

KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2022

PARROT BODYGUARDS

Welcome to our Kartik inspirations. Today I would like to share a miracle I witnessed in my life. But first, please, give yourself this little bit of time and allow yourself to enter the wonderful world of Vrindavan.

It was one day when I really felt downtrodden. I was in Vrindavan to chant from morning until evening on my japa mala, but I felt dry, unfulfilled, and I did not know if it mattered to Krishna at all. So, quite frustrated, I went by bicycle to a forested place at Govardhan hill and chanted. It was noontime when it was very hot. It gets so arid and hot around you that the mind cannot concentrate, and you may feel hunger or thirst. And at that time I said a prayer, which expressed my real mood. I said, *“My Lord, please, if You care that I chant Your names, give me a sign that You care. Break Your silence.”*

But more dry chanting followed. I just could not enter the spiritual dimension of the holy name. All of a sudden, I heard a loud screeching. When I turned around, I saw two parrots diving and rising, diving and rising, and then I got the whole picture. There was a snake, a black cobra coming at me to attack and bite me. But the parrots were also there, attacking the snake by flying into its eyes and using their talents. In this way, they were slowing the progress of the snake.

Now, this never happens. Parrots do not attack snakes; they are too afraid. Peacocks sometimes attack cobras, but not parrots. Anyways, I just jumped up and ran and ran to create as much distance between the snake and myself as possible.

Finally, I looked around, and all I could see was that the parrots had become peaceful. They flew up a tree and sat on a branch, while the snake changed its course and didn't go after me any longer; it just disappeared in one of the many cracks and cavities of Govardhan hill. At that time, I felt the Lord had given a sign that He cared. And this sign was absolutely outside the box of scientific laws, biology, etc. Miracles are events that are inexplicable by our laws. They are extraordinary, and some can be taken as a direct sign of the Lord.

For me, it was evident at that moment. Krishna said, *“I care for you; I care for your spiritual activities. And see? I have sent you bodyguards, my parrots, to protect you from the cobra snake.”*

These things happen in Vrindavan.

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Śācīnandana Prāsādi

ŚACĪNANDANA SWAMI

