

*prahlādaś cā 'smi daityānām kālāḥ kalayatām aham ।
mrgāṇām ca mrgendro 'ham vainateyaś ca paksinām ॥*

प्रह्लादः *prahlādaḥ* Prahlada च *ca* and अस्मि *asmi*
(I) am दैत्यानाम् *daityānām* among Daityas कालः *kālāḥ*
time कलयताम् *kalayatām* among reckoners अहम् *aham*
I मृगाणाम् *mrgāṇām* among beasts च *ca* and मृगेन्द्रः
mrgendraḥ the lord of beasts (lion) अहम् *aham* I वैनतेयः
vainateyaḥ son of Vinata, Garuda च *ca* and पक्षिणाम्
paksinām among birds

Of the Daityas I am Prahlada and of reckoners
I am Time; of beasts I am the lord of beasts, and
Vainateya of birds. 30

The Daityas were the sworn enemies of the
Devas. Prahlada was the son of Hiranyakasipu, the
king of those Titans. From birth onwards Prahlada
showed extreme devotion to the Lord Vishnu, which
act of his ran counter to the plan and design of his
father. Prahlada is the model of the Bhaktas.
Proof is found in him of the fact that great ones are
sometimes born of the low. It is befitting that he is
an attribute of Iswara.

Time is the great and unfailing recorder of the
appearance, stay and disappearance of the things
and beings in the universe. That it is identified with
Iswara is therefore appropriate.

The lion is the lord of beasts. He is majestic
and magnanimous in his own way. Because of his
prowess he has become the vehicle of the Cosmic
Mother. The glory of the Lord does indeed reveal
itself in this beast.