

Navadvip's Nine Hidden Islands

"Colouring Book"





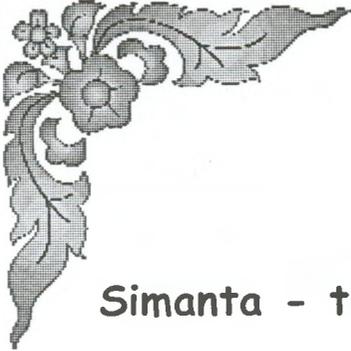
NAVADVIP'S Nine Hidden Islands

*Dedicated to
His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami
Srila Prabhupada*

All thanks to Jananivas Prabhu
for all his kind help and guidance.



by
mayapur chandrika dasi
(age 12)



Simanta Dvipa

SRAVANAM - HEARING

Simanta - the middle parting of a woman's hair.

One time in Satya-yuga Lord Shiva was dancing in great ecstasy, chanting "Gauranga! Gauranga!" Parvati asked him "My dear Lord who is this Gauranga? His name mystically fills me with spiritual love!"

Shiva explained "Lord Krsna will appear in Kali-yuga at Mayapur Dham and freely give love of God to anyone!"

On hearing this Parvati traveled to Simantadvipa. There she constantly meditated on Lord Gauranga

After some time Gauranga appeared to her. He said "Oh Devi, why have you come here?"

Parvati fell at the Lord's lotus feet and revealed her sorrow "O deliverer of the fallen, You have deceived me. I am Mayadevi, and just as shadow cannot stand before the sun, Maya cannot stand before You, so I am forced to remain outside Your spiritual pastimes."

Parvati then touched Gauranga's lotus feet and put the dust on her hair parting (simanta).

Being pleased Gauranga said "My original energy has one form as Sri Radha, but for carrying out activities in the material world She has expanded Herself as you! In Vrndavana you are present as Purnamasi, and in Navadvip you are present as Praudha Maya along with Ksetrapala Siva, the guardian of the dhama."

Saying that, the Lord disappeared!





Parvati then touched Lord Gauranga's lotus feet and put the dust on her hair parting (simanta).



Godruma dvipa

KIRTANAM - CHANTING

GO-cow and DRUMA-tree

*nadia godrume nityananda mahajan
patiyache nam-hatta jiver karan*

*sraddhavan jan he, sraddhavan jan he
prabhur ajnay. bhai, magi ei bhiksa
bolo 'Krsna,' bhajo krsna, koro krsna-siksa*

*aparadha-sunya ho 'ye loho krsna-nam
krsna mata, krsna pita, krsna dhana-pran*

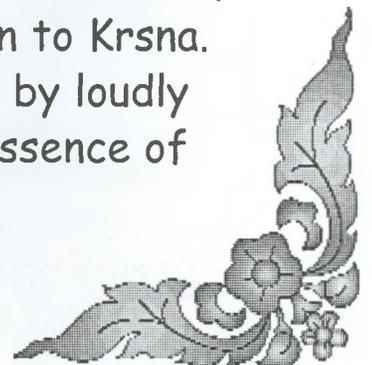
*krsnera samsara koro chadi' anacar
jive doya krsna-nam sarva-dharma-sar*

