

# KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2019

WHEN WE WANT TO PLEASE  
KRISHNA, WE ENTER THE  
KRISHNA-FLOW AND THINGS  
HAPPEN EFFORTLESSLY.

A few days ago we had our annual Haridev program. Haridev in Govardhan town is the presiding Deity of the whole area of Govardhan, Radha-kund, Shyamakund, Govinda-kund, Ritu-kund, Kusum-sarovara and Jatipur. Lord Chaitanya also visited Him and engaged in wonderful *kirtan*, chanting and dancing, like it was His habit. Every year we have a five hour *kirtan* there and the *pujaris* (priests) told us, they wait the whole year for it. Everyone appreciates it: Brijbasi children, devotees from the Krishna-Balaram temple, devotees who reside in the Govardhan area, Bengalis and Brijbasi priests. They all participate and appreciate the ecstatic atmosphere that is created by all these devotees praising Haridev together. Even the bats and the pigeons take part in the *kirtan*. They become so enthusiastic that they are sometimes not in the control of their digestion, so this year we built a pandal in the main *kirtan* hall so their droppings don't fall on the heads of the participants.

The speciality of such an event is that everyone joins one mind set, one master mind. They want to give pleasure to Harideva by singing His Holy Name and then the Deity responds in extraordinary ways.

Suddenly you feel a river coming from the altar, a river of mercy. Or put modernly, a flow starts to happen in which wonderful things come together. For instance, my friend Bhadri-vishal came from Haridwar and brought a lamp with fifty gheewicks that we waved in the temple. The priest even took it and brought it right on the altar to show Haridev, "Look, what a wonderful lamp the devotees brought." Then, a big cart box full of *bhoga* (food preparations) arrived which was offered on the altar so that the devotees could take *prasadam*.

This flow during which things happen effortlessly is one of the wonderful outcomes of *bhakti*, by which *shubhada*, an auspicious atmosphere is created. This can also be experienced in the West, when we come together in a festival and then join this one intention, to give pleasure to Krishna, to connect with Him. It's a wonderful experience, to be in the Krishna-flow.