

Message for Krishna Janmashtmi

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The name Krishna has two meanings.

Meaning 1:

Krishna – comes from the word Karsh or Krish. Karsh means Akarshana which means to attract.

The one who gives the final state is Krishna. We do a lot of sadhana and after that, we reach a point from where the sadhana is of no use and only the Grace of the Lord operates. This is the point where Krishna attracts the sadhak.

To give an example, say a satellite is going to the moon. It does not go upto the surface of the moon. It stops several thousand kilometres away wherefrom the Grace of the Lord or the gravitational field of the Lord operates. At the point it is stopped, the fuel supply is shut

and no more fuel is given to the engine. Now, it is the moon's gravitational force that pulls it upto the moon.

Similarly, when all your sadhana has taken you to a particular state, it cannot do anything more. It is the gravitational force of the Lord called Grace which begins to draw you to himself.

Grace is a short form of gravitational force. You take the first letters and last letters of the two words and it becomes grace.

So it is told in the Isa upanishad that the rishi, after progressing to a significant level through sadhana, prays to the divine light – “Lord, now I am caught. I find a golden orb of unavoidable attraction alluring where I may get drowned forever.”

*Hiranmayena patrena satyasya apihitam mukham
Tat twam pushan apavrinu satya dharmaya drustaye*

By a curtain which is made up of beautiful alluring glow, the reality has been hidden. Now it is no longer possible for me to remove it. O Light of Light, it is for you to take away the curtain and by not allowing me to be drowned in the world's allurements; so that I can have a view of the ultimate reality, the ultimate supreme entity which is called the Brahman, who is also called the atman and by common people as the Supreme God.

And that Lord Krishna, he has always been hidden in our heart of hearts at all times. He is un-manifest and sleeping inside us. The day he wakes up, we call it the birthday. So if Krishna is not born anywhere else – then why should all celebrate his birthday? It is because he is born in everybody's heart.

Now how is it that he is hidden in our hearts? We feel that we don't find any sign of it?

As an analogy, we find the electricity explicit and manifest in all the bulbs and the electric fans. There is also a wire all through the walls which contain the same electricity - that is un-manifest. Whenever you call a electrician and put a point, you can take out the electricity and make it shine inside the new bulb which is fixed.

So this is the difference between manifest and un-manifest energy.

The Lord always remains inside us in un-manifest form and outside as the very world. That is why it is told in the Bhagwad Gita that, it is very difficult to get a person who has realised ultimately that the entire world is nothing but Lord Krishna himself.

So the birthday of lord Krishna is going to end finally in such a vision where everywhere you find him all around you. Let us all awaken the Lord who is inside us and also see all his extension everywhere in the entire universe as Lord Krishna himself.

Another thing to note is that Lord Krishna was born in a jail. The jail represents all our senses, the five senses of action and five senses of perception. Only the Lord alone can break free from the jail and uplift us all.

Meaning 2

The second meaning of Krishna is from the source from where the word Krishi has come. The word Krishi means ploughing.

So Krishna means the one who ploughs. We are like unploughed virgin / barren land where no produce can come out. Krishna has to come to plough us completely so that we can produce the greatest of miracles, which is to attain the Lord.

Krishna comes to plough so that we become fertile and to allow beautifully the Lord to grow and give us the produce.

May Lord Krishna's grace be on us all on this day.

* * HARI OM * *

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