

(1)

Śrī Rādhā-Kuṇḍāṣṭakam
Eight Prayers Glorifying Śrī Rādhā-Kuṇḍa
by Śrīla Raghunātha dāsa Gosvāmī

*vṛṣabha-danuja-nāsān narma-dharmokti-raṅgair
nikhila-nija-sakhībhir yat sva-hastena pūrṇam
prakaṭitam api vṛndāranya-rājñyā pramodais
tad ati-surabhi rādhā-kuṇḍam evāśrayo me*

After the killing of Arisṭāsura, Śrīmatī Rādhikā and Her *sakhīs* exchanged many joking words with Śrī Kṛṣṇa concerning the necessary atonement for one who has committed the offense of killing a bull. As a result, the Queen of Vṛndāvana, Śrīmatī Rādhikā, and Her *sakhīs* joyfully excavated Śrī Rādhā-kuṇḍa with their own hands. May that immensely fragrant Rādhā-kuṇḍa be my shelter. (1)

*vraja-bhuvi mura-śatroḥ preyasīnām nikāmair
asulabham api tūrṇam prema-kalpa-drumam tam
janayati hr̥dī bhūmau snātur uccaiḥ priyam yat
tad ati-surabhi rādhā-kuṇḍam evāśrayo me*

In the land of the hearts of those who bathe in Rādhā-kuṇḍa will arise a desire tree of the superlative *prema*, which is rarely attainable even by Kṛṣṇa's beloveds. May that supremely charming Rādhā-kuṇḍa be my shelter. (2)

*agha-ripur api yatnād atra devyāḥ prasādaprasara-
kr̥ta-kaṭākṣa-prāpti-kāmaḥ prakāmam
anusarati yad uccaiḥ snāna-sevānu-bandhais
tad ati-surabhi rādhā-kuṇḍam evāśrayo me*

For the pleasure of Śrīmatī Rādhikā, even Śrī Kṛṣṇa Himself, yearning to attain Her merciful sidelong glance, voluntarily follows (in the footsteps) of Her bathing attendants. May that supremely enchanting Rādhā-kuṇḍa be my shelter. (3)

*vraja-bhuvana-sudhāmśo prema-bhūmir nikāmam
vraja-madhura-kīśorī-mauli-ratna-priyeva
paricitam api nāmnā yac ca tenaiva tasyās
tad ati-surabhi rādhā-kuṇḍam evāśrayo me*

May that supremely enchanting Rādhā-kuṇḍa, which the moon of Vraja, Śrī Kṛṣṇa, loves as much as He loves the crown-jewel amongst the sweet girls of Vraja, Śrīmatī Rādhikā, and which He has made known by the name of Rādhikā Herself, be my shelter. (4)

*api jana iha kaścid yasya sevā-prasādaiḥ
praṇaya -sura-latā syāt tasya goṣṭhendra-sūnoḥ*

*sapadi kila mad-iśā-dāsya-puṣpa-praśasyā
tad ati-surabhi rādhā-kunḍam evāśrayo me*

The mercy obtained by serving Rādhā-kunḍa makes the desire-creeper of *prema* for the prince of Vraja sprout and is celebrated for bearing the flower of service to my *svāminī* Śrīmatī Rādhikā. May that supremely charming Rādhā-kunḍa be my shelter. (5)

*tata-madhura-nikuñjāḥ klrpta-nāmāna uccair
nija-parijana-vargaiḥ saṁvibhajyāśritās taiḥ
madhukara-ruta-ramyā yasya rājanti kāmyās
tad ati-surabhi rādhā-kunḍam evāśrayo me*

Gloriously manifest on the banks of Rādhā-kunḍa are eight *kuñjas* named after Rādhikā's principal *sakhīs*. Filled with the sweet humming of bumblebees, these *kuñjas* act as stimuli for the amorous pastimes of the Divine Couple. The lotus feet of that Rādhikā, who sends Kṛṣṇa to enjoy in all the different *kuñjas*, are desired by everyone. May that supremely enchanting Rādhā-kunḍa be my shelter.* (6)

