



The Goswamis of Vrindavan

Vrndavan Highest Paradise on Earth

Here:

**Krishna reveled in pastimes of love. His
flute maddened the animate &
inanimate with the bliss of divine love**

Brahma wanted to roll in the dust

**Many a saint realized the supreme goal
of life**

Deserted Forest After

- Restored by Krishna's grandson, Bajranabha
- History repeated itself

RAGHUNATHA
BHATTA GOSWAMI

- **Tapana Misra met Lord Chaitanya in Rampur, who told him to go to Vanarasi, where R.B. was born in 1505.**
- **Met again in 1511 When Lord Chaitanya was passing thru to Vrndavan, took R.B. (a boy of 8 years) on his lap, & instructed Tapana Misra for 10 days.**

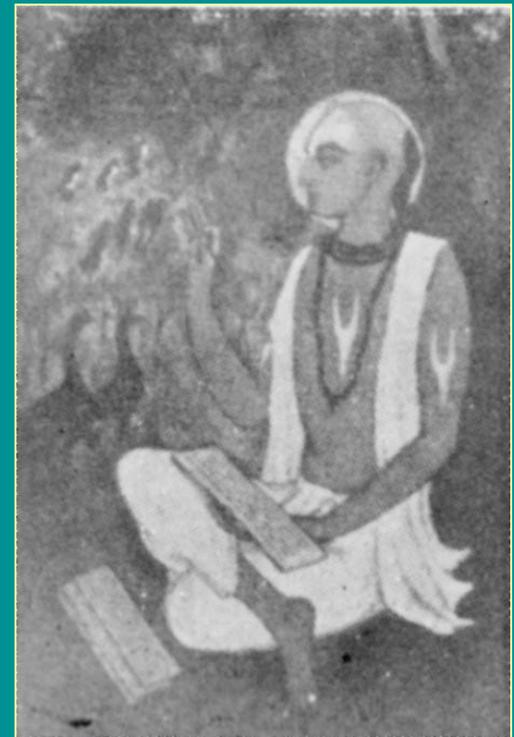
Srila Raghunatha Bhatta Gosvami was known as the "kirtan acarya". While living briefly in Jagannatha Puri he satisfied Lord Caitanya with his nectarean cooking, humble service attitude and his excellent kirtan performance. Following Lord Caitanya's request , Raghunatha Bhatta moved to Vrndavana and became an intimate friend of Srila Rupa Gosvami whom he pleased by reciting each verse of the Srimad Bhagvatam in three different sweet-sounding and melodious tunes. "He never talked nonsense or worldly matters, but always engaged in hearing about Krsna twenty-four hours a day.

Srila Raghunatha Bhatta Gosvami never cared to hear blasphemy of a vaisnava. Even when there were points to be criticized, he used to say that since all the Vaisnavas were engaged in the service of the lord, he did not mind their faults." (CC Adi 10.158p.) Srila Raghunatha Bhatta Gosvami dedicated himself to the service of Radha-Govindaji in Vrndavana. He lived in Sri Vrndavana-dham for forty-five years engaged in the service of Radha-Govinda and reciting the Srimad Bhagvatam. Lord Caitanya specifically instructed Raghunatha Bhatta Gosvami to preach about the unparalleled significance and glories of the Srimad Bhagvatam.

Puri



**Visited Puri twice & stayed
8 months each time.
Mahaprabhu gave him own
Kunti mala 1st time and
next time tulasi garland &
sent him to Vrndavan**



Vrindavana

- Raghunatha was trained in Bhagavatam and flooded area with Bhagavatam katha (discoursing & singing beautifully the verses)
- Wrote no books, always in smaranan & kirtana, nor ever talked ill of anyone
- Was so close to Sanatan & Rupa died same year, 1554



**Man Singh was
Raghunatha
Bhatta's
disciple, opened
Govindaji
Temple in 1590**



Prabodhananda Saraswati

- Brother of Venkatta Bhatta & uncle of Gopal Bhatta from Sri Rangam
- Favorite companion of Mahaprabhu
- Spent the 4 months with Mahaprabhu in Sri Rangam & came to Puri later
- Cared not for vaidhi (rules) bhakti but was raganuga

"He was full of love for the devotees, and was also very austere and renounced. His handsome form was very pleasing to see, and he was also a learned poet and scholar. No one could compare with him in the arts of singing, dancing, and playing musical instruments."

"Everyone who heard his eloquent speech became filled with happiness. These are the incomparable glories of Prabodhananda Sarasvati." After Lord Caitanya left South India and returned to Jagannatha Puri in Orissa, Prabodhananda Sarasvati became rapt in always remembering Him within his heart. Prabodhananda left his home in Ranga-ksetra and travelled to Sri Vrndavana, where he stayed in the forest of Kamyavana, and where he was soon met by his nephew Gopala Bhatta Gosvami.

