

Arrival of Mira

(Mira Vijayam)

A Musical Play

Love story between Bhojan and Mira

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Bharati

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Foreword

Arrival of Mira tells the story of a beautiful young woman who held true to her faith despite many severe hardships. Mira was still only a child when she decided that Ginidhara Gopal (Lord Krishna) was her 'husband' and that she wanted to devote her life to serving and worshipping him. Later, the now orphaned Mira was married to Bhojan, the prince of Mewar and son of Rana, the king of Chittoor. Bhojan fell in love at first sight but found it hard to understand Mira's utter devotion to Ginidhara. Mira suffered at the hands of her in-laws who could not understand the depth of her love for Ginidhara and wanted her to follow their worship of Kali (in the form of Durga). Mira suffered imprisonment in a haunted palace and then exile for her beliefs. Even her friends were persecuted because of her uncompromising love for Lord Krishna. Eventually Bhojan came to understand his wife's piety. The story is told in the form of a musical play where the love story is interwoven with delightful songs and dances. The character of Mira is one to win the hearts of all who read of her. Her gentle devotion and steadfast belief are an inspiration to everyone.

Thank you, Dr Shuddhananda Bharati for having made this beautiful story available to us.

Daye Craddock

Courage!

The night is through,
The chain of slavery
It is already broken -
I am full of courage!

Peace in the morning,
A golden sun rises
Like a lion superhuman
To accomplish my dream.

A hopeful smile,
Docile as a child
Who plays in the infinite
With a fiery star.

My journey is over;
I enjoy time;
The universe is my nest;
Of eternal spring.

Editor's Notes

It is a real pleasure for me to present *Arrival of Mira* to you. We have to much to learn from this musical play and love story! Thank you to Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati for having transmitted *Arriva of Mira* to us. With the blessing of *Aum Shuddha Shakti Aum*.

Christian Piaget

Song of Unity

*Unite. Unite, Unite, Oh Souls
Unite and play your roles
Unite in mind, unite in heart
Unite in whole, unite in part
Like words and tunes and sense in song
Let East and West unite and live long
Trees are many; the grove is one
Branches are many; tree is one
Shores are many; sea is one
Limbs are many; body is one
Bodies are many; self is one
Stars are many; sky is one
Flowers are many; honey is one
Pages are many; book is one
Thoughts are many; thinker is one
Tastes are many; taster is one
Actors are many; the drama is one
Nations are many; the world is one
Religions are many; Truth is one
The wise are many; Wisdom is one
Beings are many; breath is one
Classes are many; college is one
Find out this One behind the many
Then life shall enjoy peaceful harmony*

Peace Anthem

*Peace for all, peace for all
For all the countries peace
Joy for all, joy for all
For all the nations joy
A rosy morning peace
A smiling summer joy (Peace for all)*

*All for each and each for all
This is the golden rule
Life and Light and Love for all
For all that live our love (Peace for all)*

*Work and food and clothes for all
Equal status for all
Health and home and school for all
A happy world for all (Peace for all)*

*No idle rich, no more beggars
All are equal workers
No more tears, no more fears
The heart is full of cheers (Peace for all)*

*No atom scare, no fat mammon
No room for war demon
Like leaves in trees, like rays in the sun
We are one communion,
One Divine communion (Peace for all)*

*The good in you is good for all
Your life is life for all
The God in you is God for all
Your love is love for all (Peace for all)*

*For he or she or it or rest
This collective life is best
This Universal Life is best
North or South, or East or West (Peace for all)*

*Peace for plants and birds and beasts
For hills and streams and woods
Peace in Home - land and air and sea
Dynamic peace we see
Peace for all, peace for all*

Immortal Peace for All

Arrival of Mira

(A Musical Play)

Saint Shuddhananda Bharati

Chief Characters of the Play

1. Kannan - The deity
2. Mira Bai - Heroine
3. Lakshmi - Mother
4. Ratnasingh - Father
5. Ravidas - Master
6. Veeramji - Grandfather
7. Bhoja - Rava (healer)
8. Karva
Udayasingh - Rava's brothers
9. Oodhabai - Rava's younger sister
10. Vasanta - Rava's friend
11. Ravasingh Neeli - Spies
12. Chandra Bhalt - Devotee
13. Sunanda - Bhalt's wife
14. Vijayan Seva - Prince of Mandore
15. Tara - His beloved
16. Gopalas - Inhabitants of Brindavan
17. Jeevagoswami - A devotee

Others People in processions, soldiers, devotees, demons, gopalas, etc.

Places Kurki, Metatha, Chittoor, forest, Brindavan and Dwarka.

The Arrival of Meera

Act I

(Mira's childhood)

a. Who is my husband?

A huge procession is seen passing in front of Ratan Singh's palace with a band in attendance. Noise of fireworks & crackers rend the air. The bridegroom is seated on the horse. The child Mira and her mother Lakshmi watch the procession through a window. Just then, a sparkler, lighted near the bridegroom, bathes the scene with a red glow.

Mira: Who is that person?

Mother: He is the bridegroom. The husband of Jhoti Bai who lives in that street.

Mira: Who is my husband?

Mother: Hum, let me see darling. Your husband is Ginidhara Gopal (Lord Krishna).

Mira: So Ginidhara Gopal is my husband. Mother, tell me how I should behave with him?

Mother: You should love him with all your heart and worship him.

Mira: I shall do so.

Ratnasingh's voice is heard: "Lakshmi, Saint Ravidas has come. Ginidhara puja (ritual of worship) is about to start. Both of you come quickly."

b. Ginidhara is mine

The hall is decorated with festoons. On a pedestal is found a beautiful picture of Ginidhara Gopal. Saint Ravidas performs the puja, after which he strums on the tanpura (a string instrument) and sings hymns in praise of Lord Krishna with rapture. Mira croons to herself while stringing a garland of flowers.

