

**Chapter 18**  
**Association with the saints and**  
**sages turns the tiger into a man**

Likewise Sadguru leads me to the  
spiritual path

Waiting courageously for your  
mercy

Destroyed bravely my six internal  
foes, I come to Your lotus feet

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## Chapter 18

You are Beginningless Endless and Indestructible. You carry this world on by Your own existence. Showing the game of `maya' (illusion) for a second, You comprehend Yourself within. While immersed in eternal bliss, You keep us in pains and pleasures. We, the ignorant are enjoying the miseries of mundane existence without knowing You. Enjoying the mundane life for many births and wandering in eighty four lakhs wombs, finally I have attained human birth. I don't understand what meaningful I have achieved. The fear of mundane existence cannot be destroyed without Your blessings. The other remedies are of no use. O Siddharudha, many Jeevas (individual souls) crossed the mundane existence by the strength of Your Grace. There is no other means to gain liberation except Your holy company. I don't know my fate whatever I have in it, it is all Yours. Having lowered the load of `I' and `mine' (ego), O Sadguru bestow on me the divine bliss. I know that You are Kind and Omniscient. Therefore I have no fear in my mind. Understanding my mind, what is to be done, do it. All my duty is only for You. I escape keeping myself interest at Your Feet. You are Lord for the destitute. You release us from difficulties. You definitely protect the refugees. I often heard fame of Yours from Your devotees that you cross the devotees those who do not do any effort, from bondage (the cycle of birth and death).

O listeners, now get ready to hear the story. When even animals are

worthy for mercy of Sadguru, what  
fear is there for

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men? It has been narrated in the  
first half of charita. It reads thus  
Siddha used to go to Bhimappa's  
house everyday, remained there at  
night and in the morning he would  
come to the matha. Bhimappa had  
an adopted son named Siddhappa.  
Gurappa was his son. Siddharudha  
loved little Gurappa very much.  
Having made the innocent child sit  
on his lap, He would fondle him.  
Gurappa lost his mother when he  
was a child. Then, he would always  
play at the Lotus feet of Sadguru.  
Having ascended on Siddha's body,  
Gurappa as a child would play  
happily there. However he troubled  
Him, He never avoided him.  
Instead, He allowed him to play as  
he liked and enjoyed his trampling.  
Once, the devotees said to  
Siddharudha, `Gurappa troubles  
You a lot. We give him to a woman

who takes care of' Siddha said to him, 'It (troubling) is his inherent because in his previous birth he had become a tiger. At that time, I had troubled him. A man who troubles others in this birth he has to be troubled by them in the next birth. Therefore one should not trouble anyone at any time. If one pains others, one has to enjoy its bitter fruit. Remember, this cannot be avoided. A realized soul is exceptional'. Having heard this, the devotees said to Siddha, 'O Merciful, we are very much eager to listen to the story. Please tell us. Your story is holy that certainly makes us blessed. Siddha asked the devotees to bring the boy who was playing on the road. Accordingly they brought and kept him at the Lotus feet of Siddharudha. Sadguru raised him, gave him a banana to eat and also asked him to sit beside him. After eating the banana, some kind of brightness appeared on his face. Now Siddharudha asked the devotees to ask the boy to tell them the previous story. The devotees said to the boy, 'If you know the story when Siddharudha played with a tiger, tell that story for us'. Hearing this, the boy tells the following story.

