

# Pastimes of Krishna and Balaram

Dated: 16-8-13

Venue: Class at gurukul Honey pot Festival, Vrindavan

Hari hari hari.... Hari Hari....Hari bol....you don't say hari bol?? Hari Om nahi (Maharaj laughs) hari bol....

"Krishna jinka naam hai Gokul jinka dham hai" you know this song? (Maharaj asking the gurukul boys) yes....(boys replied) you know ok, all of you can sing after me also if you are hearing it for the first time.

"krsna jinaka nama hai, gokula jinaka dhama hai

aise sri bhagavana ko (mere) barambara pranama ha

yasoda jinaki maiya hai, nanda ji bapaiya hai

aise sri gopala ko (mere) barambara pranama ha"

bapaiya- baap, father, who is Krishna's mother? What is name of krishna's mother? Yasoda and father? Nanda Maharaj, Nanda maharaj –Yasoda maiya ki.....jai.

"radha jinaki chaya hai, adbhuta jinaki mayahai

aise sri ghana shyam ko (mere) barambara pranama ha

luta luta dadhi makhana khayo, gvala-bala sanga

"luta luta dadhi makhana khayo" what does Krishna do? He is stealing butter going door to door for doing what? To steal butter, one of krishna's name because he steals butter what is he known? Makhanchor.....Makhanchor ki.....Jai.

"gvala-bala sanga" – all day He is herding cow, how many cows?

9 lakhs, He is herding all day, is He getting any salary? You understand salary. So if Krishna stole little butter and ate but He is herding cows all day and in return He is eating little butter, is that ok? I think He deserves more than a little butter but He is just happy with little butter.

luta luta dadhi makhana khayō, gvala-bala sanga

aise sri lila- dhama ko (mere) barambara pranama ha”

krsna – balaram jai krsna balarama.....jai, they are both Bhagavan, Krishna is Bhagavan and Balaram is He also Bhagavan? Yes and Krishna likes butter yes, what about Balaram what does He like? Honey

drupada sutaki laja bacayo, graha se gaja ko

aise sri krpa dhama ko (mere) barambara pranama ha

kuru pandava me yuddha macayo, arjuna ko upadesa sunayo

aise sri bhagavana ko (mere) barambara pranama ha

Dau ji ka Bhaiya....Who is Dauji ? Balarama...and who is Dau's Bhaiya? Krishna Kanhaiya.

Dau ji ka Bhaiya..... Krishna Kanhaiya.

Dau ji ka Bhaiya..... Krishna Kanhaiya.

Krishna Kanhaiya..... Dau ji ka Bhaiya

Krishna Kanhaiya..... Dau ji ka Bhaiya (kirtan)

Where did Krishna take His birth? Birth place of Krishna? you know? Where did Krishna take birth? In Delhi? In Agra?? In Mathura, Mathura Dham ki.....Jai and what about Balarama? Birth place of Balarama ? Gokul.....Sure? Where was Balarama born? Gokul, Gokul Dham ki.....Jai.

Krishna Balarama Jai Krishna Balarama (Kirtan)

Who is elder brother? Krishna or Balarama? Who is elder-older? Balarama. So he was born first, He took birth first before Krishna. On what day? Which was the day? Monday? What is the name of that day? Purnima, that purnima is known as Balarama Purnima and then Krishna's birth is on ashtami and known as Krishna Janamashtami, Very good. So purnima is not very far few days, few days to go. When is ekadashi? Tomorrow is Ekadashi, Ekadashi then Dwadashi then Trayodashi, Chaturdashi and Purnima. So five days to go and then from that day purnima eight more days and then Sri Krishna Janamashtami Mahotsava ki .....jai.

So today you are celebrating Balaram's, I mean at least you are remembering Him. You are remembering that He loves honey. So you'll have another day butter, today you've honey pot then you'll have butter pot, yes, 20 butter pots. Today many pots Oh! Cow dung pot! Cow Urine? Also yes Hare Krishna (kirtan)

Release your hands, very good, sit properly like yogis, how does yogis sit? Krishna has given us kartaal taal taali swar and taal Singing and then this is taal you don't have to bring your own kartal that's nice if you have but there is no problem if you don't have because Krishna has given us our own taali. Hare Krishna (kirtan continues)

"Om Namo Bhagvate Vasudevaya" meaning we offer our obeisance's onto Vaasudev.

