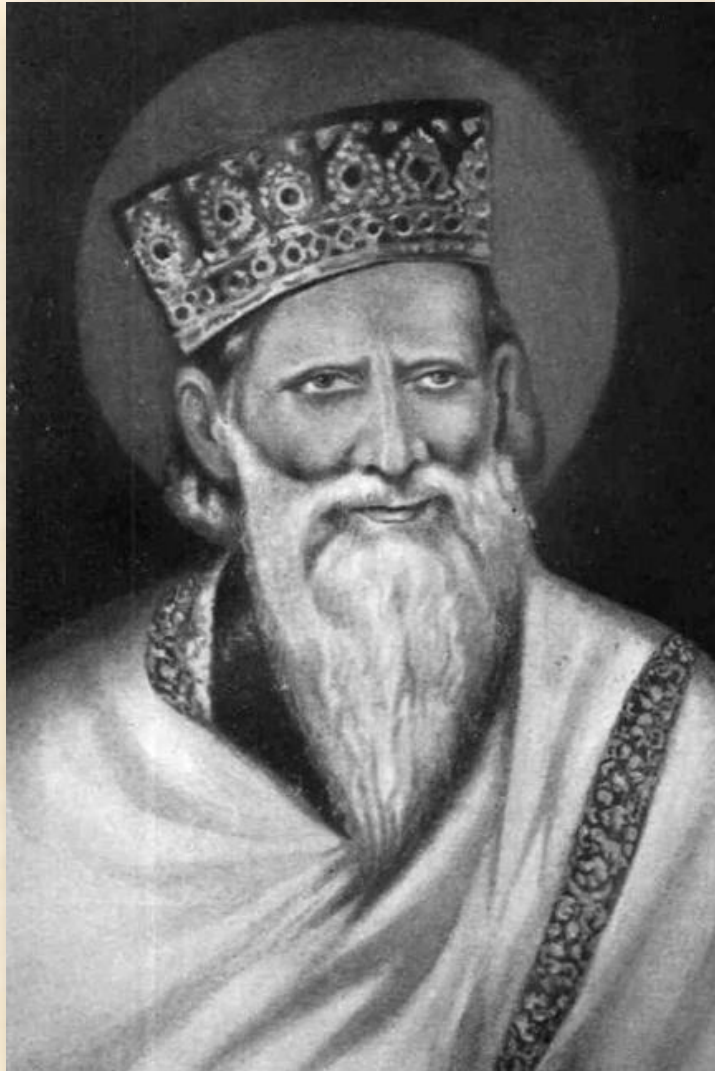


# SOAMI JI MAHARAJ



***“RADHASOAMI Name, whoever recites will swim across the ocean of existence. All conflict will end, all pain and agony will cease and they will find peace. Rarely does anyone know the secret of that boundless Name. But the ones who do reach the far shore, never to be reborn in this world.”***

**Written & compiled by Clay W. Guthrie**



**Shiv Dayal Singh** was born in Agra, India, in 1818 and became known as **Soami Ji Maharaj**. His biography was written by His younger brother Pratap, who tells us that ***“the Supreme Being... RADHASOAMI Incarnated Himself as Soami Ji Maharaj.”*** ‘RadhaSoami’ is the most significant Name ever given to mankind by the Supreme Being, Himself. It also represents the original and highest heaven from which all creation had emanated.

