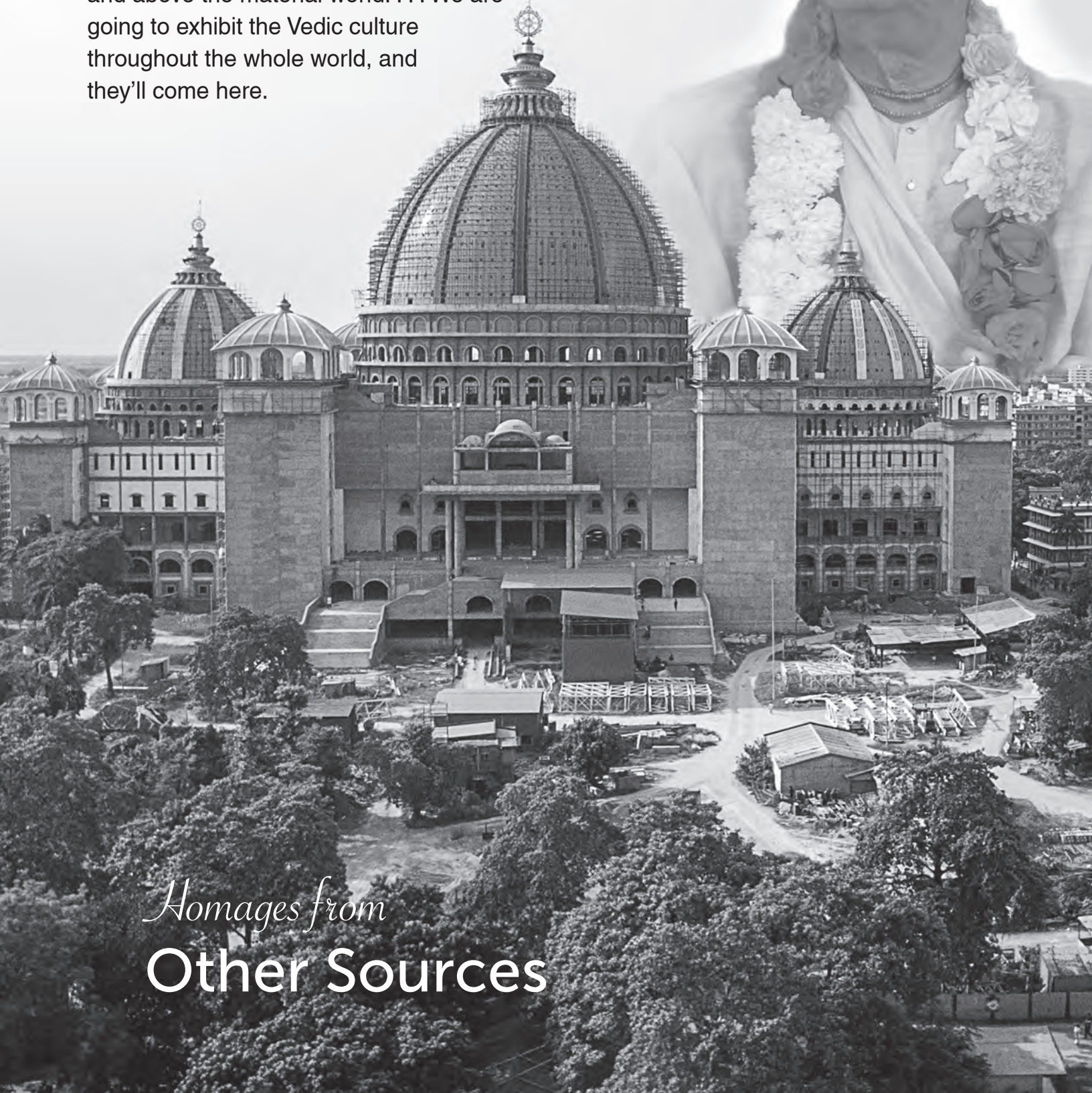
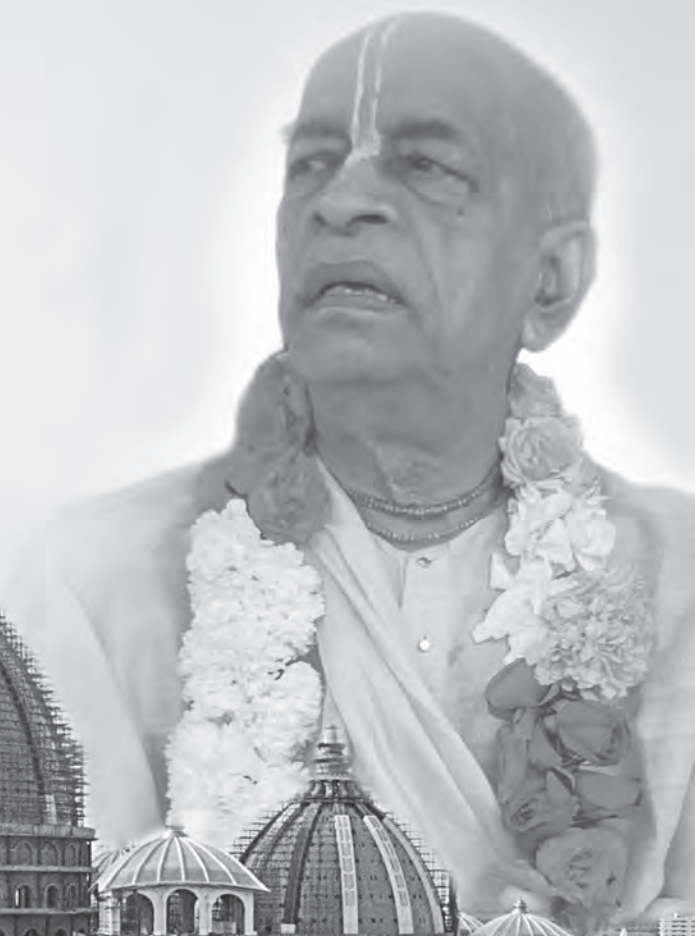


No “Understanding,” simply Vedic—  
“Temple of Vedic Planetarium.” That’s all.  
We shall show the Vedic conception of  
planetary system within this material world  
and above the material world. . . . We are  
going to exhibit the Vedic culture  
throughout the whole world, and  
they’ll come here.



