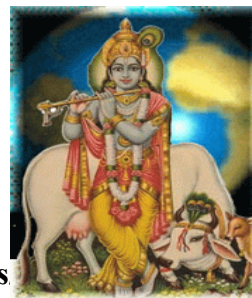


ଚିରନ୍ତନ

Chirantan ଭଜନ ପତ୍ରିକା



ଓଁ ଜୟ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଜୟ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଜୟ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ଓଁ

ଚତୁର୍ଥ ସଂଖ୍ୟା, ଫେବୃଆରୀ ୧୯, ୨୦୦୦

<http://www.bme.jhu.edu/~bdas>

ନା ମେ ପାର୍ଯ୍ୟାସ୍ତି କର୍ତ୍ତବ୍ୟଂ ତ୍ରିଷ୍ଟ ଲୋକେଷୁ କିଂଚନ ।
ନାନବାୟମ୍ ଅମାୟବ୍ୟଂ ବର୍ତ୍ତ ଧବ ଚ କର୍ମଣି ॥

ଭଗବତ୍ ଗୀତାର କର୍ମଯୋଗ ଅଧ୍ୟାୟରେ ଶ୍ରୀକୃଷ୍ଣ ଅର୍ଜୁନଙ୍କ କହିଛନ୍ତି ଯେ ଏ ତ୍ରିଲୋକରେ ମୋର କୌଣସି କର୍ତ୍ତବ୍ୟ କର୍ମ ନାହିଁ କିମ୍ବା ମୋର କିଛି ଅଭାବ ନାହିଁ କିମ୍ବା ମୁଁ କିଛି ଦରକାର କରୁ ନାହିଁ - ତଥାପି ମୁଁ କର୍ମରେ ନିଯୁକ୍ତ ଅଛି ।

It is our great pleasure to bring the fourth issue of this religious newsletter **CHIRANTANA**. This issue contains various articles, and news since the last issue published in August 1999. Chirantana is a biannual religious newsletter published in the month of February and August. If anybody is interested to publish his/her articles in the newsletter, please send by the end of January and July to be published in the February and August issues respectively.

We would like to express our deep sense of appreciation for Baltimore ISKCON temple president Nrusingha Chitanya Dasa and the priests Mahasakti Dasa, Sudhansu Dasa, Niranjana Dasa, Mahasringha Dasa and Gopal Dasa for their sincere help. We are happy that the number of families attending the bhajan program regularly is increasing. We invite everyone residing in Washington DC vicinity to attend this monthly bhajan program organized by Oriya bhajan mandali, and chant bhajan, listen and participate on religious discourse.

What's new:

Oriya Internet Library:

Our internet based library of Oriya books, audio and video cassettes is now operational. This library is completely on voluntary basis. Anybody interested to share his/her collection of the above items will send the list to the library coordinator, Dharendra Kar (dkkar@hotmail.com). Anybody interested to borrow any item should send an email request one week prior to the bhajan program. The material will be exchanged during the bhajan program. For more detailed information, please visit the above bhajan homepage. The proposed name of this institution is GLOBE (Goodwill Library of Oriya Books and Educational resources).

Children's Month:

September 1999 was observed as children's month. Children presented themselves as religious characters with story telling. In the picture they are seen with different costumes representing religious murties with their Guru Indu Mishra. From left to right Sweta (Sita), Silpa (Parvati), Rajasri Mishra (Princess Laxmi), Mrunali Das (Mahalaxmi), Suman Ojha (Durga), Bagmi Das (Saraswati), , Silpa Das (Sita),

Sweta Das (Parvati), Shashwati Das (Narayana), Prerna



Pradhan (Savitri).

Puri King's visit:



Puri King Divya Singh Dev participated in the bhajan program in the month of November, 1999. Many families participated in the program and shared the discussion with king Divya Singh Dev.

