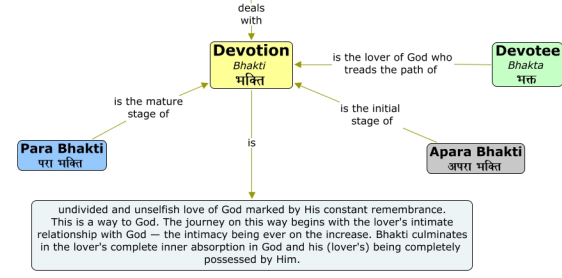


The Narada Bhakti Sutra



The 'Narada Bhakti Sutra' is a collection of 84 aphorisms (sutras) dealing with Bhakti (the love for God). The aphorisms have been authored by sage Narada of great antiquity who is one of the ten spiritual sons of Brahma. He is a great devotee, mostly absorbed in singing the glories of God, a versatile genius, has access to all places during all periods of time and whose mission in life is to propagate Bhakti. These aphorisms were originally narrated by the sage, in one of his births, to Sri Veda Vyasa, the author of several scriptures including Puranas. These aphorisms are non-sectarian in nature and have been acclaimed as a complete guide to those who want to tread the path of Bhakti.

A logical sequence underlying the aphorisms of the scripture is as follows:

Sutra no	Topic
1	hints at the prerequisites of Bhakti — 'Athato'.
2-24	deal with the characteristics and the Objective aspect of Para Bhakti.
25-33	extol Para Bhakti as superior to all spiritual disciplines.
34-50	deal with the discipline and rules of Gauni Bhakti.
51-57	point out the distinctions between Gauni and Mukhya Bhakti.
58-66	describe the importance of and accessories and obstacles to Bhakti in general.
67-80	impart instructions to and glorify Bhaktas in general.
81-84	stress the greatness of Bhakti by way of conclusion.

The Narada Bhakti Sutra

नारद भक्ति सूत्र
as interpreted by
Swami Ramarajyam
Divine Life Society, Rishikesh
Conceived and Developed at IIT Kanpur
website: <http://www.glasuperite.iitk.ac.in>
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