

Godhead is light. Nescience is darkness. Where there is Godhead, there is no nescience. (- From Srila Prabhupada's Back To Godhead Magazine)

#Vedic Wisdom:

The origin of Rādhā-kuṇḍa and Śyāma-kuṇḍa - A joking conversation between Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa.



- Purport Srimad Bhagavatam Canto 10 Chapter 36
Verse 16

The innocent young gopīs said, "Ah, Kṛṣṇa, don't touch us now, O killer of a bull! Alas, even though Ariṣṭa was a terrible demon, still he was a male cow, so You will have to undergo atonement, just as Lord Indra did after killing Vṛtrāsura. But how can You purify Yourself without going to the trouble of visiting every single holy place in the three worlds?"

[Kṛṣṇa replied,] 'Why should I have to wander throughout the entire universe? I will at once bring all the countless pilgrimage places here and take My bath in them. Just watch!' With this, Lord Mukunda struck His heel on the ground.

[Then He said,] 'This is the water of the Bhogavatī River, coming from the Pātāla region. And now, O holy places, all of you please come here!' When the Supreme Lord had spoken these words, all the holy places went there

and appeared before Him. Kṛṣṇa then addressed the gopīs as follows.

'See all the holy places!'

But the gopīs replied, 'We don't see them as You describe.'

Then those best of holy places, joining their palms in supplication, spoke up:

'I am the salt ocean.'

'I am the Ocean of Milk.'

'I am the Amara-dīrghikā.'

'I am the river Śoṇa.'

'I am the Sindhu.'

'I am the Tāmraparṇī.'

'I am the holy place Puṣkara.'

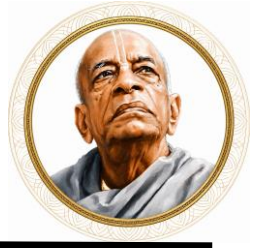
'I am the river Sarasvatī.'

'And we are the Godāvarī, Yamunā and Revā rivers and the confluence of rivers at Prayāga. Just see our waters!'

After purifying Himself by bathing, Lord Hari became quite arrogant and said, 'I have produced a pond containing all the various holy places, whereas you gopīs must never have executed any religious duties on this earth for the pleasure of Lord Brahmā.' Then Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī addressed Her girlfriends as follows.

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(A MONTH OF DEVOTION AND SERVICES)



‘I must create an even more beautiful pond. So go to work!’ Having heard these words, the gopīs saw that Ariṣṭāśura’s hooves had dug a shallow ditch just west of Śrī Kṛṣṇa’s pond.

At that nearby spot, all the gopīs began digging up lumps of soft mud with their hands, and in this way a divine pond manifested in the short span of an hour. Kṛṣṇa was astonished to see the lake they produced.

He said, ‘Go ahead, lotus-eyed one. You and Your companions should fill this pond with water from Mine.’



But Rādhā replied, ‘No, no, no, no! This is impossible, since the water of Your pond is contaminated by Your terrible sin of killing a cow.’

‘I will have My countless gopī companions bring the pure water of the Mānasa-gaṅgā here in billions of pots. In this way I will fill this lake with My own water and thus make its renown unequalled in the entire world.’

Lord Kṛṣṇa then gestured to a heavenly personality who was an intimate associate of all the holy places. Suddenly that person rose up out of Kṛṣṇa’s pond and bowed down to the daughter of Śrī Vṛṣabhānu

[Rādhārāṇī]. Then, with palms joined and tears pouring from his eyes, he began praying to Her in devotion.

‘O goddess, even Lord Brahmā himself, the knower of all scriptures, cannot understand Your glories, nor can Lord Śiva or Lakṣmī. Only Kṛṣṇa, the supreme goal of all human endeavor, can understand them, and thus He feels obliged to personally make sure that You can wash away Your perspiration when You are fatigued.’

‘He is always anointing Your lotus feet with nectarean cāru and yāvaka and decorating them with ankle bells, and He rejoices and feels most fortunate simply by satisfying the tips of the toes of Your lotus feet. On His order we have immediately come here to live in this most excellent pond, which He created by one stroke of His heel. But only if You now feel satisfied with us and bestow upon us Your merciful glance will the tree of our desire bear fruit.’

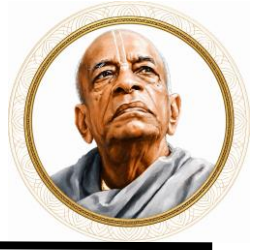
Hearing this prayer spoken by the representative of the full assembly of holy places, Śrī Rādhā was pleased and said, ‘So, kindly tell Me your desire.’