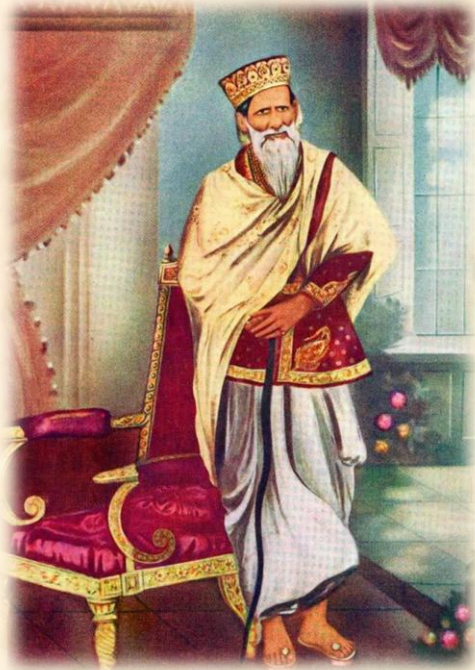
Soami Ji was a proponent of Sant Mat (‘Religion of the Saints’), which began in the 15<sup>th</sup> century in India with the advent of Saint Kabir and Guru Nanak. The teachings, however, have probably been here since man’s earliest beginnings and feature the *‘Surat Shabd Yoga.’* Soami Ji Maharaj has universally been recognized as Sant Mat’s greatest Sat Guru to manifest in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

According to the Saints of Sant Mat, we exist in a multi-dimensional universe that has 8 primary heavens (or 18, including sub-heavens) most of which were unknown to the sages of the Vedas, the Bible and other ancient religions. The material world we believe to be reality ranks the lowest in this hierarchy, as we are told that our spirits (*jivas* or *surats*) originally came from the 5<sup>th</sup> region known as Sat Lok, or Sat Nam, and have been here since the beginning of creation. We have all lived and died many times and in many life forms, and yet it is only in the human body where we can re-discover who we truly are as spirit. This wheel of birth and death is a result of the karmas (actions) we have committed in the world and is a never ending cycle. There have been numerous heavens and hells we have endured, but with each birth we are made to forget. Soami Ji uses the following analogy, ***“Your stay in the body is for four days only. Thereafter, you will again fall in the cycle of births and deaths.”*** We are told, however, that salvation lies in our ability to go within ourselves, via Meditation, by listening to the inner Sound Current and attaching ourselves to the Sat Guru. These are the Highest Souls who have incarnated in this world for the sole purpose of taking our spirits back to our original home. A home we have tragically forgotten.

***“O mind! Look at the world. What is it worth? You are here entrapped in illusions and delusions.”***

***“How far should I relate your sufferings and misfortunes... You have taken this transitory world to be a reality.”***





**Soami Ji Maharaj** was the incarnation of the Supreme Being RadhaSoami. His father had been a follower of Guru Nanak, the first and greatest of the ten Sikh gurus, and later came in contact with **Tulsi Sahib** of Hathras. Tulsi Sahib was a well known Sant Sat Guru of His era and became probably the most influential person in Soami Ji's life. Like all the Saints of Sant Mat, He had taught that the only true way back to God was by practicing Surat Shabd Yoga.\* Soami Ji's entire family became followers of Him (Biography): ***"They were all convinced of the sublimity of the Sant Mat, and the efficacy of the Surat Shabd Yoga."*** (\*Note: Surat is synonymous with Spirit or Soul; Shabd is the Divine Sound Current resounding within every human being).

Tulsi Sahib is also famous for having foreseen the coming of Soami Ji Maharaj and while referring to His yet-to-be-mother had stated, ***"Yes, she will have a son. But do not look upon the child as a mere human being."*** In most all respects, Shiv Dayal Singh's nature was far from that of a normal child. His prodigious talents in fact hinted at His true divinity. (Biography): ***"Soamiji Maharaj's infancy passed in a normal way. After, however, attaining the age of five, He began to devote Himself to studies and to Parmarth (spiritual practices) of the highest order. His mother used to give Him a bath early in the morning and prepare Him for devotion. And soon He would engage in His devotional practices. Side by side, His studies were also going on. He was so quick that it looked as if He was simply revising the previous lesson."***

Not only was this child far beyond His years in His spiritual awareness, He was also able to quickly master several different languages, including: Hindi, Gurumukhi, Persian and even knew Sanskrit and Arabic. In spite of these talents and others, Soami Ji never lost track of the greater realities. (Biography): ***"Even during His school days, Soamiji Maharaj used to impart religious instructions of the highest order to His parents and the members of His family, acquaintances***

