



# Divya Sandesh

## New Year Edition

January 2010



### The Real Jagadguru

(Lecture by Jagadguru Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj given on 14th Jan 2007)

The word Jagadguru is made of two Sanskrit words 'Jagad' (Universe) and 'Guru' (Guide). Hence Jagadguru means the Guru of the entire world.

Jagadguru title is conferred in two ways. One is eternal while the other is conferred by great scholars. The second kind of Jagadguru title conferred by contemporary scholars is not an eternal Vedic title depicted anywhere in the Vedas. In the age of Kaliyug, this tradition of honoring Jagadgurus began some 2500 years back with Jagadguru Shankaracharya, who was recognized as the descension of Lord Shiva.

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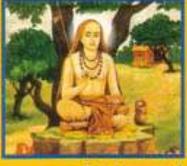
जाउँ गुरु, चरण-कमल बलिहार  
जिन चरनन की शरण गहत मन, पावत युगल-विहार ।  
जिन चरनन को ध्यान धरत मन, मिटत जगत अँधियार ।  
जिन चरनन अनुकंपा जग महँ, रहत न रह संसार ।  
जिन चरनन-रज औँजि चराचर, दीखत नंदकमार ।  
यदपि 'कृपालु' भेद नहि हरि-गुरु, तदपि गुरुहिँ आभार ॥



In Kaliyug there was a lot of hypocrisy and misunderstanding in the name of religion. Many imposters, who knew nothing about what the scriptures said, who were not even acquainted with the names of Ved - Shastra, didn't know how many of each there were, came to be seated on positions of high spiritual prestige. These conmen started duping innocent people by initiating them with a mantra in their ears and making them their disciple. People became more and more confused. When this issue became a big menace in the society, great scholars of those times, decided that they would select and honor one saint with topmost scriptural knowledge, who was endowed with true divine love as a JAGADGURU. The holder of this title being empowered with authentic knowledge and being the possessor of divine love, would provide guidance to all honest seekers of God and put an end to the religious hypocrisy and confusion prevalent in the society. All spiritual aspirants could confidently go to such a Guru, seek spiritual guidance, understand and learn true philosophy and the meaning of the Vedas and progress on their path to God realization.

Since Jagadguru Shankaracharya, four other saints have been honored as Jagadgurus in this Kaliyug. As per the Vedas there was, there is and there will Only be One Jagadguru - Shri Krishna. "Krishnam Vande Jagadgurum". I am going to shed some light on that Jagadguru Shri Krishna. We are all devotees of Shri Krishna. There does not exist a living being who is not a Devotee of Shri Krishna. It may sound strange, but the fact is that all of us, Foolish or Genius, Believer or Non-Believer, Human Being or Animal, want Happiness alone. We all want to get rid of hostility, confrontation, greed and attachments that trouble us incessantly. We want to get rid of all unhappiness and want to attain Pure Bliss. Jagadguru Shri Krishn is another name of this pure unadulterated Infinite Bliss.

श्रीमत्पदवाक्यप्रमाणपारावारीण,  
वेदमार्गप्रतिष्ठापनाचार्य, निखिलदर्शनसमन्वयाचार्य,  
सनातनवैदिकधर्मप्रतिष्ठापनसत्संप्रदायपरमाचार्य,  
भक्तियोगरसावतार, भगवदनन्त श्रीविभूषित  
जगद्गुरु १००८  
स्वामी श्री कृपालु जी महाराज



जगद्गुरु श्री शंकराचार्य



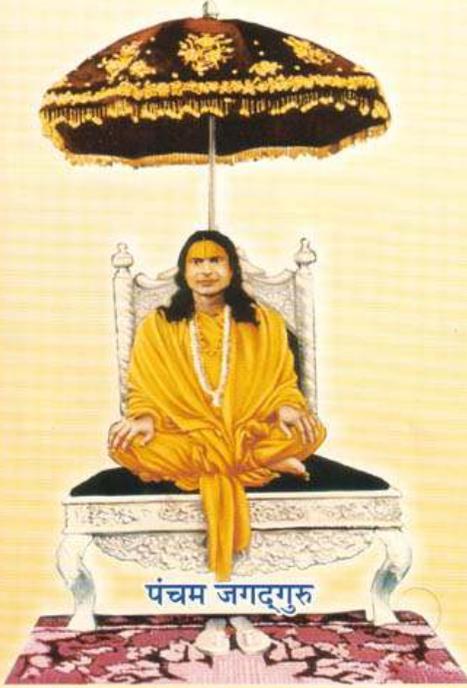
जगद्गुरु श्री रामानुजाचार्य



जगद्गुरु श्री निम्बार्काचार्य



जगद्गुरु श्री माध्वाचार्य



( १४ जनवरी १९५७ )

जगद्गुरु सम्बन्धी रजत सिंहासन पर आसीन  
जगद्गुरु श्री कृपालु जी महाराज

विशेष-भारत-चीन युद्धके समय इस सिंहासन  
को आचार्य चरणों ने राष्ट्रीय- रक्षाकोष में दान कर दिया।

प्राक्तन अनेक ब्रजमहारासिकों ने जो श्री राधाकृष्ण की  
दिव्य लीलाओं की रसवृष्टि ब्रज में की थी उसी  
परम्परा में आचार्य चरण का प्रवचन एवं  
संकीर्तन आदिका स्वरूप है।

But the Vedas proclaim “No-one can know God”. Why? Because He cannot be experienced by the Senses! The Mind and Intellect cannot comprehend Him. So how will one know Him?

