

Yogamaya and Mahamaya

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Extract from the Corrections

Into English, within square brackets, and

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Krishna's lila on earth [Gokula] has a particular charm compared to the lila in the realm that never manifests on earth [Goloka]. Its charm consists of the fact that the potency of the lila makes God's eternal co-players unaware of the fact that they *are* His eternal co-players. They become aware of who they are only on rare occasions and for short periods of time.

There is a significant difference between the function of the potency called *yogamaya* and the function of the potency called *mahamaya*, which keeps the atma oblivious of himself.

God's eternal co-player *serves* directly through God's potency of serving love. To intensify the Lila on earth, God's potency of cognizant love makes the co-player *believe* that he is merely a human being.

Here lies the fundamental difference: God's eternal co-player serves *directly*, often without being fully aware, even when he believes he is human.

Arjuna, for instance, is uncertain about his duties and asks Krishna just like we humans would ask a Guru. Despite being Krishna's eternal co-player, he often asks and acts as if he does not know the most fundamental facts in the Shastras. But now and then, it becomes clear to him that GOD Himself stands before him and drives his chariot. Subsequently, this awareness becomes obscured anew through God's Own potency of serving love so that the play can continue.

Man, i.e., the atma who is opposed to the service of God, is unaware of the fact that he is under the sway of maha-maya and is not only falsely identifying himself with the human body, mind and soul but *has* a body of flesh and blood and a mind consisting of

subtle matter. He is the way he is and knows himself to be. He does not express God's serving and cognizant love but complete aversion to God and utter selfishness.

Whereas the human being has to be born as a human being, as a result of deeds in former lives, God's co-players come to the world – just like Bhagavan – to a lila, a Divine play. God's co-players *believe* they are born, and in Krishna's lila of Divine fullness on earth [Gokula], they even *think*, in the capacity of being Krishna's 'parents': 'Krishna truly *is* our child.'

In Goloka, Krishna's abode that never becomes manifest in the world, the co-players know that they are His co-players for eternity; there, they only have the '*feeling*' of being the parents of God, Who for His part, has a corresponding '*feeling*' towards them: 'I am your son.'