***and ascetics who came to Him. At that tender age, He would impress upon them the perishable nature of the world.”***

As a young boy, Soami Ji had repeatedly ***“emphasized that this world is a vast trap.”*** He intuitively knew the world to be false and its pleasures and joys to be fleeting illusions, as He had first-hand knowledge of the greater spiritual realities within. Indeed, according to the Religion of the Saints, our soul originally came from the highest abode of Sat Lok - a heavenly realm where there is pure spirituality and bliss without end. After descending into the lower material regions, it became entrapped in the prison house of its karma (action and reaction), while forever transmigrating into many different life forms. (Biography): ***“When Soamiji Maharaj, at that early age, explained such sublime truths to elderly persons, people were taken aback as to who He was and what He was going to be. They were wonder-struck to hear Him speak seriously about lofty subjects in His inimitable sweet and simple words.”***

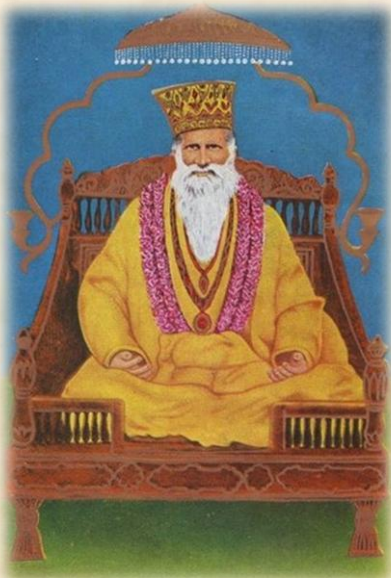


Early in His adulthood, Soami Ji married Narayan Dei, who later became known as ***Radhaji***. In truth, this was more of a union of two Divine Spirits than a traditional marriage. Because neither one of Them had ever let Their spiritual focus go below the third eye chakra, They never had children. Radhaji was fully aware of the greater mission of Her husband and became intoxicated by His lectures. She, Herself, attained the highest spiritual status and was also recognized in Her time as one of the most charitable benefactors of the poor and downtrodden

(Biography): ***“The discourses produced so deep an impression upon Radhaji Maharaj that She had Her entire jewelry, worth thousands of rupees, spent by Soamiji Maharaj in the service and entertainment of Sadhus (recluses). She gave away food, clothing, etc... generously to the poor and needy. She was so very fond of feeding others, that She singlehandedly, cooked food for forty to fifty Sadhus daily. After feeding them, if there came a fresh batch of Sadhus, She would again cook and feed them. In this way, She remained in the kitchen from six in the morning to four or five in the afternoon. Cooks were engaged several times, but they could not cope with the work.”***



Pratap Singh (Soami Ji's brother and biographer) had shared the sentiments of scores of others who had experienced the higher heavenly realms and salvation through the Great Master, exclaiming that Soami Ji was no ordinary Sat Guru. (Biography): ***“Anami Purush, or the Supreme Being, is omnipotent. He is all powerful and the fountain-head of all. The entire creation owes its functioning to the energy supplied by Him. The Param (highest) Saint who comes from there has the same powers... there is none greater than Him. And He cannot have any one as His guru. For this reason, Soamiji Maharaj had no guru, nor did He receive instructions in Parmarth (spiritual practices) from anyone. On the other hand, He explained Parmarth to His parents and to the Sadhus who came to Him.”*** This assertion that Soami Ji had no guru has been controversial, as there have been some who believe He was initiated by Tulsi Sahib as a child. Both Sant Sat Gurus were quite close with each other, in spite of their age difference (55 yrs.). Tulsi is also known to have often visited Soami Ji in Agra. The truth, however, is that Soami Ji Maharaj was a “Swatah Guru,” the Highest God Man to ever incarnate in this world and had no need of a guru. He was the human incarnation of RADHASOAMI (*Anami Purush*), which to date no Sat Guru of Sant Mat has ever equaled.



