

All glories to Sri Guru and Sri Gauranga

Sri Krishna lifts up the Govardhana Hill



When Lord Indra, the Lord of thunder and lightning, became aware of the fact that the inhabitants of Vrindavana were giving all their offerings to Sri Krishna, and not to him, he became absolutely furious.

He released all his anger towards the inhabitants of Vrindavana. Indra knew very well that Krishna protected the inhabitants of Vrindavana Personally, but he just couldn't control himself. He decided to send some really heavy and dark rain clouds to Vrindavana. He called for clouds which are generally used to devastate the cosmic world and he send them to Vrindavana

to inundate the whole area. In this way he wanted to punish the inhabitants of Vrindavana.

Indra thought he was the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

Indra was so powerful that he thought he was all-mighty and that he could defeat Krishna. Indra said: "Take a look at those inhabitants of Vrindavana. They are just simple souls who live in the forest and they are completely taken in by their friend Krishna. He is just an ordinary human child. They think they don't have to care about us, the demigods."

Krishna says in the Bhagavad-gita that those who are not very intelligent worship the demigods. He says that one should just focus on Him and offer everything to Him. Indra was very angry with Krishna and Krishna, in return, decided to teach Indra a lesson and tell him that His devotees only worship Him and not the demigods, even though that might cause the demigods to be very angry with them. Krishna always protects His devotees and they always rely on Him to protect them and to give them His mercy.

Indra cursed the inhabitants of Vrindavana and said: "Since you don't worship us, the demigods, everyone in Vrindavana will suffer. Instead of listening to me, those cowherd men in Vrindavana have decided to listen to that talkative little boy, Krishna. He is just a child, but they listen to Him rather than to me. That has made me absolutely furious."

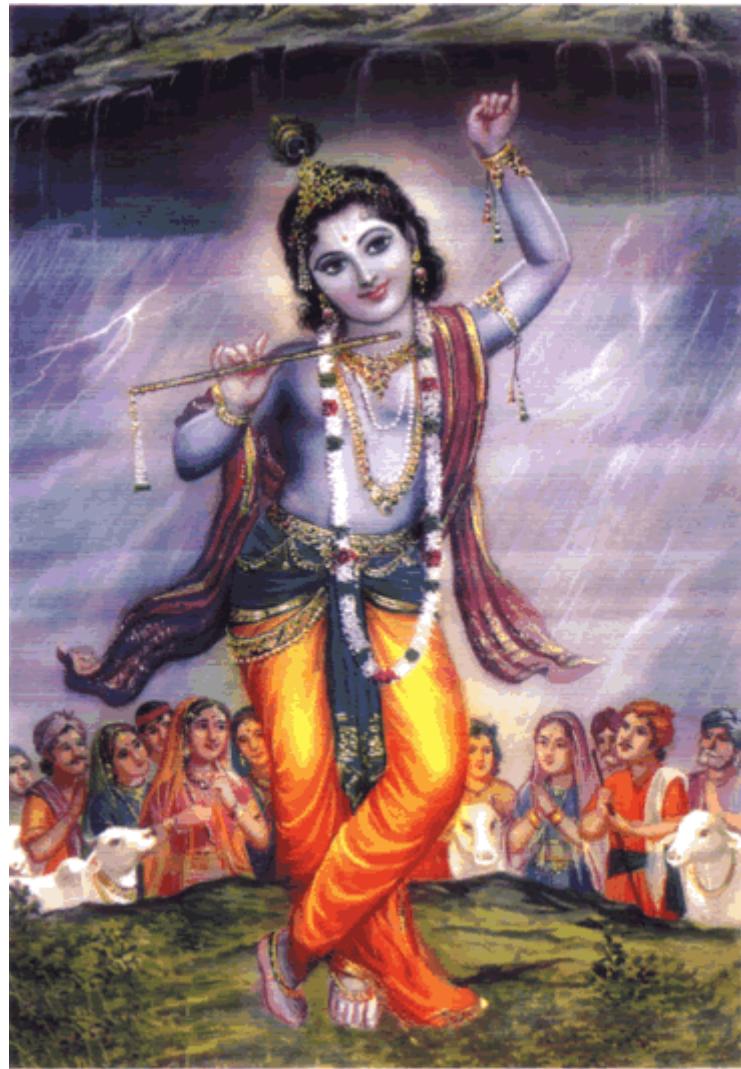
Then Indra ordered the clouds to go to Vrindavana and to inundate the whole area. In this way all the cows, animals and the inhabitants of Vrindavana would be destroyed by the water. But even the clouds knew that Indra's plan was not good. They said they didn't want to go, but Indra told them: "Just go, I'll be right behind you on my elephant, accompanied by some heavy storms, you'll see. I will use my power to punish the inhabitants of Vrindavana."

