

**Om Shree Krishnaaya Param Brahmane Namah!**

**Om Namo Bhagavathe Vaasudhevaayah!**

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**(Sreemad Bhagawatha Mahatmyam)**

**Nobility and greatness of Sreemad Bhagawatham**

**(Moolam) Original**

**(Krishnam Narayanam Vande Krishnam Vande Vrajapriyam)**

**We worship, pray and offer our humble obeisance to Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan who is absolute or supreme God and we worship, pray and offer our humble obeisance to Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan who is the most intimate darling of all residents of Ambadi or Gokulam**

**(Krishnam Dwaipayanam Vande Krishnam Vande Prithasutham)**

**We worship, pray and offer our humble obeisance to that Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan who has incarnated as Vyasa Bhagawan and also we worship, pray and offer our humble obeisance to that Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan who has incarnated as Arjuna the son of Kuntidevi**

**[Here Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan is worshiped as Lord Sri Maha Vishnu or Narayana who is the creator of the universe and as Vyasa Bhagawan who is the author of this Sreemad Bhagawatham and all other Puranas (Mythologies) and as Arjuna who is the human incarnation of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu i.e. in the Nara Narayana incarnations Arjuna is the Nara form and Krishna is the Narayana form and as the most intimate darling playmate of the residents of Gokulam.]**

[This is the introductory chapter of the Greatness and Nobility of Sreemadh Bhaagawatham or Bhaagawatha Maahaathmyam. This happens in Naimisaaranya. A group of Brahmins have been conducting a long Yaga which lasted for thousand years. Saunaka, one of the oldest and very highly scholarly Brahmins, was the chief priest and the assigned spokesperson for the group. When the Yaga or Yejnja was almost concluding Sootha walked into Yejnja Saala. Sootha was one of the disciples of Vyaasa. At that time Sootha was straight going after listening to the seven days discourses of Sreemadh Bhaagawatham by Suka Brahmarshi to Sri Pareekshith Mahaaraaja. Having learned that Sootha had listened to Sreemadh Bhagawatha Sapthaha Yejnja, Saunaka requested to narrate the most supreme divine stories and glories of Sri Krishna Bhagawaan or Sreemadh Bhaagawatham, for the benefit of all the assembly and also for a fulfilling conclusion of the Yejnja. Here Sootha gives a briefing of the meeting of Sanakaas and Naaradha and also of the meeting of Naaradha and Bhakthi along with her ailing children Jnjaana and Vairaagya.]

**(Adha Pradhamoadhyayah)**

## Chapter One Follows

1

Sachchidhaanandharoopaaaya viswothpathyaadhihethave  
Thaapathrayavinaasaaya Sreekrishnaaya vayam numah

I worship, pray and offer my humble obeisance to Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan. Oh Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan, you are the personification of the ultimate supreme reality and the sublimely blissful, pure and divine consciousness! Oh Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan, you are the supreme God who is the origin and cause of the creation of all the universes! Oh Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan, you are the one who is the annihilator of all three thapathrayas namely Adhyatmika, Adibhouthika and Adidaivika. Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan, I worship, pray and offer my humble obeisance to you as you are Lord Shri Maha Vishnu. I and We all worship, pray and offer our humble obeisance to You, Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan, again and again and always.

[The origin of the universes and all creations therein goes like this. Brahmadeva found himself born or created or manufactured or constructed in the middle of a lotus flower. He was bewildered or perplexed or confused as: Who he was? What was his name? Who created him? What was the purpose of his creation? Where he was? And other questions in his mind without having any answer. Intuitively he looked all the four sides to have some idea about the location. So now he found himself with four heads or faces one for each side he looked. He found nothing but water at all the four sides. He intuitively contemplated again with the hope to find some answer to his question. He got none but he heard a sound repeating "Thapah Thapah". Again intuitively he knew the meaning of "Thapah" means meditative austerity and as it was repeated he also knew the emphasis on severe meditative austerity. And he went on severe austerity for one thousand divya varshas. (One thousand years of Brahmadeva is computed as equal to three hundred eleven (311) quadrillion forty (40) trillion human years. And one quadrillion equals one thousand trillion.) These numbers are simply even beyond the imaginations of human intellect. To have some idea it may even take quadrillions of human life cycles even just to count a quadrillion number.]

[Due to this severe austerity Brahmadeva accumulated unlimited and infinite amount of energy far more than what is required for infinite number of suns and stars of all the universes. While he came out of that austerity Brahmadeva himself thought that he is now more analytical and can think more rationally. So now Brahmadeva very rationally thought if he goes through inside the stem of the lotus flower he can definitely find out his origin. With special energy and power (yoga prabhava) he acquired from the austerity he travelled through the stem for one hundred divya varshas but could not reach anywhere and returned with the same special energy and power (yoga prabhava) he acquired from the austerity. Brahmadeva was still confused and puzzled.]

[Now he again heard the sound from the same source he had earlier telling that you are Brahma. And I am Vishnu. I created you to create the universes. Again in the mind of Brahmadeva some sort of an apprehension flashed through but Vishnu Bhagawan asked him to look at his right hand and told him those are the Vedas and the Vedas contain all the detailed codes Brahma Deva need to know not only to create the universe but also it contain anything and everything he ever need to know. And those Vedas are authored by you, Brahma Deva, yourselves while you were on fully concentrated meditative austerity. As a matter of fact you may never need to refer to the Vedas because it came out of you during

fully concentrated meditation as they are permanently registered in your brain like carvings on stone. And now you are in the milky ocean, Palazhi or Kshirabdhī.]

[Your abode is Sathyaloka. You should now go to your abode and engage yourselves in the activities assigned to you. Brahma Deva went over to Sathya Loka and contemplated of creation of the universes and species therein as directed by his creator Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. He now noticed that from the thoughts of his mind the universe is being developed, of course may definitely be with the help of his creator Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. Lord Sri Maha Vishnu also created illusion along with the creation of Brahma Deva and with universe. Please note that we never mentioned when and where Brahma Deva was born and created at the beginning and reason was that happened before the creation and existence of time and space.]

[The creation of time and space is happening only from then. Brahma Deva was sure that he needs help in creation of the universe. Therefore he created four sons out of his mind with equal power and energy and potency. The specialty of creation by mind is that it can be perfect in all respects as no materials are involved in it and the mental moulding can be performed in any way you wish. They are called Manasaputhras and they are the most well known Sanat Kumaras. They are: 1) Sanaka, 2) Sanathana, 3) Sanandhana and 4) Sanatkumara. They dutifully asked Brahma Deva what they are expected to do.]

