

श्रीमद्रामायणं समर्थरामदासविरचितम्

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INTRODUCTION:-

Srimad Bhagavatam says (11-5-38) that men who were born in Krita and other earlier ages long to be born in Kali Yuga for it is in Kali that great devotees of the Lord appear.

कृतादिषु प्रजं राजन् कलविष्यन्ति संभवम्
कलौ भवतु भविष्यन्ति नारायणपरायणाः

True to this statement the history of India is marked by the appearance of a galaxy of great devotees and saints from time to time. They had attained the ultimate goal of life. Out of compassion for others who are stuck in the mire of samsara they offer solace by words that soothe and offer a way out of the predicament. Swamy Ramdas was one such great devotee who graced this land and showed the path of devotion. He lived in the Maharashtra state in the 17th century. His intense devotion to Lord Rama and hard spiritual practices got him the darsan of Lord Rama. He had composed several works which are very popular. The story is that his mother tried to get him married but without success. His mind was steeped in devotion to Lord Rama. There was no way for him to get involved in family life. On one such occasion he tried to run away from home. His distraught mother cried and asked if he has been possessed by any spirit that he is behaving in this manner. The young Ramdas said that indeed he has been possessed by a spirit. In the verses that follow he described

Lord Rama who had taken hold of his mind leaving no room for any other thought. માતૃભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ This incident should bring to our mind the description of child Prahlada in Srimad Bhagavatam (7-4-36) Even as a child he had no desire to play with toys and dolls as children of his age do, but his mind was possessed by the spirit called Sri Krishna. He did not see the world as we see it. Such was the case with Swami Ramdas also.

ન્યસ્તક્રીડનકો બાલો જડવત્તન્મનસ્તયા ॥
કૃષ્ણગ્રહગૃહીતાત્મા ન વેદ જગદ્દિદૃશમ્ ॥

as being possessed by Sri Krishna. Now let us see verses that describe the spirit that had seized Swami Ramdas.

વૈકુણ્ઠૈકઃ પુરા ભૂમૌ યોડયોધ્યાયામવાતરત્ ॥
કૌસલ્યાયાઃ સ્તનં પાતું માતૃભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૧ ॥

કૌશિકસ્યાશ્રમં યાસ્યન્ યો દૃષ્ટ્વા પથિ દારુણામ્ ॥
તાટકં નિજઘાનાશુ માતૃભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૨ ॥

યસ્ય પાદબ્જસંસ્પર્શાદ્ ગચ્છતો વિપિનાધ્વના ॥
શિલાડમલાડમૂલ્લલના માતૃભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૩ ॥

જનકસ્ય પુરં ગત્વા યો બભ્રુજૈશ્વરં ધનુઃ ॥
ઉપયેમે ચ વદેહી માતૃભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૪ ॥

સન્ત્રસ્તો ભાર્ગવો યસ્માદ્ધનુર્યસમૈ સમર્પયત્ ॥
યસ્મિન્ ન્યધાત્ સ્વકં તેજો માતર્ભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૫ ॥

કૃતપ્રતિશ્રવાદ્ભ્રશ્યેત્ કૈકેયૈ ન પિતા મમ ॥
ઈતિ યોઽભૂદ્દરણ્યૌકઃ માતર્ભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૬ ॥

ચતુર્દશસમા ભ્રામ્યંસ્તપસ્વી યો વને સ્થિતઃ ॥
લક્ષ્મણેનાન્વિતઃ નિત્યં માતર્ભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૭ ॥

સુગ્રીવો રક્ષિતો યેન વાલી સ્વર્ગાતિથિઃ કૃતઃ ॥
બબન્ધે સેતુના સિન્ધુઃ માતર્ભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૮ ॥

રાવણં સકુલં હત્વા યોઽભ્યરક્ષદ્વિભીષણમ્ ॥
અમૂચત્ સુરાન્ બન્ધાત્ માતર્ભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૯ ॥

આદાય યશ્ચ વામાર્જીં ય્યાલ સરયૂતટમ્ ॥
સજ્જતો ભરતેનાભૂન્માતર્ભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૧૦ ॥

હૃદયં સર્વભૂતાનાં રામરાજ ઈતિ શ્રૂતઃ ॥
શલાઘ્યતે રમદાસેન માતર્ભૂતં સ એવ મે ॥ ૧૧ ॥

॥ ઐ તત્સત્ ॥

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