



Bhakti



Radha Madhav Society

www.radhamadhavsociety.org

April - June 2009

In Memory of Amma Ji

You could hear the ringing of bells in Her gentle voice. When She laughed the entire room lit up and everyone laughed with Her. When She walked She was the picture of poise and grace. She could melt your heart by simply calling out your name. Her compassion was infinite. Shri Maharaj Ji would say to us, "Wake up early and do not sleep more than five hours a night." Amma would say, "You must be tired; go and rest."

Her skin was as soft as rose petals. We all marveled at how beautiful She was even at an advanced age. However, Her inner beauty far surpassed Her external beauty. She was gentle and forgiving. And She knew only how to give. We would ask, "What do you need, Amma?" She would say, "Nothing." That was the answer She always gave, yet She was pleased with the smallest gift given to Her.

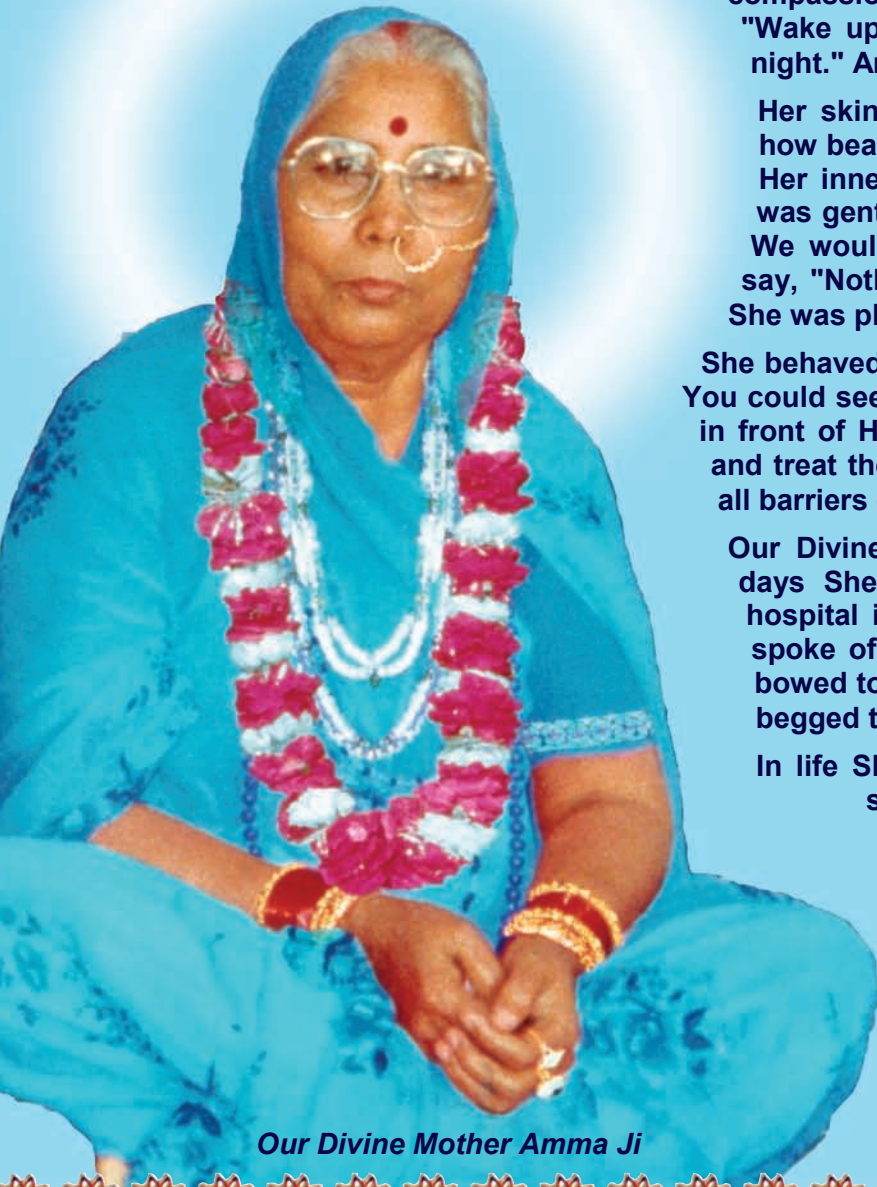
She behaved equally with everyone, and put everyone at ease. You could see a billionaire sitting right next to a penniless man in front of Her. She would speak with them in the same way and treat them both equally. Her merciful nature transcended all barriers of language and dialect.

Our Divine Mother was always selfless. Even in Her final days She thought only of the welfare of others. In the hospital intensive care unit She preached about love and spoke of devotion. Doctors, nurses, orderlies and guards bowed to Her divinity and understood why so many people begged to have just a glimpse of Her.

In life She had drawn thousands of people towards Her-self. Even in death She brought people together. The ones who had not been seen in years suddenly became visible as they gathered to grieve Her passing and honor the extraordinary love they had received from Her.

Her loss is irreplaceable. Our lives will never be the same again.

In memory of our Precious Mother,
Siddheshvari Devi



Our Divine Mother Amma Ji

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Shrimati Padma Tripathi, lovingly known as Amma Ji, concluded Her leelas in the material realm and returned to the Divine Abode of Radha Krishna. She had been ailing for a few weeks, and decided to leave Her corporeal body at 3:35 AM on the 13th of March, 2009.

Amma Ji descended to assist Maharaj Ji in his mission of distributing Divine Love of Radha Krishna on this planet. She was born on Divali day in the year 1925 in the small village of Leelapur, about 100 kilometers from Mangarh. Her father was a great Sanskrit scholar and devotee. She was married to Maharaj Ji in Her childhood, in accordance with the tradition of child marriage prevalent in Uttar Pradesh at that time. In Her youth, She stayed mostly in Mangarh, while Maharaj Ji would go on long preaching tours.

As the satsang grew and thousands of satsangees became a part of the mission, Amma Ji showered Her love on them, and helped them in their devotion to Maharaj Ji. While Maharaj Ji, as the perfect Spiritual Master, was often as hard as a thunderbolt, Amma Ji was the soft, forgiving, patient and caring mother whose love could always be counted upon. While Maharaj Ji maintained an externally strict profile, Amma Ji provided the gentle human touch that gave so much strength to the devotees in their arduous journey to God-realization.

Amma Ji's life was always one of sacrifice for Her Divine Beloved. She never complained about having no personal time with Maharaj Ji. His happiness was Her only consideration throughout Her life, and She sacrificed Her all for it. She was thus the epitome of purity, and of selfless devotion to Her Divine husband. Amma Ji's causeless and oceanic love could not be described in words. While Maharaj Ji's fame spread throughout the world, and devotees came in hordes from many countries, She expanded Her heart to give a place to everyone. Thus She is described as "Jagadamba" or Mother of the Universe.

Amma Ji's visible pastimes are no longer manifest on the earthly plane. However, in the hearts of the devotees, She will continue to live, in loving memories of Her Names, Form, Virtues, Pastimes, and Abode. When we pray to Her to bestow on us true love for Guru and God, we know that She will always be there to respond as generously as She did during Her lifetime.



अम्मा जी की आरती

आरती माँ पद्मा की कीजै, जय जय जय जगदम्बा की जै ।

लीलापुर में जनम लियो है,
रामकृपालुहिं बरन कियो है ।

धन्य धन्य मनगढ़ धरणि जहँ सदगुरु दम्पति वास कियो है ।
मनगढ़ धाम वास मोहिं दीजै, जय जय जय जगदम्बा की जै ।

माँग सिन्दूर अरुणिमा सोहत,
बिन्दी लाल भाल मन मोहत ।

अनुपमेय माधुर्य गौर तनु, जगद्गुरुहिं मन मोहि लियो है ।
मोहँ दोड चरनन रज दीजै, जय जय जय जगदम्बा की जै ।

नीली सारी जरद किनारी,
तापै कँचुकि की छवि न्यारी ।

कानन करनफूल हीरन को, कंठी गल पिय चित्र छयो है ।
मोहँ दोड अपनो कर लीजै, जय जय जय जगदम्बा की जै ।

माँ मूरति निष्काम प्रेम की,
धर्म पतिव्रत अचल नेम की ।

तुम्हरिहिं अनुकम्पा गुरुवर ने निज सेवा सौभाग्य दियो है ।
मोहँ दोड सेवा वर दीजै, जय जय जय जगदम्बा की जै ।



Aratī mām Padmā kī kījai,
jai jai jai jagdambā kī jai

*Let us all perform arti of our Divine Mother Padma,
the universal Mother.*

Līlāpur mem janam liyo hai,
Rām Kṛpāluhiṁ baran kiyo hai
dhanya dhanya Mangarḥ dharaṇī jaham
sadguru dampati vās kiyo hai
Mangarḥ dhām vās mohiṁ dījai,
jai jai jai jagdambā kī jai

*Our merciful Mother chose Leelapur as Her birthplace,
and was wedded to Shri Ram Kripalu. Blessed is
Mangarḥ, the village the Divine Couple has sanctified by
dwelling in it. O benevolent Mother! May I have the
greatest fortune of residing in Mangarḥ with Your grace.*

māmḡ sindūr aruṇimā sohat,
bindī lāl bhāl man mohat
anupameya mādhyura gaur tanu
jagadguruhiṁ man mohi liyo hai
Mohūṁ doū caranan raj dījai,
jai jai jai jagdambā kī jai

*Our Mother applies red sindoor in the parting of Her
hair, and a red 'bindi' on Her forehead.
Her unique beauty and sweetness attract the heart of*

*Jagadguru Himself. O Mother!
Bless me with the holy dust of Your lotus feet.*

nīlī sārī jarad kinārī,
tāpai kañcuki kī chavi nyārī
kānan karanaphūl hīran ko,
kaṁṭhī gal piya citra chayo hai
Mohūṁ doū apno kar dījai,
jai jai jai jagdambā kī jai

*Our Amma wears a golden-bordered blue sari, matched
with a beautiful upper garment. Her ears are adorned
with diamond earrings, and the pendant in Her
necklace carries the picture of Her beloved. May I be
accepted by both of You as Your very own!*

mām mūrati niṣkām prem kī,
dharm pativ-vrat acal nem kī
tumharihiṁ anukampā guruvar ne,
nij sevā saubhāgya diyo hai
Mohūṁ doū sevā var dījai,
jai jai jai jagdambā kī jai

*You are the embodiment of selfless love, and complete
dedication to Your divine husband. It is due to Your
grace, Mother, that my Guru has granted me His
service. O my precious Amma! Bless me so that I may
serve You both.*

Highlights of the New Year Retreat

Under the guidance of Siddheshvari Devi Ji, Radha Madhav Society hosted its first ever week-long New Year's retreat in Mississippi from December 25th, 2008 to January 1st, 2009. The retreat was attended by both seasoned devotees and many local newcomers. The week was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Devotees stayed in cabins dotted along a beautiful lake, and enjoyed warm weather and sunshine throughout the week.



Some of the highlights of the New Year's retreat included Nagar Sankeertan (outdoor dancing and chanting of the holy name), celebration of Diwali with a group aarti, antakshari on Shri Maharaj ji's bhajans, a delightful cultural program, and a wonderful glimpse into the life of Shri Chaitanya Mahabrabhu in a devotional film made in Bengal in 1959. The retreat ended in an unforgettable way as we brought in the New Year with a soul stirring chanting session of 'Hari Bol'.

As the clock struck midnight we proceeded with a group aarti, celebrated with festive New Year's cakes, and continued into the night with fun and dancing. All the participants felt truly blessed to bring in the New Year in such a special and devotional way.



Sanatan Goswami left Mathura to go to Neelanchal to meet Shri Chaitanya Mahabrabhu. The trip was extremely difficult. Sometimes he got only dry *chana*, i.e. dry chick-peas to eat and sometimes he had to go hungry all day long. Sometimes he found only dirty water to drink. Due to these conditions, after a few days, sores appeared all over his body. The sores were itchy and whenever he scratched them, puss oozed out of them.

Seeing his body deteriorate in this manner, Sanatan Goswami became

Sanatan Goswami

detached from it. As he walked towards his destination, he thought to himself, "I belong to a low caste and my body is also not worthy to be presented to Mahabrabhu Ji. I shall lay down before Lord Jagannath during the chariot procession and give up this body. I shall behold the infinitely beautiful Lord as well the Ocean of Grace, Mahabrabhu Ji. What better place to leave the body than under the Lord's chariot!" So thinking, Sanatan Goswami went to meet Haridas Ji. Sanatan Goswami prostrated before him. Haridasji also recognized him and picked him up. Realizing his eagerness to meet Mahabrabhu Ji, Haridasji said, "Sanatan, Mahabrabhu Ji will be coming shortly." Just then Mahabrabhu Ji, along with his followers, came to meet Haridas. Both, Sanatan Goswami and Haridas prostrated before Mahabrabhu Ji. Mahabrabhu Ji picked up Haridas and hugged him. Haridas said, "My

Lord, this is Sanatan Goswami. Seeing Sanatan, Mahabrabhu Ji was extremely happy. As Mahabrabhu Ji stepped forward to embrace him, Sanatan took a step back and said, "My Lord, please don't touch me. I am born in a low caste and my body is filled with blisters." But Mahabrabhu Ji did not listen to him and forcibly embraced him. The puss from his sores transferred to Mahabrabhu Ji's body.

Mahabrabhu Ji came to visit both devotees every day and brought them divine Prasad from the temple. One day, suddenly Mahabrabhu Ji said, "Sanatan, you will not achieve God realization by giving up your body. If God could be realized just by giving up one's body, many people would do it. God can only be realized by devotion. Giving up one's body is a *tamsic* action. God cannot be realized by *tamsic* or *rajasic* actions."

Hindu Youth Camp 2009

***Summer is fast approaching!
It's time to start making plans for summer-time family fun!***

Would you like your children to learn about Hindu culture and values, the fundamentals of Hinduism, prayers, Hindu festivals, arts and crafts, yoga and Indian musical instruments in a fun and friendly atmosphere?

Join us for our week long Hindu Youth Camp in beautiful Indian Springs State Park near Atlanta. The camp is for children 5 to 15 years of age and will be guided by Siddheshvari Devi Ji.

Saturday, June 27 - Saturday, July 4, 2009
Indian Springs State Park
678 Lake Clark Road
Flovilla, GA 30216
(approx. 50 miles southeast of Atlanta)

Your child will enjoy the following activities at camp:

- Daily prayer and bhajan meditation
- Nagar Sankeertan
- Outdoor fun
- Games that are played in India, such as Cricket, Pitthu, Kho-Kho, and Kabaddi
- Arts and Crafts
- Learn to play musical instruments like harmonium, Indian drum and cymbals
- Basics of Hindi language
- Learn what it means to be a Hindu
- Learn Prayers and Bhajans
- Yoga Postures & Breathing Exercises
- Fun-filled celebration of Hindu festivals
- Friendship of fellow children with similar values
- Guidance of loving and caring volunteer teachers

Accompanying parents can participate in bhajans, Yoga and question-answer sessions with Didi Ji.

Registration

For non-members

Early registration (up to May 31, 2009)

\$150 for 1 child
\$250 for 2 or more children from same family.
\$50 per child per day for partial attendance.

Regular Registration (after May 31, 2009)

\$200 for 1 child
\$300 for 2 or more children from same family.
\$75 per child per day for partial attendance.

For members

Life members get 50% discount on the above mentioned registration fees.

Annual members get 10% discount on the above mentioned registration fees.

Please note that the cost of one accompanying adult is included in these charges.

To register, send email to secretary@radhamadhavsociety.org or call (404) 358-5316



True Devotion



In India which is hailed as the most spiritual country in the world, there are temples in every town and village. In fact there is a small altar in every Hindu home. There appears to be a lot of devotion in daily life. God's name is chanted at the moment of birth and at the time of death. Then why is there so much corruption in India?

The main cause is ignorance of the people and those who guide them. The people who guide the general public in matters of devotion are mostly ignorant themselves. As per their knowledge, devotion is something to be performed by the body. They teach people that the practice of devotion entails visiting various temples built on high hills in far off places, reading various scriptures, listening to divine stories by story tellers and performing various rituals. This is the extent of their knowledge and they guide the public on the same path. 99% of the people who appear to be practicing devotion are doing so physically, involving only their sense organs.

However, scriptures guide us very clearly regarding the method of doing devotion.

मन एव मनुष्याणां कारणं बन्धमोक्षयोः

'Mind alone is the reason behind bondage to the material world as well as liberation from it.'

The mind itself is the one that performs all our actions. Actions performed by the mind are noted in our record of actions maintained by God. It is based on the actions performed by the mind that we receive punishment or reward. The one enjoying the reward and suffering the punishment is just the mind.

We stand in the temple and say to God – *You are my only mother and father.* We are telling blatant lies to God. Our mind is completely attached to the world and family members. We speak fancy words before God, but those words do not come from our heart. We do not even mean one word of what we are saying. This is just a physical drill. Devotion done by just the body is not considered devotion. How is it possible to practice devotion to God with a mind attached completely to the material world?

The main point to remember is that devotion has to be done with the mind. Sense organs can be taken along if you wish. But if devotion is done only by sense organs (like reading 20 pages of the Gita every day), this will not be counted as devotion. It will be considered multiplication into zero. Zero multiplied into zero is zero, and zero multiplied into a million is also zero. The result will always be zero.

Just like we love our family members, our wealth and even our own body, we should make an attempt to love God. The manner of loving is the same, whether it be the divine or the material world. There is no difference. Our only problem is that we have decided in our mind that the world is ours and therefore we are channelling all our love towards the world. If we realize that we are not the body, but the soul, we will understand that our happiness lies in the divine and our mind will consider God and not the transient world to be ours.

True devotion will then begin.

***“Devotion to God must be exclusive.
The mind must not be attached to anything or anyone
except to Devotion, God and Guru.”***

Jagadguru Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj





Radha Madhav Society

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Yearly Membership (\$51)

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Visit our new gift shop at: <http://www.radhamadhavsociety.org/shop>

We try our best to provide you with diverse resources to assist you in your pursuit of spiritual fulfillment. These resources include:



- Books by Jagadguru Shri Kripalu Ji Maharaj
- Audio CDs and DVDs of lectures in English as well as Hindi
- Audio CDs and DVDs of keertans and bhajans

Items are shipped only within USA by USPS Priority Mail or Media Mail. Priority Mail takes about 2-3 days. Media Mail is much cheaper compared to Priority Mail but can take up to 8 business days for delivery.



Shri Maharaj Ji

Watch the Divine discourses of Shri Maharaj Ji on:
TV ASIA Monday - Friday 9 am – 9:30 am EST
Saturday & Sunday 10 am – 10:30 am EST
and AAJ TAK Channel seven days a week at 9 pm EST

Guidance

You may direct your spiritual inquiries to Didi Ji by sending e-mail to:
s_didi@radhamadhavsociety.org

Didi Ji's Lectures

Didi Ji conducts lecture programs and home satsangs throughout North America, the West Indies, Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia. To request Didi Ji's lectures and satsangs in your area contact:
secretary@radhamadhavsociety.org

For Your Knowledge & Spiritual Practice

Radha Madhav Society offers literature as well as lectures, keertans and bhajans in CD and DVD formats. To shop visit our online store at: <http://www.radhamadhavsociety.org/shop>

Experience Bhakti

Join devotees in your area for weekly satsangs. Radha Madhav Society also conducts Bhakti retreats throughout the year.

Keep In Touch

To receive our newsletter BHAKTI and Didi Ji's weekly e-mail inspiration message, and to be notified of Didi Ji's programs in your area, join our mailing list by sending your full name, complete postal address, phone number(s) and e-mail address to:
secretary@radhamadhavsociety.org

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बनी कस जोरी युगल-किशोर ।



हरि- गुरु का
रूपध्यान करते
हुये रोकर ही
साधना करनी है।
स्वयं को अति पतित,
दीन मानना है।

*Accepting himself to
be a destitute soul a
seeker must practice
devotion by meditating
on the divine form
of God while shedding
selfless tears.*

