

Śrī Kṛṣṇa Smaraṇa Sphūr̥ti

Invoking Kṛṣṇa's  
Remembrance

Vṛndāvanāṣṭakam

Eight Prayers glorifying Śrī  
Vṛndāvana-Dhāma

By

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Ṭhākura

From

Śrī Stavāmṛta-Laharī

|| 1 ||

na yoga-siddhir na mamāstu mokṣa  
vaikuṅṭha-loke'pi na pārṣadatvam  
premāpi na syād iti cet tarām tu  
mamāstu vṛndāvana eva vāsaḥ

I do not seek (**na mama astu**) perfection in yoga (**yoga-siddhih**), nor liberation (**na mokṣah**), nor do I ask to become an associate of Lord Viṣṇu (**na api pārṣadatvam**) in the Vaikuṅṭha planets (**vaikuṅṭha-loke**). Even if (**iti cet**) I do not have (**na syād**) any love for Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa (**tarām tu premā api**), I pray that I may reside (**mama astu vāsaḥ**) nowhere else but in Vṛndāvana alone (**vṛndāvana eva**).

॥ 2 ॥

tārṇaṁ janur yatra vidhic yayāce  
sad-bhakta-cūḍāmaṇir-uddhavo'pi  
vīkṣyaiva mādhyura-dhūrām tad asmin  
mamāstu vṛndāvana eva vāsaḥ

I pray that I may reside (**mama astu vāsaḥ**) nowhere else but in Vṛndāvana (**vṛndāvana eva**), for this is where (**yatra**) Lord Brahmā (**vidhih**) prayed (**yayāce**) to take birth (**januh**) as a blade of grass (**tārṇām**), as did Uddhava (**uddhavah api**), the greatest of devotees (**sad-bhakta-cūḍāmaṇih**), after seeing (**vīkṣyaiva**) the glorious sweetness of divine love (**mādhyura-dhūrām**) that is embodied here (**tad asmin**).

|| 3 ||

kiṁ te kṛtam hanta tapaḥ kṣitīti  
gopyo 'pi bhūme stuvate rasa kīrtim  
yenaiva kṛṣṇāṅghri-padāṅkīte 'smin  
mamāstu vṛndāvana eva vāsaḥ

I pray that I may reside (**mama astu vāsaḥ**) nowhere else but in Vṛndāvana (**vṛndāvana eva**), which the Gopīs glorified (**gopyo pi stuvate sma**) by asking (**iti**), O Earth (**hanta bhūme**)! Did you perform (**kiṁ te kṛtam**) great austerities in a previous life (**tapaḥ kṣitīti**) because of which (**yenaiva**) you are now marked (**aṅkīte smin**) with Kṛṣṇa's lotus footprints (**kṛṣṇāṅghri-pada**)?

|| 4 ||

**gopāṅganā-lampāṭa-taiva yatra  
yasyām rasah pūrṇatamatvam āpa  
yato raso vai sa iti śrutis tan  
mamāstu vṛndāvana eva vāsaḥ**

I pray that I may reside (**mama astu vāsaḥ**) nowhere else but in Vṛndāvana (**vṛndāvana eva**), where (**yatra**) the Supreme Lord (**tad**), who is glorified in the Śrutis (**śrutih yataḥ**) as identical with the experience of love (**raso vai saḥ iti**), manifested (**āpa**) the most perfect form (**pūrṇatamatvam**) of that love (**yasyām rasah**) as the wooer of the Gopīs (**gopāṅganā-lampāṭa-taiva**).

॥ 5 ॥

**bhāṇḍīra-govardhana-rāsa-pīṭhais-  
trī-sīmake yojana-pañcakena  
mite vibhurvād amite 'pi cāsmi  
mamāstu vṛndāvana eva vāsaḥ**

I pray that I may reside (**mama astu vāsaḥ**) nowhere else but in Vṛndāvana (**asmi vṛndāvana eva**), which though seemingly limited (**mite api**) to the five yojanas of land (**yojana-pañcakena**) lying between the three point (**trī-sīmake**) of Bhāṇḍīravana (**bhāṇḍīra**), Govardhana (**govardhana**) and the Rāsa Sthālī (**rāsa-pīṭhaiḥ**), is in fact infinite (**vibhurvād amite**).



॥ 6 ॥

yatrādhīpatyaṁ vṛṣabhānu-putryā  
yenodayet prema-sukhaṁ janānām  
yasmin mamāśā balavatyaṭo 'smin  
mamāstu vṛndāvana eva vāsaḥ

I pray that I may reside (**mama astu vāsaḥ**) nowhere else but in Vṛndāvana (**asmin vṛndāvana eva**), where (**yatra**) the daughter of Vṛṣabhānu (**vṛṣabhānu-putryā**) is queen (**adhipatyam**), and by her mercy (**yena**) the joy of love (**prema-sukham**) arises (**udayet**) in every heart (**janānām**) and where (**yasmin**) all my hopes and dreams (**mama āśā**) become empowered (**balavatyataḥ**).

॥ 7 ॥

yasmin mahā-rāsa-vilāsa-līlā  
na prāpa yāmśrīrapi sā tapobhiḥ  
tatrollasanmañju-nikuñja-puñje  
mamāstu vṛndāvana eva vāsaḥ

I pray that I may reside (**mama astu vāsaḥ**) nowhere else but in Vṛndāvana (**asmin vṛndāvana eva**), filled with (**tatra**) the splendid (**ullasat**) charming (**mañju**) forest groves (**nikuñja-puñje**) wherein (**yasmin**) Kṛṣṇa performed His Rāsa dance (**mahā-rāsa-vilāsa-līlā**), which (**yām**) Lakṣmī Devi (**śrīr api**) was unable to attain (**na prāpa**) even after performing many austerities (**sā tapobhiḥ**).

॥ 8 ॥

sadā ruru-nyaṅkumukhā viśaṅkaṁ  
khelanti kūjanti pikālikīrah  
śikhaṇḍino yatra naṭanti tasmin  
mamāstu vṛndāvana eva vāsaḥ

I pray that I may reside (**mama astu vāsaḥ**) nowhere else but in Vṛndāvana (**tasmin vṛndāvana eva**), where (**yatra**) the deer and antelope (**ruru-nyaṅkumukhā**) prance (**sadā khelanti**) fearlessly (**viśaṅkaṁ**), where the cuckoos (**pika**), parrots (**kīrah**), and bees (**ali**) fill the air with joyful sounds (**kūjanti**), and where (**yatra**) the peacocks (**śikhaṇḍinah**) dance gaily (**naṭanti**).

|| 9 ||

vṛndāvanasyāṣṭakam etad uccaiḥ  
paṭhanti ye niścala-buddhayas te  
vṛndāvaneśāṅghri-saroja-sevām  
sākṣallabhante januṣo 'nta eva

Those who sing (**ye uccaiḥ paṭhanti**) these eight verses (**etad aṣṭakam**) dedicated to the land of Vṛndāvana (**vṛndāvanasya**) with fixed intelligence (**niścala-buddhayaḥ**) will attain (**te labhante**) the direct service (**sākṣad sevām**) of the lotus feet (**aṅghri-saroja**) of the king and queen of Vṛndāvana (**vṛndāvana īśā**) at the end of this life (**januṣo anta eva**).