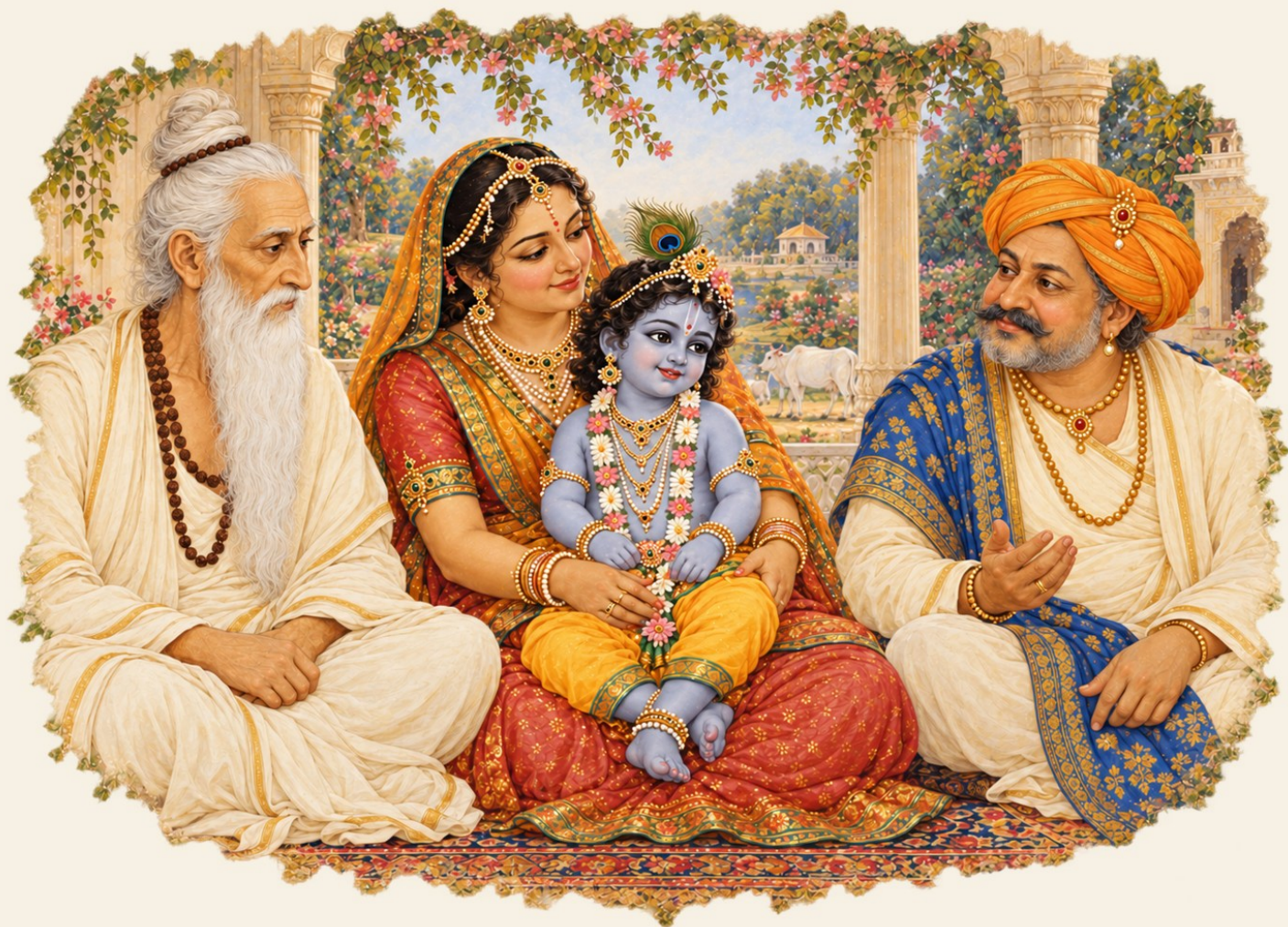


Krishna's Naming Ceremony (Namkaran Leela)

From the Shri Krishna Naming Ceremony collection



Before We Begin



Shri Vallabh

This story is inspired by the kirtans in Shri Krishna Namkaran from pushtikirtan.com. These kirtans express the divine experiences of Pushtimargiya poets. The pictures are based on their descriptions. This little book is for younger children who cannot yet read or understand the kirtans, so they may experience a little of their beauty and divinity.