Much of Soami Ji's lifetime was spent in deep meditation and was often in out of body state, having full knowledge of the highest of heavens. (Biography): ***“For about fifteen years, Soamiji Maharaj used to shut Himself up in a room which is within another room. He was all the time absorbed in the bliss of Surat Shabd Yoga. Often He would not come out for two or three days at a stretch, not even to ease Himself. His Surat (Soul) was all the time withdrawn and raised to the Region of Anami (the 8<sup>th</sup> Highest Heaven). Soamiji Maharaj was of a delicate constitution, but He often delivered discourses for eight or ten hours at a time with the least sign of fatigue. People were amazed at this. His diet was meager. It had been observed during twenty years that He did not take more than two ounces a day.”***

## ORIGIN OF RADHASOAMI NAME

‘SOAMI’ is the original Shabd (the Divine Sound emanation) and ‘RADHA’ the first manifestation of that Prime Current. This can also be likened to an Ocean and its first Spiritual Wave. (Biography): *“Radhasoami Name was revealed by the Supreme Being Himself. When the humble servants of Huzur RadhaSoami Saheb (Soamiji Maharaj), by their Abhyas (devotional practices) and Satsang, came to realize His high position and immense powers, and when, in His grace, He enabled them to recognize Him, they started addressing Him by the appellation of "RadhaSoami."*



Soami Ji Maharaj gave discourses and initiations to seekers for 17 ½ years, before His death in 1878. The discourses often began in the evening and would continue until midnight, or even the next morning. During His ministry, it's been estimated that some 8,000-10,000 people, both men and women, were initiated into the Radhasoami Faith. Most who came were Hindu, Muslim, Jains, and even Christians were initiated by Soami Ji. For those who were in the presence of this most exalted and humble Man of God, His spiritual aura and powers were said to be extraordinary. He could, for instance, lift a person's soul out of their body at will (if they were so deserving) and into the higher heavenly realms to increase their faith, as He possessed this innate ability throughout His life. His oratory skills were legendary and He was known to sway even the most critical person into becoming a true believer within a short time. Soami Ji showered the greatest love on everybody He met and forbade His followers to ever reciprocate an evil act with one of vengeance. He was quoted as saying, *“To do good to the good is the way of the world. To do good to the wicked, is the attribute of a rare one.”* He also gave all the money He ever made to the poor and needy and kept only the most meager amount for His own necessities. To His most beloved disciple and successor, Salig Ram (Huzur Maharaj), Soami Ji handed the spiritual torch and the world was forever changed. When Salig Ram attained the highest spiritual abode in his own meditations, due to the love and devotion he gave to Soami Ji Maharaj, the latter revealed His true identity and gave out the most important Name to mankind, which is used in meditation - ‘RADHASOAMI’.

The following passages of Soami Ji Maharaj are all taken from his ‘SAR BACHAN’ POETRY, originally published in 1884. The Italics and words are inserted to help the reader better understand some of the Sant Mat terminology, not always discernable.





***“Soul, who are you? Where have you come from? The mind has created worldly entanglements – why have you strayed into this net? You are a child of Sat Purush, the true Lord, and once you were a resident of the eternal home. But Kal (the Negative Power) has put his noose around your neck. Through the Sat Guru’s grace and the company of realized souls, reverse your direction and you will reach your home. Listen to the boundless Shabd (Sound Current) within. RadhaSoami has said this for you to understand.”***

***“What were you granted human form for if you do not acquire the wealth of Shabd (Divine Sound)? Shabd is resounding every moment within you. Why do you not listen to it?”***

***“Five Shabds are resounding in the inner recesses of every (human) being, find them out... Those who did not ascend to higher (heavenly) regions by means of Shabd have wasted their life.”***

