Śrī Kṛṣṇa Smaraṇa Sphūrti

Invoking Kṛṣṇa's Remembrance

Śrī Rādhikāṣṭakaṁ

Eight Prayers glorifying Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī

By

Śrīla Kṛṣṇadāsa Kavirāja Goswāmī

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kunkumākta-kāncanābja-garva-hāri-gaurabhā pītanāncitābja-gandha-kīrti-nindi-saurabhā ballaveśa-sūnu-sarva-vāncitārtha-sādhikā mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsya-dāstu rādhikā

Her splendorous golden complexion (gaurabhā) steals the pride (garva-hāri) of a golden lotus flower (kāncanābja) anointed with a tinge of red kunkum powder (kuṅkumākta). Her sweet fragrance (saurabhā) mocks the fame (kīrti-nindi) of the aroma (gandha) of a lotus flower (abja) sprinkled with saffron powder (pītana ancita). She is fully qualified to fulfill (sādhikā) all the desires (sarva-vāncita artha) of the son of the king of cowherd men (ballaveśa-sūnu). May Sri Radhika (rādhikā) bestow upon me the service (mahyam dāsya-dā astu) of Her own lotus feet (ātma-pāda-padma).

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

Her amazing and colorful silken garments (citra-patta-śāṭikā) make the splendor of coral (kauravinda-kānti) feel ashamed (nindi). She is a garden (vāṭikā) of blossoming flowers (phullapuspa) where the maddened bumble-bee (matta-bhringa) named Krsna (kṛṣṇa) performs amorous pastimes (keli). She worships the Sun-god daily (padma-bandhu-rādhikā) in order to attain the continual association of Her beloved Krsna (kṛṣṇa-nitya-saṅgama artha). May Sri Radhika (rādhikā) bestow upon me the service (mahyam dāsya-dā astu) of Her own lotus feet (ātma-pāda-padma).

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saukumārya-sṛṣṭa-pallavāli-kīrti-nigrahā candra-candanotpalendu-sevya-śīta-vigrahā svābhimarśa-ballavīśa-kāma-tāpa-bādhikā mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsya-dāstu rādhikā

Her charming youthful delicacy (saukumārya) negates the fame (kīrti-nigrahā) of freshly-sprouted leaves (sṛṣṭa-pallavāli). Her refreshing form (śīta-vigrahā) is worthy of being served (sevya) by the cooling moon, sandalwood paste, lotus flowers, and camphor (candra-candana-utpala-indu). When She touches (sva abhimarśa) the master of the gopis (ballavi īśa), She dispels (bādhikā) the burning heat of His lusty desires (kāma-tāpa). May Sri Radhika (rādhikā) bestow upon me the service (mahyam dāsya-dā astu) of Her own lotus feet (ātma-pāda-padma).

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

Although the goddess of fortune Laksmi Devi (yā ramā api) is adored (abhivanditā) by other youthful goddesses (yauvatā), who are themselves glorified throughout all the universe (viśvavandya), still she is nowhere near Sri Radhika (na yat-samā) in the matter of beauty (rūpa), praiseworthy youthfulness (navyayauvana), or other divine feminine opulences (ādi-sampadā). There is no one in the material or spiritual worlds (na asti) superior to Radhika (sā adhikā) in the expression of naturally loving pastimes (śīla-hārda-līlayā). May Sri Radhika (rādhikā) bestow upon me the service (mahyam dāsya-dā astu) of Her own lotus feet (ātma-pāda-padma).

