

## Benefits of Worshipping Tulasi – from Padma Purana



"Every home with a Tulasi plant is a place of pilgrimage, and no diseases, messengers of Yama, the God of Death, can enter it." *Skandapurana 2, 4, 8, 13 Padmapurana Uttarakhanda*. Wherever the aroma of Tulasi is carried by the wind, it purifies the atmosphere and frees all animals from all baser tendencies." *Padmapurana, Uttarakhanda*. "Vishnu, the Lord of the Three Worlds, takes up abode in the village or the house where Tulasi is grown. In such a house no one suffers calamities like poverty, illness or separations from dear ones." *Padmapurana, Uttarakhanda, 6-24-31-32*.

### Benefits of Worshipping Tulasi-devi – from Padma Purana

Although we can never fully describe the glories of Tulasi-devi, an eternal associate of Lord Krsna. The scriptures give us a hint of the value of worshipping her. The following list comes from the Padma Purana.

- Tulasi is the essence of all devotional activities. The leaves, flowers, roots, bark, branches, trunk, and shade of Tulasi-devi are all spiritual.
- One who with devotion applies the paste of Tulasi wood to the Deity of Krsna will always live close to Krsna.
- One who puts mud from the base of the Tulasi tree on his body and worships the Deity of Lord Krsna gets the results of one hundred days worship each day.
- One who offers a Tulasi manjari to Lord Krsna gets the benefit of offering all other varieties of flowers, and he goes to the abode of Krsna.
- One who sees or comes near a house or garden where the Tulasi plant is present gets rid of all his sinful reactions, including that of killing a brahmana.
- Lord Krsna happily lives in the house, town, or forest where Tulasi-devi is present.
- A house where Tulasi-devi is present never falls on bad times, and it becomes purer than all holy places.
- The fragrance of Tulasi-devi purifies all who smell it.
- Lord Krsna and all the demigods live in a house where mud from the base of the Tulasi tree is found.
- Without Tulasi leaves, Lord Krsna does not like to accept flowers, food, or sandalwood paste.
- One who worships Lord Krsna daily with Tulasi leaves attains the results of all kinds of austerity, charity, and sacrifice. In fact, he has no other duties to perform, and he has realized the essence of the scriptures.
- One who puts into his mouth or on his head Tulasi leaves that have been offered to Lord Krsna attains Lord Krsna's abode.
- In Kali-yuga, one who worships, remembers, plants, keeps, or performs kirtana before Tulasi burns up all sinful reactions and quickly attains Lord Krsna's abode.
- One who worships Lord Krsna with Tulasi leaves releases all his ancestors from the realm of birth and death.
- One who remembers the glories of Tulasi or tells others about them will never take birth again.

# Quick Morning Tulasi Devi Worship

## 1. Perform Sri Tulasi Devi Pranama by reciting this mantra.

*vrndayai tulasi-devyai  
priyayai kesavasya ca  
krsna-bhakti-prade devi  
satyavatyai namo namah*

vrndayai--unto Vrnda; tulasi-devyai--unto Tulasi-devi; priyayai-- who is dear; kesavasya--to Lord Kesava; ca--and; krsna-bhakti-- devotional service to Lord Krsna, prade--who bestows; devi--O goddess; satya-vatyai--unto Satyavati; namah namah--repeated obeisances.

I offer my repeated obeisances unto Vrnda, Srimati Tulasi-devi, who is very dear to Lord Kesava. O goddess, you bestow devotional service to Lord Krsna and possess the highest truth.

## 2. Water Sri Tulasi Devi, offer incense and flowers, and perform Pradaksina reciting this Mantra while doing it

*yani kani ca papani  
brahma-hatyadikani ca  
tani tani pranasyanti  
pradaksinah pade pade*

yani kani--whatever; ca--and; papani--sins; brahma-hatya--killing of a brahmana; adikani--and so on; ca--also, tani tani--all of them; pranasyanti--are destroyed; pradaksinah--(by) the circumambulation (of Tulasi-devi); pade pade--at every step.

