

Nav-Kalebar: The Five Millennia Old Heritage

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The five millennium old 'Nav-Kalebar ceremony', also called the 'Brahm Parivartan ceremony' involving transfer of the 'sacred life force', also known as the 'Divya Tattva Padarth' from the old idols to the new ones, after every 12-19 years at the Jagannath Puri shrine in Orissa, has no parallel in the world with such old antiquity. It is also reminiscent of our advanced civilization and a tradition inherited almost 3 millennia before Christ when Lord Krishna's soul had left for heavenly abode 5117 years ago, at the beginning of the Kali-yuga era marked as 'Yugabd'. The popular legend about the ceremony is that on cremation of the corpse of Lord Krishna at the Dwarika-Coast in Gujarat, after his soul departed for the heavenly abode, the unburnt remains of his corpse were preserved as the 'Brahm Tattva' or 'sacred life force' which has been since then transferred after every 8 to 19 years from the chest of old statues to the new ones. Whenever the ceremony takes place, the four idols of Lord Krishna, Balram, Subhadra (sister of Krishna and Balram) and Sudershan are carved out a-fresh every time from new neem (margosa) trees which are identified as per the Nav-kalebar Vidhan. According to one legend, these ashes and unburnt parts of his corpse, constituting Divya Tattva have got transformed, in due course of time, into 'blue jewels' i.e. Neel-Mani and the same blue jewels, also called the life force, Brahm-Tattva or Divya Tattva, are being transferred from old idols to the new ones, carved out from wood of separate trees selected after a long search. Scientifically, transformation of bones or ashes of the human body into blue diamond by subjecting the pre-cremated bones to high temperature and pressure is not impossible, rather it is a modern day practice among many people. Algoranza of Switzerland and many other companies convert the cremated bones and hairs etc. of corpses of deceased dear-ones in Europe into blue diamond at a price and people who can afford it are getting it done. So, if the legend about the Nav-kalebar ceremony of Puri says that the ashes and uncremated remains of the corpse of Lord Krishna got transformed into blue diamond it is not totally unscientific. Thus, this legend of conversion of Lord Krishna's ashes into blue diamond or Neel-mani, speaks of a very advanced civilization. This ceremony of transferring the life force is performed in the year when there are two Ashaadh months i.e. when there is an Ashaadh month as Adhik Maas or extra month in the Hindu calendar which recurs every 19 years. Before this year's Nav-Kalebar ceremony performed on June 15, 2015, it was also performed in 1996, 1977, 1969, 1950, 1931, 1912, 1893, 1874, 1855, 1836, 1828, 1809, 1790, 1771, 1752, 1744 and 1733. The written records are available since last more than one millenium. This transfer

of life-force is done under total darkness and also the senior-most deytapatis (3 in number) performing it are blind-folded and their hands are also silk-wrapped to prevent them from seeing or feeling the divya padarth (life-force) by their touch.

Here, one should not get misguided by the description of the modern historians who have pegged the Mahabharat era and period of Lord Krishna within 700 to 1000 BC or have been dubbing the Indian scriptural sources as myth. The marine-archeological excavations, undertaken since 1980s by the National Institute of Oceanography, near the Dwarika-coast have already unearthed rich archeological relics of ancient Dwarika, including a 30 feet wide fortification wall of the then Dwarika town raised 52 centuries ago when Dwarika was founded to protect the town from sea waves, building blocks of that era with pottery and other objects of iron and copper, all depicting very advanced architectural and metallurgical skills of Indians dating back to a 5 millennia old era. Indeed, the radio-carbon and Thermoluminescent dating of the aforesaid objects found under water-near Dwarika coast, prove their age to be almost more than 5000 years old, corroborating the ancient Indian Pauranic writings which describe Lord Krishna's era i.e., Krishna Janma Samvat or year of birth falling as 5241 in 2015 AD.

Beside the archaeological relics or the remains of ancient Dwarika town, there is immense irrefutable evidence of much older civilizations like an ancient port near Dwarika with more than a thousand anchors- enough to amaze every one. Moreover, the remains of another 12000-years old sea port at the nearby Cambay (Khambhat) region of Gujarat, with more than 2500 anchors scattered on the sea-bed help to further corroborate even our Rigvedic descriptions of conduct of sea trade much before the Mahabharata era. Rigved, the oldest book of the world which is also included in the UNESCO's list of world heritage mentions sea trade through 'Shatritra' i.e. an ocean-going ship with 100 oars. Moreover, if India had such vast sea ports more than 12 millennia back i.e. dating back to 10 millennia B.C., it is a conclusive evidence of our inheriting very rich heritage comprising an advanced civilization, depicting well developed industrial economy, supported by commensurate trade and commerce.

Though there are more than one legends about these unburnt remains of Lord Krishna's body, all say that the divine life force being transferred every time whenever there are two Ashaadh months in Hindu calendar at an interval of 12-19 years, are the same remains of Lord Krishna left after his

funeral. One of the legends says that Balram Ji, the Krishna's elder brother disappeared with the post cremation remains of Lord Krishna's body in the sea which got converted into blue jewel(s).

Scientifically, conversion of bones and ashes of human corpses into blue diamond, by subjecting them to high temperature and pressure is not impossible. Rather, in Switzerland and some other countries, there are companies like Algordanza of Switzerland which convert ashes and

bones of corpses of one's dear people into blue diamond at a cost of \$5000 to \$20,000. With 2.5kg of ashes, the company makes a diamond of 0.2gm. The company has been getting an average of 800 urns filled with human ashes every year since 2004 to transform each of them into a blue diamond. Hence this legend of transformation of the ashes of corpse of Lord Krishna cremated 5117 years ago, into blue diamond(s), now being transferred from old idols to the new ones cannot be said to be an unscientific myth. Rather it speaks of a rich scientific heritage.