

Kartik Inspirations 2016

Kartik Inspiration Day 16 . 31 OCTOBER, 2016

GOVARDHAN-PUJA DAY

Today is Govardhan-puja! Giriraja plays a central role in the life of devotees. Once the gopis discussed: »O sakhis, without taking shelter of a great devotee our desires will never be fulfilled. We heard that Giriraja is the best of all devotees, let us worship Him.«

To this day, we worship Giriraja the way Krishna Himself instructed it. He told His people a few things: »Prepare delicious food: dahl, halava, sweet balls, sandesh, rasa-gula, ladhus, everything. Then invite learned brahmanas, who chant the Vedic hymns, and feed them. And then decorate the cows and feed them, also.«

Now, it may be difficult for you to find a cow close by, but if you can, show kindness and feed it – that's a good project today. Then, open the doors of kindness further: show kindness to the lower animals such as dogs, Lord Krishna says. Also the *candalas*, or people who are considered untouchable, should be given sumptuous *prasadam*.

After having taken care of Krishna's creatures, Govardhan-puja can immediately begin. If you are of simple means, workship Him with an incense and a lamp. If you worship a Giriraja-shila, offer Him an *abhisek* (traditional bathing ceremony).

The general idea is: approach the Lord through His devotees. Krishna ends His instructions by saying: »This sacrifice will satisfy Me very much.«

Let us see how we can open our hearts and kitchens today and serve Giriraja, and then all the living entities, as far as we can reach them. Hare Krishna.



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in the life of devotees.*

SACINANDANA
Swami

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