



*"One who knows the transcendental
nature of My appearance and
activities does not, upon
leaving the body, take his
birth again in this material world,
but attains My eternal abode,
O Arjuna".*

Bhagavad-Gita 4-9

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THE STORY OF King Bali

A GREAT DEVOTEE OF THE LORD



Children's Story Book



Dedicated to
His Divine Grace
A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
founder acharya:
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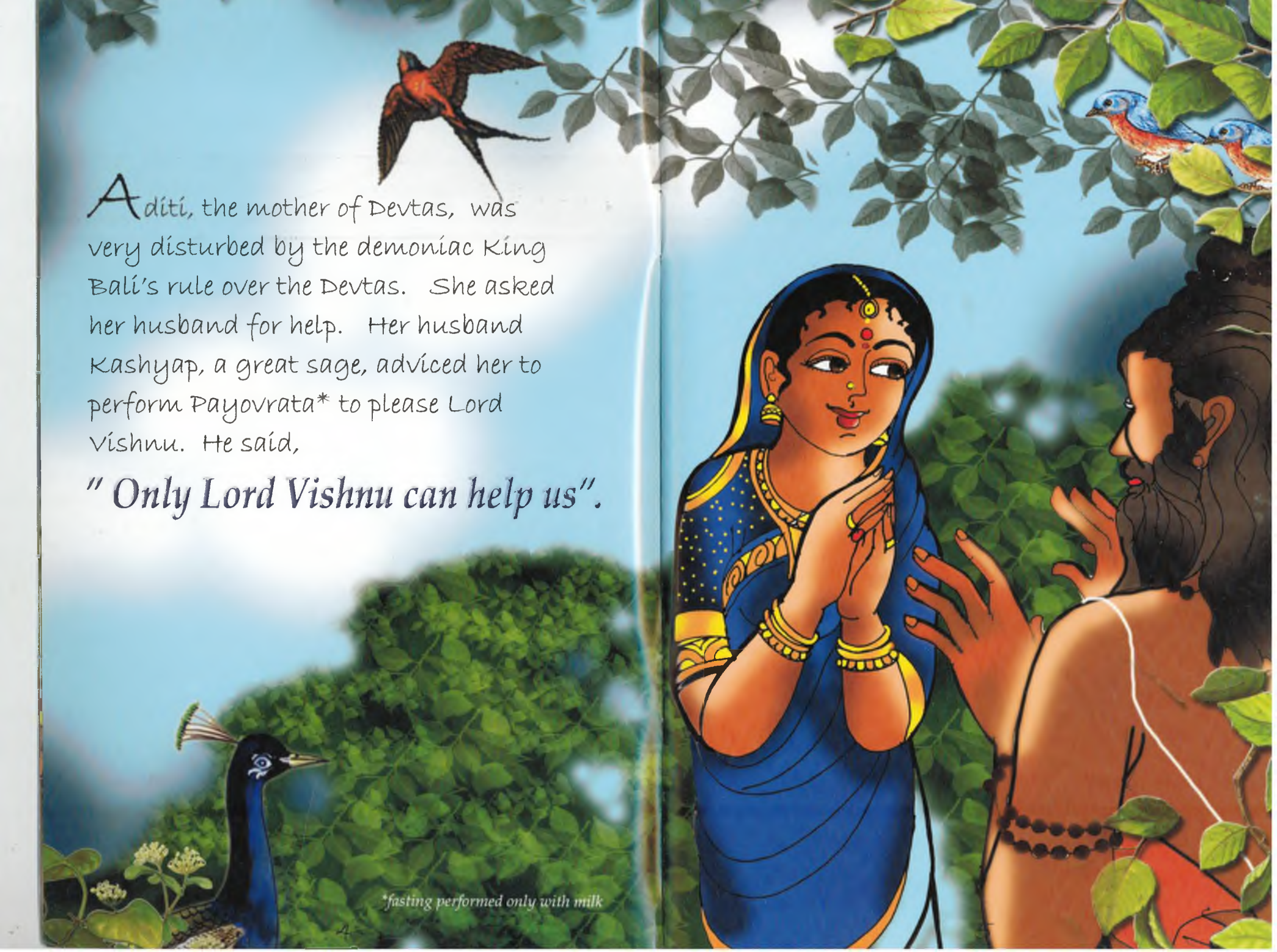
AN INSTRUCTIVE STORY FROM SRIMAD BHAGAVATAM

Children's Story Book



Once upon a time there lived a King named Bali. He was the grand son of Prahlad Maharaja*. He wanted to rule over the Devtas. So he performed a Vedic sacrifice and got special weapons from the Fire-god. With these newly-acquired weapons he proceeded towards Indraloka which was ruled by King Indra. Hearing of Bali's intentions, Indra approached his Guru Brihaspati for advice. On his advice Indra left Indraloka and hid himself. Indraloka was then taken over by King Bali, the great demonic king. King Bali, then, started performing a grand sacrifice to become more powerful than Devtas.

