

Sri Krishna Utsavam

Krishna, Krishna
our
Sathguru
Krishna



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Wonderful are the ways of the Lord and great Gurus. They defy description and at times seem to have the mystical power to don any role with completeness and an eternal message. Take the one and only Sri Krishna. He was a teacher, friend, son and foster son, lover, general, politician, king-maker and compassionate enemy. With ease and perfection he taught many a lesson to

mankind. Even though 5000 years have elapsed since His passing; it is not surprising that He is not only considered to be an Incarnation of God but also the embodiment of the Fullness of the Supreme being (*Krishnastu Bhagavan Swayam*).

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The temples of India bear His imprint. The Scriptures echo with the sound of His name, from the Vedas to the works written by the sages. All the great ones of the world have felt His influence and it is not only as a person but also as a force that embodies both perfect, undemanding love and the Highest Knowledge in itself. **This is why a great**

Advaitin said that there is no great truth, tattwam, than Krishna.

From Krishna to great Gurus who enrich our lives, nay our soul, the story although in a different time and level has a life-changing impact. One such Guru is Her Holiness The Sathguru Swami Gnanananda Sarasvathi. For Her many devotees and the Sri Vishnu Mohan Foundation, the similarities between Krishna and Her, the simplicity and the exhortations of surrendering to the Divine Will and living a good clean life in this world and the next, however resonate with endearment and urgency. **Through Her many darshans, bhashanams and question-answer sessions, She has been spreading the message of saranagati and true bhakti, the joys of surrender, the need to live one's life with simplicity and faith.**

Her devotees and the Sri Vishnu Mohan Foundation would like to thus reaffirm their longing for Sri Krishna and their Guru. Therein lies the genesis of the **Sri Krishna Utsavam to be held in Chennai from the 9th- 21st August, 2011.**



Why a Sri Krishna Utsavam

The learned know that an Utsavam has special meaning and significance. An Utsavam is an occasion for renewal: for the Vigraham in the temple to have its powers renewed; for the devotees to renew their faith and devotion to the Lord and for societal ties to be renewed.

It is for these reasons that the Rishis had decided that Utsavams should be held at temples regularly. The word Utsavam also means a “joyous occasion” or celebration and the joyful mood of the devotees influence even those who are unhappy. The chanting of the Vedas etc, the bhajans, creates spiritual vibrations, which help turn the mind towards Bhakti. The musical instruments, the firecrackers etc., are planned to create sound vibrations that drive away evil spirits and draw Daivic forces to the temple.

It is this spirit and context that our Sri Krishna Utsavam will be celebrated.

And why Sri Krishna if you are still wondering? Ironical as it may sound we seem to be considering Sri Krishna only as a God beyond all suffering and Happiness. We are intent on only praying to Him failing to realize His life in this world. Sri Krishna lived in this world as one of us and without divorcing Himself from the happiness and sufferings of the world. After an incident in which He had shown His Divine powers, the gopas approached Him and said, “we know not if you are a Devaa, Yaksha or some other Divine being. Whoever you are, do you bless and protect us? ” Sri Krishna got angry and said that “ I am just one of you and if you wish my presence amongst you, then treat me as just one of you.” This is what we have forgotten all these centuries.

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understanding Him and His teachings, we attain to happiness both in this world and the next.

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Our lives get transformed and our interactions with other beings, whether human or otherwise become filled with light and compassion.

It is this Sri Krishna who is the focus of our Utsavam. Our Sri Krishna Utsavam is for 13 days. And there is an endearing and good reason for that too. Our Utsavam will bridge the Jayanthi of our revered Sathguru, Her Holiness The Sathguru Swami Gnanananda Sarasvathi with its culmination on Krishna Jayanthi (9th August to 21st August, 2011).

The Sri Vishnu Mohan Foundation through this Utsavam wishes to help us revisit and renew our eternal bond with Sri Krishna, the prince of Mathura and Dwaraka. Get yet one more glimpse into His teachings and life. Reinvigorate the timeless usefulness of gurubhakthi. Traditional pravachanam will be combined with celebrations of the life and teachings of Sri Krishna in song and dance.



The power is not mine

It is by the Grace of God, that you are able to do something good. When you think that "I did it", that "I" is Abamkara, the Ego. Then, you feel that I did it. As long as that Ego is strong, you will go on committing mistakes and mistakes all through your life, till you learn to be humble and surrender to God. Once you surrender to God, you will become humble. And then you will know automatically- the power is not mine. It is only by true humility that this knowledge comes.

*Her Holiness The Sathguru Swami Gnanananda Sarasvathi,
Discourse at Sri Peetam, December, 2001*



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