

KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2019


As I'm sitting here in Vrindavan something is becoming very clear to me: genuine spiritual insights are given to persons who have matured. The process of maturation in spiritual life is undeniable. I would like to give a traditional example: mangos are picked when they are still unripe. Then, they are stored in a shed under many layers of leaves. Like this, heat develops which matures in a way that makes them extremely sweet, juicy and yellow.

In the same way, a person comes to spiritual life and is not yet perfect. Then, they enroll in a process of maturation, just like the unripe mango is exposed to the heat. As the "heat" increases the person comes to a state of compassion, love and direct experiences in bhakti. Then that person is relishable for Krishna and can meet the Lord.

What exactly is the process of maturation in spiritual life? It's feeling the heat of separation from Krishna: *"My dear Lord, this world doesn't satisfy me any more. When I'm really in touch with my self, I can see that without You all my achievements are not satisfying. I long for You only."*

This heat of separation makes the material world appear pale and uninteresting, and brings about a quick maturation. Caitanya Mahaprabhu taught this. According to Him there is no superior process than feeling: *"Krishna, I only need You."*

May all become yellow, sweet, juicy and tasty mangos and in this way fit for the transcendental enjoyment of the Lord!



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