**read Prahalad book for details*



Aditi, the mother of Devtas, was very disturbed by the demoniac King Bali's rule over the Devtas. She asked her husband for help. Her husband Kashyap, a great sage, advised her to perform Payovrata* to please Lord Vishnu. He said,

"Only Lord Vishnu can help us".

**fasting performed only with milk*

Lord Vishnu was pleased with Mother Aditi's prayers and appeared before her. He said,

"I will appear as your son Vamana and protect the Devtas from King Bali."



Mother Aditi was very happy.



When Lord Vishnu appeared as her son, Vamana - all the demigods and sages came to greet Him. Brihaspati gave Him the sacred thread and Yamaraj chanted the Gayatri mantra....

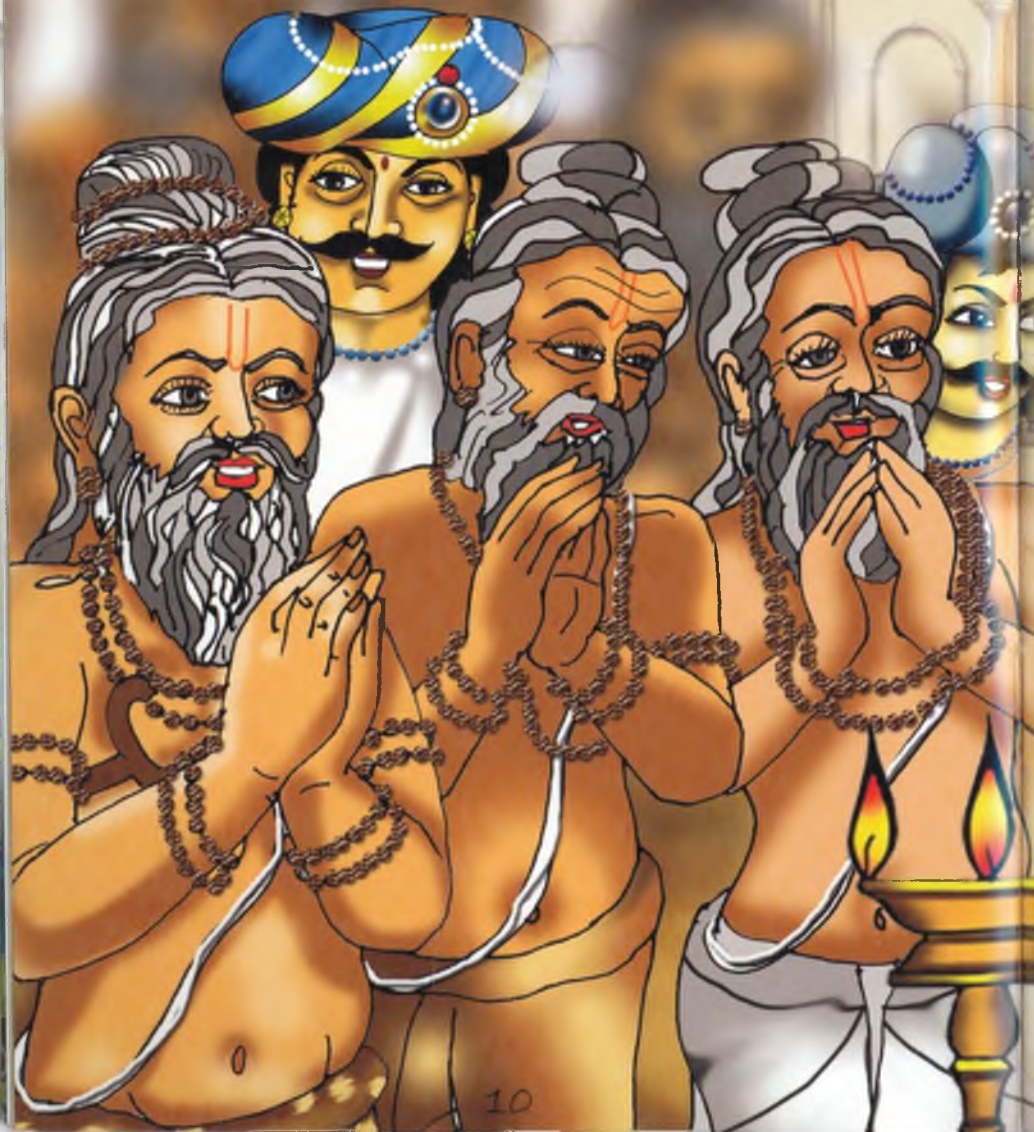


Indra gave Him an umbrella, Brahma gifted Him Kamandalu (water-pot), Chandra offered Him a shaft....and the Seven sages presented Him with kusha grass.



This way Vamana was honoured!

King Bali was performing the Ashvamedha yajna to attain more power. Vamana, who had appeared as a dwarf Brahmana, entered King Bali's palace. All the assembled sages and King Bali were astonished by the *effulgence of Vamana*.



King Bali offered his respects to
Vamana and welcomed Him. He asked,
"What can I offer You.?"





