

Śrī Kṛṣṇa Smaraṇa Sphūr̥ti

Invoking Kṛṣṇa's  
Remembrance

# Śrī Caurāgraganya aṣṭakam

Eight Prayers Glorifying  
Kṛṣṇa, the Best of all  
Thieves

By

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|| 1 ||

vraje prasiddham navanīta-cauraṁ  
gopāṅganānām ca dukūla-cauram  
aneka-janmārjita-pāpa-cauraṁ  
caurāgragaṇyaṁ puruṣaṁ namāmī

He is famous in Vraja (**vraje prasiddham**) as the Butter Thief (**navanīta-cauraṁ**). He steals all the garments (**dukūla-cauram**) of the damsels of Vrajabhumi (**gopāṅganānām**). He steals all the sinful reactions (**pāpa-cauraṁ**) assimilated over unlimited lifetimes of His devotees (**aneka-janma arjita**). I offer my obeisances to that supreme Person, Lord Hari (**puruṣaṁ namāmī**), who is the best of all thieves (**caurāgragaṇyaṁ**).

|| 2 ||

śrī-rādhikāyā hṛdayasya cauraṁ  
navāmbuda-śyāmala-kānti-cauram  
padāśritānāṁ ca samasta-cauraṁ  
caurāgragaṇyaṁ puruṣaṁ namāmī

He steals the heart (**hṛdayasya cauraṁ**) of Radharani (**śrī-rādhikāyā**). He steals the blackish hue (**śyāmala-kānti-cauram**) of the fresh dark cloud (**nava ambuda**). For those who take shelter at His lotus feet (**padāśritānāṁ ca**) He steals everything they have (**samasta-cauraṁ**). I offer my obeisances to that supreme Person, Lord Hari (**puruṣaṁ namāmī**), who is the best of all thieves (**caurāgragaṇyaṁ**).

|| 3 ||

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

Taking away everything (**akiñcanī-kṛtya**) from those who take shelter at His lotus feet (**yaḥ padāśritam**), He makes them into beggars (**karoti bhikṣum**) by even taking away their house and shelter (**pathi geha-hīnam**). Oh (**aho**)! I have never seen or heard about (**na dṛṣṭaḥ śruto vā**) such a frightening thief (**bhīṣaṇa-caura īdṛg**) in all of the three worlds (**jagat-traye api**).

॥ 4 ॥

yadīya nāmāpi haraty aśeṣaṁ  
giri-prasārān-api pāpa-rāśīn  
āścārya-rūpo nanu caura īdṛg  
dṛṣṭaḥ śruto vā na mayā kadāpi

The mere utterance of His Holy-Name (**yadīya nāmāpi**) steals away (**haraty**) even unlimited mountain-like (**giri-prasārān-api**) sins (**pāpa-rāśīn**). I have never seen or heard of (**na mayā dṛṣṭaḥ śruto vā**) such a wonderful thief (**nanu īdṛg āścārya-rūpo caurah**) anywhere (**kadāpi**)!

|| 5 ||

dhanam ca manam ca tathendriyani  
pranamś ca hr̥tvā mama sarvam eva  
palāyase kutra dhṛto 'dya caura  
tvam bhakti-dāmnāsi mayā niruddhaḥ

Oh Thief (**caura**)! Having stolen (**hr̥tvā**) my wealth, my honour (**dhanam ca manam ca**), my senses (**tathā indriyani**), my life air (**prāṇan ca**) and my everything (**mama sarvam eva**), where can You run now (**palāyase kutra dhṛtaḥ adya**)? I have caught You (**tvam mayā niruddhaḥ**) with the rope of my devotion (**bhakti-dāmnāsi**).

॥ 6 ॥

chinatsi ghoram̐ yama-pāśa-bandham̐  
bhinatsi bhīmam̐ bhava-pāśa-bandham  
chinatsi sarvasya samasta-bandham̐  
naivātmano bhakta-kṛtam̐ tu bandham

You cut off (**chinatsi**) the terrible rope of Yamaraj (**ghoram̐ yama-pāśa-bandham̐**); You cut off (**bhinatsi**) the dreadful noose of this material bondage (**bhīmam̐ bhava-pāśa-bandham**); You even cut off (**chinatsi**) everyone's material attachments (**sarvasya samasta-bandham̐**); but You are unable to cut (**na tu eva**) the knot (**bandham**) fastened by Your own loving devotees (**ātmano bhakta-kṛtam̐**).

man-mānase tāmāsa-rāśi-ghore  
kāṛā-gr̥he duḥkha-maye nibaddhaḥ  
labhasva he caura! hare! cirāya  
sva-caurya-doṣocitam eva daṇḍam

Oh stealer of my everything (**he caura**)! Oh thief (**hare**)!  
Today I have imprisoned You (**nibaddhaḥ**) in the miserable  
(**duḥkha-maye**) prison (**kāṛā-gr̥he**) of my heart (**man-**  
**mānase**) which is very fearful due to the terrible darkness  
of my ignorance (**tāmāsa-rāśi-ghore**), and You will remain  
there for a long time (**cirāya**), receiving appropriate  
punishment (**labhasva ucitam daṇḍam**) for Your crimes of  
thievery (**sva-caurya-doṣa**).

kārā-gr̥he vasa sadā hṛdaye madīye  
mad-bhakti-pāśa-dṛḍha-bandhana-niścalaḥ san  
tvām kṛṣṇa he! pralaya-koṭi-śatāntare 'pi  
sarvasva caura hṛdayān-nahi mocayāmi

Oh Krsna (**kṛṣṇa he**), thief of my everything (**sarvasva caura**)! The noose of my devotion (**mad-bhakti-pāśa**) remaining forever tight (**dṛḍha-bandhana-niścalaḥ san**), therefore You will continue to reside (**vasa sadā**) in the prison-house of my heart (**madīye hṛdaye kārā-gr̥he**) because I will not release You from my heart (**hṛdayān-nahi mocayāmi**) for millions of yugas (**pralaya-koṭi-śatāntare 'pi**).