



**Çré Çré Çikāññāka**  
**Eight Instructions**  
**Lord Çré Caitanya Mahāprabhu**

Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu instructed His disciples to write books on the science of Kāññā, a task which His followers have continued to carry out down to the present day. The elaborations and expositions on the philosophy taught by Lord Caitanya are, in fact, the most voluminous, exacting, and consistent, due to the system of disciplic succession. Although Lord Caitanya was widely renowned as a scholar in His youth, He left only eight verses, called Çikāññāka. These eight verses clearly reveal His mission and precepts. These supremely valuable prayers are translated herein.

(1)  
ceto-darpaëa-mārjanaà bhava-mahā-dāvāgni-nirvāpaëaà  
çreyaù-kairava-candrikā-vitaraëaà vidyā-vadhü-jévanam  
ānandāmbudhi-varohanaà prati-padaà pūrëāmātāsvādanaà  
sarvātma-snapanaà paraà vijayate çré-kāññā-saëkértanam

Glory to the çré-kāññā-saë kértana, which cleanses the heart of all the dust accumulated for years and extinguishes the fire of conditional life, of repeated birth and death. This saë kértana movement is the prime benediction for humanity at large because it spreads the rays of the benediction moon. It is the life of all transcendental knowledge. It increases the ocean of transcendental bliss, and it enables us to fully taste the nectar for which we are always anxious.

(2)  
nāmnām akāri bahudhā nija-sarva-çaktis  
tatrārpitā niyamitau smaraëe na kālau  
etādāçé tava kāpā bhagavan mamāpi  
durdaivam édaçam ihājani nānurāgaù

O my Lord, Your holy name alone can render all benediction to living beings, and thus You have hundreds and millions of names, like Kāññā and Govinda. In these transcendental names You have invested all Your transcendental energies. There are not even hard and fast rules for chanting these names. O my Lord, out of kindness You enable us to easily approach You by Your holy names, but I am so unfortunate that I have no attraction for them.

(3)  
tāëäd api sunécena  
taror api sahiññeunā  
amāninā mānadena  
kértanéyaù sadā hariù

One should chant the holy name of the Lord in a humble state of mind, thinking oneself lower than the straw in the street; one should be more tolerant than a tree, devoid of all sense of false prestige, and should be ready to offer all respect to others. In such a state of mind one can chant the holy name of the Lord constantly.

(4)  
na dhanaà na janaà na sundarëa  
kavitāà vā jagad-éça kāmaye  
mama janmani janmanéçvare  
bhavatād bhaktir ahaituké tvayi

O almighty Lord, I have no desire to accumulate wealth, nor do I desire beautiful women, nor do I want any number of followers. I only want Your causeless devotional service, birth after birth.

(5)  
ayi nanda-tanuja kiù karaà  
patitaà mää viñame bhavāmbudhau  
kāpayā tava päda-paì kaja-

sthita-dhülé-sadāçaà vicintaya

O son of Mahārāja Nanda [Kāñëa], I am Your eternal servitor, yet somehow or other I have fallen into the ocean of birth and death. Please pick me up from this ocean of death and place me as one of the atoms at Your lotus feet.

(6)

nayanaà galad-açru-dhārayā  
vadanaà gadgada-ruddhayā girā  
pulkair nicitaà vapuù kadā  
tava-nāma-grahaëe bhaviñyati

O my Lord, when will my eyes be decorated with tears of love flowing constantly when I chant Your holy name? When will my voice choke up, and when will the hairs of my body stand on end at the recitation of Your name?

(7)

yugāyitaà nimeñëeä  
cakñuñä prāvāñäyitam  
çünyāyitaà jagat sarvaà  
govinda-viraheëa me

O Govinda! Feeling Your separation, I am considering a moment to be like twelve years or more. Tears are flowing from my eyes like torrents of rain, and I am feeling all vacant in the world in Your absence.

(8)

äçliñya vä päda-ratäà pinañöu mām  
adarçanān marma-hatām-hatäà karotu vä  
yathā tathā vä vidadhātu lampaöo  
mat-präëa-nāthas tu sa eva näparaù

I know no one but Kāñëa as my Lord, and He shall remain so even if He handles me roughly by His embrace or makes me brokenhearted by not being present before me. He is completely free to do anything and everything, for He is always my worshipful Lord, unconditionally.