

THE UPANISHADS

Part-2

The Upanishads are in a paradoxical language. They teach us the basic truths of thought and action. Many pseudo spiritualists often tend to mislead the people by misinterpreting these scriptures. Hence one has to cautiously approach the Spiritual Master who does not deviate from the tradition. A Spiritual Master will not only help us to understand these scriptures but also will reveal the esoteric truths mentioned in them. He will also initiate us to the practice of the truths mentioned in these scriptures. H.H. Sri Sri Sri Tridandi Chinna Srimannarayana Ramanuja Jeeyar Swamiji the greatest Spiritual Master of the modern times is known across the Globe for His style of interpreting these scriptures. We are presenting *Katto:panishad* in pictorial form for the benefit of our young readers.

Katto:panishad forms a part of *Katta sa:kha* of *Krishna Yajur Ve:da*. As this *sa:kha* (branch of Veda) was taught to *Katta Maharishi* by *Vaisampa:yana* this *sa:kha* came to be known as *Katta sa:kha*. The Upanishad also is named after the *sa:kha* to which it belongs. This Upanishad tells us about one of the thirty two *Bramha vidya:s* known as *Na:chike:tha:gni vidya*. It also

tells us how a small boy called *Nachike:tha* was instrumental in bringing that *vidya* to the world of mortals.

Sage Uddalaka unintentionally said in anger, that he would give his son *Nachike:tha* to Lord Yama (god of death). *Nachike:tha*, though a small kid was conscious of the subtleties of righteousness. In order to save his father from the sin of uttering falsehood, *Nachike:tha* went to the planet of Yama, much against the wishes of his father. Lord Yama being pleased with *Nachike:tha* offered him three boons. *Nachike:tha* sought the knowledge by which one can attain eternal bliss as one of the boons from Lord Yama. Lord Yama initially hesitates to impart the sought knowledge. However, in the end, Lord Yama reveals it to *Nachike:tha* after testing him and ascertaining his mental maturity and determination to procure it. Lord Yama also named that knowledge after *Nachike:tha*. Let us know more about the same in detail, from the story.

As this Upanishad tells us about glory of *Nachike:tha* this article will be titled as *Nachike:tha* from now on.

