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Srinivasa Bala Bharati

NARADA

English Translation

Gannamaraju Saibaba



**Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams,
Tirupati**

Srinivasa Bala Bharati - 141
(Children Series)

NARADA

Telugu Version
Bahujanapalli Rangacharya

English Translation
Gannamaraju Saibaba



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Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams, Tirupati.
2014

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Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Ravva Sri Hari

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FOREWORD

If a beautiful garden is to be raised, one needs to take proper care of tender flower plants. In the same way in order to create a good society, great care needs to be taken of young children who are going to be future citizens of India. All their intellectual attainments will be futile if they fail to learn of their culture and its greatness. They need to be told of great men and women of this country so that they are inspired by their ideals. The essentials of our culture should be given to them in the form of simple and charming stories. They will cherish these ideals and be guided by them. They will promote good and they will love the society they live in. They make their families proud and bring great prestige to their country when they grow up into good citizens.

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams have brought out these booklets for children in Telugu under Srinivasa Bala Bharati Series. Although meant for children, they are useful to the elderly too. They have found place in the book shelves of every family. The stories of legendary men and women are narrated in a simple way. We hope that more and more children will read them and profit by them.

I congratulate Dr. R. Sri Hari, Editor-in-Chief, TTD for his efforts in bringing out the English translations of SRINIVASABALA BHARATI SERIES so well. We have received co-operation of many learned men and women in our efforts to popularize this series. I am thankful to them.

In the Service of the Lord



Executive Officer,

Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams.
Tirupati.

FOREWORD

Today's children are tomorrow's citizens. They need apt acquaintance with the life-histories of celebrated persons at tender so that they get opportunity to lead their lives in an exemplary way. They will come to know that great things such as Indian culture, basic tenets of life and moral teachings are abundantly available in the life-experiences of great men. It is observed that there is no scope to teach such subjects in school curriculum.

Observing such circumstances the Publication Division of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams has published about hundred booklets in Telugu about the lives of famous sages and great men written by various authors under the editorship of Dr.S.B. Raghunathacharya under "Bala Bharati Series". The response to these books is tremendous and it has given impetus to publish them in other languages also. To begin with, some of the books are now brought out in English and Hindi by T.T.D. for the benefit of boys and girls and the interested public.

These booklets, primarily intended to the growing children and also to the elders to study and narrate the stories to their children, will go a long way to sublimate the aspirations of the children to greater heights.

R. SRI HARI
Editor-In-Chief
T.T.D.

Welcome To Srinivasa Balabharati Series

The series is the outcome of abundant grace of Lord Sri Venkateswara.

This will be an unfailing source of inspiration to the young.

It enshrines the best of Bharatiya tradition. May this noble endeavour be successful.

India has been known for its culture and civilization, its ethical and dharmic way of life from time immemorial. India has marched ahead with its commitment to dharma, its resistance to adharma, its espousal of life-affirming values and its humane attitude to life as a journey towards God realization. Those who embodied these values in their life have been a beacon of light to us. Their impact is deep on the life we lead. Young boys and girls will find them exemplary and feel proud of their invaluable heritage. They will love their motherland and dedicate themselves to its service.

It is therefore necessary that the young learn about these great men and women so that they will realize their indebtedness to them for their selfless contribution to the enrichment of life. This should indeed be a chief component of true education which ensures the perennial continuity of Indian culture and civilization. SRINIVASA BALA BHARATI SERIES has come into existence to acquaint the young boys and girls with right perspective of Indian life and values through a series of booklets written exclusively for this purpose describing in brief the lives of great men and women.

We welcome you to share our joy in launching these booklets.

S.B. Raghunathacharya

Cheif Editor



NARADA

Bharatavarsha, the land of Bharata is a sacred place which is abode of gods and goddesses. This land gave birth to many sages, selfless people and architects of sastras. Such eminent lives radiated peace and kindness on the earth. Ours is "Arsha" tradition. The rituals introduced by rishis are being followed in our divine land even to this day. Popular among great rishis like Atri, Bhrgu, Vasishtha and Gowtama was Naradamaharshi.