This story is an adaptation inspired by the kirtans. We do not claim that it is an authentic account. Please forgive any mistakes.



In Gokul, word came to Yashoda that a learned visitor had arrived. He was Garga, the wise man honoured by the family of Yadu. Yashoda sent someone to invite him to her home. There, with Nanda beside her, she welcomed the visitor with respect.



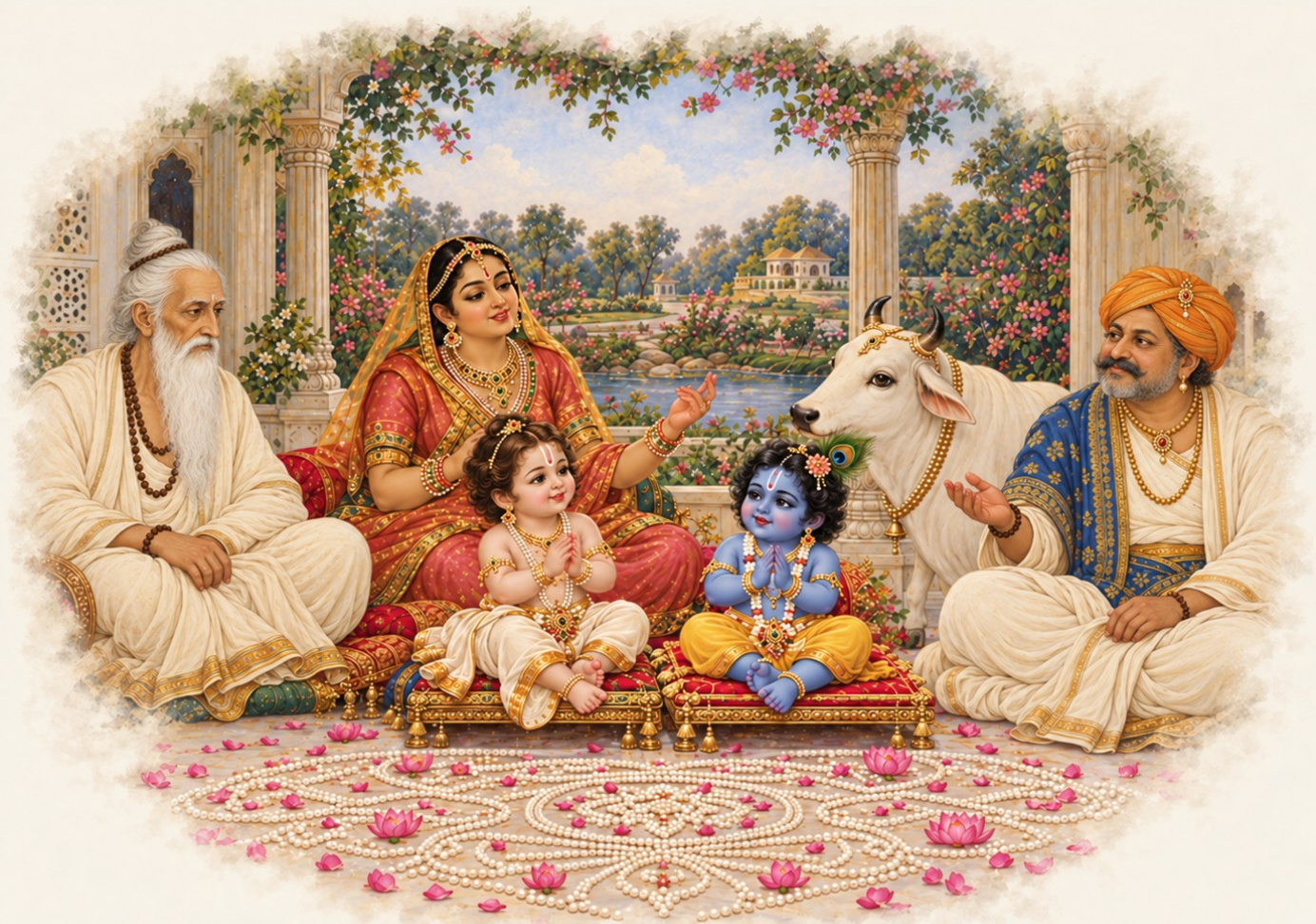
Yashoda gave Garga a seat of honour. She washed his feet and folded her hands before him, asking for his guidance. This was a special visit for the family. Garga knew the sacred ways of naming children, and had come for the two little brothers, Rama and Krishna.