The Mind and Intellect perform their functions by the power granted by God. Then how can they understand the source of their own power. Beyond the senses are the objects of the senses. Beyond the objects of the senses is the Mind, beyond the Mind is the Intellect. Beyond the Intellect is the Soul. Beyond the soul, is God! The Mind and Intellect being material are incapable of even comprehending the Soul, what then can be said about comprehending God. Clearly, God is beyond the comprehension of the Mind and the Intellect. The creator Brahma says, nobody can know Him. Shri Krishn stated in the Gita ‘No-one is able to understand me and reach me because of my Material Energy - Maya’.

**त्रिभिर्गुणमयैभावैरेभिस्सर्वमिदंजगत् ।**

**मोहितं नाभिजानाति मामेभ्यः परमव्ययम् ॥ गीता**

“All living beings are governed by the 3 modes of *Maya*. And I am beyond the three modes of *Maya*. Hence nobody can know Me”. Disappointed we again go to the Vedas, Shvetashvotropnishat says,

**धातुः प्रसादात् । देवप्रसादाच्च ॥ श्वेता.**

"One whom He graces attains Him".

यमेवैष वृणुते तेन लभ्यस्तस्यैष आत्मा विवृणुते तन् स्वाम् ॥ कठो

Now the question arises - How do we attain His Grace? His Grace depends on complete surrender of the mind. To learn how to surrender we have to adopt one of three paths i.e. *Karma* (Path of Good Deeds) *Gyan* (Path of Knowledge) and *Bhakti* (Path of Devotion). Why? Because we are part of *Sat Chit Anand Brahm*. Nature of *Sat* is *Karm*, *Chit* is *Gyan* and *Anand* is *Bhakti*. So there are 3 paths. Also, we have 3 natures (*swabhav*). So there is a path for people with each of those three natures.

Let us first understand the path of Karm / Karm Dharm.

In Vedas, there is a classification of all human beings by *Varna* (caste) and 4 stages of life (*Brahmacharya*-bachelor, *Grihastha*-householder, *Vanprasth*-hermit, *Sanyas*-renunciate). The actions, performed by one, according to his caste and as per the stage in life are called *Dharma* or *Varnashram Dharma*.

Yamraj once said, the definition of *Dharm* is very complicated. The celestial Gods-*Devata*, Great sages- *Rishi*, *Muni* also do not the true meaning of *Dharma*.

**षड्भिः संपद्यते धर्मस्तेऽतिर्लभतराः कलौ ॥**

To follow *Dharm*, one has to perform Vedic sacrifices and *Yagya*. There are 6 rules for performing a *Yagya*- the place, time, doer,

There are 3 eternal entities. *Bhokta* (The enjoyer - Individual Soul), *Bhogy* (Object of sensual-enjoyment-*Maya*), *Prerak* (The Governor of both, who is God). God is the controller of *Jeev* and *Maya*. *Jeev* is a part of God. *Jeev* and God have several relationships with each other such as that of father, mother and brother. We, the individual souls, are ignorant and as a result unhappy. He is All Knowing and Ever Blissful.

The Vedas say “God is Happiness”. By knowing Him alone, our ignorance and unhappiness will go away. By attaining Him, we will attain Happiness. So we need to know Him.

How will we know Him? Through the Vedas!

process, musical notes, and material of *yagya*. All have to be 100% proper. With the slightest mistake in any one of these, one is banished to hell. If one can do it 100% correctly, all the time, then one qualifies to go to heaven, which is a place of temporary material gratification. All mental diseases such as anger, passion, greed, jealousy etc exist there too. For this reason, the Vedas consider the path of *Karma* as the path of Foolish ones, for despite doing such hard labor in practicing the path of *Karm Dharm*, the net result is Heaven, which ultimately results in miseries and sufferings.

The second path is that of *Gyan* or Knowledge. Not everyone is qualified to walk the path of *Gyan*. To be able to pursue this path, one has to have complete control over the mind and senses. It is possible to somehow control the Senses, but controlling the Mind is next to impossible. One, who is not qualified to follow the path of knowledge, cannot tread on this path. And if after many lifetimes with all the intense practice one does attain success, then too, one has to surrender to God.

Attainment of knowledge without devotion is sheer ignorance. Love is directly proportional to the value of any object. If you know that this piece of diamond is worth a million then you love it worth a million. If you find out it is not a diamond then love ends.

So the last and only resort for God realization is *Bhakti*. God has stated in the Vedas. When you develop the same feelings of love and devotion towards your Guru as you have towards me, then I will grace you and you will attain My knowledge. It is then, that *Maya* will leave you and you will get all that you desire for.

