



## Religious Gatheka – Hazrat Inayat Khan

### 26. Krishna

#### **This Month's Concentration:**

Read and contemplate daily for the next several weeks

Pir-o-Murshid Hazrat Inayat Khan's lecture: Religion

#### **Reflect Daily on the Following Points in Gatheka 26**

***Hazrat Inayat Khan in this Gatheka emphasizes the follow. Let us contemplate:***

- 1. The story of Krishna, apart from its historical value and interest, is of great importance to the seeker after truth. No one knows of the father and mother of Krishna. Some say he was of royal birth. It means of kingly origin from that King Who is the King of all. Then he was given in the care of Yashoda, who brought him up as his guardian-mother. This is symbolical of the earthy parents, who are the guardians, the real father and mother being God. In the childhood Krishna, it is said, he was fond of butter and he learned as a child to steal butter from everywhere. And the meaning is that Wisdom is the butter of the whole life. When life is churned through the wheel, then out of that comes butter-wisdom, is gained from it. He was stealing it, which means wherever he found wisdom he learned it; from everybody's experience he benefited - that is stealing.*

**Contemplate:** Do we experience our "real father and mother being God"? Are we in touch with our Divine Inheritance? Do we realize the "butter of the whole life", and benefit from "everybody's experience"?

- 2. Krishna's life has two very important aspects. One aspect teaches us that life is a continual battle and the earth is the battlefield where every soul has to struggle, and the one who will own the kingdom of the earth must know very well the law of warfare. The secret of the offensive, the mystery of defense, how to hold our position, how to retreat, how to advance, how to change position, how to protect and control all that has been won, how to let go what must be given up, the manner of sending an ultimatum, the way of making an armistice - the way by which peace is made - all this is to be learned in this life's battle.*

**Contemplate:** How does the example of Krishna's life help me in our own life's battles?

3. *And the battle of each individual has a different character. The battle depends upon man's particular grade of evolution. Therefore every person's battle in life is different, of a peculiar character. And no person in the world is free from that battle; only one is more prepared for it, the other perhaps is ignorant of the law of warfare. And the success of this battle there is the fulfillment of life. The Bhagavad-Gita, the Song Celestial, from beginning to end is a teaching of the law of life's warfare.*

**Contemplate:** We can through both reflection and preparation determine if we have been and are prepared for our own life's battle in accordance with our own character and evolution?

4. *The life and teaching of Krishna has helped the people of India very much in broadening the thought of the pious. The religious man, full of dogmas, is often apt to make dogmas too rigid and expects the godly or the God-conscious to fit in with the standard of goodness. If they do not fit in with his particular idea of piety he is ready to criticize them. But the thought and life of Krishna was used by the artist and the poet and the musician, and out of it was made a new religion, a religion of recognizing the divine in natural human life.*

**Contemplate:** We can ask ourselves, "Is my outlook broad or rigid?" and "Do I recognize the divinity in a "natural human life"?"

*He tried to hear if there was anything to be heard, he tried to know if there was anything to be known. Patient as Mohammed was, he continued on the path of the search after truth. In the end he began to hear a word of inner guidance: 'Cry on the sacred Name of Thy Lord' and as he began to follow that advice, he found the re-echo of the word his heart repeated in all things of nature; as the wind repeated the same name as he did, the sky, the earth, the moon, the planets, all said the same that he was saying.*

**Contemplate:** *All the prophets experienced a dark night of the soul. In our life we too may have such experiences. What can we learn and apply in our own life from Mohammed's experience recounted above?*

5. *Murshid teaches in this Gatheka that "every real prophet must prove, that Truth alone is the conqueror and to truth belongs all victory."*

**Contemplate:** "Truth alone is the conqueror and to truth belongs all victory."

1. *Every process of meditation and concentration is to wash the soul of the stains of earthy experiences. The real use of any exercise or practises is that the Christ-voice may become audible, that the light may manifest. Once a person has heard this voice, once he has seen the light, do you think that he hears or sees anything else afterwards? No, the ears are dedicated to Christ when once one has found Christ in one's own heart*

**Contemplate:** Here Murshid is teaching us the significance and benefit of our spiritual practice.

With loving regards,  
Nuria , *Hazrat Inayat Khan Study Circle Moderator*