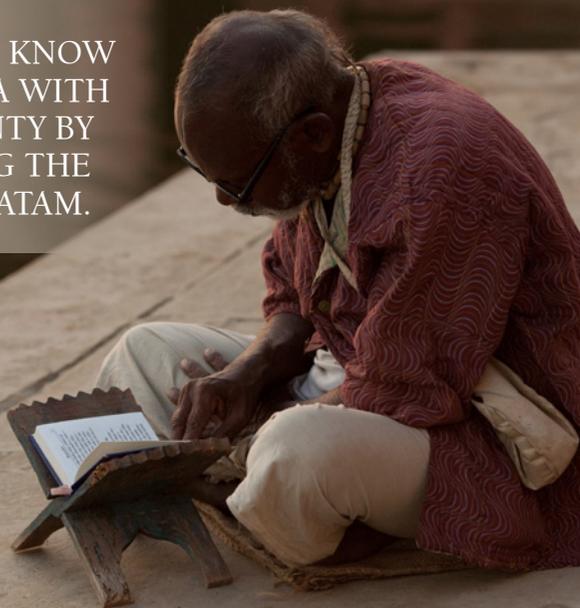


# KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2018

WE CAN KNOW  
KRISHNA WITH  
CERTAINTY BY  
READING THE  
BHAGAVATAM.



DAY 9 · 1 NOVEMBER, 2018

## THE WORLD IS A MIRROR

We have often heard the phrase, “*The world is a mirror and it shows you what you can’t or don’t want to see on your own.*”

I had a very, very graphic illustration of this yesterday.

I had gone to Govinda-kund to chant and pray on a flat roof, from where I could see the *kund* and Giriraja. There were many typical Vrindavan scenes before me: *sadhus* sitting with others at the *kunda*, most probably talking about spiritual subjects; people taking their bath, rather loudly; the cows down in the courtyard doing their cow things and the ever present monkeys, roaming around on the roof. They were peaceful and left me alone because I learned to avoid eye contact with them.

All of a sudden something special caught my eyes. It was a small herd of nilagow cows (the mystical blue cows) climbing across Govardhan hill, almost like mountain climbers.

In Vrindavan they say: wherever there are seven of these cows or more, Krishna is walking behind them, invisibly.

As I started daydreaming about this, the very next moment a bird discarded his dropping on me and it fell right onto my nose. The intense smell pulled me out of my reverie and I thought, ‘If the world is a mirror, Vrindavan is a super mirror. What do I have to learn from this?’

Somehow a deep realization arose in my heart.

Seeing spiritual reality and knowing for sure that what you see is real, happens by a method called *shrutekshita*, or ‘seeing through the eyes of hearing’, ‘seeing through the ears’. What do we hear? The sacred revealed scriptures – especially the *Bhagavatam*. So I smiled and said: “*Ok, Krishna may be walking there or not, but I will know Him with certainty by reading the Bhagavatam.*”

And this is something we can and should do in the month of Kartik, especially outside of Vrindavana. Then you will see all kinds of inspiring spiritual realities through the ears.