

Krishna Came to the House

Source: Stories for Inspiration, by Swami Shantananda Puri Maharaj

KRISHNA CAME TO THE HOUSE

Bangaramma was a poor illiterate lady living alone in a small village near Nellore. She was widowed when she was eight years old. She had never gone out of the house in all her seventy five years of age.



She was devoted to Lord Krishna and every day did Puja to a small Saligrama (a divine stone which possessed all the divine powers of Lord Krishna). One day she was invited to attend the Bhajan (religious singing on Lord) in a neighbour's house. For the first time she saw in that house a calendar with Krishna's picture in it. She was fascinated with that picture and enquired from her host as to where from she could procure a similar calendar with Krishna's picture. She was told that it was available in shops at Nellore which was 90 kms away from her village. She was downcast as she had never gone by bus, taxi etc. and she was afraid of attempting a trip.

Even after she went home she was only thinking of the Krishna in the calendar. She was weeping at her inability to travel to Nellore. She prayed fervently to Krishna throughout that night and next day too:

“Oh my Krishna, I am a stupid illiterate old lady who is incapable of going to Nellore and finding your address. But you are reputed to be very clever and you know my address. Why don't you come to me?”

Next day, in the forenoon, a young boy knocked at her door to enquire whether she had any old newspapers to be sold. When Bangaramma opened the door, she found lying in the basket of the boy six calendars the top one containing Krishna's picture.

In answer to her enquiry the boy showed her all the six old calendars each one containing different pictures of Lord Krishna and each one excelling the other in its beauty. He said “All these unwanted old calendars have been dumped on me by a lady in the next street. I have no use for them. If you want you can take all of them free.” Bangaramma was very happy, thanked the boy profusely and took the calendars inside the house. She cried before the Krishna of the calendar – “Krishna, how compassionate and magnanimous you are! You

have yourself come to my house in response to my prayers. How lucky am I? Glory be to you.”

God does respond to the sincere prayers of his devotees.