

# KARTIK INSPIRATIONS 2019

PERVADE EVERYTHING  
YOU DO WITH YOUR  
CONSCIOUSNESS.  
THIS WAY THIS MONTH  
WILL BECOME ALIVE  
AND LIFE-GIVING.

*Be present!*

DAY 1 · 13 OCTOBER, 2019

*Hare Krishna! Greetings from another world!  
Yes, Vrindavan is really another dimension.  
It's the ultimate reality.*

The spiritual reality is that everything centers around Krishna, the material illusion is that everything centers around me, my life, my thoughts etc. Coming to Vrindavan at once connects you to this spiritual reality. It seems the atmosphere is surcharged with all the prayers, all the austerities, which have been done by various people, and the temple services and bells ringing from morning till evening indicating offerings of delicacies for Krishna's pleasure. Here, the people greet each other with "Jay Sri Radhe!", "Jay Sri Krishna!" and "Giriraja ki jay!" referring to this ultimate reality. Leaving an illusory atmosphere and entering into a spiritual atmosphere always leaves deep impressions on the soul.

Now, I might have discouraged you with all of these details, you might have thought: "Well, I'm not in Vrindavan. What is he talking about?"

There is good news: just as Krishna is known as the benefactor of His devotees, the month of Kartik is the benefactor of everyone who observes a few simple rules and guidances. I guess by now most of my listeners have set their schedules and fixed their plan what they want to offer in the month of Kartik. If you have not done so yet, please read this article: *Kartik – The Month of Special Blessings.*

Most importantly, whatever it is that you do during this month of Kartik to worship Krishna, it is crucial that you connect yourself. Don't let it be an automatic observance.

In some temples in India, if they don't have enough man power for all *aratik* ceremonies, they use *aratik* machines. These are funny looking machines with hammers and sounding gongs. I don't think this pleases Krishna as much as when living persons connect themselves in a spirit of devotion. It may be better than nothing, but it is certainly not what we aspire for on the path of *bhakti-yoga*. We don't want to be robots or machines, we want to act with an inner connection.

Offer your lamp with a feeling of devotion. Read the sacred scriptures with attention and take time to reflect on what you have read. Pervade everything you do with your consciousness. In this way everything will become alive and this month will be the most life-giving month.

Now, at the beginning of Kartik, I am in great anticipation of whatever blessings will come my way. I wish you all the best and may you all be supremely blessed!