

Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī has composed the following prayer in glorification of the Yamunā known as Śrī Yamunāṣṭaka, taken from *Stava-mālā*:

# श्री यमुनाष्टक

## Śrī Yamunāṣṭaka

Eight Prayers Glorifying Śrī Yamunā

Text 1

भ्रातुरन्तकस्य पत्तनेऽभिपत्तिहारिणी  
प्रेक्षयातिपापिनोऽपि पापसिन्धुतारिणी ।  
नीरमाधुरीभिरप्यशेषचित्तबन्धिनी  
मां पुनातु सर्वदारविन्दबन्धुनन्दिनी ॥ १ ॥

*bhrātur antakasya pattane 'bhipatti-hāriṇī  
prekṣayāti-pāpino 'pi pāpa-sindhu-tāriṇī  
nīra-mādhurībhir apy aśeṣa-citta-bandhinī  
mām punātu sarvadāravindabandhu-nandinī*

*bhrātuḥ*—of her brother; *antakasya*—Yama; *pattane*—in the city; *abhipatti*—approaching; *hāriṇī*—removing; *prekṣayāti*—by the sight; *pāpinaḥ*—sinful; *api*—even; *pāpa*—of sins; *sindhu*—of the ocean; *tāriṇī*—crossing; *nīra-mādhurībhiḥ*—with sweet nectar; *apy*—even; *aśeṣa*—all; *citta*—hearts; *bandhinī*—charming; *mām*—me; *punātu*—may purify; *sarvadā*—always; *aravindabandhu*—of the sun-god; *nandinī*—the daughter.

May Śrī Yamunā, who is the daughter of Sūryadeva, who saves one from having to enter the city of her brother Yamarāja, the sight of whom enables the most sinful persons to cross the ocean of sin, and the sweetness of whose water charms the hearts of everyone, always purify me.

Text 2

हारिवारिधारयाभिमण्डितोरुखाण्डवा  
पुण्डरीकमण्डलोद्यदण्डजालिताण्डवा ।  
स्नानकामपामरोग्रपापसम्पदन्धिनी  
मां पुनातु सर्वदारविन्दबन्धुनन्दिनी ॥ २ ॥

*hāri-vāri-dhārayābhimaṇḍitoru-khāṇḍavā  
puṇḍarīka-maṇḍalodyad-aṇḍajāli-tāṇḍavā  
snāna-kāma-pāmarogra-pāpa-sampad-andhinī  
mām punātu sarvadāravindabandhu-nandinī*

*hāri*—charming; *vāri*—waters; *dhārayā*—with the stream; *abhimaṇḍita*—decorated; *uru*—great; *khāṇḍavā*—Khāṇḍava forest; *puṇḍarīka*—of lotus flowers; *maṇḍala*—in the circle; *udyat*—rising; *aṇḍaja*—of birds; *āli*—hosts; *tāṇḍavā*—dancing; *snāna*—bathing; *kāma*—desiring; *pāmara*—degraded; *ugra*—fierce; *pāpa*—of sins; *sampat*—the multitude; *andhinī*—blinding.

May Śrī Yamunā, who is the daughter of Sūryadeva, who decorates the great Khāṇḍava forest with a stream of pleasant waters, who is filled with lotus flowers and dancing birds, and who blinds the terrible sins of they who desire to bathe in her, always purify me.

Text 3

शीकराभिमृष्टजन्तुदुर्विपाकमर्दिनी  
नन्दनन्दनान्तरङ्गभक्तिपूरवर्धिनी ।  
तीरसङ्गमाभिलाषिमङ्गलानुबन्धिनी  
मां पुनातु सर्वदारविन्दबन्धुनन्दिनी ॥ ३ ॥

*śīkarābhimṛṣṭa-jantu-durvipāka-mardini  
nandanandanāntarāṅga-bhakti-pūra-vardhinī  
tīra-saṅgamābhilāṣi-maṅgalānubandhinī  
mām punātu sarvadāravindabandhu-nandinī*

*śīkara*—by a drop; *abhimṛṣṭa*—touched; *jantu*—of the living entities; *durvipāka*—sinful reactions; *mardini*—crushing; *nandanandana*—for Lord Kṛṣṇa; *antarāṅga*—confidential; *bhakti*—of devotional service; *pūra*—the flood; *vardhinī*—increasing; *tīra*—shore; *saṅgama*—touch; *abhilāṣi*—desiring; *maṅgala*—auspiciousness; *anubandhinī*—containing.

May Śrī Yamunā, who is the daughter of Sūryadeva, a drop of whose water destroys the sinful reactions of the people, who creates a great flood of confidential pure devotional service to Lord Nandanandana, and who brings auspiciousness to they who desire to live on her shore, always purify me.

