

Śrī Kṛṣṇa Smaraṇa Sphūr̥ti

Invoking Kṛṣṇa's
Remembrance

Lalitāṣṭakam

Eight Prayers glorifying
Śrīmatī Lalitā Devī

By

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From

Śrī Stava-mālā

|| 1 ||

rādhā-mukunda-pada-sambhava-gharma-bindu-
nirmañchanopakaraṇī-kṛta-deha-lakṣām
uttuṅga-sauhrda-viśeṣa-vaśāt pragalbhām
devīm guṇaiḥ sulalitām lalitām namāmi

I offer obeisances (**namāmi**) to Lalitā-devī (**devīm lalitām**) who is extremely expert (**sulalitām**) due to her excellent qualities (**guṇaiḥ**). Out of her (**vaśāt**) elevated (**uttuṅga**) and intimate (**pragalbhām**) feelings of love (**sauhrda-viśeṣa**), she wipes away (**nirmañchanopakaraṇī-kṛta**) glistening drops of perspiration (**deha-lakṣām gharmabindu**) from the lotus feet (**pada-sambhava**) of Rādhā-Mukunda (**rādhā-mukunda**).

|| 2 ||

rākā-sudhā-kiraṇa-maṇḍala-kānti-daṇḍi-
vaktra-śriyaṃ cakita-cāru-camūru-netrām
rādhā-prasādhana-vidhāna-kalā-prasiddhām
devīm guṇaiḥ sulalitām lalitām namāmi

I offer obeisances (**namāmi**) to Lalitā-devī (**devīm lalitām**) who is extremely expert (**sulalitām**) due to her excellent qualities (**guṇaiḥ**). Her beautiful face (**vaktra-śriyaṃ**) defeats (**daṇḍi**) the brilliance (**kānti**) of the rays (**kiraṇa-maṇḍala**) of the full moon (**rākā-sudhā**) and her beautiful eyes (**cāru netrām**) are ever-restless like those of a startled doe (**cakita-camūru**). She is famous (**prasiddhām**) for her extraordinary proficiency (**vidhāna**) in the art (**kalā**) of dressing Rādhā (**rādhā-prasādhana**), of whom she is an expert servant (**implied**).

|| 3 ||

lāsyollasad-bhujaga-śatru-patatra-citra-
paṭṭāmśukābharaṇa-kañculikāñcitāṅgīm
gorocanā-ruci-vigarhaṇa-gaurimāṇam
devīm guṇaiḥ sulalitām lalitām namāmi

I offer obeisances (**namāmi**) to Lalitā-devī (**devīm lalitām**) who is extremely expert (**sulalitām**) due to her excellent qualities (**guṇaiḥ**). Her body is decorated (**añcita-aṅgīm**) with an attractive blouse (**ābharaṇa-kañculikā**) and [equally attractive] cloth (**citra-paṭṭāmśuka**) whose design resembles the tail of an ecstatically dancing (**ullasad-lāsyā**) peacock (**bhujaga-śatru-patatra**). Her golden complexion (**gaurimāṇam**) defeats (**vigarhaṇa**) the brilliance (**ruci**) of gorocana, a bright yellow pigment (**gorocanā**).

dhūrte vrajendra-tanaye tanu suṣṭhu-vāmyam
mā dakṣiṇā bhava kalaṅkini lāghavāya
rādhe giram śṛṇu hitām iti śikṣayantīm
devīm guṇaiḥ sulalitām lalitām namāmi

I offer obeisances (**namāmi**) to Lalitā-devī (**devīm lalitām**) who is extremely expert (**sulalitām**) due to her excellent qualities (**guṇaiḥ**). She teaches Rādhā by saying (**iti śikṣayantīm**), “Listen (**śṛṇu**) to words of wisdom (**hitām giram**), O Rādhe-Kalaṅkinī (girl who has spoiled her reputation) (**rādhe kalaṅkini**)! Never take a subordinate position (**mā lāghavāya**) and show a liberal heart (**dakṣiṇā bhāva**) to that great cheater (**dhūrte**) Kṛṣṇa (**vrajendra-tanaye tanu**). Always dominate him in all ways (**suṣṭhu-vāmyam**).”

|| 5 ||

rādhām abhi vraja-pateḥ kṛtam ātmajena
kūṭam manāg api vilokya vilohitākṣīm
vāg-bhaṅgibhis tam acireṇa vilajjayantīm
devīm guṇaiḥ sulalitām lalitām namāmi

