

KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2021



“O, RADHA!
WHEN WILL YOU SHOWER
YOUR SIDE-LONG GLANCE
OF MERCY UPON ME?”

PRAYER FOR RADHA'S MERCY

This is the last day of the month of Kartik. I think all of us have a full heart, or at least a heart that is touched. We have for sure created some experiences. And yes, we were dedicating these Kartik Inspirations all to Srimati Radharani. On this last day I want to recite a very, very nice prayer that glorifies Her.

*munīndra-vṛnda-vandite triloka-śoka-hāriṇi
prasanna-vaktra-paṅkaje nikuñja-bhū-vilāsini
vrajendra-bhānu-nandini vrajendra-sūnu-saṅgate
kadā kariṣyasīha mām kṛpā-katākṣa-bhājanam*

“O, Radha, You are adored by all the best of sages! O, Radha, You remove all the miseries of the three worlds! Radha's joyfull face blooms like a lotus flower. In Braja's secret groves Radha delights in pastimes of love. Vrishabhanu-nandini Radha is the charming daughter of King Vrishabhanu and She always associates intimately with Sri Nanda-nandana. O, Radha! When will you shower Your side-long glance of mercy upon me?”

Imagine one little smile on the face of Radha. A smile, because She sees we are making an effort, then our life is perfect. This very wonderful stava-rajā or king of all prayers ends with a few exclamations.

O Makesvari Radha, Queen of Vedic sacrifices;
O Kriyeshvari Radha, Queen of all pious activities;
O Svadhesvari Radha, Queen of all that is natural and spontaneous;
O Suresvari Radha, Queen of all the demigods and goddesses;
O Triveda-bharatisvari Radha, Queen of all the knowledge of the three Vedas;

O Pramana-sasanesvari Radha, Queen of the determined action of all scriptural principles;
O Ramesvari Radha, Queen of all the goddesses of fortune;
O, Ksamesvari Radha, Queen of forgiveness.
(And we will end here, as the full list is much longer.)

We very much resonate with this last word. See, here in this world we look often according to what is not right, we see that. But Radha looks in a different way. She is ready to forgive all the things that are not right, the mistakes we make, if only we concentrate on doing our best to make things right. That is really the vision, to see everything which is good and forgive that which is still not good. Of course, no one should hold on to the bad things. No, we should give our level best, knowing that Srimati Radharani will see our endeavour to go to what is possible within our limits. And then She will forgive all that anchors us to the world and will take us to the other side, to Her kingdom.

I wish you all the best. May your year after the month of Kartik be a blessed year. I can imagine that you will carry the fruits of your own Kartik time into your life. I was happy to be together with you through these Kartik inspirations, which we sent to you right out of our *Kartik-vrata*. And I would be very happy if I see you next year in person. Somewhere I hope our ways will cross. Maybe in India, maybe in Europe, maybe in America, wherever we are brought by the merciful hands of Radha and Krishna. All the best for you. May your life be blessed with inspiration and enthusiasm.

Hare Krishna.

Rācīnāndana Śrīvāsī

ŚACINANDANA SWAMI