[Brahma Deva asked them to help him in creation of the universe. Brahma Deva also told them he can give them proper directions how to help him in creation of the universe. But then Sanakas asked Brahma Deva who taught him or gave the directions. Brahma Deva honestly answered that Lord Sri Vishnu Bhagawan who was his creator asked and directed him to create the universe. Sanakas now declined Brahma Deva's request by telling him that they do not have interest in creation of the material universe and their sole interest lies upon to be the associate of that Lord Sri Maha Vishnu and to be always with that Lord Sri Maha Vishnu singing his glories and praying and worshiping him constantly and to be totally liberated from this material life and to be fully involved in total spiritual sublimation.]

[Brahma Deva was not very pleased and thought that their response was too childish and hence cursed to be children for ever. So they are always in eternal childhood. The word meaning of kumara is boy. But for Sanakas it was a real blessing as they wander around the universe always singing the glories and worshiping Lord Maha Vishnu as the most devout associate of Lord Maha Vishnu.]

[While Brahma Deva was angry from within the middle of his eyebrows was created and came out and was called Rudras. Rudras were asked to help Brahma Deva in creation. Rudras helped but all which they created were huge forms of ghosts and devils. As Brahma Deva was panicky that the universe will be filled with these huge ghosts and devils if they continue with the process of creation and the universe will ultimately be destroyed with such huge devilish forms of creations and so Brahma Deva requested Rudras to stop creation and perform austerity. And Rudras immediately stopped creation of the subjects and prostrated Brahma Deva and went for long severe austerity.]

[Then he created the ten great sons namely Athri, Marichi, Pulaha, Pulasthya, Vasishta, Kruthu, Angiras, Deksha, Brighu and then Narada. Then he created Narayanarshi and continued and created Saraswathi Devi and so on. When he saw the beauty of Saraswathi Devi, Brahma Deva suddenly got uncontrollable attraction towards her due to infatuation and approached her with a romantic feeling. With the advices of his sons like Sanakas,

Athri, etc. though he withdrew his move towards Saraswathi Devi, from his own body he created a second Brahma Deva and accepted Saraswathi Devi as his consort. (This was because Sanaka and others advised Brahma Deva that Saraswathi Devi is his daughter as he has created her and a daughter can never be married by a father. That is prohibited by stipulations of Vedas. But Brahma Deva could not control his desire to possess Saraswathi Devi due to his infatuation and that is why he himself created a Second Brahma Deva from his own body.) Then from the shadow of his body was created Kardhama. .... ]

[These stories will further be narrated in detail under Section three. And as dictated by time Brahma Deva's body was divided into two, one was a male called Swayambhuvamanu who was considered the first male form and the second part was a female form called Satharupa and became the female counterpart or consort of Swayambhuvamanu. Because of their physical intermingling they got five children, two sons known as Priyavratha and Uthanapada and three daughters known as Aakoothy, Devahooty and Prasooty. Aakoothy was wedded to Ruchi, Devahooty was wedded to Kardhama and Prasooty was wedded to Deksha. Ruchi, Kardhama and Deksha were all sons of Brahma Deva. Then the entire universes were filled with their heirs in multitudes of all different species we see today in the universes. We will, later on, read that the modern "Big Bang" theory of the origin of universe is simply a paraphrased repetition from Sreemad Bhagawatham and also the modern philosophies of Charles Darwin's Laws of Evolutions are nothing but an unscientific copy of Desavatharam or the Ten Incarnations of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu.]

## 2

Yam pravrajanthamanupethamapethakrithyam  
Dhwaipaayano virahakaathara aajuhaava  
Puthrethi thanmayathayaa tharavoabhinedhu-  
Stham sarvabhoothahridhayam munimaanathosmi.

I worship, pray and offer my humble obeisance to the most divine self realized soul Sri Suka Brahmarshi, who in the past renounced the material life and went away after fully renouncing all family and material relationship as a true mendicant and was a great scholar and was the most self realized soul and when that great scholarly self realized soul was called aloud and at length by his father Vyasa Bhagawan with most hearty and affectionate love towards his son and with heart breaking pain of separation of his son as oh my beloved son, Nandana! And with that long, loud and painful cry even the trees responded to the call with melted hearts. I worship, pray and offer my humble obeisance to Sri Suka Brahmarshi who is the universal soul and heart.

[We will be reading very many interesting stories evidencing the greatness of this scholarly self realized divine soul Sri Suka Brahmarshi. But just for an immediate reference let me quote one incident. Once when Veda Vyasa was following his son Suka Brahmarshi, a group of celestial nymphs were taking bath naked in a lotus pool. When the young Suka Brahmarshi who was fully naked as he was a mendicant who fully renounced of material life passed through the celestial nymphs were not bothered and distracted. But when Vyasa Bhagawan who was fully clad with saffron clothing approached them they immediately covered themselves. Vyasa Bhagawan asked them the reason for their apprehension to face him naked. The celestial nymphs answer was that Suka Brahmarshi is truly beyond all the material beauty and of senses and conquered self consciousness whereas Vyasa was still not able to conquer materialistic life and the self consciousness. And of course Suka Brahmarshi was the one who was unanimously selected by Brahma Deva, All the Seven Sages, All Heavenly bodies, Other Great

Rishis, Other Great Scholars of Self Realized Souls, etc. as the most suitable and knowledgeable scholar to advise this Sreemad Bhagawatham to Sri Pareekshit Maha Raja in order for him to be liberated from this material life in seven days.]

3

Naimishe Soothamaaseenamabhivaadhya mahaamathim  
Katthaamritharasaaswaadhakusalah saunakoabraveeth

Saunaka who was deeply interested in listening to the purely divine holy stories with utmost concentration prostrated and offered obeisance to divinely intelligent Sootha who was seated appropriately at Naimisaranya was asked or requested to clear out their confusions with the following questions.

[Sreemad Bhagawatham was created by Veda Vyasa with the advices of Narada. Veda Vyasa Bhagawan then imparted in full to his son Suka Brahmarshi. Suka Brahmarshi then explained the whole story in seven days to King Pareekshit who was awaiting his death within seven days. Sootha was present in the same auditorium along with other great saints, gods, Saptharshis, Brahmadeva, Mahadeva and other divinities. When a group of great saints headed by Saunaka were going to conclude a great yajna or sacrifice which lasted for long twelve years at the most holiest sacrificial ground called Naimisaranya the great scholarly omniscient Sootha arrived there.]