*tata-bhuvi vara-vedyām yasya narmāti-hṛdyām
madhura-madhura-vārtām goṣṭha-candrasya bhaṅgyā
prathayati mitha iśā prāṇa-sakhyālibhiḥ sā
tad ati-surabhi rādhā-kunḍam evāśrayo me*

Situated on an exquisite dais on the bank of Rādhā-kunḍa and accompanied by Her beloved *sakhīs*, our *svāminī* Śrīmatī Rādhikā charmingly engages in sweet, joking words with Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the moon of Vraja. These playful verbal exchanges are enhanced by so many innuendoes. May that Rādhā-kunḍa be my shelter. (7)

*anudinam ati-raṅgaiḥ prema-mattāli-saṅghair
vara-sarasija-gandhair hāri-vāri-prapūrṇe
viharata iha yasmin dampatī tau pramattau
tad ati-surabhi rādhā-kunḍam evāśrayo me*

May that very charming and specially fragrant Rādhā-kunḍa, where intoxicated by love the Divine Couple and the *sakhīs* daily sport with great joy in water very fragrant with exquisite lotus flowers, be my shelter. (8)

*avikalam ati devyās cāru kuṇḍāṣṭakam yaḥ
paripaṭhati tadīyollāsi-dāsyārpitātmā
aciram iha śarīre darśayaty eva tasmāi
madhu-ripur ati-modaiḥ śliṣyamāṇām priyām tām*

To that devotee who is completely dedicated to the service of Śrīmatī Rādhikā, and who reads this charming prayer describing Śrī Rādhā-kuṇḍa, even in his present body Śrī Kṛṣṇa will quickly grant him *darśana* of His beloved Rādhikā as He happily embraces Her. (9)

* On the eastern bank is the kuñja known as Citrā-sukhada, on the southeastern side is Indulekhā-sukhada, on the southern bank is Campakalatā-sukhada, on the southwestern side is Raṅgadevī-sukhada, on the western bank is Tuṅgavidyā-sukhada, on the northwestern side is Sudevī-sukhada, on the northern bank is Lalitā-sukhada, and on the northeastern side is the *kuñja* known as Viśākhā-sukhada.

(2)

Śrī Rādhikāṣṭakam
by Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī

*dīśi dīśi racayantīm sañcaran-netra-lakṣmīvilasita-
khuralībhiḥ khañjarīṭasya khelām
hrdaya-madhupa-mallīm ballavādhiśa-sūnor
akhila-guṇa-gambhīrām rādhikām arcayāmi*

I worship that Śrīmatī Rādhikā, whose restless eyes, moving like flocks of *khañjarīṭa* birds (wagtails), playfully wander in all directions, constantly searching out Her prey, Śrī Kṛṣṇa. Upon sighting Him, like an expert hunter She casts the arrows of Her provocative, sidelong glances. She is the jasmine flower for the bumblebee Śrī Kṛṣṇa. Just as the jasmine elates the bumblebee, She gives great joy to Śrī Kṛṣṇa's heart, completely making Him Hers. She is very mysterious with Her countless deep qualities. (1)

*pitur iha vṛṣabhānor anvavāya-praśastīm
jagati kila samaste suṣṭhu vistārayantīm
vraja-nṛpati-kumāram khelayantīm sakhībhiḥ
surabhiṇi nija-kuṇḍe rādhikām arcayāmi*

I worship that Śrīmatī Rādhikā, who wonderfully increases the fame of Vṛṣabhānu Mahārāja's dynasty here in Vraja and throughout the world by inducing the prince of Vraja to give up His royal behavior and openly sport in a carefree manner with Her and all the *sakhīs* in Her fragrant *kuṇḍa*. (2)

*śarad-upacita-rākā-kaumudī-nātha-kīrtiprakara-
damana-dīkṣā-dakṣiṇa-smera-vaktrām
naṭad-aghahid-apāṅgottuṅgitānaṅga-raṅgām
kalita-ruci-taraṅgām rādhikām arcayāmi*

