

Tulsi
Books

THE GOLDEN AGE

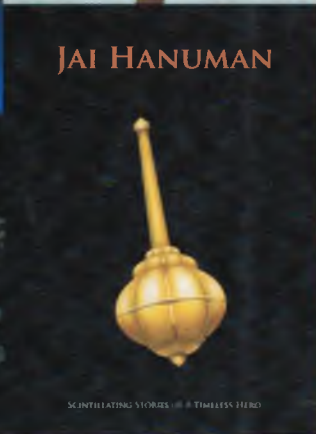
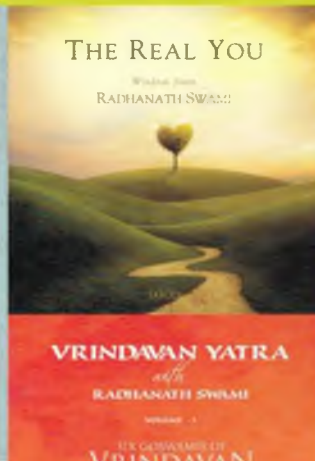
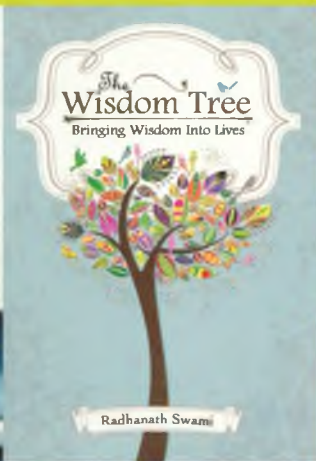
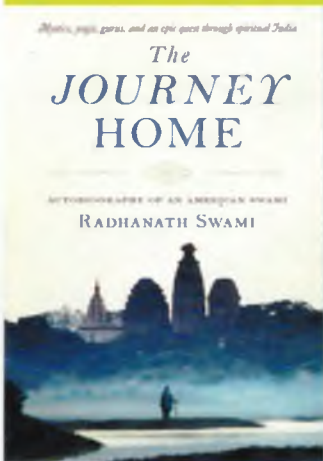
Volume - I



**Sri Navadvipa Dhama
Mahātmya**

by Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura

BOOKS THAT ARE
ROAD MAPS TO NAVIGATE
YOUR JOURNEY OF LIFE



www.tulsibooks.com

Life with
Lemon
Drops

Tulsi
Books

For bulk purchase and corporate gifting contact:
e-mail: info@tulsibooks.com Call: 9930 141 141, 9619 738 156.
online store: www.tulsibooks.com Like us on: [facebook.com/tulsibooks](https://www.facebook.com/tulsibooks)

THE GOLDEN AGE

Sri Navadvipa Dhama Mahatmya

- by Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura

Volume - I



FOREWORD

The “Golden Age” refers to the present age in which Lord Caitanya inaugurated the sankirtan movement just over five hundred years ago. The Brahma-vaivarta Purana states within Kali-yuga, there will be a ten thousand year period in which the chanting of the holy names of God will flourish. By the power of the holy name the whole world will become purified, love for God will be awakened, enabling all living entities to go back home back to Godhead.

Although the “Golden Age” is presented in the format of a comic, it is not a work of fantasy or imagination. It is a true history based on authoritative scriptures such as Sri Navadvipa-dhama Mahatmya, Chaitanya Charitamrita and Chaitanya Bhagavata which have been revealed by liberated devotees of Krishna such as Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura, Srila Krishna Das Kaviraja and Srila Vrindavana Das Thakura.

So not only is it pleasant reading and colorfully entertaining, it is also highly enlightening and most beneficial for the readers.

Jananivas Das
Sridham Mayapur, India

Listen, O saintly people, as I sing this description of Navadvipa parikrama referring to scripture. The statements of shastra, the words of the Vaishnavas, and the teachings of the Lord --these three are my life. Taking shelter of these three, I will describe the rules for circumambulating Navadvipa. Listen everyone!

Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura writes Sri Navadvipa Dhama Mahatmya.

Srila Jiva Goswami as a young man left his home in Chandradvipa, in great eagerness.

NADIA!!!
NADIA!!!

Tears flowed from his eyes like a stream of happiness

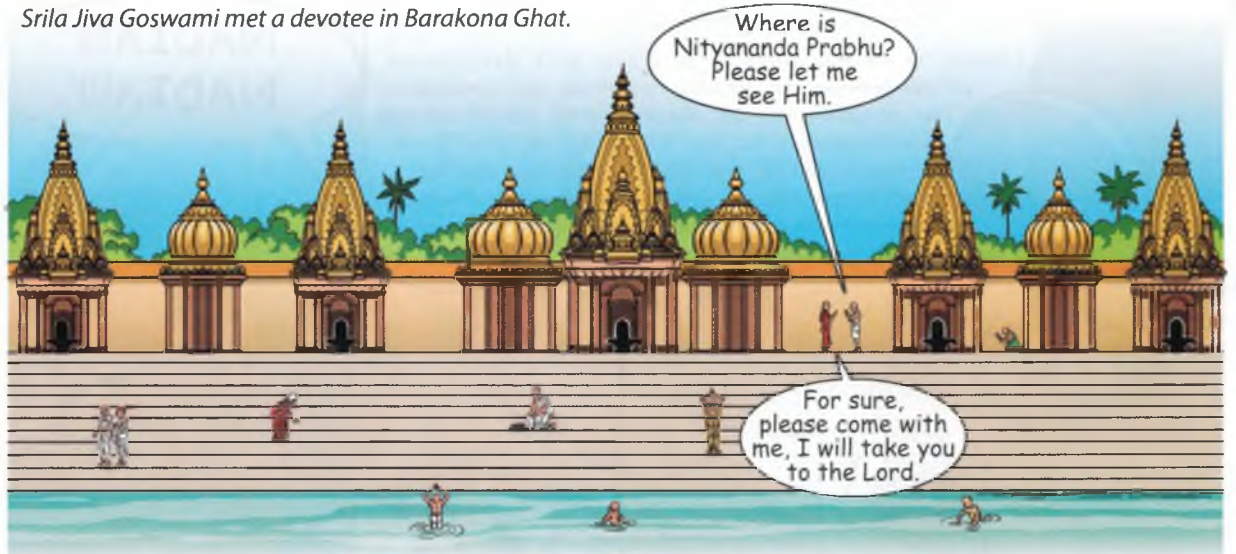
O Gauranga! O Nityananda!
You are the life of the living entities. When will You show mercy on me and give me Your darsana?

O Navadvipa,
topmost of all dhamas,
when will I see you?

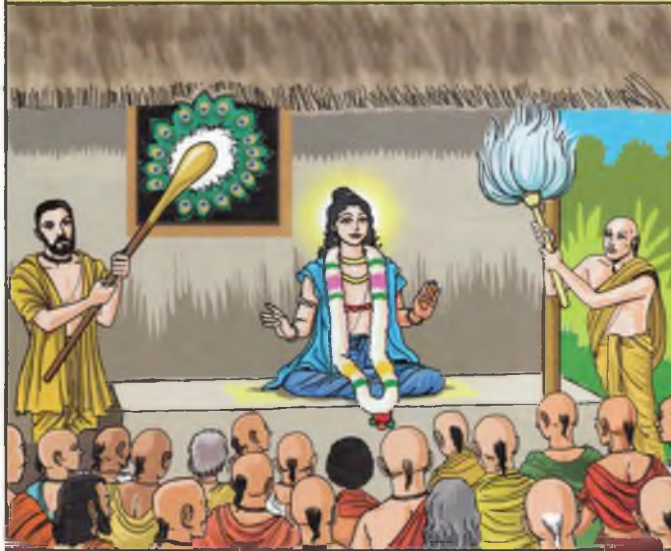
As Srila Jiva Goswami was running through jungles and villages to reach Sri Navadvipa Dhama, the holy abode, he was filled with these prayers.

His heart was filled with ecstatic love all through the journey. After some days...

Srila Jiva Goswami met a devotee in Barakona Ghat.



Lord Nityananda was in great ecstasy perceiving Jiva Goswami coming to Him.



Some devotees went to fetch Jiva .



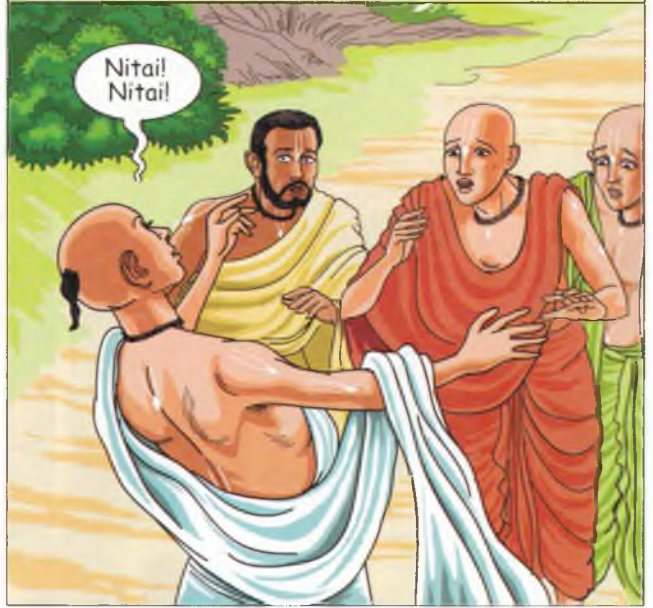


Are you Jiva?

Yes!

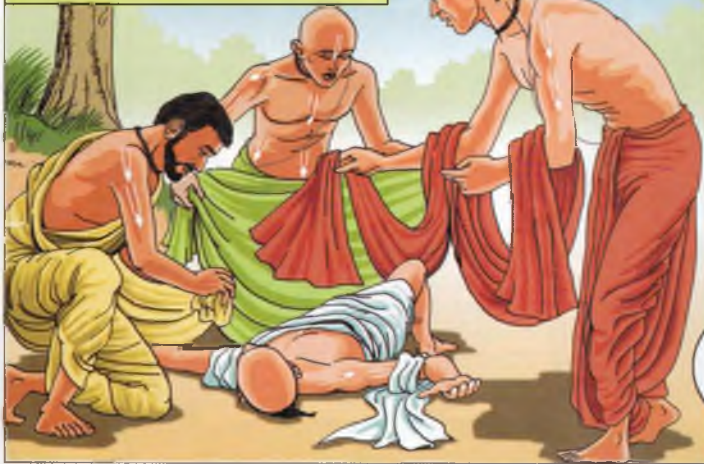
Lord Nityananda has ordered us to bring you...

On hearing the name of Nityananda, Jiva fell to the ground unconscious.