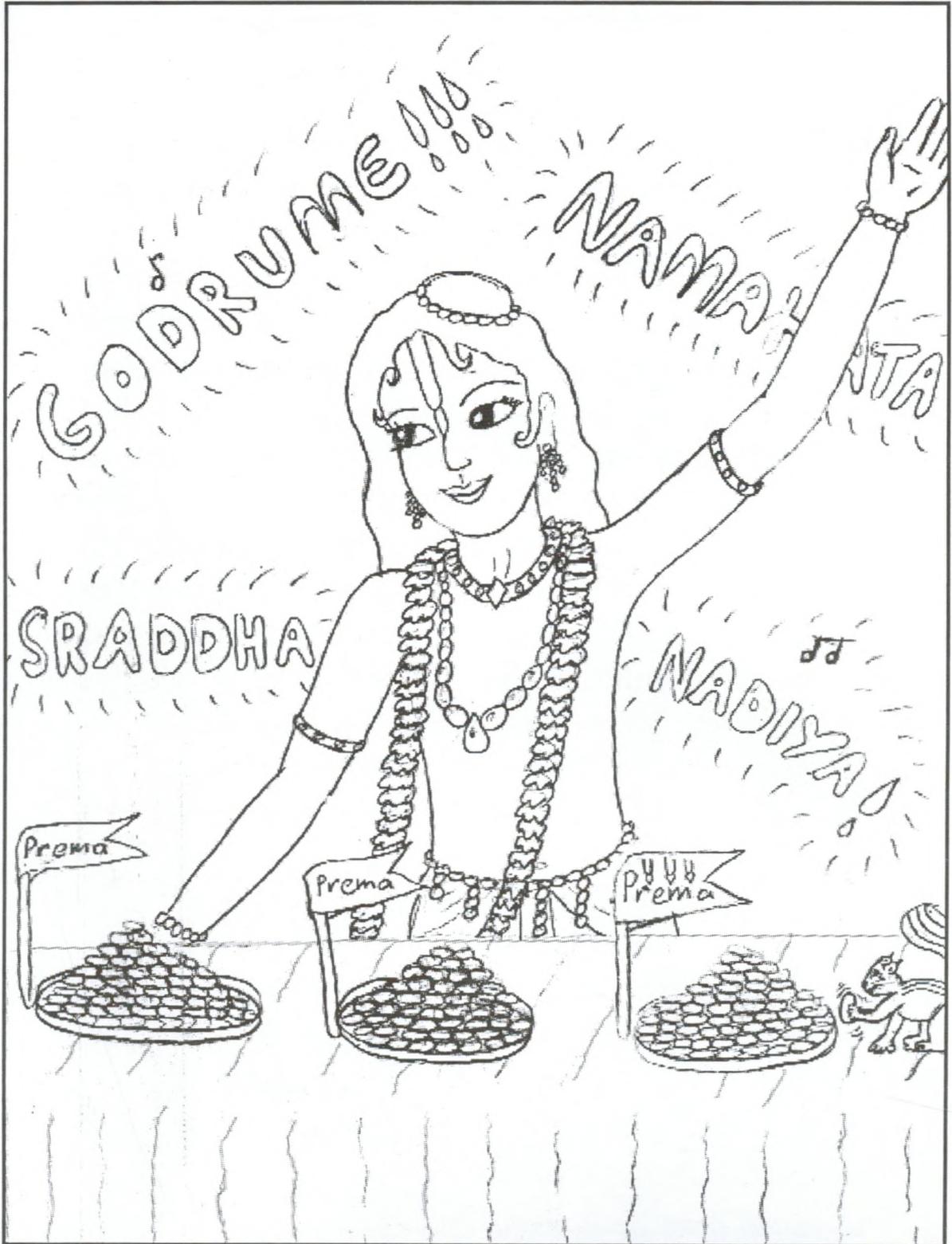
In the land of Nadia, on the island of Godruma, the magnanimous Lord Nityananda has opened up the market place of the holy name,

"O people of faith! By the order of Lord Gauranga, I beg these three requests of you. Chant Krsna! Worship Krsna! Teach others about Krsna! Being careful to remain free of offenses, just take the holy name of Lord Krsna.

Krsna is your mother, Krsna is your father and Krsna is the treasure of your life! Giving up all sinful activities, carry on your worldly duties only in relation to Krsna.

The showing of compassion to other souls by loudly chanting the holy names of Krsna is the essence of all forms of religion.





'Chant Krsna! Worship Krsna! Teach others about Krsna!'



Madhya dvipa

SMARANAM - REMEMBERING

The name *Madhya* means middle and this name was given to this island because *Gaura* appeared here at midday.