Narada was embodied with excellent qualities. He was an ardent follower of Vedic Dharma. He disliked sycophancy. He was free of anger, enmity and fear. He was truthful and peace loving. He was very tactful in his dealings to make others happy. He was a friend of friends and foes alike. He dedicated his life for common good.

Birth :

Lord Vishnu took the incarnation of Vamana. He begged three feet of land from emperor Bali. Bali agreed. Lord Vishnu occupied entire land with one foot and the sky with another. When the second foot occupied the sky, Brahma desired to worship the Lord by pouring and cleaning his feet with water. Brahma created Narada and asked him to fetch water. The word "Narada" means one who provides water. He provided

water to wash Lord Vishnu's feet. Narada is manasaputra of Brahma. It is said that he is born out of Brahma's neck. Soon after birth, Narada approached the deity Saraswati and learnt music from her. He went to Vayuloka and got a musical instrument Veena called Mahati from Vayudeva.

Fond of Hari Bhajan :

One day Narada went to Brahmaloaka and exhibited his skill in music. His father Brahma felt very happy and taught Ashtakshari Mantra "Om Namo Narayanaya", to generate devotion towards Sri Hari. Narada immersed himself in worship of Lord Hari.

Cursed Father :

One day Brahma called his sons and asked them to marry beautiful women to be created by him so as to increase the progeny. All sons kept quiet. But Narada said that his mind is preoccupied with the feet of Hari. He informed that he had no intention to marry and lead a family life. Hearing the words of Narada, Brahma cursed Narada to become lusty in nature. In turn Narada too cursed his father Brahma not to be worshipped by people. So, Brahma lost worship in society. Only Lord Siva and Hari are being worshipped in the world now.

Narada born as Upabarhana :

One of the Gandharvas had no progeny. He approached his Guru Vasishtha and asked him to show

the way to get a son. Rishi Vasishtha preached Siva Panchakshari Mantra "Om Namah Sivaya" to Gandharvaraja. He recited the mantra sincerely and carefully. Lord Siva satisfied with this sincere prayer, appeared before him. He blessed him with a son who was interested in devotions of Sri Hari. With the blessings of Lord Siva, wife of Gandharvaraja became pregnant and begot a son. Guru Vasishtha named the boy Upabarhana, who was none other than Narada cursed by Brahma.

Marriage of Upabarhana :

From early childhood Upabarhana used to spend time in worshipping Lord Sri Hari. He saw the daughters of Gandharva Chitraratha while they were swimming and playing in water pool with great joy. On account of the curse of Brahma, Upabarhana was filled with lust at the sight of beautiful women. He married the daughters of Gandharvaraja Chitraratha. Malavati was the eldest daughter.

After sometime, Upabarhana was invited by Brahmas to have Harisankeertana at the time of performance of yaga called "Devasatra". He was present with his wives in Brahmaloaka. Upabarhana had an eye on Rambha and wanted to enjoy her. Brahmas got angry with his lack of discipline and mischievous behaviour. They cursed Upabarhana to have a birth on earth.

The curse of Malavati :

Upabarhana informed his wives about the curse and breathed his last. Having known the curse given by Gods, Malavati, wife of Upabarhana, proclaimed that her husband would not die without her consent. Her husband should be alive again. If not, Brahma's power of creation, Yama's Dharma and Esvara's wisdom will perish. The deities were afraid of her chastity. Deities went to Lord Mahavishnu who rested at Ksheerasagara and sought rescue. On hearing the request of deities, Mahavishnu appeared before Malavati and tried to console her. She paid a deaf ear to the words of Vishnu. At that time, Brahma clarified to deities that Upabarhana was his son and he was cursed to lead the life of a Gandharva for one lakh years. Out of these one lakh years, one thousand years were left out. That period would be spent by Upabarhana leading a human life on earth. Brahma poured water from his Kamandala on the dead body of Upabarhana who got back to life immediately. Upabarhana and Malavati lived together happily for some time. After a while, Upabarhana lost his life praying Hari.