They then told Her plainly, ‘Our lives would be successful if we could come to Your pond. That is the benediction we desire.’

Glancing at Her beloved from the corners of Her eyes, the daughter of Vṛṣabhānu replied with a smile, ‘Please come.’ Her gopī companions all agreed with Her decision and became immersed in the ocean of happiness. Indeed, the beauty of all creatures, both mobile and stationary, was enhanced.

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Thus gaining the grace of Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī, the holy rivers and lakes in Śrī Kṛṣṇa-kuṇḍa forcibly broke through its boundary walls and swiftly filled Rādhā-kuṇḍa with their waters.

Lord Hari then said, ‘My dear Rādhā, may this pond of Yours become even more world-renowned than Mine. I will always come here to bathe and to enjoy My water pastimes. Indeed, this lake is as dear to Me as You are.’

Rādhā replied, ‘I will come to bathe in Your pond as well, even though You may kill hundreds of Ariṣṭa demons here. In the future, anyone who has intense devotion for this lake, which is on the spot where You chastised Ariṣṭāsura, and who bathes or resides here is sure to become very dear to Me.’

That night Lord Kṛṣṇa initiated a rāsa dance at Rādhā-kuṇḍa, generating a torrent of the greatest mood of splendid pleasure. Śrī Kṛṣṇa resembled a cloud, and Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī a brilliant flash of lightning filling the sky with abundant beauty. In this way Their divine glories permeated the expanses of the three worlds.

vaikuṇṭhāj janito varā madhu-purī tatrāpi rasotsavād

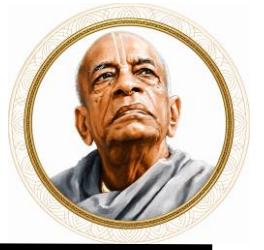
vṛndāraṇyam udāra-pāṇi-ramaṇāt tatrāpi govardhanāt

rādhā-kuṇḍam ihāpi gokula-pateḥ prītyāiva tarāsvād

yad vīryam prathitam sukhāmbudhi-taraṅgair aiḥ svāduḥ kṛtāḥ

-Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī's Upadeśāmṛta (Nectar of Instruction), verse 9

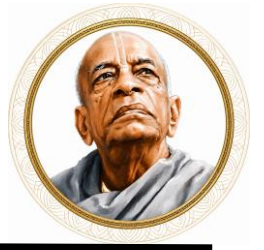
Translation by Śrīla Prabhupāda - “The holy place known as Mathurā is spiritually superior to Vaikuṇṭha because the Lord appeared there. Superior to Mathurā is Vṛndāvana, where the rāsa dance was performed. Superior to Vṛndāvana is Govardhana Hill, because it was raised by the divine hand of Śrī Kṛṣṇa and was the site of His various loving pastimes. And superior to Govardhana Hill is Rādhā-kuṇḍa, because it is flooded with the nectar of Kṛṣṇa's love for the topmost gopī, Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī. Where, then, is that intelligent person who is unwilling to serve this divine Rādhā-kuṇḍa, situated at the foot of Govardhana Hill”.



BALARAM JAYANTI :

On this sacred day, devotees glorified Lord Balaram the divine source of strength, humility, and service. The celebrations were enriched with powerful kirtans, heartfelt glorifications, soul-stirring aarti, the auspicious abhishek, and the grand offering of 56 Bhoga, all reflecting His qualities of protection and devotion. The temple atmosphere radiated energy, joy, and spiritual enthusiasm as prayers rose for Lord Balaram's blessings of strength and humility.

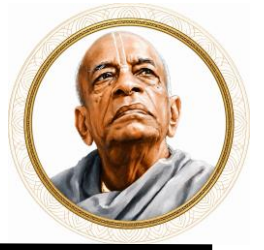




❀ SRI KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI :

