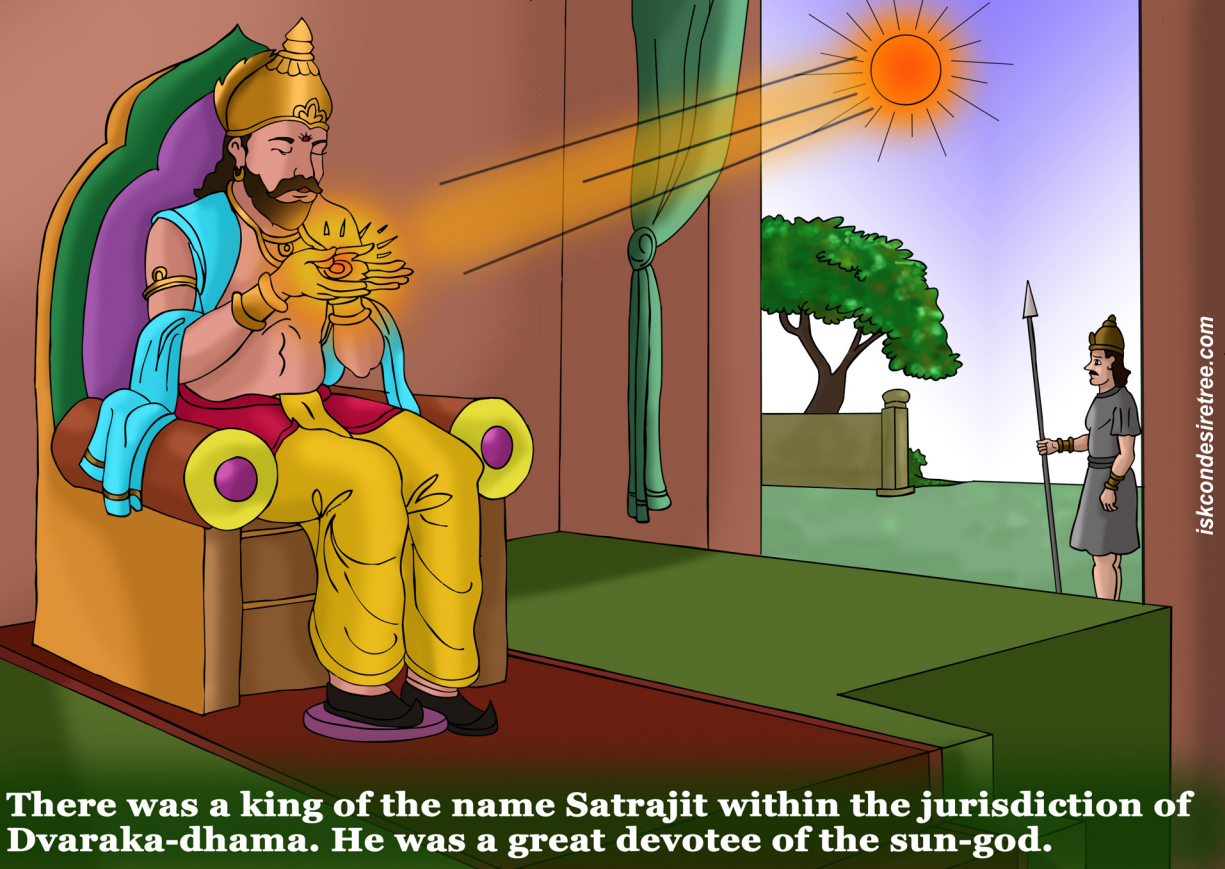




The Shyamantaka Jewel



There was a king of the name Satrajit within the jurisdiction of Dvaraka-dhama. He was a great devotee of the sun-god.



