

# Śrī Chaurāgraganya-Puruṣāṣṭakam

(By Śrīla Bilvamaṅgala Ṭhākura)

*vraje prasiddham navanīta-cauram  
gopāṅganānām ca dukūla-cauram  
aneka-janmārjita-pāpa-cauram  
caurāgraganyaṁ puruṣaṁ namāmi*

I offer *praṇāma* to that foremost of thieves — who is famous in Vraja as the butter thief, He who steals the *gopīs*' clothes, and who, for those who take shelter of Him, steals the sins which have accrued over many lifetimes. (1)

*śrī rādhikāyā hṛdayasya cauram  
navāmbuda-śyāmala-kānti-cauram  
padāśritānām ca samasta-cauram  
caurāgraganyaṁ puruṣaṁ namāmi*

I offer *praṇāma* to the foremost of thieves — who steals Śrīmatī Rādhikā's heart, who steals the dark luster of a fresh raincloud, and who steals all the sins and sufferings of those who take shelter of His feet. (2)

*akiñcanī-kṛtya padāśritam yaḥ  
karoti bhikṣum pathi geha-hīnam  
kenāpy aho bhīṣaṇa-caura īdṛg  
dṛṣṭaḥ-śruto vā na jagat-traye 'pi*

He turns His surrendered devotees into paupers and wandering, homeless beggars — aho! such a fearsome thief has never been seen or heard of in all the three worlds.(3)

*yadīya nāmāpi haraty aśeṣam  
giri-prasārān api pāpa-rāśīn  
āścarya-rūpo nanu caura īdṛg  
dṛṣṭaḥ śruto vā na mayā kadāpi*

Mere utterance of His name purges one of a mountain of sins — such an astonishingly wonderful thief I have never seen or heard of anywhere! (4)

*dhanam ca manam ca tathendriyani  
pranams ca hriva mama sarvam eva  
palayase kutra dhro 'dya caura  
tvam bhakti-damnasi mayā niruddhaḥ*

O Thief! Having stolen my wealth, my honor, my senses, my life and my everything, where can You run to? I have caught You with the rope of my devotion. (5)

*chinatsi ghoram yama-pasa-bandham  
bhinatsi bhīmam bhava-pasa-bandham  
chinatsi sarvasya samasta-bandham  
naivātmano bhakta-kṛtam tu bandham*

You cut the terrible noose of Yamarāja, You sever the dreadful noose of material existence, and You slash everyone's material bondage, but You are unable to cut the knot fastened by Your own loving devotees. (6)

*man-mānase tāmasa-rāsi-ghore  
kāragrhe duḥkha-maye nibaddhaḥ  
labhasva he caura! hare! cirāya  
sva-caurya-doṣocitam eva daṇḍam*

O stealer of my everything! O Thief! Today I have imprisoned You in the miserable prison-house of my heart which is very fearful due to the terrible darkness of my ignorance, and there for a very long time You will remain, receiving appropriate punishment for Your crimes of thievery! (7)

*kāragrhe vasa sadā hṛdaye madīye  
mad-bhakti-pasa-dṛḍha-bandhana-nīscalāḥ san  
tvām kṛṣṇa he! pralaya-koṭi-sātāntare 'pi  
sarvasva-caura! hṛdayān na hi mocayāmi*

Now I have bound You with the rope of love and put You in the prison house of my heart! Stay there, stay there, stay there! You cannot get Yourself free from this very tight bondage! O Kṛṣṇa! You have stolen everything from me — my material assets, my name, my fame, my beauty, my reputation, my kith and kin, my family members, my heart, and mind! This is the proper punishment for You, to remain in this prison house of my heart, bound up very tightly with the rope of love, forever and forever! If crores of *pralayas* come, still I won't release You! This is suitable punishment for such a great thief as You!" (8)