ଆଜି ଆସିଛି ରେ ଆସିଛି ହୋରୀ ପରବ

Holi Announcement in Back Side



What's Inside:

Life:	Bagmi Das
Hori Bhajan:	Bigyani Das
Animal and Indian Mythology:	Padmanava Pradhan

POEMS / STORIES:

Life

Every body Every where

Wonders why we are here

What will we do with a life of our own
Why are we here I feel so alone

I wish some one would give me a sign
Why is a soul suddenly mine

May be the answer can be found
If we take the time to look around

Some one up there, gave us a chance
To roam with this land, to make entrance

He gave us light and wanted us to find
And realise the power of body and mind

Why don't we fulfill his thoughtful wish
And live our lives to enjoy and flourish

**Bagmi Das, 7th Grade, Daughter of Bigyani
and Naresh Das, MD**

ହୋରୀ ଭଜନ

ସଜନୀ ଦେଖ ନୟନ ଭରି
ରଙ୍ଗ ଖେଳୁଛନ୍ତି ମୂରଲୀଧାରୀ, ସଖୀ
ରଙ୍ଗ ଖେଳୁଛନ୍ତି ମୂରଲୀଧାରୀ
ସଜନୀ ଦେଖ ନୟନ ଭରି । ଘୋଷା ।

ଅବିର ରଙ୍ଗେ ମିଶାଇ କୁଞ୍ଜମ
ଅତର ଗୋଲାପ ତୁଆ ଚନ୍ଦନ
ଲେପନ୍ତି ଶ୍ରୀଅଙ୍ଗେ ରାଜକିଶୋରୀ
ଶ୍ୟାମ ମାରନ୍ତି ରଙ୍ଗ ପିତକାରୀ, ସଖୀ । ୧।

ଗୋପୀ ଗୋପବାଳ ମେଲେ ଗୋବିନ୍ଦ
ଫଗୁଖେଲେ ମାତି କେତେ ଆନନ୍ଦ
ନାନା ଛନ୍ଦେ ନୃତ୍ୟ କରନ୍ତି ହରି
ସମୁଦା ତଟ ପଡୁଛି ଉଛୁଳି, ସଖୀ । ୨।

ଶ୍ରୀଅଙ୍ଗେ ଫଗୁ ରଙ୍ଗ ମନୋହର
ବଲ୍ଲୀର ସୁର କେତେ ରସାଳ
ଶ୍ୟାମ ପ୍ରେମ ରଙ୍ଗେ ରଙ୍ଗାଇ ମନ
ବ୍ରଜବାସୀ ରଙ୍ଗ ଖେଲେ ମଗନ, ସଖୀ । ୩।

ବିଜ୍ଞାନୀ ଦାସ, କଲମ୍ବିଆ

Bhajan Program Shedule:

3rd Saturday (preferably) of the month:

Bhajan by Children: 6.00 PM
Bhajan by all the participants : 6:15 PM
Arati: 7.0 PM
Prabachan: 7.45 PM

Prasad sevan and discussion: 8.30 PM

Dinner Discusion:

An important part of the bhajan program is dinner time discussion. We thank everyone who participated in dinner discussion.

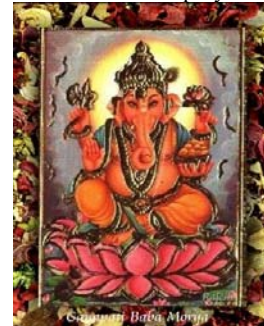
Kanan Mishra *How our thinking affect the action; give an example*

Animal and Indian Mythology

Someone asked me why most of the vegetarians are Indians. One of the reasons is that they have special respect for animals from ages and/or they had vast fertile lands to cultivate for plant based foods. Ancient Indians had recognized the animal's right to co-exist with man and therefore they were loved, nurtured and even worshipped. The animals were given the status of gods and goddesses. People were taught that Almighty incarnates in different animal forms. The kings and the emperors opted different animals in their emblems. In order to inculcate love for animals among children, animals were made of our heroes in folk tales. Our forefather's activities were woven around the animals. The Upanishads contain detailed descriptions of horses and cattle. The Garudapurana contains life histories of fishes and turtles. There are also religious books depicting naga (snake) in Nagamahima, bull in Nandi Purana, shukamuni (the parrot) in Bhagabata. Here are a few examples as how people were taught about significance of animals by giving them a pride place in Indian mythology.

