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Let the sacred songs of our acaryas rub off on you until your heart becomes soft and true devotion awakens.

## Where are You, Radharani?

Welcome to our Kartik Inspirations.

Today is the sacred disappearance day of Gaura Kishora Dasa Babaji Maharaja, a great Vaishnava who was known for his tremendous amount of renunciation on one side, and his deep, deep longing for the service of Radharani.

He composed a song, “kothaya go premamayi radhe radhe”, where he expresses his heart. “Oh Radha, who are full of prema, where are You now? Radhe, all glories to You! Give me Your darshan and save my life. Your wretched beggar calls out to You.”

Then, Gaura Kishora Dasa Babaji sings about the practice of Raghunatha Dasa Goswami—the author of many of the verses we heard in previous Kartik Inspirations—and describes a little bit of what drives the life of a sincere spiritual practitioner.

Just like a steam engine gets its power when the water is heated so that it becomes steam, which makes pressure that can be directed to the wheels and thus the engine moves on, in the same way, we can move on in our spiritual life if we have this longing, this feeling of a great, great need—this mood of not yet being perfect but aspiring for the perfection of devotional service.

Raghunatha is described by Gaura Kishora Dasa Babaji, “You call out ‘Radhe Radhe’; you become submerged by the tears rolling from your eyes. You wander through

the lanes of Vrindavan exclaiming ‘Radhe Radhe!’ throughout the day and the night. You know nothing but Radha Govinda. And then when you take rest, you see Radha Govinda appearing to you in your dreams.”

The engine that moves our spiritual life forward is longing. And a great saint like Gaura Kishora Dasa Babaji, who spent time here in Vrindavan, chanting all day and calling out to be blessed by Srimati Radharani, is our example.

These great souls have cried, and their tears have washed down their bodies, so that their footprints are embedded, or let us say imprinted, in the soft clay. In this way, we have examples to follow. We can see their footprints moving towards the supreme goal. And by reading, for instance, or singing their songs of separation, some little percentage of their wonderful emotions comes into us, and our own devotional engine in the heart, so to say, gets life and gets moving.

Yes, this is what you can do. Get yourself a good songbook and read the translations of these wonderful songs, and feel how they rub off and bring out a first-class softening of your heart so that a very good devotional mood can appear.

Wishing you all the best and see you for the next Kartik Inspiration.

*Sacinandana Swami*

SACINANDANA SWAMI