

The Golden Bath

Welcome!

Today, all of Vrindavan celebrates the divine appearance of Radha-kund. In the Vraja-vilasa-stava, there's a verse which says, "I take shelter of Sri Radha-kund. What to speak of other places. Even the most sublime Sri Vrindavan, the most enchanting Sri Govardhan, and the most blissful rasa-lila arena cannot be compared with even a fraction of that most holy place. Sri Radha-kund is as dear to Lord Mukunda as His most beloved Sri Radha."

It is impossible to describe how so many pilgrims, residents of Vrindavan, farmers, children, ladies, and Bollywood stars can fit at the banks of Radha-kund, waiting for the midnight signal to take their bath. But all this busyness evaporates and stops disturbing you once you take your sacred bath, because at that time, you have changed dimensions.

When Radha-kund appeared, Lord Krishna personally said, "Oh, dearest Sri Radha, may Your kunda be even more glorious in this world than Mine. Here, I will always bathe and play in the water because this lake is as dear to Me as You are."

It is described that when Srimati Radharani, out of loving anger, pretends to sulk and not receive Krishna, at that moment Krishna knows a sadhana that will always work: He goes to Radha-kund! He offers some incense and flowers to the sacred bathing spot, which is conscious, which is an entity, which is actually considered by the Vrajavasis (the residents of Vrindavan) to be the same as Sri Radha. When

a Vrajavasi says, "I go to Radharani", it can well mean that he goes to Radha-kund. So, Krishna goes there and pacifies Srimati Radharani with an aratik to Her divine lake. It is accepted!

Let us pause for a moment. These transcendental ways to enter the spiritual world are always open. They never have a closing time. You, in other words, can also worship Srimati Radharani by worshiping Her divine lake—Radha-kund—on this day. Here is a simple meditation you could do:

- ☀ Sit tall.
- ☀ Calm your mind by deeply breathing in and out.
- ☀ And then, in your mind's eye, see the golden colored Radha-kund. It has the effulgence of Srimati Radharani.
- ☀ Next step: After unburdening yourself from unnecessary coverings, respectfully approach the banks of Radha-kund. With devotion, sprinkle a few drops over your head. And then,
- ☀ Enter the sacred lake prayerfully, and submerge yourself at least three times.

This is a very simple way to access the beautiful lake of Radha and to receive blessings, even when you are somewhere in Antarctica.

See you for the next Kartik Inspirations.

"O, dearest Sri Radha, may Your kunda be even more glorious in this world than Mine. Here, I will always bathe and play in the water because this lake is as dear to Me as You are."

Sri Krishna

Ratnandana Prasad
RATNANDANA SWAMI