Text 4

द्वीपचक्रवालजुष्टसप्तसिन्धुभेदिनी  
श्रीमुकुन्दनिर्मितोरुदिव्यकेलिवेदिनी ।  
कान्तिकन्दलीभिरिन्द्रनीलवृन्दनिन्दिनी  
मां पुनातु सर्वदारविन्दबन्धुनन्दिनी ॥ ४ ॥

*dvīpa-cakravāla-juṣṭa-sapta-sindhu-bhedinī*  
*śrī-mukunda-nirmitoru-divya-keli-vedinī*  
*kānti-kandalībhir indranīla-vṛnda-nindinī*  
*mām punātu sarvadāravindabandhu-nandinī*

*dvīpa*—of islands; *cakravāla*—a multitude; *juṣṭa*—endowed; *sapta*—seven; *sindhu*—oceans; *bhedinī*—dividing; *śrī-mukunda*—Lord Mukunda; *nirmita*—manifested; *uru*—great; *divya*—transcendental; *keli*—pastimes; *vedinī*—manifesting; *kānti*—of splendor; *kandalībhiḥ*—with an abundance; *indranīla*—of sapphires; *vṛnda*—a host; *nindinī*—rebuking.

May Śrī Yamunā, who is the daughter of Sūryadeva, who divides the seven oceans and seven continents, who witnessed many of Lord Mukunda’s transcendental pastimes, and whose splendor rebukes a host of sapphires, always purify me.

Text 5

माथुरेण मण्डलेन चारुणाभिमण्डिता  
प्रेमनद्धवैष्णवाध्ववर्धनाय पण्डिता ।  
ऊर्मिदोर्विलासपद्मनाभपादवन्दिनी  
मां पुनातु सर्वदारविन्दबन्धुनन्दिनी ॥ ५ ॥

*māthureṇa maṇḍalena cāruṇābhimaṇḍitā*  
*prema-naddha-vaiṣṇavādhva-varḍhanāya paṇḍitā*  
*ūrmi-dor-vilāsa-padmanābha-pāda-vandinī*  
*mām punātu sarvadāravindabandhu-nandinī*

*māthureṇa*—of Māthura; *maṇḍalena*—by the circle; *cāruṇā*—beautiful; *abhimaṇḍitā*—decorated; *prema*—by love; *naddha*—bound; *vaiṣṇava*—of the devotees; *adhva*—the path; *varḍhanāya*—for increasing; *paṇḍitā*—expert; *ūrmi*—of waves; *doḥ*—of the arms; *vilāsa*—the pastimes; *padmanābha*—of Lord Kṛṣṇa; *pāda*—to the feet; *vandinī*—offering respectful obeisances.

May Śrī Yamunā, who is the daughter of Sūryadeva, who is decorated by the

beautiful district of Māthura, who expertly protects they who follow the path of loving devotional service, and who with the playful motions of the waves that are her arms offers respectful obeisances to Lord Padmanābha's feet, always purify me.

Text 6

रम्यतीररम्भमाणगोकदम्बभूषिता  
दिव्यगन्धभाक्कदम्बपुष्पराजिरूषिता ।  
नन्दसूनुभक्तसङ्घसङ्गमाभिनन्दिनी  
मां पुनातु सर्वदारविन्दबन्धुनन्दिनी ॥ ६ ॥

*ramya-tīra-rambhamāṇa-go-kadamba-bhūṣitā  
divya-gandha-bhāk-kadamba-puṣpa-rāji-rūṣitā  
nandasūnu-bhakta-saṅgha-saṅgamābhinandinī  
mām punātu sarvadāravindabandhu-nandinī*

*ramya—charming; tīra—banks; rambhamāṇa—lowing; gaḥ—cows; kadamba—multitudes; bhūṣitā—decorated; divya—splendid; gandha—fragrance; bhāk—possessing; kadamba—kadamba; puṣpa—flowers; rāji—multitudes; rūṣitā—covered; nandasūnu—of Lord Kṛṣṇa; bhakta—of the devotees; saṅgha—of the multitudes; saṅgama—by the touch; abhinandinī—delighted.*

May Śrī Yamunā, who is the daughter of Sūryadeva, whose charming shores are decorated with many lowing cows, who is filled with many splendid and fragrant kadamba flowers, and who is delighted to have the company of Lord Kṛṣṇa's devotees, always purify me.

Text 7

फुल्लपक्षमल्लिकाक्षहंसलक्षकूजिता  
भक्तिविद्धदेवसिद्धकिन्नरालिपूजिता ।  
तीरगन्धवाहगन्धजन्मबन्धरन्धिनी  
मां पुनातु सर्वदारविन्दबन्धुनन्दिनी ॥ ७ ॥

*phulla-pakṣa-mallikākṣa-haṁsa-lakṣa-kūjitā  
bhakti-viddha-deva-siddha-kinnarāli-pūjitā  
tīra-gandhavāha-gandha-janma-bandha-randhini  
mām punātu sarvadāravindabandhu-nandinī*

*phulla-pakṣa—blossoming with joy; mallikākṣa-haṁsa—royal swans; lakṣa—thousands; kūjitā—warbling; bhakti—in pure devotion; viddha—absorbed; deva—*

the devas; *siddha*—mystic; *kinnarāli*—and khinnaras; *pūjitā*—worshiped; *tīra*—shore; *gandhavāha*—the breezes; *gandha*—fragrance; *janma*—birth; *bandha*—bondage; *randhini*—destroying.