[This is the occasion when Saunaka prostrated Sootha and asked his questions as mentioned above. The sequence of Sreemad Bhagawatham is that Vidura Mahashaya went away on a pilgrimage at the time of Kurukshethra war between Kauravas and Pandavas as he could not justify himself take part on either side. He visited many sacred and holy temples and other pilgrimage places. He returned after a long while via the famous holy place called Prabhasa. He met with Udhava nearby Prabhasa Theertha.]

[After exchanging divine and sacred greetings Vidura asked Udhava that Pandvas would definitely have won the battle with the help of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan as he was on their side. And he hoped and prayed that Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan and Pandavas are all doing extremely well with the grace of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan who is the provider of happiness to not only to the entire humanities but also even to all other species of the universe.]

[Udhava at this time was just returning from Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan who was going to his original abode of Vaikunda after completely fulfilling all the responsibilities of eighth incarnation of the Desavatharas. Udhava was choked with emotions and with tears flowing from his both eyes and was unable to utter a syllable about Heavenly Master, Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan, to Vidura. Udhava somehow managed to convey to Vidura to approach Maithreya in his monastery at Badarinath and he would be able to answer all his questions. This Sreemad Bhagawatham is the conversation between Vidura and Maithreya in questions answers style as Maithreya's answers to Vidura's questions. Then it is retold by Suka Brahmarshi to Pareekshith Maharaja as all the questions of Pareekshith had already been asked by Vidura and answered by Maithreya. Then Sootha retold the whole conversation of Suka Brahmarshi and Pareekshith Maharaja in Naimisharanya to a great audience of scholarly saints with Saunaka, the chief priest, as their spokesperson asking questions to Sootha on behalf of those elite and scholarly saints. ]

**Saunaka Said:**

4

Ajnjaanaddhwaanthaviddhwamsakodisooryasamaprabha!  
Soothaakhyaahi katthaasaaram mama karnnarasaayanam.

Oh the great scholar and omniscient who is splendorous like ten million suns capable to remove any massive ignorance of the entire universe you please narrate to me and to us the sacred and holy story which become the ambrosia to our ears.

[This means that if we hear the stories of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan our ears and thereby we ourselves will become eternal and immortal.]

5

Bhakthijnjaanaviraagaaptho viveko vardhddhathe mahaan  
Maayaamohiniraasascha vaishnavaih kriyathe kattham?

How can we develop and progress our divine knowledge which can be attained by devotion, knowledge and renunciation or detachment? And how these divinely scholar ascetics of Vishnu devotees are able to remove or erase the darkness of ignorance inflicted by illusion?

6

Iha ghore kalaw praapthe jeevaschaasurathaam gathah  
Klesaakraanthasya thasyaiva soddhane kim paraayanam?

As horrible impending Kali Yuga has inflicted the universe it is now filled with evil minded devilish species and the entire species of the universe are now deeply immersed in perilous and destructive distresses and sorrows. What is the way out to get rid of these distressful conditions? Please provide us with your valuable, sacred and pious advices to resolve such distressful conditions.

[There are four named ages. They are 1) Kritha Yuga or Satya Yuga in which Parasu Rama was the incarnation of the ten incarnations (Desavatharas), 2) Thretha Yuga in which Sri Rama was the incarnation, 3) Dwapara Yuga in which Sri Krishna was the incarnation and 4) Kali Yuga in which Khalki or Khadki was the incarnation. We will narrate about this in detail later on under Manwanthara Varnanam including the other unnamed ages and of the time measurements.]

7

Sreyasaam yedhbhavechchreyah paavanaanaam cha paavanam  
Krishnapraapthikaram saswathsaaddhanam thadhwadhaddhunaa.

Please advise us which is the most noblest and virtuous of all noble and virtuous ones? Which is the most divinest of the divinest ones? Which is the most permanent and eternal tool to attain utmost pure, sacred and virtuous devotion towards Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan? Please explain all and everything without any break or interruption to me.

Chinthaamanirlokasukham surendhrah swarggasampatham  
Prayachchathi guruh preetho Vaikundam yogidhurlabham.

We are sure that pure and sacred mind will provide supreme comfort and peace and the Lord of gods, Devendra, can provide all heavenly pleasures and immortality and a convinced and satisfied and noble precept can provide the most rarest opportunity to reach and secure the most devout position at Vaikunda, the abode of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu, which cannot be secured easily by even the greatest Yogis or Saints or Mendicants.

**Sootha Said:**

Preethih Saunaka, chiththe the hyatho vachmi vichaarya cha  
Sarvva sidhddhaanthanishpannam samsaarabhayanaasanam.

Having conceived, convinced and seen that you have utmost interest to hear, listen and learn the divine, sacred, pure and virtuous stories deep inside your conscientious mind I will think very deep and analyze hard and explain the most useful philosophical and systematic principles to erase and eliminate your apprehensions and fears intermingled and inflicted within this material universe.

Bhakthyoghavardhddhanam yachcha Krishnasanthoshahethukam  
Thadhaham theabhiddhaasyaami saavaddhaanathayaa srinu.

Oh the great Sage! I am going to narrate to you the principles which will steadily increase your interest and devotion towards Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan and also which would steadily and constantly increase boundless pleasures and comforts for your mind and intelligence. Please listen to my discourse very carefully and most attentively.

Kaalavyaalamukhagraasathraasanirnaasahethave  
Sreemathbhaagawatham saasthram kalou keerena bhaashitham.

The Great Noble Saint Sri Suka Brahmarshi has explained the Great Sreemad Bhagawatha Purana (Mythology) which is capable to eliminate and remove the fears and distresses, in its entirety, inflicted upon us in this age of Kali which has been entrapped and swallowed by the serpent of time.

Ethasmaadhaparam kinchinmanahsudhddhyai na vidhyathe  
Janmaanathare bhaveth punyam thadhaa Bhaagawatham labheth.

For refinement and purity of mind and intelligence and heart there is nothing anywhere and at any time in this universe which is nobler and greater than these great stories incorporated within this Great Sreemad Bhagawatha Purana. And more over certainly you will get an opportunity to listen to these great noble, sacred, holy and pure stories within this great Sreemad Bhagawatha Purana only as a result of your virtuous and devotional deeds and words of multitudes of lives.

13

Pareekshithe katthaam vakthum sabhaayaam samsthithe suke  
Suddhaakumbham griheethwaiva dhevaasthathra samaagaman.

In the past when Sri Suka Brahmarshi was seated and was ready to explain these noble, pure and divine stories to Sri Pareekshit Maha Raja, the entire gods of heaven came to that same auditorium and brought with them pot full of ambrosia, that is with the entire ambrosia they had in possession at heaven, and seated there.