Why is Lord called Vaasudev? You know? Why is He called Vaasudev? Anyone of you know? Boys? I think you are boys also or teacher's big boys, 11th 12th like that ok little boy (Someone answers) He is son of Vasudev, good very good. You heard? These Lords, two Lords, how many? Two Lords are sons of Vasudev hence called Vaasudev. Father's name is Vasudev and children's name is Vaasudev The difference is there you have to take a note of this we do not say Om Namo Bhagvate Vasudevaya, Om Namo Bhagvate Bhagvaan, Vasudev is not Bhagvan. Who is Bhagvan? Vaasudev Vaasudev is bhagvan, Vasudev is

father of Bhagvan. He must be a very important person a big personality he's the father of Bhagvaan and not one Bhagvan two bhagvans. So those two Vaasudevs, so not only Krishna is Vaasudev. What about Balarama? Is He also Vaasudev? Yes? No? Yes because they are both sons of Vasudev so they're both Vaasudevs.

So Krishna appeared in Mathura, Balarama first appeared in Gokul and Krishna appeared in Mathura. Balarama first appeared in Gokul and Krishna appeared in Mathura and they were in Gokul for long time three years and four months Krishna and Balarama were together in Gokul

"Krishna jinka nama hai gokul jinka dhama hai" we could also say Balarama jinka nama hai gokul jinka dhama hai". So finally they are residing in Gokul both of them and then they left Gokul, not only Krishna but all the residents of Gokul they left Gokul and then they came to Vrindavan and they were in Vrindavan for another three years and four months not far from here. Anyways let's not get into it.

Krishna Balarama ki .....Jai.

So when they were small children, Krishna and Balarama, they both wanted to be the cowherd boys. But the cows are big Krishna and Balarama were small boys and the cows were big cows. So Nandababa proposed...no..no..no.. you should take care of the small cows. Small cows are called calves, so Krishna and Balarama, they became Vastapal you know Gopal right Gopal "go" is cow, protector of the cow, caretaker of the cow. Who is Gopal? But before they became Gopal they were known as Vastapal, what is vasta? Calf you know vastasur? One demon called Vastasur because one demon he took the form of a calf, the demon took a form of a calf and he mixed himself with the cows and Krishna and Balarama "Dau look that one" is he here he is not a regular calf he is a demon. They're all looking behind then Krishna what did He do, He gently walked upto that vastasur and caught hold of his hind leg and whirled him and

he landed on the top of the tree there. The demigods arrived  
Jai ho...Jai ho...Krishna Balarama ki...jai, Shri Krishna Balarama  
ki ...Jai.

So Krishna and Balarama were vastapal and then when they grew  
up in age and size then they were promoted the promotion you  
understand the promotion then they were promoted and then they  
became Gopal. So Krishna and Balarama they use to come to this  
region where we are sitting which is known as Raman Reti,  
Krishna and Balarama use to come herding their cows first  
herding calves, first calves and then cows. So that is why  
when Srila Prabhupada thought of building temples and  
installing deities he installs in the middle, in the middle  
who did he installs? Krishna and Balarama because those are  
the pastimes of Krishna Balarama all around here. Where you  
are sitting sometimes Krishna used to sit, where you are  
sitting right now Krishna and Balarama has sat there this dust  
here is touched by Krishna's lotus feet take some dust that  
dust there, no dust only grass there touch the dust which is  
touched by Krishna Balaram's lotus feet just little bit.

So when we touch this dust, who are we touching? We're  
touching Krishna; we're touching Krishna's feet that has  
touched this dust. You are sitting on the nice straw mat that  
is why you are not able to touch the dust, devotees roll in  
the dust of Vrindavan they roll in the dust of Vrindavan  
because that dust is very sacred dust called Raman Reti. What  
is Reti? Sand ya so this Reti, this sand particles are Raman  
where RadhaRaman or Balarama has done the raman they have  
wandered they have played different pastimes over here, so it  
is known as Raman Reti.

Shri Krishna Balarama ki.....jai.

So after spending many years many more years in Vrindavan  
where did Krishna go? From Vrindavan where did He go? He went  
to Mathura, what did He do in Mathura? He killed Kamsa, who  
killed Kamsa? (Someone answers-Krishna) Krishna. And what did

Balarama do? Did He killed someone else also? Other demons especially the brothers of Kamsa, kamsa had some 7 or 8 brothers, Pralambasura was already killed before they went to Mathura.

Then after killing Kamsa what did they do next? What did they do next? Who did they meet? Mother and father, names of mother and father? Vasudev and Devki not Vaasudev, Vasudev and Devki, then what happened?

