

# KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2018

BY THE  
BLESSINGS  
OF A GREAT  
DEVOTEE,  
LIKE TULASI,  
EVERYTHING  
IS POSSIBLE.



DAY 13 · 5 NOVEMBER, 2018

## THE PERFECT GUIDE

When you step into an unknown territory, you require a good guide – either a book or even better, a person.

One of our Vraja-guides is Tulasi or Vrinda Devi, who manifests as the Tulasi plant in this world.

Vrinda Devi is an eternal associate of the Lord, who decorates the forest of Vrindavan, so that Krishna and His associates can enjoy themselves there. Just as people in this world decorate their homes, Vrinda decorates the *kunjas*.

In the temples of our movement we worship her every day. We sing:

*“Whoever takes shelter of you, will have all his desires fulfilled. Being merciful upon him, you make him a resident of Vrindavan. It is my cherished desire, that you grant me residence in the pleasure groves of Vrindavan. Then, with my very eyes, I shall always behold the beauty of the Divine Couple.”*

At the moment we cannot see Krishna, although He is present. We cannot perceive Him in the Holy Name, although He is present. We may not always feel His presence, although He is present very very much. This is so because our vision is clouded.

There is a song to Vrinda Devi, which says:  
*“Devoid of bhakti and guilty of unlimited offences, we are thrown into the waves of the ocean of lust, anger and greed. O merciful one, get us out of it.”*

During the month of Kartik, we can pray to Vrinda Devi and worship her with *aratis*. If we don't have a plant, we can place a picture of Tulasi in our homes.

And for sure, our chanting will suddenly come to life. Our hearing about Krishna will suddenly make Him recognizable there because by the blessings of a great devotee, like Tulasi, everything is possible.