

KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2021



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ONE SHOULD MEDITATE
ON THE MOST BENEVOLENT
SMILE OF LORD SRI HARI,
A SMILE WHICH DRIES AWAY
THE OCEAN OF TEARS.

RADHA'S BRIGHT SMILE

Jaya Radhe, Jaya Krishna, Jaya Vrindavan...

Dear everyone! In Vrindavan, something happens to you. Even if you only rest there, its effect is happening. Even if you only walk through Vrindavan, if you greet its residents, something happens to you that is so beautiful. You become attracted to Krishna and your burdens leave you, especially when you meditate about Radha's fourth quality—*ujjvala-smita*, that She smiles very brightly.

I first became introduced to thinking about or meditating on a Divine smile when I was at a conference, where a Buddhist monk said that when you meditate on the smile of Buddha you tend to take yourself less seriously. Then later I found in the Bhagavatam that one should meditate on Hari's smile, because by this meditation the ocean of tears is evaporated.

A smile, they say, is the shortest distance between two people. So when Radharani smiles at Krishna, Krishna is very fascinated. When She sees Krishna, She experiences great joy. In the beginning, She tries to hide the smile but it still appears. It appears in the middle portion of the lips, as Visvanatha Chakravarti Thakur describes. Now, when Krishna saw the slight smile that appeared for an instant, He began to think that it would certainly spread more.

Yes, Srimati Radharani's beautiful mind-enchanting smile, which starts to rise or blossom forth from the middle of Her lips, is something that makes one immediately very happy. And it makes one feel very close to Her.

Let us, like always, take a short moment of our time to turn to Srimati Radharani in our minds and pray, meditate, or just stay in Her presence.

Śācīnandana Śrīvāsī

ŚACINANDANA SWAMI