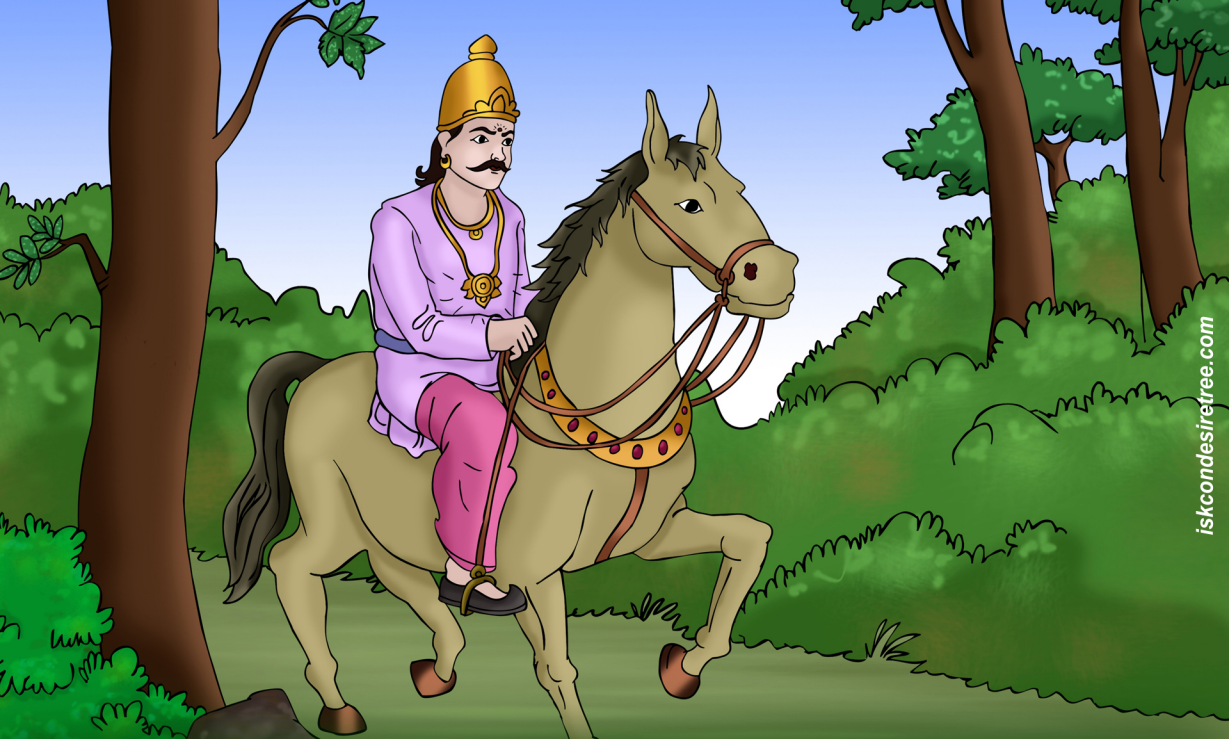
As benediction the sun-god awarded him a Shyamantaka jewel that would produce 170 pounds of gold every day.



King Ugrasena was the overlord of many dynasties and happened to be the grandfather of Krishna. Krishna asked Satrajit to present the Shyamantaka jewel to King Ugrasena.

Satrajit refused to abide by the order of Krishna and did not deliver the jewel to Him.





Next day, Satrajit's younger brother Prasena, put the jewel on his neck and rode on horseback into the forest, making a show of his material opulence.

