

KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2022

THE VRINDAVAN FLOW

Welcome to this Kartik inspiration.

I remember once having about ten schoolchildren before me in the village of Ciksoli. And I asked them a question (there was a translator). I asked them, “*How is it possible that a caterpillar turns into a butterfly?*” Now, about eight of these ten children were raising their arms and, with great effort, throwing their arms forward in an urgent gesture as if to say pick me. Finally, I picked one of them, and the child said, “*By Radharani’s kripa!*” All the other seven children had the same answer. Only the two children who didn’t raise their hands were maybe a little tired or did not understand the question.

Yes, in Vrindavan things happen through an invisible but very active personality, Srimati Radharani, and one has to be mindful of Her. Ragonath das Goswami prays in the Radhikastakam, “*I worship that Sri Radhika who is the crowned queen of the incomparable glorious kingdom of Vrindavan’s forest. Who is the presiding deity of the month of Kartik—the best of all auspicious occasions, and who is the first of lord Mukunda’s countless beloved, and whose fame removes the sin of this world.*”

Yes, Radha is active as the invisible queen of Vrindavan, who sometimes becomes visible. By the kripa of Vrindavan-dham, there are three types of revelations. The first is that our sinful or, let us say, materialistic tendencies are crushed. The second gift of Vrindavan is that we are given the treasure of love for Radha and Krishna. And the third gift is the incredible bliss that comes when one worships Krishna.

But Vrindavan also acts in another way: it fulfills desires. Any desire that gets placed in Vrindavan, where there are so many wish-fulfilling kalpa-vriksha trees, is bound to be fulfilled.

Devotees here speak of ‘*being in the Vraj flow.*’ What they mean by this is when you desire to see someone, although he may come from Mexico or Germany, all of a sudden, you mysteriously meet that person. Or you desire something else, something spiritual like you wish to see Radha and Krishna and become attracted to Their beauty, and then, all of a sudden, a door opens to one of these little houses, and you see the most beautifully worshipped Radha and Krishna deities.

Or you may have another desire like I had this morning. I was just looking for a peaceful place, and I sat down, but suddenly I was surrounded by thirty fighting monkeys. It was so loud and they were really getting on top of each other, but I said, “*Oh, I just want a peaceful place.*” The next moment all the monkeys sat down like children in a German school. Well, I don’t know if they were that well-behaved, but they were well-behaved enough so that it became the most peaceful situation—with all these monkeys respecting that this is a person who wants to chant in peace, so let us give him peace.

‘*Being in the Vrindavan flow*’ means to all of a sudden experience how Srimati Radharani fulfills your desires and everything seems to move along effortlessly without the ordinary obstacles which we often encounter.

Wishing you all the best and lots of spiritual strength, and see you very soon.

Śacīnandana Prāsāda

ŚACĪNANDANA SWAMI

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TREASURE OF LOVE FOR RADHA AND
KRISHNA. AND WE ARE ENDOWED WITH
INCREDIBLE BLISS.