Sri Ganeshaya Namah | Sri Gurubhyo Namah ||

Chapter 38

Thinking of the Great Master, the poor and the helpless come to Him

Protecting their lives He fulfills their request.

Sitting on the throne, he accepts the worship of His devotees.

Destroying their *Bhava* (cycle of birth and death), the master raises them happily.

O Beginningless-Endless, All pervading, Beyond the universe, Beyond trickery, Protector of the world, Beyond name and form, Never changing and All controlling, my salutations to You. If one salutes You, You yourself is doer of `namana', and the receiver of *namana*. If one meditates upon You, You yourself is the meditation and the thing meditated upon. Abandoning Your body consciousness, You remain in Your real nature without trying any endeavours. If one serves You, he will gain Your Grace and You yourself bestow him knowledge. You yourself is knowledge giver. The remaining are the binders. The impact of Your knowledge will remove the duality. Keeping my head at Your Lotus-like feet, I salute You to remove my likes and dislikes and give peace to mind. O listeners hear the life story from which the bondage of bhava (a riddle of birth and death) will be destroyed. The impure mind gets purified and knowledge manifests itself in the heart.

There was a carpenter named Kalappa. He was a great devotee of Sadguru. Once he decided to bring home Siddharudha and feed Him. He bought some juicy and tasty mangoes and kept them at home. He gave an invitation to Sadguru to come to his house for lunch the next day. On the secnd day, after the food was prepared Kalappa went to the *matha* and prayed to Siddha Sadguru to come home. Sadguru came to his house suddenly with him. Making Siddharudha

sit on a divine seat, he worshipped Him with a great devotion. Then, a plate filled with all eating items was kept before Sadguru and when they cut the mangoes, a wonder took place They found worms in each of the mangoes. This worried Kalappa much. When he was on the point of going to the market to buy mangoes, Sadguru told him not to worry about. He picked up a mango and examined it. He said, `This is good and no worms in it.' In this way, he checked all the mangoes and said, 'There aren't any worms in the mangoes' But now, no worm appeared and they found them very sweet. The moment Sadguru touched them, they got purified. This miracle astounded them. Lifeless fruits become pure by mere touch of Sadguru and why not living human beings? In addition, when Siddharudha touches an intelligent and a good man, he becomes purified and then Sadguru accepts him. Saduguru eats that pure and clean fruit. The fruit harmonises with the body giving up the name and form. Similarly, Sadguru makes his devotee as His own Himself. After having fallen at the feet of Sadguru, Kalappa said, `Today I'm really blessed and uplifted. He dedicated Siddharudha dakshina (a gift) and tambula and he reached out Sadguru to the matha.

There was a man called Tukkappa who was also a great devotee of

Siddharudha. He used to worship Siddharudha in home at the time of the *Navaratri* festival. After all the preparations were made, he was about to go to the *matha to* call Sadguru. His wife said to him, 'You're going to call Sadguru but the son, Hanamant is suffering from the disease. It seems that the death is approaching him. He is unconscious' Having heard this, Tukkappa went to his son and said, 'Today, Siddharudha will come home Don't groan,

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keep quiet and don't disturb the worship. Chant the Naam of Sadguru' Hanamant agreed But his mother could not tolerate the sorrow and started lamenting. Tukkappa said to her, `Even the diseased son does not cry but you are lamenting. This is not good at the time of the arrival of Sadguru. Should I call Sadguru or not? I won't if you keep lamenting. Tell me what's there in your mind?'. She thought for a while and assured him that she would not cry though the son died. She also told him that she would cover him until Guru went. Tukkappa went to the *matha* to call Sadguru. He broudht home Siddharudha Swami from the matha along with other devotees. When Siddharudha sat on the

divine seat, Keertan started. Then a miracle took place. Just listen to it. Here, Hanamant was covered with a blanket. He was in tears but he was meditating upon Sadguru. He prayed, 'O protector of the poor, I didn't have Your darshan. I can't sit up in bed. It appears that my death is very near. At this time, who is there except you? If I call You with Your *Naam*, worship (pooja) will be disturbed. At this time, You yourself come, Grace me and bless me. Sadgururaya, give me Your darshan atleast once. Hence, I'll die happily. As keertan is going with loud sound, perhaps You can't hear my low voice.'