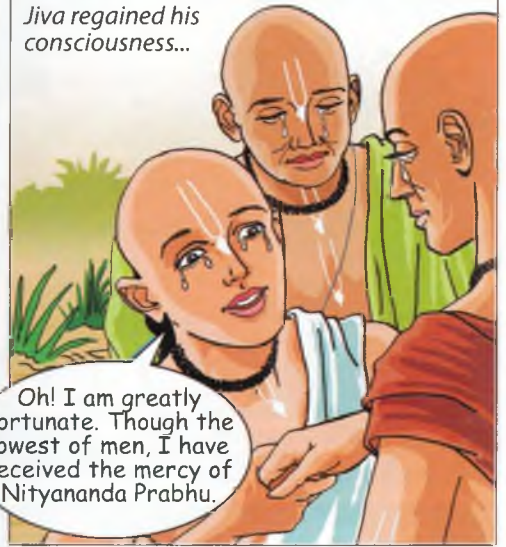


Nitai!
Nitai!

Devotees surrounded him, fanning and waiting for him to come to his consciousness.



Jiva regained his consciousness...



Oh! I am greatly fortunate. Though the lowest of men, I have received the mercy of Nityananda Prabhu.

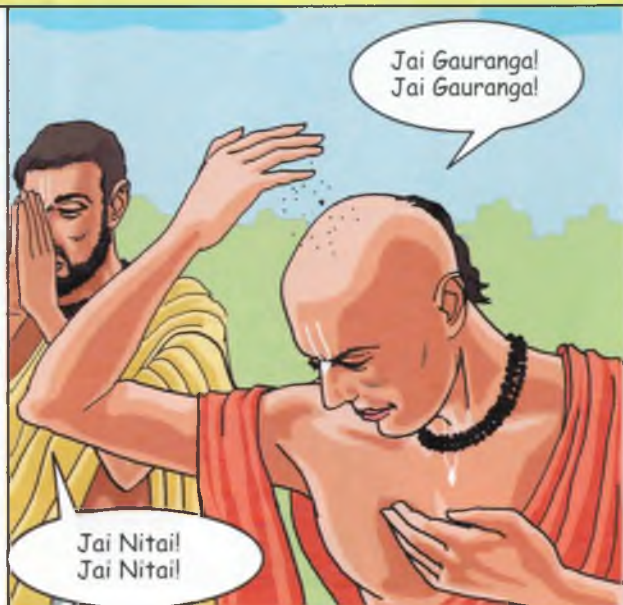
... and prostrated at their feet!



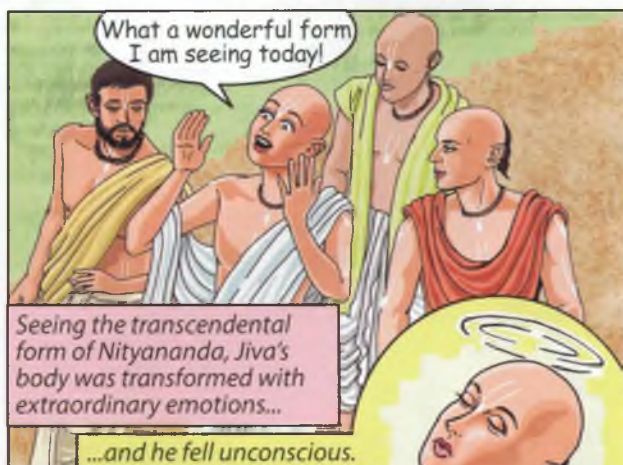
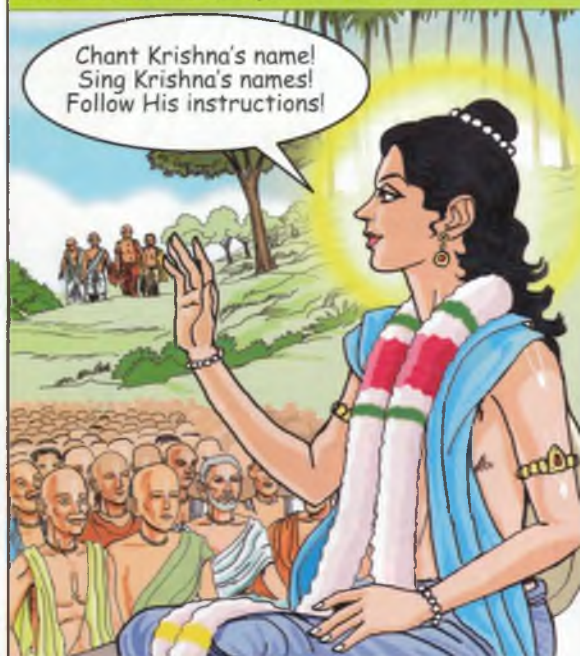
If you all show mercy upon me, then I can get the mercy of Nityananda. This is the verdict of the scriptures.

Jiva, please come with us.

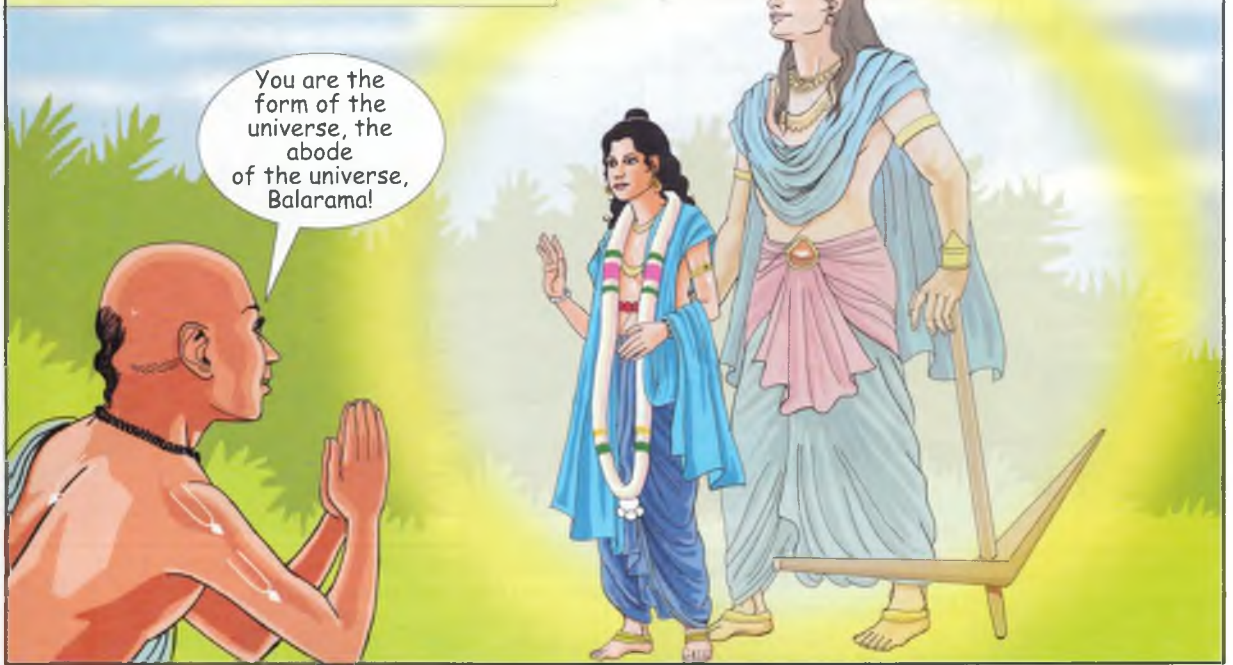
Seeing the good fortune of Jiva Goswami, some of the Vaishnavas (devotees) took the dust from his feet on their heads with great celebration. Then they took him to Nityananda's place.



Lord Nityananda was speaking to the devotees assembled in His courtyard about Lord Krishna.



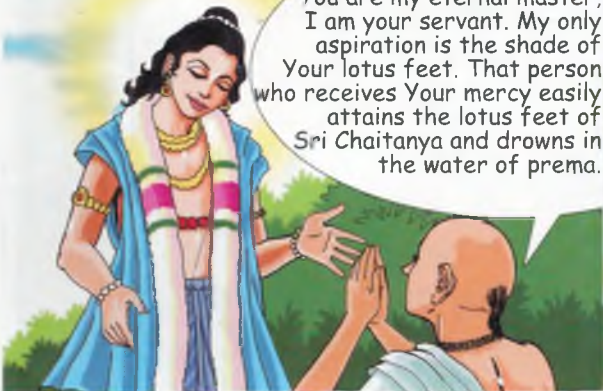
Lord Nityananda revealed Himself to Jiva as Balarama. Jiva glorified Him.



Being an insignificant living entity, what can I know of Your qualities?



You are my eternal master, I am your servant. My only aspiration is the shade of Your lotus feet. That person who receives Your mercy easily attains the lotus feet of Sri Chaitanya and drowns in the water of prema.



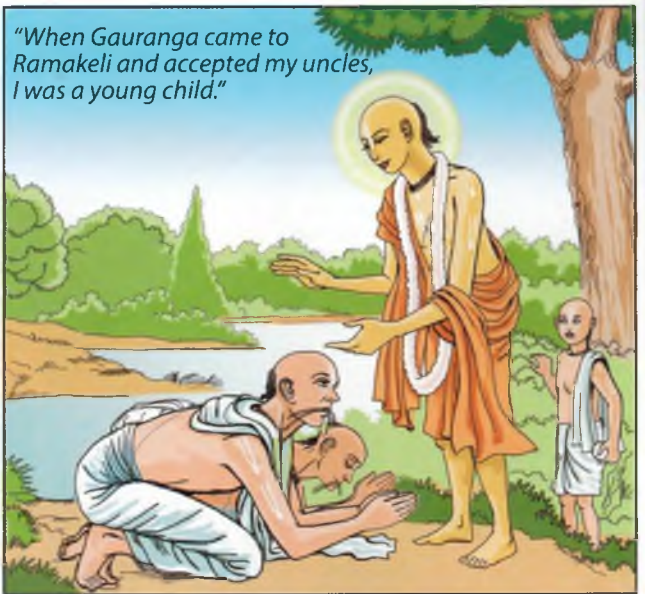
Without Your mercy no one will get Gaura, even if he worships Gaura for a hundred lifetimes. Sometimes Gauranga may punish someone, but You will protect him; but if You punish someone, Gaura will never accept him.





Therefore, Lord, only on the strength of my past devotional activities, I take shelter of your lotus feet.

