

# Shrī Vishṇu

## (Functions, special characteristics and science underlying worship)

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(An asterisk (\*) sign has been placed alongside important points)

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## Preface

The little information most devotees have of the Deities who are their seat of faith, is mainly due to the stories they read or hear. Due to little information, their belief in Deities is also little. If they get spiritual information on Deities, it will help create faith towards them in their mind. Faith leads to enriching the worship with *bhāva* (Spiritual emotion), and worship with enriched *bhāva* is more beneficial. With this perspective, useful spiritual information on Shrī Vishṇu (which is not available elsewhere) is provided in this Holy text.

When people read *Rāmāyaṇ* they feel like worshipping Shrīrām and on reading the *Shiva-līlāmṛta*, Deity Shiva respectively. Similarly, after reading this text some might feel like worshipping Shrī Vishṇu. However, such people should keep in mind that worshipping in this manner will not enhance the spiritual practice of every person; it will benefit only those who need that worship to make spiritual progress. Otherwise, even if a lot of spiritual practice is performed, it will result in very little spiritual progress.

A common man cannot decide whether worship of which Deity is essential for his spiritual progress; hence he should read this Holy text only for the sake of information. To obtain the spiritual experience, as the first step in spiritual practice we should chant the Name of the *Kuladēvatā* (Family Deity). Later, if the Guru advises us to chant the Name of Shrī Vishṇu for our spiritual progress in the next stage of spiritual practice, then this information will help augment our faith in the Deity. We pray at the Holy feet of Shrī Guru that after reading this Holy text, may the faith of Hindus become firm in their seats of worship and may everyone be encouraged to perform spiritual practice. - **Compilers**