Ordered by Indra, the clouds started pouring heavy rains upon Vrindavana. Heavy showers of rain fell from the sky.

It just kept on raining and raining. Thunder and lightning struck constantly and heavy storms raged over Vrindavana.

The raindrops were sharp as arrows.

The whole place became inundated. It was impossible to see what high land was and what low land was. The situation became very dangerous, especially for the animals. The winds raged across the area and everyone was wet and started trembling. They were so cold. There was no place to go. Nowhere to find shelter. Then they decided to go to Govinda and to look for shelter at His lotus feet. The cows were very said and bowed down there heads and tried to protect their calves by keeping them underneath their bodies. They went to the Lord to find shelter at His feet. The inhabitants of Vrindavana started to pray to Lord Krishna: "You are all-powerful and You are always kind and sweet to Your devotees. Please protect us Lord. Indra is harassing us so much."



When Krishna heard the prayer of His devotees He immediately knew it was Indra who was harassing them. Normally, around this time of year the weather wasn't like this. It was obvious that Indra was very angry. Krishna thought: "So, this demigod thinks himself to be supreme and that's why he shows everyone his power. He is convinced that he is the one who is controlling the whole universe. Well, then I think I will have to show him who I am. I am the Supreme Lord, the Lord Who controls everyone and everything. I will show him that he is making a mistake. He has much power and therefore he thinks he is really something. His false-ego has made him insane! I will go about it My way, and I will show him who he is and who I am, and I will take away his false pride. I will protect My devotees of Vrindavana.

They are completely depended on Me and have taken refuge at My feet. I will protect them and I will use My mystic power."

Then Lord Krishna picked up the Govardhan Hill with one hand, just as a child picks up a mushroom from the ground. He told His devotees: "My dear brothers, father and dear inhabitants of Vrindavana; you are all safe under this umbrella, Govardhan Hill, which I just lifted up for you all, so you are sheltered from the rain and winds. Do not fear the mountain and don't be afraid that it will drop from My hand. You have all suffered a lot as a result of the rain and that's why I decided to help you by lifting up this hill. It is just like a big umbrella and I think it's a good way to help you out at this present moment. Don't worry, be happy together, along with your animals." The inhabitants of Vrindavana were all comforted by Krishna's words, knowing they and their animals were all safe.

They remained for one week under the hill, without any discomfort. They didn't feel hungry or thirsty at all. They were completely astonished to see Krishna lifting up this enormous hill, and holding it with the little finger of His left hand!

Indra was astonished as well when he saw the immense power of the Lord. He ordered the clouds stop showering rain and He ordered the winds to stop blowing. All the clouds disappeared, the sky cleared and the sun appeared.

Lord Krishna, the lifter of Govardhana Hill, spoke: "My dear cowherd men, now you can take your wives, cows and your belongings and you can go back home. It has ended, the water has gone down and the swelling of the river as well." The men picked up their belongings and loaded everything onto their carts. They left together with their family and animals.

Gently, Krishna replaced Govardhana Hill in the exact position as it was before. When everything was over, everyone embraced Krishna with love and in ecstasy. The gopis offered the Lord yoghurt mixed with their tears. They blessed him again and again.

Mother Yasoda, mother Rohini, Nanda Maharaj and Balaram, who is stronger than anyone, embraced and blessed the Lord as well. Demigods from different planets showered flowers over the earth and blew their conchshells. There was beating of drums and tambouras to please the Lord. Then the Supreme Personality of Godhead, together with His friends and all the animals, returned to His house. The gopis began to sing about the wonderful lila of the Lord, with deep feeling, because they sang about the Lord and His lila from their hearts.

ALL GLORIES TO SRI GIRI GOVARDHAN  
THE PROTECTOR OF THE DEVOTEES