14

Sukam nathwaa vadhan sarvve swakaaryakusalaah suraah  
“Katthaasuddhaam prayachchaswa griheethwaiva suddhaamimaam. -”

The gods of heaven who were so smartly and cunningly selfish motivated worshiped and offered their devout obeisance to the most noble saint Suka Brahmarshi and humbly requested him to accept the pot full of ambrosia and in turn exchange them the great Sreemad Bhagawatha Purana.

[Here the logical argument of the gods of heaven was that the ambrosia can provide immortality to Pareekshit Maha Raja and thereby any poison inflicted to him by snake bite can be removed easily. And in a pure materialistic view Pareekshit could have saved his material life by having a drop of ambrosia and Suka Brahmarshi can possess the entire ambrosia forever.]

15

“- Evam vinimaye jaathe suddhaaraajnjaaprapeeyathaam  
Prapaasyaamo vayam sarvve Sreemadbhaagawathaamritham.”

This is definitely beneficial and useful to both parties equally. Let Pareekshit Maha Raja drink the ambrosia and get rid of the impending death and attain immortality. And let us the gods of heaven, the devas, drink to our ultimate satisfaction the ambrosia of the glorious songs of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan in the noblest and most sacred mythology of Sreemad Bhagawatham and enjoy the infinitely boundless and uninterrupted constant pleasure and ultimate liberation derived from those most sacred stories imbedded therein.

16

Kwa suddhaa! Kwa katthaa! Loke kwa kaachah kwa manirmmahaan  
Brahmaraatho vichaaryaivam thadhaa dhevaajnjahaasa ha.



Sri Suka Brahmarshi satirically laughed, at the gods of heaven, conceiving that how worthless and meaningless is this ambrosia when compared to Sreemad Bhagawatham, this most valuable and the most beneficial and most useful to both material as well as spiritual lives all the three worlds of the universe. Ambrosia is like a worthless piece of hard useless rock and Sreemad Bhagawatham is like the most valuable gem whose boundless value can never be determined.

17

Abhakthaam sthaamscha vijnjaaya na dhadhau sa katthaamritham  
Sreemadhbhaagawathee varththaa suraanaamapi dhurllabhaa.

Sri Suka Brahmarshi, the greatest of the saints, did not provide them with the most sacred, pure and divine ambrosia of Sreemad Bhagawatham to the gods of heaven knowing that they are not true devotees of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan and hence they do not deserve it. And they do not deserve to listen to these supreme most divinest and most sacred stories of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan and hence the great Sri Suka Brahmarshi did not give it to the gods of heaven.

18

Raajnjo moksham thatthaa veekshya puraa ddhaathaapi vismithah  
Sathyaloke thulaam badhddhwaaatholayathsaaddhanaanyajah.

Brahma Deva, having witnessed that Pareekshit Maha Raja's attainment of ultimate salvation or liberation from this material life simply by listening to sacred and divine stories of Sreemad Bhagawatham for only seven days from the great saint Suka Brahmarshi, was wonder struck not to any small magnitude but to the maximum and once at his abode of Sathya Loka he weighed and compared each particle in the universe.

19

Leghoonyanyaani jaathaani gauravena idham mahath  
Thadhaa rishiganaah sarvve vismayam paramam yayuh.

Brahma Deva kept Sreemad Bhagawatham in one of the pans of the balancing scale and all other Vedas, Upanishads, Mythologies and all other scriptures on the other pan in front of all great Rishis, Devas, Rudras, etc. and was noticed and was convinced that the pan with Sreemad Bhagawatham is far heavier than the other pan. And all great Saptharshis, Rishis, Rudras, Devas and all others who witnessed it were all truly wonder struck by seeing the supremacy of Sreemad Bhagawatham.

20

Menire Bhagawadthroom saasthram bhaagawatham kalou  
Patanaachchravanaathsadhyo Vaikuntaphaladhaayakam.

They all were convinced and firmly convinced that this supreme divine book is the true and genuine representation of the form of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. And they were certain that this

is the only scientific text to be read or listened or studied every day in order to attain or secure a permanent place in Vaikunda, the abode of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. And once you reach Vaikunda then you are assured that you do not have to undertake another material life and your soul will be sublimed with the ultimate God, Lord Sri Maha Vishnu.

21

Sapthaahena srutham chaithath sarvatthaa mukthidhaayakam  
Sanakaadhyaih puraa proktham Naaradhaaya dhayaaparaih.

It is only necessary to listen to this great sacred text simply just only for seven days for you to secure supreme mental bliss. The most merciful and kindest Sanakas once in the past praised and sung the glories of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu and explained the benefits of it to Narada.

22

Yedhyapi Brahmasambanddhaachchruthamethath surarshinaa  
Sapthaahasravanaviddhih Kumaraisthasya bhaashithah.

Though Narada had already heard and understood of the greatness of this divine text in the past directly from his father Brahma Deva, Narada was able to understand and grasp in its entirety the most supreme serene and sacred and divinest benefit of listening Sreemat Bhagawatham in seven days within the prescribed norms.

**Saunaka Said:**

23

Lokavigrahayukthasya Naaradhasyaastthirasya cha  
Viddhisrave kuthah preethih sumyogah kuthra thai saha.

How was it possible for Narada, one who never wanted to remain at one place and who is always interested to wander about from places to places and the one who is very much interested in gossiping and creating quarrels between people or among groups by cross talks or by calumny, was able to remain at one place for seven days and listen carefully to Sreemad Bhagawatham? Where and when the greatest and noblest Sanaka and other brothers explained Sreemad Bhagawatham to the great heavenly saint Narada?

**Sootha said:**

24

Athra the keerththayishyaami bhakthipushtam katthaanakam  
Sukena mama yeth proktham rahah sishyam vichaarya cha.

Suka Brahmarshi had advised this great Sreemad Bhagawatham to me considering and targeting me as a singleton disciple. And I will also advise you these great and sacred stories of Sreemad Bhagawatham which would definitely improve and would steadily increase your devotion towards Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. Please listen carefully with full

concentration to these ever fresh and immortal divine stories which I would narrate straight away.

25

Ekadhaa hi visaalaayaam chathwaara rishayoamalaah  
Sathsangarththam samaayaathaa dhadhrisusthathra Naaradham.

Once when these four great sages, Sanakas, were walking near the town called Visala (Visala Puram) with the intention of meeting with sacred and divine great sages of the world to discuss and debate and provide discourses of the sacred stories of the great Master of the universe Lord Sri Maha Vishnu in order to improve virtuous activities in the universe which would be the most useful and beneficial for all and every living being, they suddenly noticed that the great heavenly sage Narada appeared in front of them.

