

# Śrī Kevalāṣṭakam

Anonymous

## Verse 1

*madhuram madhurebhyo 'pi  
maṅgalebhyo 'pi maṅgalam  
pāvanam pāvanebhyo 'pi  
harer nāmaiva kevalam*

More sweet than all other sweet things; more auspicious than all other auspicious things; the greatest purifier of all purifying things—The holy name of Śrī Hari alone is everything.

## Verse 2

*ābrahmā-stamba-ṡaryantam  
sarvam māyā-mayaṁ jagat  
satyaṁ satyaṁ punaḥ satyaṁ  
harer nāmaiva kevalam*

The entire universe, from exalted Brahmā down to the lowly clump of grass, is a product of the illusory energy of the Supreme Lord. The only thing that is reality, reality, again I say reality—The holy name of Śrī Hari alone is everything.

## Verse 3

*sa guruḥ sa pitā cāpi  
sā mātā bandhavo 'pi saḥ  
śikṣayec cet sadā smartuṁ  
harer nāmaiva kevalam*

That person is a true preceptor, or a true father, a true mother, and a true friend also only if they teach one to always remember—The holy name of Śrī Hari alone is everything.

## Verse 4

*niḥśvāse nāhi viśvāsaḥ  
kadā ruddho bhaviṣyati  
kīrtanīya mato bālyād  
harer nāmaiva kevalam*

There is no certainty when the last breath will come and put an abrupt halt to all one's material plans; therefore it is wise to always practice chanting from very childhood—The holy name of Śrī Hari alone is everything.

## Verse 5

*hariḥ sadā vaset tatra  
yatra bhāgavatā janāḥ  
gāyanti bhakti-bhāvena  
harer nāmaiva kevalam*

Lord Hari eternally dwells in that place where truly exalted, spiritually advanced souls sing in the mood of pure devotion—The holy name of Śrī Hari alone is everything.

## Verse 6

*aho duḥkham mahā-duḥkham  
duḥkhād duḥkhataram yataḥ  
kācārtham viśmṛtam ratna-  
harer nāmaiva kevalam*

Aho! What a sorrow, what a great sorrow! More painful than any other misery in the world! Mistaking it as a mere piece of glass, the people have forgotten this jewel—The holy name of Śrī Hari alone is everything.

## Verse 7

*dīyatām dīyatām karṇo  
nīyatām nīyatām vacaḥ  
gīyatām gīyatām nityam  
harer nāmaiva kevalam*

It should be heard again and again with one's ears; It should be uttered over and over with one's voice; It should be perpetually sung and sung anew—The holy name of Śrī Hari alone is everything.

## Verse 8

*ṡṡṡ-kr̥tya jagat sarvaṁ  
rājate sakalopari  
cid-ānanda-mayaṁ śuddham  
harer-nāmaiva kevalam*

It makes the entire universe seem insignificant as a blade of grass; it splendidly reigns supreme over all; it is full of eternally conscious divine ecstasy; it is supremely pure—The holy name of Śrī Hari alone is everything.