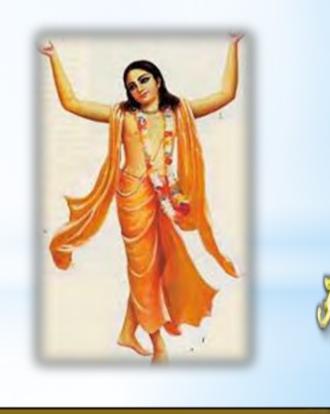


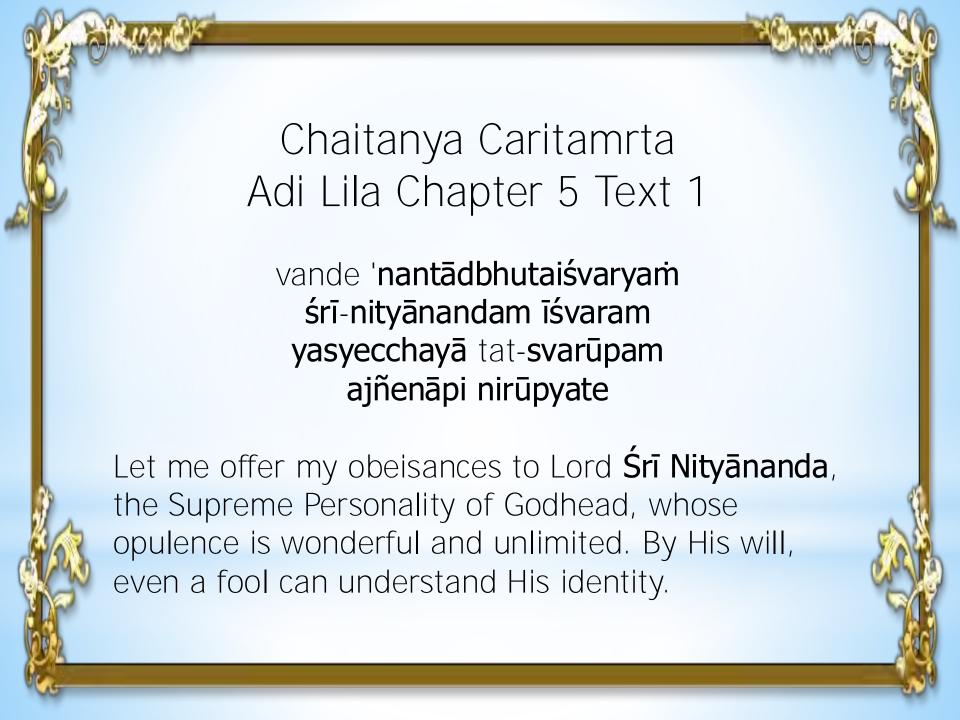
I offer my obeisances to Sri Krishna Chaitanya, Prabhu Nityananda, Sri Advaita, Gadadhara, Srivasa and all others in the line of devotion.