**Kumaras (Sanatkumaras) Said:**

26

Kattham Brahmandheenamukhah kuthaschinthaaparo bhavaan?  
Thwaritham gamyathe kuthra kuthaschaagamanam thava?

Oh the son of Brahma Deva, the one who is knowledgeable of the Universe! (Naradarshe!) Why your look languor or fatigued or distressed? What is the cause of that obvious distress to you? Where are you going now so hastily and where from you are coming now? Please tell us all about.

27

Idhaaneem soonyachiththoasi gathaviththo yetthaa janah  
Thavedham mukthasangasya nochitham, vadha kaaranam.

You are so embarrassed and look like a man who lost his entire wealth. It looks like you are blanked out fully and your mind has nothing but a zero in it. You are a mendicant and had renounced all material possessions. It is inappropriate on your part to be like this. What is the matter for all these and what is it disturbing you? You now tell us everything.

**Narada Said:**

28

Aham thu prithiveem yaatho jnjaathwaa sarvvoththamaamithi  
Pushkaram cha Pryaagam cha Kaaseem Godhaavareem thatthaa.

Thinking that this earth is nobler and hence better than the other two worlds of the universe I landed here. [The three worlds of the universe are Heaven (Swargam), Earth (Bhoomi) and Netherland/Underworld/Hell (Pathalam).] I have travelled through the sacred pilgrim places like Godhavari, Kasi, Pushkaram, Srirangam, Sethu (Sethubandhan at Rameswaram) and Prayaga.

29

Harikshethram Kurukshethram Sreerangam Sethubanddhanam  
Evamaadhishu theerththeshu bhramamaana ithasthathah.

And also I visited other sacred places and temples of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu, Kurukshethra and also many other places. But in any of these places and or temples I was not able to see even a bit of devotion and true happiness which could provide me with peace of mind to my inner conscious.

30

Naapasyam kuthrachichccharmma manassanthoshakaarakam  
Kalinaaddharmmamithrena ddhareyam baaddhithaaddhunaa.

Not only that I was not able to see true happiness which could provide me with peace of mind to my inner conscious but I also noticed that this earth is inflicted and spread through out by Kali which is the closest associate and friend of all evils and hence this earth is now filled with sinful activities.

31

Sathyam naasthi thapah soucham dhayaa dhaanam na vidhyathe  
Udharambharino jeeva varaakaah koodabhaashinah

Truth prevails nowhere on this earth now. I could not see any place on this earth where people with austerity, purity or ablution, kindness or compassion, generosity and other virtuous qualities. All the people on earth are now gluttons and all their deeds are with sole purpose of satisfying their own selfish motivation. And in order to fulfill their selfish interest they even tell lies always.

32

Mandhaah sumandhamathayo mandhabhaagyaa hyupadhruthaah  
Paakhandanirathaah santho virakthaah saparigrahaah.

I found everyone retarded. I found everyone lazy. I found everyone deviating from their customs and traditions and not having any interest in maintaining their customs and traditions. I found the powerful ones treating the powerless as slaves and mistreating and disturbing them. I found married people mistreating their spouses and I found them to be unchaste. I found these family people without showing interest to maintain the decorum of family life.

33

Tharuneeprabhoothaa gehe syaalako budhddhi dhaayakah  
Kanyaavikrayino lobhaaddhampatheenaam cha kalkanam.

I found people not living according to the norms prescribed in Vedas. I found people living without any discipline in their lives. I found the earth full of gamblers and those gamblers

after losing their entire wealth wandering as beggars. And I found this earth full of people with such negative evil qualities.

34

Aasramaa yevanai rudhddhastheerththaani sarithasthatthaa  
Dhevathaayehtnaanyathra dhushdairnnashdaani bhoorisah.

I did not find any true Yogi today on this earth. I did not find any noble and divine scholars on this earth. I did not find any holy men of merits (Siddhas) on this earth. I found the ladies of the families having total control and they are the ones ruling the families. And it is so pathetic that fathers are selling their daughters for wealth.

35

Na yogee naiva sidhddho vaa na jnjaaneesathkriyo narah  
Kalidhaavaanalenaadhya saaddhanam bhasmathaam gatham.

I found rowdies or those who engage in violence for their day to day maintenance are being approached and are providing advices to others. I found couples always quarrelling. I found the evil people ruining sacred temples. I found these rascals with such evil activities are also ruining and blocking sacred monasteries, sacred pilgrimages, sacred rivers and other holy places.

36

Attasoolaa janapadhaah Sivasoolaa dwijaathayah  
Kaaminyah kesasoolinyah sambhavanthi kalaaviha.

What to say or why should I tell? All sacred and divine and noble objects of this earth have been burned to ashes by this terrific heat from the fire of Kali. From region to region people are selling rice and meals. Brahmins are leasing out Vedas to the evil minded devilish demons or Asuras. With desire to accumulate material wealth the ladies are selling their bodies daily and becoming prostitutes. And like these it is difficult to count and give an exact account of all sinful and evil things prevailing on this earth at this time of Kali.

37

Evam pasyan kalerddhoshan paryadannavaneemaham  
Yaamunam thadamaapanno yethra leelaa Harerabhooth.

I thus travelled all over the earth by viewing and reviewing all distressful and evil and sinful calamities of the time of Kali Age and at the end I reached the banks of Yemuna river which happened to be the most holiest and most sacred playground of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan.

38

Thathraascharyam mayaadhrishdam srooyathaam thanmuneeswaraa,  
Ekaa thu tharunee thathra nishannaa khinnamaanasaa.

Oh the greatest and most noble Sages! And there I witnessed and experienced one of the most astonishing sight over there which I would now explain to you all. Please listen to it. I saw a very grief-stricken, distressed and depressed lady sitting over there and two ladies looking like very old and very aged were lying on both sides of her.

39

Vridhddhou dhou pathithou paarswe nihswa santhaavachethanou  
Susrooshanthee praboddhanthee rudhanthee cha thayoh purah.

Though the two ladies lying on both sides of the other lady are breathing but they do not have any energy and power and the one who was sitting is trying to console the other two with treatment and soothing words. Seeing both the ladies lying there unconsciously and fainted the other lady out of grief was crying with tears flowing and rolling down from her eyes.

40

Dhasadhikshu nireekshanthee rudhanthee rekshithaaram nijam vapuh  
Veejyamaanaa sathashtreebhirbboddhyamaanaa muhurmuuh.

This one lady who was consoling the others were wailing and looking up and down and all four sides of her and was crying aloud again as she could not find anyone to take care of her and treat her in the future. And as she could not see anyone anywhere to safeguard or protect her she fainted and fell down on the ground.

