



RAMAKRISHNA MISSION
VIVEKANANDA EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE
(Deemed to be UNIVERSITY)
as declared by Government of India under Section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)
PO Belur Math, Dist Howrah 711202, West Bengal, India

SWAMI GITANANDAJI MEMORIAL FUNCTION
TO BE HELD ON 17 APRIL 2026 (FRIDAY)
FROM 4.00 PM to 7.00 PM

OVERARCHING THEME:
BAHURUPE SRI KRISHNA DIVYA LILA
(SRI KRISHNA'S DIVINE PLAY IN VARIOUS FORMS)

VENUE: ABHEDANANDA CONVENTION CENTRE, BELUR MATH

PANEL DISCUSSION

Moderator: Dr Rakesh Das, Head of the Dept. of Sanskrit and Philosophy

Participants: Research scholars of the Dept. of Sanskrit and Philosophy

Sub-themes (based on Srimad-Bhagavatam):

- (1) Balya-Lila (Sri Krishna's divine play as a Child)
- (2) Vrindavan-Lila (Sri Krishna's divine play with the Gopis of Vrindavan— Paramatman engaged in divine sport, *kreedā*, with the jivas)
- (3) Kurukshetra-Lila (Sri Krishna roaring the Bhagavad-Gita—*simha-nadam-jagarja*, as Swami Vivekananda wrote, in the battle field of Kurukshetra)
- (4) Mathura-Lila (Sri Krishna's divine play as *Mathuraadbeesha*, King in Mathura)

Detailed programme:

Opening Song: Gopika Gitam (from Srimad-Bhagavatam—Swami Sarvabhadranandaji)

- (1) Invocation (Shanti mantras—sahanaavavatu..., madhuvata..., yaschandasa..., purnamadah..., with meaning in Bengali): Sanskrit students (5 mins)
- (2) On the theme of the function and its significance: Swami Atmapriyananda (5 mins.)
- (3) On Swami Gitanandaji, his inclination towards Bhaktimarga and his love for the Srimad-Bhagavatam: Devajyoti Mj (15 mins.)
- (4) Brief outline of the programme flow: Dr Rakesh Das (10 mins.)
- (5) Sri Krishna's Balya-Lila:
 - (i) Balamukunda Stotram (Shubham, a student, trained by Harish Mj—Subham),
 - (ii) Discussion (by a scholar—quoting shlokas from the Bhagavatam—Bhagavan showing the entire vishva in his mouth to his mother; pranks from the Gopikas like stealing butter etc.—the famous Muslim poet Raskhan's Hindi poem, *ses games suresh dinesh*...showing the power of Bhakti by which the Supreme Omnipotent Brahman also becomes a slave as it were—one student to be trained by Harish Mj; aham bhakti paraadhino... Mahabharata story)



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(6) Sri Krishna's Vrindavan-Lila:

- (i) Discussion (by a scholar showing that the Gopikalila is the divine sport of the Paramatman with the Jivatman quoting the shlokas from the Bhagavatam where Shuka says that it was as if a child was sporting with its own *pratibimba*, significance of the line in the Gopika Gitam: *na kbalu gopika nanadano bhavan...*, Swami Vivekananda's warning that the Gopikalila of Sri Krishna should be studied only by the purest of minds totally devoid of any carnality and free from body consciousness)
- (ii) Song: *sundara lala...* (to be sung by Swami Vidyapradanandaji)

(7) Sri Krishna's Kurukshetra-Lila:

- (i) Chanting of the stotra composed by Swamiji: *aachandaala...* by Vidyapradanandaji
- (ii) Discussion (by a scholar, fully based on the 11th Chapter of the Gita, Viswarupa Darshana Yoga, showing the terrible aspect of Bhagavan by chanting appropriate shlokas like *kaalo'smi loka...* (Gita, 11.32), ending with Arjuna, the nara-rishi, completely surrendering the Immense Mighty Power of the Cosmic Form, *viswarupa*, the supremacy of Bhakti in realizing the Infinite Being of Sri Krishna by quoting Gita shlokas 11.53-54, ending with the supreme importance of the last shloka 11.55 which is considered by Bhagavan Bhasyakara Sri Shankara as well as Sridhara Swami as the essence of the whole of Gita and the essence of all the Vedas!)

(8) Sri Krishna's Mathura-Lila:

- (i) Shlokas from the Bhagavatam or elsewhere depicting Sri Krishna's royal majesty
- (ii) Sri Krishna's remarkable childlike simplicity in spite of his royal glory—Kuchela Upaakhyanam from the Bhagavatam (shlokas to be recited and explained); in this context, to show Sri Krishna's utter humility in acts like choosing to wash the feet of the kings visiting the *rajasuya-yajna* conducted by Yudhishtira (shlokas from the Mahabharata to be recited), acting as a humble charioteer (*sarathi*) of Arjuna.

(9) Concluding remarks by the moderator, Dr Rakesh Das:

Highlighting the remarkable resemblance of Swami Vivekananda's personality to that of Sri Krishna—the dazzling but charming charisma, the indomitable courage and manifestation of power, childlike innocence (the world-conquering spiritual and intellectual giant playing like a child, with his favourite pets, goats, dog, etc., dragged by the Belur School children for their annual prize-giving ceremony to which he gladly went, finally, his touching heart-rending statement just on the eve of his passing away in *mahasamadhi*: “After all, Joe, I am only the boy who used to listen with rapt wonderment to the wonderful words of Ramakrishna under the Banyan at Dakshineswar. That is my true nature; works and activities, doing good and so forth are all superimpositions. Now I again hear his voice; the same old voice thrilling my soul.”

Place: Belur Main Campus of
RKMVERI, Deemed to be University
Date: 30 March 2026

Atmapriyananda

Swami Atmapriyananda
Pro-Chancellor & Secretary
RKMVERI