Dashavatara (ten incarnations): One of the famous verse of 'Gitagovinda' by Jaydev reads like this: "*Keshava drita mina sharira Jaya Jagadish Hare*". The concept of *Dashavatara*, the ten incarnations of Lord Vishnu, in a way represents the evolution theory of life. In order to indicate that life originated in water, the Lord incarnates first in the form of a *Mina*, a fish. This is followed by the incarnation as an amphibious animal *Kurma*, a turtle. Third incarnation is *Varaha*, a boar that is completely a terrestrial animal. *Narasimha* represents a lion's attempt to attain a human form. In *Vamana* avatar, a pigmy human being is represented. In *Parashurama* tremendous physical strength could be recognized. In *Rama*, one can identify perfect human qualities. *Krishna* is a savior of our environment. *Kalki* represents our own destruction of giving scant attention to our fauna and environment.

VAHANA (the celestial carriers): Lord Bishnu rides on Garuda, a majestic bird. Garuda is an extraordinary son of Kashyapa and Vinata. Jatayu and Samprathi are Garuda's two offspring. It was Jatayu who faught Ravana to rescue Sita and as a result lost his wings. He later on struggled to survive and convey Sita's plight to Rama. Indra employs *Ucchaisrava*, a snow white horse as his



vehicle. Later he changed to *Airavata*, an elephant with five trunks. Lord Ganesh rides his favorite vahana, the mouse to earth to enjoy

the offerings of devotees. His brother Kartikeya's vahana is a peacock. Sun god's chariot is pulled by seven red horses. Goddess of knowledge Saraswati rides on a swan. Goddess Durga rides a Lion to kill Mahisasur, the demon on a buffalo. Goddess of wealth Laxmi sits on an owl. Two Headed Deity Shani Rides a Crow. The rain-god Varuna rides on Makara (crocodile). Kamadeva's emblem is Makara and hence his wife carries it whenever she goes. Vayu's (God of wind) chariot is pulled by a pair of deers.

VEDAS: In Yajurveda, a prayer reads, "Give us cows that have abundance of milk, bulls that have full vigor and vitality, horses that can face challenges of any enemy, a ruler who is courageous and fearless, intellectual son and a wife who can take good care of young and old". In Upanishad another interesting incident has been mentioned. Once a pair of cranes were flying back to their place of rest; the talkative one said to the other that the king Janasbruthi is a very religious and learned person and therefore we must be extra careful while flying over his kingdom. This other crane reacted sharply and asked, "Does this king come anywhere near wisdom of Raikva?" The king overheard this conversation, located Raikva who was relaxing under a bullock cart and learned Bramha-jnana from him.

FOLK TALES: Two thousand years old Panchatantra by Bishnu Sharman contains numerous stories in which the animals have been given prominence. This collection of stories is also the basis for 'Aesop's Fables'. Even today, children as well as adults find great excitement in reading this animal stories. Talkative turtle, stupid frog, rat and lion stories are too well known. Similarly all grandma stories have crows, sparrows, snakes as main characters.

JATAKAKATHA: Buddhist Jathaka stories attach great importance to rebirth. The elephants and the monkeys come across a variety of animals in different re-births.

RAMAYANA: During his long vanavasa Lord Rama developed special relation with different animals such as Jatayu, Sugriva, Hanuman, deers and monkeys. Kishkinda of Ramayana now believed to be known as Hampi (Karnataka) has good population of monkeys even today.

Lord Krishna in his early days took great pleasure looking after the cows. In order to protect the animals, that he loved, from heavy rains and thunderstorm he lifted a huge mountain Govardhana. **Lord Vishnu** always carried a conch which as an outer skeleton of the animal. A saligrama, which is worshipped as a representative of Vishnu, is a fossilized mollusk. Churning of the ocean by the Suras (Gods) and Asuras (demons) is a very interesting episode in Hindu mythology. They employed Vasuki, a huge poisonous snake as a rope and Mandara mountain as a churner. In order to prevent the mountain from sinking, Lord Vishnu assumed the form of a turtle and supported it. As a result of this churning, very rare gems like, Kamadhenu (celestial cow), Shankha (conch), Dhanushya, Chandra, Silrya, Dhanwantari, Amrita (nectar), Rambhd and Laxmi, came out of the ocean. Nagapanchami is an annual festival celebrated in honor of the serpents.

