Sri Ganeshaya Namah | Sri Sadguru Siddharudhayanamah ||

Chapter 25 Forgotten the Lotus-feet of Siddha misery in business

Kept in a prison of mundane existence

Gaining attachment, He came quickly to the Lotus-feet of Sadguru

Intimate Siddha's words of security made him fortunate.

Sri Siddharudha Kathamrita Sri Siddharudha Kathamrita O Noble one, keeping my head at Your Lotus-like feet, I salute You. This is my prayer to You- Inspire me to compose this work' The service I render to You gives me happiness. That is why, all my wishes are fulfilled. I do not like any action that comes in my way to serve you. Those, who surrender to Sadguru whole heartedly, He removes their difficulties. They get happiness in this world and after their death; they receive undecaying position in the next world. Once they touch His feet, suddenly they become His devotees. They believe that there is no other alternative except Sadguru. If they turn away from Sadguru, the kind Sadgur calls them back, and does not allow them to be spoiled.

In the previous chapter it has been described A devotee called Basavanna became rich through the Grace of Sadguru. Inspite of his riches, he was worshipping Sadguru every day. Then his business grew in such a way that he could not find time to take darshan of Sadguru. Greatly immersed in his business, slowly he forgot Guru Cintan (meditation upon Guru). He forgot all the miseries that he had experienced in the past. He amassed a lot of wealth. Just listen to the fact that happened at that time. Once, when Basavanna was drawing his chariot himself, an old woman stood on the road. He was deep in thought without seeing the front, he led the chariot on the old woman and she died on the spot. The people nearby came running and stopped the chariot. Then, the

Government guards came, caught hold of Basavanna and took

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him to the police station. He was scared. He was found guilty and kept him in jail for a year. Hearing the bad news, his wife and children became sad. They ran after money. They forgot their Sadguru who saved them in their trouble. After some days when all were sleeping in Basavanna's house, some burglars came, made a big hole in the wall and entered the house. They burgled all their wealth and ornaments. They set fire on the house and ran away. Then Gurawwa and her children came out and cried. The neighbours and others came running; however they tried to extinguish the fire they couldn't. Gurawwa and her children went to their neighbour's house for shelter. Many valuables, account books were burnt. Nothing remained in the house. There was none to comfort her. Nobody came

to her rescue. Now, she remembered her past life. When she attempted to commit suicide, Siddharudha protected her. She remembered this incident. Then, Sadguru saved them from poverty and they got all the property by the Grace of Sadguru. Gurawwa says to herself. "O Sadgurunatha, we've forgotten Your help on account of arrogance gained through wealth. Disturbed himself, He brought us bad luck. Now, what shall I do? Sadguru saved us when we were in trouble, I must go to Him. But the people comment, After the loss of wealth, again they are going to Sadguru to regain the lost wealth' The wealth which made us forget Sadguru, I don't pray for it. We've forgotten the Lotus feet of Sadguru and suffered a lot. It is the only way to surrender ourselves to the feet of Sadguru and make our lives meaningful." Having thought thus, Gurawwa went to Siddharudha with her children and saluted at the feet of Sadguru. She stood before Sadguru with folded hands and said, "O Deenanatha, you Graced us. You removed our seed of pride. Therefore, we've come here to surrender to You keep us the *status* qua. Money makes us lunatic and destroys our real wealth (selfhappiness). You

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saved us when we were in trouble. We became rich through Your Grace but we forgot You. Therefore, please don't bestow wealth on us. Bowing down my head at Your feet, I pray to You to keep us as we were in the past. We suffered immensely without understanding this. You are our protector. O merciful Sadguru, pardon our wrongs. Give us troubles and make us remember You always." Shedding her tears, she kept her head at the feet of Siddharudha. Observing her repentance Siddharudha told her to meditate upon Sadguru and that her husband would return home from the jail soon. She heard the nectar like words of Siddharudha and she felt that she was greatly blessed. She said to Sadguru, "O Kind Sadguru mata, You Graced me." She, speaking thus went home. Here, in the prison, Basavanna repented and prayed, "O Sadguru, parden all my offences. I had become lunatic because of the pride of wealth. I'm now repenting. I shall never forget You until my death. For this, keep me in miseries. Hence, I can't forget You. Give me devotion at Your feet." Suddenly, the door of the prison was opened. An Officer came in and said to Basavanna, "The Chiefofficer has left you. You may go now" He sent Basavanna out; he came home and found his entire house burnt. He said to himself, "O Sadguru, You really graced me. You listened to my words of sympathy. I gave up my passion for wealth and received my earlier status. I have not lost my devotion towards You. This itself is a great gain. O Sadguru, don't place me in the bondage of bhava. I have to reserve my thought at Your feet." By that time, Gurawwa saw her

husband coming. The moment she saw her husband, she came running and fell at his feet. She said to him, "You came home through the Grace of Siddharudha". Then, Basavanna went to Sadguru and told Him in detail about what had happened. Siddha Sadguru told him to be happy with the money they have. The money which had to come from some people, to him, he collected it from them. Basavanna put it

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at Siddharudha's feet, Sadguru returned it to him and said, "Remember, this is my blessing from now onwards, attachment does not harm you. Basavanna took that money and spent the day in poverty. He always remembered Sadguru and engrossed in doing nam-smarane (remembering Guru's Naam). Gaining the firm vairagya, the couple remained uninvolved in the samsar. Then Sadguru preached jnan to them and crossed them from the ocean of samsar.

The secondary meaning of this story is - When jeeva (individual soul) gets plenty of sense objects, forgetting his source, he remains immersed in worldly affairs. But Sadguru does not like this and he

finds out a remedy to remove his attachment, delusion etc. He made jeeva kill an old woman as mamata (Love) and put him in the jail as *yoga-sadhana*. Then, the burglars as *sama-damadi* came. They all ran away burgling wealth as vasana (fancy) and burning the house as amassed. After all these exercises, Sadguru thought that jeeva got purified and he released him from all attachments and preached him Brahma jnana (knowledge of Brahma) Thus, Guru crossed jeeva from the ocean of *Samsar*.

O listers, in the next chapter you will hear a very beautiful story from which the seekers destroy the bondage of *bhava* and get the Lotus feet of Sadguru. Merciful Siddha protects His devotees without any disparity and Graces all equally. Here Shivadas dedicates the twenty fifth chapter of `Sri Siddharudha Kathamrita' at the Lotus feet of Sri Siddharudha, which burns all the sins by just hearing.

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