

THE UTSAV

SHRI KRISHNA'S FESTIVE YEAR



KUNJEKADASHI
(Phaagun Sud Ekadashi - 11)

On this day the utsav of Kunj Ekadashi is observed. On this day all vrajbhakts make a separate "Nikunj" in the forest or "Van" and play the game of colours with Shri Thakurji and offer many types of sweet preparations to the lord.

In vrajbhoomi there are 12 types of Nikunj. They are :- Pushp kunj, Fal kunj, Ras kunj, Madhu kunj, Dwaar kunj, Nav kunj, Shashi kunj, Prem kunj, Lakshmi kunj, Tulsi kunj, Sidh kunj.

Lots of vrajbhakts are there in these 12 Kunjs. These Kunjs are bereft of anything worldly. It always exhibits a youthful way of life. There is no life or death in these Nikunj. Even animals which exhibit carnivorous tendencies are absent. In these Kunjs, the feelings of fear, evil, sadness etc. are absent.

Every moment here happens to witness something new. The environment changes according to the innermost feelings and wishes of the vrajbhakts.

There are all types of decorations to please the Prabhu like "Bagzecha, Hindola, Jal Vihar, Phuvaara" and all these decorations are not permanent, they keep changing as per the "Bhaav" or the innermost feelings of the vrajbhakts.

Imagination runs riots in our mind thinking about all these different leelas of the vrajbhakts with Shri Thakurji. But, we as Jeev can only hope that one day because of Shri Vallabhs kripa, we too can find entry in these Nikunjs, because it is otherwise humanly impossible for us to be so privileged so as to have such a darshan.

Shringar :- Kesaria Vastra, Raachni, Gati ka Patka, Shrimastak par pushp ka Mukut, Meena ke Aavaran, Vanmala ka Bhari Shringar, Safed Thara Vastra

Vishesh Kram :- Today after Rajbhog, there is a Kunj made in Nij Mandir, Navneet Prigaji is brought from his house in Shreejis Nij Mandir. Heavy khol is done. After Rajbhog Arti, Navneetprigaji is taken back to his own house. During Sandhya Arti, Shreeji is offered Thade Vetraand Venuji is put inside his waistband (kati patka)