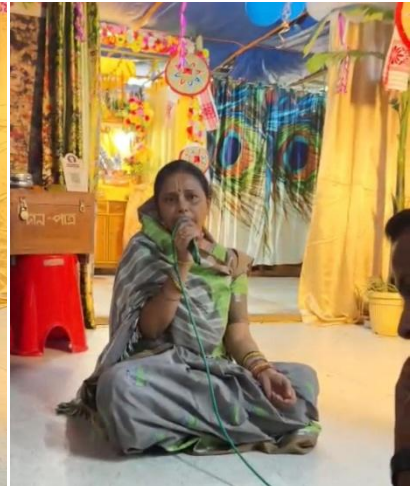
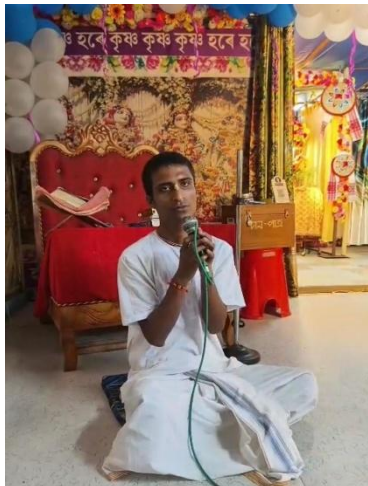
Devotees of ISKCON Jorhat joyfully celebrated the divine appearance of Lord Krishna with vibrant dances, soulful dramas, and melodious group songs. The temple resounded with the holy names, colorful decorations, and heartfelt devotion, creating an atmosphere of bliss and spiritual unity. This sacred festival became a beautiful offering of love and surrender to the Supreme Lord.

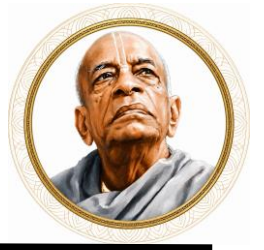




PRABHUPADA VYAS PUJA :

With deep gratitude and devotion, the devotees of ISKCON Jorhat offered heartfelt prayers, glorifications, and artistic presentations to honor His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada. The celebration included soulful kirtans, abhishek and inspiring speeches all dedicated to the **ISKCON founding Acharya** who spread the message of Lord Krishna worldwide. This sacred occasion resounded with love, reverence, and unity in service.

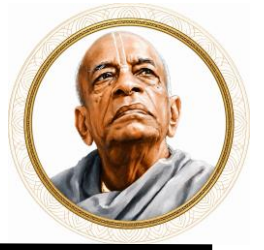




DIVINE VIBES IN THE GREEN :

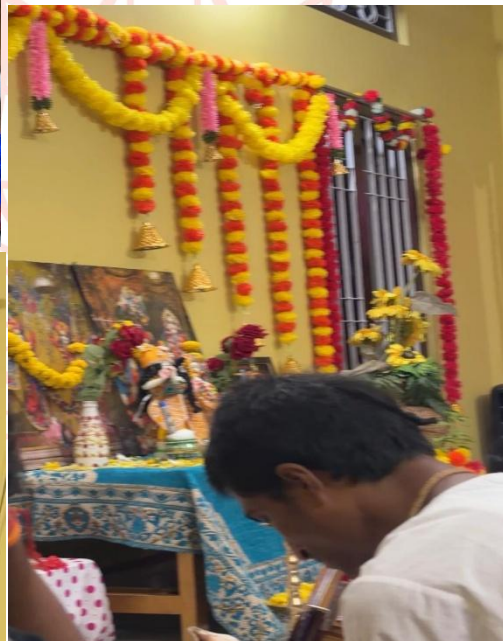
Devotees of ISKCON Jorhat gathered amidst the serene greenery in the streets .Soulful kirtans and heartfelt prayers filled the atmosphere with divine energy. The fellowship of devotees radiated peace, joy, and spiritual upliftment.

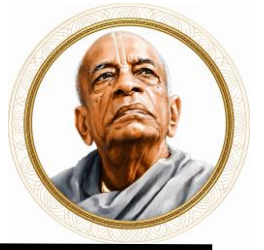




HOUSE PROGRAMS :

Certain people of Jorhat or nearby districts lovingly invite devotees into their homes for sacred gatherings. These house programs may be for house-warmings, new openings, or even casual occasions, yet each becomes a spiritual celebration.





✦ RADHASHTAMI :

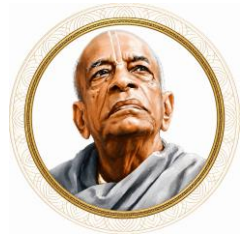
On the auspicious occasion of Radhashtami, devotees of ISKCON Jorhat gathered to glorify Srimati Radharani, the eternal consort of Lord Krishna and embodiment of pure devotion. The festival was marked with melodious kirtans, heartfelt offerings, glorification, abhishek followed by prasadam . The temple atmosphere was filled with love, reverence, and spiritual bliss as devotees prayed for the mercy of Srimati Radharani.





