

All Glories to Sri Sri Guru & Gauranga
(To Represent Pure Devotional Thoughts of India)

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GAUDIYA MISSION (USA)

Newsletter August 2009 Janmashtami

Your personal invitation to Janmashtami 2009 Celebrations:

Dear Devotees and Well Wishers,
Please accept our humble greetings under the guidance of His Divine Grace B. S. Paribrajak Maharaj, President of the Gaudiya Mission. It is our pleasure to invite you, your family and friends to this year's Sri Krishna Janmashtami and Sri Radhashtami celebrations. This will be a great opportunity to remember and serve Sri Sri Radha-Krishna in a spiritual atmosphere. To mark these auspicious occasions, many wonderful food preparations will be offered to the Lord Sri Krishna and Sri Radharani and the Prasad will be distributed to all devotees congregating to worship Them. Please find enclosed the program and gift coupon for your donation. Your donation will contribute towards the celebrations and the personal service of the Lordships.
Hoping to see you on these auspicious days.

Sincerely,
B. S. Sanyasi Maharaj
(Secretary, Gaudiya Mission Worldwide
And President, Gaudiya Mission USA)

Upcoming Events:

Sri Krishna Janmashtami	August 13, 2009
Sri Radha Ashtami	August 27, 2009
Feast	August 29, 2009

Sri Krishna's Appearance:

Who is Krishna? A succinct reply will be, He is the God of all Gods. He is the Supreme Godhead. All things emanate from Him and He pervades all. Janmashtami is the day when the Supreme Lord appeared in this world. His birth never took place in the ordinary sense of the world. He bestowed His mercy on Nanda and Yashomati. He played such tender Pastimes in their place. By being born as the son of Devaki and Vasudev, He played birth Pastime in the prison house at Mathura. One, who has no beginning, or end i.e birth or dissolution, plays birth Pastimes. This is the wonder! He is above three qualities (guna) of maya. Still he displays attributes, which are incomprehensible even to Brahma and Shiva. We can understand and observe the advent Pastime of the Supreme Lord by His own causeless mercy which comes down on the jiva by descending process. The same pastime cannot be observed by us how much ever we try on our own by the ascending process. The Lord's appearance Pastime is an example of His infinite mercy. He discarded all His opulence and Divinity. Ruled only by love, filled with extreme kindness and compassion for his devotees, He manifested Himself in this world. He had played many such Pastimes before. His own Associates like Indra and Shiva approached Vishnu in the milky ocean and implored Him with tearful prayers. Pleased by their entreaties, Shridhishayi Vishnu incarnated Himself. Evidences of these Pastimes are found in Srimad Bhagwat and other scriptures. Out of his infinite mercy, the Supreme Lord made His advent on Janmashtami day. Shri Krishna

Chandra appeared with 64 qualities in its fullest extent. He can only be known by experience and realization. This experience can be obtained only by devotion through the tongue of a devotee with serving propensity, by singing and glorifying His form, Attributes and Pastimes, etc.

Nanda and Yashoda of Gokul had captivated His heart by virtue of their pure affection and had Him bound by their love. On Janmashtami, we will make all endeavors to follow and emulate the example set by them so that we can have a darshan of the Advent of the Supreme Lord.

When Sri Krishna appears in our hearts, then we will have no attraction for the mundane world. One cannot be attracted to two opposite poles. When we get the darshan of the Lord, when we are attracted and pulled in His direction, the illusory mundane world will recede away further. This is the definition of 'maya'. Devotion is born and nurtured only in the association of devotees. Where does the Supreme Lord make His appearance – where many like minded devotees gather and sing His glories, there He is found!

Sri Radha Ashtami:

Srimati Radharani is the captivating, enchanting and charming potency of Krishna. Radharani is Sri Krishna Himself. But, she is the pleasure giving potency of the Supreme Lord. Sri Krishna is nourished and enriched by the pleasure giving potency of Srimati Radharani. The supreme sentiment of the pleasure of giving potency is known as 'maha bhav' and Srimati Radharani is in principle, Sri Krishna Himself. Yet, she is the Lord who serves.

Sri Gaur Sundar was the favorite Lord of Sri Krishnadas Kaviraj who composed the epic of the Lord's pastimes, Sri Chaitanya Charitamritam. He had realized that Gaur Sundar was none other than Sri Krishna, and Sri Gaur Sundar was filled with the sentiment of Srimati Radharani and revealed the intimate details regarding Sri Krishna and the glories of His Name.

The desire to experience these sentiments made Sri Krishna appear as Sri Gaur and Srimati Radharani is instrumental in this incarnation. She lends Her sentiments and her beautiful splendor to Sri Gaur. Srimati Radharani is the greatest worshipper of Sri Krishna. Sri Krishna's potency is manifested in

many degrees. Right from Sri Lakshmi to many more manifestations of His potency are all a fraction or a fraction of a fraction of Srimati Radharani.

- Srila Goswamidad
President and Acharya, Gaudiya Mission
(Excerpts from Harikathamritam)

Gaudiya Mission USA:

Gaudiya Mission is a religious, charitable organization established, with a motive to practice and propagate the philosophy of 'Bhagavat Dharma' and 'Gaudiya Vaishnavism' as propounded by Sriman Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. It aims to enlighten the people of the world with this universal, all-encompassing, sublime religion preaching universal peace, harmony and brotherhood on the plane of transcendence under the guidance of the present Acharya and President Om Vishnupad Paramhansa 108 Sri Srimad Bhakti Suhrid Paribrajak Maharaj.