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rāsa-lāsya-gīta-narma-sat-kalāli-paṇḍitā prema-ramya-rūpa-veśa-sad-guṇāli-maṇḍitā viśva-navya-gopa-yoṣid-ālito ʻpi yādhikā mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsya-dāstu rādhikā

She is very learned (paṇḍitā) in many transcendental arts (sat-kalā ali), such as performing in the rasa dance (rāsa-lāsya), singing, and joking (gīta-narma). She is decorated (maṇḍitā) with many divine qualities (sad-guna ali), such as loving nature (prema), exquisite beauty (ramya-rūpa), and wonderful garments and ornaments (veśa). Even among the cowherd damsels of Vraja (gopa-yoṣidālitah api), who are praised by the entire universe (viśva-navya), She is the best in every way (yā adhikā). May Sri Radhika (rādhikā) bestow upon me the service (mahyam dāsya-dā astu) of Her own lotus feet (ātma-pāda-padma).

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

She possesses the opulences (sampada) of eternal youthful beauty (nitya-navya-rūpa), eternal pastimes (nitya-keli), and eternal love for Krsna (nitya-kṛṣṇa-bhāva). Her ecstatic feelings of love for Krsna (kṛṣṇa-rāga) cause the gopis, who are also in love with Krsna (bandha-gopa-yauvateşu), to tremble (kampadā). She is always attached to meditating (lagna sad-samādhikā) on Sri Krsna's (kṛṣṇa) beautiful form (rūpa), ornaments, garments (veśa), and pastimes (keli). May Sri Radhika (rādhikā) bestow upon me the service (mahyam dāsya-dā astu) of Her own lotus feet (ātmapāda-padma).

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sveda-kampa-kaṇṭakāśru-gadgadādi-sancitā marṣa-harṣa-vāmatādi-bhāva-bhuṣaṇāncitā kṛṣṇa-netra-toṣi-ratna-maṇḍanāli-dādhikā mahyam ātma-pāda-padma-dāsya-dāstu rādhikā

She is graced with the eight ecstatic symptoms (sattvika-bhava) (sancitā), such as trembling, perspiring (sveda-kampa), standing up of bodily hairs (kantaka), tears (aśru), faltering of the voice, and so forth (gadgadādi). She is adorned (āncitā) with different ecstatic emotional ornaments (bhāva-bhuṣana), such as impatience (marsa), joy (harsa), contrariness, and so forth (vāmatādi). She is decorated (dādhikā) with beautiful jewels (ratna-maṇḍana-ali) that give total delight to the eyes of Krsna (kṛṣṇa-netra-toṣi). May Sri Radhika (rādhikā) bestow upon me the service (mahyam dāsya-dā astu) of Her own lotus feet (ātma-pāda-padma).

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

If She is apart from Krsna (yā kṛṣṇa-viprayoga) for even half a moment (kṣaṇārdha), She becomes stricken (santata uditā) with wretched suffering (dainya), restlessness (cāpalādi), and a multitude (aneka) of other ecstatic symptoms of separation (bhāva-vṛnda-moditā). When She regains the association of Krsna (labdha-kṛṣṇa-saṅga) after some effort (yatna), then all Her anguish immediately vanishes (nirgata akhila ādhikā). May Sri Radhika (rādhikā) bestow upon me the service (mahyam dāsya-dā astu) of Her own lotus feet (ātma-pāda-padma).

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aṣṭakena yas tv anena nauti kṛṣṇa-vallabhām darśane ʻpi śailajādi-yoṣidāli-durlabhām kṛṣṇa-saṅga-nanditātma-dāsya-sīdhu-bhājanam tam karoti nanditāli-sancayāśu sā janam

It is very difficult (durlabhām) for Parvati and other exalted goddesses (śailajādi-yoşidāli) to attain even a glimpse of Srimati Radharani (darśane 'pi), who is dear to Lord Krsna (kṛṣṇavallabhām). But if someone glorifies Her (yas tv anena nauti) by reciting these eight verses (astakena), then She who is delighted by Krsna's continuous association (kṛṣṇa-saṅga-nanditā) will grant the sweet nectar of Her personal service to that person (tam) karoti ātma-dāsya-sīdhu-bhājanam), who thereby enters (janam āśu) the assembly (sancaya) of Her similarly delighted girlfriends (sā nandita-ali).