*Homages from*  
**Other Sources**



## The Australian Society for Krishna Culture

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my most humble obeisances at your holy lotus feet. All glories to your staunch and extraordinary service to Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead!

Our old age is ordinary. Your old age is revolutionary. As per your astrologer's prediction at the time of your appearance in this world in the year 1896, you created a global spiritual revolution at the ripe old age of 70 by spreading the glories of Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu all over the world. You have (re-) introduced us to the Kṛṣṇa culture. I am writing "(re-) introduced" because in our previous lives we may well have been in touch with Kṛṣṇa culture, as you explain in your letter dated May 5, 1967, to the late Kīrtanānanda Prabhu:

I think some of you like yourself, Satsvarupa, Brahmananda and Mukunda and Gargamuni, Acyutananda and all of you had already cultivated this Krishna Consciousness in your past lives, now Lord Caitanya wants that this movement should be spread in the western countries, so most probably in your previous births you were all Indians and cultivated this Krishna Consciousness. Now Lord Caitanya has placed you in the western part of the world so that you can now combine together and broadcast the holy message all over the world.

At *Bhagavad-gītā* As It Is 10.36, Śrī Kṛṣṇa says, "I am also the gambling of cheats, and of the splendid I am the splendor. I am victory, I am *adventure*, and I am the strength of the strong." And transcendental adventures we have truly experienced under your guidance, Śrīla Prabhupāda. I was present at Schloss Rettershof, Frankfurt, Germany, that winter weekend morning in 1974 when German police came in force during morning *prasādam* to thoroughly check us out with their dogs and submachine guns. During the whole week we regularly went on traveling *saṅkīrtana* to distribute your books and sometimes your records as well, such as your *Kṛṣṇa Meditation* album, for which you expressed much appreciation:

My Dear Hansadutta das:

Please accept my blessings. I am in due receipt of your letter dated October 11, 1974, and also the new German books KRSNA, TLC, and LIFE FROM LIFE, and also the record "Kṛṣṇa Meditation." I thank you very much. It is all very nice. May Kṛṣṇa bless you with more and more publishing work. I am always thinking of your Frankfurt Schloss center. The songs which I have recorded there I have heard today on the record, and they are very nice, especially the "Prayers to the Six Goswamis." It has come out very successful on the whole. I hope the German people will like the Bengali tunes. What is the report of how they are selling? [Letter to Hansadutta, 12 November 1974]

During the weekend we congregated for *sādhū-saṅga*, ecstatic *kīrtanas* led by Hansadutta Prabhu, and of course to pick up a new stock of books and records. The police came because some of the distributors' techniques were just a little too aggressive toward our unwitting participants.

In August 1976 we met you at the French Castle in New Māyāpur, Lucay le Male, and went on to India overland. The purpose was to import four buses for Indian *saṅkīrtana*: two big ones and two smaller ones. I recently happened to mention this trip to my daughter. "Big trip," she commented. In your honor her mother named her Abhaya Caran.

In 1977 I was present at the original Māyāpur, when the Mohammedan villagers attacked Māyāpur Candrodāya Mandir. Many devotees were seriously injured. I remember seeing at least one devotee with

a bloodied head. My tongue and ultimately Kṛṣṇa saved me from the main thrust of the attack, as I was attached to tasting a form of candied pineapple available in Navadvīpa's sweet shops. On the way back to the temple, a rickshaw man still tried to grace me with a couple of blows. But a devotee from a Gauḍīya Maṭha on Bhaktisiddhānta road saved me. He was unable to speak but motioned to come and take shelter at their temple, lest I would be in big trouble. A few days later the tricky Krishnanagar police invited the devotees to the police station to make their deposition and arrested them simultaneously. Again Kṛṣṇa saved me and rightly inspired me to decline the invitation.

You were absent from Māyāpur, but they would have liked to apprehend you. You said when you heard of the attack: "They would have done. The first news was that 'The founder was not there.' Otherwise the police would have charged me, that 'He has given order.'" (Room conversation, Vṛndāvana, 15 July 1977)

My main contribution to your transcendental mission would have to be book distribution.

Therefore this rumor that within a few years there will be police repression and people will have no more money to buy books and *sankirtana* will stop is completely bogus. Whoever told you that is a rascal, saying it in my name. I never said that. Rather *sankirtana* movement will expand, continuing so long as we are sincere. When I came in the beginning I began to expand it and it is now going on and there is no question of it stopping. *Therefore go on with your lifetime plans making secure in distributing of books.* There is no cessation. This movement is eternal. [Letter to Govinda Dasa, 8 May 1974]

As per your wishes, the vast majority of books were indeed sold. I remember, however, one year in the mid eighties when in one day I gave out about 1,800 of your small books in a shopping mall in Perth, Western Australia. At that time there was plenty of *lakṣmī* from the December marathons. Consequently there was often a huge accumulated stock of books that needed to find readers. Most willing recipients would get three, four, or five books at a time.

