

|| Shree Hari ||

SHRI GIRIRAJJI

“CHALERI GOPAL GOVARDHAN POOJAN”

“LET US GO FOR THE WORSHIP OF
GOPAL GOVARDHAN”

Shasthpeethadhiswar Pu. Pa. Gos. 108 Shree Dwarkeshlalji Maharajshree
‘Shasthpeeth’, Shree Kalyanraj Mandir, Bajwada, Mandvi, Vaddara

Shri Girirajji is located at Jatipura in Vrija Mandal of Uttar Pradesh. The manifestation of shree Giriraji is described in the ninth chapter of ‘Giriraj Khand’ of ‘Garga samhita. It is described in nutshell as under :-

The Perfect Purushottam Shri Krishnachandra, the Supreme God has manifested Shri Golokdham out of his own innate form. First of all, Golokdham was manifested in the Central part of white skinned Shri Sheshji who was like a thread or a fibre of lotus Gangaji manifested in the form of three streams out of the lotus like feet of the Supreme God Shri Yamunaji manifested out of the left portion of the heart of the Supreme God. The entire ‘Raas Mandal’ (Divine sportive dance with groups of Gopis) manifested out of two knees of the Supreme God. Thus the entire world of divine sports was manifested out of two ankles of the Supreme God. The Supreme God began to perform divine sportive dance, after graciously staying in Golokdham with the entire world of divine sports.

Once upon a time, Shri Radhikaji saw her beloved Supreme God to Be very loved cheerful after the performance of the divine sportive dance. She requested him” Oh, Supreme God, you just try to accomplish a lovely lonely place, which is worthy of performance of divine sportive dance, very near to the ‘Nikunj’s’ [Bowers, Groves] of Vrundavan, on the banks of the river Shree Yamunaji.

The Supreme God graciously came on the banks of the river Shri Yamunaji and he was thinking of a lonely place of solitude He began to think with deep

concentration with His lotus-like eyes to find out a suitable place of divine sportive dance, out of his lotus – like heart.

At that moment there was a manifestation of great sweeping brilliance of Light along with the current of Blissful spirit in the form of , love of Gopis from Shree Krishna's heart. In the land of divine sportive dance of Vrundavan this conflagration of brilliant Light began to increase in the form of the most brilliant mountain. It began to increase in the form of the most brilliant mountain. Its began to increase in all directions. Beautiful streams of water began to flow there. Lovely caves from the mountain were also seen. The trees like Kadam, Asopalav and Mango and plants began to look more lovely and beautiful. Its outward appearance and brilliance looked very lovely like gems. Its was fully equipped with all kinds of variety of metals.

In a moment, it developed many miles long, broad and also in its height. Just as water-pots decorate the mountain One hundred peaks decorated that mountain. The inhabitant of Golokdham knew it by the names of 'Govardhan' and Shatashruna The devotee poet Shree Chaturbhujdas has described this 'Giriraj' in his following devotional song.

“Lalit Vrajdesh Giriraj Raje,

Ghosa Samantini Sang Girivardharan

Karat Nitya Keli tahan kam laje ||1||

Trividh Pavansanchare, Sukhad zaranan Zare,

Amit Saurabh saras Madhup gaje,

Lalit taru Phul Falit Khat Rutu

Sada 'Chaturbhujdas' Giridhar Samaje ||2||

Shree Radhikaji was extremely pleased with obtaining vision of Shree Govardhan. He began to move graciously in her company in lonely and solitude places.

When The Supreme God decided to manifest on earth in Saraswat kalpa, He also commanded Shree Radhikaji to come graciously to earth Shree Radhikaji said.” Where there is no Vrundavan, no Shree Yamunaji, no Shree Govardhan, my mind does not become Blissful or happy. So the Supreme God commanded the entire Golokdham to manifest on earth in Vrajmandal.

