowledge provides the solution for this. Bring in the master of the dogs to the room, all the dogs will automatically obey him and become quiet!

We humans, are all behaving just like a pack of dogs and constantly barking, Ooops fighting with each other. When our master is amidst us, then we will obey him and there would be peace in the world. Our master/owner is Krishna and when we give prime position to Him in our life, we can definitely have a peaceful existence. The missing link is Lord Krishna. Lord Sri Krishna is instructing us in the Bhagavad Gita to lead a Krishna centered life. When we lead a Krishna centered life, our EGO will be a gone affair. We can then serve Krishna and ensure this world is united and there is complete peace and no more PIECES!!.

There is no greater peace formula than leading a Krishna centered life and chanting the Hare Krishna Mahamantra. Love Krishna and let the Power of Love overcome the Love of Power. Let us chant and make this world a Krishna-centered world and be peaceful than be ego-centric and become piece-full!!

#### Vaishnava Calendar

15 Sep 2009 : Fasting for Indira Ekadasi

16 Sep 2009 : Dvadasi Break fast 06:17 - 08:51

28 Sep 2009 : Dasara - Ramachandra Vijayotsava

30 Sep 2009 : Fasting for Pashankunsha Ekadasi

01 Oct 2009 : Dvadasi Break fast 06:19 - 09:06

05 Oct 2009 : Damodhar Masa Begins - Kartika Masa

#### Vaishnava SMS

#### Krishna is

Above you to Bless you,
Below you to Support you,
Before you to Guide you,
Behind you to Protect you,
Beside you to Comfort you and
Inside you to Sustain you.

When Krishna is arround you to take back to His Abode, it is our prime duty to obey Him.

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