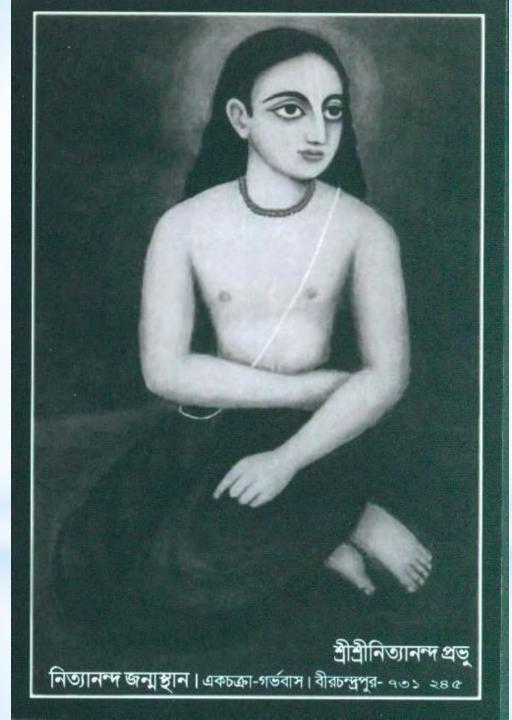


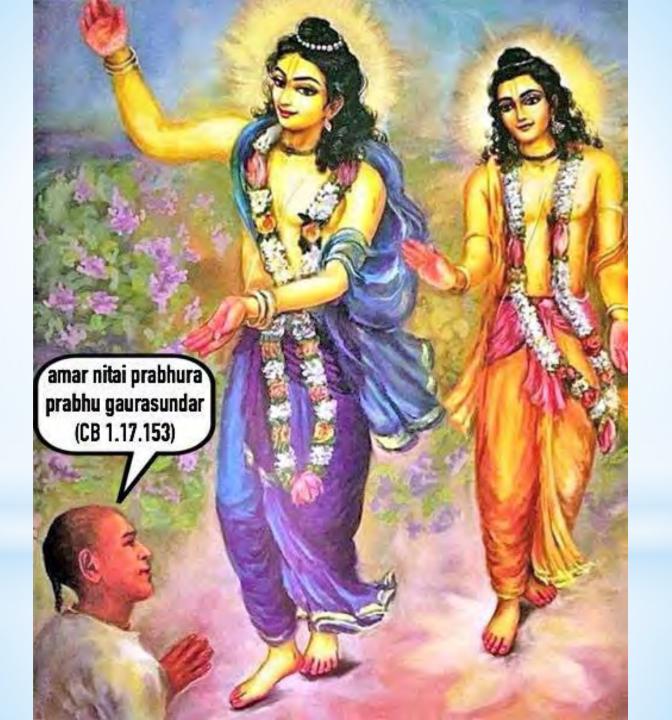
# The appearance day of Lord Nityananda













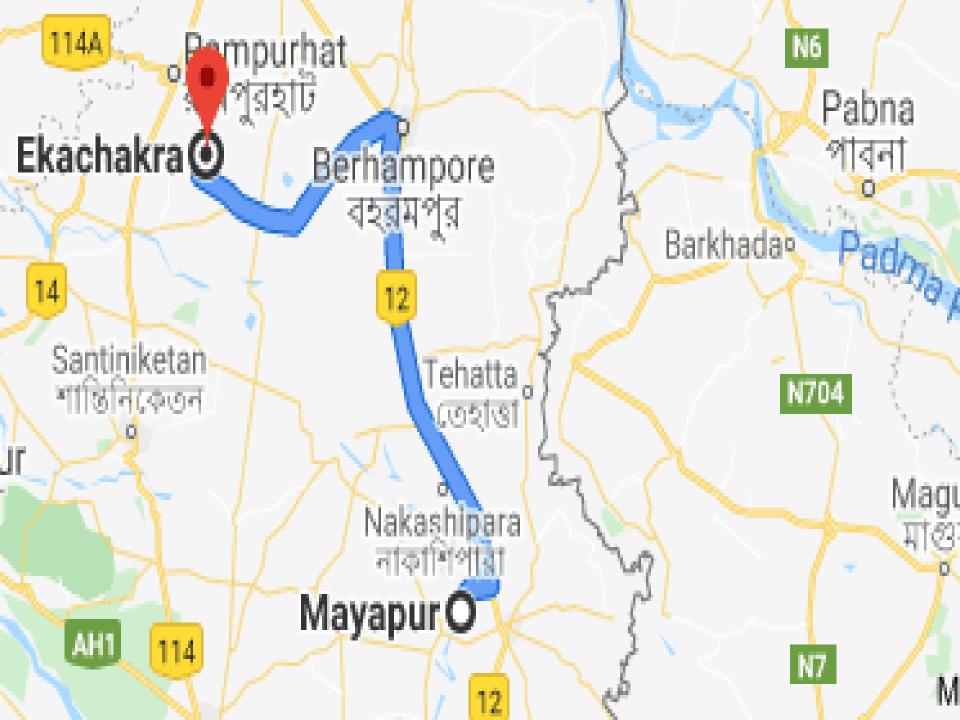




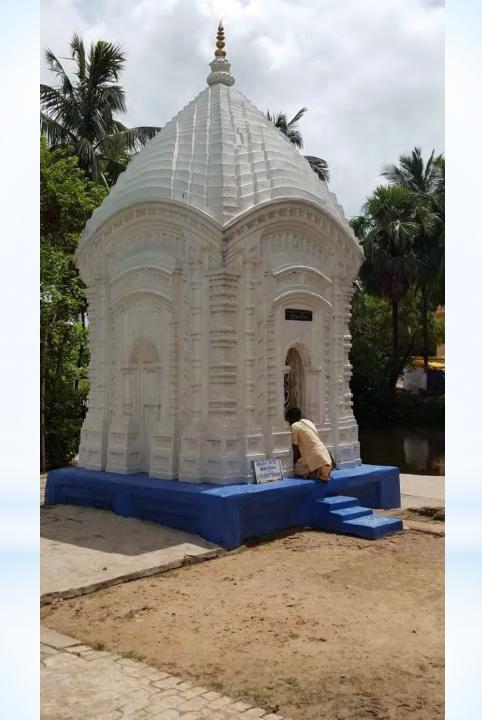


















#### Pastimes of Lord Nityananda

- Lord Nityananda is non-different from Lord Balarama added with compassion (before that He was Lakshman, Ram's anuj)
- Nityananda Prabhu was born in Ekachakra, a small village in present West Bengal
- He was born around the year 1474 (8 years before Lord Chaitanya)
- Nityananda Prabhu was born on the auspicious 13<sup>th</sup> day of the bright fortnight of the month of Maga.
- His birth site is commemorated by a Temple named Garbhashva
- His father, Hadai Ojha and mother Padmavati, were pious Brahmans originally from Mithila.
- As a child, Nitai (as Nityananda Prabhu was called), loved to enact the pastimes of Sri Krishna or Lord Rama.
- The village of Ekachakra was completely absorbed in the love of little Nitai, where He spend the first 12 years of his earthly life.

## Pastimes of Lord Nityananda

- In His 13<sup>th</sup> year, a travelling sannyasi, Srila Lakshmipati
   Tirtha, enchanted by Nitai's devotion and service, requested
   Nitai from his parents, as a travelling companion.
- His parents, bound by Vedic culture, could not refuse the request of a guest and reluctantly parted with Nitai.
- However, devastated by the separation with Nitai, that Hadai Pandit soon gave up his life.
- Nitai traveled with Lakshmipati Tirtha for about 20 years, during which He visited all the holy places in the country
- Lakshmipati Tirtha's famous disciple, Madhavendra Puri was revered by Nitai and became his spiritual master.
- Among the other disciples of Madhavendra Puri is Advaita Acharya, and Ishavara Puri (the spiritual master of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu)



## Lord Nityananda meeting Lord Chaitanya

- Nityananda Prabhu met Chaitanya Mahaprabhu in 1506, when He was 32 years old and the Lord was 20 years old.
- It is said that when Nityananda Prabhu reached the land of Nadia, He hid in the house of Nandanacharya, to heighten the ecstasy of meeting through separation.
- Chaitanya Mahaprabhu aware of the arrival of His eternal associate dispatched Haridas Thakur and Shrivas Pandit to search out Nitai, but they failed.
- Finally unable to bear the separation any longer, Chaitanya
   Mahaprabhu Himself went directly to Nityananda Prabhu and
   the ecstasy of the meeting was so transcendental that every
   one witnessing it were awed by the sublime experience.
- A Temple called Shri Gaura-Nityananda commemorates this meeting place in Nadia.