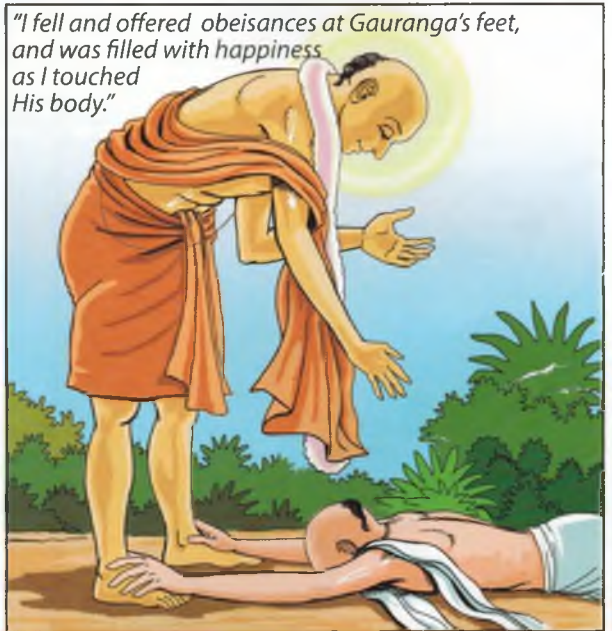
Be merciful and give me permission that I may receive the darshana of Gauranga and gain attachment for Him.



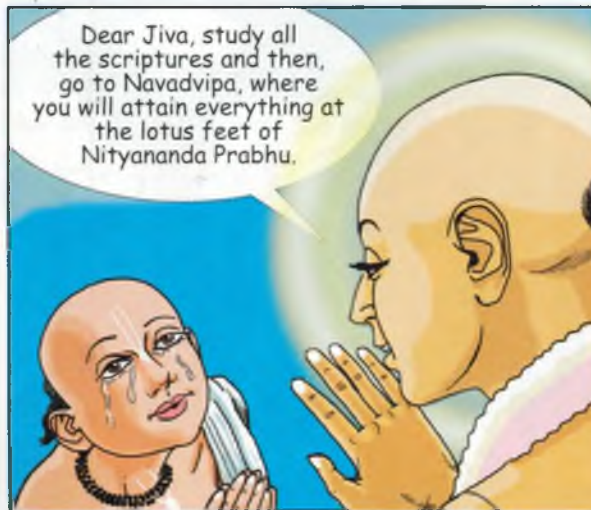
"When Gauranga came to Ramakeli and accepted my uncles, I was a young child."



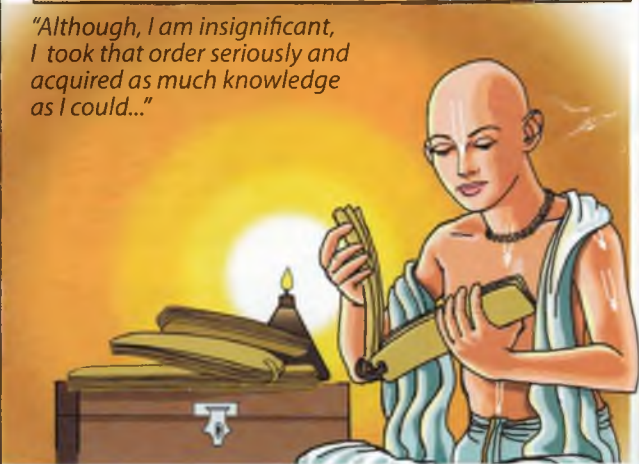
"At that time, my eyes filled with tears as I saw Gauranga's form, which since then always appears in my mind."



"I fell and offered obeisances at Gauranga's feet, and was filled with happiness as I touched His body."



Dear Jiva, study all the scriptures and then, go to Navadvipa, where you will attain everything at the lotus feet of Nityananda Prabhu.



"Although, I am insignificant, I took that order seriously and acquired as much knowledge as I could..."

But I thought, even if I studied all the books in Chandradvipa, I would not get a suitable Vedanta teacher. The Lord ordered me to study Vedanta and reveal Krishna- bhakti conforming with the Vedanta.



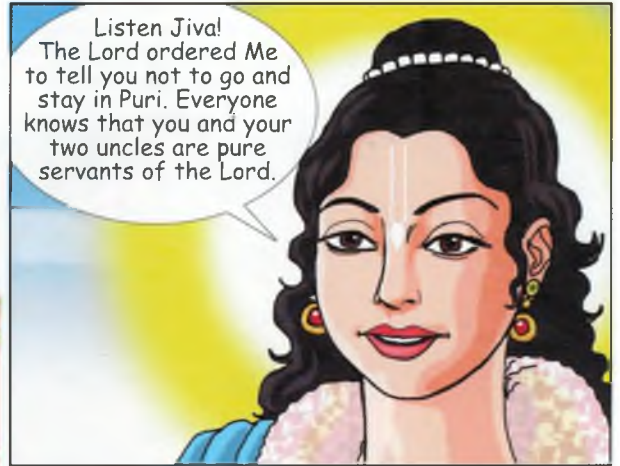
So, I have come to Navadvipa to Your lotus feet. Whatever You order, I will obey. By Your order, I will go to Jagannatha Puri and study Vedanta under Sarvabhauma Bhattacharya."



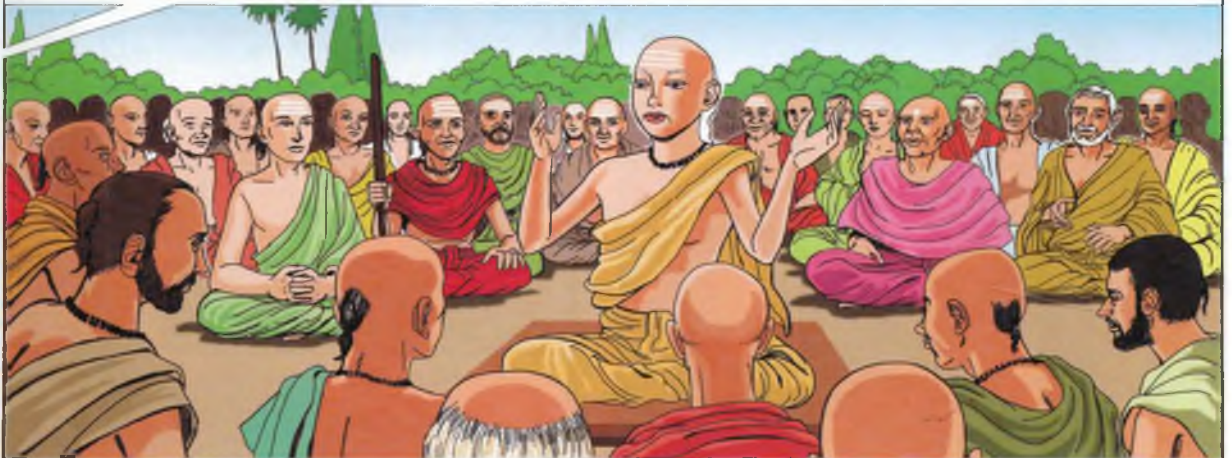
Nityananda Prabhu embraced him and unable to contain Himself, began to weep.



Listen Jiva! The Lord ordered Me to tell you not to go and stay in Puri. Everyone knows that you and your two uncles are pure servants of the Lord.



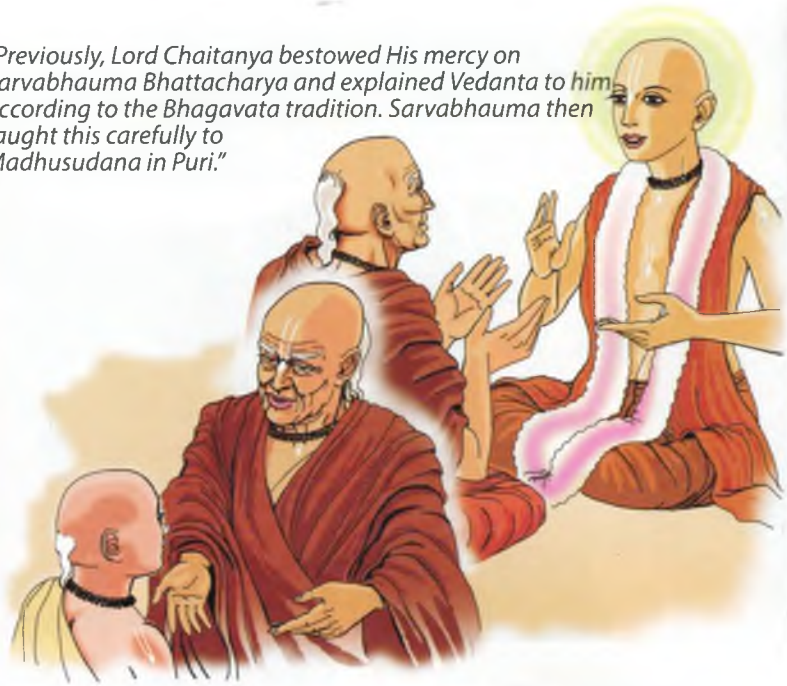
The Lord orders that you go to Varanasi and study Vedanta thoroughly under Madhusudana Vachaspati. On the order of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, Madhusudana Vachaspati now resides in Varanasi. Go there and meet him.



"Externally he acts like a traditional Vedantist, and many followers of Shankaracarya study under him. Gradually, however, he gives them mercy by teaching them the precepts of Gauranga through the Vedanta-sutras."



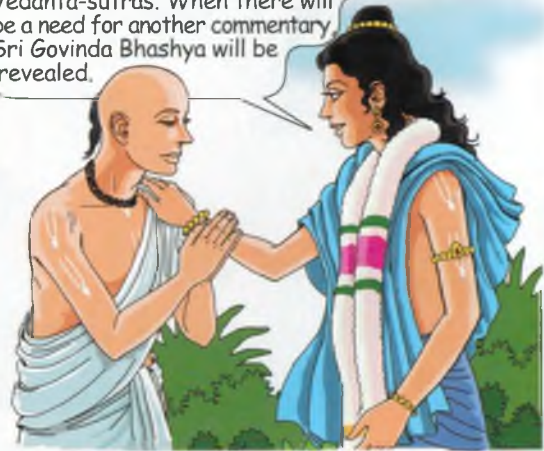
"Previously, Lord Chaitanya bestowed His mercy on Sarvabhauma Bhattacharya and explained Vedanta to him according to the Bhagavata tradition. Sarvabhauma then taught this carefully to Madhusudana in Puri."



After learning from Madhusudana Vachaspati, go to Vrindavana, where you will get the mercy of Rupa and Sanatana. Under Rupa Goswami's direction, worship Their Lordships Radha and Krishna, and thoroughly discuss scriptures such as the Vedanta.



You should preach that Srimad Bhagavatam is the topmost scripture and the natural commentary on Vedanta-sutras. When there will be a need for another commentary, Sri Govinda Bhashya will be revealed.

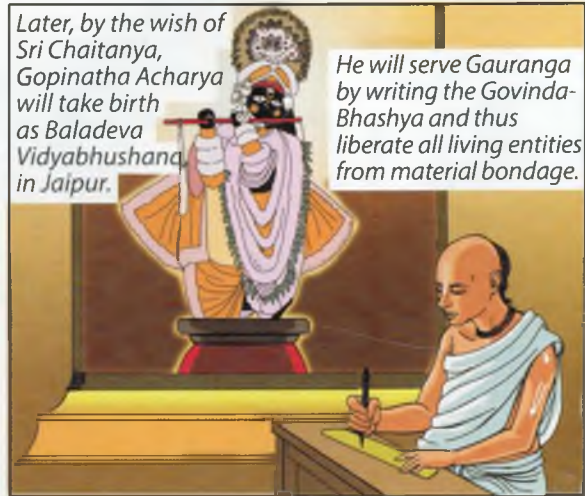


"Sarvabhauma and Gopinatha Acharya heard the commentary."

