

# KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2022

## FINDING RADHA'S ANKLET

Welcome to today's Kartik Inspirations! Today we will study another miracle, which I personally find very, very inspiring. Once there was a devotee named Dukhi Krishna Das, whose regular service was to sweep the Sevakunj. One morning, something amazing happened. I will read this to you because it's forever engraved in the history of the Gaudiya.

One moonlit night Krishna and the gopis were absorbed in singing and dancing in beautiful Sevakunj. At one point, as the dancing pace increased, a golden ankle bracelet named Manjughosha, decorated with beautiful sapphires, slipped off Srimati Radharani's left foot and fell on the dancing arena, unnoticed by anyone. Early the following day, Krishna, the gopis, and everyone left for their homes.

When Dukhi Krishna das arrived for his service and reached the kunj, he noticed jasmine creepers and other flowers were lying scattered everywhere. He also saw parrots, cuckoos, and black bees singing morning songs with more enthusiasm than they usually did. As he was cleaning, he suddenly saw a glittering object under a pomegranate tree, lighting up the grove with its radiance. When he came closer, he was surprised to see an anklet elaborately decorated with sapphires emanating an otherworldly shine and fragrance. It was sticking out of the ground, so he very carefully unearthed it.

Now Radha told Lalita that morning, "I miss my anklet. Do you know where it is?" Lalita said, "No, but I will go and search for it at the place where we danced the rasa dance with Krishna."

When Lalita came to Sevakunj, she was disguised as an ordinary village girl. She approached Dukhi Krishna, introduced herself as Radha Dasi, and said, "Have you found a golden ankle bell?"

Dukhi Krishna said, "Who are you? Who is asking?" He wouldn't give the ankle bell away until Lalita finally revealed her divine form. She said, "You are very fortunate. I will take you to Srimati Radharani, and She will give you some special mercy."

So yes, Dukhi Krishna crossed over the bridge and came before Radha, who did two things. She said, "My dear Dukhi Krishna, your name will be changed from today. No more Dukhi (Dukhi means suffering). You will be Shyamananda, the one who gives pleasure to my Shyam, and I will give you also a special tilak." She pressed the anklet on Shyamananda's forehead, making a tilak. Then She said, "And before you leave, I will give you a very special deity called Shyam-mohan."

This is what happened. Shyamananda took a deity of Krishna from the divine spiritual world back into this world and started to worship it. This deity can still be seen today in the Shyamasundara temple off one street of Loi Bazar.

Srimati Radharani also gave one blessing; She said, "Whoever has darshan of this deity, even once, with devotion, shall obtain prema-bhakti and go to the rarely attained divine abode of Sri Krishna. They will never be born again! Misfortunes, poverty, and all kinds of inauspiciousness shall not enter the home of such a person."

Yes, in Vrindavan, we can expect such Krishna or Radha miracles. We can also expect divine personalities to come and take us by the hand, so to say, and introduce us to a more enlivened form of spiritual practice.

Wishing you all the best, and see you for the next Kartik Inspiration!

*Racīnandana Prasādi*

SACINANDANA SWAMI

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