Deer is associated with innumerable stories. Maricha assumes the form of a golden deer in order to attract Sithadevi. Lord Shiva gets wrapped up in deer skin. Rishya-shringa was born to a deer, which lapped up semen of Vibhandaka. Musk-deer, kasturimriga, is nearest relative of deer.

Cow is also very auspicious in India mythology. Vashistha gets Kamadhenu for supervising samudra manthana operation. However later on Vishvamitra snatches Kamadhenu from Vashista. During Parashurama's incarnation, she was in the custody of Jamadagni. Kirtavirya captures her from Jamdagni. Finally she lands with Indra. These examples present animals, even in smallest forms, as indispensable parts of Indian mythology. Unfortunately, due to exploding growth of human population, the plight of animals and environment in present India is precarious.

*Dr. Padmanava Pradhan,
Rockville, Maryland*

Today's thought:

*Yesterday is a memory, Tomorrow is a vision.
Enjoy Today*

Thank You

Thanks to all the families for their contributions for bhajan program. We are sorry, we could not publish everyone's name who have attended the bhajan program as we did in earlier issues, because of space limitation. Our heartfelt thanks to the following families for sponsoring the feast on different months. May God bless you all.

**Hemant Biswal, VA
Itishree and Depak Dhal, VA
Bigyani and Naresh Das, MD
Bandita and Nrusingha Mishra, MD
Jhunu and Indu Mishra, MD
Sujata and Sashadhara Mohapatra, MD
Sanghamitra and Pradeep Patnaik, MD**

Volunteers for bhajan program:

Bhajan moderator: Bigyani Das (301) 498 3729

Library coordinator: Dharendra Kar (410) 238 3221

Children's class: Indu Mishra, (410) 997 7256

Ila Ojha (410) 498 1189

Sujata Mahapatra (301) 754 1829

Dinner Discussion: Nrusingha Mishra (301) 540 4641

Email Coordinator: Pramod Tripathy

ltripathy@worldnet.att.net



HOLI-Y2K-HOLI



ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସଂଗୋଷ୍ଠିର ହୋଲି ଉତ୍ସବ

Holi Festival

<http://www.bme.jhu.edu/~bdas/holi.html>

25 March 2000, Saturday, 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Shri Mangal Mandir Auditorium
17110 New Hampshire Ave.
Silver Spring, MD 20905
(301) 384 8193

Program:

- **Holi procession of Deities**
- **Arati and Bhajan**
- **Cultural: Songs, Dance, children drama, talent show and comedy play "Jibanara Ranga" by adults.**
- **Panel Discussion on "Relevance of spiritualism in modern society"**
- **Prasad Sevan**

Coordinators:

Holi Program: *Nrasingha Mishra and Naresh Das*
Cultural: *Madhumita Kar, Kalpana Panigrahi and Hosensu Sahu*
Food: *Urmila Sahu, Ila Ojha and Sujata Mohapatra*
Panel discussion: *Bigyani Das and Sushim Dalabehera*

Please confirm your participation by Mar. 18, 2000 to any of the following volunteers.

Hemant Biswal (703) 481 5808
Bigyani Das, (301) 498 3729
Nrasingha Mishra, (301) 540 4641
Jai Gopal Mohanty, (610) 461 8757

Munmaya Mishra (804) 364 2807
Dhirendra Kar, (410) 531 1943
Chandra Mishra (215) 699-5299,
Padmanava Pradhan (301) 468 5797

Donation: Family \$20.00 (Children are free) Single: \$10.00

Direction to the temple: From I-95 take exit 33 B towards Burtonsville for Rt. 198 West. Go for about 3 miles, make right turn to Rt 650 North New Hampshire Ave. Temple is on your left after about a mile.
From I-495 Beltway, take Rt 29 North and then 650 (N). Temple is on your left after approximately 3 miles.