**यस्य देवे परा भक्तिर्यथा देवे तथा गुरौ ।**

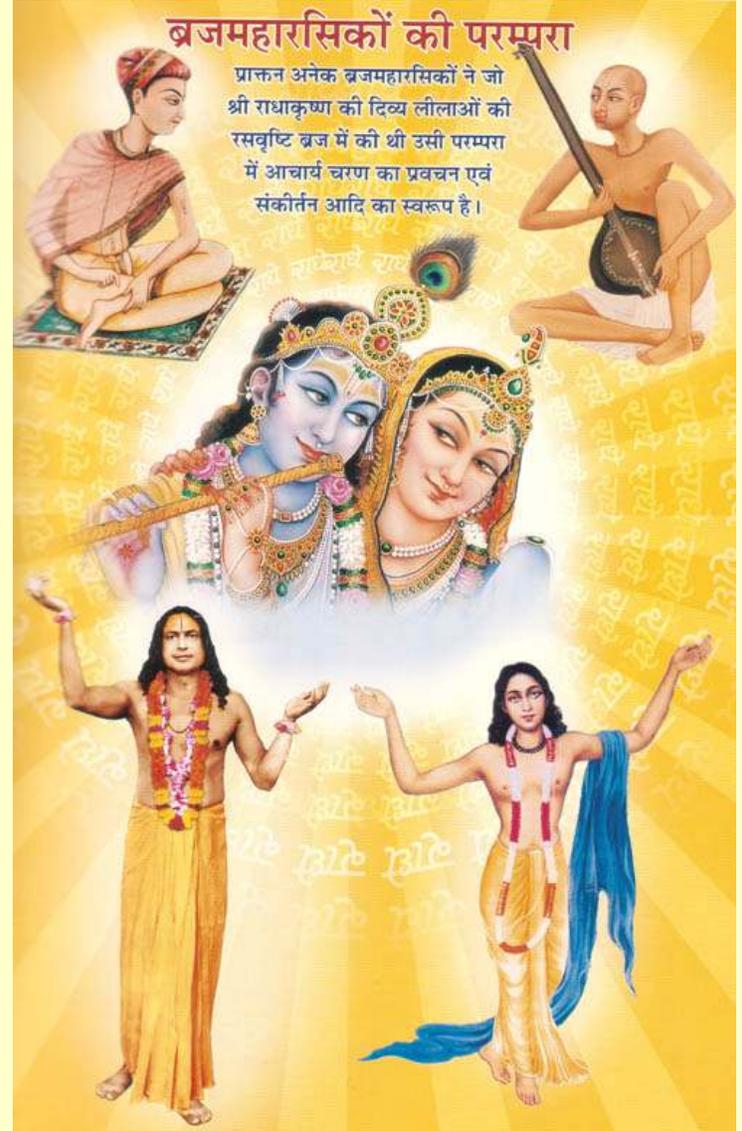
**तस्यैते कथिता इर्थाः, प्रकाशयन्ते महात्मनः ॥ श्वेता.**

Brahma Ji says - I have studied the Vedas 3 times and have reached this conclusion that when you keep worshipping Shri Krishna, all that you want, will happen by itself. Love God, like an innocent child. Call out to Him with tears of longing; He will not be able to bear it. He will come running for you. Be mindful of the fact that there should be no desire of material benefits or liberation. Call out to Him earnestly, so as to be able to serve Him. Sing His glories, as you remember His Divine form, pastimes and attributes with tears of love in your eyes. This will purify your mind and cleanse out the material attachments. You can do all this even when you are engaged in other household and worldly chores. Thus, when your mind is 100% cleansed, the Guru will grant you the Divine power which will make your mind Divine. Then *Maya* with all its soldiers (anger, passion greed etc.) will leave you immediately forever. Then by the grace of God, you will be able to see His Divine form and enjoy unlimited Divine Love-Bliss perpetually. No worldly problem will ever be able to perturb you. Hence by

attaining **Jagadguru Shri Krishna** alone, can one become all blissful!

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## Recognizing a Genuine Guru



### If your Guru -

- Does not give you verbal boons/blessings or allurements of material gratification,
- Does not initiate by whispering Mantra in your ear,
- Does not show the miracles of psychic powers,
- Does not act like a Devi, Devata or God by swaying his head,
- Does not curse Anyone,
- Does not promise to alter someone's karmic destiny

### Rather if -

- He grants you true knowledge of the scriptures.
- He explains to you the aim of your life and how to attain it.
- He teaches a very practical way of devotion,
- He is endowed with deep down devotion,
- Symptoms of divine ecstasy reveal in his body off and on,
- His association naturally attracts your mind towards God,

- As a result of his association and teachings initial symptoms of divine ecstasy reveal in your being too,
- He is concerned only about your **spiritual progress**,
- His life is dedicated for the welfare of his followers so sincerely that he does not care for his comforts, likes and dislikes.

