



Thulana Lila

Radha Kṛṣṇa's Swing Pastimes

rāgiṇī kāmōda — tāla chuṭa daśa kusi

NAVA GHANA KĀNANA ŚOHANA KUNJA;
VIKASITA KUSUMA MADHUKARA GUNJA
NAVA NAVA PALLAVE ŚOBHITA ḌĀLA;
SĀRI ŚUKA PIKA GĀOYE RASĀLA
TAHI BOLI APARŪPA RATANA HINDOLA;
TĀ'PORA BAIṬHALO YUGALA KIŚORA
VRAJA RAMAṆĪ-GAṆA DEOTA JHAKORA;
GĪRATA JĀNI DHANI KOROTAHI KORA
KOTO KOTO UPAJALA RASA PARASAṄGA;
GOVINDA DĀSA TAHI DEKHOTO RAṄGA

"In the new deep forest is a beautiful *kuñja* where the flowers blossom and the bees buzz. On the fresh leaves on the beautiful branches the female Śāri-parrots and the male Śuka parrots sing delicious songs. Here is a wonderful jewelled swing, on which the Yugala Kīśora is seated. The Vraja-gopīs give a push, and Rādhā takes shelter of Kṛṣṇa's lap, afraid that She will fall. How many *rasika* talks are being held? Govinda dāsa blissfully beholds it." (3)



māyura — tāla daśa kusi

VIPINA BIHĀRA, KOROTO NANDA NANDANA,
 SUVADANI DHANI KORI SAṄGA
 SAKALA KALĀVATI, DUHUṆ PREMA ĀRATI,
 MANA MĀHĀ UPAJALA RAṄGA

"Nanda Nandana sports in the forest with fair-faced fortunate Rādhā, and all the artful girls are very happy at heart to see Their loving eagerness."

RATANA HINDOLA'PORA, BAIṬHALO DUHUṆ JANA,
 SAKHĪGAṆA DEOTO JHAKORI
 GAGANAHI MAGANA SAGHANA RAJANI KORO,
 ĀNANDE KOROTO NEHĀRI

"Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa are seated on the swing and the *sakhīs* swing Them. Blissfully they watch the cloudy night merge into the sky.

DEKHO DEKHO APARŪPA CHĀNDE
 MADANA MOHANA HERI, MĀTALA MANASIJA,

KĀNU NEHĀRE MUKHA-CĀNDE

"Behold, behold this wonderful fashion! Seeing Madana Mohana, Cupid is completely perplexed, especially when he sees His moon-like face!"

**VĀRIDA GARAJI, GARAJI GHANA GHERALO,
BUNDA BUNDA KORU PĀTA
KOHO ŚĪVARĀMA, MALAYĀCALA DUHUṆ PARA,
MR̥DU MR̥DU KARATOHĪ BĀTA**

"The rain is drizzling, the clouds are rumbling and thick drops of rain are falling. Śivarāma says: "The Malayan breezes are softly fanning Them." (4)



rāgiṇī mallāra — tāla eka tāla

**DEKHO SAKHI JHULATA YUGALA KIŚORA;
NĪLAMAṆĪ JAḌĀOLA KĀNCANA JORA
LALITĀ VIŚĀKHĀ SAKHĪ JHULĀYATA SUKHE
ĀNANDE MAGANA HERI DOṆHE DOṆHĀ MUKHE**

"Look, O *sakhi*, at the Yugala Kiśora on the swing, resembling a sapphire embraced by gold! Lalitā and Viśākhā blissfully push the swing, while the Divine Pair is absorbed in bliss, admiring Each other's faces!"

**GARAJATA GAGANE SAGHANE GHANA GHORA;
RĀNGIṆĪ SAṄGIṆĪ GHERATA CAUTTARA
VIVIDHA KUSUME SABE RACIYĀ HINDOLĀ
DOLĀYA YUGALA SAKHĪ ĀNANDE VIBHOLĀ**

"Clouds loudly rumble in the sky as Raṅgiṇī (playful Rādhikā) sits on the swing, that is decorated with different flowers, surrounded by Her girlfriends that are ecstatically swinging the Divine Pair."

