

Name: _____

Date: _____



Sivananda Sena



Every year one month before chaturmasya (four month period of the rainy season) Sivananda Sena would lead a party of two hundred Devotees from Bengal to Jagannatha Puri to attend the annual Ratha-Yatra festival. Sivananda Sena showed Vaishnava compassion for all living entities, be they man or beast.

Once, when a stray dog joined the party Sivananda Sena fed the dog and even paid his boat fare. When the dog disappeared one day Sivananda sent 200 men to search for him. Upon arriving in Puri, they saw Lord Chaitanya throwing coconut pulp to the dog. The dog became purified of all material contamination by eating the Maha-Prasadam remnants of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. Not seeing the dog the next day, Sivananda Sena understood that the dog had attained liberation by the mercy of Lord Chaitanya.

Sivananda Sena's son, Paramananda Sena, also known as Kavi Karnapura composed the Gaura-Ganoddesha-Dipika. Just as Vira Duti acted to enrich the pastimes of Krishna and the gopis, Sivananda Sena appeared to enrich Gaura Hari's lila. Sivananda Sena's home was in Kumarahatta. This is the same town in which Ishvara Puri, Mahaprabhu's guru, was born.