

# *Śaraṇāgati*

by Śrīla Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura

## **Third Principle of Surrender: Gopṭṛtve-Varaṇa Acceptance of the Lord as Sole Maintainer**

### **Song 1**

*ki jāni ki bale, tomāra dhāmete,  
hoinu śaraṇāgata  
tumi doyā-moy, patita-pāvana,  
patita-tāraṇe rata*

By what personal understanding or by what power has one such as I come into Your shelter? Surely it is by Your mercy alone, for as Doyā-moy and Patita-pāvana You are ever engaged in the deliverance of the fallen souls.

*bharasā āmāra, ei mātra nātha!  
tumi to' karunā-moy  
tava doyā-pātra, nāhi mora sama,  
avaśya ghucābe bhoy*

My only hope, O Lord, is that You are full of compassion and mercy. There is no one more in need of Your mercy than I. You will surely drive away all my fears.

*āmāre tārīte, kāhāro śakati,  
avanī-bhitore nāhi  
doyāla ṭhākura! ghoṣanā tomāra,  
adhama pāmāre trāhi*

No one else in the world has the power to rescue me. O merciful Lord! By Your decree, kindly deliver this vile and lowly sinner!

*sakala chāḍiyā, āsiyāchi āmi,  
tomāra caraṇe nātha!  
āmi nitya-dāsa, tumi pālayitā,  
tumi goptā, jagannātha!*

I have given up everything and come to Your lotus feet, O Lord. I am Your eternal servant, and You are the maintainer. You are my sole protector, O Lord of the universe!

*tomāra sakala, āmi mātra dāsa,  
āmāra tārībe tumi  
tomāra caraṇa, korīnu varaṇa,  
āmāra nāhi to' āmi*

Everything is Yours. I am merely Your menial servant, so it is certain that You will deliver me. I have chosen Your lotus feet as my only shelter. I no longer belong to myself.

*bhaktivinoda, kāndiyā śaraṇa,  
lo'yechē tomāra pāy  
kṣami' aparādha, nāme ruci diyā,  
pālana korohe tāy*

Bhaktivinoda weeps as he humbly takes shelter at Your feet. Forgiving all his offenses, affording him a taste for the holy name, oh kindly maintain him!

## Song 2

*dārā-putra-nija-deho-kuṭumba-pālāne  
sarvadā vyākula āmi chinu mane mane*

Within my mind I have always been anxious for the maintenance of my wife and children, my own body and relatives.

*kemone arjibo artha, yaśa kise pābo  
kanyā-putra-vivāha kemone sampādibo*

How will I earn money? How will I acquire fame? How will I arrange the marriages of my sons and daughters?

*ebe ātma-samarpane cintā nāhi ā  
tumi nirvāhibe prabhu, saṁsāra tomār*

Now, through self-surrender, I have been relieved of all anxiety. O Lord, surely You will provide for the maintenance of Your own household.

*tumi to' pālibe more nija-dāsa jāni'  
tomāra sevāya prabhu boḍo sukha māni*

Recognizing me as Your own servant, You will certainly maintain me. While rendering devotional service unto You I feel the greatest happiness.

*tomāra icchaya prabhu sab kārya hoy  
jīva bole, -'kori āmi', se to' satya noy*

All events take place only by Your will, O Lord. The deluded soul of this world declares "I am the doer!" but this is pure folly.

*jīva ki korite pare, tumi nā korile?  
āsā-mātra jīva kore, tava icchā-phale*

What is a tiny soul actually able to do unless You act? The jīva can only desire to act, and unless You fulfill his desire by Your own sweet will, he cannot do anything.

*nīscinta hoiyā āmi sevibo tomāy  
grhe bhālo-manda ho'le nāhi mora dāy*

Being free from all anxiety, I will humbly render service unto You. If any good or evil should occur while serving in Your home, it will not be my responsibility.

*bhaktivinoda nija-swātantrya tyajiyā  
tomāra caraṇa seve' akiñcana hoiyā*

Bhaktivinoda thus completely renounces his own independence and engages in the exclusive service of Your lotus feet with no other interest in life.

### Song 3

*sarvasva tomār, caraṇe saṁpiyā,  
poḍechi tomāra ghare  
tumi to' thākur, tomāra kukur,  
boliyā jānaho more*

Now that I have surrendered all that I possess unto Your lotus feet, I throw myself down before Your house. You are the master of the house; kindly consider me Your own dog.

*bāndhiyā nikaṭe, āmāre pālibe,  
rohibo tomāra dwāre  
pratīpa-janere, āsite nā dibo,  
rākhibo gaḍera pāre*

Chaining me nearby, You will maintain me, and I shall lie at Your doorstep. I will not allow Your enemies to enter, but will keep them outside the bounds of the surrounding moat.

*tava nija-jana, prasād seviyā,  
ucchiṣṭa rākhibe jāhā  
āmāra bhojan, parama-ānande,  
prati-din ha'be tāhā*

Whatever food remnants Your devotees leave behind after honoring Your prasād will be my daily sustenance. I will feast on those remnants in great bliss.

*bosiyā śuiyā, tomāra caraṇa,  
cintibo satata āmi  
nācite nācite, nikaṭe jāibo,  
jakhona ḍākibe tumi*

While sitting up or lying down, I will constantly meditate on Your lotus feet. Whenever You call, I will immediately run to You and dance in rapture.

*nijera poṣana, kabhu nā bhāvibo,  
rohibo bhāvera bhore  
bhaktivinoda, tomāre pālaka,  
boliyā varaṇa kore*

I will never think for my own nourishment, and will remain absorbed in ever cherishing love for my Master. Bhaktivinoda now accepts You as his only maintainer.

#### Song 4

*tumi sarveśvareśvara, brajendra-kumāra!  
tomāra icchāya viśve sṛjana saṁhāra*

O youthful son of the King of Vraja, You are Lord of all lords. According to Your will, creation and destruction take place in the universe.

*tava icchā-mato brahmā korena sṛjana  
tava icchā-mato viṣṇu korena pālana*

According to Your will Lord Brahmā creates, and according to Your will Lord Viṣṇu maintains.

*tava icchā-mate śiva korena saṁhāra  
tava icchā-mate māyā sṛje kārāgāra*

According to Your will Lord Śiva destroys, and according to Your will Māyā constructs the prison house of this world.

*tava icchā-mate jīver janama-marāṇa  
samṛddhi-nipāte duḥkha sukha-saṁghaṭana*

According to Your will the living beings take birth and die, and according to Your will they meet with prosperity and ruin, happiness and sorrow.

*miche māyā-baddha jīva āśā-pāṣe phire'  
tava icchā binā kichu korite nā pāre*

The tiny soul bound up by Māyā vainly struggles in the fetters of worldly desire. Without Your sanction he is unable to do anything.

*tumi to' rākhaka ār pālaka āmāra  
tomāra caraṇa binā āśā nāhi āra*

You are my only protector and maintainer. Except for Your lotus feet there is no other hope for me.

*nija-bala-ceṣṭā-prati bharasā chāḍiyā  
tomāra icchāya āchi nirbhara koriyā*

No longer confident of my own strength and endeavor, I have become solely dependent on Your will.

*bhaktivinoda ati dīna akiñcana  
tomāra icchāya tā'r jīvana maraṇa*

Bhaktivinoda is most poor, and his pride has been leveled. Now in accordance with Your will he lives and dies.