Since my arrival on the east coast of Australia in 1997, I have been traveling wholly or partially every year between Merimbula, New South Wales, and Port Douglas, Queensland, for the purpose of book distribution. The distance between these two cities is 3,200 km.

I have also circled Australia (Brisbane, Perth, Darwin, Brisbane) a number of times for book distribution—all surface travel except for an occasional Brisbane to Perth flight. I even managed to include a book distribution trip to Tasmania once. To live in a *sankirtana* van for up to eight months a year represents significant *tapasya*, or austerity. On the assumption that ISKCON temples will look after their congregation, my general policy was to possibly go to all those towns and villages that lacked an ISKCON temple so that they may also get some drops of your divine and redemptory mercy in the form of the words contained in your books.

All together I do not know exactly how many of your books I have distributed. Is 100,000 perhaps a conservative figure? How about 200,000?

I have also distributed many thousands of BBT cookbooks. In your letter dated June 15, 1969, to Kṛṣṇa Devī Dāśī you write:

Actually, the practice of meat-eating is very detrimental to spiritual life, because in spiritual life the goal is to become free from all sinful reactions, and meat-eating means simply to force oneself to suffer the sinful reactions of killing our fellow living entities. So as many people will be taking to practicing spiritual life through the influence of our Sankirtana Movement, *such cookbook will be very important* and you should work for this as you are able.

Book distribution certainly requires a lot of physical stamina, which fades away with old age.

Without intending to sound presumptuous, I may say that I have one thing in common with Śrīla Vyāsadeva, as described in *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, Canto One, chapter five. On the whole, I am sad. Perhaps it is due to my shortcomings. Sometimes I think that subject to your pleasure it would be best for me to

## Homages from Other Sources

leave this particular set of material circumstances quickly and painlessly and join you with reinvigorated strength. In your purport to *Bhagavad-gītā* 2.13, you write about the relationship between Arjuna and Grandfather Bhīṣma:

This individual soul finally changes the body at death and transmigrates to another body; and since it is sure to have another body in the next birth—either material or spiritual—*there was no cause for lamentation by Arjuna on account of death, neither for Bhīṣma nor for Drona, for whom he was so much concerned. Rather, he should rejoice for their changing bodies from old to new ones, thereby rejuvenating their energy.* Such changes of body account for varieties of enjoyment or suffering according to one’s work in life. So Bhīṣma and Drona, being noble souls, were surely going to have spiritual bodies in the next life, or at least life in heavenly bodies for superior enjoyment of material existence. So, in either case, there was no cause of lamentation.

Moreover you sometimes sang the following verse from the *Mukunda-māla-stotra* (33), by King Kulaśekhara, adopting his prayerful mood:

*kṛṣṇa tvadīya-pāda-paṅkaja-pañjarāntam  
adyaiva me viśatu mānasa-rāja-harṁsaḥ  
prāṇa-prayāṇa-samaye kapha-vāta-pittaiḥ  
kaṇṭhāvarodhana-vidhau smaraṇam kutas te*

“My Lord Kṛṣṇa, I pray that the swan of my mind may immediately sink down to the stems of the lotus feet of Your Lordship and be locked in their network; otherwise at the time of my final breath, when my throat is choked up with cough, how will it be possible to think of You?”

There is a third instance where you confirm the fact that a servant of Kṛṣṇa is totally detached from the material tabernacle. In a lecture you gave in November of 1968 in Los Angeles on the song about the Six Gosvāmīs, you nicely explain that he who has devoted his life’s time and energy to the service of the Lord is truly a *sādhū*. The *sādhū* received the following benediction: *Jīva vā mara vā sādhoḥ*, Sanskrit for “My dear saintly person, either you live or you die, as you like.”

In conclusion I would like to quote Mantra 17 of the *Īśopaniṣad*, which is addressed to Lord Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, in the original but which can also be addressed partially to His empowered representative, Śrīla Prabhupāda:

Let this temporary body be burnt to ashes, and let the air of life be merged with the totality of air. Now, (or in the not so distant future—my personal addition), O my Lord, please remember all my sacrifices, and because You are the ultimate beneficiary, please remember all that I have done for You.

I thank you very much, Śrīla Prabhupāda, as well as all Mahārājas and Prabhus involved in the practical side of this undertaking, for this enlivening opportunity to write a few words on the occasion of your 2019 appearance-day celebration, also called your Vyāsa-pūjā ceremony because “The spiritual master is the representative of Vyāsadeva also.” (*Bhagavad-gītā As It Is* 18.75, second to last sentence of the purport)

*Your humble and grateful servants at The Australian Society for Krishna Culture.*

(written by Yādavendra Dāsa)



## Back to Godhead Magazine

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

This year marks the seventy-fifth anniversary of your founding of *Back to Godhead*. You chose the appearance day of your spiritual master as the auspicious day on which to launch the magazine. This was fitting, of course, because publishing *Back to Godhead* was inspired by your Guru Mahārāja's order that you spread the teachings of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu to the English-speaking world.

To launch a magazine is a risky endeavor, if only for the simple fact that, unlike a book, it requires a commitment to regularly produce one issue after another, with the aim of doing so far into the future. Historically, the timing of the launch of *Back to Godhead* was risky as well. World War II raged on, and everything was being rationed, including the paper you needed to print the magazine. Still, driven by the order of your guru, you persevered, and in those challenging times your readers found respite in the transcendental messages you delivered.

