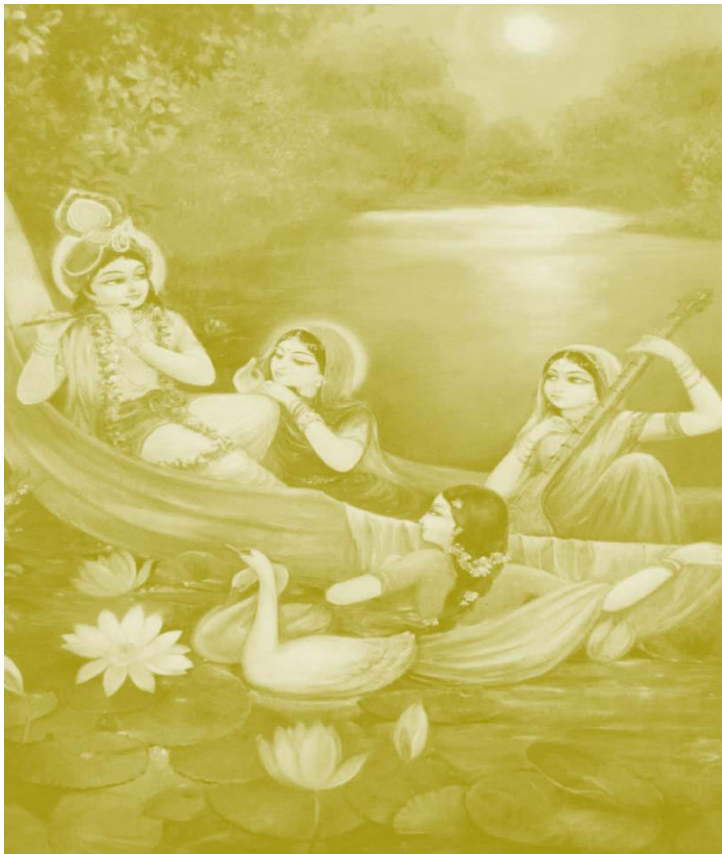


## Kumudvan / कुमुदवन

Two miles west of Talvan is Kumudvan, which presently goes by the name Kudaravan. The kund here is called by different names as either Kumudini Kund ,Padma kunda or Vihar Kund. While herding the cows, Shri Krishna, Shri Balram and the cowherd boys wandered throughout this delightful place. Shri Krishna Himself sported in this kund with the cowherd boys and with sweet words He would summon the cows to the bank of the pond by exclaiming, "Tiri tiri!" And then with "Chun-Chun!" He would tell them to drink water. The boys decorated each other with garlands made of kumudini flowers. Sometimes Krishna hid from His sakhas and, unseen by them, He sported in the water here with Radhika, Lalita, Vishakha and other Gopis. There is currently a deity of Shri Kapiladev on the bank of this kund. Lord Kapila worshipped Shri Krishna at this place.



Krishna and his friends would come and play in this forest. Kumud means "water-lilies". During Krishna's time, beautiful water lilies grew here. Kumud is a bright red flower that used to grow in abundance here and that is why this forest got the name Kumudvan. This is the smallest of the 12 forests. It has a parikrama of 1 km (1 mile). In the Kumudvan forest on the bank of Padma-Kunda, is a small temple dedicated to Lord Kapila. He performed austerities here during Treta-yuga. According to the Varaha

Purana if one takes bath in Padma-Kunda he acquires all the knowledge of the Vedic literature. The Kapila temple is very small (8 feet by 8 feet) with a small Deity of Kapila about a foot high. This temple is about 10 feet from the kunda.





**How to Get Here:** Kumudvan is about 9 km (6 miles) from Mathura. It is located half a km off the road that goes between Mathura and Sonk (Sonk road). If you are driving from Vrindavana you get on the main Delhi-Agra road going towards Agra. You drive

about 15 minutes on this road until you reach the Mathura-Sonkh Road. You make a right on this road going towards Sonkh. After about 8 km you reach a four feet high concrete sign on your left, that has an arrow on it pointing to the right saying Uchagrama in Hindi. There is a dirt road that goes to the left and a paved road that goes to the right. You make a left onto the dirt road and drive about a minute until you reach a small dirt road. You make a left, and then you follow the road around to the left. Located here is Padma-Kunda.