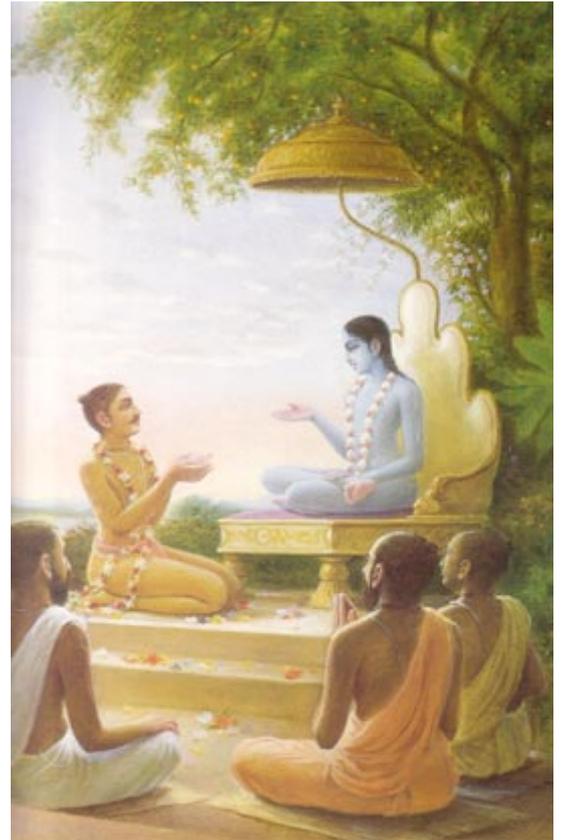


Name: _____ Date: _____

2. Kirtanam

Story of Sukadeva Goswami

- ☺ In his previous life Sukadeva Goswami was a parrot. But he was not any ordinary parrot. He was the personal parrot of Srimati Radharani. He used to take messages from Her to Krishna.
- ☺ When Srimati Radharani was about to leave this world back to the spiritual world, She told her parrot, called Suka, to stay here. But the parrot did not want to stay here without Her. Then Srimati Radharani assured her wherever the transcendental pastimes of the Supreme Lord are being narrated, you will not feel separation from Me.
- ☺ Thus the parrot Suka started looking out for a place where Hari Katha was going on. He finally reached Kailash, the place where Lord Shiva and Parvati live. Lord Shiva was reciting Srimad Bhagavatam to Parvati. The Parrot Suka hide himself in the green leaves of the tree under which Lord Shiva was sitting and started hearing the nectarean pastimes of his beloved lord.
- ☺ Lord Shiva was completely absorbed in reciting Srimad Bhagavatam. Every few minutes Parvati would make some sounds like, Hmmm... so that Lord Shiva would know that she was still listening. However after sometime she went to sleep and stopped making any sound. Then Suka, who was hiding behind the leaves, started making sound in the same way as Parvati.
- ☺ When the Srimad Bhagavatam was about to end Parvati woke up. Lord Shiva wanted to know how she liked the narration. Parvati begged forgiveness from the Lord and admitted that she had gone off to sleep.
- ☺ Lord Shiva was amazed and asked her who was making that sound. When she said that she did not know, Lord Shiva started looking all around to see if someone was hiding and hearing these pastimes. He finally spotted the parrot hiding in the tree.
- ☺ Lord Shiva started thinking that the parrot was not qualified to hear Srimad Bhagavatam. If an unqualified person hears these transcendental narrations there will be lots of disturbances therefore he wanted to kill the parrot immediately.
- ☺ Lord Shiva took his trident and ran towards the parrot. Seeing Lord Shiva, Suka started flying away, Lord Shiva followed him. Finally the parrot reached the



hermitage of Srila Vyasadev. Srila Vyasadev was narrating Srimad Bhagavatam to his wife, Bitika. While hearing his wife yawned. At that point the parrot entered into her open mouth. Lord Shiva also reached the hermitage. He inquired from Vyasadev if he had seen the parrot.

- ☉ Then Lord Shiva narrated him the whole incident. Lord Shiva told Srila Vyasadev that anyone who hears Srimad Bhagavatam gets free from the cycle of birth and death and becomes eternal. Srila Vyasadev commented that since the parrot had become eternal by hearing Srimad Bhagavatam, he could not be killed. So Lord Shiva went away.
- ☉ The Parrot, Suka, inside the body of Bitika took the form of a baby within her womb. However He did not come out of the womb at the usual time. Instead of nine month he stayed in the womb for 16 years.
- ☉ This boy became famous as Sukadeva Goswami. He was the one who narrated Srimad Bhagavatam to Maharaj Parikshit.

What do we learn from Sukadeva Goswami?

- ☉ We should all attentively hear the pastimes of the Supreme Lord and understand the philosophy of our scriptures. Then we should preach to others so that they can also become devotees of the Supreme Lord. That is the perfection of hearing and chanting.
- ☉ Because he had first heard the Bhagavatam himself from great personalities like Lord Shiva and Sri Vyasadev. We must hear from the devotees of the Lord, and not just from anyone.



Parent's Sign: _____