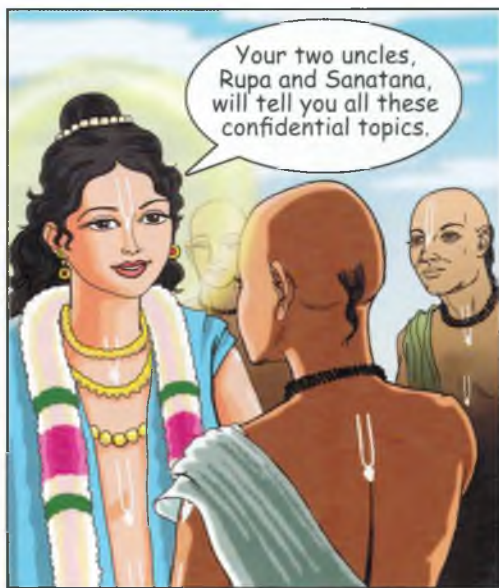
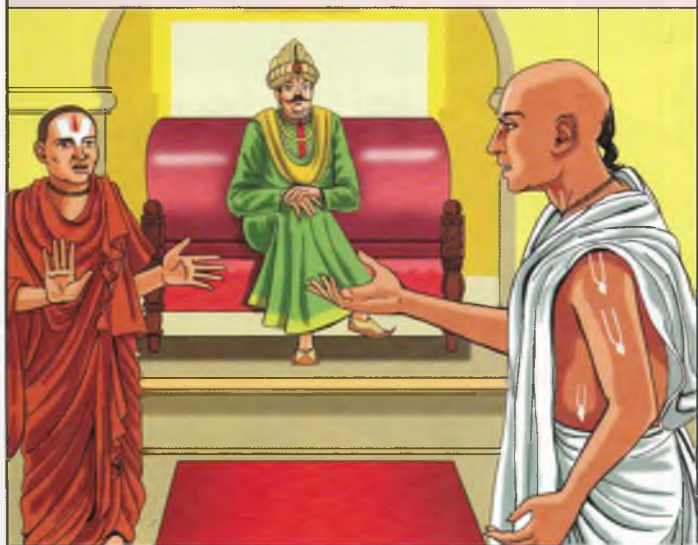


Later, by the wish of Sri Chaitanya, Gopinatha Acharya will take birth as Baladeva Vidyabhushana in Jaipur.

He will serve Gauranga by writing the Govinda-Bhashya and thus liberate all living entities from material bondage.



"And he will conquer Jaipur with his philosophical commentary."



Jiva Goswami fell to the ground weeping and crying...



Nityananda Prabhu then bestowed His mercy upon Jiva by putting His two lotus feet upon his head.



Jiva then starts to dance madly in ecstasy.



Srivasa Thakura and other devotees start to chant and dance playing mridanga and karatalas.

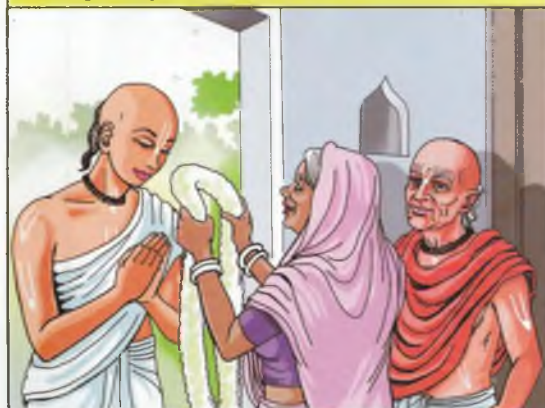


The place resounded with great spiritual vibration.



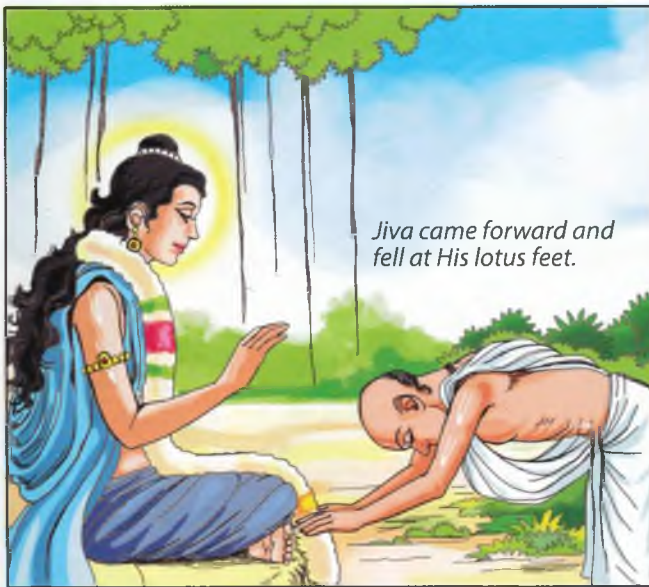
After sometime Jiva controlled his dancing, and Nityananda Prabhu mādē nim sit down nearby.

Jiva stayed at Srivasa Thakura's place, but in the evening he again went to see Nityananda Prabhu.

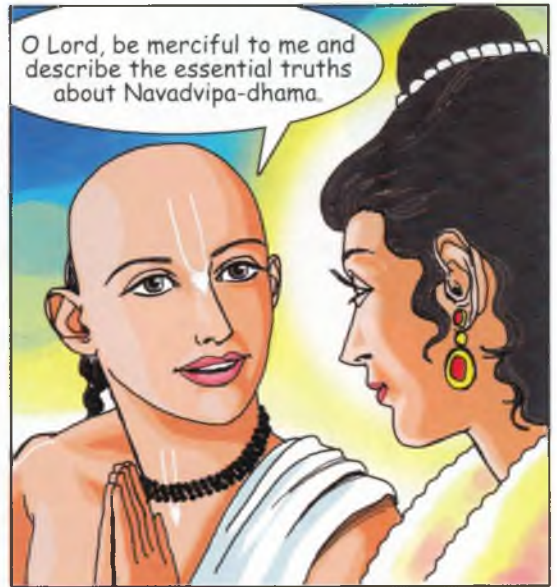


Nityananda was sitting alone under a banyan tree, singing the glories of Lord Gauranga.





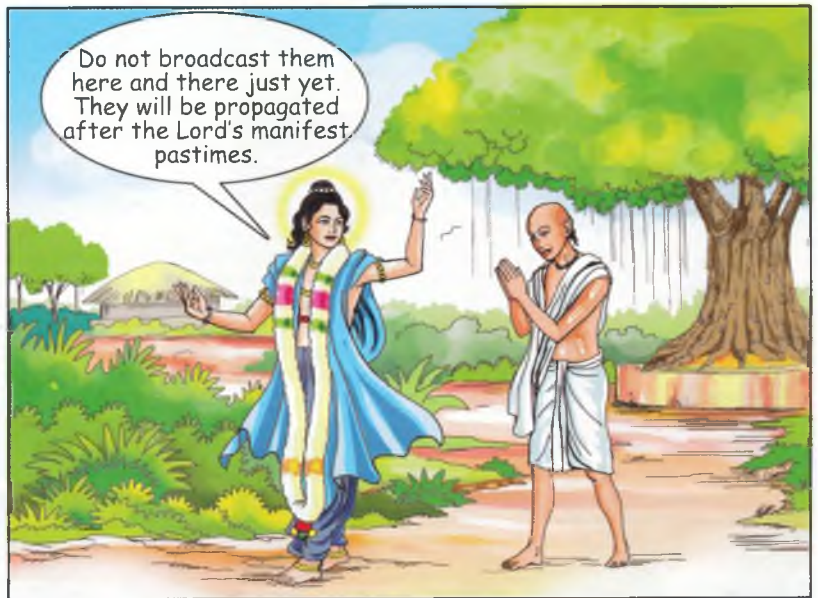
Jiva came forward and fell at His lotus feet.



O Lord, be merciful to me and describe the essential truths about Navadvipa-dhama.



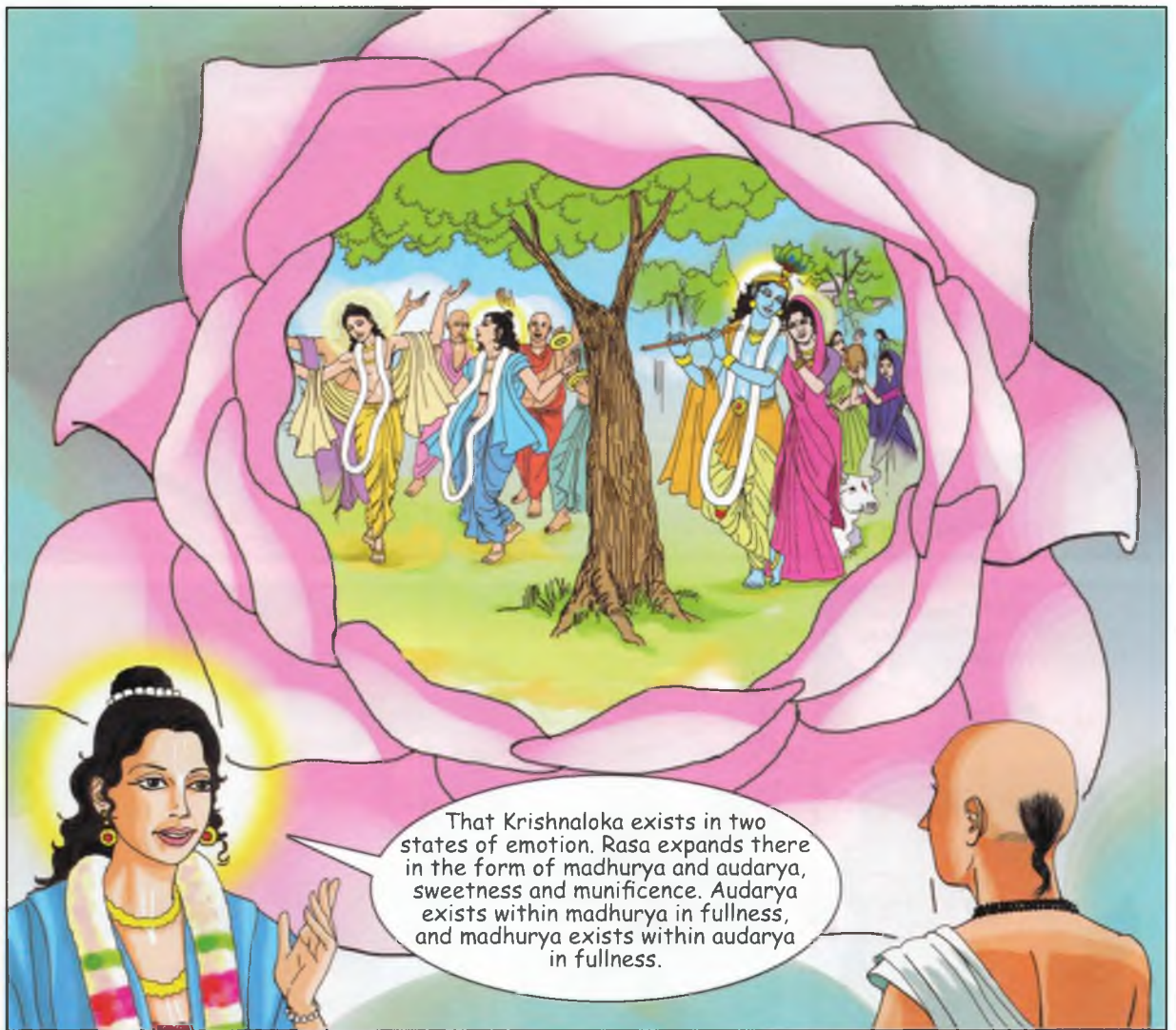
O Jiva, I will tell you, but you should keep these deep topics within your heart.