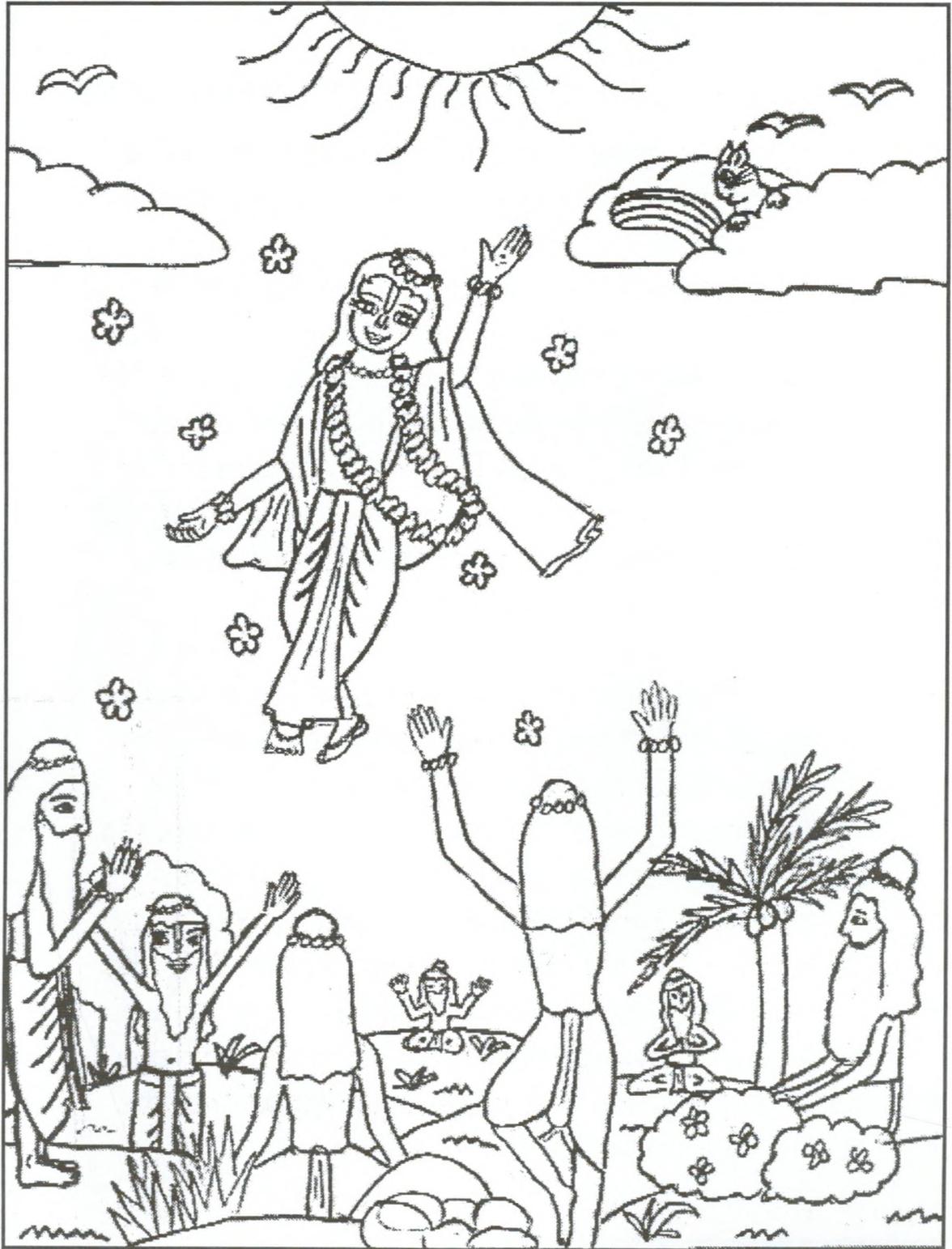
In *Satya-yuga* the *rsis* began singing the glories of *Gaura* in the presence of their father *Lord Brahma*. Completely absorbed they begged for the eternal treasure of *Gaura prema*.

Lord Brahma was very pleased with his seven sons, and told them to go to *Navadvip* and sing the glories of *Gaura* then they would easily attain *prema*. "Whoever gets the mercy of the *Dham* gets the association of the devotees. Then, by worshiping in the association of devotees, you will become absorbed in *Krsna - prema*. Whoever gets attraction for *Navadvip Dham* will receive the benediction of living in *Vraja*. To live in the spiritual *Dham* and recite the names of *Gaura* is the only aspiration of the devotees."

At midday (*Madhya*) *Gauranga* along with the other members of the *Pancha-Tattva* appeared to the seven *rsis*. After granting their desire for *Gauranga prema* He said "Just engage in *Smaranam* - remembering the pastimes of the Lord."

The seven sons of *Brahma* are *Kasyapa*, *Atri*, *Vasistha*, *Visvamrita*, *Gautama*, *Jamadagni* and *Bharadvaja* .





The seven sons of Brahma are Kasyapa, Atri, Vasistha, Visvamrita, Gautama, Jamadagni and Bharadvaja .