Vamana praised King Bali's dynasty especially his grand father Prahlad Maharaj, their dedication and righteousness. Then He told King Bali,

“Offer Me only three steps of land which I will measure with My feet.”.



King Bali laughed hearing Vamana's request. He said,

"I am a KING... I can give more than what you are asking for. You can ask me for villages, cows, gold, anything..."

. but, Vamana smiled and insisted on his three steps of land.



King Bali agreed to give Him his three steps. But Sukracharya King Bali's Guru



**Stopped
him....**

Sukracharya told King Bali that
Vamana was none other than

Lord Vishnu Himself.

"Vamana will destroy you and protect
the devtas". But King Bali was not
willing to take his advice and went ahead
with the formalities to offer the land.....





King Bali knew very well who the dwarf Brahmana was..... took the waterpot and did the rituals ...then poured the water in Vamana's hand. Thus he offered Vamana the three steps of land .

Vamana after receiving the three steps grew Himself and

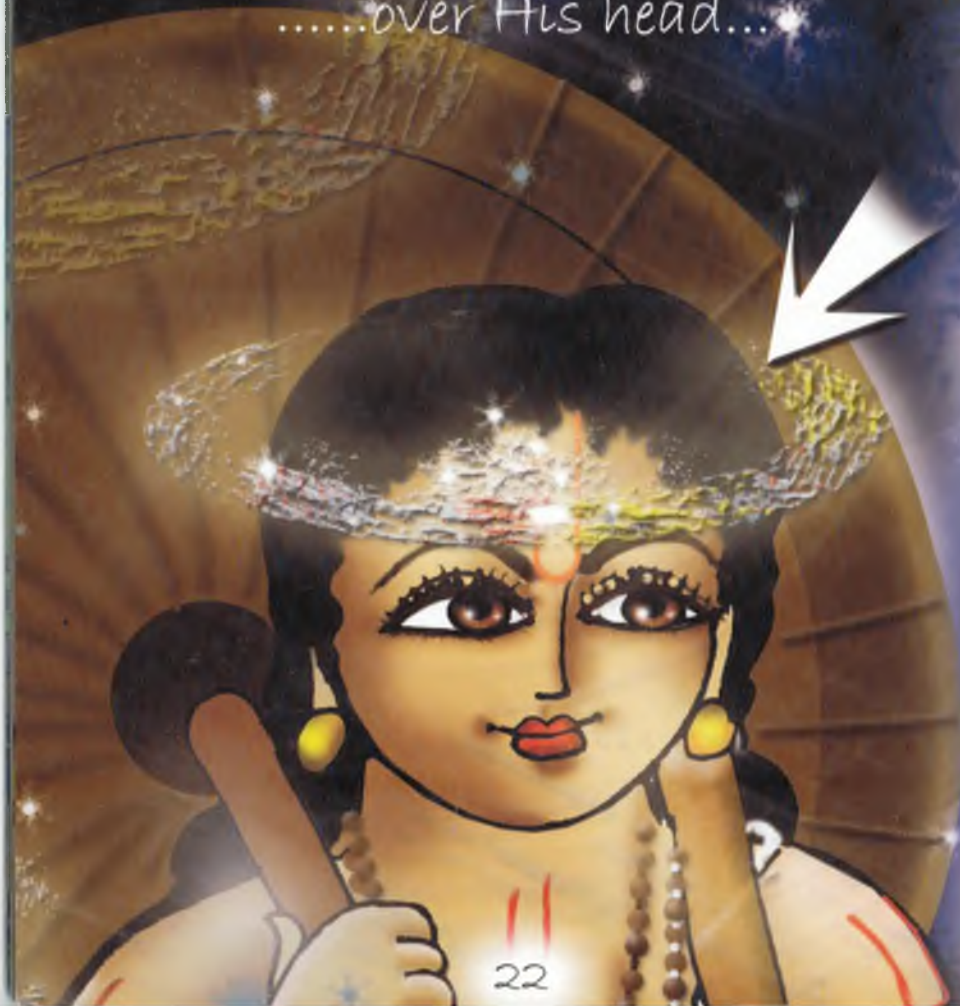
Vamana after receiving the three steps, expanded Himself and covered the entire earth with His.....FIRST STEP..!



Vamana grew

so large

that the galaxies became a crown
.....over His head...



He expanded...further...
and the same galaxies
became His neck
ornament.....

Vamana
expanded

And more

and the galaxies became His waist belt....

*He expanded....further... and
the same galaxies became His
anklet for Him.....*

*around
His lotus feet.....*



He covered the entire
planetary systems with His
SECOND STEP . He asked
the King Bali



*"Now where is
the Land for
My THIRD
STEP....?"*

Being a great devotee of the Lord
King Bali, did not hesitate to
offer his head as the
place for
His third step.



Pleased by King Bali's surrender
Vamana blessed him. He asked him to
go and live in Patala loka*.
He said.

*"I will be the gate keeper of your
kingdom, so you may have My
Darshan always".*
Devtas showered flowers and offered
their prayers to



Lord Vamana,

and praised
King Bali

for his unalloyed devotion.

*lower planets