## Lord Nityananda meeting Lord Chaitanya

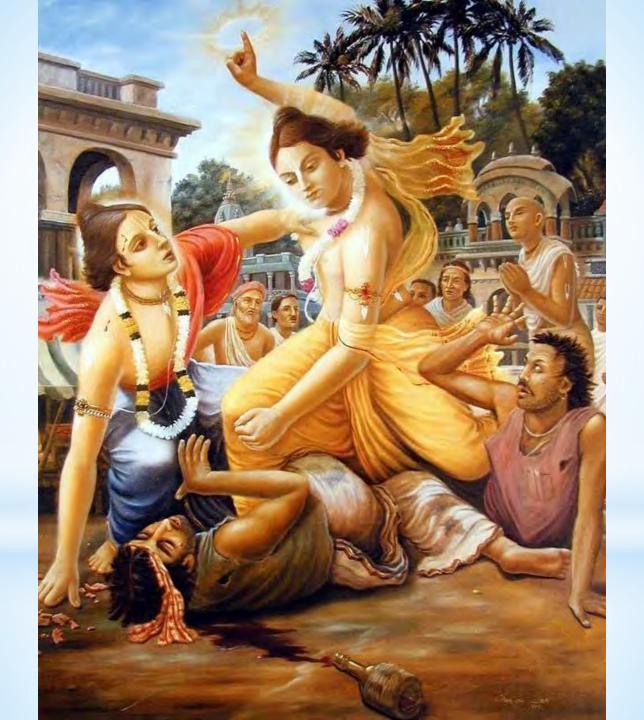
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- Then Lord Chaitanya took Nityananda to the home of Shrivas Pandit



#### The Liberation of Jagai and Madhai

- Mahaprabhu asked Nityananda Prabhu and Haridasa Thakura to serve as His door-to-door preachers, spreading the message of love of God to every home in Navadvipa.
- Nityananda and Haridasa met the two brothers Jagai and Madhai. They were from a priestly dynasty but had abandoned the pious ways of their forefathers for a life of debauchery.
- Jagai and Madhai were in a drunken stupor, creating havoc throughout the village.
- Nityananda felt compassion on these fallen souls and reasoned that if they could be rectified, then Mahaprabhu's mission would become even more well received in Navadvipa.
- Approaching the two brothers on the street, Nitai begged them to chant the holy name of Krishna.
- But the two villains just chased Nityananda down the road, shouting profanities and calling Him foul names. Madhai threw a broken clay pot that came crashing down on Nityananda's divine head, causing Him to bleed.





- When Mahaprabhu heard what had happened, He became infuriated and rushed to the area Himself.
- Summoning His Sudharshan Chakra, Mahaprabhu was prepared to kill the two repellent brothers on the spot
- However, Nityananda Prabhu reminded the Lord that the majority of people in this age are as fallen as Jagai and Madhai, and that it is His mission to liberate them with love.
- Hearing these words, Mahaprabhu forgave Jagai. But Madhai, who had perpetrated the evil deed, needed to be forgiven by Nityananda Prabhu Himself. Nityananda quickly forgave Madhai.
- When Jagai and Madhai saw Nityananda's forgiving nature toward them, their hearts were changed.
- They resolved to become devotees of Mahaprabhu's mission.
   Seeing their sincerity, Mahaprabhu took all of their sins on His own head. For a few brief moments, His beautiful golden body turned an unsightly blackish color. Indeed, when Yamaraja's assistant Chitragupta tried to tally Jagai and Madhai's collective sins, he could not do so, and collapsed from exhaustion.