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More or less thirty year have been passed. Wandering here and there, Siddharudha came to the bank of the Kaveri. Then, there was a great forest. Leaving their sheep to graze, the shepherd boys were playing on the sand. They saw Siddha standing near them and told him to play with them. After playing sometime, they were all hungry. They opened their lunch box (food carried on a journey etc) and called Siddharudha for meals. They all together began to eat. The sheep were grazing peacefully. But all of a sudden they began to bawl out. Seeing this, the shepherds were frightened. Having abandoned their meals they started running after the sheep. Siddharudha soon knew the reason for fear. A tiger had sat in the nearby bush. The tiger was waiting for an opportunity to pick a sheep up. Siddharudha came behind it and slapped the back of the tiger. The frightened tiger jumped quickly but Siddharudha climbed on its back and caught its ears tightly. It lost its strength and stood quietly. He called shepherd boys to come near Him. They were filled with wonder to see Siddharudha sitting on the tiger but they had the fear of the tiger in their mind. Sadguru tempted the tiger to the place where the shepherd boys were standing. The boys began to run again. Seeing the running children, he said to them, 'O boys don't fear, don't fear, I have brought this animal for you to play with. This is a tamed animal it won't harm you' but boys said to Him, 'O Siddha, You look like a great man. You've *animadi siddhis* (super human powers) but we haven't those powers. Naturally the tiger is a violent and dangerous animal. It shows its nature over us. We don't have confidence in Your words.

We are full of fear'. Then,  
Siddharudha pressurized a boy to  
sit on the back of the tiger. They all  
were witnessing. The tiger had  
forgotten its inherent nature. After  
sometime the shepherd boys  
plucked up the

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courage. They came near the tiger  
and played all kinds of games.  
Boys came there everyday to graze  
their sheep and the tiger also came  
there to play with them. When  
Siddha sat on the tiger, the boys  
were beating it. He often moved his  
fingers on its face with love and  
affection. One day a hunter heard  
of the tiger and thought of a plan to  
kill it. He wanted to make money  
out of it. He hid behind a bush with  
his gun and was waiting for the  
coming of the tiger. At the same  
time the shepherd brought their  
sheep. Siddharudha was also with  
them. As usual, having left their  
sheep to graze, they started to play.  
The tiger saw the boys playing and  
looked at Siddha happily. No  
doubt, it was coming from the

forest. As the tiger neared, the hunter pulled out his rifle and fired a shot. The bullet dashed against its neck. It jumped up suddenly. While jumping, it saw the wicked hunter and it pounced upon him. It cut his stomach into pieces. They both fell on the ground and remained motionless. Siddha and shepherd boys came to the place where they had fallen. When the Mahatma neared the tiger it raised its head slowly and put it on the feet of Siddharudha. Tears came down from both of their eyes. Having seen this Siddha kept his head on his lap and said with pain, 'O my friend, now leave your body, you will get human birth in the next birth. Then, you always play with me. Now calm down'. He kept his hand on tiger's head and it died. The boys saw the love of tiger and they shed their tears. They thought that Siddha Himself was Shiva and they all saluted at the Lotus feet of Mahatma. Here, the unconscious hunter became conscious but he was too weak to get up. His stomach bled profusely. Siddharudha bandaged up his stomach with his upper garment and bleeding stopped. People came from the village. He said to them, Take him to the village and he won't die but will be bed ridden for six months. Wound pain won't leave him.

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Take care of him'. Hearing the words of Siddharudha the villagers were dumbfounded. They thought that Siddharudha must be a great Mahatma (great soul). They did as He suggested. Siddharudha continued His further journey. O devotees, the first half story ended. The tiger got human birth because of the touch of Mahatma. He himself is Gurappa in this life. Understand that this is certain the story you thought of is like this'. Saying thus, the boy kept quite. The devotee said to the boy, 'O boy, how did you know this story? Explain this to us' The boy said, 'Listen to me. The story appeared before my eyes by the Grace of Siddharudha. It is known by me'. Speaking thus the boy attained peace. Later Siddha gave him bananas to eat. After eating them, the boy forgot all the things, without knowing anything; as usual he went out to play. Having heard the story, they thought themselves blessed, they saluted both Siddharudha and Gurappa.