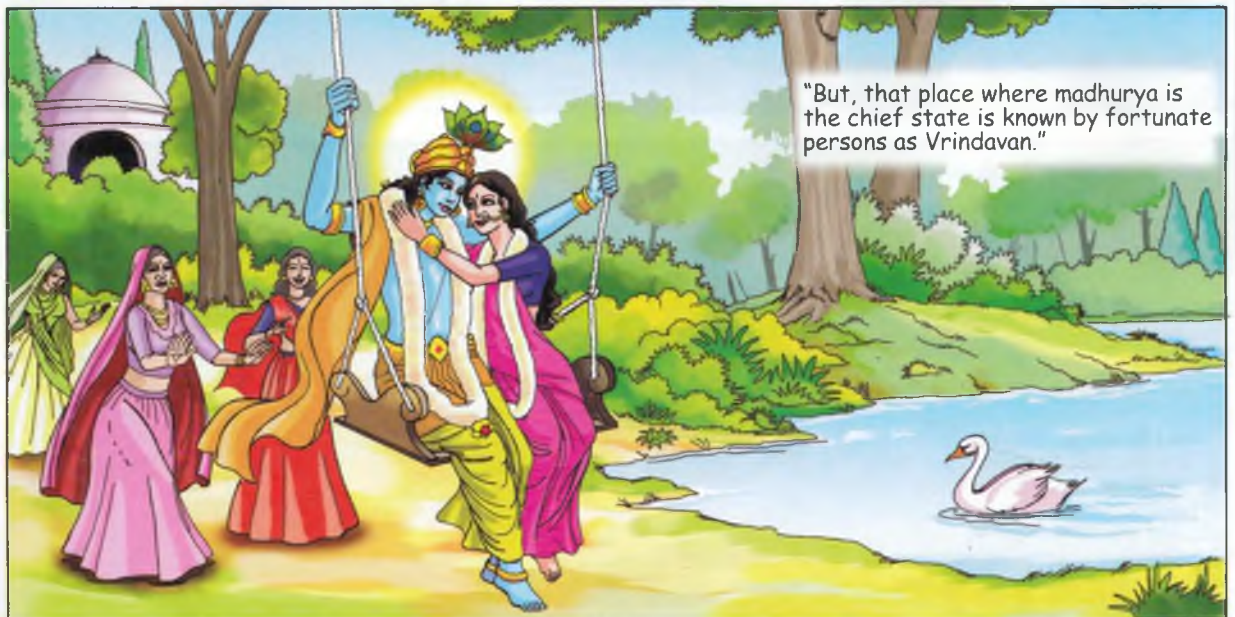
Do not broadcast them here and there just yet. They will be propagated after the Lord's manifest pastimes.



"This Navadvipa is the best of the dhamas. Crossing over the Viraja River and the Brahman effulgence, beyond the Vaikuntha planets one comes to Svetadvipa, Sri Goloka. Penetrating further, one comes to Gokula Vrindavana, or Krishnaloka".



That Krishnaloka exists in two states of emotion. Rasa expands there in the form of madhurya and audarya, sweetness and munificence. Audarya exists within madhurya in fullness, and madhurya exists within audarya in fullness.

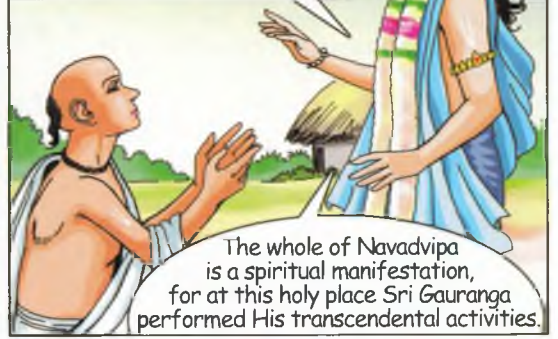


"But, that place where madhurya is the chief state is known by fortunate persons as Vrindavan."

And that place where audarya is eternally predominant is called Navadvipa in all the Vedas. There is no difference between Vrindavana and Navadvipa, only the different manifestations of rasa make them distinct.

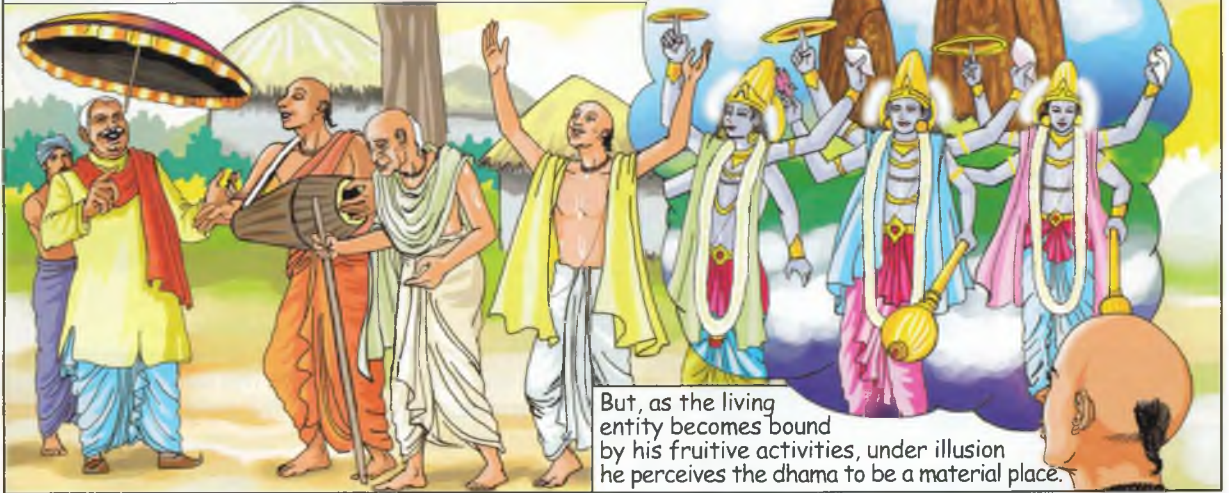


"The dhama is eternally perfect, fully spiritual, and unlimited. Those whose intelligence is tinged with dull matter cannot approach there. But, under the influence of the hladini-shakti, the energy governing bliss, the living entities give up material paths and by the strength of perfect knowledge attain their eternal spiritual activity of devotional service.



The whole of Navadvipa is a spiritual manifestation, for at this holy place Sri Gauranga performed His transcendental activities.

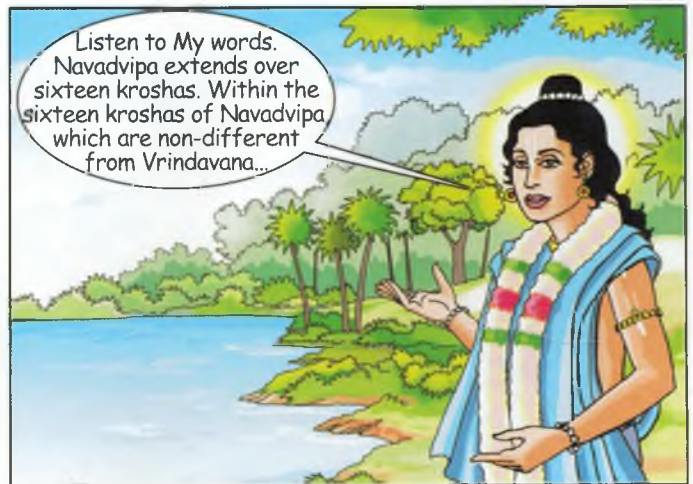
People with material vision see Navadvipa as made of material elements, for them maya covers the eternal dhama. Actually maya does not exist in Navadvipa, for it is not a material place influenced by time, nor are the living entities there subject to material troubles.



But, as the living entity becomes bound by his fruitive activities, under illusion he perceives the dhama to be a material place.