I worship that Śrīmatī Rādhikā, whose smiling, blooming lotus face expertly belittles the vast glory of the brilliant *śarad* full moon, the lord of the night blooming *kumud* lotus, and diminishes the beauty of all the other *gopīs*; whose pure amorous desires are aroused by Aghabhid Śrī Kṛṣṇa's dancing sidelong glances; and who is endowed with waves of beauty, grace and charm. (3)

*vividha-kusuma-vṛndotphulla-dhammilla-dhāṭivighaṭita-
mada-ghūrṇat keki-piccha-prasastim
madhuripu-mukha-bimbodgīrṇa-tāmbūla-rāgasphurad-
amala-kapolām rādhikām arcayāmi*

I worship that Śrīmatī Rādhikā, whose braided hair, beautifully adorned with clusters of many varieties of fully blossomed flowers, forcibly attacks and reproaches the fame of the tail-feathers of an intoxicated, dancing peacock; whose pure, unblemished cheeks are reddish and very lustrous from the juice of the *tāmbūla* remnants from Madhuripu Śrī Kṛṣṇa's bimba-fruit lips. (4)

*amalina-lalitāntaḥ sneha-siktāntaraṅgām
akhila-vidha-viśākhā-sakhya-vikhyāta-śīlām
sphurad-aghahid-anargham-prema-māṇikyā-peṭim
dhrta-madhura-vinodām rādhikām arcayāmi*

I worship that Śrīmatī Rādhikā whose heart is always saturated with Lalitā-devī's pure, unrestrained affection; whose sublime nature is made more famous due to sharing intimate friendship with Viśākhā-devī; who is a treasure-chest, wherein She conceals the glistening, priceless ruby of Aghabhid Śrī Kṛṣṇa's *prema*; who bathes and dresses in Her own beauty and sweetness. (5)

*atula-mahasi vṛndāraṇya-rājye 'bhiṣiktām
nikhila-samaya-bhartuḥ kārttikasyādhidivim
aparimita-mukunda-preyasī-vṛnda-mukhyām
jagad-gha-hara-kīrtim rādhikām arcayāmi*

I worship that Śrīmatī Rādhikā, who is enthroned as the queen of the festive and supreme abode, Sri Vṛndāvana; who is the presiding goddess of Kārttika, the king of months; who is the foremost of Śrī Kṛṣṇa's innumerable beloveds; and whose fame, which destroys sins, instills a desire to serve Kṛṣṇa. (6)

*hari-pada-nakha-koṭi-prṣṭha-paryanta-sīmātaṭam
apī kalayantim prāṇa-koṭer abhiṣṭam
pramudita-madirākṣī-vṛnda-vaidagdhyā-dīkṣāguru
mati-guru-kīrtim rādhikām arcayāmi*

I worship that Śrīmatī Rādhikā, who considers the outermost extremity of the very edge of the tips of Śrī Kṛṣṇa's toes to be millions of times dearer than Her own life. Indeed, Śrī Kṛṣṇa is Her very life and She knows nothing other than Him. As the initiating *guru* for the joyful *gopīs* whose beautiful eyes are intoxicated with *prema*, She instructs them

in the arts of cleverly serving Kṛṣṇa, in this way displaying vast intelligence and great fame. (7)

*amala-kanaka-paṭṭodghrṣṭa-kāsmīra-gaurīm
madhurima-laharībhiḥ samparītām kiśorīm
hari-bhuja-parirabdhām labdha-romāñca-pālim
sphurad-aruṇa-dukūlām rādhikām arcayāmi*

I worship that Śrīmatī Rādhikā, whose fair complexion resembles saffron which has been ground upon a slab of pure gold; whose youthful pastimes are filled with endless waves of sweetness; whose hairs stand on end in bliss upon being embraced by Śrī Kṛṣṇa; whose dress is the color of the rising sun. (8)

*tad-amala-madhurimṇām kāmam ādhāra-rūpaṁ
paripaṭhati variṣṭhaṁ suṣṭhu rādhāṣṭakam yaḥ
ahima-kiraṇa-putrī-kūla-kalyāṇa-candraḥ
sphuṭam akhilam abhīṣṭam tasya tuṣṭas tanoti*

