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Moksha Dharma Parva  
**Narada sees  
 Narayana's cosmic form**  
 Shānti Parva  
 Chapters 325-6

Swami Tadatmananda  
 Arsha Bodha Center

भीष्म उवाच  
 Bhishma said,  
 bhīshma uvāca

प्राप्य श्वेतं महाद्वीपं  
 Having reached the white island,  
 prāpya śvetaṁ mahādvīpaṁ

नारदो भगवानृषिः |  
 the blessed sage, Narada,  
 nārado bhagavān ṛṣiḥ

दिदृक्षुर्जप्यपरमः  
 being devoted and wanting to see the Lord,  
 didṛkṣur japyā-paramaḥ

सर्वकृच्छ्रधरः स्थितः ||  
 stayed there observing strict penance.  
 sarva-kṛcchra-dharaḥ sthitaḥ (325.1,2)

भूत्वैकाग्रमना विप्र  
 With a one-pointed mind  
 bhūtvaikāgra-manā vipra

ऊर्ध्वबाहुर्महामुनिः |  
 and his arms held high, the great sage  
 ūrdhva-bāhur mahā-muniḥ

स्तोत्रं जगौ स विश्वाय  
 recited this hymn to the Lord of all,  
 stotraṁ jagau sa viśvāya

निर्गुणाय महात्मने ||  
 the attributeless great Self.  
 nirguṇāya mahātmane (325.3)

नारद उवाच

Narada said,  
nārada uvāca

नमस्ते देवदेव निष्क्रिय निर्गुण

Salutations to You, god of gods, actionless, attributeless,  
namaste devadeva niṣkriya nirguṇa

लोकसाक्षिन् क्षेत्रज्ञ

witness of all, knower of all experiences,  
loka-sākṣin kṣetrajña

अनन्त पुरुष महापुरुष

limitless, cosmic person, great being,  
ananta puruṣa mahā-puruṣa

त्रिगुण प्रधान अमृत

with three qualities, foremost, eternal ...  
triguṇa pradhāna amṛta (325.1-11)

व्योम सनातन सदसद्व्यक्ताव्यक्त

all-pervasive, eternal, real & unreal, manifest & unmanifest,  
vyoma sanātana sad-asad vyaktāvyakta

ऋतधामन् पूर्वादिदेव

abode of truth, first among the gods.

ṛta-dhāman pūrvādi-deva (325.12-16)

भीष्म उवाच

Bhishma said,  
bhīṣma uvāca

एवं स्तुतः स भगवान्

The Lord, having been praised  
evaṁ stutaḥ sa bhagavān

गुह्यैस्तथ्यैश्च नामभिः |

with such sacred names,  
guhyais tathyaiś ca nāmabhiḥ

तं मुनिं दर्शयामास

revealed unto that sage,  
taṁ muniṁ darśayāmāsa

नारदं विश्वरूपधृक् ||

Narada, His cosmic form.  
nāradam viśva-rūpadhṛk (326.1)

सहस्रनयनः श्रीमाञ्

Blessed, with a thousand eyes,  
sahasra-nayanaḥ śrīmāñ

शतशीर्षः सहस्रपात् |

a thousand heads and feet,  
śata-śīrṣaḥ sahasrapāt

सहस्रोदरबाहुश्च

and a thousand bellies and arms,  
sahasrodara-bāhuś ca

अव्यक्त इति च क्वचित् ||

He is sometimes called the unmanifest.  
avyakta iti ca kvacit (326.6,7)

श्री भगवान् उवाच

The blessed Lord said,  
śrī bhagavān uvāca

ममैतास्तनवः श्रेष्ठा

These glorious bodies of mine  
mamaitās tanavaḥ śreṣṭhā

जाता धर्मगृहे द्विज |

were born in the realm of dharma, O Narada.  
jātā dharma-gṛhe dvija

वृणीष्व च वरं विप्र

O Narada, ask for a boon  
vṛṇīṣva ca varaṁ vipra

मत्तस्त्वं यमिहेच्छसि ||

from Me, whatever you want.  
mattas tvaṁ yam ihecchasi (326.13,14)

नारद उवाच

Narada said,  
nārada uvāca

सद्यः फलमवाप्तं वै

Everything is already gained  
sadyaḥ phalam avāptam vai

दृष्टो यद्भगवान्मया |

by my sight of You.  
dṛṣṭo yad bhagavān mayā

वर एष ममात्यन्तं

For me, this is the greatest boon,  
vara eṣa mamātyantaṁ

दृष्टस्त्वं यत्सनातनः ||

that You, the eternal, have been seen.  
dṛṣṭas tvam yat sanātanaḥ (326.15,16)

श्री भगवान् उवाच

The blessed Lord said,  
śrī bhagavān uvāca

अजो नित्यः शाश्वतश्च

Unborn, eternal, everlasting,  
ajo nityaḥ śāśvataś ca

निर्गुणो निष्कलस्तथा |

without attributes or parts,  
nirguṇo niṣkalas tathā

यश्च सर्वगतः साक्षी

all-pervasive witness,  
yaś ca sarva-gataḥ sākṣī

लोकस्यात्मेति कथ्यते ||

Self of all – thus I am called.  
lokasyātmeti kathyate (326.22,21)

मत्तः सर्वं सम्भवति

From Me, everything arises --  
mattaḥ sarvaṁ sambhavati

जगत्स्थावरजङ्गमम् |

the world, sentient and insentient.  
jagat sthāvara-jaṅgamam

अहं हि पुरुषो ज्ञेयो

I am known as the cosmic person,  
ahaṁ hi puruṣo jñeyo

निष्क्रियः पञ्चविंशकः ||

actionless, the 25<sup>th</sup> principle (of Sankhya).  
niṣkriyaḥ pañca-viṁśakaḥ (326.40,41)

