

Krishna Curbs Indras Ego (Indra Maan Bhang)

From the Indra's Pride Humbled collection



Before We Begin



Shri Vallabh

This story is inspired by the kirtans in Indraman Bhang (Indra's Pride Humbled) 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.



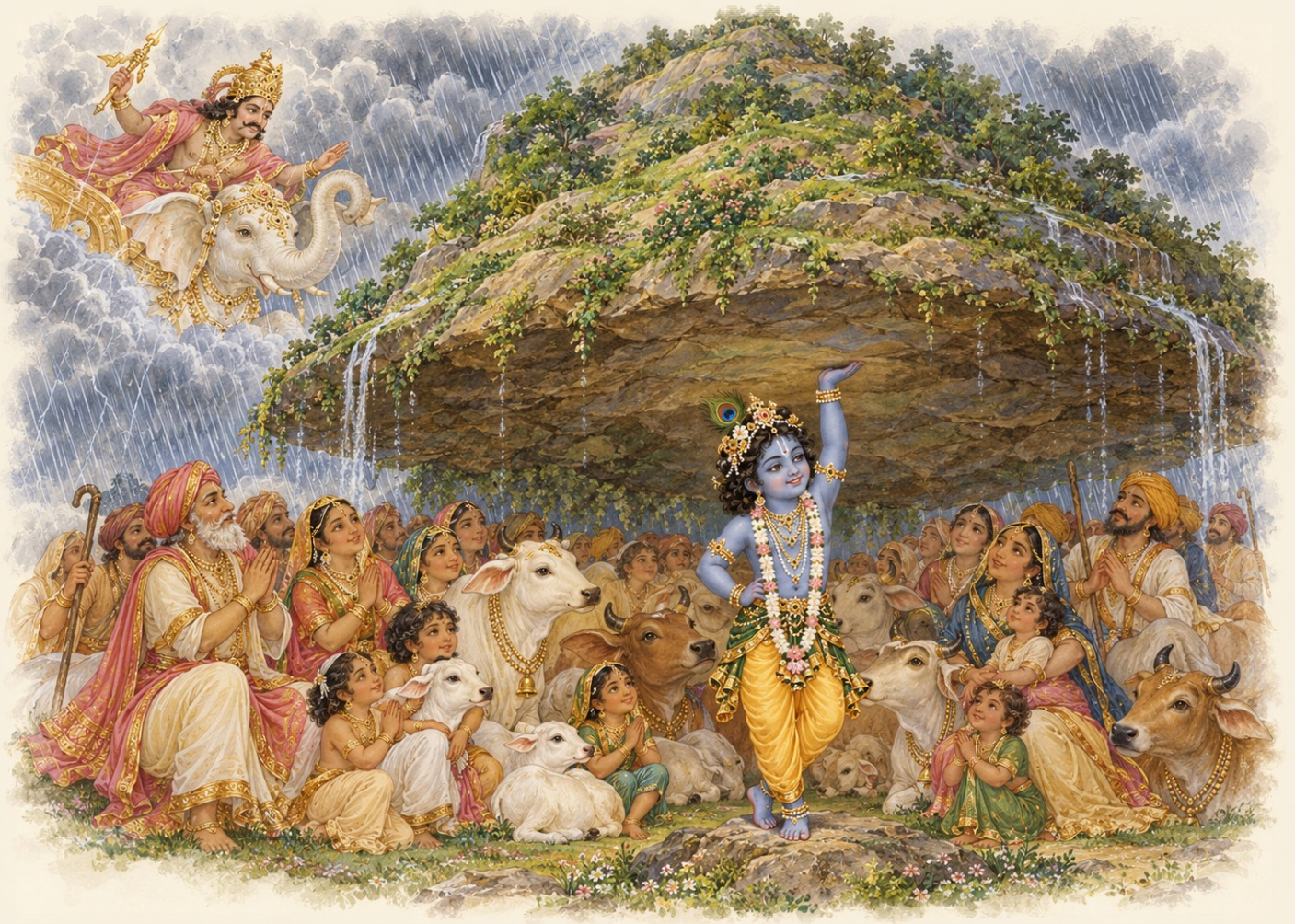
The people of Vraj had offered food to Govardhan Hill. But Indra, king of the heavenly beings, was angry. He thought the offering should have been his. Full of pride, he climbed onto his great elephant and set out against the land where young Krishna lived.



Indra sent great clouds ahead of him. They rolled over Vraj, heavy with water, while the wind drove them onward. Thunder rumbled and lightning flashed. Then rain poured down in thick streams. The cows hurried about in fear, and the little calves trembled beside them.