***“The drop that is the soul left the Ocean of Truth and reached the Tenth Gate (the ‘third eye’ center). From there it went down into the physical body and settled in the world of the nine doors (nine apertures of the body). Creating a relationship with mind and senses, it got entangled in the world. Life after life it suffered the agonies of drift in the stream of transmigration (i.e., rebirth into many life forms). It forgot all about its primal home – the court of Sat Purush, the true Lord...”***



***“You are the ocean, I am a wave. From you I arose, in you I am finally merged. You are the sun, I am a ray of light. From you I emerged, to you I have returned. You are the pearl, I am the string, never am I really separate from you.”***

***“The sun of love has arisen within me and has dispelled of illusions and delusions.”***

***“I am a fish, Thou art like an ocean. I am filled with ecstasy in Thy company.”***



***“You have received this rare human form and this opportunity may not come again (to find God within). The pleasures of wife, children, wealth, property and social repute will ultimately end in pain. Save your self from these, sit in the company of the Sat Guru and seek refuge in Him. This whole play is but a one-night dream and I have now woken you up.*”**



***The body is false, as is the illusion of existence, as is the mind charmed by this falsehood... Take my advice, beloved soul, and get out of the cycle of births and deaths (i.e., transmigration), soar to the sky within and penetrate the Shabd (the Divine Sound). RadhaSoami has said this so that you may understand.”***

***“Heavy, intense darkness prevails in the world and the body is a storehouse of shadows. Whether they are awake or asleep, I see people helplessly caught in the maze of the creation. Through ignorance of its own real home (the higher spiritual realms) the soul is living here like a homeless wanderer, stumbling through different life forms, tossed about in the cycle of birth and death...”***

## THE THIRD EYE ('TENTH DOOR')



***“The Saints and Sat Gurus strongly exhort the soul, pointing to the escape route through the Tenth Door (the ‘third eye’ between and behind the two eyebrows). But she wanders out incessantly through the other nine, unwilling to listen, unable to catch their message... Without a Sat Guru and without Surat Shabd Yoga (i.e., merging with the Divine Sound Current within) no one can cross the ocean of existence... Now raise your soul through the opening of the Inner Sky.”***

***“Make the eye center your permanent abode by withdrawing yourself into union with the Lord. Focus your attention on the light there and all duality will vanish from your mind.”***



## IMPORTANCE OF MEDITATION



***“Practice Meditation and subdue your mind by holding your sense impulses in check. Raise your soul – rise up through the sky of Trikuti and go beyond the top of Sunn. I will show you my form as Sat Purush, the true Lord, and then as the Lord of Alakh and Agam. Beyond them is the stage of RadhaSoami, where I manifest in my own true form.”***

***“Those who have turned their back on Meditation will suffer for their negligence...”***

***They do not listen to the advice of the Sadh Guru, but adamantly follow the dictates of the mind... Life after life they will suffer in the wheel of birth and death and they may never get this human form again.”***

## **SHABD IS THE LIBERATOR OF THE SOUL**

The recurrent theme and message of Soami Ji, along with all the Saints of Sant Mat is that

*“through Shabd you will be liberated from the cycle of birth and death and go to the stage of immortality.”* And that *“without Shabd all are condemned.”*



Shabd is the Sound Current heard within us emanating from five different spiritual loks, or higher regions. By focusing on our 'Third Eye' during our meditation, performing Simran (the internal repetition of the Holy name of 'Radhasoami'\*), and following a true Sant Sat Guru we can be liberated from this lower earth plane.

Shabd has also been referred to as “the Word” and “Holy Spirit” in the Bible. As well as “Logos,” “Nam,” “Music of the Spheres” and “Unstruck Music.” It is the heavenly key within us which unlocks the door to who we really are, why we are here, and more importantly – it can transport us back to the eternal bliss of our true home in Sat Lok and beyond.