**IF SOMEONE EXHIBITS THESE ATTRIBUTES THEN HE IS A TRUE SAINT. SURRENDER YOURSELF TO HIM WITHOUT ANY**

## Padyaprasoonophaar

Shri Giridhar Sharma Chaturvedi, the president of Kashi Vidvat Parishat had humbly offered the title of Jagadguruttam to the Crest Jewel of Saints -Swami Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj.



## Certificate of the Title of Jagadguru conferred by Kashi Vidvat Parishat, Varanasi

श्रीमतां यमनियमाश्चिलयोगानुगानुष्ठानां,  
भक्तियोगवशीभूतभगवद्भावानां, धार्मिकभूमंडलमंडनायमानानां,  
विविधविद्याम्भोधिनां, जगदुद्धारमहाध्वरप्रवर्तकानां,  
वास्तवधर्मचार्याणां, श्री १००८ स्वामिक स्वामिकृपालुमहाराजानां,  
समर्हणायानां श्रद्धोपनिबद्धः

### पद्यप्रसूनोपहारः

यद्भूषणत्वमहनी यपदोपलब्धि - प्रादुर्भवत्पदविवे चनचातुरीकः,  
शेषाहिराप महिमा नमशो षमान्यं, विश्वेश्वरो विजयतां स दयापयोधिः ॥  
भगवान् श्रीविश्वनाथ ने श्री शेष जी को अपने आभूषण का पद प्रदान किया । इसी कारण से वे शेष जी जब दूसरे अवतार में महर्षि पतंजलि हुये तो तब उन्हें पद विवेचनता की निपुणता प्राप्त हुई और उन्होंने पद शास्त्र (व्याकरण) का महाभाष्य लिखा जिससे उनकी महिमा सर्वमान्य हुई । ऐसे दयासागर भगवान् श्री विश्वनाथ की जय हो ॥१॥

Lord Shankar honored Bhagwan Shesh Ji to become His ornament. Due to this honour being bestowed on Shesh ji, when Shesh Ji incarnated as Saint Patanjali, in a different lifetime, he was blessed with expertise in analysis skills. By virtue of such extraordinary

## HESITATION OR QUESTION. THE EXTENT OF YOUR SURRENDER TO GURU IS THE EXTENT OF YOUR CLOSENESS TO GOD.

For details of these points contact Didi Ji (Sushri Braj Bancharay Devi) at 713-344-1321 or e-mail at [brajbancharay@aol.com](mailto:brajbancharay@aol.com)

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skills, He composed an extensive thesis on Scriptural Grammar, which highlighted Shesh ji's glories beyond doubt. All glories to Lord Shankar an unfathomable ocean of mercy.

वैराग्यार्क मरीचिशोषितजगद्व्यामोहपङ्कक्षितौ,  
नूतनः कोऽपि सविग्रहः कृतधियामानंदपुंजोदयः ।  
स्वामित्री कृपालुनाममहितः सद्भक्तिपुष्पावलीप्रोत्सासाय  
वसन्ततामुपगतः स्यातासमुद्योतते ॥

वैराग्यरूपी सूर्यकी किरणों द्वारा मोह रूपी कीच के सुख जाने पर जगत् में पुण्यात्माओं के आनंद का मूर्तिमान् बसंत उदित हुआ है, इसका महनीय शुभ नाम स्वामी श्री कृपालु जी महाराज हैं । यह कृपालु बसन्त भक्तिता फूलों को खिलानेवाले हैं । सर्व विख्यात रूप में सर्वत्र प्रकाशित है ॥२॥

Beholding the vision of Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj, it appears as if the sun-rays of His detachment have dried the slush of delusion. Now Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj, the veritable Vasant of bliss of the holy souls has arrived. His pleasant presence makes the flowers of the creeper of devotion bloom naturally. His magnificence is universal.

यद्व्याख्याननवीनमेघपटलध्वानेन चित्तावली,  
नास्तिक्योपहतात्मनामपि मुदा सूक्ते विवेकाङ्कुरम् ।  
फूर्जत्तर्कविचारमंत्रनिवहव्यक्षिप्तदुर्भावना,  
भूताशेषविषशिरं विजयतामेकोऽयमीड्यो नृणाम् ॥

श्रीकृपालु जी का प्रवचन नूतन जलधर की गर्जना के समान है । यह नास्तिकता से पीड़ित मन की व्यथा को हरने वाला है । प्रवचन को सुनकर चित्त रूपी वनस्थली दिव्य भगवदीय ज्ञानके अङ्कुर को जन्म देती है कृतर्क युक्त विचारों से विक्षिप्त तथा दुर्भावना से पीड़ित मनुष्योंकी रक्षा करने में श्रीकृपालु जी महाराज अमृत औषधि के समान हैं उन की सदा ही जय हो ॥३॥

Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj's discourses are like the roaring of new clouds. They pacify the minds tortured by disbelief in God. Listening to His lectures gives birth to seedlings of divine knowledge in the mind. For those suffering with illusion, misconception and negative sentiments Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj is like a potion of ambrosia. All glories to him forever.

