

KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2021



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MANIFEST AND HE COMES RIGHT
INTO THE CENTRE OF OUR HEART.

RADHA BRINGS KRISHNA UNDER HER CONTROL

Today I remembered how six days ago we celebrated the Govardhan puja. It was really something. We came into the forest of Giriraj where we started our Govardhan retreats and it was already filled with devotees, pilgrims, and colourfully decorated cows. They all assembled before a huge, earthen throne where many Govardhan Shilas were waiting for the puja to start. Then we sang kirtan, listened to katha, and in the end we all bathed every one of these hundreds or so Shilas. We ended everything with the flower bath, or flower *abhisheka*. So, that was very memorable.

However, what stood out the most for me was the amazing atmosphere around Giriraj. It is an atmosphere where you feel absolutely sheltered, you feel absolutely carried. Even when you walk around Giriraj, you feel you are carried around by Him. Now, this atmosphere was amplified many, many times over because we worshipped Him. When you worship Krishna, more of His qualities become manifest and they touch your heart. Without worship, Krishna may sometimes appear a little distant, but as we worship Him, He comes right into the centre of the heart.

The whole worship or life here in Vrindavan is pervaded by love. Love binds the beloved if it is selfless. This brings us to the last, the twenty-fifth quality of Srimati Radharani—She always keeps Krishna under Her control.

Once Krishna expressed Himself about this constant relationship of being under Radha. He said to Radharani, “O Radhika, I have plucked a mass of flowers which were untouched by the bees. And I have also brought many undamaged peacock feathers, just like You told me. I see You are preparing a garland, but there is no need to use these fresh leaves. Give Me an order and I will do everything, so a person like Me should act totally under Your guidance and control.”

Here you can see the power of *bhakti*, the power of Radharani, Her extraordinary selfless love that brings Krishna under control. Learning in the school of Radha means to learn selfless love.

Let us turn to Srimati Radharani with a prayer or being mindful of this quality—how She totally rules Krishna’s heart.

Śacīnandana Prasādi

ŚACĪNANDANA SWAMI