Shalmali island was located in ancient times in the western direction of India. It is very well known as South Africa at present. On that island, Drona mountain in the form of a God lived with his wife. A son named Govardhan mountain was born. At that time, the Gods made a shower of flowers. Himalaya Sumera and all other mountains came there as Gods. They all paid obeisance to Govardhan mountain. They also made a circular tour of Govardhan. Govardhan was adored and worshipped with great respect. They said while making an eulogy of him “Oh, Shree Govardhan! You graciously stay at Vrundavan in Golokdham. You are very dear to the Supreme God So you are also the greatest of all mountains here. So we will call you by the name ‘Giriraj’. We all bow down you as you are like a headcrest of Golokdham as you are adorned with signs of Vrundavan. We all bow down to you as you are like the greatest shelter and resort of Perfect Purushottam. Since then, Shree Govardhan mountain is known on earth as Shri Govardhan Shri Girirajji.

Once upon a time, the seer Pulastya came to Shalmali Island when he was on a tour of places of pilgrimage. He said to Drona mountain “Oh, Drona you are the husband of all mountains. All deities and Gods adore and worship you. I have come here to demand from your son Govardhan. Vishwanath God stays graciously at Kashi town in India. The Ganges in reality is also there. A person who dies there, achieves salvation immediately but there is no mountain. I will

keep Govardhan at Kashi town on the bank of the river Ganges. I will perform penance there in one of the caves so you give me your Govardhan mountain”.

Drona said “Oh great sage! I am twelve miles long, eighteen miles high and seven and half miles broad. How will you take me?” “Oh Govardhan, you just sit inside the palm of my right hand. I will take you to Kashi with the help of brilliance of my penance, without causing any unhappiness to you”.

“Oh saint! Once you place me at any place of the earth, I will never get up from that place. This is my religious vow”.

“Govardhan, this is also my religious vow that unless I reach the town of Kashi, I will never put you at any place”.

Pulastya saint upheld the Govardhan mountain in the palm of his right hand and went in the direction of Kashi. On the way he was passing through ‘Vraj Mandal’. Govardhan mountain was reminded of his original form of Golokdham and he was also reminded of the command of the Supreme God. He thought, “The Supreme God in reality will never manifest here, In this Vrijamandal, he will render/perform various kinds of divine sports like Baal Lila’, ‘Kishor Lila’, ‘Dan Lila’ ‘Raas Lila’, Man Lila’ etc. let me halt at this place”.

Govardhan mountain increased immensely the burden of his body. So Pulastya saint forgot his vow. He decided to take rest. He placed Govardhan mountain on the land of Vrijamandal. He decided to take bath and recite the names of God.

The saint returned and decided to uprise the Govardhan mountain but it did not move an inch at all. The saint exercised his tremendous power of strength and energy. At that time, Govardhan mountain reminded Pulastya saint of its religious pledge. “Once you place me on earth, I will not get up from this place”

Pulastya saint became very much angry. He cursed Govardhan mountain “ You have not fulfilled my innermost desire. Your size will decrease everyday to the extent of one ‘Tal’ (Like a mole or a kind of oilseed).

Thus cursing him, Pulastya saint went to Kashi since then, Govardhan mountain exists in Vrija always.

There are three innate forms of Shri Girirajji :

- (1) **Divine Form :-** In Saraswat Kalpa, when Shree Nandraji and other Gopas were performing ‘Indra Yag’ (A sacrificial Fire to appease Indra) at the behest of Shree Krishna, ‘Govardhan Yag’ (A sacrificial Fire to appease Shri Krishna) was started. In accordance with the order/command of Supreme God Annakoot was offered to Shri Girirajji. At that time, the Supreme God in reality manifested out of Shree Girirajji and declared “I am the mountain”. He assumed one thousand auspicious hands and acknowledged the offering of items of food of devotees of Vraj.

Thus Shree Girirajji resides graciously in two innate forms in the permanent place of Divine Sports.

Shri Chaturbhujdas has obtained the vision of Divine form of Shree Girirajji as ‘Haridasvarya’ in his story book of ‘Khat Rutu’ (Six seasons of the year) His description is simply nice. The age of Shri Girirajji is like that of a child of twelve years. His Innate form is dark. He has put on red dhoti, red uparno (Upper garment) and red turban. He has assumed a scepter or a mace of red colour in his auspicious hand.