May Śrī Yamunā, who is the daughter of Sūryadeva, who is filled with the warblings of thousands of joyful mallikākṣa swans, who is worshiped by the Vaiṣṇavas, devas, siddhas, and kinnaras, and the slightest scent of the fragrant breeze moving on whose shores stops the cycle of repeated birth and death, always purify me.

Text 8

चिद्विलासवारिपूरभूर्भुवःस्वरापिनी  
कीर्तितापि दुर्मदोरुपापमर्मतापिनी ।  
बल्लवेन्द्रनन्दनाङ्गरागभङ्गगन्धिनी  
मां पुनातु सर्वदारविन्दबन्धुनन्दिनी ॥ ८ ॥

*cid-vilāsa-vāri-pūra-bhūr-bhuvah-svar-āpinī*  
*kīrtitāpi durmadoru-pāpa-marma-tāpinī*  
*ballavendra-nandanāṅgarāga-bhaṅga-gandhinī*  
*mām punātu sarvadāravindabandhu-nandinī*

*cit*—transcendental; *vilāsa*—splendor; *vāri*—of waters; *pūra*—flood; *bhūḥ*—Bhūḥ; *bhuvah*—Bhuvah; *svah*—and Svah; *āpinī*—attaining; *kīrtitā*—glorified; *api*—even; *durmada*—terrible; *uru*—great; *pāpa*—sins; *marma*—the heart; *tāpinī*—torturing; *ballavendra*—of the king of the gopas; *nandana*—of the son; *āṅgarāga*—of the scented ointments; *bhaṅga*—waves; *gandhinī*—fragrant.

May Śrī Yamunā, who is the daughter of Sūryadeva, who is the famous, splendid, spiritual river flowing through the Bhuḥ, Bhuvah, and Svah planets, who burns away the greatest sins, and who is fragrant with scented ointments from Lord Kṛṣṇa’s transcendental body, always purify me.

- Phalaśruti -

(Benefits of Reading and Hearing)

Text 9

तुष्टबुद्धिरष्टकेन निर्मलोर्मिचेष्टितां  
त्वामनेन भानुपुत्रि! सर्वदेववेष्टिताम् ।  
यःस्तवीति वर्धयस्व सर्वपापमोचने  
भक्तिपूरमस्य देवि! पुण्डरीकलोचने ॥ ९ ॥

*tuṣṭa-buddhir aṣṭakena nirmalormi-ceṣṭitām  
tvām anena bhānuputri sarva-deva-veṣṭitām  
yaḥ stavīti vardhayasva sarva-pāpa-mocane  
bhakti-pūram asya devi puṇḍarīka-locane*

*tuṣṭa*—happy; *buddhiḥ*—intelligence; *aṣṭakena*—with these eight verses; *nirmala*—splendid; *ūrmi*—waves; *ceṣṭitām*—moved; *tvām*—you; *anena*—by this; *bhānu*—of the sun-god; *putri*—O daughter; *sarva*—all; *deva*—by the demigods; *veṣṭitām*—surrounded; *yaḥ*—one who; *stavīti*—prays; *vardhayasva*—please increase; *sarva*—all; *pāpa*—of sins; *mocane*—in deliverance; *bhakti*—of pure devotional service; *pūram*—the flood; *asya*—of Him; *devi*—O queen; *puṇḍarīka*—lotus; *locane*—eyes.

O lotus-eyed one, O daughter of Sūryadeva, O rescuer from all sins, please flood with pure devotional service that person who, reciting these eight prayers with a cheerful heart, glorifies you, whose waves are pure and splendid, and who is accompanied by all the demigods.

इति श्रीरूपगोस्वामिविरचितस्तवमालायां श्रीयमुनाष्टकं सम्पूर्णम् ।

| *iti śrī-rūpagosvāmi-viracita-stavamālāyām*  
*śrīyamunāṣṭakam sampūrṇam* |

Thus Ends the Hymn Śrī Yamunā Aṣṭakam, eight verses in glorification of the river Yamunā, contained in the Stavamālā, garland of songs book, composed by Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī.

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"O river Yamunā, you are the blissful spiritual water that gives love to the son of Nanda Mahārāja. You are the same as the water of the spiritual world, for you can vanquish all our offenses and the sinful reactions incurred in life. You are the creator of all auspicious things for the world. O daughter of the sun-god, kindly purify us by your pious activities." ([cc/madhya/3/28](http://cc/madhya/3/28))

This verse is recorded in the *Caitanya-candrodaya-nāṭaka* (5.35), by Kavī-karṇapura.