Those who sincerely and lovingly recite this wonderful *Rādhikāṣṭakam*, which embodies Śrīmatī Rādhikā's pure sweetness, will please the moon of all auspiciousness, Śrī Kṛṣṇacandra who is playing on the banks of the Yamunā with Śrīmatī Rādhikā. Then that Kṛṣṇa Himself will cause the lotus flower of the desire to serve Śrīmatī Rādhikā to bloom in their hearts. (9)

(3)

Śrī Rādhikāṣṭakam

by Śrīla Kṛṣṇadāsa Kavirāja Gosvāmī

*kuṅkumākta-kāñcanābja-garva-hāri-gaurabhā
pītanāñcitābja-gandha-kīrti-nindi-saurabhā
ballaveśa-sūnu-sarva-vāñcitārtha-sādhikā
mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsyā-dāstu rādhikā*

Her splendid golden complexion steals the pride of a golden lotus flower anointed with a tinge of red *kuṅkuma*. Her sweet fragrance mocks the fame of the aroma of a lotus flower sprinkled with saffron powder. She is fully qualified to fulfill all the desires of the son of the king of the cowherd men. May Śrī Rādhikā bestow upon me the service of Her own lotus feet. (1)

*kauravinda-kānti-nindi-citra-paṭṭa-śāṭikā
kṛṣṇa-matta-bhrṅga-keli-phulla-puṣpa-vāṭikā
kṛṣṇa-nitya-saṅgamārtha-padma-bandhu-rādhikā
mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsyā-dāstu rādhikā*

Her amazing and colorful silken garments make the splendor of red coral feel ashamed. She is a garden of blossoming flowers where the maddened bumble-bee named Kṛṣṇa performs amorous pastimes. She worships the Sun-god daily in order to attain the continual association of Her beloved Kṛṣṇa. May Śrī Rādhikā bestow upon me the service of Her own lotus feet. (2)

*saukumārya-srṣṭa-pallavāli-kīrti-nigrahā
candra-candanotpalendu-sevya-śīta-vigrahā
svābhimarśa-ballavīśa-kāma-tāpa-bādhikā
mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsyā-dāstu rādhikā (3)*

Her charming youthful delicacy negates the fame of the freshly sprouted leaves. Her refreshing form is worthy of being served by the cooling moon, sandalwood paste, lotus flowers, and camphor. When She touches the master of the *gopīs*, She dispels the burning heat of His lusty desires. May Śrī Rādhikā bestow upon me the service of Her own lotus feet. (3)

*viśva-vandya-yauvatābhivanditāpi yā ramā
rūpa-navya-yauvanādi-sampadā na yat-samā
śīla-hārda-līlayā ca sā yato 'sti nādhikā
mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsyā-dāstu rādhikā*

Although the goddess of fortune, Lakṣmī-devī, is adored by other youthful goddesses, who are themselves, glorified throughout the universe, still she is nowhere near Śrī Rādhikā in the matter of beauty, praiseworthy youthfulness, or other divine feminine opulences. There is no one in the material or the spiritual worlds superior to Rādhikā in the expression of naturally loving pastimes. May Śrī Rādhikā bestow upon me the service of Her own lotus feet. (4)

*rāsa-lāsyā-gīta-narma-sat-kalāli-panḍitā
prema-ramya-rūpa-veśa-sad-guṇāli-maṇḍitā
viśva-navya-gopa-yoṣid-ālito 'pi yādhikā
mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsyā-dāstu rādhikā*

She is very learned in many transcendental arts, such as performing in the *rāsa* dance, singing, and joking. She is decorated with many divine qualities, such as loving nature, exquisite beauty, and wonderful garments and ornaments. Even among the cowherd damsels of Vraja, who are praised by the entire universe, She is the best in every way. May Śrī Rādhikā bestow upon me the service of Her own lotus feet. (5)

*nitya-navya-rūpa-keli-kṛṣṇa-bhāva-sampadā
kṛṣṇa-rāga-bandha-gopa-yauvateṣu kampadā
kṛṣṇa-rūpa-veśa-keli-lagna-sat-samādhikā
mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsyā-dāstu rādhikā*