- (2) **Spiritual Form :-** Another innate form of Shri Girirajji is that of ‘Perfect Purushottam’ as ‘Viprayoga Dharmi” which resides in the heart of every devotee. The reason is The Supreme God stays graciously in reality in his heart, alongwith all the members of the family of permanent place of

divine sports. Due to this reason, the divine services of Shree Girirajji are rendered alongwith the divine services of Shri Thakorji

The spiritual form of Shri Girirajji is found gracious, in act in Golokdham. Only divinely graceful vaishnavs acquire experience of Shri Girirajji, in that form Shree Gopaldasbhai Sings in his poem 'Shree Vallabhakhyam' about the spiritual form of vision of Shree Girirajji as :

“ Padmaraag Markat Mani

Sfatik shree Govardhan Sohe,

Brahma Rudra tyan Kona bada,

Shree harinan man mohe.”

Thus Shri Sirirajji is adorned with various kinds of rubies, diamonds, Topaz, Indranilmani, Quartz. Shree Mahaprabhu has enabled this kind of vision to his most divinely gracious vaishnavs.

Shree Girirajji also fulfils the innermost desires of devotees. They cannot tolerate the miseries of his devotees. His heart is very delicate. Shree Girirajji equip simian immediately the fruit, that is desired by a devotee in accordance with his will, most gracefully. The most glorious power of Shri Girirajji is today even experienced by many vaishnavs.

- (3) **Physical Form :-** In physical form, one gets the vision of Shree Girirajji in Vrija Mandal.

Thus Shree Girirajji Stays Graciously in three forms. He renders services to us and bestows us his vision.

The devotees undertake the circular tour of Shri Giraraj which is to the extent of 18 miles. This circular tour can be undertaken in three ways. The smallest circular tour is that of 7½ miles. Another circular tour is that of 10½ miles. Third circular tour is that of 13½ miles. Some Vaishnavs

undertake circular tour, with the help of currents of milk. Some devotees undertake the 'Dandavati Parikrama' of Shri Girirajji.

After understanding properly the supernatural form of Shri Girirajji one should undertake his vision, his divine services, His devotional songs and his recitation with proper understanding.

RAAG IMAN :

Tarahati Shri Govardhan Ki Rahiye

Nit Prati Madan Gopallal Ke

Chhandrakant Chitta layiye || 1 ||

Tan Pulkit Braja Rajmeh lotat

Govind kund men Nhai ye

'Rasik' Preetam Hitachitaki Baten

Shree Giridhari son Kaniya || 2 ||

The critical comments of this song are found in Shri Mathura Vrajmandal or 'Vrija Darshan – Book

Shri Girirajji is the supreme devotee out of all devoted servants of Shri Hari. He has been able to accomplish 'Dasya-Bhakti' (Devotion as devoted servant) out of nine kinds of devotion, as means of self discipline, Hanumanji has also accomplished 'Dasya Bhakti, out of nine kinds of devotion as fruit of self discipline, Shri Girirajji has accomplished' 'Dasya Bhakti' due to this reason, Shree Gopijans have conferred on 'Shree Girirajji' the designation of 'Haridas Varya' Hanumanji used only his body for the sake of fulfillment of his 'Dasya=Bhakti, while Shri Girirajji has given his body and all objects with reference to his body for the sake of the Supreme God who used all these objects. There are many caves inside Shri Girirajji. These caves provide atmosphere for all the six seasons of the year. In every cave the temple or

‘Shayya Mandir’ is in accordance with the season of the year. Streams flow and they are useful for drinking water. The delicate grass is found and it is used for taking rest, sleep. There are various kinds of fruits. The fruits are taken by Shri Pundijis (Devotee women of Bhil Caste) and they offer the Supreme God those fruits at the time of vision of Utthpan. The pulindis have become divine devotees with the help of good company of Haridas like Shri Giriraj. The vital characteristic of a divine devotee is that he possesses devotion to Divinity and he will also convert others to cultivate devotion to Divinity. Just as the wet clothes make wet the dry cloth pulindis became divine devotees with the help of company of Shri Giriraj, though they are women. Another characteristic of divine devotee is that he experiences thrilling pleasure on account of mere touch of another divine devotee. Due to this reason, Lotus like feet of Shri Giriraj, crown his auspicious hands, fingers etc. Characteristics of the supreme God are manifested on the mountain. This is revelation. Of Sattic bhav feelings. They stay graciously. So ‘Dandvat sheela’ is his lotus like feet. It is a nice divine stone. It is the form of face. Moreover Shri Govardhan is Haridas as well as the form of Divine. At the time of enjoying ‘Annakut’, the Supreme God declared “I myself am the mountain”.