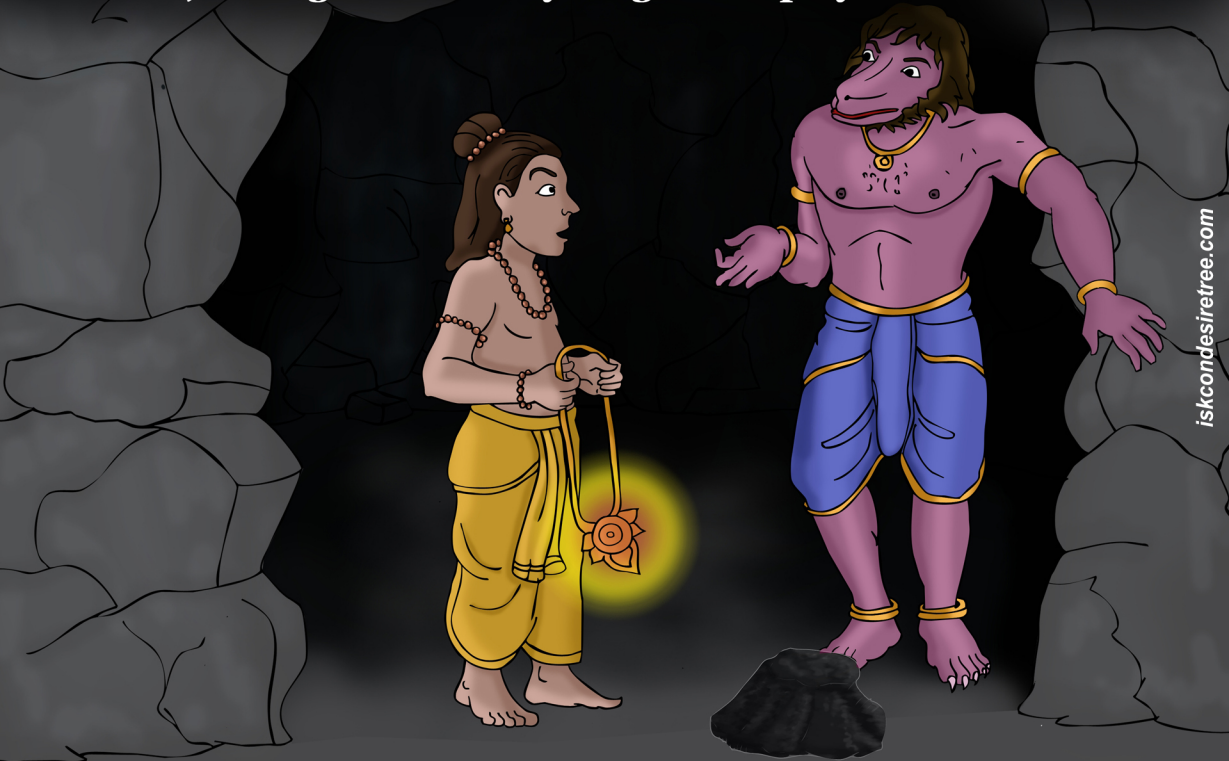
While he was moving in the forest, a big lion attacked him, killing both him and the horse and took away the jewel to his cave.





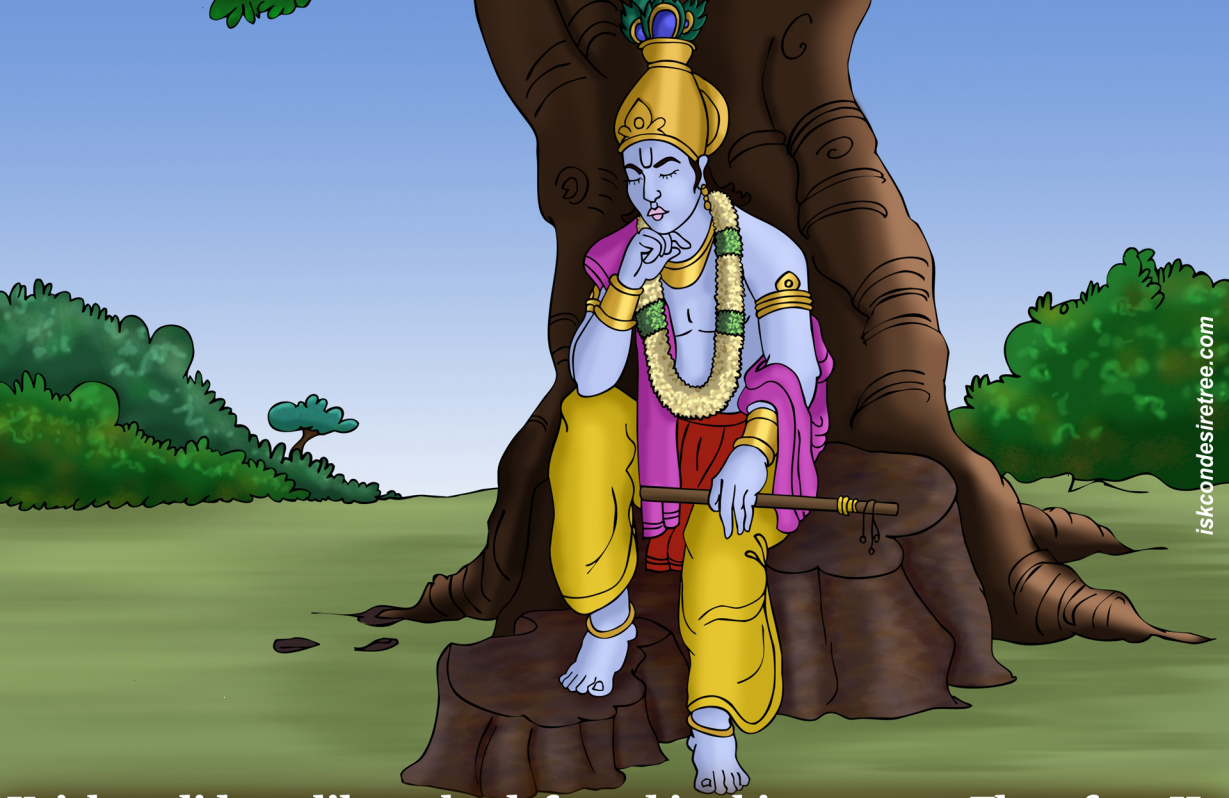
This news was received by the gorilla king, Jambavan, who killed the lion and took away the jewel.

