

Gaura-ārati

by Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura from Gītāvalī

Text One

*(kiba) jaya jaya gorācānder āratiko śobhā
jāhnavī-taṭa-vane jaga-mana-lobhā
jaga-jana-mana-lobhā*

(First Refrain)

*gaurāṅger ārotik śobhā
jaga-jana-mana-lobhā*

SYNONYMS

jaya jaya—all glories, all glories!; gorācānder—of the moonlike Lord Caitanya; āratiko śobhā—the beautiful ārati ceremony; jāhnavī-taṭa-vane—in a grove on the banks of the Ganges river; jaga-mana-lobhā—attracting the minds of all living entities in the universe.

TRANSLATION

All glories, all glories to the beautiful ārati ceremony of Lord Caitanya. This Gaura-ārati is taking place in a grove on the banks of the Jāhnavī [Ganges] and is attracting the minds of all living entities in the universe.

Text Two

*dakṣiṇe nitāicānd, bāme gadādhara
nikaṭe advaita, śrīnivāsa chatra-dhara*

SYNONYMS

dakṣiṇe nitāi-cānd—on His right side is the moonlike Lord Nityānanda; vāme gadādhara—on His left is Śrī Gadādhara; nikaṭe advaita—nearby stands Śrī Advaita; śrīnivāsa chatra-dhara—and Śrīvāsa Ṭhākura is holding an umbrella.

TRANSLATION

On Lord Caitanya's right side is Lord Nityānanda, and on His left is Śrī Gadādhara. Nearby stands Śrī Advaita, and Śrīvāsa Ṭhākura is holding an umbrella over Lord Caitanya's head.

Text Three

*bosiyāche gorācānd ratna-simhāsane
ārati koren brahmā-ādi deva-gaṇe*

SYNONYMS

bosiyāche—is sitting; gorācānd—Lord Gaura-candra; ratna-simhāsane—upon a jeweled throne; ārati korena—performing the ārati ceremony; brahmā-ādi deva-gaṇe—the demigods, headed by Lord Brahmā.

TRANSLATION

Lord Caitanya has sat down on a jeweled throne, and the demigods, headed by Lord Brahmā, perform the āraṭi ceremony.

Text Four

*narahari-ādi kori' cāmara dhulāya
sañjaya-mukunda-bāsu-ghoṣ-ādi gāya*

SYNONYMS

narahari-ādi—Narahari Sārakāra and other associates; kori' cāmara dhulāya—fanning Him with cāmara whisks; sañjaya-mukunda-vāsu-ghoṣ-ādi—the devotees headed by Sañjaya, Mukunda and Vāsu Ghoṣa; gāya—are singing.

TRANSLATION

Narahari Sarakāra and other associates of Lord Caitanya fan Him with cāmaras, and devotees headed by Sañjaya Paṇḍita, Mukunda Datta, and Vāsu Ghoṣa sing sweet kīrtana.

Text Five

*śaṅkha bāje ghaṅṭā bāje bāje karatāla
madhura mṛdaṅga bāje parama rasāla*

(Second Refrain)

*śaṅkha bāje ghaṅṭā bāje
madhur madhur madhur bāje*

SYNONYMS

śaṅkha bāje—conchshells resound; ghaṅṭā bāje—bells resound; bāje karatāla—hand-cymbals resound; madhura mṛdaṅga bāje—sweet clay drums resound; parama rasāla—supremely sweet and relishable to hear.

TRANSLATION

Conchshells, bells, and karatālas resound, and the mṛdaṅgas play very sweetly. This kīrtana music is supremely sweet and relishable to hear.

Text Six

*bahu-koṭi candra jini' vadana ujjvala
gala-deśe bana-mālā kore jhalamala*

SYNONYMS

bahu-koṭi—many millions; candra—of moons; jini'—conquering; vadana ujjvala—the brilliance of Lord Caitanya's face; gala-deśe—around His neck; vana-mālā—the garland of forest flowers; kore jhalamala—shines.

TRANSLATION

The brilliance of Lord Caitanya's face conquers millions upon millions of moons, and the garland of forest flowers around His neck shines.

Text Seven

*śiva-śuka-nārada preme gada-gada
bhaktivinoda dekhe gorāra sampada*

SYNONYMS

śiva-śuka-nārada—Lord Śiva, Śukadeva Gosvāmī, and Nārada Muni; preme—with the ecstasy of transcendental love; gada-gada—their voices are choked; bhaktivinoda—thus Ṭhākura Bhaktivinoda; dekhe—beholds; gorāra sampada—the glory of Lord Caitanya.

TRANSLATION

Lord Śiva, Śukadeva Gosvāmī, and Nārada Muni are all there, and their voices are choked with the ecstasy of transcendental love. Thus Ṭhākura Bhaktivinoda envisions the glory of Lord Śrī Caitanya.