Again in Brahmaloaka :

Upabarhana again took birth as a son to Kalavati and Dramila. On account of association with Brahmins, he used to hear the stories of Lord Hari and surrendered his mind at the feet of Hari. Thus his life was fruitful

attaining the Moksha. It led him to Brahmaloaka along with eminent personalities like Marichi.

Fulfill my desire :

Once again Brahma asked Narada to marry so as to increase the progeny. Narada prayed Brahma humbly



not to pressurize him to marry and to leave him freely. Brahma warned his son Narada that it was very difficult to lead the life of an ascetic. The person who fails to control his mind while in Sanyasa will lead a life of degradation. A grihastha who begets a son will be free from the clutches of hell. Narada accepted his father's wish.

Not because of your power :

Narada learnt the process of evolution of the universe. He went to Kailasa, abode of Lord Siva and prayed him. Siva was kind enough to teach Narada the pooja of Sri Hari, Stotra Kavacha and Dharmanushthanam i.e., the path of Dharma to be followed. Narada went to Badarikavana and prayed Narayanarishi and got self attainment. He had darsan of Lord Vishnu.

Narada proceeded to Himalayas where he recited Ashtakshari mantra "Om Namo Narayanaya". Indra afraid of the deep meditation of Narada sent beautiful courtesans called Apsaras to disturb meditating Narada. But his attempt went in vain. Apsaras were ashamed and returned. Narada felt proud that he won over Manmatha.

Lord Vishnu warned Narada and informed that the power of Siva saved him from the clutches of Indra and Manmatha. But Narada disagreed with the words of Vishnu. Vishnu wanted to teach him a lesson.

Monkey's face in Swayamvara :

Ambareesha was one of the greatest kings of Ikshwaku dynasty. He sincerely meditated on Vishnu who was pleased and appeared before the king. Ambareesha wanted himself to be blessed with a daughter who can marry Vishnu. By the grace of Lord Vishnu, king Ambareesha was blessed with a daughter named Srimati. She was very beautiful.

Narada, along with his friend and nephew Parvata, visited the house of Ambareesha. They saw the daughter of Ambareesha and both expressed their desire to marry her. Ambareesha denied their proposal as both cannot marry a single woman and asked them to participate in swayamvara. Both one after another without notice to each other, approached Vishnu and prayed him to make the face of each of them as that of monkey in swayamvara. Lord Vishnu promised to fulfill their desire individually. Narada and Parvata attended swayamvara where people laughed at their monkey faces. Vishnu also attended the swayamvara and took away Srimati to his place as a life partner.

Will get back your wife due to monkeys :

Ashamed of the incident, Narada and Parvata tried to curse Ambareesha but Sudarsanachakra, weapon of Srihari, hunted them. Afraid of it, they sought protection from Vishnu. When they saw Srimati with Vishnu they felt jealous of him. They cursed Vishnu

that he would take birth on land as a man and would get departed from his wife. With the help of monkeys alone he would get back his wife. This led Rama to suffer separation of Sita.

Has your ego come down ?

Vishnu smiled at Narada. He asked Narada whether his pride on winning the lust has come down. Narada repented his foolishness and prayed Vishnu to pardon him. Vishnu forgave Narada with a kind heart.

Marriage with Sukumari :

Narada decided to marry as instructed by his father Brahma. He went to Srunjaya. Srunjaya's daughter, Sukumari served Narada. Due to his past life Narada fell in love with her. He asked Srunjaya his daughter's hand in marriage. Narada informed Srunjaya that Sukumari was none other than Malavati, wife of Narada in previous birth. Narada had a boon from Siva to marry Malavati. Srunjaya agreed to marry his daughter Sukumari to Narada. Narada became monkey faced as a result of Parvatha's curse. In spite of this Sukumari spent married life with great love and affection towards Narada.

Excretion would turn into gold :

Narada wanted to renounce family life to lead the life of an ascetic. Narada expressed gratitude to his father-in-law for having his daughter married to him.

He blessed that Srunjaya would beget a son who would be more powerful than the gods. He asked Srunjaya to inform him if there was any threat from Indra. Moreover, Narada informed that urine and faecal matter excreted by the boy would turn into gold. The house of Srunjaya filled with gold on account of his son as told by Narada. Son of Srunjaya was abducted and killed by thieves as they could not find gold in his stomach. Narada thought that the boy was killed by Indra and made him alive.