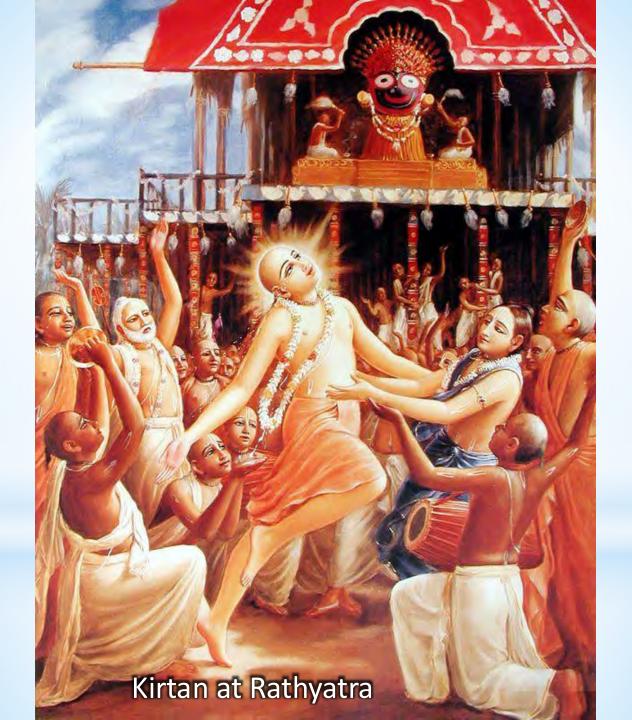
## Spreading the Sankirtana Movement

- After Chaitanya Mahaprabhu took sannyasa, Nityananda deceived Him to come to the home of Advaita in Santipura
- Later Nityananda broke the Lord's Danda in 3 parts and threw into River Bharginadi (renamed as Danda-bhanga-nadi)
- In anger, Lord Chaitanya left for Jagannath Puri
- There He was joined by Nityananda and the other devotees
- Soon thereafter, Mahaprabhu left Nityananda and proceeded on a tour of South India that was to last for two years.
- In Puri Nityananda, although feeling great separation from the Lord, spread the sankirtan movement with great relish.
- When Mahaprabhu returned, He was pleased to see that Nityananda had developed the movement in Puri. However, the movement in Navadvipa had been sorely neglected, and so, in 1511, Mahaprabhu requested Nityananda to return to Bengal.
- Nityananda Prabhu was successful in spreading Krishna consciousness throughout Bengal.















#### The mercy of Lord Nityananda

- Nityananda Prabhu in His role as the original spiritual master, was instrumental in spreading the yuga dharma of sankirtan all over the Gaudadesh (Bengal and Orissa).
- His mercy knew no bounds, and people fortunate to come in contact with Him were inundated with the love of Godhead.
- It was by His mercy that Raghunatha dasa, being born into a wealthy family, one of the six Goswamis, started the famous Danda Mahotsava festival of Panihatti, a tradition that continues to this day the devotees have as much yogurt and chipped rice as they desired.
- Nityananda Prabhu traveled on, visiting Santipur and Navadvipa, where He literally went door-to-door and begged people to surrender to Mahaprabhu's sankirtana mission. He is said to have converted no less than 1,200 male and 1,300 female Buddhists

## The glories of Mayapura

- Lord Nityananda took Jiva Goswami on a parikrama in of Navadvipa dhama (the area surrounding Mayapur), the holy abode of Lord Caitanya. When they approached Mayapur, Lord Nityananda, overwhelmed with ecstasy of love of Krishna, His Lord, spoke the following words to Jiva Goswami (Navadvipa Dhama Mahatmya, Bhaktivinoda Thakur, Chapter 5.):
- "When our Lord appears, by His desire the Ganges will swell. The Ganges water will almost cover Mayapur for a hundred years, and then the water will recede. For some time, only the place will remain, devoid of houses. Then again, by the Lord's desire, this place will become prominent, and people will live in Mayapur as before. All these ghats on the bank of the Ganges will again be manifest, and the devotees will build temples of the Lord. One exceedingly wonderful temple will appear from which Gauranga's eternal service will be preached everywhere."
- This is the Temple of Vedic Planetarium (TOVP)



