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Vishnu Sahasranama Part 4: Bhuta-Bhavya-Bhavat Prabhu – the Eternal Lord

by Shri Chandan Goswami Maharaj

The fourth name in the Shri Vishnu Sahasranama Stotram is Bhuta-Bhavya-Bhavat Prabhu. *Bhuta* means the past, *bhavya* means the future, and *bhavat* means the present. Thus, this Name means that the Lord exists eternally beyond the limits of time.

As human beings who are limited to the present, we can only study the past in hopes of improving our future. Just like scientists who can search for other worlds only within the range of their telescopes, we attempt to unravel the mysteries of the Universe from the limits of our own existence.

But the Lord exists in the past, the present and the future at the same time, and by his grace, as we progress in our devotional practice, we also go beyond the limitations of time and become eternal.

यो भूतं च भव्यं च सर्वं यश्चाधितिष्ठति ।
स्वर्यस्य च केवलं तस्मै ज्येष्ठाय ब्रह्मणे नमः ॥

*yo bhūtam ca bhavyam ca sarvam yaścādhitiṣṭhati ।
svaryasya ca kevalam tasmai jyeṣṭhāya brahmaṇe namah ॥*

"I bow to Shri Krishn who exists in the past, present and future, and who reigns over all divine realms. He alone is the one to be adored and praised by everyone." (Atharvaveda, 10.8.1)

Raskhan - Part 2 In Search of the Beloved

In the previous edition, Sayed Pathan's deep attachment for a Hindu boy melted away, and he was blessed with a deep longing for Shri Krishn. In this edition, Sayed searches for his divine Beloved.

After learning about Shri Krishn from two devotees, Sayed immediately set off in search of him. He walked the long road from Delhi to Braj, stopping at many temples along the way to see if Krishn was inside.

Because he had only practiced Islam his whole life, Sayed didn't know much about Krishn. Thus, at every temple, Sayed would take out the painting and compare it to the deity. However, even the Krishn deities he saw didn't look exactly like the painting.

Eventually, Sayed reached the Shri Govardhan Hill in Braj, where he noticed a large group of devotees going for *darshan* of Shrinathji (a form of Krishn). He decided to follow them. When the temple guard saw Sayed in his Muslim attire, he thought Sayed might be a Mughal invader who wished to harm Shrinathji. He pushed Sayed and prevented him from entering. But far from being angry, Sayed admired the guard's protective nature towards his Beloved.

"Nobody stopped me from entering temples before," Sayed thought to himself. "Such tight security must mean that my Beloved really lives here! I am not leaving until I meet him!"



Sayed Searches for Shrinathji

Sayed sat down by the bank of Govind Kund, crying and staring intensely at Shrinathji's temple. Two days passed, but he neither ate nor drank, nor gave up the hope of meeting his Beloved. On the third day, after *rajbhog aarti*, Shrinathji thought, "For my sake, this Raskhan* (Sayed) has forgotten his own bodily needs. If he keeps fasting, he will surely die."

Then, with his own hands, Shrinathji changed his dress and ornaments to exactly match Raskhan's painting. He then left the temple and stood on top of the Shri Govardhan Hill. He made sure he was standing where Raskhan could easily see him, and played his flute.

*The name "Raskhan" was given to Sayed by Shrinathji and it has a double meaning. *Ras* means the nectar of sacred love, and *khan* is a common Muslim surname, but it also means a treasure-trove. Thus his name means, "the treasure-trove of sacred love."

Attracted by the melody, Raskhan looked up and his eyes finally rested on the flute-player. In that moment, he realised that the divine Beloved in the painting, Shrinathji, was before him. Without any hesitation, he ran to embrace him. But a moment later, Shrinathji disappeared and Raskhan fell senseless on the ground.

To be continued...

References

Do Sau Bavan Vaishnavan ki Varta with the *Bhavprakash* commentary of Shri Hariray Raskhan, Ras ki Khan by Vrajakishori Publications



Braj Animal Care

This month, Braj Animal Care carried out deworming and vaccination drives in Vrindavan and nearby rural areas. Street animals often suffer from parasites that can cause great discomfort and prevent them from processing nutrients from their food, so deworming brings great relief.

Our vaccination efforts focussed on rabies, a disease that is always fatal, yet easily preventable. Furthermore, it can be transmitted to humans when infected dogs bite. The World Health Organisation states that in India alone, at least 20,000 human deaths are caused by rabies each year, 99% of which occur due to bites from infected dogs. Braj Animal Care vaccinated approximately 200 dogs against rabies last month.

The Story of Tiger

Tiger is a friendly street dog whom we met in late November. In a fight with some aggressive dogs in his neighbourhood, he suffered a large and deep wound on the top of his head. Tiger is so sweet and docile that he did not even struggle or whine when we were treating his wound. His nature succeeded in melting all of our hearts.



Tiger, looking better after several treatments

Unfortunately, some neighbours thought that Tiger had rabies, although he showed no symptoms of the disease. Some of them even considered poisoning him. As a result, the person who had initially called us decided to take Tiger to the nearby city of Mathura and

across the Yamuna River to a secluded forested area. The whole trip took about an hour each way by auto rickshaw. After leaving Tiger in the forest, the man came back to Vrindavan and went to work. But by the time he returned that evening, he was shocked and deeply touched to see that Tiger was back. The man's daughter says that Tiger even found his way into the house and tapped on her door with his paw! After this incident, the family decided to foster Tiger, and we hope this arrangement will become permanent. We continue to follow up on Tiger's welfare, and have provided him with deworming and vaccinations.

To stay updated about Braj Animal Care's activities, please visit the social media channels listed below:

  [@braj.animal.care](https://www.instagram.com/braj.animal.care)
 brajanimalcare.com
 [\(+91\)8923737924](tel:+918923737924)
 brajanimalcare@gmail.com

Maharajji's Latest Updates

This month, Maharajji's followers were busy helping Brajwasis and other devotees who required rations and medical help. Once such devotee is Parshuram Baba. Parshuram Baba is a renounced monk dedicated to performing worship in solitude. To facilitate this devotional lifestyle, he lives in a tiny hut made from mud, sticks and other natural materials in a very peaceful area of the Shri Yamuna riverbank. Unfortunately, Baba recently suffered a fall, during which his left eye was severely damaged by brick fragments. This was further complicated by some debris that later fell from the ceiling of the hut into his eye, causing it to become bloody and severely infected. As a result, Baba has now permanently lost vision in his left eye. Initially, the doctors wanted to surgically remove Baba's eye to prevent the infection from spreading to his brain, which would lead to death. However, due to concerns regarding his post-operative care, the surgery was delayed and Baba was put on a course of antibiotics and other medications.



Maharajji Delivering Shri Gopi Geet Katha

Thankfully, Baba is responding well to the medication and he may not need surgery at all. We continue to facilitate Baba's visits to the doctor with hopes that he can continue to live independently on the Shri Yamuna riverbank, immersed in worship for the rest of his life.

Shri Gopi Geet Katha in December

You are all invited to hear the nectar of *Shri Gopi Geet* from December 26th, 2021 to January 1st, 2022 by Shri Chandan Goswami Maharaj. The timings are 2 pm to 5 pm at Bhatki Dhama, behind the ISKCON Temple in Raman Reti, Vrindavan. The *katha* will also be live on Facebook. Follow Maharajji on social media for updates:

✉️ [@chandanjiofficial](https://www.facebook.com/chandanjiofficial), [@radharaman.temple](https://www.facebook.com/radharaman.temple)
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Vaishnav Calendar

For upcoming festivals and Ekadashi dates, please click [here](#) to view our Vaishnav calendar.