O listeners now hear the secondary meaning. The things, which we hear through Guru enable us to attain *Paramartha*, here try to understand it through vichara. Here the sheep are sense thoughts (*vishaya vrittis*) and the shepherds are ignorant Jeevas. Leaving sense thoughts aside, when they (ignorant Jeevas) are playing, viveka as Siddha joins them and lives with them. Earlier, the Jeevas were afraid of anger etc. Viveka has come now. Where does the fear of anger come from? But once a cruel krodha (the anger tiger) came then all the *vrittis* began to run away. Viveka covered the krodha quickly. Since that day krodha began to play quietly with them. Once vairagya

as a hunter and killed the krodha  
but in the war between krodha and  
vairagya krodha also suffered a lot.  
Viveka saved vairagya and made  
him healthy. Krodha got human  
form and began to play in

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the good company of the  
Siddharudha. A seeker, who  
reflects this secondary meaning,  
will achieve Eternal Truth by the  
Grace of Sadguru. In the next  
chapter there is a story sweeter than  
nectar. If you hear this, six enemies  
lust, anger, covetous etc will be  
destroyed themselves. Here  
Shivadas dedicates the eighteenth  
chapter of 'Sri Siddharudha  
Kathamrita' at the Lotus feet of Sri  
Siddharudha, which burns all the  
sins by just hearing.

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Sri Ganeshaya Namah | Sri  
Sadguru Siddharudhayanamah ||

**Chapter 19**  
**Knowing the miseries imminent,**  
**You protect the devotees**

You saved the poor from danger

A great of Yours who lost his  
eyesight held Your feet

O Brother of the poor, You made  
him happy

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## Chapter 19

O Best of men, You are the Absolute Truth of all beings. You always show *Leelas* by being in the names of all Gods and always abide in Yourself. Remembering You is the only solution to remove the riddle of bondage (life and death). You by Your advice develop the good qualities in us, purify our hearts and set us on the path of salvation. You give Your darshan to those who have their merits of their previous births. Your Grace alone takes us straight to our destination. A number of remedies (how to cross the river of bondage) are mentioned in the *shastras* but mere reading of the *shastras* will not help one to gain the Self. You Yourself know its inner condition. The others are extra words. Doing actions is quite common for all beings. You are the only person to advise the Jnana marga (the path of knowledge) to Your devotees. One's *aham-mamkaras* are destroyed by doing service to You, by Your advice You create in us a distaste for world and other worldly pleasures and give us taste of self realization. Your advice is the only cause for self realization. All efforts and means will be waste without the Grace of a great teacher. Therefore the only remedy is complete surrender to *Sadguru*. He definitely accepts us and crosses us from the ocean of bondage the riddle of birth and death.

O listeners, now hear the Holy story of Siddharudha. A devotee named Benakappa, when he was drawing some pictures on the wall, said to his friend, 'I'll draw an extraordinary picture next *Shivaratri* festival which surprises

all' When he was speaking thus,  
Siddharudha had stood behind him  
without his

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knowledge. Then He came forward  
and said to him, `Well, you say that  
you draw a picture but next year,  
the picture that Ishwara draws will  
be certainly more extra ordinary  
i.e: the city itself becomes a forest.  
All people go to the forest and  
animals will live in the city. The  
roads will be in a fearful state.  
Sitting on the corpses, the vultures  
etc will have their grand dinner'.  
Speaking thus, Siddharudha  
remained silent. Having heard these  
words they both were scared.  
However, they tried to think of this,  
they could not understand the  
meaning of these words.

After a period of six months of this  
event, plague, a deadly disease was  
spread in Mumbai. After sometime  
it spread to Hubballi too. Fear of  
death permeated all and quitting  
their homes, all began to go to

forest. If any house attacked by the plague, the government made the people go to the forest and stay there in the camps. So, there was none to take care of the patient and the patients fell on the roads and died. Nobody cared to take the corpses and the birds like vultures came and lived there.