It is necessary to render divine services to Divine stones of Shri Girirajji whenever you desire to render divine services to the Divine stone, it should be graciously brought with the help of auspicious hand of Shree Goswami Balaks. The gift required for that purpose, should be rendered to Shri Nathji because Shri Nathji alone is the ‘Nath’ (owner) of Shree Govardhan. We have not to offer any gift to Shri Girirajji. There are no definite rules regarding the gift or donation that one should make for that purpose. It should be done in accordance with your capacities.

Whenever you render divine services to shaligram graciously ‘Panchamrut’ should also be done to it at the time of the birth during festival days. But Shri

Girirajji is only bathed at the time of 'Govardhan Puja'. If 'Shaligrams' have not been kept graciously at that time, the divine stone Shri Govardhan is bathed with 'Panchamrut'. In all pervasive Vaikunth, Shree Girirajji is full of gems and precious diamonds (Jahan Dhatu ratna Girirajji). During the days of Sarswat Kalpa, when there was the perfect manifestation of Shri Girirajji all fortunate persons obtained the visions of Nandalaya as divine places with pillars of diamonds, the divine stones of Shri Girirajji appeared like gems and golden. The two banks of the river Shree Maharaniji also appeared to have been built of stairs studded with gems and diamonds. They look, very worldly. One has to acquire experience of presence of spirituality in those worldly things. Then they would look to be supernatural and they will obtain the vision of divinity in it.

Shree Girirajji is 'Haridas Varya' He is the Supreme divine devotee. He always remains ready to serve The Divine. He always honours cows, gops, etc. who accompany the Supreme God. He obeys the rules of religion as a house holder who is a divine devotee. Shree Girirajji shows us his supreme duties as a superme devotee by honoring day and night to Supreme God and others by giving them nice water, delicate grass and tasty bulbous root, fruits, flowers etc.

An ordinary householder will offer the guest the water to drink, the grass to sleep, the caves to stay and bulbous roots as items of food.

The bed, the Asana, the drinking water, Truth and humble speech – these four things are never scarce in the house of a householder. When a person has nothing to offer, he will welcome the guest at least with good sweet speech.

To give honours and respect to guests is one thing. But when a person considers himself self fulfilled by honoring the guest, it is an important characteristic of a devotee. To give honour and respect to guest is the ideal duty of every householder. The ideal duty is possessed by Shri Girirajji. But Shri Girirajji is a devotee. He possesses the vital quality of 'Devoted Servant' (Dasatva) alongwith his ideal as a householder. So he has fulfilled his supreme objective

as a divine devotee by offering all objects that are useful to him and they are also acknowledged by The Supreme God. Thus he has fulfilled his duties as a divine devotee.

RAAG BIHAG :

Dhani Haridasvarya sukh-rasi

Nand Nandan ko param raman sthal,

Bhakta janan ke prem prakasni1

Pooran Bhagya Pulindanin ke

Akath Katha gun sakal niwasi;

Shri Vallabh Vallavi nitta kreedat,

'Rasik das' jan darshan pyasi2

Poem :

Koti kul parvat Shri Giriraj Per Vardare,

Varo koti Ratna Kosha, Eka ratna shilape,

Shree Vraj Pen Chhatra kiye, shyamni roopdiye,

Chhahan Ras Bhoga liye, Annakoot Leela pen

Sheetalnikunj jab, phal-phool, Bhramar Gunja,

Trividh Vaye Vayun, Shyam Vraja Vaddu Milape,

Khat Rutu Vilas, Maharas Kanderame Sada,

Yugal vihar Ashta Prahar, Rasa, Zoola per.