41

Dhrishdwaaa dhooraathgathah soaham kauthukena thadhanthikam  
Maam dhrishdwaa choththithaa baalaa vihwala chaabraveedwachah.

Then I noticed the other two ladies fanning her and treating her to come out of her unconsciousness. When I approached nearby to them just to know what is going on there, that lady slowly came out of her unconsciousness and got up and talked to me as follows.

**The Young Lady (Bala) Said:**

42

Bho bhoh saaddho, kshanam thishta machchinthaamapi naasaya  
Dharsanam thava lokasya sarvvaddhaaghaharam param.

Oh the noblest of the saints please stay here for a while. Please remove my grief with your presence. Your presence is capable to remove and eliminate all sinful evils prevailing on this earth today.

43

Bahuddhaa thava vaakyena dhuhkhasaanthirbhavishyathi  
Yedhaa bhaagam bhawedhbhoori bhawatho dharsanam thadhaa.

Your presence and your words will definitely remove and eliminate all the griefs and sorrows inflicted in me. It is impossible to have your appearance to the unfortunate ones. How can you be seen by the luckless ones?

**Narada Said:**

44

Kaasi thwam? Kaavimou? Chemaa naaryaah kaah padhmalochanaah?  
Vadha devi savistharam swasya dhuhkhasya kaaranam.

Who are you? Oh goddess who are the other two ladies? And how are they related to you? What is the cause of these grief and distress to all of you?

**The Young Lady (Bala) Said:**

45

Aham bhakthirithi khyaaathaa imau me thanayou mathou  
Jnjaanavairaagyanaamaanou kaalayogena jarjjarou.

I am devotion. The other two are Knowledge [hereafter we use the word Knowledge for Knowledge of God or Njana Yoga] and Asceticism or Detachment [hereafter we use the word Asceticism or Detachment for Vairagya or detachment with material life]. And they are my daughters. Due to the impending time of Kali they are like this grief-stricken and distressed.

[What this means is that in the age of Kali the people on the earth may have some devotion but do not have knowledge or awareness of ultimate God and also they are absolutely not ascetic.]

46

Gamgaadhyaah sarithaschemaa mathsevaarththam samaagathaah  
Thatthaapi na cha me sreyah sevithaayaah surairapi.

And the other ladies are Ganga, etc. [The river Ganga and other holy places are the maids helping these ladies for their revival.] Though being serviced and treated even by gods of heaven I am wailing like this out of grief and distress because I am unable to secure and attain any prosperity at all.

47

Idhaaneem srinu madhwaarththaam sachinthasthwam thapoddhana!  
Vaarththaam me vithathaapyasthi thaam sruthwaa sukhamaavaha.

Oh the great and most noble sage! You are a great thinker. You please listen to my stories in detail which I am going to narrate to you now and after listening to it attentively please analyze it deeply and suggest and recommend appropriate remedies for me and us to come out of this dangerous situation.

48

Uthpannaa dhravide chaaham, vridhddhim karnaadake gathaa,  
Kwachith kwachinmahaaraashtre, gurjjare jeennithaam gathaa.

I was born in the Dravidian regions (Tamilnadu) and was grown up or developed in Karnataka regions (Mysore/Karnataka) and there were some progress in Maharashtra regions and other areas as well but was caught up with deadly mishaps in Gujarat regions.

49

Thathra ghorakaleryogath paakhandaih khandithaanggakaa  
Dhurbblaaham chiram yaathaa puthraabhyaam saha mandhathaam.

And in that region due the infliction of the negative impacts of the age of Kali the people became enemies of the Vedas and Upanishads and very sinful and evil minded. Those sinful evil minded people mutilated my body. And as I was handicapped due to the cuts and wounds was unable to move around and with a lot of distress and mental agony I tried to pull on and somehow survive there with my ailing daughters.

50

Vrindhaavanam punah praapya naveeneva suroopinee  
Jaathaaham yuvathee samyak preshttaroopaa thu saampratham.

Then somehow, out of my luck, I was able to reach Vrindavan. And as soon as I reached Vrindavan I was rejuvenated and my new body gained some fresh energy and power. Hey Mune! I now even feel like that I have a new body which is very pretty like that of a youth. Don't you now see my new body as very beautiful and attractive!

51

Imau hu sayithaavathra suthau me klisyathah sramaath  
Idham stthaanam parithyajya vidhesam gamyathe mayaa.

But my daughters, the Knowledge and Detachment, are now almost dead and totally like bed ridden due to distress and grief. Therefore I wish to move to some other place with the hope to rejuvenate my daughters as well.

52

Jaratathwam samayaathau thena dhuhkhena dhuhkhithaa  
Saaham thu tharunee kasmaal suthau vridhddhaavimau kuthah

How would I be able to go at this stage as I look in my youth and my daughters look very aged? My daughters look older than me and they are very weak too. That is why I am now wailing like this out of distress.

53



Thrayaanaam sahacharithwaadhvaipireethyam kuthah sthitham  
Ghadathe jarataa maathaa tharunau thanayaavithi.

We are truly not different at all. We are really one and the same. Then I do not know the reason why this distress and agony inflicted on them and not on me as hard. Actually I am more aged but now look like in the youth. And my daughters, the younger ones, are now very aged, looking older and grayed and lost their true charm and attraction. What is this magic! I am truly wonder struck!

54

Athah sochaami chaathmaanam vismayaavishdamaanasaa  
Vadha, yoganiddhe, ddheeman, kaaranam chaathra kim bhaveth.

Hey great Mune! I am so stressed and worried thinking of this strange situation in which myself and my daughters are fallen. I am worried of myself out of this pathetic astonishment. Oh great Mune! You are the most intelligent devout scholar and therefore please explain to me the cause of the strange situation befallen to me and to my daughters.

**Narada Said:**

55

Jnjaanenaathmani pasyaami sarvamethathhavaanaghe,  
Na vishaadhashwaayaa kaaryo Harih som the karishyathi.

Oh the most sinless one (Bale)! With my intuitive knowledge I am able to see all the causes of your grief and distress. Oh the one with all virtuous deeds please do not be distressed and worried. The Lord Sri Maha Vishnu will certainly provide you with consolation, relief and comfort and you would certainly attain absolute recovery.

**Sootha Said:**

56

Kshanamaathrena thajjnjaathwaa vaakyamooche muneeswarah.

Within no time Narada, the greatest and noblest of heavenly saints, was able to recognize and identify all the distresses, worries and agonies inflicted on Devotion and very thoughtfully he started explaining it in detail to Devotion.