In the year 2006 Mrs. Sukla Ghosh expressed her will to donate a piece of land with two storied building (her own house) at 180 Fulton Avenue, Rochester New York U.S.A to the Mission. The property was donated by her in the month of July 2007. The new branch was named as "Sri Bhakti Srirup Bhagabat Gaudiya Math" after Ex-president Om Vishnupad Paramhansa 108 Sri Srimad Bhakti Srirup Bhagabat Goswami Maharaj. The new branch was inaugurated by the merciful lotus hands of His divine grace Om Vishnupad Paramhansa 108 Sri Srimad Bhakti Suhrid Paribrajak Maharaj On 22nd September, 2007. Gaudiya Mission USA was recognized as a Non-Profit Public Charitable organization by Internal Revenue Service (IRS) effective September 03, 2008. On April 23rd 2008, Religious (R1) visa petition was approved for Shri Dilip C. Basak to serve as mission priest, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). In the past year, Gaudiya Mission USA celebrated Janmashtami on August 23, 2008, followed by a feast on August 31st. October 28th 2008 was the auspicious occasion of Annakoot Mahotsav that was followed by a large gathering of devotees for a feast on November 2nd. In the year 2009, the festivities were at pinnacle during Gaur Jayanti on March 10th, followed by a feast on March 29th.

Schedule of Events

Thursday, August 13th, 2009: Sri Krishna Janmashtami

- 7:30 PM Parikrama
8:00 PM Kirtan
9:00 PM Maha-Aarati
9:30 PM Kirtan
10:30 PM Janmashtami Katha
11:30 PM Aarati
12:00 AM Maha-Prasad
(Packed Prasad will be available throughout the evening).

Thursday, August 27th, 2009: Sri Radha Ashtami

- 7:30 PM Parikrama
8:00 PM Aarati
8:30 PM Radha Ashtami Katha
9:00 PM Maha-Aarati
9:30 PM Maha-Prasad

Saturday, August 29th, 2009: Feast

- 10:30 AM Katha
11:00 AM Kirtan
12:00 PM Bhog Aarati
12:30 PM Maha-Prasad

Donation Slip

Yes, I would like to present Lord Sri Krishna with the following gift which will be used for His festival celebrations. Kindly make your check payable to Gaudiya Mission.

\$21 \$31 \$51 \$101 Other \$ _____

I would also like to contribute a *Monthly* donation of \$ _____ in service of His Lordship.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIPCODE: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

Please mail your checks to: **Gaudiya Mission USA**

180 Fulton Avenue, Rochester NY 146143

Phone: (585)458-8053

Email: gaudiyamissionusa@gmail.com

Home Programs

When Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu established and promoted the Harinama Sankirtana movement, He did so by visiting devotee's homes and conducting programs there. In the same way, we at Gaudiya Mission USA are committed to providing an environment in which our community can cultivate their spiritual lives here at the Temple as well as at home. We are planning to organize kirtans and discourses at devotee's homes across the Greater Rochester area and would encourage everyone to participate.

Please contact Gaudiya Mission USA at (585) 458-8053 or gaudyamissionusa@gmail.com to schedule a home program.

Deity Singhasan (Thorne)

Gaudiya Mission USA is seeking sponsors for a Sinhasan for the deities. Your donation will contribute towards the service of His Lordship and your generosity would bring to you the mercy of the Supreme Lord.

Please contact Gaudiya Mission USA at (585) 458-8053 or gaudyamissionusa@gmail.com to find out how to contribute.

Directions

From Greater Rochester Airport

1. Head east on Airport Rd toward E Airport Rd/Eastside Way
2. Slight right to stay on Airport Rd
3. Continue on Buell Rd
4. Take the ramp onto I-390 N
5. Continue on RT-390 N
6. Take exit 21 for State Hwy 31/Lyell Ave
7. Turn right at Lyell Ave/RT-31 (signs for ROCHESTER)
8. Continue to follow Lyell Ave
9. Turn left at Dewey Ave
10. Turn right at Locust St
11. Turn left at Fulton Ave (We are on the right).

From RT-104

1. Turn to Lake Ave South (Towards Downtown)
2. Turn right at Ravine Ave
3. Turn left at Fulton Ave (We are on the left).

From Buffalo or Albany/Syracuse via NY Throughway (Interstate-90)

1. Take Exit 46 for I-390
2. After Toll Booth take the ramp onto I-390 N
3. Continue on RT-390 N
4. Take exit 21 for State Hwy 31/Lyell Ave
5. Turn right at Lyell Ave/RT-31 (signs for ROCHESTER)
6. Continue to follow Lyell Ave
7. Turn left at Dewey Ave
8. Turn right at Locust St
9. Turn left at Fulton Ave (We are on the right).

From Rochester Amtrak Station

1. Head southwest on Central Ave toward St Paul St
2. Turn right at St Paul St
3. Turn left at Bausch St/Smith St
4. Turn right at Lake Ave
5. Turn left at Phelps Ave
6. Turn right at Fulton Ave (We are on the right).