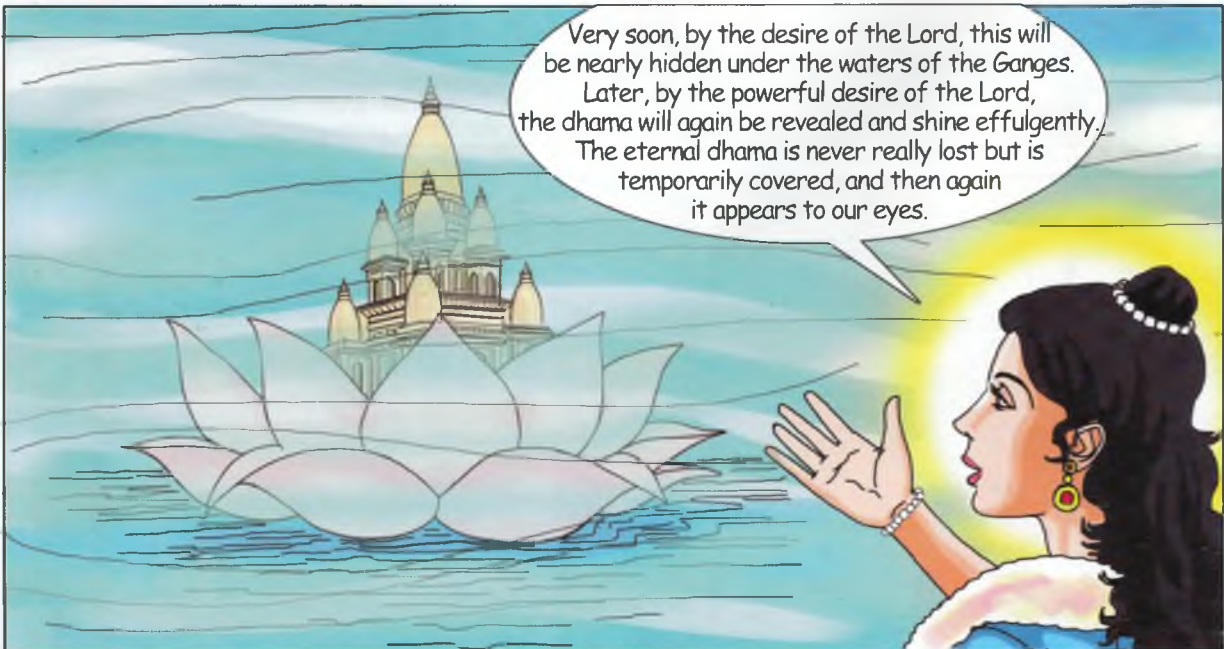
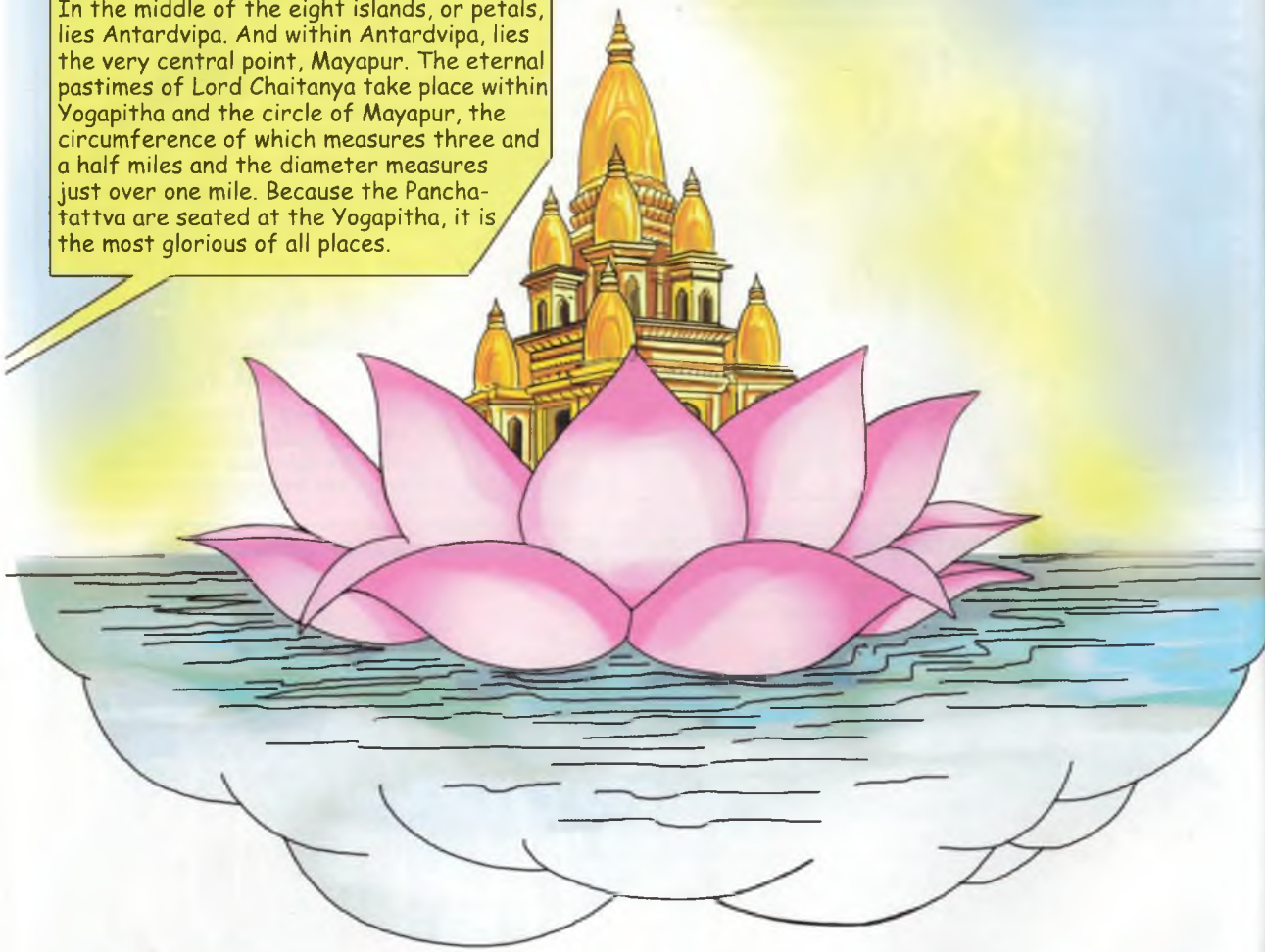


Thus I have related the truth of Navadvipa-dhama. O Jiva, please consider all this with a pure heart.



Listen to My words. Navadvipa extends over sixteen kroschas. Within the sixteen kroschas of Navadvipa which are non-different from Vrindavana...

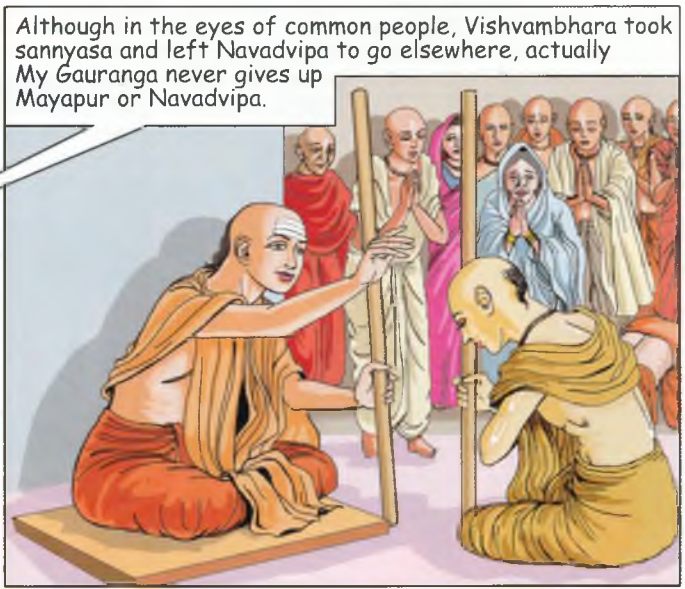
...there are nine islands, which form an eight-petaled lotus floating on the water. In the middle of the eight islands, or petals, lies Antardvipa. And within Antardvipa, lies the very central point, Mayapur. The eternal pastimes of Lord Chaitanya take place within Yogapitha and the circle of Mayapur, the circumference of which measures three and a half miles and the diameter measures just over one mile. Because the Panchatattva are seated at the Yogapitha, it is the most glorious of all places.



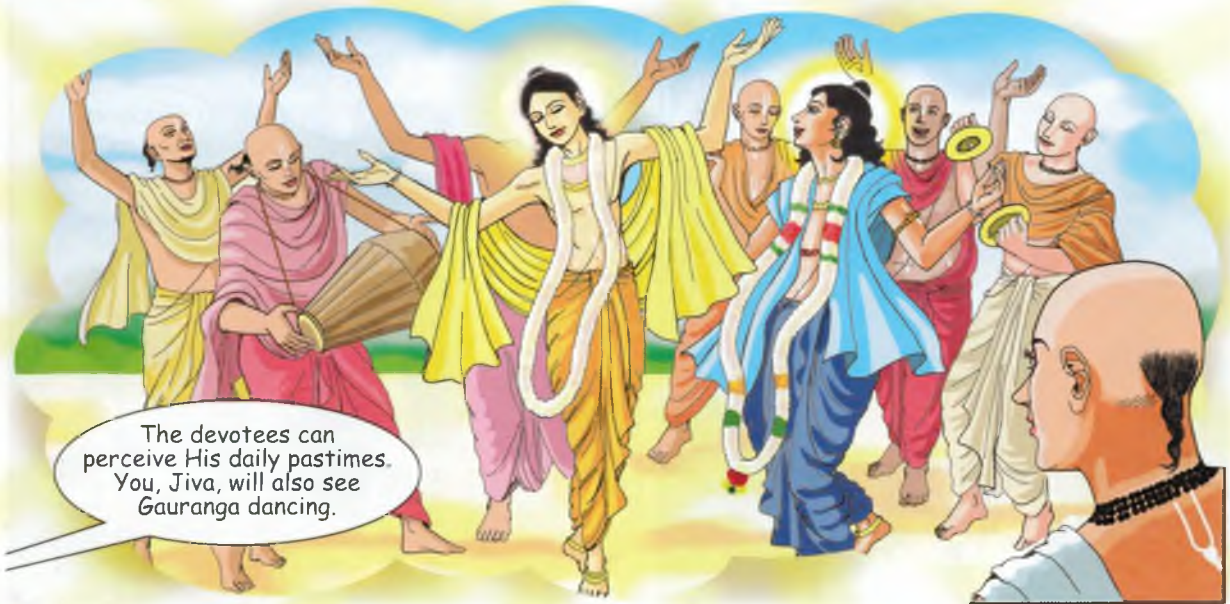
Very soon, by the desire of the Lord, this will be nearly hidden under the waters of the Ganges. Later, by the powerful desire of the Lord, the dhama will again be revealed and shine effulgently. The eternal dhama is never really lost but is temporarily covered, and then again it appears to our eyes.



My worshipable Lord eternally resides at Mayapur, situated on the east bank of Ganges.



Although in the eyes of common people, Vishvambhara took sannyasa and left Navadvipa to go elsewhere, actually My Gauranga never gives up Mayapur or Navadvipa.



The devotees can perceive His daily pastimes. You, Jiva, will also see Gauranga dancing.



You will show real mercy on this unworthy wretch if You personally take me on parikrama.

So be it.



Jiva, today take darshana of Mayapur. Tomorrow we will tour more extensively.