**JHULĀOTA SAKHĪGAṆA KARATĀLI DIYĀ;
SUVADANĪ KOHE PĀCHE GIRAYE BANDHUYĀ
VIGALITA DUKULA UDITA SVEDA BINDU;
AMIYĀ JHARAYE YENO DUHUṆ MUKHA INDU**

"The *sakhīs* are pushing the swing with their hand-palms (so hard that) Suvadani (fair-faced Rādhikā) says (to Kṛṣṇa): "O friend! We will fall backwards!" Their garments loosen and the sweat drops that appear on Their moon-like faces resemble drops of nectar."

**HERI SAB SAKHĪGAṆA DOṆHĀKĀRA ŚRAMA;
CĀMARA VĪJANA LEI KORROYE SEVANA
BHRAMARA KOKILA SAB BOSI TARU ḌĀLE;
RATI JAYA RĀDHĀ-KṚṢṆA RĀDHĀ KṚṢṆA BOLE
KOHE JAGANNĀTHA KOBE HOBE ŚUBHA DINE;
SAKHĪ SAHE DOṆHĀKĀRE HERIBO VIPINE**

"Seeing how the Divine Pair perspires of fatigue, all the *sakhīs* begin to serve Them by fanning Them with yaktail fans. The bumblebees and cuckoos are sitting on the branches of the trees and are singing: "Jaya Rādhā Kṛṣṇa! Jaya Rādhā Kṛṣṇa!" with great love. Jagannātha dāsa says: "When will that blessed day be mine when I can see Them both in the forest with the *sakhīs*?" (5)



rāgiṇī mallāra — tāla teḍa

**DEKHO SAKHI JHULATO RĀDHĀ-ŚYĀMA —
VIVIDHA YANTRA, SUMELI SUSVARA,
TĀNA MĀNA SUṬHĀMA**

"Look, O sakhi, how Rādhā-Śyāma are swinging! Various musical instruments are being played, and songs are sung with beautiful voices and with nice rhythms and tunes."

**ĀṢĀDHA GATA PUNAḤ MĀHA ŚĀṆANA
SUKHADA YAMUNĀ TĪRA
CĀṆDA RAJANI, SUKHAMAYA SUKHODAYA,
MANDA MALAYA SAMĪRA**

"The month of Āṣādha (June-July, when it is very hot) is gone and the Śrāvana month (July-August) has come on the delightful bank of the Yamunā. The moon is rising in the blissful night sky and a gentle Malayan (southern) breeze is blowing."

**PARIPŪRṆA SAROVARA, PRAPHULLITA TARU VARA
GAGANE GARAJE GABHĪRA
GHORA GHAṬĀ GHANA, DĀMINĪ DAMAKATA,
BINDU BARIKHATA NĪRA**

"The lakes are full and the trees are blooming (due to profuse rain at that time of the year) and the clouds rumble deeply in the sky. The lightning flashes and drops of rain are showered."

**TAHI KALPADRUMA, TALA CHĀYA SUŚĪTALA
RACITA RATANAHI ḌORA
JHULAYE TACHU PARA, GORI ŚYĀMARA,
JHULĀYE SAKHI DUI ORA**

"A swing is hung there on jewelled ropes in the cool shade of a wish-yielding tree. On it Gaurī Rādhā and Śyāma Kṛṣṇa are seated and pushed by *sakhīs* who stand on each side."

**TAḌITA GHANA JANU, DOLAYE DUHU TANU,
ADHARE MR̥DU MR̥DU HĀSA
VADANA HEMA NĪLA, KAMALA VIKĀŚITA
SVEDA BINDU PARAKĀŚA**

"Their bodies resemble the lightning (Rādhā) and the clouds (Kṛṣṇa) as They oscillate on the swing. Their faces, that resemble golden and blue lotus flowers, show drops of perspiration and are adorned with tenderly smiling lips."

**CHARAMA HERI KOI, VĪJANA VĪJAI
KARPŪRA TĀMBŪLA YOGĀY
SURAṬA MEGHA, MALLĀRA GĀOTA
MOHANA MR̥DAṄGA BĀJĀY**

"Some *sakhī*, seeing that the swinging reaches a climax, starts fanning, others offer betel-leaves, and others sing the *surāṭa*, *megha* and *mallāra rāgas* while playing fascinating *mṛdaṅga*."

**KUSUMA CAYA VARA, HĀRA NAṬA KOTO
BHRAMARA GUNA GUNA ROL
HAMSA ŚIKHI SĀRASA, SUSVARA ŚĀBADITA
DĀDURI GHANA GHANA BOL**

"Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa wear excellent flower-garlands that dance in so many ways (along with the oscillating swing) while the bees buzz around them. Swans, peacocks and cranes sing with beautiful voices and the frogs croak loudly."

