

A Meditation on Śrī Vṛndāvana Dhāma

I am full of faults and devoid of any good qualities. Alas, I am not even qualified to approach the compassionate great souls. I commit so many unforgivable offenses. Still, O forest of Vṛndāvana, do not reject me, for you are like my mother and I am like your child.

May that transcendental abode of Vṛndāvana, which is supremely soft, which is illuminated by the effulgence of various jewels, which is filled with the wonderful sounds of various birds and bees, whose inhabitants are beautiful and attractively decorated, whose trees and creepers are always decorated with many fruits and flowers, and which is the abode of Kṛṣṇa's divine pastimes, become my life and soul.

O most dear Vṛndāvana, O supremely blissful Vṛndāvana. If I could see the beauty of your animate and inanimate inhabitants with millions of divine eyes, if I could smell your fragrance with millions of noses, if I could hear about your transcendental qualities with millions of ears, if I could wander about your land with millions of legs, and if I could offer you obeisances with millions of heads, still I would not be satisfied.

If you have circumambulated the land of Vṛndāvana, then what need is there for visiting millions of holy places? If the chirping of Vṛndāvana's birds has entered your ears, then what is the use of studying the *Vedas*? If you have uttered the names of the trees of Vṛndāvana, then there is no need to recite any prayers or *mantras*. If your vision has fallen on any part of Vṛndāvana, what is the use of millions of meditations?

O it is indeed wonderful that the beasts, birds, men, women, trees and creepers of Vṛndāvana all possess bodies made of spiritual bliss. They are always jubilant on account of their own glories and influence. Yet unfortunate people who are controlled by the illusory energy, see this land of Vṛndāvana as mundane. O my Lord Hari, when will my body become spiritualized simply by residing in Vṛndāvana?

May my head eternally bow down to Śrī Vṛndāvana. May my tongue become overwhelmed by singing the transcendental glories of Vṛndāvana. May my hands engage in sweeping the fresh groves of Vṛndāvana. May my legs circumambulate the land of Vṛndāvana. May my ears engage in hearing the glories of Vṛndāvana, my eyes in seeing the beauty of Vṛndāvana. and my mind in meditating on Vṛndāvana.

Where do all living entities attain Kṛṣṇa, where are Kṛṣṇa's wonderful transcendental pastimes found, and where can one see the highest expression of bliss, which comes from worshiping the lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa? O mind, just listen as I tell you the secret. Everything is available in this abode called Vṛndāvana.

My only prayer is that the indescribably wonderful land of Vṛndāvana, which is the abode of the highest transcendental love of God, may manifest before me in its various features, and the golden and blue complexioned Śrī Śrī Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa, who enjoy

sweet pastimes in each and every grove of Vṛndāvana, may attract my mind to Their soft, lotus feet.

Meditate on the abode of Vṛndāvana with intense love, roll your entire body in the dust of Vṛndāvana, offer your body in the service of Vṛndāvana, and thus achieve firm love for Kṛṣṇa. Worship the beloved Lord of Śrī Rādhā and satisfy all animate and inanimate living entities of Vṛndāvana. In this way take shelter of Vṛndāvana with your body, mind and speech.

Let my eyes become overwhelmed by watching the beautiful, nectarean forest of Vṛndāvana, let my intelligence become merged in the nectarean ocean of the glories of Vṛndāvana, and let my body roll on the ground of Vṛndāvana overwhelmed by currents of spiritual bliss. Oh, may I always offer obeisances at the feet of all the living entities who reside in Vṛndāvana.

Śrī Vṛndāvana is decorated with many attractive groves for performing unlimited pastimes. It has many inviting lakes full of crystal clear water. The entire tract of land is decorated with many beautiful trees, creepers, and multi-colored flowers. It is inhabited by many kinds of birds and beasts, who are filled with spiritual bliss. O Vṛndāvana, you are the place of Śrī Śrī Rādhā Kṛṣṇa's wonderful eternal pastimes. When, oh when, will you become the object of my constant meditation?

Oh, when will that auspicious day arrive when the actual glories of Vṛndāvana will be revealed to me? The scriptures are unable to touch even one millionth of its wonderful glories. Even great personalities like Lord Brahmā, Lord Śiva, Lakṣmī, Śukadeva, Arjuna and Uddhava are unable to take *darsana* of its confidential form. And what to speak to others, even the ordinary Vrajavāsīs cannot see it. Śrī Vṛndāvana exhibits her real form only to those fortunate devotees who have taken full shelter at the lotus feet of Śrī Rādhikā.

— Śrīla Prabhānanda Sarasvatī, *Vṛndāvana-mahimāmṛta* 10.96, 17.20, 4.53, 13.13, 17.42, 7.48, 1.47, 2.49, 1.5, 1.14, 17.98, 17.60