

Krishna subduing the multi-headed serpent (Kalia Daman Leela)

Kids Story



From the Shri Krishna's Subduing of Kaliya collection

For little listeners



This story is inspired by the kirtans in Shri Krishna's Subduing of Kaliya 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.



Little Krishna came to the place where Kaliya, the great serpent, lay asleep. Krishna looked so tender and young. Kaliya's wife saw Him there and grew worried. Before her stood a little child, so close to the sleeping serpent.



She asked whose child He was and urged Him to go away. Kaliya would be dangerous when he woke. Again and again she warned Krishna about the serpent's terrible breath. She looked at the tender little boy and could not understand why He stayed.



Krishna heard her worried words and smiled. He told her that Kansa had sent Him to see Kaliya, and asked her to wake the serpent. But she was still afraid for Him. Even Kansa, she said, could not face Kaliya's breath.



Then Kaliya wound himself around Krishna. The serpent spoke proudly, treating Him as only a cowherd boy. His coils wrapped around Krishna from His feet to His head. Kaliya pressed with his tail, hiding the little Lord from the serpent women's sight.



But Krishna knew everything. The coils could not keep Him small and hidden. He made His body grow, and Kaliya could no longer hold Him as before. Now it was the proud serpent who was troubled. The little cowherd boy was the mighty Lord.



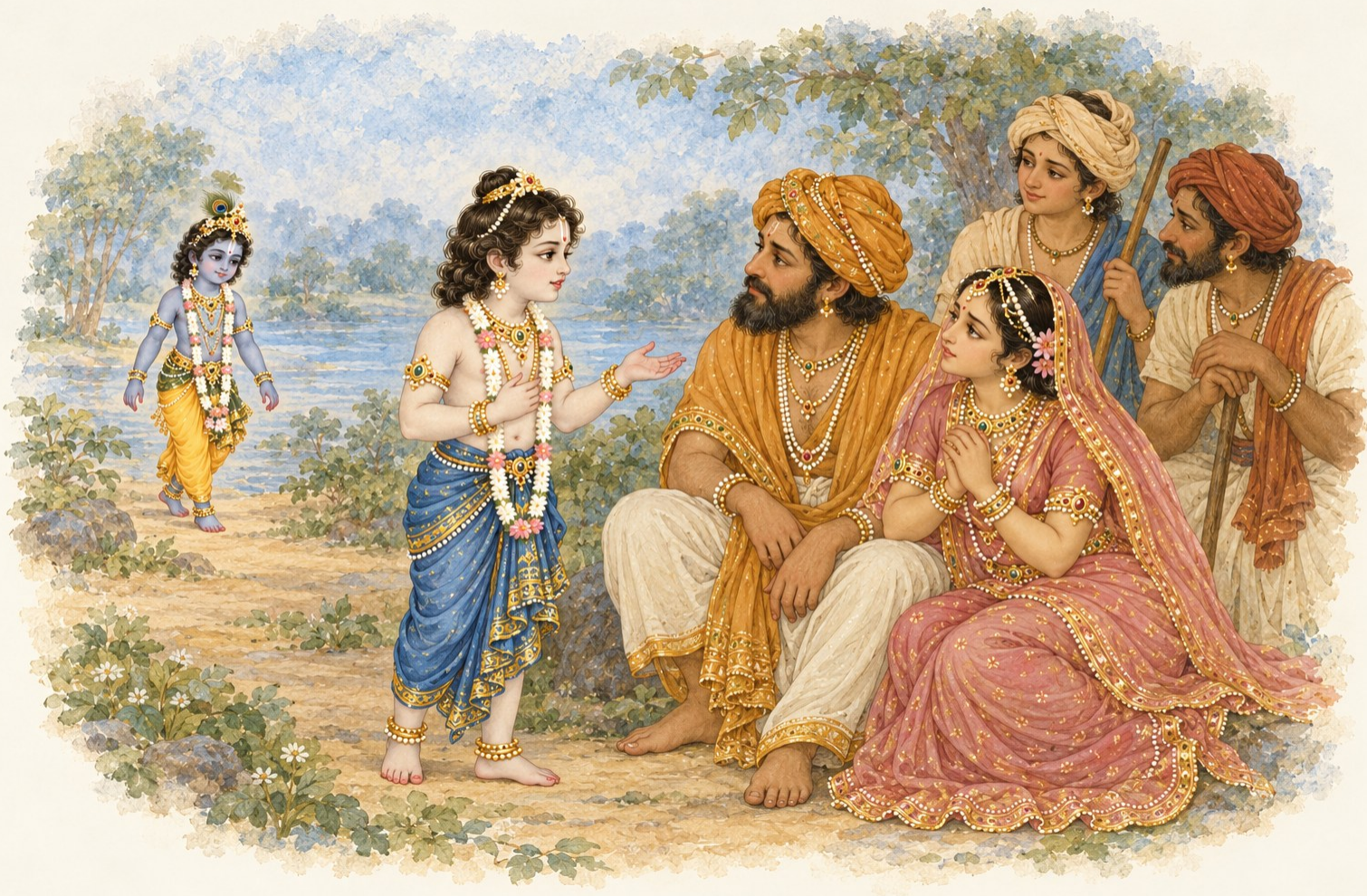
Krishna danced upon Kaliya's many hoods. His feet moved from hood to hood, and the serpent was subdued. The child who had looked so tender now appeared as a wonderful dancer, dressed in yellow, with a peacock crown upon His head.



As Krishna danced, His earrings swung beside His cheeks. His eyes were wide and beautiful. He wore yellow cloth at His waist as He stepped upon the hoods. How lovely the dancing Lord looked upon the serpent!



The gods played their great drums. Flowers showered down as Krishna danced. Above the serpent's hoods was the child, crowned with peacock feathers; around Him fell the flowers. The dance was a sight of divine beauty and joy.



Balaram told Nanda, Yashoda, and the people of Vraj that Krishna was coming, having subdued the serpent. His mother and father heard the news, along with the cowherd women and men. Their beloved Shyam was coming back to them.



And there was Krishna for them to see. Nanda and Yashoda beheld their beloved son, and happiness filled their hearts. The people of Vraj saw Him too and shared their joy. The Lord who had subdued Kaliya was their own dear Krishna.

Kirtans Used

Collection: Shri Krishna Ki Kaliya Daman Lila
(Shri Krishna's Subduing of Kaliya)

[Open the original collection at pushtikirtan.com](http://pushtikirtan.com)

Ati Komal Tanu

Tender little Kanhai

Signature: Sur

Story pages 1–8 (PDF pages 3–10)

Verses 1–4: arrival, warnings, and reply on pages 1–3; serpent wife pictured on pages 1–8.

[Read the original kirtan and meaning](#)

Urag Liyau Harikong

The serpent coils around Hari

Surdas

Story pages 4–5 (PDF pages 6–7)

Verses 1–3: Kaliya's proud words and coils; Krishna expands His body.

[Read the original kirtan and meaning](#)

Aavat Urag Nathye

Shyam comes, having subdued the serpent

Signature: Sur Shyam

Story pages 1–10 (PDF pages 3–12)

Verses 1–3: adornments throughout; the dance, flowers, Balaram's news, and Vraj's joy on story pages 6–10.

[Read the original kirtan and meaning](#)