Yashoda washed her little son's face and gently put kajal around his eyes. She placed a small sacred mark on his forehead. Then she held Hari close against her neck. With his mother and father beside him, the beautiful child was brought to bow before the wise visitor.



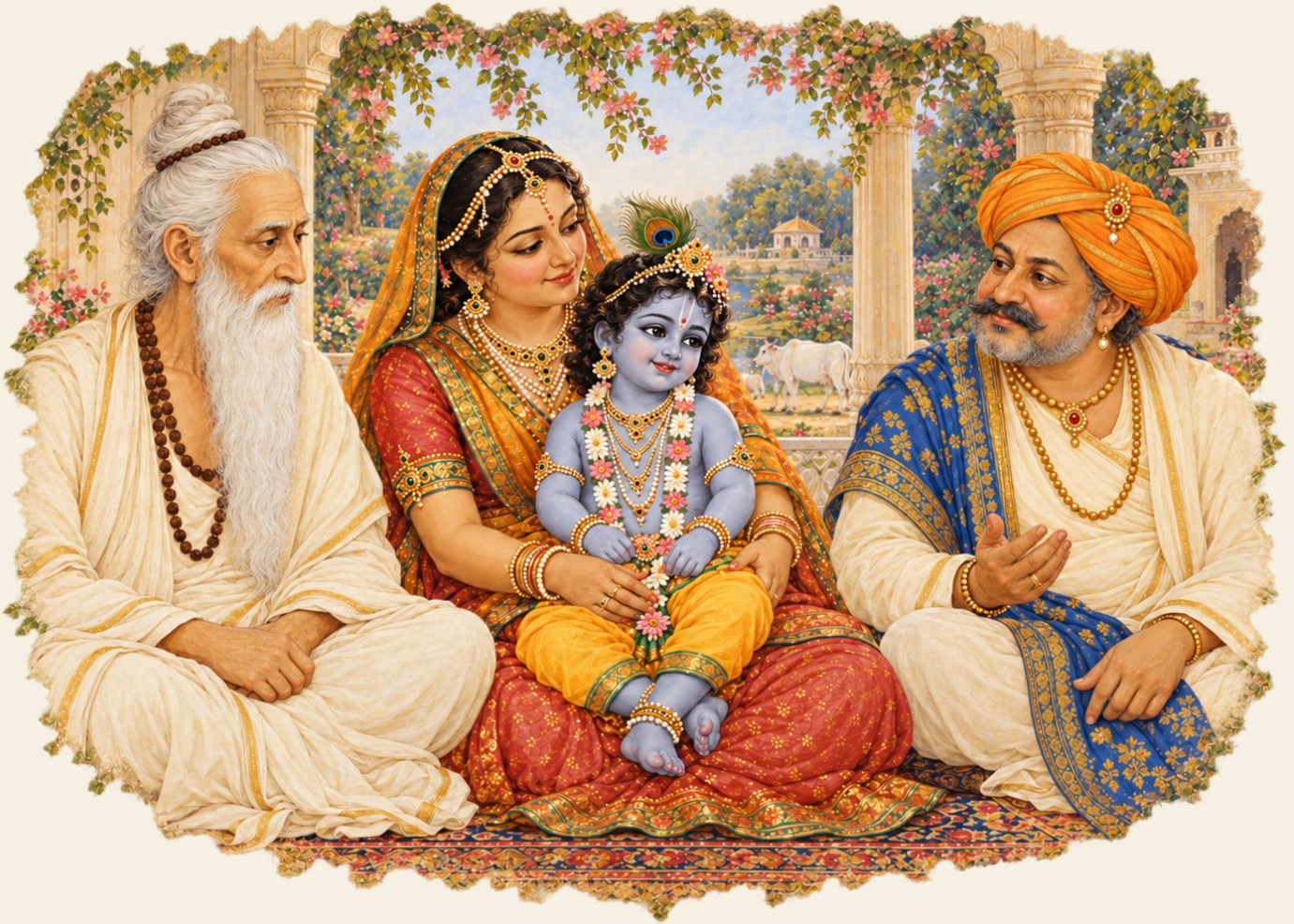
Garga blessed the child and took his tiny hand in his own. He looked at its special signs and spoke of the little one's greatness. Nanda and Yashoda listened with joy. Their beautiful son was dear to them beyond words, and the visitor's blessing added to their happiness.



