

श्री कृष्णनामाष्टकम्  
Śrī Kṛṣṇa-nāmāṣṭaka

श्री रूपगोस्वामिना विरचितम्  
by Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmin  
edited and translated  
by  
Neal Delmonico  
(Nitai Das)

May 7, 2005

निखिलश्रुतिमौलिरत्नमाला -  
द्युतिनीराजितपादपङ्कजान्त ।  
अयि मुक्तकुलैरुपास्यमानं  
परितस्त्वां हरिनाम संश्रयामि ॥ १ ॥

Holy Name! The luster of the crown jewels of all the Vedas illumine your lotus-like feet. I seek complete shelter in every way in you who are worshiped even by liberated souls. (1)

जय नामधेय मुनिवृन्दगेय हे  
जनरञ्जनाय परमाक्षराकृते ।  
त्वमनादरादपि मनागुदीरितं  
निखिलोग्रतापपटलीं विलुम्पसि ॥ २ ॥

Victory to you, Holy Name, praised by the sages. Your form of the highest syllables is for the pleasure of the people. Even though only partly pronounced or without respect, you nevertheless destroy all fearsome sufferings. (2)

यदाभासोऽप्य् उद्यन् कवलितभवध्वान्तविभवो  
दृशं तत्त्वान्धानामपि दिशति भक्तिप्रणयिनीम् ।  
जनस्तस्योदात्तं जगति भगवन्नामतरशो  
कृती ते निर्वक्तुं क इह महिमानं प्रभवति ॥ ३ ॥

What talented person is able to describe your sublime greatness in the world, Sun-like Name of the Lord? By even the first reflections of your arising, the darkness of the existence of those gripped by ignorance is destroyed and you give the power of sight that guides to bhakti even to those blind to the truth. (3)

यद्ब्रह्मसाक्षात्कृतिनिष्ठयापि  
विनाशमायाति विना न भोगैः ।  
अपैति नाम स्फुरणेन तत्ते  
प्रारब्धकर्मेति विरौति वेदः ॥ ४ ॥

The Veda roars out that what is not achieved by the direct experience of Brahman, namely the destruction of the effects of past actions that have already begun fructifying, is accomplished by the appearance of the Holy Name. (4)

अघदमनयशोदानन्दनौ नन्दसूनो  
कमलनयनगोपीचन्द्रवृन्दावनेन्द्राः ।  
प्रणतकरुणाकृष्णावित्यनेकस्वरूपे  
त्वयि मम रतिरुच्चैर्वर्धतां नामधेय ॥ ५ ॥

Holy Name, let my love for you grow immensely, you who have many forms like Aghadamana (“Punisher of Agha”), Yaśodānandana (“Son of Yaśodā”), Nandasūnu (“Son of Nanda”), Kamalanayana (“Lotus-eyes”), Gopīcandra (“Moon of the Gopīs”), Vṛndāvanendra (“King of Vṛndāvana”), Praṇatakaruṇa (“Merciful to the Surrendered”), and Kṛṣṇa. (5)

वाच्यो वाचकमित्युदेति भवतो नाम स्वरूपद्वयं  
पूर्वस्मात्परमेव हन्त करुणा तत्रापि जानीमहे  
यस्तस्मिन्विहितापराधनिवहः प्राणी समन्ताद्भवेद्  
आस्येनेदमुपास्य सोऽपि हि सदानन्दाम्बुधौ मज्जति ॥ ६ ॥

Holy Name, you have two natures: the conveyed and the conveyor. I understand the latter to be more merciful than the former, since even a living being who has committed some grievous offense to the former may

honor the latter with his mouth and be ever submerged in an ocean of joy.  
(6)

सूदिताश्रितजनार्तिराशये  
रम्यचिह्नसुखस्वरूपिणे ।  
नाम गोकुलमहोत्सवाय ते  
कृष्णापूर्णावपुषे नमो नमः ॥७॥

Holy Name, repeated obeisance to you, destroyer of the pains of those sheltered by you, lovely consciousness and joy in nature, great festival of Gokula, Kṛṣṇa's full body. (7)

नारदवीणोज्जीवनसुधोर्मिनिर्यासमाधुरीपूर ।  
त्वं कृष्णनाम कामं स्फुर मे रसने रसेन सदा ॥ ८ ॥

Name of Kṛṣṇa, enlivener of the *vīṇā* of Nārada, soaked in the sweetness of syrupy waves of nectar, please, if you wish, appear on my tongue joyfully [*rasena*] forever. (8)