नानादर्शनसंविमर्शनकलाकौतूहलैः कोविदान्,  
धिन्वन् व्याकुलितान् नरान् नयपथंप्रीत्या मुहुःप्रापयन् ।  
तृष्णार्त्तान्भगवत्कथाऽमृतरसैः सिञ्चनसौ धीमतां  
वाक्पुष्पाञ्जलिपूजितोऽमितगुणाम्भोधिःसमुज्जृम्भते ॥

विविध दर्शनों के विमर्श से अनिश्चय के कारण व्याकुल और भटके हुये जन श्री कृपालु जी का दर्शन करके काँप जाते हैं । श्रीकृपालु जी

महाराज उनको प्रेम पूर्वक उपदेश देकर पुनः सन्मार्ग पर अग्रसर करते हैं। नाना तृष्णाओं से आर्त जनों को श्रीकृपालुजी भगवत्कथा रूपी अमृत से सींच कर शान्ति प्रदान करते हैं। आप अनंत गुणोंके सागर हैं। वाक्य पुष्पाञ्जलि से पूजित होकरविद्वानों के मध्य विराजमान हैं ॥४॥

The so called scholars, confused and misled due to the contradictions in various philosophies, shiver on getting a vision of Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj. Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj encourages them to tread on the path of righteousness, by his loving preaching. He brings peace to those suffering from agonizing thirst of material desires, by bestowing on them the nectar of divine talks. He is the ocean of countless virtues. Having been glorified with the poetic flowers of homage, Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj is embellishing the assembly of distinguished scholars.

येनास्मिन्खिलेऽपि भारतमहादेशे  
विशेषोल्लसत्प्रजेनोज्ज्वलभक्तियोगकलितं संस्थापितं मंडलम् ।  
धर्मोद्धारधुरीणभावमनिशं कीर्त्या समं वर्द्धयन्,  
धन्योमान्यजगद्गुरुत्तमपदैः सोऽयं समभ्यर्च्यते ॥

श्री कृपालु जी महाराज भारत में सर्वाधिक उल्लसित प्रजा से सम्पन्न हैं। आपने उज्ज्वल भक्तियोग संपन्न भक्तियोग मंडल की स्थापना की है। धर्म के उद्धार की आप की प्रबल भावना, आप की कीर्ति के साथ साथ प्रतिदिन बढ़ रही है। आप धन्य हैं। आपको सर्वोत्तम जगद्गुरु की पदवी से विभूषित किया जा रहा है।

Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj is equipped with the highest level of knowledge, in India. He has established "Bhaktiyog Mandal", an organization illuminated with the real light of devotion. His intense desire to establish and promote 'Dharm' is increasing by the day along with His ever increasing fame. Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj is GREAT! He is being conferred the honorable title of "Best of all Jagadgurus."

## As Years Go By...

*Saal Saal Bita Jaye, Govind Radhey*

*Ab To Hathilo Man, Hari Mein Laga De*

December 31st is the last day of the year. Jan 1st is celebrated the world over with great cheer and happiness, as the beginning of the New Year. Let us however, introspect to see if going of the previous year and coming of the next year is a great cause of celebration or grief, for e.g. you have \$100,000 in your bank and you have spent \$60,000 then do you celebrate or do you get concerned that you have only \$40,000 more left in your account. You keep counting only \$30,000 is left! Now only \$20,000 is left and now only \$2,000 is left.

Likewise, God has given us this human body to attain our ultimate goal. At the end of each year, we must introspect - During this year, how closer we got to the aim (God) of our life. The Hindi word for worship is *Upaasna*. It means "To get closer". How much closer are we to God now than before? For example someone is feeling cold and someone else lights a fire. The closer one gets to

तदीये लोकानामुपकृतिकरेऽस्मिन्नुपगमे,  
पुरे शम्भोरुद्वत्कतिपयपदाम्भोरुहभरैः ।

श्रुतिस्मृत्युक्तार्थ प्रवचनगुरोः संयमिमणोः,  
कृपालोस्तस्यैषा विलसतु सपर्या बुधगणे ॥

श्री कृपालु जी श्रुति स्मृति के प्रवचन में पटु हैं संयमियों के शिरोमणि हैं। शिवपुरी काशी में लोकोपकारी इस समागम के मध्य, कुछ पद्य पुष्पों से श्री कृपालु जी की यह अर्चना सुशोभित है ॥६॥

Shri Kripalu Ji is an expert at delivering discourses on the Vedas and Smritis. He is the crest jewel of all the restrained ones. During this blessed assembly, in the holy city of Lord Shankar, Shri Kripalu Ji's worship is beautified with the flowers of these poetic verses.

काशीस्थपंडितश्रेणी प्रशास्या कुसुमर्चनात् ।

कृपालुस्वामियोगीन्द्रस्वागतं शुभमेधताम् ॥

श्री काशी स्थित पंडितमंडली इस पुष्पार्चन से प्रशंसनीय हुई है। हे यो गिराज! हे कृपालु स्वामी जी महाराज ! आपका स्वागत है। इससे सर्वत्र शुभ की वृद्धि हो, सबका मंगल हो ॥७॥

This worship and adulation of Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj has glorified the congregation of scholars of Kashi. Oh King of the Yogis! O Kripaluji Maharaj! We welcome you. May this, increase auspiciousness all over and bring peace to everyone.