The boy was collecting flowers in a garden. Vajrayudha, weapon of Indra, turned into a tiger and killed him. Srunjaya wept on the death of his son. Narada again made the boy alive. Overcoming all these troubles in life, that boy became a king and ruled for thousands of years. The people were happy and hale during his reign.

Maya of Vishnu :

Narada used to get happiness in praising Vishnu. He thought no person was greater than him in the aspect of Vishnu bhakti. Once Narada visited Swetadweepam to see Mahavishnu. There he saw many people who were as handsome as Manmatha. Among all the handsome people Narada failed to recognise Lord Vishnu. Narada prayed Vishnu to give his darsan. Vishnu appeared before Narada who in turn requested Vishnu to enlighten him on Vishnumaya. Vishnu asked

Narada to bathe in a nearby pond. No sooner than he took a dip, he became a woman. That woman was taken away by Aakasaraaja and was named Charumati. She grew up and got married to a king named Sibi. The couple, Charumati and Sibi, begot sons namely Nagnajitti, Viprajitti, Vichitti and Charuvaktra. They were very strong and were victorious in wars. At last, Sibi and his sons died in a war. Charumati lost her husband and sons. She wanted to renounce life in fire. Then that woman became Narada who was astonished and learnt nobody could comprehend Vishnumaya. He renounced his pride as he realised that he could not understand Vishnumaya.

Take birth as a demon :

One day Kousika was exhibiting his talent in music at heaven . Sree Maha Lakshmi arrived there with her maids. Narada and Tumbura along with many other rishis were also present. Maids were controlling the mob with hand sticks. Maha Lakshmi observed Tumbura in the mob. She invited him to perform along with Kousika. Impressed with his skill, she honoured Tumbura befittingly. Narada was jealous and felt that Lakshmi intentionally insulted him. He cursed Lakshmi to take birth in the womb of a demon. She would also be threatened by demons as the audience was controlled using sticks by her maids. Lakshmi knew the severity of the curse of Narada. She requested him to allow

her to take birth in the womb of a demon that sucks blood of sages.

Will teach you in Krishnavatara :

Narada lost his peace of mind. Vishnu consoled him that Tumbura earned fame due to his excellent devotional singing. He directed Narada to proceed to mountain Manasottara where the owl Gnanabandhu was residing. He asked Narada to undergo training from Gnanabandhu. Narada got trained by Gnanabandhu. Narada competed with Tumbura but could not succeed. Again he explained the situation to Vishnu. Vishnu promised that he will train him in his next incarnation as Sri Krishna. When Bhagavan Vishnu took the incarnation as Sri Krishna, Narada sincerely requested him to impart music as promised in the last incarnation. Sri Krishna, sent Narada to Jambavati to learn music for one year. In spite of his sincere efforts Narada could not become competent. He underwent training from wives of Sri Krishna as directed by him. But he could not attain perfection. At last he learnt music from Sri Krishna himself and achieved perfection. He was satisfied and became free of envy. Narada proved that man turns into a genius with spirit of competition.

Narada can not stay in one place :

The sons of Daksha Prajapati were near Narayana lake where river Sindhu joins the sea. Narada diverted

their minds from meditation for creation of human society. He taught them "Atmagnanam". It means knowledge of self and its role. The sons of Daksha Prajapati became reluctant to procreate human beings and sought Moksha. They reached Punya lokas. Narada himself brought the matter to the notice of Daksha Prajapati. Brahma was informed the same by Daksha Prajapati. The wife of Daksha was Asikni. Brahma blessed Daksha with thousand sons. Asikni begot sons called Haryasva, Sabalasva and daughters Bhanu, Viswa and Sadhya. Daksha engaged his sons in procreation. Again Narada interrupted his plans preaching Atmagnanam to his sons. Daksha came to know that Narada disrupted his plan and cursed him to be a nomad and cause quarrels in between friends so as to get the name "Kalahabhojana". Narada became a frequent traveller of three lokas. Narada had no family and progeny due to the curse of Daksha. Narada satisfied with the prayer of Vishnu succeeded in getting his blessings.

