

KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2021



NOT FIT TO BE NEGLECTED

Imagine Srila Rupa Goswami at the banks of the Yamuna. He is dressed in cloth that is coloured by the dust of Braj. He is drenched in tears. His beautiful, wide-open eyes are sending out so much love that anyone who sees him is moved. And he has something to request. He says, “I have committed offences, I have no qualifications but please, give me Your service.” You might ask yourself, well, why can he ask, after acknowledging his disqualifications, for something so high—direct service to Radha and Krishna—that is not even given to Shiva and Brahma. On what basis is he daring to ask such a thing? In verse seven we find a surprising answer.

Rupa Goswami says, “Because the fresh butter of your heart is always melting in the splendour of Your transcendental mercy, it is not proper for You to neglect this anguished person.” He really says that such a sorrowful person as I is not fit to be neglected by You, for Your mind is different from other minds. Your mind is like fresh butter that always melts from the warmth of your compassion. Let us stop for a moment.

A great acharya Srila Baladeva Vidyabhusana explains to us that since compassion, *daya*, is the desire to take away the sorrow of others, if one is full of sorrow then they are

not fit to be abandoned. In other words, high class people have a heart full of compassion. People who are not high class do not have this. When they see someone suffering, they turn their face the other way. But Radha is described as the crest jewel of all the other residents of Vrindavan. Her heart is like fresh butter and melts from Her compassion. Therefore, please, on the strengths of Your own compassion, not on the strengths of my qualification, do not neglect this anguished person.

This is really a very deep prayer. After glorifying Srimati Radharani, he connects with his eagerness, he is rolling on the ground, and then he asks for service, stating that “I am not fit but You are so glorious because You are the crest jewel of all those who are compassionate, and I am in the greatest need.” By wholeheartedly offering Radha this prayer we can be confident that she will look upon us with full compassion.

In the next instalments of these Kartik Inspirations, we will hear more of the extraordinary qualities of Srimati Radharani. For now, let us all fold our hands and in our own mind, with our own words, offer our obeisances and gratitude to Srimati Radharani.

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Rācīnandana Śrīvāsī

ŚACINANDANA SWAMI