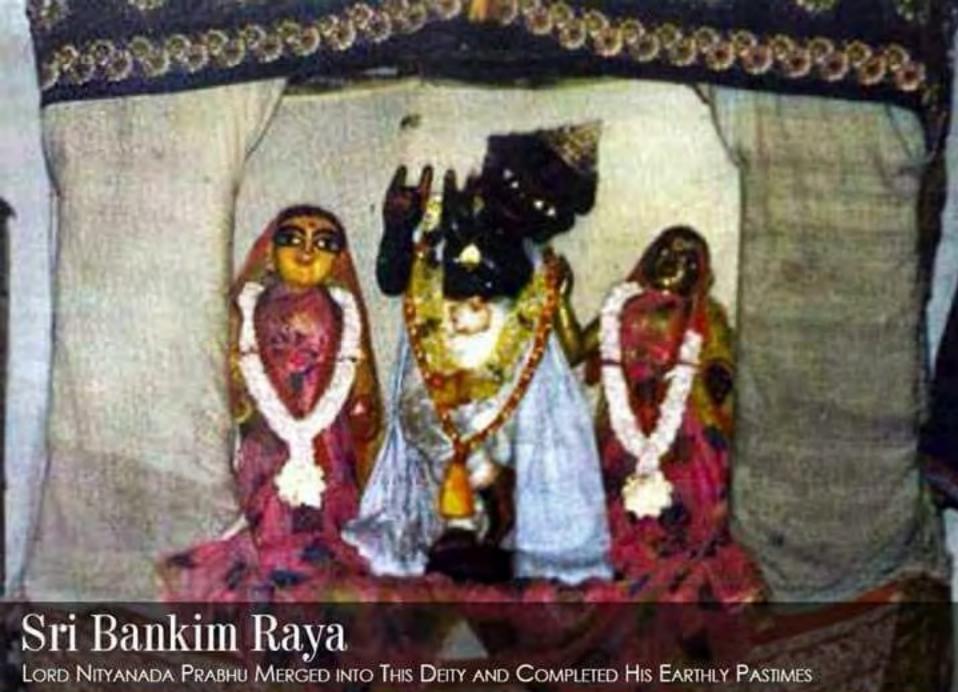


# Ambika Kalna

THE PLACE WHERE LORD NITYANANDA MARRIED TO JAHNAVA DEVI

#### Lord Nityananda marries

- When Nityananda Prabhu returned to Bengal at the request of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, He decided to abandon His avadhuta status and become a grihastha (householder).
- He married Jahnava Devi and Vashudha, the two daughters of Suryadasa Sarakhel. They were incarnations of Revati Devi and Varuni Devi, the wives of Lord Balarama.
- Nityananda Prabhu had a son (Virchandara) and a daughter (Ganga Devi) from Vashudha.
- Soon after Vashudha passed away and Jahanva Devi looked after the children.
- She later initiated Virchandra, and also became an instructing spiritual master to the wonderful souls like Shyamananda Pandit, Shrivasa Pandit and Narottama dasa Thakur.
- Jahnava Devi is revered as a Vaishnavi and she established the pre-eminent position of women in the Vaishanava tradition.



## Lord Nityananda's antim pastimes

- Lord Nityananda wound up His earthly pastimes, by merging into the Deity of Krishna, known as Bankim Ray, not far from Ekachakra.
- Vaishanava acharyas emphatically state that people who try to understand Chaitanya Mahaprabhu without getting the mercy of Nityananda Prabhu will never succeed.
- One must pray very sincerely to Lord Nityananda Prabhu as the adi-guru (original spiritual master) to be delivered to the Lotus feet of Shri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.
- The presence of Nityananada Prabhu is always felt in the presence of one's own guru, for the guru is considered to be the living manifestation of Nityananda Prabhu's love and mercy, and his shakti (power) is what gives the disciple the ability to perform devotional service and experience spiritual bliss.

#### Other pastimes of Lord Nityananda

- Wonderful pastimes with Haridas Thakura jokingly complaining to Advaita about Nitai's Avadhoot mood during door to door preaching
- Nityananda is Ananga Manjari (Radharani's younger sister) in Madhurya Rasa
- Nityananda's mercy to Sivananda Sena: Once when the devotees from Bengal again journeyed to Jagannātha Purī to see Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, the leader as usual was **Sivānanda** Sena, who traveled with his wife and children. Because arrangements were delayed en route and Lord Nityānanda did not have a suitable place to reside, He became somewhat angry with Sivananda Sena, who was in charge of the affairs of the party, and kicked him in loving anger. Śivānanda Sena felt highly favored to have been kicked by Nityānanda Prabhu.