Although at some point you stopped publishing *Back to Godhead* to focus on translating and commenting on *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* as you prepared for your journey to the West, as soon as you had a temple and a small following in New York City, you asked your disciples to restart the magazine, and it has been coming out steadily ever since. The endurance of the magazine testifies to the spiritual power of your pure offering to the Lord. Like so many of your Kṛṣṇa conscious initiatives for ISKCON, *Back to Godhead* still provides spiritual nourishment for thousands of devotees.

ISKCON is growing, and growth implies change. This reality has presented challenges for *Back to Godhead*, and no doubt will continue to do so. But we who are blessed to serve this dear project of yours pledge our continued dedication to it and to you. We serve at your pleasure and for your pleasure. Please empower those of us who oversee the production of *Back to Godhead* to make the best decisions for its continued success; please inspire the devotees who contribute to the magazine—through words, art, and photos—to help make the magazine appealing to large numbers of readers; and please enthuse all who are dedicated to your mission to share and promote the magazine. By the power of your blessings, *Back to Godhead* will keep nurturing devotion to Lord Kṛṣṇa far into the future.

*Your servants at Back to Godhead Magazine.*

## Bhakti Lounge Joburg

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

How great a mercy and honor it is just to be connected, through the many avenues you have created, to the current of your endless grace.

Greater still is to be able to approach you, in prayer, with a hope to be engaged in your service by offering you a humble homage such as this.

Greatest of all is that you have granted us, meager though our abilities and efforts may be, a place and purpose in your mission.

You have given us a vision—a return to our home in Goloka Vṛndāvana—and all illumination on the path toward it. You empower our actions in Kṛṣṇa consciousness, accept the results, and carry these as offerings to our Lord. By your petition, He accepts them. You are the lifeline by which we are linked to Kṛṣṇa and can cling to His lotus feet, our very life and soul. We have no place, no purpose, and no bearing apart from you.

Your immense mercy having touched each of our lives, we have come together, a group of African youth, inspired to share this same mercy of yours far and wide. Your love having shaped us, we attempt to serve Lord Kṛṣṇa and foster love for Him both in our community and to those we reach out to. Serving together, we grow together, with hope that our impact on the world around us will be a true reflection of the values you have taught us, and that our efforts are pleasing to you.

Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, for the insurmountable grace you have granted us. We pray to become worthy dispensers of the same in this mission to spread the Lord's most merciful holy name.

*Your aspiring servants at Bhakti Lounge Joburg, Johannesburg, South Africa.*

## Bhaktivedanta Archives

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vānī-pracāriṇe  
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

We offer our respectful obeisances unto His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, who is very dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa on this earth, having taken shelter at His lotus feet. Our respectful obeisances are unto you, O spiritual master, servant of Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī. You are kindly preaching the message of Lord Caitanyadeva and delivering the Western countries, which are filled with impersonalism and voidism.

*guru-śuśrūṣayā bhaktyā sarva-labdhārpaṇena ca  
saṅgena sādhu-bhaktānām īśvarārādhana ca*

## Homages from Other Sources

*śraddhayā tat-kathāyām ca kīrtanair guṇa-karmaṇām  
tat-pādāmburuha-dhyānāt tal-liṅgeṣārhaṇādibhiḥ*

One must accept the bona fide spiritual master and render service unto him with great devotion and faith. Whatever one has in one's possession should be offered to the spiritual master, and in the association of saintly persons and devotees one should worship the Lord, hear the glories of the Lord with faith, glorify the transcendental qualities and activities of the Lord, always meditate on the Lord's lotus feet, and worship the Deity of the Lord strictly according to the injunctions of the śāstra and guru. [*Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* 7.7.30–31]

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

All glories to Your Divine Grace.

As your followers, we desire to make the contents of the Bhaktivedanta Archives available for generations to come, thus inspiring future devotees to accept your guidance and association through your transcendental audio recordings, transcripts, publications, photos, and other documents. In this way we wish to serve the mission of Lord Caitanya that Your Divine Grace has so perfectly spread throughout the world.

We at the Bhaktivedanta Archives have dedicated our lives to this service, and we will continue to perform it until we are unable to do so. Now we are entering the phase in which we wish to train the next generation of archivists. It is a simple life filled with service. Our goal is to somehow ensure that all the divinely inspired material that Your Divine Grace is the source of will be available for many hundreds of generations. As the founder-*ācārya* of ISKCON, you have enthused many millions to take up this mission and will continue to do so though the ages.

In a letter you wrote:

Now, we have by Kṛṣṇa's Grace built up something significant in the shape of this ISKCON and we are all one family. Sometimes there may be disagreement and quarrel but we should not go away. These inebrieties can be adjusted by the cooperative spirit, tolerance and maturity. So I request you to kindly remain in the association of our devotees and work together. The test of our actual dedication and sincerity to serve the Spiritual Master will be in this mutual cooperative spirit to push on this Movement and not make factions and deviate. [Letter to Babhru, 9 December 1973]

Your words can guide us now and into the future with inspiration and example, while deepening our individual connection and relationship with you as the founder-*ācārya* of ISKCON and our primary *śikṣā-guru* for all time.