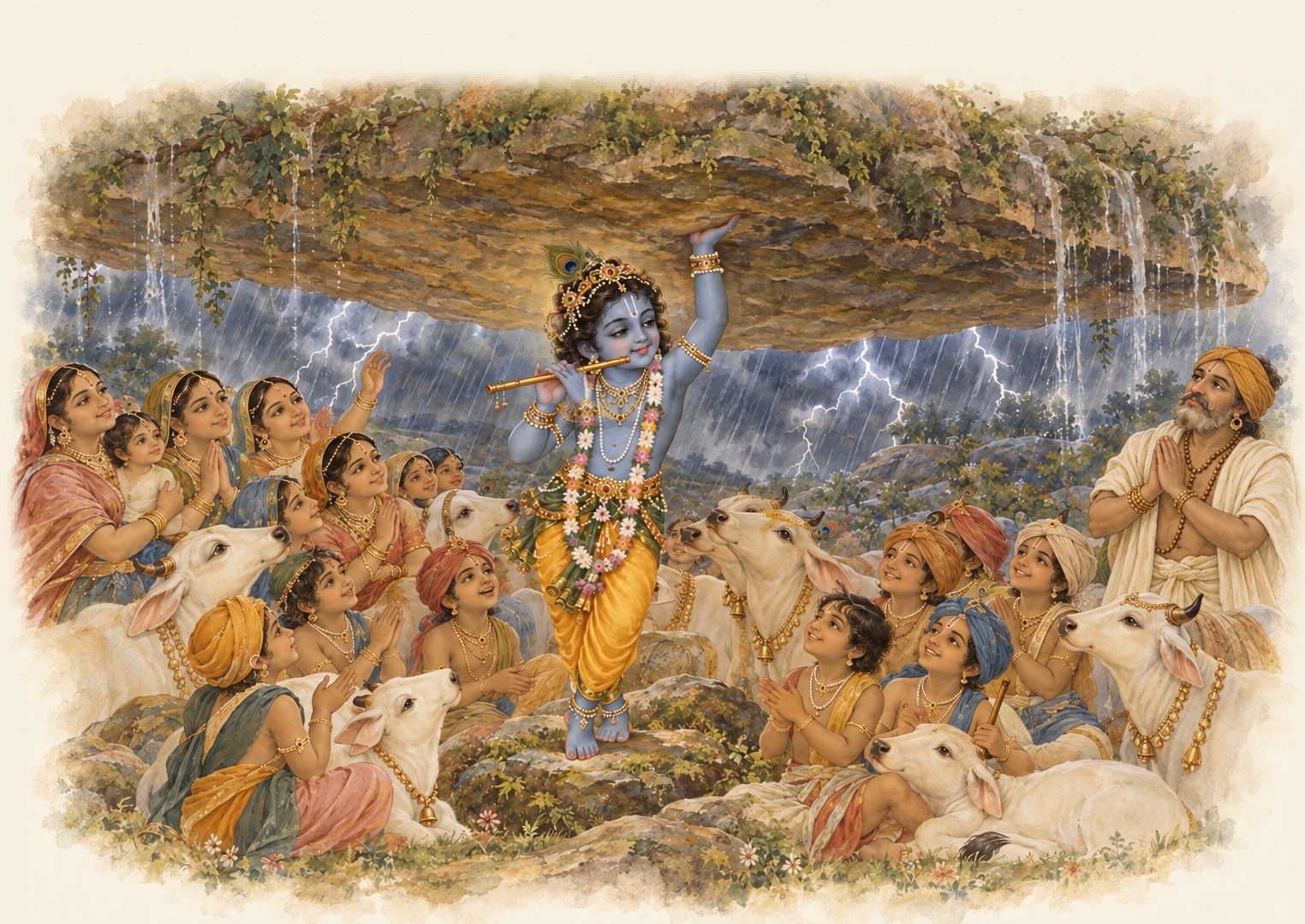
The storm troubled every home and pasture. Mothers lifted their children from their cradles and held them close. From every side, the cowherd men and women gathered around Krishna. They came with tears, seeking His care. In all that noise and rain, they turned to Him for shelter.



Krishna smiled. He lifted Govardhan Hill from the earth and held it on His hand. The great hill became shelter for the people of Vraj. The cows and their calves were safe with them. Outside, the rain still fell, but Krishna kept them all in His care.



Under Krishna's care, the fear of Vraj slipped away. The women churned milk into butter, and the cows and calves grazed on grass. The cowherd settlement was busy once more. Above them, Krishna held the hill. Around Him, the people and animals could carry on in safety and joy.