अहं कर्ता च कार्यं च

I am the agent, the effect,  
ahaṁ kartā ca kāryaṁ ca

कारणं चापि नारद |

and the cause, O Narada.  
kāraṇaṁ cāpi nārada

अहं हि जीवसञ्ज्ञो वै

I am known as the individual soul.  
ahaṁ hi jīva-sañjño vai

मयि जीवः समाहितः ||

In me, all souls are supported.  
mayi jīvaḥ samāhitaḥ (326.45)

पश्यैकादश मे रुद्रान्

See within in me the eleven Rudras  
paśyaikādaśa me rudrān

दक्षिणं पार्श्वमास्थितान् |

on my right side,  
dakṣiṇaṁ pārśvam āsthitān

द्वादशैव तथादित्यान्

and the twelve Adityas  
dvādaśaiva tathādityān

वामं पार्श्वं समास्थितान् ||

on my left side.  
vāmaṁ pārśvaṁ samāsthitān (326.48)

श्रियं लक्ष्मीं च कीर्तिं च

See the blessed Goddess Lakshmi,  
śriyaṁ lakṣmīṁ ca kīrtiṁ ca

पृथिवीं च ककुद्मिनीम् |

and the Earth Goddess with mountains.  
pṛthivīṁ ca kakudminīm

वेदानां मातरं पश्य

See the mother of the Vedas,  
vedānāṁ mātaraṁ paśya

मत्स्थां देवीं सरस्वतीम् ||

Goddess Saraswati, abiding in me.  
matsthāṁ devīṁ sarasvatīm (326.52)

अम्भोधरान्समुद्रांश्च

See the clouds, the seas,  
ambho-dharān samudrāṁś ca

सरांसि सरितस्तथा ।

the ponds and rivers.  
sarāṁsi saritas tathā

त्रींश्चैवेमान्गुणान्पश्य

See the three gunas  
trīṁś caivemān guṇān paśya

मत्स्थान्मूर्तिविवर्जितान् ॥

abiding in Me without form.  
matsthān mūrti-vivarjitān (326.53,54)

ततो युगसहस्रान्ते

At the end of this cycle of creation,  
tato yuga-sahasrānte

संहरिष्ये जगत्पुनः ।

I will dissolve the world.  
sāmhariṣye jagat punaḥ

ततो भूयो जगत्सर्वं

Then once again, the entire world  
tato bhūyo jagat sarvaṁ

करिष्यामीह विद्यया ॥

I will create with my knowledge.  
kariṣyāmīha vidyayā (326.66,67)

हिरण्याक्षं हनिष्यामि

I will kill Hiranyaksha,  
hiraṇyākṣaṁ haniṣyāmi

दैतेयं बलगर्वितम् ।

the demon full of pride.  
daiteyaṁ bala-garvitam

नारसिंहं वपुः कृत्वा

Taking the the body of a man-lion,  
nārasimhaṁ vapuḥ kṛtvā

हिरण्यकशिपुं पुनः ॥

I will then kill Hiranyakashipu.  
hiraṇyakaśipuṁ punaḥ (326.73)

त्रेतायुगे भविष्यामि

In the Treta Yuga, I will become  
tretā-yuge bhaviṣyāmi

रामो भृगुकुलोद्भवः ।

Parashurama, born in the lineage of Bhṛigu,  
rāmo bhṛgu-kulodvahaḥ

क्षत्रं चोत्सादयिष्यामि

and I will kill all the kshatriyas  
kṣatraṁ cotsādayiṣyāmi

समृद्धबलवाहनम् ॥

who became too arrogant.  
samṛddha-bala-vāhanam (326.77)

रामो दाशरथिर्भूत्वा

Becoming Rama, son of Dasharatha,  
rāmo dāśarathir bhūtvā

भविष्यामि जगत्पतिः ।

I will be Lord of the world.  
bhaviṣyāmi jagat-patiḥ

हनिष्ये रावणं सङ्घो

I battle, I will kill Ravana  
haniṣye rāvaṇaṁ saṅkhye

सगणं लोककण्टकम् ॥

and his troops, who afflict people.  
sagaṇaṁ loka-kaṇṭakam (326.78,81)

प्रादुर्भावः कंसहेतोर्

To kill Kamsa, My manifestation  
prādur-bhāvaḥ kaṁsa-hetor

मथुरायां भविष्यति ।

in Mathura will take place,  
mathurāyāṁ bhaviṣyati

तत्राहं दानवान्हत्वा

where I will kill many demons  
tatrāhaṁ dānavān hatvā

सुबहून्देवकण्टकान् ॥

who afflict even the gods.  
subahūn deva-kaṇṭakān (326.82,83)

न ह्येतद्ब्रह्मणा प्राप्तम्

Even Lord Brahma never gained  
na hyetad brahmaṇā prāptam

इदृशं मम दर्शनम् ।

this vision of Me  
īdrśaṁ mama darśanam

यत्त्वया प्राप्तमद्येह

which has been gained today by you,  
yat tvayā prāptam adyeha

एकान्तगतबुद्धिना ॥

because your mind is focused.  
ekānta-gata-buddhinā (326.96)

भीष्म उवाच

Bhishma said,  
bhīṣma uvāca

एवं स भगवान्देवो

Thus, Lord Vishnu,

evaṁ sa bhagavān devo

विश्वमूर्तिधरोऽव्ययः ।

in His immutable cosmic form,

viśva-mūrti-dharo 'vyayaḥ

एतावदुक्त्वा वचनं

having spoken these words,

etāvad uktvā vacanaṁ

तत्रैवान्तरधीयत ॥

disappeared from there.

tatraivāntar-adhīyata (326.98)