DUHUṆ BHĀLE CANDANA, CĀṄDA CAMAKITA

**TILAKA RACITA KAPOLA
CANCALA MUKUṬA, SUCĀRU CANDRIKA
PĪṬHA PORA VENĪ DOLA**

"Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa wear sandalwood-*tilaka* on Their foreheads that astonishes even the moon. Kṛṣṇa wears a beautiful wiggling peacock-feather crown and Rādhā has a braid that dangles on Her back down to Her buttocks."

**DUHUṆ ŚRAVAṆE KUṆḌALA, CAPALA JHALAMALA,
HRDAYE ŚAŚIMANI HĀRA
JHALAKE ĀBHARAṆA, JHAṆKṚTA JHANA JHANA
JHUKITA JHULANA VIHĀRA**

"Their restlessly dangling earrings shimmer on Their ears and They wear moonstone necklaces on Their chests. Their ornaments glitter and chime along with the rhythm of the swinging. In this way the Jhulan-pastimes is ended."

**KOI CANDANA GHARṢAṆA, SUGANDHI CHIRAKATA,
ŚYĀMA GORI AṄGA HERI
SAKHI BHĀṢA IṄGITAHI, DĀSA UDDHAVA,
KOROTO KUSUMA ḌHERI**

"Some *sakhīs* grind fragrant sandalwood. Looking at the limbs of Śyāma and Gaurī some *sakhī* gives a verbal hint to Uddhava Dāsa to go and pick flowers."



rāgiṇī kedāra — tāla eka tālā

ĀJU LALITA HINDOLĀ MĀJHA

**RAṄGE JHULATO NĀGARA RĀJA
RĀI SUVADANI VĀMA PĀŚA
KOTO HU ĀNANDA SĀYARE BHĀSA**

"Today Lalitā blissfully pushes Nāgara Rāja as He sits on the swing with Fair-faced Rāi on His left side, floating in an ocean of bliss."

**KIBĀ ADABHUTA DUHUKA ŚOBHĀ
NĀHIKO UPAMĀ BHUVANE LOBHĀ
DUHUKA VADANA DUHU SE HERI
HĀSI CUMBA DEI BERI BERI**

"How wonderful is Their beauty! Nothing in the world can compare to Them! Looking at Each other's faces they laugh and kiss Each other time and again."

**ĀṄKHI BHĀNGI KORI KOTEKO BHĀṄTI
KOHE GADA GADA RABHASE MĀTI
LALITĀDI SAKHI SE SUKHE BHĀSI
NEHĀRE DOHĀRA VADANA ŚAŚI**

"The Divine Pair makes so many gestures with the eyes and speak so many disordered words with faltering voices. Lalitā and the other *sakhis* float in bliss as they behold Their moon-like faces."

**RAṄGE JHULĀYATO MANDA MANDA
MILYĀ GĀOYATE PADA SUCHANDA
BĀJATE VEṄU VĪṄĀ UPĀṄGA
MADHURA MR̥DAṄGA MURAJA CAṄGA**

"Blissfully and slowly They swing and together They sing nicely composed songs, play flute, Vīṇā, Upāṅga and sweet Mr̥daṅga- and Muraja-drums."

KEHO NĀCE KOTO BHAṄGI KORI
 ATI MOHITA TĀ DOHE HERI
 SURĀ-NĀRĪ NIJA GAṆA SAṄGE
 PUṢPA VRṢṬI KOROTO RAṄGE
 JAYA ŚĀBADA VRṆDĀVANA BHARI
 ŚUNI RAṄGE MĀTE NARAHARI

"Some are dancing, making so many gestures, looking at the Divine Pair in total fascination, while the goddesses in the sky blissfully shower flowers. The whole of Vṛndāvana is filled with the sounds of 'Jaya', and Narahari is raving when he hears it."



rāgiṇī kalyāṇī — tāla cancu-ṇṇa

(Chorus) ĀJU KUNJE RĀDHĀ — MĀDHAVA JHULARI
 (JHULARI JHULARI JHULARI JHULARI)
 ĀJU KUNJE RĀDHĀ — MĀDHAVA JHULARI

"Today Rādhā and Mādhava are swinging in the *kuñja*."