Nityananda Prabhu's body was extremely agitated with ecstatic love for Gauranga. Nityananda Prabhu was engrossed in ecstasy. The very feet that Brahma and Siva cannot attain by meditation

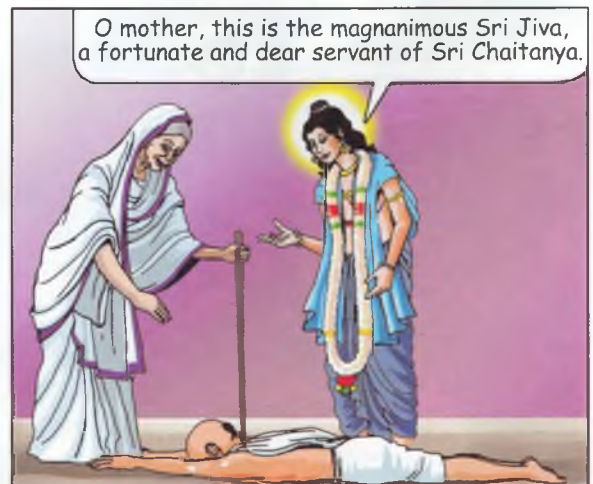
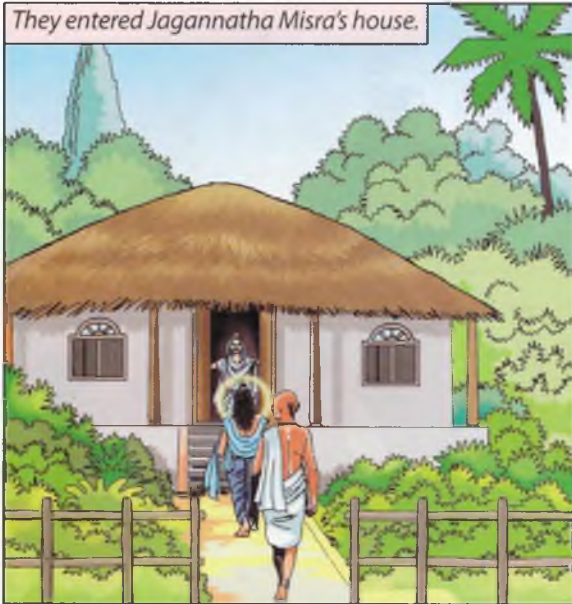
were served out to Sri Jiva simply by the mercy of Sri Nityananda.



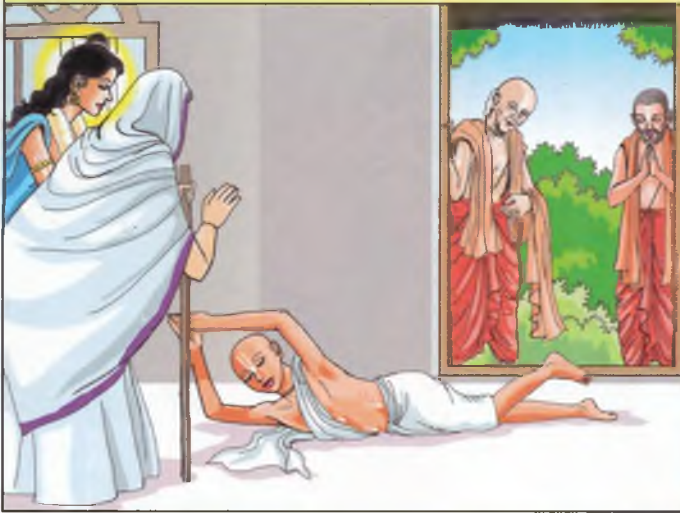
Jiva followed the Lord taking the dust of the Lord's feet and smearing it over his body. Thus he began his journey in great happiness



They entered Jagannatha Misra's house.



Falling at Sachi's feet, he rolled on the ground out of control as he exhibited various symptoms of ecstasy.



Mother Sachi blessed Jiva by placing her hand on his head and hugged him.



Mother Sachi rushed towards the kitchen calling Vishnupriya devi...



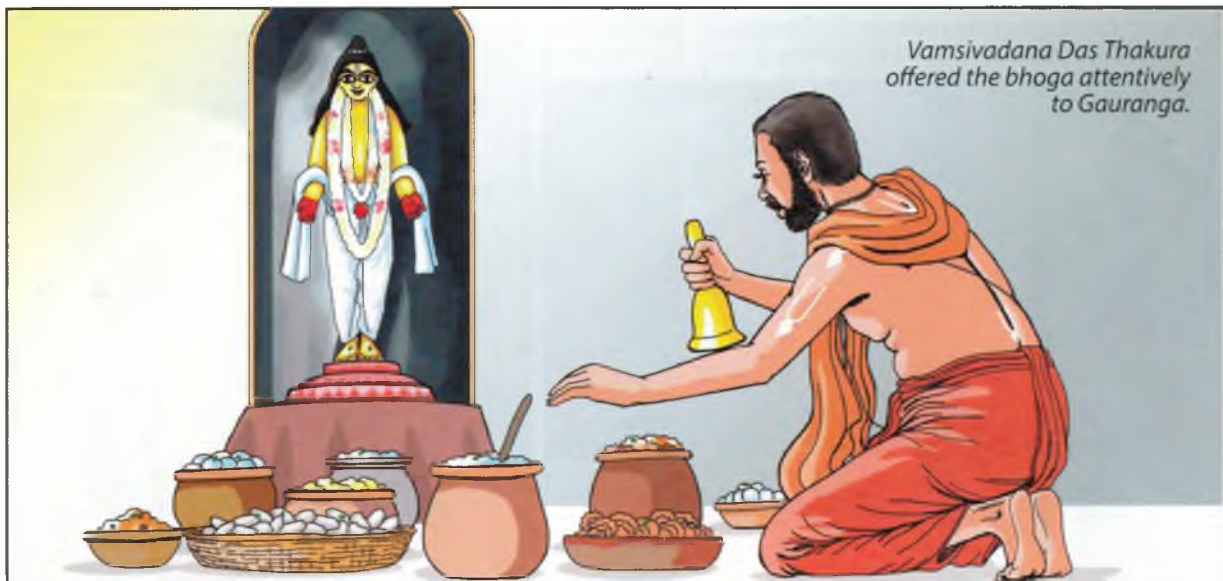
Vishnupriya devi started cooking...



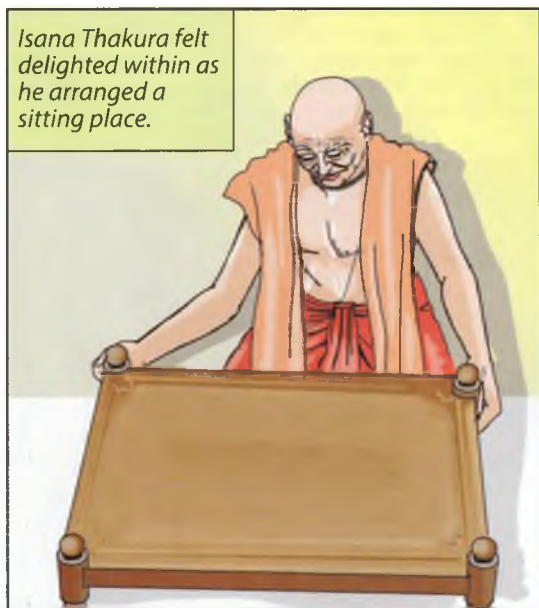
Having received the order from mother Sachi, Vishnupriya devi cooked various dishes of rice, vegetables, chutney, and sweets.



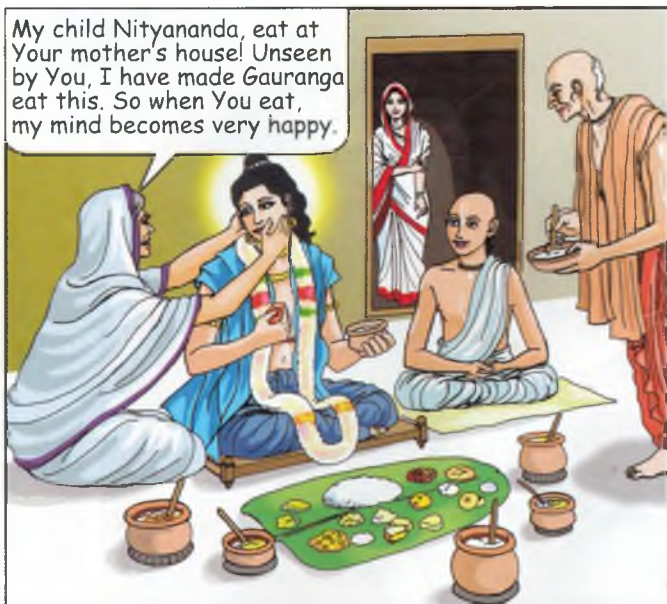
Vamsivadana Das Thakura offered the bhoga attentively to Gauranga.



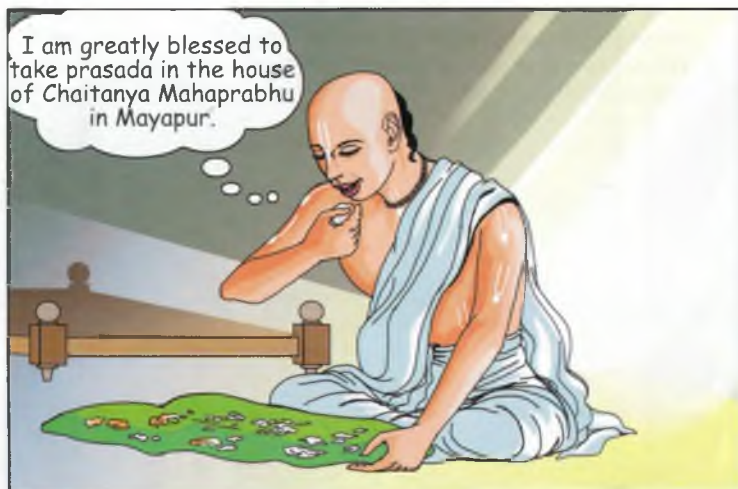
Isana Thakura felt delighted within as he arranged a sitting place.



My child Nityananda, eat at Your mother's house! Unseen by You, I have made Gauranga eat this. So when You eat, my mind becomes very happy.

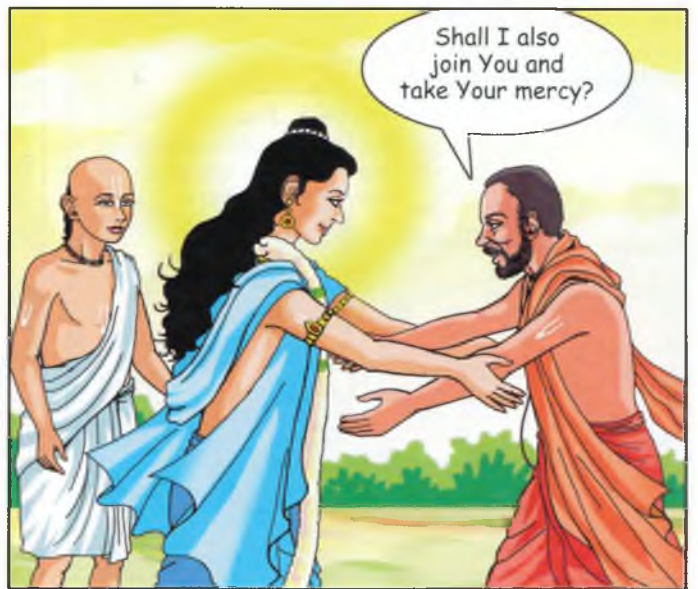
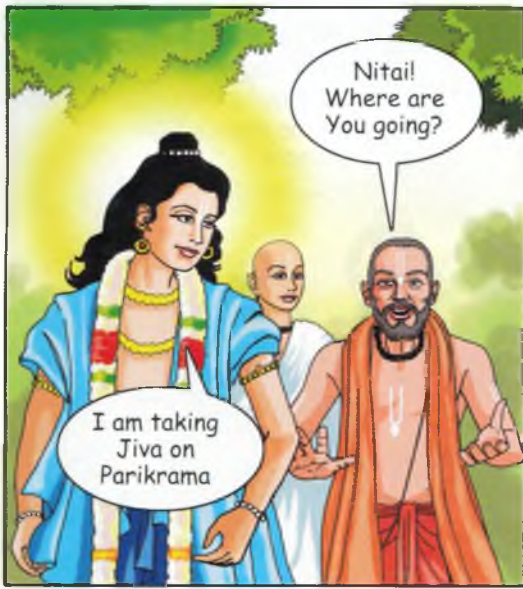


I am greatly blessed to take prasada in the house of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu in Mayapur.