Song 1:

O mind, direct your sincere love
Every day to the wondrous person
Blue-black, shining, even like a rain-cloud,
He the time, win all your power!
Love him, worship him, with truth,
With calmness filling your every crevice;
Worship him in the company
Of devotees, calling out "Hari, Lord,
Madhava" with love overflowing.
Place your entire trust in the Lord
Of Ravidas with hearty love burgeoning,
Escape from the net the ghouls have cast,
Of desire, passion and a bloated ego!

Ravidas: Let's offer, O heart, our deep love to the
 dusky deity, dark as the clouds in

Heaven. With words to truth and hearts tranquil. Let's join the sages and greet Madhava. Let's not be enmeshed by the demons of arrogance and avarice but love and trust the Lord worshipped by Ravidasa.

- Mira: With love...
- Ravidas: This is a divine child! What devotion! What purity of soul!
- Mira: Sir, this garland is for Ginidhara.
- Ravidas: Fine. (He garlands the idol)
- Mira: Sir, that Ginidhara is mine. He is my husband.
- Ravidas: My child, how can I give you the picture of Ginidhara I worship every day?
- Mira: (Attempts to take the picture)
Hummm... It is for me alone.
- Mother: Don't be silly. You should not make such demands. Come for dinner.
- Mira: No, no, no. I do not want any food. I want only Ginidhara.
- Ravidas: (Closes the box containing articles of worship - Puja box). Oh Gopal!
- Mira's mother: Please come for dinner. When she feels hungry she will come on her own accord.

(Everybody leaves that place)

Song 2:

Govinda Giridhara Gopala Lord of Radha
Gokula Madhava Gopala Lord of Mira.

c. The command of Lord Krishna

While Ravidas is sleeping, Lord Krishna appears before him in a dream and asks him to hand over the picture of Ginidhara to Mira.

Krishna: Oh my faithful devotee. Mira is my gopi (shepherdess – Lord Krishna is supposed to have a shepherd). She has taken birth only to serve me... Give her my idol.

Ravidas. Oh Lord, as you wish!
(Ratnasingh comes there)

Ratna Singh: Sir, Mira is adamant and refuses to eat. She says she will eat only with Ginidhara.

Ravidas: Ratnasingh, Lord Krishna has given His commands. Hereafter Ginidhara is Mira's.

Rathny Singh: Let's go.

(Ravidas takes Ginidhara and exits)

d. Mira's dedication

Mira decorates the idol of Ginidhara Gopal with flowers and while doing so talks and sings to him.

Mira: Lord! You are the soul and I am the body! Let us live together with love.

(She sings with love)

Song 3:

As I look on your face,
Darling, my heart registers
Every time a thrill,
As my love flows out,
Guileless, spontaneous.
O my beloved, respect
The grace that will not leave,
That will not desert me
O Ginidhara, Gopala
O lustrous Lord of Mira!

(Ravidas arrives)

Ravidas: Child, Ginidhara is extremely pleased with your devotion. Sing hymns in His praise with all your deep felt love.

Mira: Oh Sir, He is my life. I am very grateful to you for your kindness.

Ravidas: Child Mira, I am proceeding to Brindavan. You will meet me later.

(He blesses her and goes off)

Act II

a. Bhojan's love

The prince of Mewar, Bhojan, falls in love with Mira after hearing about her. His mother, sister Oodhabai, Kanna and Udaysingh do not realize what ails him and hence view his condition with suspicion. Bhojan's friend Vasanthan describes Mira to Bhojan. Both Bhojan and Vasanthan decide to disguise themselves and see Mira in person.

Song 4:

There is an electric current
With the appellation Mira.
My life breath, every time
It hears this name auspicious,
Burgeons with desire keen.

(The mother comes there)

Mother: Bhojan, a fine bride has been selected for you.

Bhojan: I'm not interested
(Oodhabai's arrival)

Oodhabai: Brother, get up. Let's eat.

Bhojan: I am not hungry.
(Karnan and Udaysingh arrive)

Udaysingh: Brother, come...

Bhojan: Get out...

(Vasanthan comes)

Bhojan: Come, Vasanthan. Please, leave us alone.
I and Vasanthan need to talk in privacy.

Mother: Vasanthan, call him here.
(Everyone leaves)

Vasanthan: O friend, my friend!

Bhojan: Now stop sighing, come to the matter.
How is the girl? Where is she?

Vasanthan: Mira is an incarnation of Beauty. Her
mother is dead. Her father, Ratnasingh
died on a battlefield. The girl is under
the care of VeerANJI at Mettha. All the
time she sings hymns to the glory of
Ginidhara Gopal. Crowds of people
come to hear her songs.

Bhojan: Ah... that beauty!

Vasanthan: Yes, she is undoubtedly beautiful. Now
stop moaning.

Song 5:

Throbs my inner life;
O friend, my keen desire
Boils over! My mind,
Wretched, in trouble,
I have lost to her!

Bhojan: How can I meet her?

Vasanthan: To meet Ratnasingh's daughter, you should go there as a diamond merchant; I will go with you as your younger brother. First go to eat.

Bhojan: My precious gem...

Vasanthan: Stop being love sick. Come.
(Takes him)

b. Happiness

In the hall of Veeramji's palace. Many devotes are seen meditating. Mira decorates Ginidhara Gopal. At that time two diamond merchants enter to the hall. Veeramji is seen welcoming them.

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