Provoked Jalandhara to get Parvati :

Narada is named as relisher of quarrels 'Kalahabhojana'. But this quality of his led to the welfare of the world and ruin of anti social elements.

Once there was a Rakshasa King named Jalandhara. He was very strong and powerful. He ill-treated and



harassed gods. The gods prayed Narada to show the way to get rid of Jalandhara.

Narada had a plan to implement. He went to Jalandhara and praised his valour and ability. He pointed out that his treasures were worthless in the absence of a life partner. Jalandhara asked Narada to show the way to get a life partner. Narada advised him to marry Parvati devi who was staying with Siva in a burial ground.

Senseless Jalandhara waged a war against Siva for the sake of mother Parvati. His vanity and pride made him blind to desire Parvati. Lord Siva killed Jalandhara. All Gods felt happy and praised Narada who caused the demise of Jalandhara.

Demise of Mahishasura :

Once there was a Rakshasa king Mahishasura. He was very cruel. He tortured gods and good people. Having seen all these untold deeds of Mahishasura, Narada went to Malayaparvata and represented the troubles to goddess Narayani. He told her Mahishasura was proud of his strength and that he decided to marry her. The goddess promised to kill the rakshasa. Narada did not leave it at that. He came to Mahishasura and appraised him of her beauty and charm. He provoked him to marry her. The rakshasa decided to marry her and sent the message through a servant. Goddess declared war and killed the rakshasa. The rishis, gods

and people felt happy. They celebrated for ten days and worshipped the goddess.

Death of Kalayavana :

Sri Krishna defeated Jarasandha, a Rakshasa king. Narada went to stupid Kalayavana and told that Krishna was proud of defeating Jarasandha. He told that it was not good to keep quiet like a coward. Narada told Kalayavana to defeat Sri Krishna and become famous as a great warrior. Narada encouraged Kalayavana to attack Sri Krishna. Kalayavana waged a war on Madhura. Sri Krishna sent Muchikunda to fight with Kalayavana. Muchikunda killed Kalayavana. Thus, Narada became responsible for the demise of many rakshasas and cruel people.

Exhibit your skills :

One day Narada had been to Indra sabha. Apsaras were singing and dancing to make gods happy. Narada was offered a chair by Indra. Indra was unable to judge the ability of apsaras in singing and dancing. He asked Narada to declare the winner as he was expert in all arts.

Narada wanted to examine the conduct of Apsaras. He informed them to win the heart of Doorvasa and divert him from right path to be declared the winner. But the apsaras were not ready to play tricks on Doorvasa and accepted their defeat. One of the apsaras

named Vapu came forward to face the challenge. She reached Doorvasa and showed her skillful gestures to attract him. Doorvasa was steadfast and his mind remained unperturbed by the tricks played by Vapu. Moreover, he cursed her to become a bird. Her pride perished.

Performance of Punyakavrata :

Sri Krishna had eight wives. Among them Satyabhama was proud of her beauty and wealth. One day Narada came to her house and informed that performance of Punyakavrata causes surrender of husband. Husband would obey wife at all times. He asked her to perform Punyakavrata and get increased popularity among the wives of Krishna. Satyabhama with great ambition to control her husband Sri Krishna, agreed to the proposal of Narada to conduct Punyakavrata. As per the rules of the vrata, husband was to be donated to an eligible Brahmin and the wife had to pay golden ornaments or wealth equivalent to the weight of her husband to get him back.

How to win heart of Sri Krishna ?

Satyabhama performed Punyakavrata and gave her husband Sri Krishna as a charity to Narada. Narada wanted to sell Sri Krishna in the market. Satyabhama made her husband sit on one side of the balance and kept all of her property, gold ornaments, vehicles etc.,

on the other to weigh Krishna. But, her efforts were not successful. Nothing would weigh equal to the Lord. She went to Rukmini with sorrow and shame. She begged her for help. Rukmini came over to the place and put a leaf of holy basil (Tulasi) with great devotion. Other pan of the balance having Sri Krishna raised up indicating that even a leaf placed with devotion could weigh the God successfully. Bhagawan likes devotion, affection but not gold. Thus, Narada suppressed the pride of Satyabhama.

Killing woman is a sin :

Narada used to roam from place to place. The information collected by him from various sources helped needy people. Helping others was his main motto. He tried to establish peace in the world.

Hiranya Kasipu was a Rakshasa king. He hated Vishnu. His wife Leelavati was a staunch devotee of Vishnu. When she was pregnant, Indra tried to kill the baby growing in the womb to avoid birth of another cruel demon. Narada obstructed Indra and saved the pregnancy of Leelavati. He informed Indra that Leelavati was a lady of good character and the baby inside womb would be a great devotee of Sri Krishna. Narada told Indra that killing a lady is a great sin and Hiranya Kasipu would perish due to his son. Indra was happy and left the idea of killing the baby. Narada saved Leelavati from danger.

Guidance to Dhruva :

Dhruva was a son of Uttanapada. His step mother insulted Dhruva with harsh words. Dhruva proceeded to forest with painful heart to meditate on Sri Hari. Narada met Dhruva on the way to forest. Narada told Dhruva that life in the forest is intolerable. Meditation of Sri Hari was out of reach to a common man. Many great people could not succeed to get mercy of Vishnu even through severe tapas. Narada asked Dhruva to withdraw the attempt as it will not be possible for a small boy like him to reach the goal.

Dhruva requested Narada to show the way to obtain kindness of Hari. He praised Narada as a son of Brahma and an intellectual who knows the nature of Bhagawan. Narada was pleased with his request and taught the mantra of Hari and asked to worship Hari at Madhuvanam with open heart. Dhruva followed the suggestion of Narada sincerely and got Darsan of Lord Vishnu. He stayed eternally as a star named Dhruvanakshatra in the sky.

Teaching of Rajaneeti to Dharmaraja :

One day Narada came to Indraprasthapura from Pitru-loka. Dharmaraja honoured him. Narada had a talk with him about principles of governance in the kingdom. He taught the principles as follows:

In the midnight one must think about finance of the state. Dharma and Artha are to be discussed in the first two parts of the night. Salaries to the employees have to be regularly in time. The persons who served the state with honesty and hard work should be rewarded suitably.

Narada asked Dharmaraja to perform Rajasuya yaga as desired by his father Panduraja. In the context of Rajasuya yaga, Sri Krishna Killed Sisupala with his weapon Sudarsanachakra in the sabha. The soul of Sisupala reached Sri Krishna and mingled in him. Astonished by the happening, Dharmaraja asked Narada to reveal the secret behind Sisupala attaining moksha inspite of his evil nature.

Narada told Dharmaraja that by adoption of any one of anger, friendship, fear, love, relationship and enmity with God, one can easily deserve the kindness of God. He further explained that with love Gopikas, with fear Kamsa, by relation Yadavas, by friendship Pandavas, by worship Narada and other rishis, by enmity Sisupala were able to deserve the kindness of God and witnessed the glory of Bhagavan Krishna. God is one and appears to be many due to his maya. Manyness is nothing but maya.

Dharmaraja, satisfied with the preaching of Narada, got peace of mind.

What to do ?

One day Sri Krishna told Narada that he was the king and commander. He was facing many troubles in administration. Man was becoming a slave to six internal enemies and was leading a miserable life. Wise people knowingly lost the knowledge of Brahma and became fools. Krishna was troubled by his relatives. Brother Balarama was proud of his strength. Gada was of the opinion that he had a very calm and nice personality. Pradyumna felt that he was the only handsome one. They developed envy towards each other. They developed grudge against Krishna as he was different from them. Though he had luxurious life, he could not escape getting blamed. Sri Krishna requested Narada to specify his duty in such a juncture.

Narada clarified Krishna that troubles are of two types, internal and external. The troubles of Sri Krishna were internal. Narada suggested to Krishna to oblige his dear ones by offering food and by honouring them befittingly with gentle behaviour. Narada hinted Krishna to give up partiality and treat all equally. At last Narada pronounced that Sri Krishna was sarvajna. Krishna felt happy.

Service to good teacher :

Rishi Galava met Narada and praised him that he had abundant knowledge of Vedas and Sastras. Galava

questioned Narada about rules proposed for different asrams in sastras. Sometimes the ways suggested even seem contradicting to each other. He requested Narada to suggest the best asram to be followed. Narada replied Galava that asrams are of four types. Though the terms and conditions of those asrams seem to be different, Dharma is one and the same for all of them. One must seek the shelter of a good and eminent teacher to choose the suitable asram. Avoidance of cruel activities, attachment with noble persons, worship of ancestors, honour to guests and love towards friends are the main requisites to lead an auspicious life. Thus Narada enlightened Galava with secrets of Dharma. Narada mentioned the activities of Yama and its effects to Akampana which resulted in freedom from the fear of death. Narada narrated the history of shodasa kings and taught about soul and its nature. He explained the eternity of soul. In a war, Rama and Lakshmana were tied up with Nagastra by Indrajit. Narada suggested to them to pray Garutmanta to be freed off the clutches of the Nagastra. Narada also taught Dharma and its nature to Srisuka. Thus Narada was helpful to many.

Teaching Vyasa :

Vyasa was a great ascetic. He could know happenings in past and present, and could forecast future too. He was the author of the Maha Bharata which is also called the Panchamaveda. He was restless



and worried without reason. Narada came to him. Vyasa requested Narada to explain the reason for his agony. Narada was able to grasp the things happening in the world. He was a sarvajna.

Narada told Vyasa that he taught Dharma to all lokas through Mahabharata but failed to praise the qualities and works done by Sri Krishna. The book is of no use without mentioning the glory of Lord Krishna. Narada told Vyasa to surrender his heart to Sri Krishna.

Vyasa realised the mistake. He wrote Mahabhagavata embodied with the glory of Sri Krishna and his disciples. Bhagavata imparts Bhakti and shows the way to salvation. Vyasa composed eighteen puranas with the help of Narada. Some of those are Brahma purana, Brahmavyvarta, Vamana, Matsya, Padma and Vishnu purana.

Books of Narada :

Narada himself wrote a number of puranas and sastras. His heart was filled with bhakti towards Sri Krishna. He was a wiseman. The famous Bhaktisutras were written by Narada. This work is remarkable and the values propounded in it are everlasting. They proclaim that love towards God is Bhakti. Bhakti is Amruta or divine nectar. One who swallows bhaktyamruta becomes Siddhapurusha. Siddhapurusha will be beyond wants and sorrows. Peace and

happiness are forms of bhakti. No one is capable of explaining the taste and form of bhakti. All devotees are servants of God. Servants of almighty will not entertain arguments. They will not waste time in frivolous discussions. The book "Bhaktisutras" is considered a mirror which reflects abundant knowledge and higher standards of Narada's life. Jyotirnaradam, Naradasmruti, Bruhannaradam, Laghunaradam, Narada silpa sastra are some of the works of Narada.

Naradatattvam :

Wants take shape in the mind. Joy and misery are fruits of our previous birth. The universe is covered with three qualities-sattva (mild), rajas(royal) and tamas(dark). Sattva, tamas and rajo gunas over ride human beings. One who overcomes these three gunas is called gunateeta, one beyond qualities.

Narada was a wise man, devotee of Lord Krishna. He had great determination. His aim was to spend time in the worship of God. He knew that happiness and misery are transitory. Though he was a great philosopher, he got entangled in ties of samsara due to curse of father Brahma. He immersed himself in Hari bhakti and guided deities and rishis in the right path for their upliftment. Narada is the life of Itihasas. No Itihasa exists without Narada. Narada was responsible for elimination of evil and upholding of nobility. He

was loved by enemies because of his genuine works. He could change the cruel to devotees. He was nicknamed Kalahabhojana, but his deeds secured peace and protection to the world. Narada is the author of Bhaktisutras. He was a great architect of sastras, scholar and writer. He was Brahma's manasaputra, a Maharshi. He stands as an able guide to the world at all times.

