

Shri Yamunashtakam

by Shri Roop Goswami

*bhrātūr-antakasya-pattane'bhipatti-hāriṇī
prekṣayāti-pāpino'pi pāpa-sindhu tāriṇī |
nīra-mādhurībhīr-apyaśeṣa-citta-bandhinī
māṁ punātu sarvadāravinda-bandhu-nandinī || 1 ||*

O Yamuna Devi! Your mercy saves souls from ever going to hell, which is the kingdom of your brother Yamraj (the god of death). One glimpse of you is enough to deliver extremely fallen souls across an ocean of deep sins. The divine sweetness of your waters attracts and binds the consciousness of all. O daughter of the sun! Please purify me forever.

*hāri-vāri-dhārayābhimaṇḍitoru-khāṇḍavā
puṇḍarīka-maṇḍalodya-danda-jālitāṇḍavā |
snāna-kāma-pāmarogra-pāpa-sampadandhinī
māṁ punātu sarvadāravinda-bandhu-nandinī || 2 ||*

The vast Khandav forest is beautified by your captivating currents, where birds and bees dance in harmony amidst your lotus flowers. The mere desire to bathe in your waters relieves one of the burden of heavy sins. O daughter of sun! Please purify me forever.

śīkarābhīmṛṣṭa-jantu-durvīpāka-mardinī
nanda-nandanāntaraṅga-bhakti-pūra-vardhinī |
tīra-saṅgamābhilāśi-maṅgalānubandhinī
māṁ punātu sarvadāravinda-bandhu-nandinī || 3 ||

Just a drop of your water is enough to wash away the negative *karm* of past lives. Your grace makes the river of Braj *bhakti* powerfully flow in the hearts of devotees, and you bestow great blessings upon those who yearn to reside near you. O daughter of the sun! Please purify me forever.

dvīpacakra-vāla-juṣṭa-sapta-sindhu-bhedinī
śrīmukunda-nirmitoru-divya-keli-vedinī |
kānti-kandalībhir indra-nīla-vṛnda-nindinī
māṁ punātu sarvadāravinda-bandhu-nandinī || 4 ||

Your blissful waters, which travel around the continents, passing through the seven seas without merging with them, give shelter to beautiful islands. The amazing and divine *līlas* of Shri Krishn are intimately known by you, and your dark beauty outshines the glory of a mine of blue sapphires. O daughter of the sun! Please purify me forever.

*māthureṇa maṇḍalena cāruṇābhimaṇḍitā
prema-naddha-vaiṣṇavādhva-vardhanāya paṇḍitā |
ūrmidor-vilāsa-padmanābha-pāda-vandinī
māṁ punātu sarvadāravinda-bandhu-nandinī || 5 ||*

The sacred land of Mathura is decorated by your presence on all sides. Helping devotees on their spiritual path is your expertise, and with beautiful arms in the form of waves, you offer eternal obeisance at the lotus feet of Shri Krishn. O daughter of the sun! Please purify me forever.

*ramya-tīra-rambhamāṇa-gokadamba-bhūṣitā
divya-gandha-bhāk-kadamba-puṣparāji-rūṣitā |
nanda-sūnu-bhakta-saṅgha-saṅgamābhinandinī
māṁ punātu sarvadāravinda-bandhu-nandinī || 6 ||*

Herds of lowing cows adorn your banks, filled with the perfume of flowering *kadamb* trees. You pay your respects to all of the devotees that gather at your banks. O daughter of the sun! Please purify me forever.

*phulla-pakṣa-mallikākṣa-hamṣa-lakṣa-kūjitā
bhakti-viddha-deva-siddha-kinnarāli-pūjitā |
tīra-gandha-vāhagandha-janma-bandha-randhinī
māṁ punātu sarvadārvinda-bandhu-nandinī || 7 ||*

Your waters echo with the blissful cries of thousands of swans, whose feathers are puffed with joy and who have softly-tapered jasmine-petal eyes. You are worshipped by gods, *siddhas*, *kinnaras*, and other divine beings who are filled with love for Shri Krishn. The divine fragrance of the breeze on your shore cuts through the bonds of repeated birth and death. O daughter of the sun! Please purify me forever.

*cid-vilāsa-vāri-pūra-bhūr-bhuvaḥ-svarāpinī
kīrtitāpi durmadoru-pāpa-marpa-tāpinī |
ballavendra-nandanāṅga-rāga-bhāṅga-gandhinī
māṁ punātu sarvadārvinda-bandhu-nandinī || 8 ||*

Filled with the Lord's blissful *lilas*, your waters pour through realms earthly and divine (*bhūlok*, *bhuvarlok*, and *svarglok*). Remembering your name and singing your praises, the ego and the deep causes of one's sins are burned to ashes. You are eternally fragrant with the fine ointments washed from the divine Body of Shri Krishn. O daughter of the sun! Please purify me forever.

*tuṣṭa-buddhir aşṭakena nirmalormi-çeṣṭitāṁ
tvāṁ anena bhānu-putri sarva-deva-veṣṭitāṁ |
yaḥ stavīti vardhayasva sarva-pāpa-mocane
bhakti-pūram asya devi puṇḍarīka-locane || 9 ||*

O daughter of the sun! O goddess with lotus-petal eyes, surrounded by gods and beautiful with dancing waves! O goddess who takes away the sins of the world! Please bless that soul who, with a happy mind, recites these eight verses in your praise, may the river of his devotion flow towards Shri Krishn eternally.