आपका उत्कर्ष चाहने वाले काशी विद्वत् परिषत् के ...

Kashi Vidvat Parishat wishes that your glories reach the pinnacle.

मंत्री अध्यक्ष ह. राजनारायण शुक्ल

ह. नारायण शास्त्री न्यायाध्याचार्य

महामहोपाध्याय साहित्य वाचस्पति

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the fire, the more the feeling of cold will diminish. How far have we moved from the world and how close are we to God? We do not introspect / think. We celebrate the fact that 20 years of our life have passed, 50 years have passed, 80 years have passed. We tell our kids, "My life has passed... Now you should worry about yours". Is this human life a burden that you are saying "Life has passed"? If someone has been sentenced to jail for 10 years and 9 years have passed, then 9.5 have passed and finally tomorrow the term of the sentence will be over, celebrating for that reason can be understood. What are you celebrating? Are you going to get freedom from the cycle of birth and death, from 8.4 million forms of life? What have you done to attain freedom from this cycle? You have not even given it a good thought! If you had realized the futility of this world barely a moment before death and resolved to attach your mind to God, then your future would have been made. So, coming of the New Year is not a reason to celebrate. We have to think, why are we celebrating, what is there to celebrate about? We have to perform self-retrospection.

After election, all parties do a retrospective meeting, to analyze why they lost, what were the shortcomings that need to be

overcome the next time. We should do a serious retrospection once a year, also every month and if possible every day before sleeping. We should review all the actions performed during the day - good and bad and think - How much did we attach our mind to this world and how much to God today. If every day we think like that, then our wrong deeds will reduce with each passing day. Next month they'll be even lesser and one fine day, they will be completely eliminated. However, we don't think about it even as we grow old. We are fearless. O! We are not going to die yet. We are only 90. What is your idea; you will live for 100 years? Even if you were to live for 200 years, what will happen after that?

So in self-retrospection, you will find that we are careless. A District Magistrate was once telling me, his story. He once appeared for an exam. During the exam, while trying to think hard for an answer, he fell asleep. He slept for an hour when he woke up he had only 30 minutes left. He tried to finish the paper quickly but couldn't and failed. He at least got 30 minutes, before the end of the exam. We on the other hand, do not realize the importance of this human life, even till the last moment of death.

We think a lot about this world-our wife, sons, wealth, health etc. But we do not think about "Ourselves". **You are the Soul.** Think about making "Your" future. You will have to leave this body. At the time of death, if you don't leave everything willingly then you will be forced to leave it. So every year do a self-retrospection. Feel that the sand of time is slipping away from your hands moment by moment. Resolve to make your future brighter. Think - What if we

## Quiz of Holy Cities

This time we will like to challenge adults and kids alike to find 23 holy cities in India. Please send in your answers by 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010 along with your age. The answers and winners will be published in the next edition. There will separate winners for children and adults.

### Radha Edition Quiz (Previous Edition)

#### Answers

*Bhanudulari, Biharini, Brajeshwari, Kirtisuta, Kishori, Kunjeshwari, Madhvi, Manini, Nathwari, Radhika, Raseeli, Raseshwari, Shri, Shyama, Sukumari, Ma (म)*

#### Winners

*Debashree Dhar (15 Names)  
Shravya Prabhu (13 Names)*

don't get a whole year, we might have only 6 months left of our life, or may be only a month. An engineer, who helped construct this Satsang Bhavan, slept one night and did not wake up the next morning. No body knew what happened. While sleeping his heart failed. Time does not wait even for a second. King, beggar, saint all have to go. Recently, Saddam Hussein was executed. In Iraq he was worshipped. After bowing down to Khuda, everybody used to bow down to him. All have to go. Some go happily and some go crying. God too has to go. After 11,000 years, Yamraj went to Lord Ram to remind him saying, "Lord Your time has come, if You wish to stay longer You can, I am not objecting to it. This is Your world. My job is to remind. I am fulfilling my duty".

Celebrate the New Year only if you resolve to use your unwavering intellect, to subdue your stubborn mind and attach it to God. It won't "get attached" by itself. You have to make an effort to attach it. You have been sitting idle, hoping it will attach itself one day. Why will it attach itself? You practice to attach it to world and it will get attached to God! Whichever area you try to attach it that is where it will get attached. Shri Krishn has said in Gita, "If you ponder about the happiness in the material world then your mind will get attached to the world and if you think about happiness in Me then it will get attached to Me". It is all about your thought process. The more you think about something the more your attachment grows. This year we have to make a firm resolve to increase thinking about God.