Kola dvipa

PADA SEVANAM - SERVING THE LOTUS FEET

Kola means boar. Krsna took the form of a boar to kill Hiranyaksa in this place.

In Satya-yuga, a young Brahmana named Vasudev was always engaged in the service of Varaha. As he worshiped the form of Varaha, he always prayed "Please be merciful and appear before me. Let my eyes and life be successful." saying this, he cried and rolled on the ground, "If my lord doesn't show Himself, my life is worthless.

Shortly there after, the merciful Lord showed Himself to Vasudev in the form of a boar. His magnanimous body was as tall as a mountain. Varaha sweetly said "O Vasudev, as I am pleased by your service I will reveal to you this confidential knowledge. By serving Navadvip all tirthas are served, and by living in Navadvip the fruit of living at all other tirthas are attained. When Gauranga appears, you will be born here again and you will see maha-sankirtana and the splendorous form of Gauranga.



Shortly there after, the merciful Lord showed Himself to Vasudev in the form of a boar.



Ritu dvipa

ARCHANAM - WORSHIPING

This place is the area of Radha-kunda in Vraja. The word ritu means spring and here it is constantly springtime, even though all the six seasons are manifested in the Dham.

While taking the devotees on parikrama to Ritudvipa, Nityananda taking on the mood of Balaram loudly exclaimed "Quickly bring my horn! The calves have gone far off, and Krsna is fast asleep and won't come. He is acting like a baby. Where are Subala and Dama? I can't herd the cows all alone!" Shouting, "Kanai! Kanai!" Nityananda jumped a few yards.

Seeing His state, the devotees fell at his feet crying, "O Nitai, Your brother is no longer here. He has left us taking sanyasa and gone to Puri."

Upon hearing this Nityananda fainted and when regaining consciousness two hours later he said "This is the place of Radha-kunda! Look at the brilliance of Syama-kunda, which attracts everyone in the universe! And look, here and there are the sakhis' groves. Know that in the three worlds there is no equal to this place where the devotees worship the Lord. Whoever lives here will get love of God, which will soothe the burning fire of material existence."



"Quickly bring my horn! The calves have gone far off, and Krsna is fast asleep and won't come. He is acting like a baby."



Jahnu dvipa

VANDANAM - PRAYING

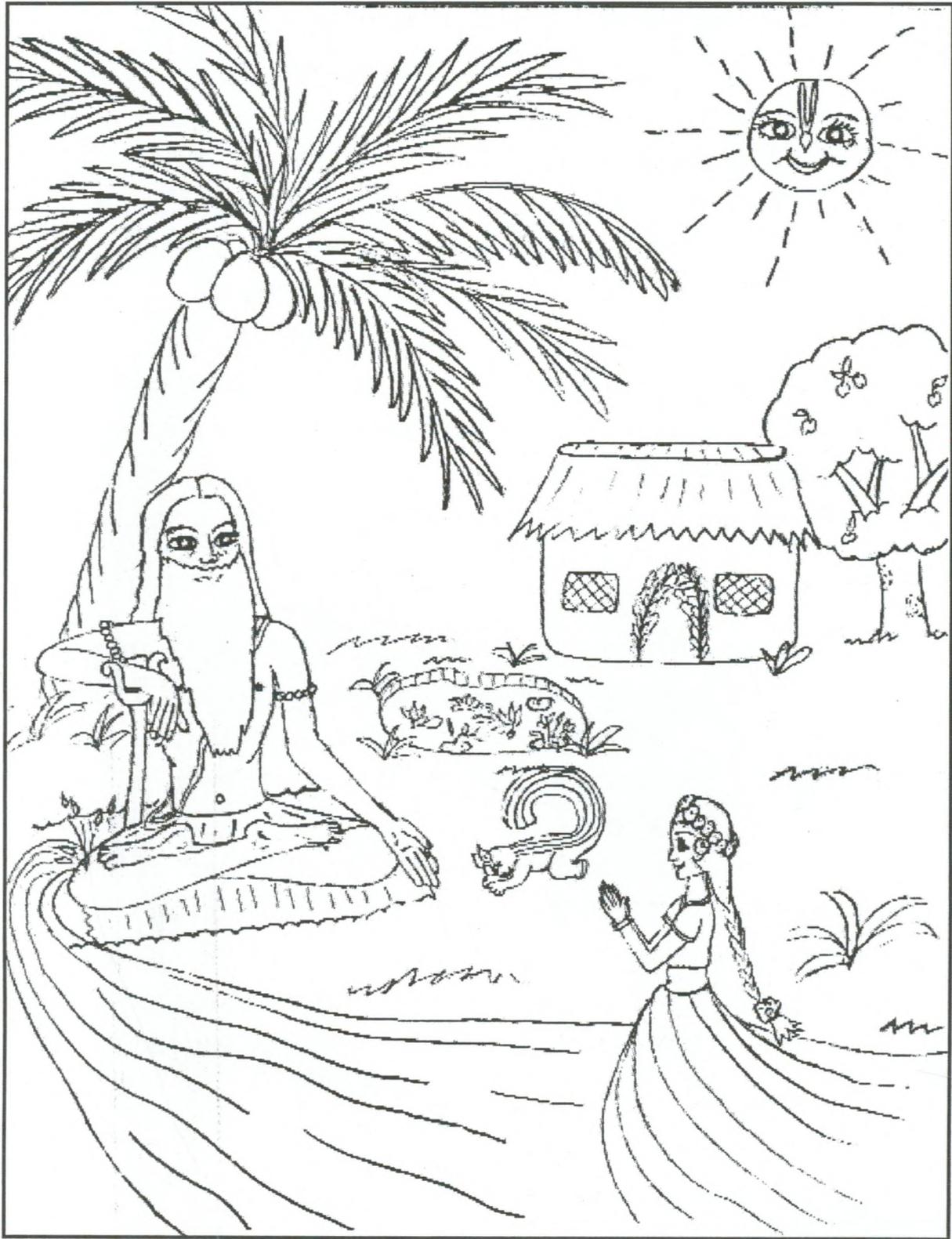
Jahnu means knee.

