

Praṇāma Kara Jāi

by Dr. Fakir Mohan Dās

*ei gagane, dīpta ravi, kīrttī prabhā ḍhāḷe
haḷādī basanta kokīḷa gāe pavana tāḷe tāḷe
birūpā kūḷe laharīmāḷe dianti pāda dhoī
praṇāma kara praṇāma kara caraṇa dhūli nei*

*eī se gaḍa kaṇṭā bāḍa badhāi kahe atīta kaṭhā
ketakī kiā melāi jihvā jaṇāe sada marama byathā
bāluā ḍihe bāluā bābu thile kīrttana gāi
praṇāma kara praṇāma kara praṇāma kara jāi*

*rādhā mādhava śrī Jagannātha dadhi-vāmana sāiñ
kara tu sevā jīvanta devā bacana deve kahi
“jaya śrī rādhā mādhava kuñjabihārī” kaṇṭhe gāi
praṇāma kara praṇāma kara caraṇa tāra chuīñ*

*daśaharā melā paḍiā fula bagicā yāhāku āji bhaje
uāsa pokharī kulu kulure yāhāku āji khoje
bhakatibhare namraśire se nīra māthe chuīñ
praṇāma kara praṇāma kara caraṇa tāra chuīñ*

*nāhānti lālu cakravarttī rājaballabha amaḷa kīrttī
‘bidā’ ga-uḍa ‘kaliā malla’ ‘ghumurī’ pārāpakṣī
nāhiñ pāliñki kacarī ghara bhāñgi chuīñchi bhūiñ
praṇāma kara praṇāma kara praṇāma kara jāi*

*diśu nāhānti vimala kīrttī vimalā-prasāda śrī sarasvatī
daśaharā ghare hari nāmāre hoi vihvaḷa mūrṭtī
tāñkara pāda padama reṇu nei śirare deī
praṇāma kara praṇāma kara caraṇa dhūli nei*

*choṭa nuheñ e choṭī grāma sārā viśva gāe jā nāma
iskcon bhakte mission rakte gaḍhanti eṭhi dhāma
bhaktivinode bhaktisiddhānte dharichi koḷe yeī
praṇāma kara praṇāma kara caraṇa tāra chuīñ*

***Go and Bow Down at Choti, the Sacred Native Place of Srila
Bhaktivinode Thakur and Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati
Thakur***

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The bright sun in the sky of Choti spreads out the rays of its pure glories. The golden orioles and cuckoos sing with the rhythm of the sweet breeze, and the murmuring waves of the river Birupa wash its feet. So take the sacred dust from the land and bow down here, bow down here.

The thorny bamboo bushes of the old boundary fencing gently tell of the former grandeur. The Ketaki and Kia flowers open their mouths to express their pain at the departure of Baluababu Thakur Bhaktivinode, who stayed here in this Baluadiha, chanting loudly the holy names of Radha Madhava in kirtan. Bow down here and take the sacred dust on your forehead.

Engage yourself in the service of Sri Sri Radha Madhava, the family deities of Thakur Bhaktivinode, and worship Dadhi Baman Sri Jagannath. Being pleased with you, They will hear your prayers. Sing, “All glories to Sri Radha and Madhava Kunja-bihari”, the poem composed for Them by Thakur Bhaktivinode. Bow down here and take the sacred dust on your forehead.

The dry Dasahara field and the wild flower garden are still calling for Thakur Bhaktivinode and Srila Saraswati Thakur, and the Uasa Pond is eagerly searching for them to wash their feet. Bow down here and take the sacred water of that pond on your forehead.

Gone away are the priest Lalu Chakrabarti, popular grandfather Rajaballav Dutta, cowherd Bidagauda and his mother, villager Kalimalla, grandfather’s cows named Ghumuri, Kahari, and others, and his pigeons, peacocks, and swans as well. The palanquin of Thakur Bhaktivinode is destroyed and all his houses have turned to dust. But the sacred land remains. Bow down here and take that sacred dust on your forehead.

The world famous Bimala Prasad Saraswati, the owner of the land, is no more on this planet. After sannyasa he often came to this place, but he would stay not in his house but in the pavilion for the worship of Durgadevi. He became absorbed in chanting of the holy names here and the dust of his feet remains. Bow down and take that sacred dust on your forehead.

Don't think Choti village is not an important place. Today people all over the world are uttering its name for the remembrance of their spiritual masters Thakur Bhaktivinode and Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Goswami. The devotees of ISKCON along with the Gaudiya Math and Mission are reviving the spiritual atmosphere here. Bow down and take the sacred dust on your forehead.