R	A	K	H	S	U	P	U	R	I	K	E	P	D
M	A	T	U	R	A	R	C	J	A	E	D	R	O
H	J	M	A	N	I	A	H	A	R	D	W	A	R
T	A	L	E	O	L	Y	I	N	I	A	A	Y	I
A	M	I	H	S	R	A	T	A	H	R	R	A	H
N	E	M	I	S	H	G	T	K	S	A	I	G	T
I	R	A	M	A	G	W	R	P	A	I	K	O	A
R	A	Y	O	D	H	Y	A	U	K	N	A	T	N
D	N	A	S	I	K	M	K	R	A	N	O	K	N
A	L	P	A	N	A	A	O	I	A	Y	J	M	A
B	G	U	V	T	S	V	O	I	H	M	A	K	G
H	A	R	A	H	I	U	T	M	A	I	R	I	A
A	T	M	I	T	H	I	L	A	A	R	B	A	J
H	E	M	K	U	N	D	S	A	R	N	A	T	H



# Kidz Corner



## The Protector



This is a *leela* narration from the great epic Mahabharat, wherein the Supreme Lord performs seemingly understandable actions to protect His devotees. Enjoy!

It was the last day of the great battle of Mahabharata. All Kauravas except Duryodhana had been killed. In the face of death, Duryodhana approached his friend Aswathama for help and asked him to give him courage and bring solace to his troubled mind. Aswathama assured Duryodhana that he'd do his best and took a vow that before the break of dawn; he would kill the Pandavas and bring the good news to Duryodhana. Before setting out on his mission, Aswathama went to the temple of Kali to pray for strength to accomplish the onerous task he had set out to achieve. Kali, in an unseen voice, told Aswathama that the Pandavas, having sought refuge

under God's lotus feet, cannot be killed. Nevertheless Aswathama insisted on pursuing his determination and extracted the blessing of Kali only in general terms and set out on his task.

Knowing about the vow taken by Aswathama, Lord Krishna approached Sage Durvasa to seek his help in saving the Pandavas. Sage Durvasa welcomed Lord Krishna. Krishna indicated that he had some work to be done and that Sage Durvasa was to perform that task. Durvasa was overjoyed and readily agreed to do whatever Krishna wanted him to do except telling a lie. Krishna assured him that He will not ask him to tell a lie. He however, asked *Rishi* Durvasa to perform all actions as per His instructions.

Krishna then apprised Rishi Durvasa of Aswathama's vow and asked him to take the Pandavas under his protection for the night. The plan was to have a pit dug up to hide the Pandavas in the night. The pit was to have been covered by a wooden plank with Rishi Durvasa being seated on it. If and when Aswathama came, and enquired about the whereabouts of the Pandavas, Durvasa was to state the truth

while emphasizing certain words. Durvasa agreed.

Aswathama searched all over for the Pandavas but could not find them. He then decided to approach Rishi Durvasa in the hope that this all knowing Saint, would be able to tell him the whereabouts of the Pandavas. Upon reaching his ashram, Ashwathama praised the great saint Durvasa for his divine knowledge and asked him about the whereabouts of the Pandavas. Durvasa, as planned, pretended anger and shouted '**Pandavas!** They **are** hiding **under my feet!**' Durvasa is well known to be short tempered. Hearing the angry uproar of Rishi Durvasa, Aswathama got scared thinking that he was the cause of Rishi Durvasa's anger. He assumed that Rishi Durvasa's furious reaction was a result of his annoyance and disgust upon being disturbed. Thinking so, Ashwathama left the Rishi's ashram.

Thus the Lord protected His surrendered devotees while keeping His word that Rishi Durvasa did not have to tell a lie.

## Jokes

### Parking Spot

John was driving down the street in a sweat because he had an important meeting and couldn't find a parking place. Looking up toward heaven, he said "Lord, take pity on me. If you find me a parking place I will go to Mass every Sunday for the rest of my life and give up tequila."

Miraculously, a parking place appeared.

John looked up again and said "Never mind. I found one."  
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Teacher: Which is the best country in the world?

Student: Canada.

Teacher: Why?

Student: Because it has 3 A's

\*\*\*\*\*

# Christmas Family Retreat and later....

Winter'2009 - Devotional Family Retreat organized by **Shri Kripalu Kunj Ashram** under the guidance of **Didi Braj Banchary Ji** was held from Friday Dec 25'09 to Sunday Dec 27'09, in the serene, scenic surrounding of T Bar M Retreat and Convention Center near Houston TX. The Retreat was attended by Satsangis from Houston, Dallas, Montreal and Toronto.

Enthusiastic devotees reached the Retreat Site on the night of Dec 24th to make arrangements. Yogesh decorated the Satsang Hall beautifully with Shri Radha Krishn and Maharaj Ji in the altar. On Dec 25th morning, the retreat started with Aarti and Satsang at 9.00am. The morning keertan session was followed by Shri Maharaj Ji's video on "**Parmarthik Swarth**". While adults were enjoying Shri Maharaj Ji's divine discourse, children went for hiking with Prabhu Sankaran. Bhog was offered around 11:30am. The devotees then took the prasad, prepared by Suman Ji, Sushma Ji and Urmila Ji.



The afternoon session started with musical chair on the music of Radhey Radhey for kids and adults. It was great fun, especially when the adults were playing. This was followed by a Q&A session, wherein many new devotees asked questions to Didi Ji on how to improve their devotion. Everyone, the old and the new, benefitted from the session.