In lecture you gave in Atlanta on March 2, 1975, Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura's appearance day, you said:

So when I was seventy years old I decided, "Now I must do and execute the order of my Guru Mahārāja." And thus this movement was started in 1965 from New York. And I was not very much hopeful, because it is very difficult task, just opposite the European and Western culture. . . . When I first came, I had no money. So I got a free passage through some Indian steam navigation company. So I came by ship. So when I was on the ship at Boston port, Commonwealth port, I was thinking that "I have come here. I do not know what is the purpose, because how the people will accept this movement? They are differently educated, and as soon as I'll say, 'So, my dear sir, you have to give up meat-eating and illicit sex, and no intoxication and gambling,' they will say, 'Please go home.'" [laughter]

Because that was the experience of one of my Godbrothers. He went to London, and he had the

opportunity to talk with one big man, Marquis of Zetland. Marquis of Zetland was formerly governor of Bengal. At that time I was student. He was Scotsman, and I was student of the Scottish Churches' College. So he came to see our college, and he was standing in front of me in the second-year class. So he was very nice, good gentleman. So he proposed to my Godbrother, "Whether you can make me a *brāhmaṇa*?" So my Godbrother proposed, "Yes, we can make anyone *brāhmaṇa* provided you follow this principle: no illicit sex, no intoxication, no meat-eating, no gambling." So that Lord Zetland immediately replied, "Impossible." [laughter] So I was thinking that "I will propose something which is impossible. Anyway, let me try."

**Devotees:** *Jaya! Haribol!*

**Śrīla Prabhupāda:** So now, by the grace of Kṛṣṇa and Caitanya Mahāprabhu and in the presence of my Guru Mahārāja, you are so nice boys and girls. So in front of Caitanya Mahāprabhu you are chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa mantra, and you are taking part in it very seriously. So my Guru Mahārāja will be very, very much pleased upon you and bless you with all benefits. [break]

So he wanted this, and he is not . . . [Śrīla Prabhupada chokes up with tears, then continues]. It is not that he is dead and gone. That is not spiritual understanding. Even ordinary living being, he does not die. *Na hanyate hanyamāne śarīre*. And what to speak of such exalted, authorized personality like Bhaktisiddhānta. He is seeing. I never feel that I am alone.

Of course, when I came to your country without any friend, without any means . . . Practically, just like a vagabond I came. But I had full faith that "My Guru Mahārāja is with me." I never lost this faith. And that is fact. There are two words, *vāñī* and *vapuḥ*. *Vāñī* means words, and *vapuḥ* means this physical body. So *vāñī* is more important than the *vapuḥ*. *Vapuḥ* will be finished. This is material body. It will be finished. That is the nature. But if we keep to the *vāñī*, to the words of spiritual master, then we remain very fixed up. It doesn't matter.

Just like *Bhagavad-gītā*. It was spoken five thousand years ago. But if you keep to the words of Kṛṣṇa, then it is always fresh and guiding. Not that because Arjuna personally listened to Kṛṣṇa about the instruction of *Bhagavad-gītā*, therefore he knew it. That is not the fact. If you accept *Bhagavad-gītā* as it is, then you should know that Kṛṣṇa is present before you in His words in the *Bhagavad-gītā*. This is called spiritual realization.

If you don't keep in touch with the original link, then it will be lost. And if you keep touch with the original link, then you are directly hearing Kṛṣṇa. Similarly, Kṛṣṇa and Kṛṣṇa's representative, spiritual master, if you keep always intact, in link with the words and instruction of the superior authorities, then you are always fresh. This is spiritual understanding.

So you are hearing this philosophy daily. Try to understand more and more. We have got so many books. And this is the mission of Caitanya Mahāprabhu and, by disciplic succession, Bhaktivinoda Thākura, then my spiritual master. Then we are trying our level best. Similarly, you will also try your level best on the same principle. Then it will go on. Same principle. It doesn't matter whether one is born in India or outside India.

So as far as possible, we are trying to lead you in this line, and you kindly follow. Then your life will be successful. That is the mission of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu. He wanted to deliver these fallen souls, the conditioned souls rotting in this material world. So Kṛṣṇa Himself . . . Kṛṣṇa comes Himself, Kṛṣṇa sends His devotees, Kṛṣṇa comes as devotee—just to execute this mission to reclaim the fallen souls from the clutches of illusory energy, material world.

Thank you very much.

**Devotees:** *Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda.*

Thank you eternally for engaging us in the service of your divine lotus feet.

*Your Servants at The Bhaktivedanta Archives.*

# Cleveland Nāma Haṭṭa

## Because of You, Śrīla Prabhupāda

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Kindly accept our respectful obeisances. All glories to you everlastingly!

As we look at the past twenty-five years of our existence in the greater Cleveland/Akron area, we marvel at how you have allowed us to be your instruments in the mission of Śrī Śrī Gaura-Nitāi.

Whatever we have been able to do in the service of the Lord Caitanya and Lord Nityānanda, it is all because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda. So we offer our heartfelt and eternal gratitude at your lotus feet.

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, the Cleveland Nāma Haṭṭa Program is a multicultural group of families and individuals who have committed themselves to simple living and high thinking through study, service, and example.

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we promote caring relationships among a variety of people, distribute food and clothing, hold classes based on ancient Vedic scriptures, and in general promote God-conscious behavior in society.

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, there are many souls in the greater Cleveland/Akron area who are now chanting the holy names of the Lord, and there are many homes here that are like temples.

Because of you, dear beloved founder-*ācārya*, we are cooperating here in the greater Cleveland/Akron area to spread the mission of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu through weekly *nāma-haṭṭa* programs, distributing thousands of plates of *prasādam* each year, holding *saṅkīrtana* parties once a month, and distributing books—for over twenty-five years!

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, for years the Cleveland Nāma Haṭṭa Program published a colorful devotional magazine, *The Nectar News*. It included articles, art, and poetry from children and adult members of the Cleveland Nāma Haṭṭa Program.