I offer obeisances (**namāmi**) to Lalitā-devī (**devīm lalitām**) who is extremely expert (**sulalitām**) due to her excellent qualities (**guṇaiḥ**). When she hears (**vilokya**) even a few (**manāg api**) crafty (**ātmajena**) flirtatious words (**kūṭam**) from Kṛṣṇa (**vraja-pateḥ kṛtam**) to Rādhā (**rādhām abhi**), she becomes furious, and, with reddish eyes (**vilohita akṣīm**), speaks clever words (**vāg-bhaṅgibhis**) that immediately (**acireṇa**) embarrass Kṛṣṇa (**tam vilajjayantīm**).

|| 6 ||

vātsalya-vṛnda-vasatiṁ paśupāla-rājñyāḥ
sakhyaṅśikṣaṇa-kalāsu gurum sakhīnām
rādhā-balāvaraja-jīvita-nirviśeṣām
devīm guṇaiḥ sulalitām lalitām namāmi

I offer obeisances (**namāmi**) to Lalitā-devī (**devīm lalitām**) who is extremely expert (**sulalitām**) due to her excellent qualities (**guṇaiḥ**). Various parental affections (**vātsalya-vṛnda**) of the queen of cowherds (Yaśodā) (**paśupāla-rājñyāḥ**) reside in her (**vasatiṁ**). She is the guru of all her friends (sakhīs) (**gurum sakhīnām**) in the arts of friendship (**sakhya anuśikṣaṇa-kalāsu**). She considers Rādhā and Balarāma's younger brother, Kṛṣṇa (**rādhā-balāvaraja**), as non-different from her own life (**jīvita-nirviśeṣām**).

॥ 7 ॥

yām kām api vraja-kule vṛṣabhānu-jāyāḥ
prekṣya sva-pakṣa-padavīm anurudhyamānām
sadyas tad-iṣṭa-ghaṭanena kṛtārthayantīm
devīm guṇaiḥ sulalitām lalitām namāmi

I offer obeisances (**namāmi**) to Lalitā-devī (**devīm lalitām**) who is extremely expert (**sulalitām**) due to her excellent qualities (**guṇaiḥ**). When she sees (**prekṣya**) any young maiden anywhere (**yām kām api**) in Vraja (**vraja-kule**), she immediately (**sadyah**) considers (**anuruddhyamānām**) whether that maiden is favorable (**sva-pakṣa-padavīm**) to Vṛṣabhānu's daughter [Rādhā] (**vṛṣabhānu jāyāḥ**). If so, Lalitā fulfils all of that maiden's desires (**tad iṣṭa-ghaṭanena**) and thus fills her with gratitude (**kṛtārthayantīm**).

|| 8 ||

rādhā-vrajendra-suta-saṅgama-raṅga-caryām
varyām viniścitavatīm akhilotsavebhyaḥ
tām gokula-priya-sakhī-nikuramba-mukhyām
devīm guṇaiḥ sulalitām lalitām namāmi

I offer obeisances (**namāmi**) to Lalitā-devī (**devīm lalitām**) who is extremely expert (**sulalitām**) due to her excellent qualities (**guṇaiḥ**). She gives priority (**varyām viniścitavatīm**) to the great and colorful love-sports (**saṅgama-raṅga-caryām**) of Śrī Rādhā and the prince of Vraja [Kṛṣṇa] (**rādhā-vrajendra-suta**) over all other festivals (**akhila utsavebhyaḥ**). She is the leader (**tām mukhyām**) of the most prominent loving (**priya**) and friendly young girls (**sakhī-nikuramba**) of Gokula (**gokula**).

|| 9 ||

nandann amūni lalitā-guṇa-lālitāni
padyāni yaḥ paṭhati nirmala-dṛṣṭir aṣṭau
prītyā vikarṣati janam nija-vṛnda-madhye
tam kīrtidā-pati-kulojjvala-kalpa-vallī

The person who (**yaḥ**), in a joyous mood (**nandann**) and with clarified vision (**nirmala-dṛṣṭih**), recites (**paṭhati**) these eight verses (**amūni aṣṭau padyāni**) decorated with the qualities of Śrī Lalitā (**lalitā-guṇa-lālitāni**), receives the gift of being attracted to (**prītyā vikarṣati**), and counted among (**janam**), the near and dear associates of (**nija-vṛnda-madhye**) the desire-fulfilling creeper (**ujjvala-kalpa-vallī**) in the dynasty (**kula**) of the husband of Kīrtidā [Śrīmatī Rādhikā] (**tam kīrtidā-pati**).