

The Nature of Manjari-Seva

Letter from Svami 23.1.61

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Last modified 30.6.18

It is a mistake to think that Yashoda-Nanda's *inner* kind of bhakti could be had by any human being, even in the remotest way. This bhakti belongs to the cit-forms of *Vraja* and is unique, in contrast to the bhakti belonging to the cit-forms of *Vaikuntha*.

It is more important to try to correctly understand what bhakti is, and it is a great mistake wanting to insist that what one does as seva here should be exclusively accepted, pushing *others* into the background. Krishna loves the manjari-s so much because they perform seva for Radha and the sakhi-s without *any* wish for their own sukha [happiness], and that they don't *want* to push their way forward into Radha's and Krishna's *direct* presence.

In our *seva* in this world, we have to try to do it in the same way, i.e. to be without any expectation that our personal seva should be appreciated, accepted and praised.