This enchanting place is where Jahnu muni underwent penance and received darshan of Gauranga. He said "When I appear in Kali-yuga you will see my sankirtana pastimes.

Jahnu muni was sitting here chanting his gayatri mantra when his archamana cup was knocked over by Ganga Devi, who upon entering the dham became excited and flowed at great speed. Opening his mouth he swallowed Ganga Devi in one gulp. A few minutes later king Bhagirathi understanding what must have happened retraced his steps and offered prayers to the great sage, "O sage, please release her. My 60,000 uncles who were burnt to ashes due to their offense to Lord Kapiladeva have to be liberated and this can only be done through Ganga Devi's life saving waters."

The muni understanding this, released Ganga Devi through his knee (jahnu). Since then Ganga Devi is known as Jahnavi, the daughter of Jahnu muni.





The muni, understanding this, released her through his knee.(jahnu)



Modadruma dvipa

DASYAM - SERVANT

This place is non-different from Ayodhya. When banished to the forest, Ram, Lakshman and Sitadevi lived here in a simple hut under a huge banyan (Modadruma) tree.

One pleasant day seeing Ram smiling, Sita asked Him why. "Listen to this most secret of all secrets. In Kali-yuga I will appear as Gauranga and I will take sanyasa and my mother and wife will weep in each others arms!"

Hearing this Sitadevi asked, "O lotus eyed one, why will You make Your mother cry? Why will You give up your wife and take sanyasa? What happiness is there in giving sorrow to your wife?"

Rama replied "Listen Sitadevi, My devotees relish prema-bhakti in two ways, union and separation, the relish of union is multiplied by a million times after a long period of separation! My mother Kaushalya will appear as Mother Sachi and you will appear as my wife Vishnupriya."



"Listen to this most secret of all secrets."



Rudra dvipa

SAKHYAM - FRIENDSHIP

Rudra is a name of Lord Shiva. As a friend of all devotees, Lord Shiva allows them to witness the pastimes of Sri Sri Radha and Krsna.

When Lord Shiva learnt that Krsna would appear in Navadvip as Gauranga, he came here with his associates, who were constantly intoxicated from chanting the different names of Gauranga and dancing in great jubilation. Overjoyed to see Lord Shiva's wild dancing and to hear of Krsna's future incarnation as Gauranga the demigods showered them with flowers.