*“The Light of Shabd shines within... the window of your heart. Shabd sustains all souls and yet remains detached. Know that Shabd is the essence of everything – adopt the path of Shabd and attain salvation.”*

*“Hear Shabd by closing your ears, follow the incessant resonance of Shabd... you will see the dazzling light and then remain absorbed in sound every moment.”*



## THE HIGHER HEAVENS WITHIN US



***“I have turned my consciousness inwards at the eye center (between and behind the two eyebrows) and directed it towards the thousand-petalled lotus (the astral realm), I have abandoned the mind, and have ascended with the soul. On seeing Jot Niranjana (inner Divine Light or Flame), I was elated beyond measure... I heard the bell and the conch sound, I saw the moon, the sun and the star within. Then the door to the Curved Tunnel opened and my soul ascended through Trikuti (the Causal Realm) to make contact with Guru’s Shabd... In Bhanwar Gupha (beyond the mental regions) I bathe in nectar while a flute plays Sohanga music.”***

***“I enjoy the bliss of that region before my soul climbs further... up into Sat Nam which the Saints call the fourth plane. The beauty of the soul, equal in brilliance to sixteen suns and moons, is beyond description.”***

***“My soul establishes its base in Sat Lok...  
Karmas of countless lives are wiped out and Kal’s plans  
are totally frustrated. I bow my head at RadhaSoami’s  
feet and enshrine his wondrous form in my heart.”***



***“Raise your consciousness and find the opening at the  
Third Eye and the current of Shabd flowing on the right  
side (i.e., we listen to the sound from our inner right ear only).  
To the left is the snare of Kal; stay clear of it and safeguard  
your soul. Then listen to the sound of bell and conch beyond  
which the music of Onkar is heard. In Sunn the melody is of  
Rarankar while further on Bhanwar Gupha resounds with the  
strains of the flute. In Sat Lok you will hear the sound of the  
veena, but I have no way of describing the Shabd of Alakh  
and Agam. RadhaSoami has resolved the whole mystery.”***

***“I recognize the gateway to higher regions within myself,  
I obtain gifts of love.”***



***“The soul breaks open the gate of Bhanwar Gupha, through which the (inner) Master shows it the Lord’s crystal palace. The spectacle there is utterly fascinating – each ray glows with the light of a sun, each sun glows with a novel light, each moon projects a million images. The firmament of the heart is illumined by the light of the higher realms reflecting through billions of inner skies... How can I possibly describe the unique magnificence of the unutterable, indescribable realms?”***



***“Sohang and Sat Nam are on the way of RadhaSoami Dham (the highest spiritual realm) and Alakh and Agam are at its door... The mansion of RADHASOAMI is Most High. Its majestic grandeur passes description... Doors to the heavenly spheres have opened within me. My Soul soars higher and higher up like a swift-winged bird.”***

***“It (the soul) sleeps in the shadow of worldly attachments showing no desire to wake up. Enslaved by the senses, it has become restless, for the powers of Kal have eclipsed its innate nature.... Still your inner vision and fix your attention on the door of the Inner Eye that opens to the path leading within. Break through the inner barrier, defeat Kal’s plans, liquidate your karmas and soar to the higher regions. RadhaSoami says this for you to hear, friend, so that you can tread this path with understanding.”***

***“Your concern with social standing has spoiled everything and worldly attachments have trapped you in their web. Attachment to family has degraded you since your virgin soul was given in marriage to Kal. Karma has put a noose around your neck and subjected you to the ridicule of Yama (Lord of Death). Now you are so attached to the body that you have forgotten all about death... Having gained the opportunity to win, you lost the game of life by failing to end your attachment to the world. RadhaSoami is calling out to you – think and do what you can to redeem yourself.”***



***“If you sleep to the world, that is, withdraw from worldly involvements and devote yourself to God, you build up treasure in heaven. If, instead, you stay alert in the world, that is, are preoccupied with worldly pursuits, you miss the priceless opportunity for God-realization.”***