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we have hosted festivals in the greater Cleveland/Akron area such as Ratha-yātrā festivals, the Lord Have Mercy Festival (annually for ten years), the Black Lotus Affair, and Uniting Prabhupāda's Family (in honor of Bhaktitīrtha Swami). Thousands have attended these festivals for *kīrtana*, *prasādam*, drama, music, and *sādhū-saṅga*.

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, the Cleveland Nāma Haṭṭa Program has participated in the International Vegan Fest in downtown Cleveland for two years, distributing books and *prasādam* and inviting many souls to Kṛṣṇa consciousness. We intend to do it again this year and by your grace we will distribute more books and more *prasādam* than ever before.

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the Hare Kṛṣṇa movement in the greater Cleveland/Akron area by hosting a fantastic festival that included a panel with two Muslim imams, two Christian ministers, and two devotees sharing views.

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, the highlight of the panel was when one Muslim imam said, "I remember that the Hare Kṛṣṇas would come to my college, serve some good food, and repeat, "Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare Kṛṣṇa, Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa, Hare Hare / Hare Rāma, Hare Rāma, Rāma Rāma, Hare Hare." The imam proudly recited the entire mantra, much to the delight of the packed audience!

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we have developed relationships with other servants of God—Christians, Muslims, Bahais, Jews, Native Americans, and others—by participating in events such as Interfaith Thanksgiving programs, Homeless Stand Downs (for two years, the Cleveland Nāma Haṭṭa Program was asked to prepare and distribute over five hundred plates of *prasādam*), and Sharing Our Stories, a program at four area libraries with storytelling from texts of four different religious traditions, including the Hare Kṛṣṇa scriptures.

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we have a website ([www.kirtancleveland.com](http://www.kirtancleveland.com)) with information

on Kṛṣṇa conscious philosophy and Hare Kṛṣṇa events. We also invite visitors to participate.

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, several Cleveland *nāma-haṭṭīs* have completed or are taking the ISKCON Disciples Course and /or the Bhakti-śāstrī course!

Only because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, are we envisioning at least 108 homes in the greater Cleveland/Akron area serving as temples and beacons of Kṛṣṇa consciousness!

Because of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are begging for Lord Nityānanda's mercy, which we then want to share wherever we are. Please, Śrīla Prabhupāda, bless us. Empower us so that we may continue serving your mission compassionately, cooperatively, boldly, humbly, and wisely.

*Your hopeful servants at the Cleveland Nāma Haṭṭa Program.*

(written by Kṛṣṇanandini Devī Dāsī)

## College TSKP

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet. All glories to Your Divine Grace!

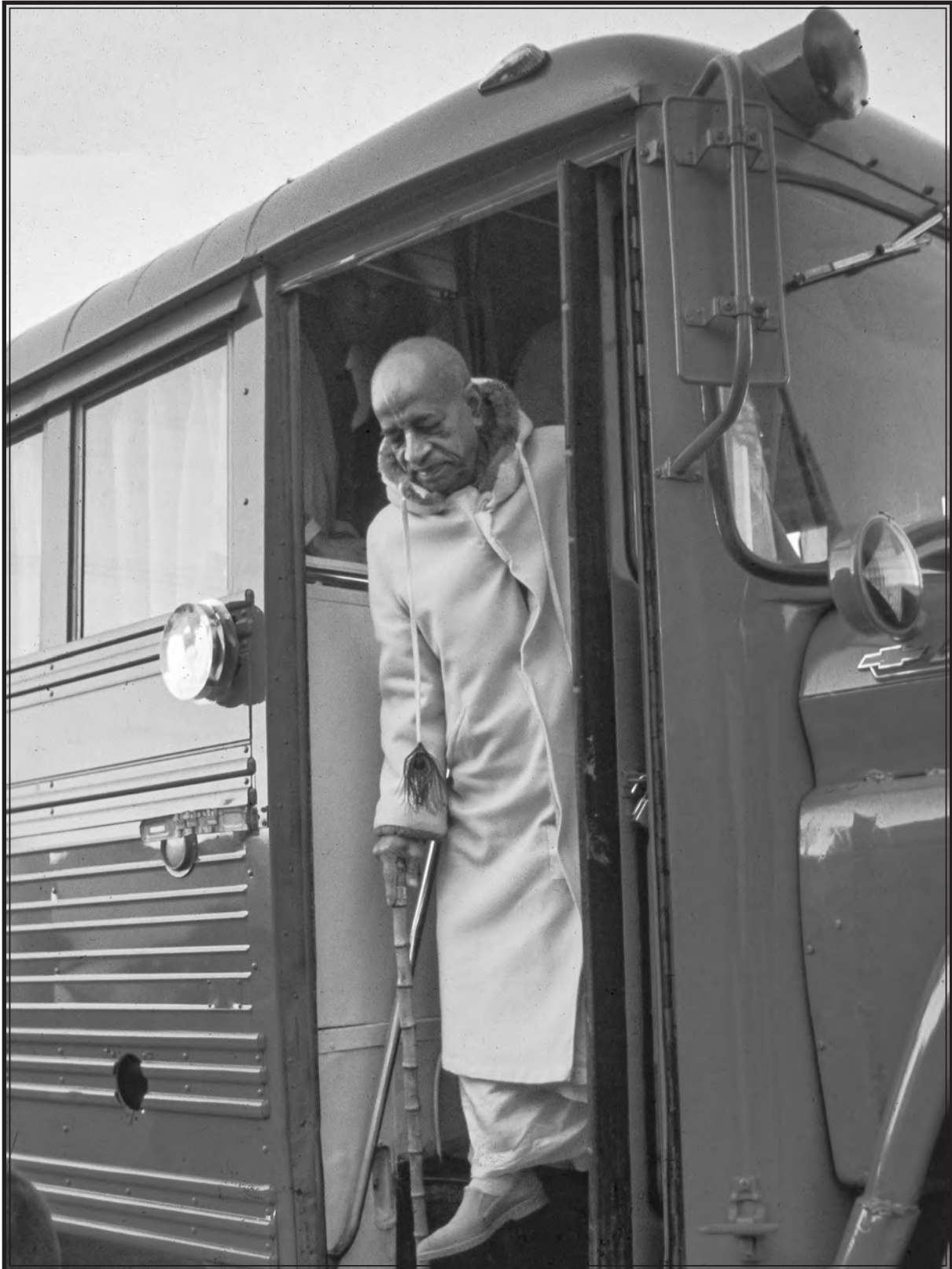
When discussing how one is awarded another body by the law of nature according to one's aspiration, you write:

Therefore, one has only to change the aspiration during the course of this present body, and for this there is need of training in the current duration of human life. . . . One must have a chance for better desires; otherwise there is no chance of giving up such morbid desires. Desire is the concomitant factor of the living entity. . . . A living being is meant for service activities, and his desires are centered around such a service attitude. . . . The perfection of such a service attitude is only attained simply by transferring the desire of service from matter to spirit, or from Satan to God. [*Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* 2.1.15]

A "chance for better desires" rarely comes to a living entity who is transmigrating through innumerable bodies throughout the universe. Indeed, such a chance only comes when one meets the true representative of God. By becoming even a little attached to such a devotee, one can then easily transfer one's desire of service "from Satan to God."

Śrīla Prabhupāda, we know why Your Divine Grace wandered this earth—simply to give people a chance to hear from and render service to your dear Lord Kṛṣṇa's ambassador. Please, therefore, accept our substandard service, for without your generosity we have no chance of relinquishing morbid desires or of breaking away from the service of Satan. Indeed, without your mercy we would simply continue to drown in this ocean of sorrows.

Homages from Other Sources



We pray that you allow us to be your instruments in giving others the chance to meet you through your transcendental books. A popular American saying is “If you’re not part of the solution, you’re part of the problem.” There is only one problem in this world—the lack of an opportunity to hear from and serve the empowered and authorized Vaiṣṇava *ācārya*. We therefore beg with all humility to be your menial assistants in solving this problem.

Your ever grateful, aspiring servants,

*The members of College TSKP.*

(written by Dānakeli Devī Dāsī)

## Eger Preaching Center

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you! All glories to your divine appearance day!

I am humbled and honored to be glorifying you on your divine Vyāsa-pūjā day on behalf of our Eger preaching center in Hungary.

It all started thirty years ago, when devotees began to preach in our city with great enthusiasm and devotion. They had already been captivated by your teachings, and it was a wonderful arrangement that they found a small group of young friends ready to accept Kṛṣṇa as the Supreme Personality of Godhead. The rest is history. Lord Caitanya is unstoppable.

As time passes relentlessly, the only truth worth seeing is the wisdom of the soul and our need to establish our long-awaited loving relationship with Kṛṣṇa. But we did not know that back then. We only knew that you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, came to the West in order to do something special: to introduce Kṛṣṇa to everyone. The only choice we had was whether to accept you now or later. We made the right choice and accepted you immediately; we embraced you in our hearts.

Since that day we have been working hard to grow into the service you gave us, trying through good times and bad, when there have been many devotees or only a few, while living in big temples or small. Throughout, one thing has never changed, Śrīla Prabhupāda, and that is our love for you!

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all your hard work, preaching, personal example, books, *bhajans*, lectures, travels, and wonderful disciples.

We humbly present to you that your Food for Life program is successfully distributing about five hundred plates of *prasādam* every day to university students and people in need. Your Govinda’s restaurant is also well known around the city, and we daily serve about 150 guests, who taste wonderful *kṛṣṇa-prasādam*.

We also celebrate every major Vaiṣṇava festival at the Eger center. Our *kīrtanīyas* and cooks are famously dedicated to you. We also have many wonderful children in our community. They are the future of your Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement.

It was our most fortunate day when we met you through your books and disciples, dear Śrīla Prabhupāda. Please keep us always engaged in your mission. We can only beg for your mercy so that we are able to keep up with our services.

All glories to you! May everyone know you in the three worlds.

## Homages from Other Sources

Begging to remain your humble servants,

*Your devotees at the Eger preaching center, Hungary*

(written by Rāsa-rasīnī Devī Dāsī)

# Festival of India

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

*nama om̐ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

*om̐ ajñāna-timirāndhasya jñānāñjana-śalākayā  
cakṣur unmilitaṁ yena tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ*

*mūkaṁ karoti vācālaṁ paṇḍurāṁ laṅghayate girim  
yat-kṛpā tam ahaṁ vande śrī-gururṁ dīna-tāraṇam*

*yasya deve parā bhaktir yathā deve tathā gurau  
tasyaite kathitā hy arthāḥ prakāśante mahātmanaḥ*

Śrīla Prabhupāda, recently we celebrated the day you left India (alone) by steamship to bring Kṛṣṇa consciousness to the world, beginning with America. We again heard how several of your friends were trying to convince you not to go and how only a few friends and admirers and your son Vrindavan came to see you off on the day you finally boarded the ship in Calcutta harbor. However, because of your strong faith in the instruction of your spiritual master and in Kṛṣṇa, you knew you would always be protected.