Post dinner session was special. First, the kids dressed up in Christmas attires. Second they appeared in the hall accompanied with the Santa Clause (Brij Gupta). The Santa appeared along with the kids, ringing a bell, with two big bags of gifts for all. The scene was hilarious. Santa gave everyone a gift of beautifully packed chocolates. T- Shirts were later distributed by Didi Ji as a souvenir. We watched an old 1984 video of Shri Maharaj ji thereafter, wherein there were excerpts of Shri Maharaj Ji's Mother (Aji) singing the Mahamantra, followed by a leela of Bhagwan Shankar coming to see Bal Krishna after his dissension on earth as the son of Mother Yashoda and Nand Baba.

On Dec 26<sup>th</sup> everyone was up by 5.00 AM and the day started with a 1 hour **Jagadguru Kripalu Bhakti Yoga (JKY) session** led by Apra and Neeharika. Warm up session and breathing exercises such as Radhey Naam Pranayam etc. helped stretch the muscles and relax the physical body. This was followed by Sukshm Shareer Vishram i.e subtle body relaxation - which is a practice of Roop Dhyana while relaxing the subtle body, which was especially enjoyed by all devotees. The morning keertan session was led by the Satsangi's followed by watching the next video in the "**Parmarthik Swarth**" series.

The devotees enjoyed delicious lunch of "**Chhole Bhature**" and "**Shrikhand**", served by Suman and Sushma Ji. Kids finished their lunch quickly to start practice of the leela they were to perform at night. Older kids went for a game of tennis. Everyone gathered back in the satsang hall at 2.00PM for indoor games. It was heartening to see the kids have a lot of fun playing on the chant of "Radhey Radhey".

This session was followed by a Q&A session. Most of the time, the devotees ask questions to clarify their doubts and improve their understanding of devotional concepts with Didi Ji. To the surprise of everyone, Didi Ji decided to quiz the devotees. Didi Ji gave a devotional quiz of 20 questions on the universal philosophy to the devotees. Once everyone handed in their answers, Didi Ji gave detailed explanations. Apra Sekhon scored the maximum score of 14 correct answers.

After a brief snack break, Didi Ji led the **Parikrama** in the State Park, with all young kids in the front, singing and dancing to the words of Radhey Govind Geet. Keertan session continued after the Parikrama. Bhog was offered as a play wherein the pastime of the divine couple was presented. Isha played as Radha and Aneeshika as Shri Krishna. It was really spectacular. After dinner, it was time for the **Cultural Programs**. Kids played a "Bal Leela", which was composed and directed by Didi Ji. It was a depiction of the episode where Bal Krishn and Bal Radha are playing a game and Krishna plays a trick on innocent Shri Radha Rani by saying that if He loses He will Marry Her and if She loses then She will have to marry Him. Shravya, Ankita, Anishka, Arijeet, Vikram and Isha played this leela beautifully. Everyone enjoyed it. This was followed by children's talent show and contest of recitation of Sanskrit verses and leading a keertan. All the kids did so well, it was hard for the judges to select the best. However Arijeet from Toronto was declared the best.



At around 9:00pm, everyone gathered outside for **Bonfire**, sang Bhajans, danced around the fire, shared jokes and roasted corns. There was another big group from Turkey in the same Retreat centre. While our devotees were dancing to the soul stirring chants of Hari Bol, They also joined us and started dancing as if they were lost in some unknown ecstasy of divine love. The session ended around midnight.

The last day started at 6:00am with morning Aarti and Satsang. Post breakfast was a Q&A session, followed by **Prize distribution** for the winners of the games, kids competitions and talent show. Didi Ji also rewarded the volunteers who worked hard for the event. A photo session followed. The retreat ended at 11:00am.

The devotees led by Didi Ji then proceeded towards Shri Maharaj Ji's Ashram in Barsana Dham, Austin TX to meet Shri Maharaj Ji's grandsons and grand daughter-in-law, who were visiting from India. Didi Ji invited them to visit Shri Kriplau Kunj Ashram (SKKA) in Houston on their way back to India, which they gladly accepted. They were extended a heart warming welcome in SKKA followed by a tearful farewell.



Devotees with Didi Ji at the closing of retreat



Ramanand Bhaiya doing Arti with Krishnanand Bhaiya, Pramanand Bhaiya, Sita Bhabhi Ji, Didi Ji and devotees.



Devotees welcoming Sita Bhabhi Ji on their arrival at Shri Kripalu Kunj Ashram



Farewell at the Houston International Airport

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## Upcoming Pravachan in Dallas, Texas

Didi Braj Banchary Ji will be speaking on  
"How to realize God in western world" at

**North Texas Hindu Mandir**

10309 Baronne Circle, Dallas, TX 75218  
**(817) 528-5027**

For more information, please write to  
Neeharika Peter at [neeharikap@yahoo.com](mailto:neeharikap@yahoo.com)

For an up to date schedule of Didi Ji 's programs, please visit  
<http://www.shrikripalukunj.org/events.htm>