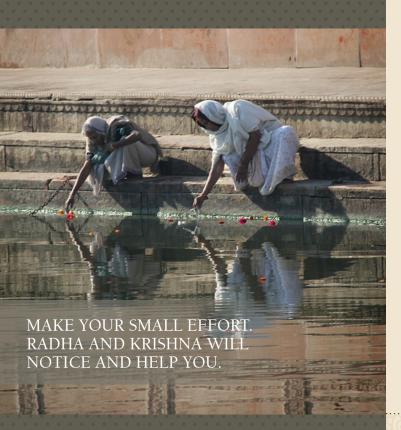
## KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2018



## THE SPIDER EFFORT

Today I sat at the banks of Radha Kund and had a wonderful realisation I must tell you about.

I had already arrived before sunrise and watched the different morning scenes. Tulasi leaves drifted by from the offering to Giriraj at the sangam. Devotees from Delhi whom I recognized sang beautiful glorifications. Later a group of villagers from the Gujar community arrived, all dressed in the most colourful outfits you can imagine. However, what caught my special attention was a group of devotees circulating Radha Kund in a particular way. Their left hands were holding onto the lower step and they splashed water into the *kund* with their right hands. In this way they moved around, clockwise, until they came to me. They were really blissful, chanting the Holy Names and splashing water into the *kund*.

Finally I couldn't contain my curiosity. I know one of these devotees since many years and asked him: "Why are you splashing water into the kund?"

Gravely he answered: "See, I have heard from many people, including scientists, that the kunds in Braja are not being circulated enough. That's why algae grow

and it smells because too many people take their bath. I asked what would help these kunds and they said there is only one solution: oxygen. The best would be a fountain, like fountains and pools with many bathers in the West have them. But a fountain will never work at Radha Kund. Pilgrims will not like it and the people who live here will not allow it. So all I can do is to take my own hand, inspire a few other people and splash water in order to give the kund oxygen."

I replied: "That's wonderful. That reminds me of the little spider who helped Lord Rama build the bridge from the mainland to Sri Lanka."

And he said: "Yes, Maharaja. That's what we are, little spiders trying to satisfy Srimati Radharani and Krishna." "But," he paused: "when you give your best, when you make your little spider effort, Those you try to please, will take note. And They will decide: I must help this person."

What a good formula! Make your effort, even if it is small, and Krishna and Srimati Radharani, will notice, especially in this month. And They will decide: "I must help this person."