Jambavan had been a great devotee of the Lord, since the time of Lord Ramacandra. He did not take the valuable jewel as something he needed, so he gave it to his young son to play with it.





When Prasena did not return from the forest with the jewel, Satrajit became very upset. He thought that Krishna might have taken the jewel away from Prasena by force and killed him. This idea grew into a rumor which was being spread in every part of Dvaraka by Satrajit.

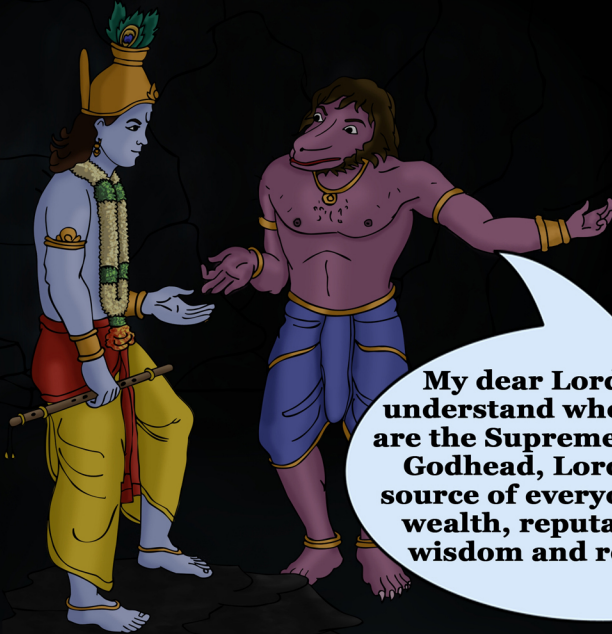


Krishna did not like to be defamed in this manner. Therefore He decided to go to the forest and find the Shyamantaka jewel.

Krishna reached Jambavan's cave. Jambavan first challenged Krishna to fight. There was a great fight between Krishna and Jambavan. They fought like two opposing vultures. The fighting continued for twenty-eight days.



After being defeated Jambavan glorified the Lord,



My dear Lord, I can now understand who You are. You are the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Lord Vishnu, the source of everyone's strength, wealth, reputation, beauty, wisdom and renunciation.