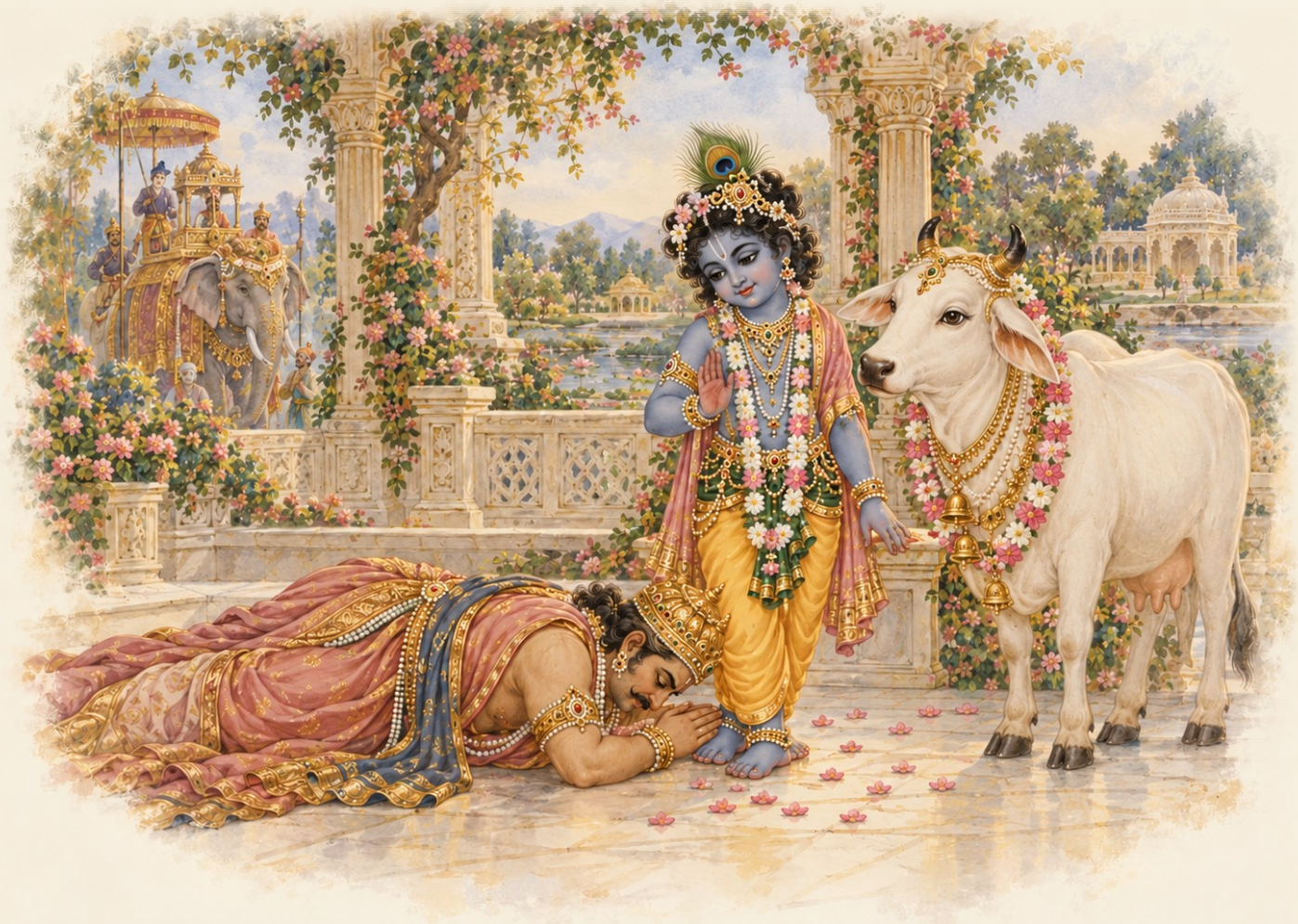
Krishna brought His flute to His lips. As its notes rose, Govardhan seemed to dance upon His tender hand. The thunder sounded like drums, and the lightning shone like lamps. The cowherd boys sang and kept time. Even the cows joined their voices, while the women offered Krishna their blessings.