Works

Chaitanya Candamrta - before appearance of Lord Chaitanya, it was not possible for any jiva to reach the shore of Radha Prema, which even Lakshmi & Brahma covet

- **Vrndavana mahimamrta**
- **Sangita madhava gitikavya**
- **Ascarya rasa prabanda**
- **Sri Stuti vyakhya**
- **Sri Kamabija kamagayatri vyakhya**
- **Sri Navadvipa satakam**
- **Sri Gitagovinda vyakhya**
- **Gopla tapini tika**
- **Radharasa sudhanidhi**

Gopla Bhatta Goswami

- Born in 1500 in family of Sri Dravida Brahmins, son of Venkatta Bhatta, a brahmana priest of Srirangam Temple in Tamil Nadu.

His uncle Prabhodananda Sarasvati also became his spiritual master.

In 1511 Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu visited Srirangam and danced in ecstasy before Lord Ranganath...

Sri Ranganatha



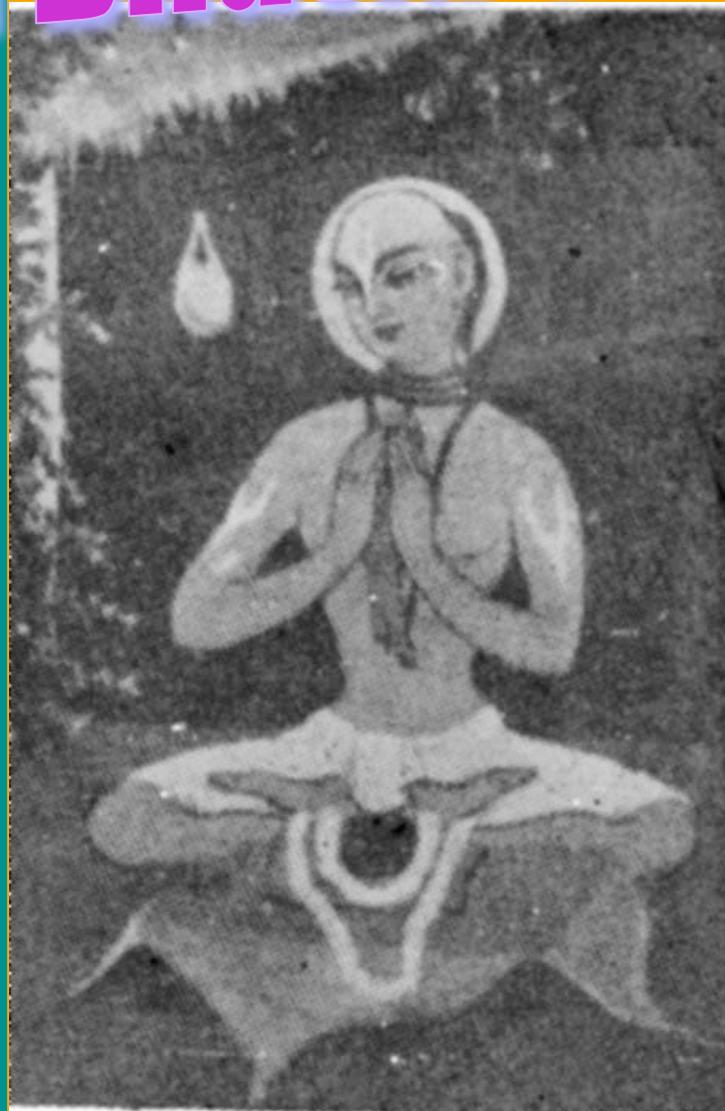
At age of 11 got Lord Chaitanya in his home for 4 months - laid out the plans for his future life



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- **Chaitanya instructed Venkatta that Lakshmi cannot approach Krishna cause of aisvarya, must approach with vraja bhava, who do not know Krishna as God. Lakshmi had the body of a goddess & tried to attain Krishna in the same body.**
- **Gopis asked Narayan “Where is Krishna?”**
- **Gopal not only great scholar but expert in poetry, dance, & music.**