The place for the naming ceremony was beautifully prepared. Pearls decorated the ceremonial pattern on the ground. Yashoda sang songs of blessing, her words sweet and loving. Amid these preparations, Garga began to give the brothers their names. It was a joyful day in Nanda's home.



First came the names of the elder brother. He would be called Rama and Baladeva. Garga also spoke the names Haladhara and Sankarshana. The little brother beside him had many names too. Nanda was asked to listen carefully as Garga began to tell them.



Krishna. That was the name that brought such joy. Garga spoke other names of Nanda's son: Narayana, Keshava and Hari. He was also called Madhava and Vasudeva. There were more names than Garga could tell. The Lord of all the worlds had come among the cowherds as Nanda's own little boy.



Nanda's joy was shared through generous gifts. He gave cows, gold and jewels for the sake of his son. There were heaps of tiny sesame seeds, and gifts of horses and elephants too. People came from many lands. Nanda, honoured among the cowherds, gave freely, his heart full of love.



News of Garga's words spread through Gokul. The cowherds spoke before Yashoda of the greatness of her little son. Kanhaiya was their friend, and he was the Lord of the three worlds too. With him among them, their hearts grew fearless. There was so much happiness to share.



The cowherds celebrated with singing and dancing. They could take their cows out to graze with happy hearts. Their dear Kanhaiya was the giver of joy in every way. In Gokul, he was loved as a friend and cherished as a son: Krishna, the little one with so many beautiful names.

Kirtans Used

Collection: Shri Krishna Namkaran

(Shri Krishna's Naming Ceremony)

View the complete collection at pushtikirtan.com

Titles below use the source site's Latin-script titles. Page numbers refer to the printed pages of this PDF.

Jahan Gagan Gati Garg

Poet: Paramananddas

Story pages: 9

<https://pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/jahan-gagan-gati-garg-451>

Nandagrih Aayau Garg

Poet: Paramananddas

Story pages: 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 12

<https://pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/nandagrih-aayau-garg-452>

Det Gaj Baji

Poet: Shyamdas

Story pages: 10

<https://pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/det-gaj-baji-453>

Kirtans Used · continued

Sunau Ho Jasoda

Poet: Paramananddas

Story pages: 3, 4, 5, 6

<https://pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/sunau-ho-jasoda-454>

Ab Darakaunako Re

Poet: Paramananddas

Story pages: 11, 12

<https://pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/ab-darakaunako-re-455>

Det Gajadan Aaj

Closing signature names Harinarayan and Syamdas.

Story pages: 10

<https://pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/det-gajadan-aaj-456>