



"Three..."

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Facts

Three lokas: Earth, Worlds below, Worlds above (Krishna is called treen lokan vapy-Bhoo, bhuva, suva)

Three elements in subtle body: Mind, Intelligence, False ego

Three namas in Hare Krsna Mahamantra: Hare, Krishna, Rama

Three karmas: Karma, Vikarma, Akarma (Akarma does not lead to bondage)

Three types of devotees: Kanistha, Madhyama, Uttama

Three types of pramanas: Pratyaksha, Anumana, and Sabda (some say another upamana pramana)

Three karana suddhi :Manasa, Vacha, Karmana

Three types of relationships: With Guru and Krishna, With Devotees, With other living entities

Three considerations: Desa (Place), Kala (Time), Patra (circumstances)

Three types of gurus: Siksha guru, Deeksha guru, Chaitya guru



Sri Krishna sambandha

Three fold bending form of the Lord Krishna unique in Krishna Avatar: Thribhanga

Three potencies of the Lord's spiritual energy: Hladini, Sandhini, Samvit

Three incarnations of the Lord: Vamana (for Aditi & Kashyapa), Prsnigarbha (Prsni & Sutapa), Krishna (Devaki & Vasudeva)

Three aspects of the absolute Truth: Sat, Cit, Ananda

Three realizations of the supreme Lord: Brahman, Paramatma, Bhagawan

Three energies of the Lord: Bahiranga-sakti(the material world), Tatastha sakthi(the living entities), Antaranga-sakti (the spiritual world)

Three main characters in top most leela: Krishna, Radha, and Gopi's

Three Visnus: Maha-Visnu, Garbhodakasayi Visnu and Ksirodaksayi Visnu (visnos tu trini rupani...)

Three gunavatars of Krishna: Brahma, Vishnu, Maheswara (Srsthi, Sthithi, Pralaya)

Sri Caitanya sambandha

Three leelas in Caitanya Charitamrta: Adi, Madhya, Antya

Three qualitative divisions of Caitanya Charitamrta: Siddhantha (Adi), Preaching(Madhya), Relationships (Antya)

Three main dhamas in Caitanya Leela: Mayapur, Jagannath Puri, Vrindavan

Three main topics in Mahaprabhu's teachings: Soul's relationship with Krishna, The method of awakening relationship, Awakened state(pure love of God).

Three main deities for gaudiya vaisnavas in Vrindavan: Radha Madanmohan (Sambandha murthi),Radha Govind (Abhideya murthi),Radha Gopinath (prayojana murthi)

Instructions

Three instructions to Jiva Goswami: Namaruchi, Jeeva daya, Vaisnava seva

Three instructions of Haridas Thakur: Vaisnava association, Secluded and peaceful place to chant, Determination

Three moods HH Radhanath Maharaj stresses (in every lecture...almost) for Hari Kirtan: Trnadapi sunichena, Taroriva sahisnuna, Amanina manadana

Three ways to establish relationships: To know, To act, To feel

Three aspects in Bhakti: Knowledge of the self, Detachment from matter,Love for Krishna and His devotees

Three identities of a devotee: Constitutional, Conditional, Circumstantial

Three dynamics of anger: Material enjoyment, Ego-centric attitude, Frustration

Three instructions of Prahlad Maharaj :Respect elders, Share with peers, Guide juniors

Three things to get rid of, instructed by Sri Krishna: Raaga(passion), Bhaya (fear), Krodha (anger); Veeta (be freed from) man maya mam upasritah

Three things Prabhupada says devotees can be judged by: Behavior, Character, Preaching

Three advices of a spiritual aspirant: Guru asraya, Initiation, Enquiry

Three phases of an action: Initiating (We do), Facilitating(Prakrthi does), Sanction(Krishna does)

Three things to surrender to Krishna: Body, Mind, Soul

Scriptural readings

Three spiritual divisions of Vedic knowledge: Sambandha, Abhideya, Prayojana

Three most sacred scriptures: Bhagavad-gita, Srimad Bhagavatam, Caitanya Charitamrta

Three occasions when Lord Krishna caps His teaching as a 'secret of secrets' (= guhya-tamam): 9-1, 15-20, 18-64 (read to reveal secret!)

Three scriptures on which all philosophies and systems are based: Bhagavad-gita, Brahma sutras, Upanishads(prasthanas)

Watch out

Three fold miseries: Adidaivika, Adhyatmika, Adibhoutika

Three obstacles in spiritual progress: Avidya, Anartha, Aparadha

Three modes of material nature: Goodness, Passion, Ignorance

and finally

Three eyes of our Sikshaguru(you know): One watching Krishna, one watching Guru and ONE watching his spiritual children (us) to progress in sadhana.

This is not numerology. After reading this article, I pray to Guru and Krishna to bless all of us to remember (smaran) Krishna when ever we see three and to that end any number. Devotional service is active engagement of senses in Krishna where ever when ever. If you come across more threes please mail me (rkv3@pitt.edu) .Stay tuned for Four, Five and Six.

I am very grateful to HH Radhanath Maharaj's lectures, HG Yugal Kishore Prabhuji's lectures and lecture notes for contributing major parts of this article. Hare Krishna!