Where did they go next? Dwarka well before Dwarka where did they go? They went to Ujjain to visit ISKCON temple. What was Ujjain known as that time? Avantipur yes, Avantipur you know where Ujjain is? Yes in Tamil Nadu? Madhya Pradesh, Where is Madhya Pradesh? (Maharaj laughs) geography they study right, so in Madhya Pradesh which is down south. Krishna and Balarama they went to Ujjain, Avantipur why did they go there? For studies Hari Bol. And who was their teacher Sandipani muni, Sandipani Muni Ki .....jai.

And Krishna and Balarama were taking lessons there any other friend also Sudama where was he from? From Sudamapuri, Sudamapur which is in Gujrat, Porbandar Bandar which Bandar, Porbandar. Bandar means port here not monkey and there are many other friends. How many students are there in this school? 200! Baap re baap, it's a big number of student's sounds good, that also was international school Sandipani Muni's International School students had come from far and wide and there Krishna bramhachari and Balarama bramhachari they stayed in the ashram. You have seen their photographs? There is one famous photograph in ISKCON in which Sandipani Muni is teaching Krishna and Balarama, two students. Could we call them Krishnadas bramhachari Balaramdas bramhachari? Is that right to say? They became bramhacharis but they were Krishnadas and Balarama das bramhachari? no.....not possible. We are das but they were the Bhagvan the Lords.

But they were also to set example before the whole world "yad

yad achrati shretas" they also went to school and they are staying in the ashram, your ashram is right here? "bramhachari gurukule Vasandantoh gururhitam" bramhcharis, what do little bramhacharis do? Gurukule they go to gurukul they reside in Gurukul, gururhitam and they serve Guru dasavat servants like a very menial servant, very humble servants. Krishna and Balarama were serving, first of all they were very good students. He (sandipani muni) used to teach him some lessons during the day and by the evening time He use to pass the exam in the subject matter. In the evening He used to get a certificate, next day another faculty another art, science by end of that day pass the exam. You take long time right? You take one year but Krishna was taking just one day that's the difference He's Krishna.

Krishna and Balarama were very good students, so you also have to be very good, good students studying, doing your homework and also well behaved, very gentle. And then all the students' bramhacharis they use to go to bed early, early to bed early to rise and then what happen that person becomes healthy, wealthy and wise. you like to be healthy wealthy wise? Then what you have to do you have go to bed early and get up early. So Krishna and Balarama but off course you know do you know? May be you don't know! Krishna had difficult time in all the students lights turned off and they are in the bed and (Gurumaharaj making snoring sound) sleeping and snoring Balarama also. But one student and that use to be Krishna hard time to sleep and Balarama use to get up sometimes in middle of the sleep and use to find Krishna, Hey! Why you did not sleep go to sleep go to sleep soon time for mangala arati go to sleep. So then Krishna use to say, Oh you know I use to all night long I used to go into the forest "Radha Madhava kunja bihari gopijana vallabha girivara dhari jamuna teera vanachari". Now every morning not every morning every night I've been going with the gopis and dancing with the gopis, so that was my daily routine, so although I've come here that's why I have hard time sleeping at night.

Krishna Balarama ki.....jai

So anyway Krishna has this difficulty but you don't have you should not have difficulty. Then Krishna and Balarama and all the friends they use to go out "Bhikshamdehi" meaning what? bhikshamdehi meaning what? Dehi meaning, give what do you give, give some bhiksha give some alms, give some alms. So they use to go door to door doing Madhukuri, all hundreds of students going into Avantipur Ujjain knocking at the door bhikshamdehi bhikshamdehi. The bramhacharis are expected to go door to door begging is not the real reason give association to those grihasthas "Jare dakho tare kaho Krishna upadesh" give some upadesh to those house holders preaching is main purpose and then excuses is alms, madhukari.

So who do you think was most successful alms collector? Krishna and Balarama there used to be big loads of alms on their head, on their shoulder, on their hands. Because when they would go to some door onto the householder, the householder would see the beauty of Krishna and Balarama and they use to say Hey bring this bring that head of the family, some nice beautiful bramhacharis are here bring them some potatoes bring this bring that sabji bring and they were interested in having Krishna and Balarama right in front of their doors for long long time. They use to think if we stopped giving alms they would go next door and then we would lose darshan of Krishna and Balarama so how keep them longer in front of their door keep giving..keep giving..keep giving...hey bring this...bring that.