The keertan was in full swing outside. Then Sadguru stood up suddenly and asked Tukkappa to take Him to the place where Hanamant was. Tukkappa told him that he (Hanamanta) was asleep. He would take Him after the pooja (worship) was over. Sadguru told him that He wanted to see him immediately. Tukkappa took Sadguru by holding His hand hesitatingly and helplessly to the place where Hanamanta was sleeping. He saw Hanamanta covered with

the blanket. When he removed the blanket from his body, he saw Hanamanta nearing his death. He also heard the pronunciation of *Naam* from the dying man. Soon Sadguru pronounced, 'Shivaya Namah' and made his hand move on his body. Brilliance appeared on his face at once and his limbs started moving. Sadguru made him sit by holding His hands. He gained strength slowly. The kind hearted Sadguru Graced him. Tukkappa was shedding tears of joy. Then his wife came running. She found him happy through the Grace of Sadguru. Holding the Feet of Sadguru, she said, 'O Kind one, protector of the poor, You yourself came in my trouble. I felt sad that my son would die during the worship (puja time) but You came to our rescue. Though we didn't pray to You, You yourself came and having Graced my son, woke him up and you protected us' Then, Tukkappa said, 'O Sadgurunatha, we can't understand Your greatness. Still, what I want to know. We hadn't told You the news of Hanamant. How did you understand this, please, tell this to us.' Siddharudha said, `My ears are very cautious to hear the lamentation of the poor. While I was in mantapa, I heard his lamentation. The moment I heard the prayer of Hanamant, I brought you here. Thus, now, he has no fear of death. Soon he will be cured. Take him to the worship (pooja) time' Then, he went to the pendal and he sat there.

Meanwhile Keertan was ended. Preparations for the worship (puja) were ready Then Tukkappa brought Hanamanta by holding his hand. Seeing Sadguru, Hanamanta came running and held the Feet of Sadguru and said, 'O kind Sadgururaja, having heard my prayer, You came for my protection. I dedicate my life for Your service. You are my

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Master. There's none without You' Siddharudha embraced him and said, 'Bala, I'm faseinated by Your pure love. I want the pure devotees like you but understand your parents as my form and serve them and be pure' Hearing these words, Tukkappa fell at the Feet of Siddharudha and shed tears of joy. Tukkappa is the greatest of all devotees. He glows at the feet of Sadguru like a gem in the head of the garland of the saints. His love of Sadguru is his adornment. He does not want any other evidence except Siddha's words.

Tukkappa came forward and began to worship. Having hung a curtain in front of Siddharudha, he began to decorate Him. After the completion of decoration, he removed the curtain. Then a shining image manifested in the Mantap (Pendal). There was a crown studded with gems on His head which was illuminating with divine beauty and above the head, the golden serpant was lustring. His face was shining like the sun. Sarpahar (a garland of serpant) was lustring round his neck. Golden flowers looked beautiful on both the shoulders. Golden footwears suited to his Feet. Thus, decorated Siddharudha was seated on the divine throne and divine disposition pleased all devotees. They did jayakar. Someone sang mangalarati and waved lighted wicks before Siddharudha. Hanamant danced with joy. On seeing this all were startled and said, 'Greatness of Sadguru is stupendous. After the worship, Tukkappa took Siddharudha in for lunch. Siddharudha was shining like the moon among the devotees. When they came to ask for Prasad, He put a mouthful into their mouths. Thus they enjoyed their lunch. After the lunch, Sadguru went to the *matha* in a vehicle.

Now, hear the secondary meaning of the story. Tukkappa himself is good will. His wife is Sadbhakti (loving

devotion to Paramatma) The son, Hanamanth himself is *Jnana* (knowledge), Good will decided to bring Sadguru and worship Him because his knowledge, son suffered from the ignorance of his true nature. As soon as Sadguru came home, knowledge son (Jnan Putra) became careful, and happiness pervaded everywhere. Sadguru was worshipped. The kind Sadguru removed pain and misery of his devotees. He also leads people to the path of God. Besides, he always thinks of the poor and protects them.

Now, listeners, hear an interesting story in the next chapter. Here Shivadas dedicates the thirty eighth chapter of `Sri Siddharudha Kathamrita' at the Lotus feet of Sri Siddharudha, which burns all the sins by just hearing.

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