Siddharudha's prediction of the future long ago proved to be true. Next, hear the greatness of *Sadguru* patiently. The plague attacked Benakappa. Then, the government employee came to Benakkappa's house and understood the news of disease. He went to the superior officer to inform the matter. The superior officer comes home, sees the patient and asks others to go out of the village. If the remaining go out, it is certain that the patient will die. Frightened wife of Benakappa surrendered herself at the Lotus feet of Siddharudha and said to Him, 'O Merciful, we have surrendered to You. Please save us' Siddharudha advised both to remember the *Naam* and also assured them of their safety. Later Benakappa was recovered. Until then no officer came to their house and none sent them out of the village. Afterwards, his wife caught plague. Then the government employee came to their house. The diseased women

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had slept but she remained invisible to his eyes. He went back writing that there was no patient in the house. Engrossed in the protection of his devotees, the functions of *Sadguru* are like this. When *Vibhooti prasada* was applied to her body, she was completely cured. In this way *Siddha Sadguru* protected his devotees.

There was a weaver by name Jeevappa in old Hubballi. He was very poor. He would come to Siddharudha with his wife and children, do bhajan and after arathi, they would go back their house. The deadly disease, plague was spread in the city. Jeevappa caught it. Then, the wife came to Siddharudha with her children. She requested the *Sadguru* to save her husband. She further told him that there was none other than Siddharudha to protect her family. Having heard her words, Siddharudha gave her *Vibhooti prasada* and asked her to remember *naam*. Jeevappa was cured by the Grace of Guru but he became blind. Then the couple were agitated because the way they earned their lively hood was stopped. Therefore the wife brought the blind husband before *Sadguru*. With folded hands she said to Him, 'It happened so that we jumped into the well from the sea. We got rid of the deadly disease. Now the time has come that we die of starvation. The working husband has become blind. You are the only person to save us from danger. We've surrendered at Your feet.' Then Siddharudha, protector of His devotees called Jeevappa to come closer. He touched his eyes with His hands and tied his eyes with a piece of cloth. He also asked him to untie the cloth at home. The couple

went home after saluting Him. As soon as they went home. His wife untied the cloth. They were greatly surprised. Jeevappa was much pleased to see the world again as before and started praising the Guru, `O *Sadguru*, today, we've decided to dedicate our lives at Your Lotus feet. We are Your servants.

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We don't place any responsibility on us'. Kind *Sadguru* really solves the problems of His devotees and protects them. By doing so, devotion towards Guru develops. O listens, now hear the secondary meaning of this story with patience. Benakappa himself is an ignorant Jeeva. When her husband caught the plague, the wife, intellect surrendered herself to *Sadguru*. A man, who has caught the plague will be sent out of *Sastanga* or he will lose the company of the Guru. Losing of *Satsanga* means something like meeting the death. Then *Sadguru* assures us of safety and asks to remember the *naam*. The plague is cured through the remembrance of *Sadguru* and *Satsanga* is not missed. Though

Jeeva is quite well, his intellect was attacked by a disease. The disease was cured quickly. Jeevappa himself is a Jeeva and he becomes blind through *bhavaroga* (a disease of birth and death). When surendered himself at the Lotus feet of *Sadguru*, he regained his eyesight. In this way, He who is *aja* (birthless) then *ajeeta* (unconquered), *shabdateeta* (beyond words), *gunateeta* (beyond attributes) and *nishkriya* (inactive), He Himself plays in *naam-roopa* (*Naam* and form). He is everywhere. Whatever he sees, he makes it Holy and in the saguna form He plays Himself. He himself is God. He Himself is devotee, He Himself protects in his troubles, He Himself shows pity on him, He himself crosses him from the cycle of birth and death. Such *Sadguru* has ordered me and given me intellect to write this book. That is why, this book was written. Having composed this work He Himself made me write this book.

O listeners, in the next chapter you will hear the elegant story. Three-tapas, *adhibhoutika*, *adhidaivika* and *adhyatmika* will be destroyed by its reading and one gets peace of mind. Here Shivadas dedicates the nineteenth chapter of 'Sri Siddharudha Kathamrita' at the Lotus feet of Sri Siddharudha, which burns all the sins by just hearing.

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