And other friends going other doors other gallies other lanes practically they would come empty pockets empty hands empty bags little something and Krishna Balarama bringing loads of alms. Then all the friends had good idea, they thought why should we go separately let us go with Krishna and Balarama go right behind them and we could assist them carrying extra luggage of all the gifts all the alms given by the householders so that is what they started doing and then all

around Ujjain Avantipur big procession Krishna and Balarama in the front and all others behind.

Krishna Balram ki....Jai So like that you are in gurukul and Krishna and Balarama were also in gurukul remember Krishna Balaram's days in gurukul, pastimes and learn.

Then there was time for dakshina gurudakshina when the students completes their education what do they do? give some dakshina well before that many pastime Krishna was asked to bring some firewood from the forest and who was accompanying Him that day? Sudama, Sudama and Krishna went as they went into the forest and collecting firewood soon there was the thunder and storm and rain and flooded and dark and night and they could not return to the ashram. Because when there was little wind and little rain they could have ran back to the ashram but they didn't do so because they thought we've collected only little firewood we need more. So they were doing their duty collecting more firewood and as a result they were caught in the big lightening and storm and they couldn't return.

And next day Krishna.....Sudama.....who was calling out? Who was looking for Krishna and Sudama? Ya, Sandipani Muni was like a father teacher is like a father, so he had come carrying his lantern he was looking for Krishna and Sudama. He found them still busy collecting firewood, that was he was very very teacher was very pleased with the service attitude of his students Krishna and Sudama and blessed them. Krishna whatever you speak in the future would be just but the truth, the Vedas the knowledge will just come out of your mouth, out of your lotus mouth this is like a blessing of Sandipani Muni. So then towards the end I am ending also. Time for dakshina so all the students were giving some dakshina...Sawa rupiya....some lakshami, some gifts Sandipani Muni's wife thought this Krishna and Balarama are very extraordinary students we should ask for some very special dakshina. And now what they ask for? Sandipani Muni and his wife this couple they had lost their

son lost died so they had requested Krishna and Balarama to please bring our son back return him to us that would be an appropriate dakshina from you. And then Krishna and Balarama went to Prabha's Kshetra near Gujrat and they jumped they jumped into the ocean there and they approached the died skeleton body of Shankhasur and looked into the belly of this demon. They had heard that this demon has eaten up the son of their gurumaharaj. But inside the belly the son wasn't there so they took that body the dead body of that demon, it was in the form of the shankha- conch shell and that became Shankha of Lord known as "Panchajanya" now you know where they found this, when and where you know a little bit and then they went to abode of Yamaraj.

They thought we couldn't find the son here he could be possibly there Yamaraj has brought him to his own abode. So when Krishna and Balarama appeared at the entrance of Yampuri they blew conch shells the blowing of conch shells was heard by all the residents of Yamraj. Who resides there all the sinful, to be punished souls all the characters. So as Krishna and Balarama entered and blew the conch shell which was heard by all those present there immediately all of them present there they had four handed forms and the crown and the earrings also they had the pitambaras clothes.

They all started going back to home back to Godhead everyone was liberated by Krishna's and Balaram's presence in the hell. That abode of Yamraj just by being there then blowing the conch shell everyone all went back to home and then yamaraj understood the mission of why did Krishna and Balarama being there. Here's son, whose son he is son of Sandipani Muni so they took the son of Sandipani Muni with them and went and they returned back to, where did they come back to? ashram but which ashram where was it? Sandipani Muni's ashram on the banks of Shipra river in Avantipur and here is our dakshina please accept and having their son right here being offered by Krishna take him take him.

So this couple gurumaharaj and Kulapati Sandipani Muni and his wife they were highly pleased and they further blessed Krishna and Balarama and then Krishna Krishna Balarama ki .....jai. And then they came back to where did they come back to? Mathura they had gone from Mathura to Ujjain and they came back and then they stayed in Mathura for another 18 years would and then they battle with Jarasanda for 18 times...17 times...18th time they did not show any interest and they were running away to Dwarka ahe.....Ranchod...Ranchod...Ranchod...meaning coward just see running away from the battle who was saying? Jarasanda was saying like that but when He arrived in Gujrat in Dwarka He was they all welcomed Krishna and Balarama, Ranchod rai ki....Jai....Ranchodrai ki....Jai Ranchodrai ki...jai.

So who were Ranchodrai? Krishna....Krishna only? Krishna and Balarama were welcomed by Dwarka.

So we'll stop there, so I think some next item some next item, Balaram's favourite item Balaram's favourite dish, what is Balaram's favourite dish? The honey that honey pot be there and let's see what happens next.

(Kirtan) "Hare krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare"