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"Srimad Bhagavatam"

Discourse by Master Kumar on Sunday, the 22nd of April 2012, at Visakhapatnam.
(for private circulation to WTT members)

Canto 3:

We were discussing the creation coming down through Brahma. In that we have discussed up to the birth of Rudra and occupying 11 places in creation. We also discussed the 11 names given to the 11 Rudras and their consorts which are their strengths.

S.No.	Rudra	Consort/Strength	Meaning of names of consorts
1	Manyu	Dhi	Will
2	Manu	Vritti	Power of Behaviour
3	Mahakaal	Asana	Power of Combustion/growth
4	Mahat	Uma	Interval / pause
5	Siva (Shankara)	Niyut	Channelising power
6	Rutadhwaj	Sarpis	Procreative power
7	Uru	Ila	Limiting Power
8	Retobhav	Ambica	Conceptive power
9	Kaal	Iravathi	Power of Intuition/thought
10	Vamadeva	Sudha	Power of holding/retention
11	Dhritavrat	Deeksha	Power of continuity

- The quality of the first Rudra is Dhi which means Buddhi or discriminative will.
- The strength provided by the 2nd Rudra is behaviour. He bestows us with right behaviour depending on our orientation. We should not get stuck in the work we do. Praying to Rudra Manu helps us in having the right attitude towards our work. He gives us the ability to get into a work and also get out of it without getting stuck in it.
Abhimanyu knew the way to get into Padma Vyuham (a complex war formation) but he did not know how to come out of it. As a result he got stuck in it and died during the Mahabharat war. The sublime meaning in it is that if we know just the way to get into but not the way to get out, we get stuck and get lost in work. We should know both expansion and contraction of work.
- The 3rd Rudra is Mahakala who presides over the great cycles of time. He also presides over expansion and contraction of creation over time.

For us humans', eating helps us in growth up to certain extent but beyond that eating more actually results in decay. Mahakala Rudra gives us the strength of combustion to digest the food we eat and help us grow. He even presides over the decay of body after certain age.

- Mahat is the phenomena of appearance of something out of seeming nothingness (space) and its disappearance into nothing. We discussed about Mahat (Potential space) many times in the previous classes. All the 3 egos emerge from Mahat and the 24 principles also emerge from Mahat.

It just happens like Inhalation and Exhalation. When it disappears, it does not mean it does not exist and when it appears, it does not mean that it is the only time when it exists. Appearance and disappearance happen in succession and there is a junction point between them which is called Aquarius. There symbol for Aquarius which represents this. A woman (the divine mother or mother creation) holding a pot on her right shoulder. And that pot has openings on both front and back sides. Water enters from the back opening and comes out of the front opening. It means that the water that could not be seen before, appear later. Here water means ethers. Similarly they disappear from the front to back. The ones who recognize this mahat are called "Maharshis". The Rudra who presides over this activity is called Mahat and his consort/strength is called Uma. It is an event of change. Just like us having Day and night with an interval in between.

- The 5th strength is called Niyut. Niyut means proper utilization or channelization. One who has this strength knows how to utilize the resources and strengths in creation properly. This strength is given by Rudra Siva.
- Then there is the 6th strength called Sarpis. It is the strength of Rudra Rutadhwaj who is responsible for production of Semen in males. The thought undergoes a fiery transformation to produce this fluid in the form of snake like organisms which when enters the female results in fertilization.
- The 7th Rudra Ura helps fertilization happen.
- The 8th Rudra Retobhav with his strength Ambika gives strength for females to conceive. So all the beings are procreated due to the strength of Rudra in beings. Rudras are the basis for reproduction in creation. Without this basis, next come Prajapathis who cannot conceive beings. Prajapathis bring down all the beings into creation with the strength provided by Rudras. There are 10 Prajapathis and they bring down beings in 10 rounds.
It is also said that only those who have a strong thighs can give birth to strong child. Only women who have strong thighs can undergo normal delivery otherwise they should be operated to take the child out.
So these Rudras exist in us as energies providing us the related strengths.
- Next comes Kala Rudra with his consort Iravathi who gives us the power of thought. We say "Electric Hint". To get flashing thoughts is different from getting normal thoughts. That flashing thought is called Iravathi. Such flashing thoughts

are bestowed by Kala Rudra in time. One may get a flashing thought which may result in manifestation of brilliant work. Everyone will not get such thoughts. Only those who have the grace of this Rudra get such thoughts.

- Vamadeva Rudra and his consort Sudha give us the strength of putting into action the good thoughts that come. Some may get many good thoughts but do not have the strength to hold and put it to action in a proper manner. Some may do meditation for long periods but if he cannot contain the power that comes through that meditation, he may lose his mental balance. So this power to hold is given by Vamadeva. There is a mantra “Vamadevaya Namah” to invoke this Rudra and gain this strength.
- The last Rudra Dhritavrat with his consort Deeksha gives us the power of continuity. He gives us the strength to complete the work that is taken up without the loss of continuity.

I will repeat the 11 strengths of the 11 Rudras from the rear:

1. Deeksha - Power of continuity - A Buddhi without this strength cannot do anything. Anything you do, do it continuously. Do not leave the present practice to do something else. If you want to do something else, it should be added to what is already being done. If you add one brick to the already existing wall, it grows. If you remove one brick and add another brick, you just remain where you are. There are stories about the ones who do not have this Deeksha. One man wanted to dig a well. He started at a place. Someone advised him to start somewhere else and he leave this place and starts at another place. He leaves that as well and starts at another place on someone else advice and he goes on and on like that. So all the time is spent but he ended up with no well. We should not end up like that. Our life gets wasted if we do each work on a part time basis.
2. Sudha - Power to contain a thought and manifest it into an action. Not only thought, we should be able to contain whatever we get like money, house, energies, name, fame, etc. This power is provided by this Rudra. If we cannot hold properly, we lose it or that may even cause us trouble.
3. Iravati - Power of thought. We also call it intuition. We may get an intuition due to this power but we should put them into action for which we require Sudha. Otherwise they just come and go. That is why we should make note of the good thoughts that we get and later put them into action. Otherwise we may forget. Intuition may come anytime and anywhere. We should be ready to receive it anytime. We should not think of it. We will not get intuition if we want to get it.
4. Ambika - Power of Conception. Everyone may not have the power to conceive normally. Only those who have the grace of this Rudra can conceive normally.
5. Ila – Power of fertilization. Some may have the power to produce Semen but not the power to fertilize. This strength is provided by this Rudra.
6. Sarpis – Procreative power

7. Niyut – Channelizing power. He gives us the strength to regulate himself as well as others. He can utilize resources properly. One who does regular prayer to Siva has this strength in abundance.
8. Uma - Power of interval
9. Asana - Power of growth
10. Vrutti - Power of behavior. Behaviour should be in accordance with Buddhi.
11. Dhi - Buddhi / Will

Apart from this, Rudra gives the power of penance. He was the first one in creation to do penance. We have the ability to do penance only by the grace of Rudra.

To be able to do very good work, we need the grace of Rudra. When our body becomes weak and cannot work anymore, we should prepare ourselves for departure. Rudra helps us in an easy departure. A devotee of Siva departs as soon as his work is complete.

Manus are all incarnations of Rudras. They take up huge activity on earth and once their activity is complete they simply leave. We also have example of Swami Vivekananda who departed at the helm of activity at the age of 30. Adi Sankaracharya also departed at the age of 30. Saint Gyaneswar left at the age of 21. They did not leave in hurry but they left because their designated work is complete. We should pray to Rudra if we have to depart at the right time without any overstay.

That is why at the age of 5, the 5 syllable Mantra of 'Om Namah Sivaya' is given so that these 11 Rudras are highly active in him. Such a person would be highly brilliant. His consciousness would expand like anything. As parents, it is our responsibility to show our children the right direction by giving them this initiation at a tender age.

So try to remember all the names of 11 Rudras, the names of their consorts, the places of their permeation and the strengths bestowed by them.

So after doing all the initial work in creation, the Rudras go into penance on the request of Brahma. They again come out of penance when the creation is to be dissolved.

The whole creation was formed due to the strength of the Lord and that strength is called Rudra.

Then Brahma continues his work. 10 sons were born out of him who help in the expansion of creation.

The following were born from out of different parts of Brahma:

1. Thumb – Daksha – Daksha means ability to work. That is we show our thumb when a work is completed successfully.
2. Thigh – Narada – He is the Master of Yoga
3. Navel – Pulaha – Pulaha means pervasion.
4. Ear – Pulastya
5. Skin – Bhrigu
6. Palm of the hand – Kratu
7. Mouth – Angirasa
8. Pulsation – Vasistha

9. Mind – Marichi

10. Eyes – Atri

They are also called Brahmas or Prajapathis. They are the ones who presides over the numbers. These is story relating to these 10 numbers. I will tell this story in the next class. I gave this story in the book “Sri Dattatreya”. You can refer to it. We will continue in the next class.

There are also detailed story of all the Prajapathis which also I will give in one of the coming classes.

-Swasthi