**Narada Said:**

57

Srinushwaavahithaa bale yugoayam dhaarunah kalih  
Thena lupthah sadhaachaaro yogamaarggasthapaamsi ch.

Oh Bale (Devotion) please listen carefully and hear me out! Please remember that this is the age of Kali. Along with the majesty of the Kali the evil minded and devilish people are

conducting all these evil and sinful atrocities on the earth now. And these evil minded and devilish Asuras are very deceitful and doing all types of cheatings and wicked and malignant activities.

58

Janaa Aghaasuraayanthe saatyadhushkarmakaarinah  
Iha santho visheedhanthee prahrishyanthi hyasaaddhavah  
Ddhaththe ddhairyam thu yo ddheemaan saddheerah pandithoatthavaa.

They do not engage in any virtuous actions. They do not perform any austerities or meditations or prayers or worships or any yogas. You do not see any of such virtuous activities anywhere in the world and they are faded away from this earth at this time and because of that the situations and conditions of all virtuous, serene, noble, dedicated and devout people are very pathetic and distressful. And these evil minded and devilish people are very proudly celebrating these conditions. I can assure you that in this age whoever is able to think deeply and take appropriate corrective measures that scholarly person is the really brave one.

59

Asprisyaanavalokyeyam seshabhaarakaree ddaraa  
Varshe varshe kramaajjaathaa manggalam naapi dhrisyathe.

This earth has turned out to be unsuitable even to touch or even to look at as it has become so contaminated with evil and sinful deeds of devilish people. And this earth has now turned out to be an unbearable burden to the serpent called Sesha Naga. [There is a concept that the Anantha or Sesha Naga is the one who supports this earth and maintains it in a balanced level.] We are unable to see any virtuous deeds or virtuous people remaining on the face of the earth now and hence we are unable see any prosperity and or godliness anywhere now.

60

Na thwaamapi suthaih saakam koapi pasyathi saampratham  
Upekshithaanuraagaanddhairjarjarathwena samstthithaa.

There is no one now on the earth familiar with your daughters, Knowledge and Detachment, and hence are unable to take care or look after them. These ignorant population out of their greed to somehow fulfill their material and selfish motivated desires they have dumped their responsibility of recognizing the need to take care and preserve the Knowledge and Detachment. And because of that you, the Devotion, became now very old and weak.

61

Vrindhaavanasya samyogaath punasthwam tharunee navaa  
Ddhanyam Vrindhaavanam thena bhakthirnrithyathi yethra cha.

Because of the proximity and then stay at Vrindavan you again at a second time got rejuvenated and retrieved your youth afresh as a rebirth. This Vrindavan ever before and

ever after will remain as a sanctuary for devotees and hence will be a sanatorium for Devotion because Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan has spent his childhood along with his brother Balarama Deva and his playmates, the shepherd boys and girls. Always this Vrindavan was a dancing ground for Devotion and devotees of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan. And this Vrindavan is the most sacred and the holiest and the purest of the places on this earth.

62

Athremau graahakaabhaavaanna jaraamapi munchathah  
Kinchithaathmasukhenaha prasupthirmanyatheanayoh

Even at this place due to the absence of appropriate and sufficient people with Knowledge and Detachment the weakness and agedness of your daughters could not be cured or brought back to their youthfulness. But as at this place as they were able to gain some relief to their soul due to the devotion of the devoted people here they got a little bit of relief and that is why they are now able to sleep a little bit peacefully.

**Bhakthi (Devotion) Said:**

63

Kattham pareekshithaa raajnjaa stthaapitho hyasuchih Kalih  
Pravriththe thu kalau sarvasaarah kuthra gatho mahaan?

What was the reason why this evil Kali was not killed and eliminated from the face of this earth by the great and most noble emperor Pareekshith Maha Raja? When the Kali just put his foot on the earth where did all the essence of all the virtuous good qualities and or the godliness of all objects and subjects of the earth got disappeared.

64

Karunaaparena harinaapyaddharmah katthameekshyathe?  
Imam me samsayam chhinddhi, thwadhwaachaa sukhithaasmyaham.

How can we see or tolerate or withstand these immoral and or non righteous deeds prevailing on this earth now? How does the God of gods, the God who created and mastered illusion, the enemy of Kesi who is well-known as Kesava see all these misdeeds now prevailing on this earth? Oh the great and most noble Mune please be kind enough to remove my doubts and confusion in these matters. Your words are providing me a great deal of pleasure and divine peacefulness.

**Narada Said:**

65

Yedhi prishdasthwayaa, baale, premathah sravanam kuru  
Sarvam vakshyaami the, bhadhre, kasmalam the gamishyathi.

Oh Bale! Because you asked with dedication and deep interest I will explain everything to you. Please listen to me and hear me out carefully. If you listen to me carefully and understand them fully well then all your confusion and doubts will definitely be cleared.

66

Yedhaa Mukundho Bhagawaaan kshmaam thyakthwaa swapadham gathah  
Thadhdhinaath Kaliraayaathah sarvvasaaddhanabaaddhakah.

As soon as Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan left this earth and went back to his abode of Vaikunda, the Kali inflicted on and contaminated every objects and subjects of this earth.

67

Dhrishto dhigwijaye raajnjaa dheenavachcharanam gathah  
Na mayaa maaraneeyoayam saarangga iva saarabhuk

Pareekshith Maha Raja met with Kali during his return after conquering all other kings and emperors on the earth and coming out victoriously. And Kali immediately fell flat at the feet of Pareekshith Maha Raja and prostrated him as if he is at his service always and he is not able to survive without his mercy. Pareekshith Maha Raja, like a black beetle which is capable to grab the essence of its prey, thought that this Kali also may have some good qualities needed for the universe and with that thought send him out without eliminating him or destroying him, but with conditional control on him.

68

Yeth phalam naasthi thapasaa na yogena samaadhinaa  
Thath phalam labhathe samyakkalou Kesavakeerththanaath

In this age of Kali the subjects of universe can secure and attain all positive, virtuous and sacred result purely from reciting or singing the glories of Kesava, Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan, which in other times could not have been able to attain even by severe austerity or by meditation or by sacrifices.

69

Ekaakaaram Kalim dhrishtwaa saaravath saaraneerasam  
Vishnuraathah stthaapithavaan kaliijaanaam sukhaaya cha.

Pareekshith Maha Raja set Kali free without any harm because he understood that other than Kali no one is capable of providing the supreme most sacred and virtuous results simply by repeating the names of Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan. Pareekshith Maha Raja was aware of this essential fact of Kali and that prompted him to set Kali free without any harm.

