

SRI BHISHMA STUTI

<p>śrī-bhīṣma uvāca iti matir upakalpītā vitṛṣṇā bhagavati sātvatā-puṅgave vibhūmni sva-sukham upagate kvacid vihartuṃ prakṛtim upeyuṣi yad-bhava-pravāhaḥ</p>	<p>Bhīṣmadeva said: Let me now invest my thinking, feeling and willing, which were so long engaged in different subjects and occupational duties, in the all-powerful Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa. He is always self-satisfied, but sometimes, being the leader of the devotees, He enjoys transcendental pleasure by descending to the material world, although from Him only the material world is created.</p>
<p>tri-bhuvana-kamaṇaṃ tamāla-varṇaṃ ravi-kara-gaura-vara-ambaraṃ dadhāne vapur alaka-kulāvṛtānanābjaṃ vijaya-sakhe ratir astu me 'navadyā</p>	<p>Śrī Kṛṣṇa is the intimate friend of Arjuna. He has appeared on this earth in His transcendental body, which resembles the bluish color of the tamāla tree. His body attracts everyone in the three planetary systems [upper, middle and lower]. May His glittering yellow dress and His lotus face, covered with paintings of sandalwood pulp, be the object of my attraction, and may I not desire fruitive results.</p>
<p>yudhi turaga-rajo-vidhūmra-viṣvak- kaca-lulīta-śramavāry-alāṅkṛtāsye mama niśīta-śarair vibhidyamāna- tvaci vilasat-kavace 'stu kṛṣṇa ātmā</p>	<p>On the battlefield [where Śrī Kṛṣṇa attended Arjuna out of friendship], the flowing hair of Lord Kṛṣṇa turned ashen due to the dust raised by the hoofs of the horses. And because of His labor, beads of sweat wetted His face. All these decorations, intensified by the wounds dealt by my sharp arrows, were enjoyed by Him. Let my mind thus go unto Śrī Kṛṣṇa.</p>
<p>sapadi sakhi-vaco niśāmya madhye nija-parayor balayo rathaṃ niveśya sthitavati para-sainikāyur akṣṇā hṛtavati pārtha-sakhe ratir mamāstu</p>	<p>In obedience to the command of His friend, Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa entered the arena of the Battlefield of Kurukṣetra between the soldiers of Arjuna and Duryodhana, and while there He shortened the life spans of the opposite party by His merciful glance. This was done simply by His looking at the enemy. Let my mind be fixed upon that Kṛṣṇa.</p>
<p>vyavahita-pṛtanā-mukhaṃ nirīkṣya sva-jana-vadhād vimukhasya doṣa- buddhyā kumatim aharad ātma-vidyayā yaś caraṇa-ratiḥ paramasya tasya me 'stu</p>	<p>When Arjuna was seemingly polluted by ignorance upon observing the soldiers and commanders before him on the battlefield, the Lord eradicated his ignorance by delivering transcendental knowledge. May His lotus feet always remain the object of my attraction.</p>
<p>sva-nigamam apahāya mat-pratijñāṃ ṛtam adhikartum avapluto rathasthaḥ dhṛta-ratha-caraṇo 'bhyayāc caladgur harir iva hantum ibhaṃ gatottariyaḥ</p>	<p>Fulfilling my vow and sacrificing His own promise, He got down from the chariot, took up its wheel, and ran towards me hurriedly, just as a lion goes to kill an elephant. He even dropped His outer garment on the way.</p>

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<p>śīta-viśīkha-hato viśīrṇa-damśaḥ kṣataja-paripluta ātatāyino me prasabham abhisasāra mad-vadhārtham sa bhavatu me bhagavān gatiḥ mukundaḥ</p>	<p>May He, Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Personality of Godhead, who awards salvation, be my ultimate destination. On the battlefield He charged me, as if angry because of the wounds dealt by my sharp arrows. His shield was scattered, and His body was smeared with blood due to the wounds.</p>
<p>vijaya-ratha-kuṭumbha ātta-totre dhr̥ta-haya-raśmini tac-chriyekṣaṇīye bhagavati ratir astu me mumūrṣor yam iha nirīkṣya hatā gatāḥ sva-rūpam</p>	<p>At the moment of death, let my ultimate attraction be to Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Personality of Godhead. I concentrate my mind upon the chariot driver of Arjuna who stood with a whip in His right hand and a bridle rope in His left, who was very careful to give protection to Arjuna's chariot by all means. Those who saw Him on the Battlefield of Kurukṣetra attained their original forms after death.</p>
<p>lalita-gati-vilāsa-valguhāsa- praṇaya-nirīkṣaṇa-kalpitorumānāḥ kṛtam anukṛtavatya unmadāndhāḥ prakṛtim agan kila yasya gopa-vadhvaḥ</p>	<p>Let my mind be fixed upon Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa, whose motions and smiles of love attracted the damsels of Vrajadhāma [the gopīs]. The damsels imitated the characteristic movements of the Lord [after His disappearance from the rāsa dance].</p>
<p>muni-gaṇa-nṛpa-varya-saṅkule 'ntaḥ- sadasi yudhiṣṭhira-rājasūya eṣām arhaṇam upapeda īkṣaṇīyo mama dr̥ṣi-gocara eṣa āvir ātmā</p>	<p>At the Rājasūya-yajña [sacrifice] performed by Mahārāja Yudhiṣṭhira, there was the greatest assembly of all the elite men of the world, the royal and learned orders, and in that great assembly Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa was worshiped by one and all as the most exalted Personality of Godhead. This happened during my presence, and I remembered the incident in order to keep my mind upon the Lord.</p>
<p>tam imam aham ajaṁ śarīra-bhājāṁ hr̥di hr̥di dhiṣṭhitam ātma-kalpitānām pratidṛśam iva naikadhārkam ekaṁ samadhi-gato 'smi vidhūta-bheda-mohaḥ</p>	<p>Now I can meditate with full concentration upon that one Lord, Śrī Kṛṣṇa, now present before me because now I have transcended the misconceptions of duality in regard to His presence in everyone's heart, even in the hearts of the mental speculators. He is in everyone's heart. The sun may be perceived differently, but the sun is one.</p>
<p>sūta uvāca kṛṣṇa evaṁ bhagavati mano-vāg-dr̥ṣṭi-vṛttibhiḥ ātmany ātmānam āveśya so 'ntaḥsvāsa upāramat</p>	<p>Sūta Gosvāmī said: Thus Bhīṣmadeva merged himself in the Supersoul, Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, with his mind, speech, sight and actions, and thus he became silent, and his breathing stopped.</p>