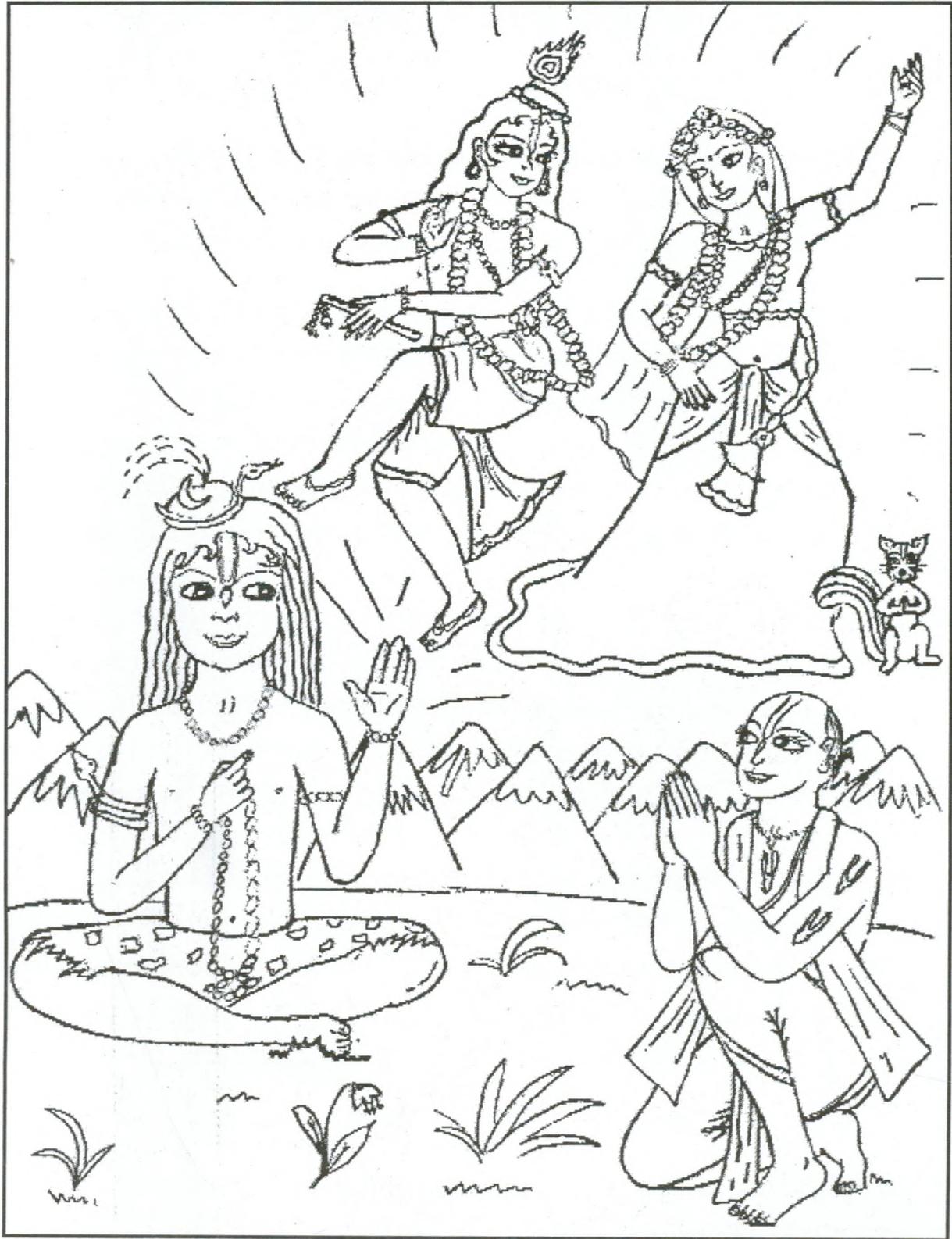
In Vrindavana Lord Shiva is known as Gopeshwara the guardian of the rasa-lila, and here as Ksetrapala Shiva.

Lord Shiva said "Listen, devotion to Sri Krsna is the essence. Striving for jnana (knowledge), karma (fruitive work), yoga (mystical perfection), and mukti (liberation) is useless. By my mercy you'll conquer Maya and quickly attain the shade of Gauranga's lotus feet! South of Rudra dvipa is Sri Pulina, so attractive. This is Vridavana within Navadvipa. Go there to witness Krsna's pastimes. Soon you will attain Radha's lotus feet."



As the greatest of all devotees, he removes the false ego of all those who take shelter of Lord Gauranga.





As a friend of all devotees, Lord Shiva allows them to witness the pastimes of Sri Sri Radha and Krsna.