SAKHĪGAṆA MELI KOROTO GĀNA
 GHANA GHANA MURALĪ ŚĀNA
 LOCANE LOCANA TOḌAI MĀNA
 NĀSĀYA VEŚĀRA LOLARĪ

"The *sakhīs* meet and sing while the flute plays incessantly. Meeting eyes uproot pique and pearls dangle under Their noses."

HINDOLĀ RACITA KUSUMA PUNJA

**ALI KULA TĀHE VIHARE GUNJA
SĀRI ŚUKA PIKA BEDHALO KUNJA
GHERI GHERI GHERI BOLARI**

"The swing is made of lots of flowers and swarms of buzzing bees enjoy there. The female Śari-parrots, the male Śuka parrots and the cuckoos fly around in the *kuñja*, surrounding them and singing."

**JHULANĀ DHAMAKE CAMAKE RĀI,
VIHASI MĀDHAVA DHARAI TĀI
ĀNANDE AVAŚA PARAŚA PĀI
CĀPI DHARAI KOLARI**

"On the swing Rādhā is alarmed and scolds Mādhava, Who laughs and holds Her. He becomes overwhelmed with bliss when He touches Her and keeps Her pressed on His lap."

**PRIYA SAHACARI ṬĀNAI ḌORI
ALASE AVAŚA HOILĀ GORI
GHUMĀOLO DHANI RASE VIBHORI
DĪNA KṚṢṆA DĀSA BOLARI**

"The *priya sakhīs* pull the ropes of the swing and Gori Rāi becomes overwhelmed with fatigue. Dīna Kṛṣṇa dāsa sings: Absorbed in rasa Dhanī Rāi fell asleep."



rāgiṇī jaya jayanti — tāla eka tālā

**MANERA ĀNANDA, SAKHI MANDA MANDA,
JHULĀYATO DUHUṆ SUKHE**

VEGA AVAŚEṢA, PĀI AVAKĀŚE,
TĀMBŪLA DEYAI MUKHE

"Blissfully the *sakhīs* reduce the speed of the swing, to the pleasure of the Divine Pair. Now that the swing has slowed down they find the opportunity to place betel-leaves in Their mouths."

ĀRA SAKHĪGAṆA, SUGANDHI CANDANA,
PARĀGĀDI LOIYĀ KORE
NĀGARA NĀGARI, AṄGERA UPARI,
VARIKHE ĀNANDA BHARE

"Other *sakhīs* take fragrant sandal-paste and flower-pollen within their hands and blissfully shower this over the bodies of our Hero and Heroine."

KONA SAKHĪGAṆA, KOROYE NARTANA
MOHANA MRDAṄGA BĀY
VIVIDHA YANTRETE, RĀGA TĀNA TĀTE
ĀLĀPI SUSVARE GĀY

"Some *sakhīs* dance and play enchanting Mṛdaṅga-drums, singing along with the rhythms and tunes of different musical instruments with nice voices."

HERIYĀ VIHVALA, DEVA NĀRĪ KULA,
ŪRDHVA-PATHE SABE RAHE
PUṢPA VARIṢAṆA, KORE ANUKṢAṆA
E DĀSA UDDHAVA KOHE

"Seeing this, the goddesses in the sky become ecstatic as they hover in the sky. Uddhava dāsa says: They are showering flowers all of the time!"

EI DĀSA VAIṢṆAVA DHĀY

“Rasavatī Rādhā and Rasa-rāja Śrī Kṛṣṇa swiftly descend from Their swing, enter a jewelled chapel, and sit on jewelled seats there. The *sakhīs*, who are always surrendered to service, then fan Them with *cāmara*-whisks. One *sakhī* washes Their faces with scented water, and then wipes Their faces with a soft cloth. Then large plates filled with various sweets are brought before Them, from which the *sakhīs* then blissfully feed Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa Their feast. Afterwards, a *sakhī* places betel-leaves into Their mouths. Rādhikā-and Śyāma are then adorned from head to toe with flowers and are brought to a bed of flowers. When Cupid then sees how They slightly close Their eyes of fatigue, he is wholly captivated! When the *sakhīs* see this too, they carefully lay the Divine Pair down on the bed and, on the *sakhīs*’ indication, Vaiṣṇava das comes running to serve Their lotus-feet!”

All Jhulan padas translated by Advaitadas