She possesses the opulences of eternal youthful beauty, eternal pastimes, and eternal love for Kṛṣṇa. Her ecstatic feelings of love for Kṛṣṇa cause the *gopīs*, who are also in

love with Kṛṣṇa, to tremble. She is always attached to meditating on Śrī Kṛṣṇa's beautiful form, ornaments, garments, and pastimes. May Śrī Rādhikā bestow upon me the service of Her own lotus feet. (6)

*sveda-kampa-kaṅṭhakāśru-gadgadādi-sañcitā
marṣa-harṣa-vāmatādi-bhāva-bhuṣaṇāñcitā
kṛṣṇa-netra-toṣi-ratna-maṇḍanāli-dādhikā
mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsyā-dāstu rādhikā*

She is graced with eight ecstatic symptoms (*sāttvika-bhāva*), such as trembling, perspiring, standing up on bodily hairs, tears, faltering of the voice, and so forth. She is adorned with different ecstatic emotional ornaments, such as impatience, joy, contrariness, and so forth. She is decorated with beautiful jewels that give total delight to the eyes of Kṛṣṇa. May Śrī Rādhikā bestow upon me the service of Her own lotus feet. (7)

*yā kṣaṇārdha-kṛṣṇa-viprayoga-santatoditāneka-
dainya-cāpalādi-bhāva-vṛnda-moditā
yatna-labdha-kṛṣṇa-saṅga-nirgatākhilādhikā
mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsyā-dāstu rādhikā*

If She is apart from Kṛṣṇa, for even half a moment, She becomes stricken with wretched suffering, restlessness, and a multitude of other ecstatic symptoms of separation. When She regains the association of Kṛṣṇa after some effort, then all of Her anguish immediately vanishes. May Śrī Rādhikā bestow upon me the service of Her own lotus feet. (8)

*aṣṭakena yas tv anena nauti kṛṣṇa-vallabhām
darśane 'pi śailajādi-yoṣidāli-durlabhām
kṛṣṇa-saṅga-nanditātma-dāsyā-sīdhu-bhājanam
tam karoti nanditāli-sañcayāsu sā janam*

It is very difficult for Pārvati and other exalted goddesses to attain even a glimpse of Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī, who is dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa. But if someone glorifies Her by reciting these eight verses, then She who is delighted by Kṛṣṇa's continuous association will grant the sweet nectar of Her personal service to that person, who thereby enters the assembly of Her similarly delighted girlfriends. (9)

(4)

Śrī Yugala-Kīśorāṣṭaka

by Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī

*nava-jaladhara-vidyud-dyota-varṇau prasannau
vadana-nayana-padmau cāru-candrāvataṁsau
alaka-tilaka-bhālau keśa-veśa-praphullau*

bhaja bhaja tu mano re rādhikā-kṛṣṇacandrau

O mind, time and again worship the youthful lovers Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa, who together appear like lightning flashing from a fresh monsoon cloud, whose lovely lotus faces always beam contented happiness and are adorned with lotus eyes, who wear brilliant moon-shaped crowns, whose foreheads, decorated with charming sandalpaste *tilaka*, are rendered more beautiful by being surrounded by Their glistening curly locks of hair, and whose entire appearance is completely dazzling. (1)

***vasana-harita-nīlau candanālepanāṅgau
maṇi-marakata-dīptau svarṇa-mālā-prayuktau
kanaka-valaya-hastau rāsa-nāṭya-prasaktau
bhaja bhaja tu mano re rādhikā-kṛṣṇacandrau***

O mind, time and again worship the youthful lovers Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa, Rādhā wearing blue cloth and Kṛṣṇa dressed in yellow. Their bodies are fully decorated with *candana*; Rādhā's glistening like a golden jewel and Kṛṣṇa's like a sapphire. They wear golden necklaces and bracelets. Their minds are lovingly immersed in *rasa*, causing Them to dance! (2)

***ati-matihara-veśau raṅga-bhaṅgī-tri-bhaṅgau
madhura-mṛdula-hāsyau kuṇḍalākīrṇa-karṇau
naṭavara-vara-ramyau nṛtya-gītānuraktau
bhaja bhaja tu mano re rādhikā-kṛṣṇacandrau***