70

Kakarmmaacharanaath saarah sarvvatho nirggathoaddhunaa  
Padhaarththaaah samstthithaa bhoomau beejaheenaasthushaa yetthaa.

As a result of evil and sinful deeds prevailed on this earth it has lost all sacred, pure and godliness from the face of the earth. This earth has left with no pure and divine stories and glories of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu or Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan similar to that of the husk without having any qualities of the seed, or the essence, it used to cover.

[No devotional and meaningful stories about Lord Sri Krishna Bhagawan are available or are being spread around the people of earth during the time or by the infliction of Kali.]

71

Viprairbhaagavathee vaarththaa gehe gehe jane jane  
Kaarithaa kanalobhena katthaasaarasthatho gathah.

The Brahmins are wandering from house to house and talk about the stories of Sreemad Bhagawatham purely with commercial interest to collect money whatever they can get. Because of the compulsion of these Brahmins some people are forced to listen to those stories without having any genuine interest. And as such because of the underlying commercial motivation behind it, neither these Brahmins who recite nor the people who listen without devotion and interest the stories of Sreemad Bhagawatham, will gain any virtuous results or attain any devotion to God.

72

Aththyugrabhoorikarmmaano naastthikaa rouravaa janaah  
Theapi thishtanthi theerththeshu theerththasaarasthatho gathah

All the sacred pilgrim places of this earth are now filled with the atheists who were reborn from the most horrible hell called Raurava hell and therefore the earth and pilgrim places on the earth have lost all the serenity and sacredness and have become a ground for the evil minded and devilish demons.

73

Kaamakroddhamahaalobhathrishnaavyaakulachethasah  
Theapi thishtanthi thapasi thapasaarasthatho gathah

The austerities have lost its real virtuous impact as nowadays people undertake austerity for fulfillment of their material desire or for revengeful satisfaction of anger or they are performing it out of allurement or infatuation.

74

Manasaschaajayaallobhaadhdhambhaath paakhandasamsrayaath  
Saasthraanabhyasanaachchaiva ddhyaanayogaphalam gatham.

In this age of Kali people lost meditative yoga or they do not know how to perform meditative yoga due to the facts that they do not have the capacity to control their mind, they do not have proper scientific level of education and awareness, they have association and contacts with atheists and as all the people are inflicted with infatuation, false pride and other negative qualities.

75

Pandithaasthu kalathrena ramanthe, mahishaa iva,  
Puthrasyothpaadhane dhakshaa, adhakshaa mukthisaaddhane.

Even the groups of scholars are now like senseless buffaloes without adhering to the norms prescribed in the Vedas spending their times playfully and flirtingly with ladies and displaying and praising their smartness in reproduction. They do not have neither the required knowledge to gain self realization and thus to attain final salvation nor the interest to gain such knowledge.

76

Na hi Vaishnavathaa kuthra sampradhaayapurahsaraa  
Evam pralayathaam praaptho vasthusaarah stthale stthale.

No where on this earth we can see the customs or traditions which can lead us to propagate Vaishnava Dharma according to the prescribed norms stipulated in the Vedas. We see that all most essential norms required to lead a morally righteous life being set off and completely erased from almost all the people on this earth today.

77

Ayam thu yugaddharmmo hi varththathe kasya dhookshanam  
Athasthu Pundareekaakshah sahathe nikate stthithah

We do not have to blame anyone for these mishaps now. This is certainly what is supposed to happen in this age (of Kali) or this is what is meant for this age (of Kali). Lord Sri Maha Vishnu, the consort of Goddess Rama Devi, tolerates all these because this is what is attached to or because this is the destined characteristics of this Kali age.

**Sootha Said:**

78

Iti thadhwachanam sruthwaa vismayam paramam gathaa  
Bhakthirooche vacho bhooyah srooyathaam thachcha Saunaka.

After listening to these great and meaningful discourses of the great saint Narada, Bhakthi was overwhelmed as if she was really plunged into the ocean of wonder and started responding like these:

**Bhakthi Said:**

79

Surarshe, thwam hi ddhanyoasi madhbhaagyena samaagathh  
Saaddhoonaam dharsanam loke sarvasidhddhikaram param.

Oh great heavenly saint! You are the noblest one. It is because of my luck you happened to come here. On this globe of earth it is definitely the meeting and association with sacred and pure and scholarly sages are the most satisfying and fulfilling and cause for all required positive results.

80

Jayathi<sup>1</sup> jayathi maayaam yesya kaayaaddhavasthe  
Vachanarachanamekam kevalam chaakalayiya  
Ddhruvapadhamapi yaatho yeth kripaatho ddhruvoayam  
Sakalakusalapaathram Brahmaputhram nathaasmi.

1 Variant = Jagathi

The young Pahlada boy was able to defeat the all prevailing illusion and secure the top most position in Vaikunda, the abode of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu, as his supreme devotee by mere repetitive recitation of Narayana Manthra which was advised by your most sacred self. [When Kayadu, wife of Hiranya Kasipu, was pregnant she was being protected by saint Narada. Narada advised Kayadu Narayana Manthra along with other holy stories of Lord Sri Maha Vishnu with the real intention to provide the advices to Pahlada who was in her pregnancy at the time. Bhakthi is referring that incident here to show the greatness, nobility and supreme devotion of Narada to Lord Sri Maha Vishnu. The story of Pahlada will be explained in detail later on under Section Seven.] Pahlada performed Narayana Manthra exactly the way in which you prescribed and stipulated to him through his mother Kayadu.

Also Dhruva, the son of Uthanapada, due to your merciful advices reached and even today holding such an immortal supreme most high position along the groups of stars and even today he is spreading his lustrous splendor in the sky. [The story of Dhruva is an example to show that severe austerities can be performed by anyone at any age as at the age of five he was able to please Lord Sri Maha Vishnu and secure his blessings and boon with severe austerity. These stories will be narrated in detail in Section Four.] Oh the great heavenly saint you are the most splendorous platform for all most sacred and most serene and most prosperous and most devout and most virtuous things on this earth. Oh the son of Brahma Deva! I prostrate you. I worship you. I offer my humble obeisance to you.

[*Ithi Sree Padma Purane Uthara Khande Sreemad Bhagawatha Mahatmye Bhakthi Narada Samagama Nama Prathamam Adhyayah.* Thus the First Chapter named the *Bhakthi Narada Samagama* (The arrival and associated meeting of Bhakthi and Narada) Of *Sreemad Bhagawatha Mahatmya* from the Latter Section of *Sri Padma Puranam*.]