Antar dvipa

ATMANIVEDANAM - SURRENDER

Antar means secret and dvipa means island. This is the island where Krsna was telling the secret of his future appearance as Gauranga.

Regretting that he had stolen Krsna's calves and friends in Vrindavana, Lord Brahma came here to perform austerities to please Gauranga.

After some time Lord Gauranga granted his request of taking birth in a muslim family as Haridas Thakur (the nama-acarya) so that he would not fall victim to pride again.

Gauranga said "Brahma, hear these secret (antar) words but do not reveal them openly in the scriptures. Taking the role of a devotee, I will taste the nectar of bhakti-rasa and propagate the most rare process of sankirtana. I will make the devotees of all the previous avataras drunk with the nectar of Vrindavana. The love that Sri Radhika possesses is beyond My experience, so I will appear with Her mood and complexion. Taking the position of Radhika, I will taste that happiness that only Radhika obtains by serving Me. From today act as My disciple and, in the form of Haridas, always serve Me!"

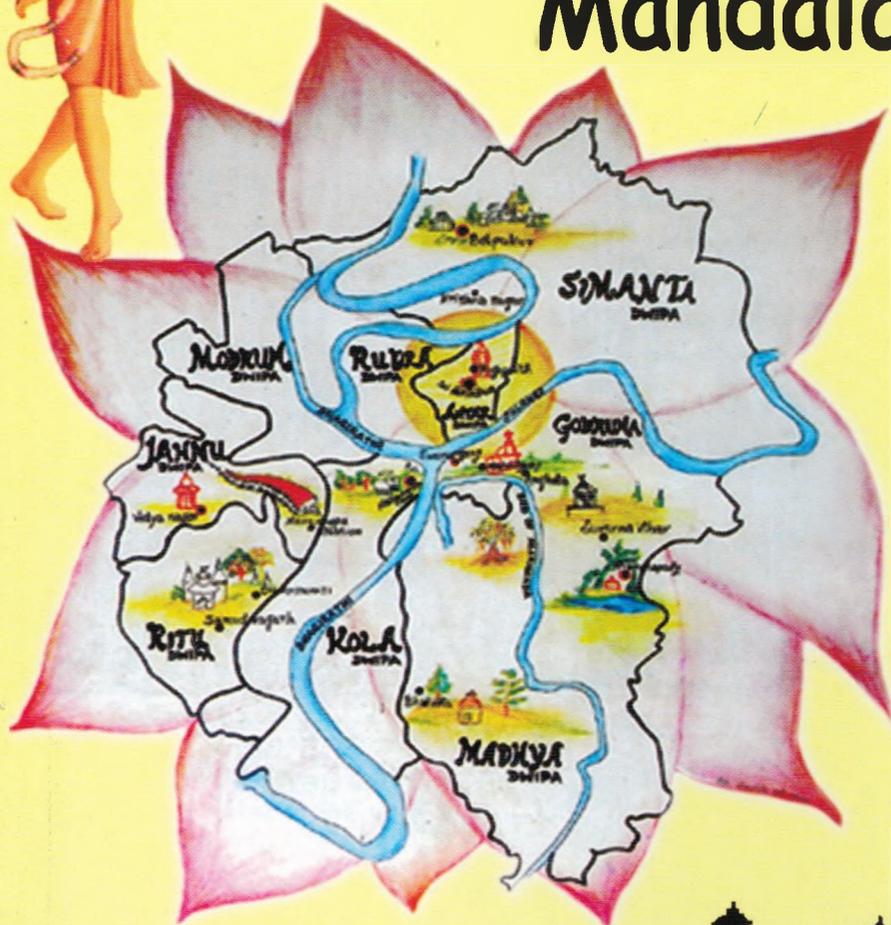


Antar dvipa is the central island where Lord Gauranga appeared under a neem tree from the womb of Saci-mata, the wife of Jagannath Misra.



Lord Gauranga appeared under a neem tree from the womb of Saci-mata, the wife of Jagannath Misra.

Sri Navadvipa Mandala



"May lord Gauranga, whose shoulders are like a lion's, whose smiling cheeks are the sweetest of all sweets things, whose body displays various wonderful symptoms of ecstatic love for krsna, whose features are as splendid as the whorl of a blossoming golden lotus flower, and who is Srimati Radharani and Sri Krsna

joined

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you all!"