#### Marks on the Lotus Feet of Lord Nityananda

- 1. Conch (shanka) since the conchshell mark on His feet contains the entire ocean of material existence that may now be easily crossed for those who take shelter of the lotus feet of Lord Nityananda
- 2. Flag (dhvaja) this mark announces that devotees are give security and safe protection from all sorts of fear.
- 3. Fish (matsya) This mark shows that just as a fish cannot live without water, similarly the surrendered devotees cannot live a moment without directly associating with His feet
- 4. Lotus (kamala) This mark indicates greed for nectar in the minds of the beelike devotees who meditate on Nitai's feet
- 5. Bow (dhanu) This mark reveals that those who take shelter of Nitai's lotus feet will be perpetually free from all worries and difficulties.6. Goad (ankusha) This mark indicates that meditation on Nitai's feet brings the
- elephants of the devotee's minds under control and keeps them on the right path.
- 7. Altar (vedi) This mark proclaims that the sins of those who meditate upon His feet are burned up as if on the altar of sacrifice.
- 8. Half-moon (ardha-candra) Just as the moon showers nectar with its cooling rays, similarly Nitai's lotus feet shower nectar upon the devotees, extinguishing the three-fold material miseries.
- 9. Pitcher (kalasa) This mark also indicates that His feet can pour out nectar that extinguishes the blazing three-fold miseries of the devotees.
- 10. Disk (cakra) This mark cuts down the six enemies of the devotees lust, anger, greed, illusion, envy and bewilderment.

entire creation, both within and without all manifestations

12. Umbrella (catra) - This mark proves that those who take shelter of Nitai's feet are shielded from the incessant rainfall of material miseries.

13. Cow-Hoof (gospada) - This mark signifies that for those who have taken full shelter

11. Sky (ambara) - This mark indicates that His feet are all pervading throughout the

- of uninterrupted meditation on His feet, the great ocean of worldly existence becomes very small and insignificant like the water held in a calf's hoof-print and is thus easily crossed over.
- of His devotee's karmic reactions to past sins.

  15. Rose-apple (jambu-phala) His feet are the only worshipable objects for all those who are residents of Jambudvipa

14. Thunderbolt (vrajra) - meditation on Nitai's feet smashes to pieces the mountains

17. Spear (shakti) - His feet immediately appear to slash all entanglements and difficulties18. Flower (puspa) - This mark shows that the divine fame of His feet spreads everywhere just like the fragrance of a flower. It also shows that His feet are not hard,

16. Club (gada) - Nitai's feet are capable of chastising the elephant of sinful lust

- 19. Creeper (valli) This mark symbolizes how intelligent persons hold on to the lotus feet of Lord Nitvananda firmly just as a creeper firmly grasps whatever is ascending
- feet of Lord Nityananda firmly just as a creeper firmly grasps whatever is ascending.

  20. Plow (hala) The field should be cultivated properly with the plow of Balarama,
- then the field of the heart hrdaya-ksetra becomes fertile and the seed of the devotional creeper bhaktilata- will be sown. After proper cultivation by the plow of Nityananda/Balarama when the land is fertile, then the seed should be sown. Then

when one develops prema-bhakti you will be attracted by Krishna's flute.



#### 12 holy names of Lord Nityananda

- Nityananda -- He Who embodies eternal bliss
- Avadhutendu -- The Moon of divine madmen
- Vasudha-prana-vallabha -- The beloved of the life-breath of Vasudha
- Jahnavi-jivita-pati -- The eternal divine husband of Shrimati Jahnavi-devi and the maintainer and sustainer of Her life and soul
- Krsna-prema-prada -- He Who bestows ecstatic love for Krishna
- Prabhu -- The Lord and Master of the devotees
- Padmavati-suta -- The dear son of Padmavati
- Sriman -- He of splendorous transcendental majesty
- Saci-nandana-purvaja -- The older brother of mother Saci's son
- Bhavonmatta -- He Who is maddened in overwhelming ecstatic emotions
- Jagat-trata -- The savior of the universe
- Rakta-gaura-kalevara He Whose complexion is golden tinged with red

From the writings of Sarvabhauma Bhattacharya

"I offer my obeisances to Lord Nrsimha-deva, who is always giving bliss to His devotees like Prahlada Maharaja and chiselling at the hearts of demons like Hiranyakasipu.

The devotee always sees Lord Nrsimha everywhere. Lord Nrsimha is within and without. Therefore let us all take shelter of Lord Nrsimha."

"O my Lord Nrsimha, Your hands are very beautiful, like the lotus flower, but with Your long nails You have ripped apart the wasp Hiranyakasipu. Unto You, Lord of the universe, I offer my Humble obeisances."