***Soami Ji Maharaj***



# The Inner Planes Of Creation

Various aspects of Divine Light & Sound-Current  
(an approximation only)

↙  
*The Country of  
Saints*

↙  
*Realms  
of  
Eternity*

↙  
*Realms of  
Pure Spirit*

↙  
*The Eternal Home  
Sat Purush  
The Supreme Being  
dwells in Sach  
Khand  
Trillions of suns  
and moons  
It is All Light*

↙  
*Nirvan Pad  
Land of the Holy*

*The Sun of this plane  
exceeds 100,000  
physical suns*



↙  
**ANAAMI**

The Nameless,  
realm of wonders

↙  
**AGAM**

The Ineffable Region  
Soundless Sound

↙  
**ALAKH**

The Inconceivable  
Region  
Adi Shabd

↙  
**SACH KHAND**

The True Home  
Here, Soul merges  
in God as a drop  
merges in the ocean

Predominant Sound  
Currents:

**Veena & Bagpipes**

↙  
**BHANWAR  
GUPHA**

The Rotating Cave  
Soul realizes here its  
oneness with God  
Predominant Sound  
Currents:

**Flute**



Par Brahm  
 The Super Casual  
 Beyond Mind and  
 Maya

Full Moon exceeds  
 1000 outer moons

Brahmand  
 The Casual Plane  
 Home of the Mind

Red Rising Sun

Anda  
 The Astral Plane

The Thousand Petal  
 Lotus and Bunk  
 Naal

Pinda  
 The Physical Plane

The Journey begins

AMAN SANDHU @ 2009



DASWAN DWAR  
 The Pool of Nector  
 Amritsar / Mansarowar

Predominant Sound  
 Currents:

**Sarangi & Sitar**

TRIKUTI

The Golden Mountains:  
 Mer, Sumer & Kailash

Predominant Sound  
 Currents:

**Thunder & Drums**

SAHASRAR

Heavens & Purgatories  
 Stars, Suns & Moons

Predominant Sound  
 Currents:

**Bells & Conch**

Six Chakras of Pinda

Chakra	Divinity	Color
Third Eye	Soul	Indigo
Throat	Shakti	Blue
Heart	Shiva	Green
Navel	Vishnu	Yellow
Genitals	Brahma	Orange
Rectum	Ganesh	Red

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## **‘RADHASOAMI’ is the Highest Mantra**



Guru Nanak had once said, “*Soami* is the Lord of all creation, and the Master of all the souls.” Tulsi Sahib similarly declared, “I address as *Soami* the creator of all that is.” St. Kabir went one step further, and hinted at the Holy Name of RADHASOAMI, which would later be given to the world by Soami Ji Maharaj: “Saith Kabir, ‘The true spiritual guide has shown the *Dhara* (Current) of the Inaccessible; transpose it, affix it to *Soami*, and then perform the repetition.’” If we “transpose” D H A R A – we can create the name RADHA, and when we “affix it to *Soami*” – we have RADHASOAMI.



***“What illustration should I give about the glory and majesty of RADHASOAMI?”***

***“Repeat the Real Name RADHASOAMI; you will then find abode in Sat Lok”***

***“Utter and repeat (within) the Holy Name RADHASOAMI and engender Love and devotion in your Heart”***

***“There is no remedy so effective as the repetition of RADHA-SOAMI Name which you should do day in and day out”***

***“RADHASOAMI has provided a boat – get across the Ocean of Universe free of any charge”***



***“The Holy Word RADHASOAMI comprises five letters of Hindi alphabet, and ten of the Persian. It discloses the mystery of five holy Shabds or Names, and grants ascension to ten regions.”***

***“Utter the Holy Name RADHASOAMI – all karmas will be eradicated”***

***“RADHA is the Lover, and SOAMI is the Beloved”***

***“I say RADHASOAMI with my heart, I hear RADHASOAMI with my soul”***