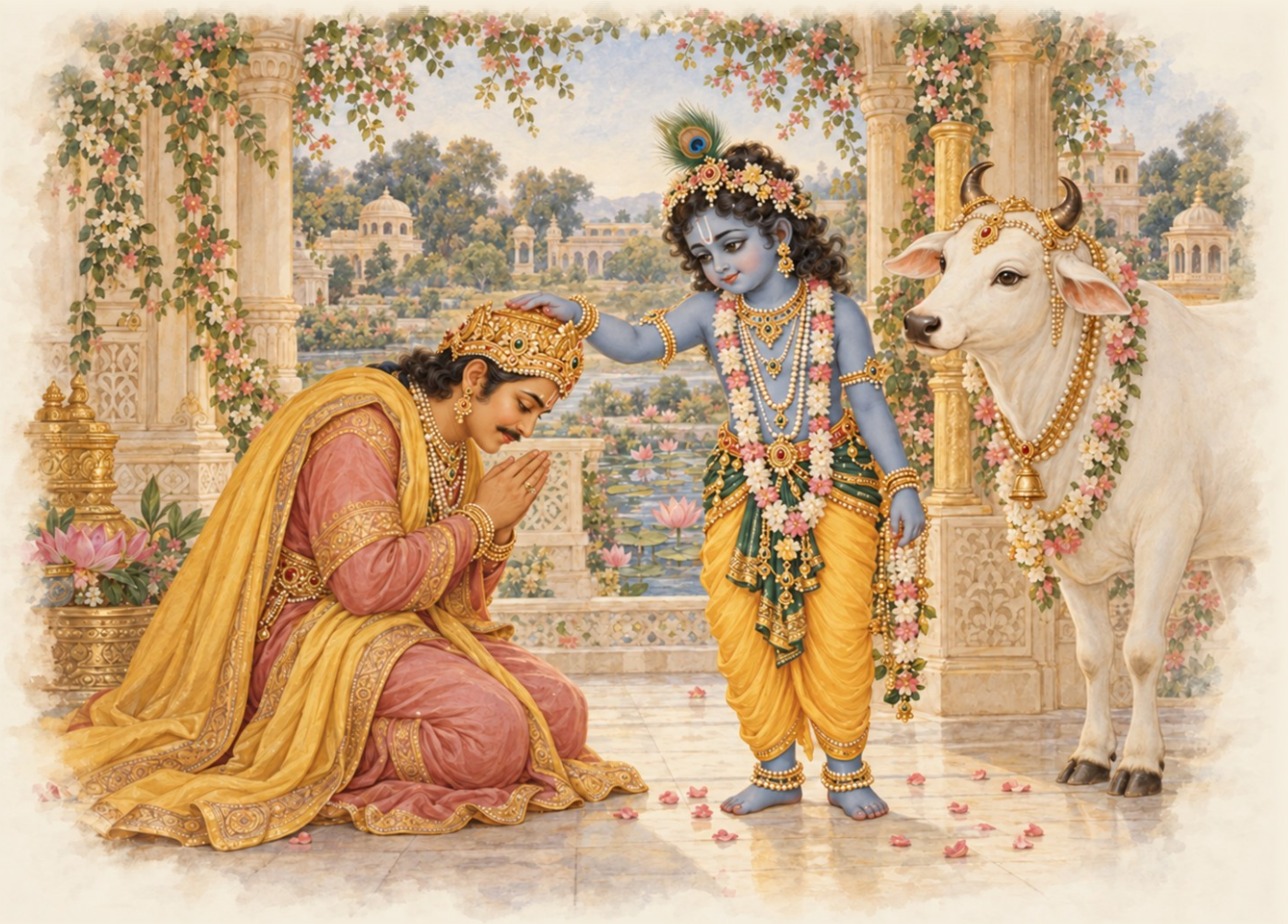
For seven days and nights, the rain poured without a pause. Still Krishna held Govardhan for His beloved people. Men, women, cows, and calves remained safe in His shelter. His protecting disc moved around them on every side. All Indra's mighty clouds could not overcome the care of Krishna.



Indra saw that Vraj was protected. His pride gave way, and he thought about the harm he had done. The king who had come so boldly now sought shelter himself. He came to Krishna, the holder of the hill, and bowed before His feet. His proud anger was gone.



Leaving his elephant behind, Indra came low in the dust of Vraj. He brought Surabhi, the sacred cow, as an offering. When he looked upon Krishna's face, he was overcome with feeling. He stretched himself upon the ground at Krishna's feet, surrendering himself to the One who had protected Vraj.



Krishna was gracious to Indra. He clothed him in a yellow garment and rested His hand upon his head. The hand that had held the great hill now gave reassurance. Indra had come with pride, but he remained before Krishna in humility, sheltered by His kindness and free from fear.

Kirtans Used

Indraman Bhang · Indra's Pride Humbled

Open the five-kirtan collection

Sajyo Surraj Vrajrajke

Poet: Pranajivan

Story pages in this PDF: 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12

pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/sajyo-surraj-vrajrajke-1646

Chadhayo Surraj Vrajrajke

Poet: Sur (Surdas)

Story pages in this PDF: 4, 5, 6

pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/chadhayo-surraj-vrajrajke-1647

Kanh Kumar Ke

Poet: Nandadas

Story pages in this PDF: 8

pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/kanh-kumar-ke-1648

Kirtans Used

Surraj Aaj Panyan

Poet: Hari Narayan Shyamdas

Story pages in this PDF: 11, 12

pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/surraj-aaj-panyan-1649

Nand Ke Lal

Poet: Kumbhandas

Story pages in this PDF: 6, 9, 10, 12

pushtikirtan.com/kirtan/nand-ke-lal-1673

Source titles follow the readable transliterations supplied by PushtiKirtan.com.
The story is an original English adaptation; poetic images such as the hill
seeming to dance remain poetic images.