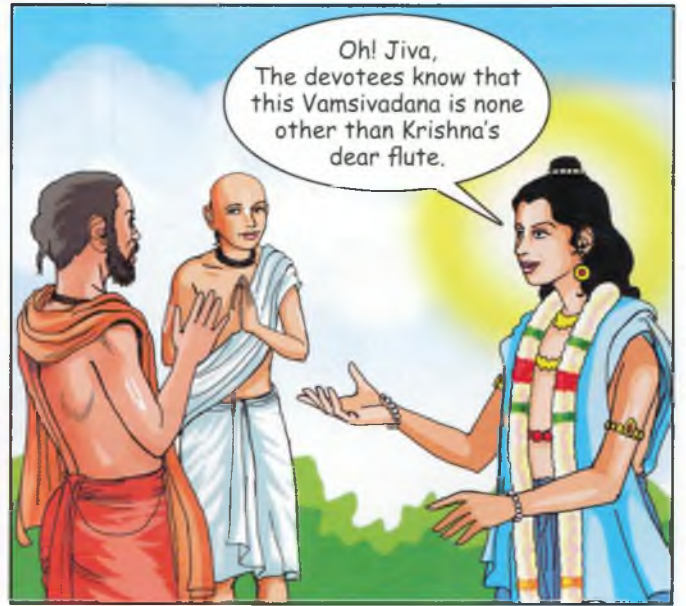


Having eaten, Nityananda took leave of Sachidevi's lotus feet.

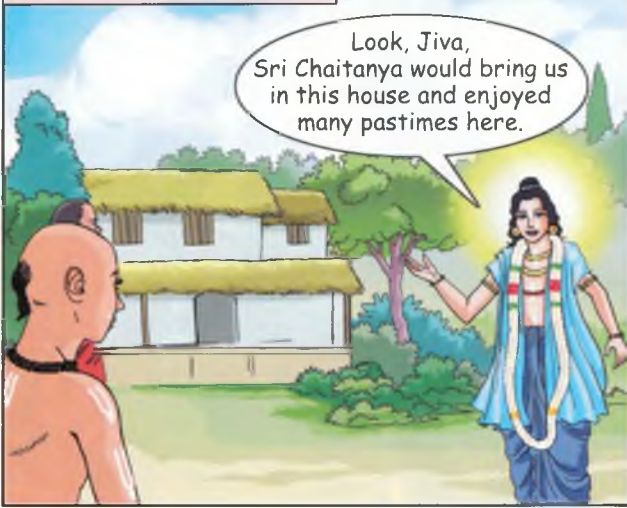




Jiva offered his prostrate obeisances to Vamsivadana.



Lord Nityananda showed Jiva the house of Jagannatha Misra.



And adjacent to the house...



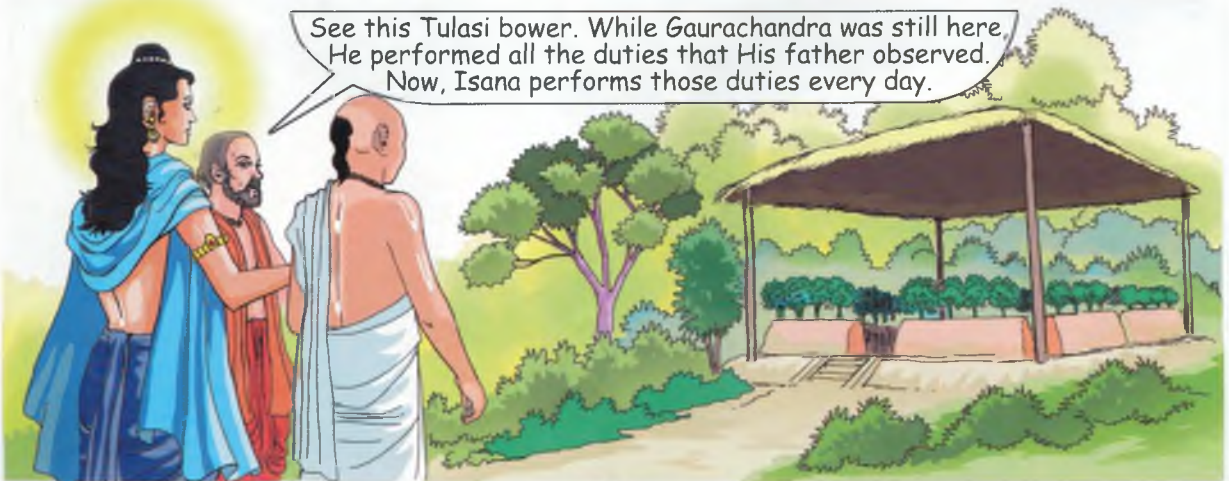
"Here he would worship Lord Vishnu daily."

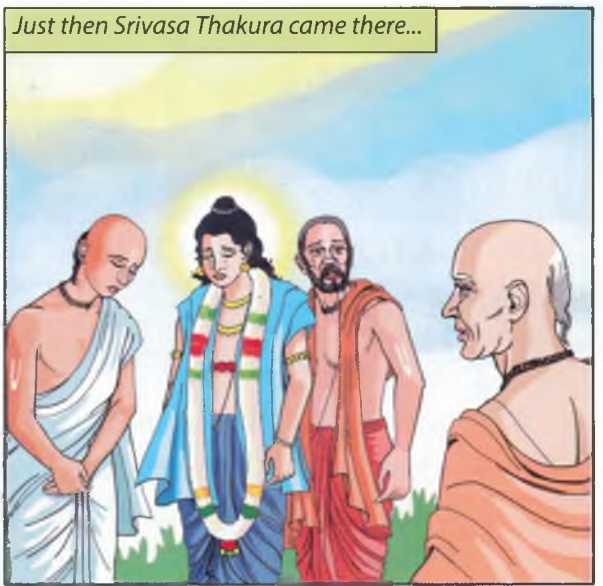
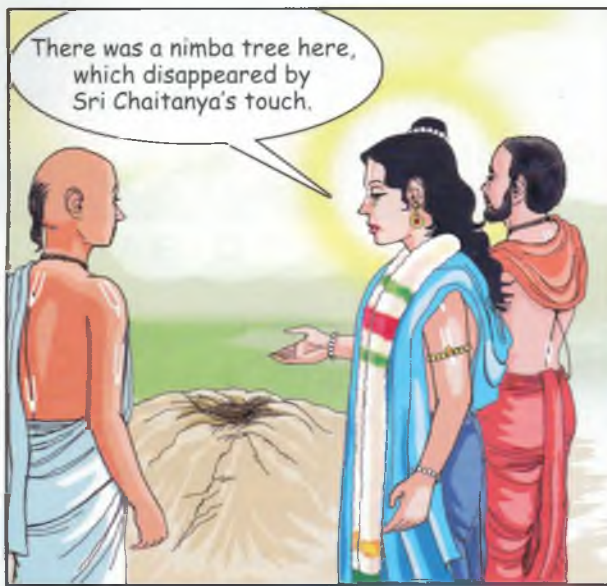


"And in this house, he used to serve his guests."



See this Tulasi bower. While Gaurachandra was still here He performed all the duties that His father observed. Now, Isana performs those duties every day.





To be continued...

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My sincerest gratitude to my Spiritual Master, His Holiness Jayapataka Swami; he has been a guiding force in every sequence of this illustrated book. His valuable contribution in depicting the pastimes of Lord Chaitanya has not only increased the spiritual quotient of the book but will also serve to enhance the spiritual upliftment of the reader.

I thank His Grace Jananivas Prabhu for his intrinsic contribution on revelation of the glories of Sri Navadvipa Dham in every page of the book. These are great insights on the potency of the dham for all readers, especially the younger ones.

This book would not have been possible without the expertise and encouragement of His Grace Vidvan Gauranga Prabhu. Words cannot express my gratitude to him for his research in sastric evidence, and assistance in carving to life the deity of this manuscript.

My deepest appreciation to Tulsi Books for their whole hearted support in publishing the book to maintain the spiritual welfare of the future generation.

Your Ever Servant,
Shyama Rasika Das

ABHAY CHARAN RATH

CHARIOT FESTIVAL OF ABHAY CHARAN DE

Features

- * 1300 pieces of blocks
- * Similar to Puri Jagannath Rath (Nandighosha)
- * 16 Wheels * 4 Horses * Movable in any surface
- * With Guide to build * Dismantable
- * Colorful Conopy Cloth
- with decorative extension cloth
- * Foam XL Sheet Platform * Traditional art-work on Pillars
- * Water Proof * 4.5 feet height
- * 3.25 Feet Square Base

For Future Generation

10 Yrs+



RATH

CONSTRUCTION GAME!

Celebrate Your Own Ratha-yatra!

Construct a Chariot for your Lord Jagannath!



Puzzle Games
Memory Games
Water Proof
Plastic Games
and much more...



For more details Contact: Abhay Charan Games, Vraja Krishna Das, +91 77975 01426
abhaycharan.games@gmail.com +91 75015 28560



Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu appeared in the land of Bharata-varsa, specifically in Bengal, in the district of Nadia, where Navadvipa is situated. It is therefore to be concluded, as stated by Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura, that within this universe, this earth is the best planet, and on this planet the land of Bharata-varsa is the best; in the land of Bharata-varsa, Bengal is still better, in Bengal the district of Nadia is still better, and in Nadia the best place is Navadvipa because Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu appeared there to inaugurate the performance of the sacrifice of chanting the Hare Krishna Mahamantra.

- His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

Abhay Charan Comics

Tulsi
Books

Printed and published by:

TULSI BOOKS (A Division of Sri Tulsi Trust)

7, K.M. Munshi Marg, Girgaon Chowpatty, Mumbai - 400007

Phone: +91 9930141141 or 9867455711

Email: info@tulsibooks.com

Online Store: www.tulsibooks.com

© 2013 TULSI BOOKS (A Division of Sri Tulsi Trust). All rights reserved.

No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without permission from the publisher.

ISBN 978-93-81283-11-0



9 789381 283110