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(A MONTH OF DEVOTION AND SERVICES)



SUNDAY PROGRAMS /EVENTS AT ISKCON JORHAT

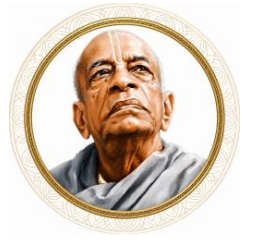
Every Sunday, ISKCON Jorhat hosts a series of devotional gatherings that bring together devotees of all ages for spiritual nourishment and joy. The day begins with **Nagar Sankirtan**, where the holy names are chanted in the streets, followed by the **Youth Session** that inspires young devotees through kirtans and discussions. Children participate in **the Gopala Kids Sangha**, engaging in Krishna-katha and playful devotional activities. The **Srimad Bhagavatam Class** deepens understanding with shlokas and practical examples, making scriptural wisdom relatable. The evening concludes with blissful **Aarti**, **soul-stirring kirtans**, and the distribution of **sanctified Prasadam**, leaving devotees spiritually uplifted and united in service.

Below are the events listed broadly for better understanding



ISKCON
— JORHAT —





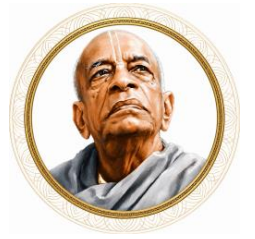
NAGAR SANKIRTAN :

On Sunday, devotees of ISKCON Jorhat joyfully performed Nagar Sankirtan, chanting the Hare Krishna Mahamantra and filling the streets with divine sound vibrations. The atmosphere was surcharged with devotion, energy, and spiritual bliss as the holy names spread peace and uplifted hearts.



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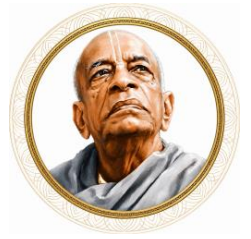
(A MONTH OF DEVOTION AND SERVICES)



YOUTH SESSION :

Young devotees came together with enthusiasm to engage in kirtans, spiritual discussions, and interactive learning. The session was enriched with group songs, inspiring talks, and devotional activities that nurtured values of discipline, service, and Krishna consciousness.





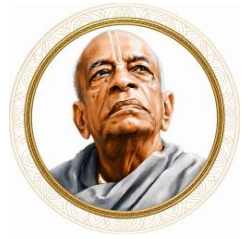
GOPALA KIDS SANGHA :

At the ISKCON Jorhat Centre, the children gathered for kirtan, Krishna-katha, and joyful devotional activities. Their innocent voices and radiant smiles filled the temple atmosphere with purity, love, and the spirit of bhakti.



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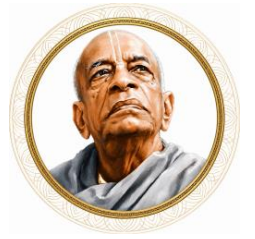
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BHAGVATAM CLASS :

Devotees gathered to dive into the timeless teachings of Srimad Bhagavatam. Along with enlightening discussions, sacred shlokas were recited and beautifully connected to practical, everyday examples — making the wisdom of the scriptures deeply relatable and transformative.





✦ AARTI, KIRTAN AND PRASADAM :

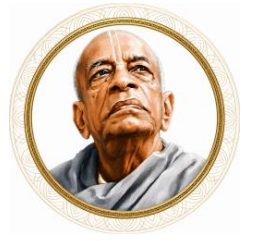
Devotees gathered at ISKCON Jorhat for the blissful evening Aarti, offering lamps and prayers to the Lord. Soul-stirring Kirtan filled the temple with divine vibrations, uplifting every heart. The program concluded with the distribution of sanctified Prasadam, nourishing both body and soul.





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MONTHLY TAKEAWAY

This month at ISKCON Jorhat was filled with devotion, joy, and spiritual nourishment — from temple celebrations and kirtans to house programs and children's sanghas. As we step into the coming month, may the blessings of the Lord continue to guide us, strengthen our faith, and inspire us to spread Krishna consciousness everywhere.

*Hare Kṛṣṇa Hare Kṛṣṇa
Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa Hare Hare
Hare Rāma Hare Rāma
Rāma Rāma Hare Hare*