O mind, always be immersed in worshipping the youthful lovers Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa, whose charming dresses steal devotees' minds; who are the best of actors always wearing gorgeous costumes; who display elegant three-fold bending poses; who smile mildly and whose ears are adorned with shining, beautiful earrings; who are the very best of joksters; and who are always attracting each other; Kṛṣṇa by playing the flute and Rādhā by Her dancing. (3)

***vividha-guṇa-vidagdhau vandaniyau suveśau
maṇimaya-makarādyaiḥ śobhitāṅgau sphurantau
smita-namita-kaṭākṣau dharma-karma-pradattau
bhaja bhaja tu mano re rādhikā-kṛṣṇacandrau***

O mind, always remain alert to worship the youthful lovers Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa, who possess innumerable virtues and who are extremely clever and skillful in tasting *rasa* in Their loving affairs; who are worshiped by demigods and sages as well as ordinary humans; who are decorated with beautiful attire, fish-shaped earrings studded with jewels and other ornaments; whose enchanting, gentle smiles are accompanied by sidelong glances; and who bestow the *dharma* and *karma* of *prema* upon Their devotees. (4)

*kanaka-mukuta-cūḍau puspitodbhūṣitāṅgau
sakala-vana-niviṣṭau sundarānanda-puñjau
caraṇa-kamala-divyau deva-devādi-sevyau
bhaja bhaja tu mano re rādhikā-kṛṣṇacandrau*

O mind, time and again I implore you to remain alert to worship the youthful lovers Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa, who wear golden crowns upon Their heads, whose bodies are decorated with many colored flowers, who wander through all the forests of Vṛndāvana enjoying pastimes, who are the embodiment of condensed bliss and who are surrounded by demigods and goddesses serving Their miraculous lotus feet. (5)

*ati-suvalita-gātrau gandha-mālyair-virājau
kati kati ramaṇinām sevyamānau suveśau
muni-sura-gaṇa-bhāvyau veda-śāstrādi-vijñau
bhaja bhaja tu mano re rādhikā-kṛṣṇacandrau*

O mind, always worship the youthful lovers Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa, whose very, very soft bodies are adorned with fragrant flowers, who are served by uncountable numbers of beautiful Vraja *sundarīs*, who are beautifully dressed, and who are conversant with all the *Vedas* which the sages and demigods always serve and discuss.(6)

*ati-sumadhura-mūrtau duṣṭa-darpa-prasāntau
suravara-varadau dvau sarva-siddhi-pradānau
ati-rasa-vaśa-magnau gīta-vādyair-vitānau
bhaja bhaja tu mano re rādhikā-kṛṣṇacandrau*

O mind, I implore you time and again to always remain immersed in worshipping the youthful lovers, Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa, who are the embodiment of the sweetest sweetness, who pulverise the pride of wicked persons, who bestow benedictions upon the best of the demigods including Mahādeva Śiva, who bestow all varieties of perfections, who are thoroughly engrossed in tasting the nectar of transcendental bliss and who are masters in the arts of singing, dancing, and playing musical instruments. (7)

*agama-nigama-sārau sṛṣṭi-saṁhāra-kārau
vayasi nava-kīśorau nitya-vṛndāvana-sthau
śamana-bhaya-vināśau pāpi-nistārayantau
bhaja bhaja tu mano re rādhikā-kṛṣṇacandrau*

O mind, remain forever immersed in worshipping the youthful lovers Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa, whose forms are the essence of the *Vedas*; who through the agency of Their expansions perform the creation, maintenance, and destruction of the material universe; who are eternally ever-fresh youths almost touching adolescence; who are situated at the *yoga-pīṭha* in Vṛndāvana: and who eradicate every fear and sin. (8)

*idaṁ manoharam stotram śraddhayā yaḥ paṭhen narah
rādhikā-kṛṣṇacandrau ca siddhi-dau nātra saṁsayah*

Sādhakas who recite this supremely charming *Yugala-kīśorāṣṭakam* with faith will surely obtain the perfection of rendering direct service to the lotus feet of the bestowers of all perfections, the youthful lovers Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa — of this there is no doubt.
(9)