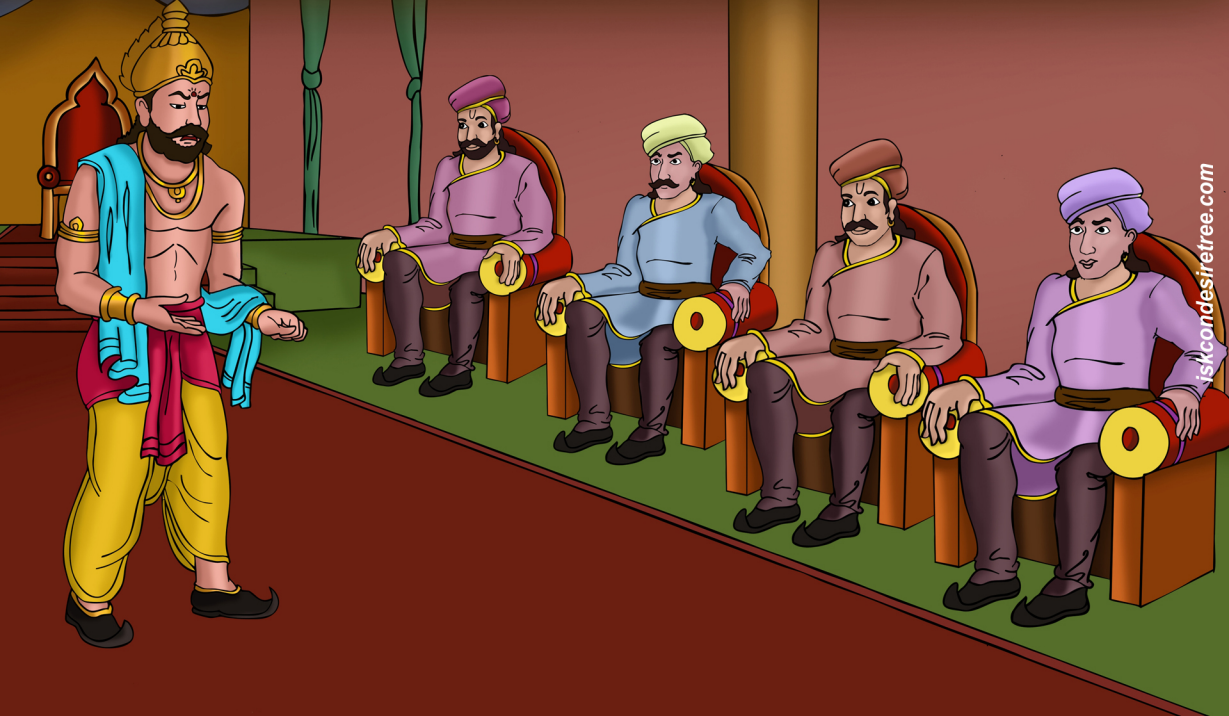


Lord Krishna became satisfied by the prayers of Jambavan. To mitigate the pains of his body, He began to smear his lotus palm all over the body of Jambavan. Jambavan at once felt relieved from the fatigue of the great fight.

Jambavan immediately delivered the Shyamantaka jewel to satisfy the Lord. He also gave his daughter, Jambavati's hand, in marriage to Lord Krishna.



King Ugrasena called for a meeting of all important kings and chiefs. He also invited Satrajit. In that assembly Krishna explained the whole incident of the recovery of Shyamantaka jewel from Jambavan.



Krishna wanted to return the valuable jewel to King Satrajit. Satrajit, however, became ashamed as he had unnecessarily defamed Krishna. He accepted the jewel in his hand but remained silent, bending his head downwards.





Satrajit was truly afflicted by the offense he had committed towards Krishna. He sincerely wanted to rectify it. From within, Krishna gave him good intelligence. Hence, Satrajit decided to hand over to Krishna both the jewel and his beautiful daughter, Satyabhama.

Lord Krishna, being pleased upon Satrajit, informed him that He did not in any way need the Shyamantaka jewel. He said,

It is better to let the jewel remain in the temple as you had kept it. Everyone will derive benefit from the jewel. As a result of the jewel's presence in the city of Dvaraka, there will be no famine, disturbances created by pestilence and excessive heat or cold.