By the circumambulation of Srimati Tulasi-devi all the sins that one may have committed are destroyed at every step, even the sin of killing a brahmana.

## 3. When picking Tulasi leaves, chant the following mantra:

*tulasy amrta janmasi  
sada tvam kesava-priya  
kesavartham cinomi tvam  
varada bhava sobhane*

O Tulasi devi, you are born from nectar, and you are always very dear to Lord Kesava. Now in order to worship Lord Kesava I am collecting your leaves and manjaris. Please bestow your mercy upon me.

## 4. Offer normal pooja to Lord Krishna with incense, flowers. Then offer Tulasi leaf on the feet of Shri Krishna with some water in a small lota. Lord Krishna likes Tulasi leaves.

***Chant 'Hare Krishna, Hare Krishna, Krishna Krishna, Hare Hare / Hare Rama, Hare Rama, Rama Rama, Hare Hare' and be Happy.***

This article has been taken from the following website, where more information about Tulasi-devi and her worship can be found. <http://www.vrindavan-dham.com/vrinda/worshipping-tulasi.php>

## Worshipping Tulasi Devi

The following list was compiled from scriptures and from Srila Prabhupada's instructions.

- Tulasi's body is spiritual. Although Tulasi appears as many individual trees, she is one person, and she comes wherever she sees devotion to Krsna.
- Every morning devotees should water and pray to Tulasi Devi and circumambulate her three times.
- Worship Tulasi with nice food, flowers, incense, a ghee lamp, and other traditional articles of worship.
- Protect the delicate Tulasi seedlings from birds and insects. It is an offense to turn the seedlings back into the soil.
- In places where Tulasi cannot survive the winters when planted in the ground, provide a suitable house for her.
- Every day provide Tulasi fresh air, water (as needed be careful not to water too much), and sunshine (or plant lights).
- Neglecting to care for or water Tulasi properly is a great offense. Do everything carefully.
- Pick only the leaves that grow next to the manjaris (flowers) and the leaves that are ready to drop they will turn a pale color not the new, green ones. Pick the manjaris as soon as they blossom. Avoid letting them go to seed, which takes much energy from the plant that can be used to make more leaves and flowers for Krsna's service. Pick the leaves one at a time with your fingertips. Don't shake or stroke the branch and damage healthy leaves. Pick with care and attention. Avoid using cutting tools.
- Never cut or prune Tulasi Devi. This is a great offense. Remove dead branches if absolutely necessary. If branches obstruct a passageway, tie them back, but don't cut them.
- Pick Tulasi leaves and flowers in the morning, never at night (from sunset to sunrise).
- Never use chemical sprays on Tulasi.
- Collect leaves once in the morning for worshiping Krsna and for putting on the plates of food to be offered to Him. Put at least one leaf on each preparation. Never pick Tulasi leaves for any other purpose than to offer to the Lord.
- Lord Krsna likes garlands of Tulasi leaves. Tulasi leaves mixed with sandalwood pulp and placed on the lotus feet of the Lord is the topmost worship. Do not place Tulasi leaves on the feet of anyone other than Lord Visnu in His various forms. primate Radharani can be given a Tulasi leaf in Her hand for offering to Lord Krsna.
- Krsna accepts even dry Tulasi leaves. - Tulsa wood (taken after a plant has fully dried naturally) can be used to carve worship paraphernalia, such as beads. Place leftover Tulasi wood within the earth.
- Never use Tulasi leaves or flowers to make teas or juices, even after they've been offered to Krsn. a. It is a great offense to cook or heat Tulas~, or to use her for mundane purposes, such as medicines and ointments.
- Never cut down or pull up living Tulsi plants. This is a great offense.
- Avoid stepping on Tulasi Devi's shadow.
- Tulasi Devi is very, very dear to the Lord. Therefore, most important is to serve her with love and devotion.