Gopal Bhatta Goswami

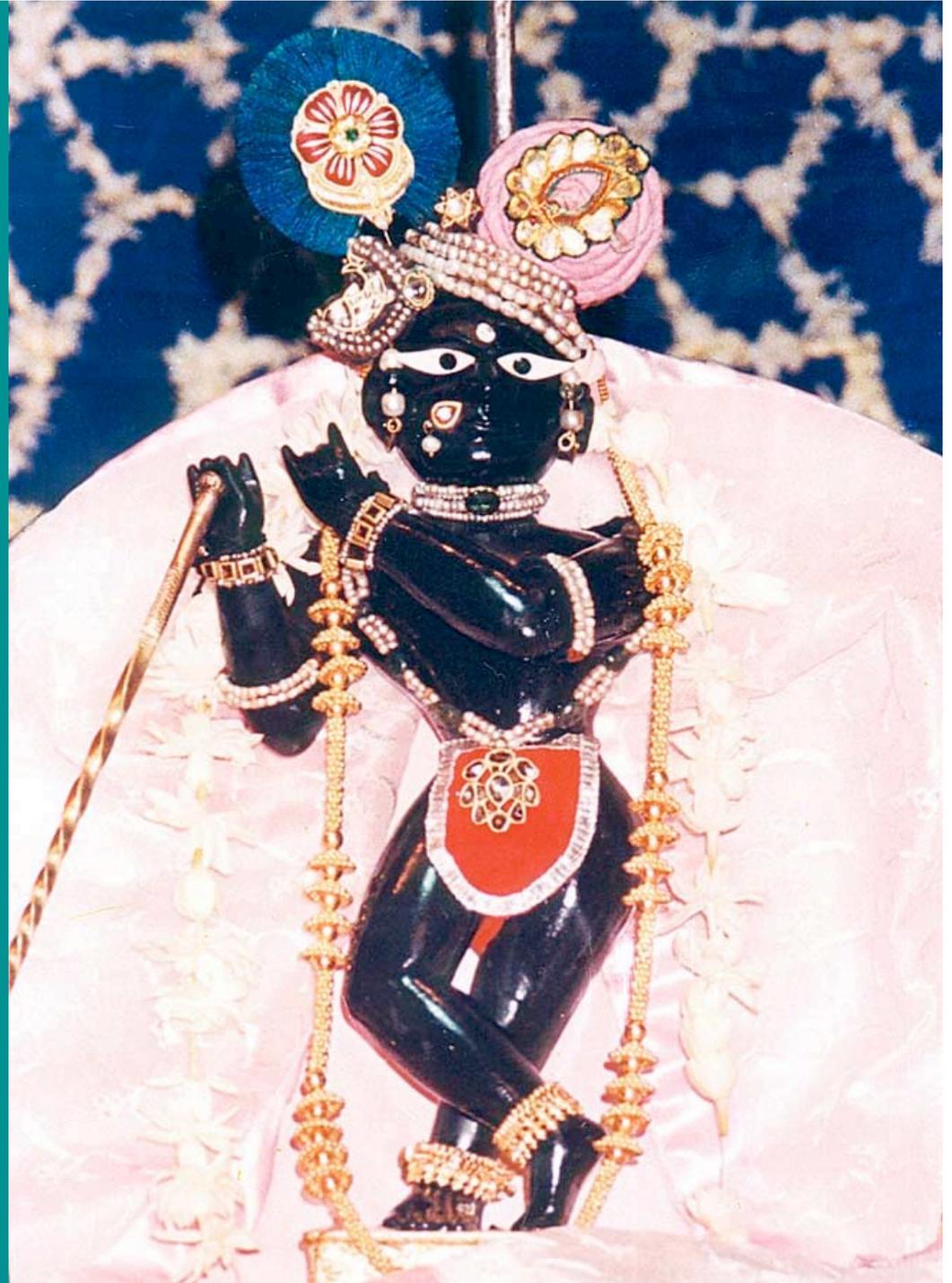


- **When his parents died, he went to Vrindavan**
- **...After some time studying in Vrindavan Gopal Bhatta made a trip to Nepal. One day when he was taking bath in Kali-Gandakini river, he dipped his kamandalu into the water and 12 silas mysteriously entered his water pot...3 X**
- **...Once he intensely desired to decorate his salagram, seat Him on a swing and serve Him as other devotees can. "If only He had arms and legs like a Deity," he thought...1542.**
- **Radha Raman was Chaitanya, no Radha by side, combined Radha Krishna**

Radha Raman Temple



**Radha
Raman
manifest
from
Shila in
1542**





The appearance place of the Sri Radha Raman Deity is next to the temple - besides Gopal Bhatta's samadhi.



Other Deities went to Jaipur, but Radharaman never left Vrindavan. The fires for cooking in the temple kitchen have been burning continuously for over 435 years, since the Deity was installed. This is so no foreign elements, such as matches, are used for ignition purposes.

Radha Raman Temple was not attacked by Aurangzeb's soldiers because they mistakenly thought it to be just residential quarter.



The standard of worship at samadhi and temple is exemplary and Srila Prabhupada wanted his disciples to learn Deity worship from local pujaris.



Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu's kaupina (cloth) and asana (seat), which Gopal Bhatta Goswami brought from Jagannath Puri, are also in this temple. They are brought out to be seen by the public three or four times a year. The asana is black wood and is about 30 cm (12") by 25 cm (10").

Diksha

- Raghunatha Bhatta gave diksha to those from eastern side (Gauda) & Gopal Bhatta to those from western side.
- Gave hereditary worship of Radha Raman to Damodar Goswami, who came from Gandaki & married
- Other prominent disciple was Srinivasacharya

Works

- Passed away in 1586, at age of 85
- Hari Bhakti Vilasa, rituals & practices (1541)
- Satasamdarbha, systematized by Jiva
- Satkriyasara dipika
- Samsakara dipika
- Krsnaballabha

The End