Śrīmad Bhāgavatam



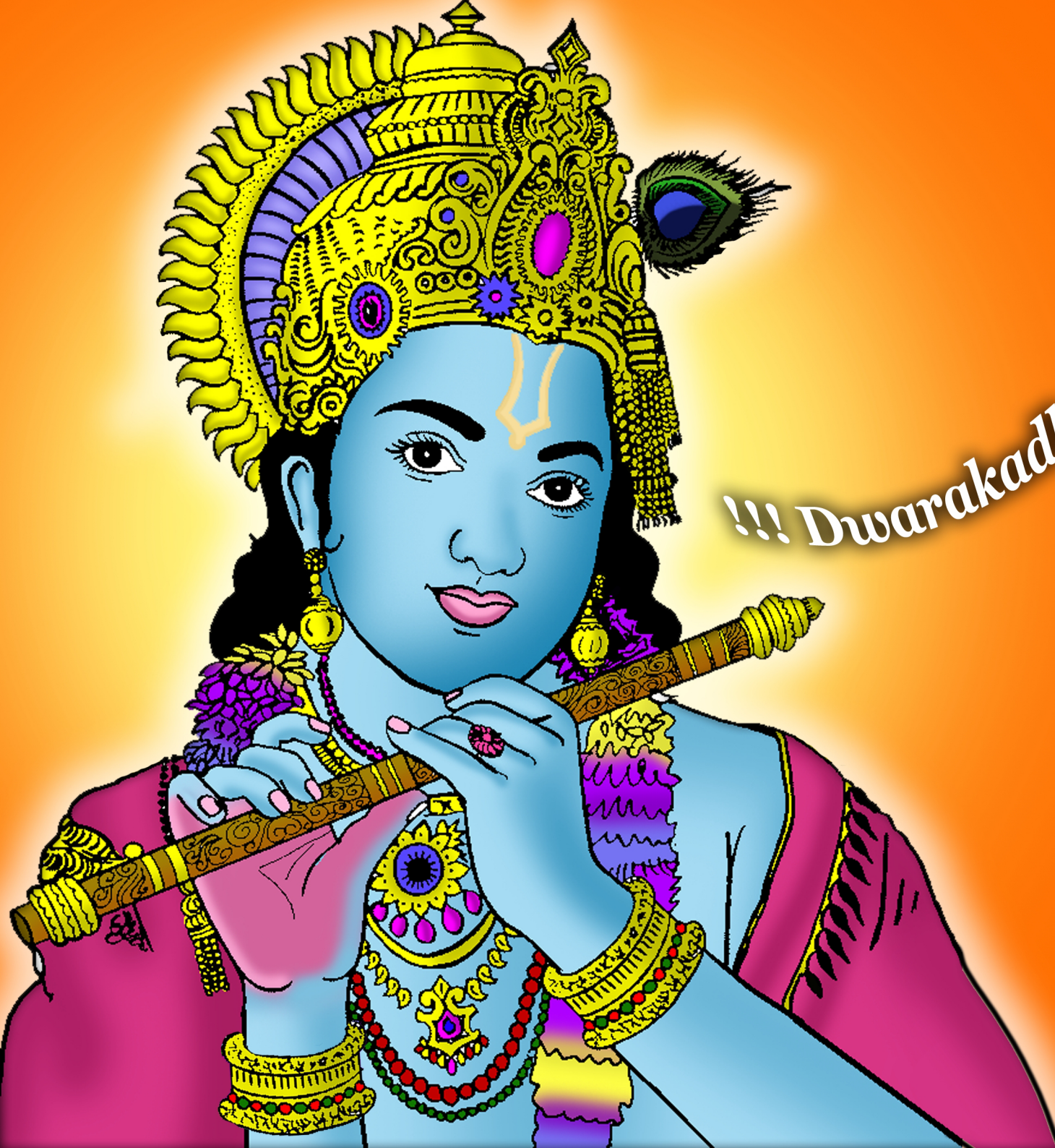
His Divine Grace

A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

Founder-Ācārya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness

Benediction

This story of shyamantaka jewel is very significant. In the Srimad Bhagvatam it is said that anyone who hears the story of the shyamantaka jewel or describes it or simply remembers it will be free from all kinds of defamation and the reactions of all the impious activities and thus will attain the highest perfectional condition of peace.



!!! Dwarakadhisha Krishna Ki Jai !!!



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