

# Kartik Inspirations 2016

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## KRISHNA'S GRATEFULNESS

Rupa Goswami describes a grateful person as someone who never forgets services that have been rendered to him. For instance, Krishna always remembered Draupadi who had chanted the holy name when she was in danger. He once said: *»When I was away from Draupadi, she cried with the words: ,He Govinda!'. This call for me has put me in her debt and that indebtedness is gradually increasing in my heart.«*

Moreover, Krishna is also grateful for services rendered in the past, possibly also in past lives. When He came as Rama, He received the services of Jambavan. Jambavan lived on after His appearance and then when He came in His original form of Krishna, Jambavan unfortunately greatly offended Him because he didn't recognise that the person in front of him, Krishna, was the selfsame Rama. He fought with Him over a precious jewel which Krishna needed to have for His *Dwaraka-lilas* (pastimes). But Krishna did not take this personally, He remembered instead the services Jambavan rendered long ago and showed him His great respect by accepting his daughter Jambavati as His wife and thus even becoming a family member.

It is said that the virtuous never forget even the smallest thing done for them. What then can be said about Krishna, the jewel of the virtuous?

My dear devotees, Krishna accepts every service we render and then is grateful for it, even if it is just chanting His Holy Names. Krishna keeps a careful record in His heart about these services.

Should we not be enthusiastic to serve such a wonderful person?

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ŚACĪNANDANA  
Swami