When you stayed in a loft in the Bowery (NYC) and began holding gatherings and giving classes to a few ragtag American youngsters, who could have known that within a few short years your International Society for Krishna Consciousness would begin to spread all over the world? Who could have imagined that from such a materially destitute, humble beginning in a foreign country full of atheistic, drug- and sex-addicted meat-eaters soon thousands of young persons would give up all their sinful habits and wholeheartedly embrace the eternal process of pure devotion to Lord Kṛṣṇa? Scholars agree that what you did had never been accomplished by anyone before. What you were able to do by Kṛṣṇa's divine plan was simply inconceivable. Then how did you do it? Again, it was your strong faith in the words of your spiritual master and Kṛṣṇa!

Speaking of strong faith, I was thinking of that the other day while chanting my *japa*. I thought back and remembered how my faith first started growing from a tiny seed of hope and fledgling spiritual desire

when I had just joined the temple. That tiny seed then began to sprout, and, watered by devotee association, temple *sevā*, and chanting, it gradually matured into a small plant with leaves and flowers. I could feel my faith in the process of Kṛṣṇa consciousness growing from minute to minute; thus my enthusiasm to engage in the service of Kṛṣṇa and His devotees increased.

As my previous life full of endless, unfulfilled desires and frustration began to fade, I began to reflect upon my extraordinary good fortune and could not ascertain how it had happened. “How is it that just a short time ago I was suffering endless ignorance and anxiety and that the freedom and happiness I now feel in doing just any service for Kṛṣṇa is beyond measure? Is this what is meant by the term ‘causeless mercy’?”

As you have many times said, Śrīla Prabhupāda, strong faith is a most important thing in the development of our Kṛṣṇa consciousness. And that faith is the most valuable gift that you have given us—and continue to give us—because if we have that faith, we will experience Kṛṣṇa’s presence at every moment, and we will feel Him guiding our every endeavor. However, if we fail to develop that faith, none of our endeavors will ever lead to the true fulfillment of our life.

So if strong faith is such an important aspect in the development of our Kṛṣṇa consciousness, how do we develop such firm faith? In the *Bhagavad-gītā*, you mention that that faith is created in the association of devotees.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, recently I was invited by Madhūha Dāsa to travel with the North American Festival of India program for a short tour. The service of traveling around the country and helping to set up Kṛṣṇa conscious festivals felt incredibly enlivening and fulfilling in so many ways. To be part of the service of facilitating chanting, dancing, and feasting within Kṛṣṇa consciousness, in the close association of devotees similarly engaged, is an ideal *bhakti* program and a great catalyst for developing and strengthening our faith in this most amazing magical process you have so kindly given us. Please bless us that we may be empowered to strongly preach your message of Kṛṣṇa consciousness until our dying breath.

Thank you for engaging us in your service.

*Your servants on the Festival of India crew.*

(written by Bāṇabhaṭṭa Dāsa)

## Fukuoka Preaching Center

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our *koṭi koṭi* humble obeisances at your lotus feet. All glories to you!

In this age of social media, the ISKCON world has changed so much. Many of us have put down our pens and picked up our cell phones, computers, tablets, and whatever will come out in 2019! We click and click and click and click . . . with little effect.

By contrast, you are an amazing pure devotee of Lord Gauracandra who daily performed twenty-four-hour *sevā*. Every day, no matter the time, place, or circumstance, you were ready to give Kṛṣṇa consciousness to everyone. We sit in the lap of the witch Māyā, and Your Divine Grace is our only hope. We beg to take part in this wonderful, worldwide inundation of Hare Kṛṣṇa Hare Kṛṣṇa, Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa Hare Hare / Hare Rāma Hare Rāma, Rāma Rāma Hare Hare.

## Homages from Other Sources

*Your fallen servants at the Fukuoka Preaching Center, Fukuoka, Japan.*

(written by Gītā Govinda Devī Dāsī and Indrānuja Dāsa)

# Gaṅgā Sāgara Baru Project

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāminn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!

All glories to Śrī Pañca-tattva!

All glories to Śrī Śrī Guru and Gaurāṅga!

Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are very lucky and blessed to have the opportunity to learn devotional service at the Gaṅgā Sāgara Baru project. This is all due to your mercy. However, because we are ignorant, we have yet to successfully develop this project according to what would please you fully. This is all due to my own ignorance and deficiencies. Please guide us so that we can fulfill your wishes. Please give us the ability to solve this project's problems so that we can feel safe while serving here. Without your mercy we will never be able to manifest a Vaiṣṇava village.

Last year, we received your mercy in a big way when the government helped us by opening seventy hectares of new rice fields on our land—more than half the project's total area. The government also helped us register these seventy hectares, issuing us the land certificates.

We hope this is a forward step toward creating a Vaiṣṇava village, and that more devotees will join us here and live at this project. Thank you very much for this big blessing, Śrīla Prabhupada. Hare Kṛṣṇa.

*Your servants at the Gaṅgā Sāgara Baru Project, Kapuas, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia.*

(written by Sundara Gopāla Dāsa)



# Gaura-Nitāi Preaching Center

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāñī-pracāriṇe  
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

*mūkaṁ karoti vācālaṁ paṇḍuraṁ laṅghayate girim  
yat-kṛpā tam ahaṁ vande śrī-gururṁ dīna-tāraṇam*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, Hare Kṛṣṇa,

On this auspicious day of your appearance, please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet. All glories to Your Divine Grace. It is a great fortune and wonderful opportunity to be a part of Kṛṣṇa's ISKCON family. By His arrangement, He allowed us to join this movement and taste the joy of devotional service.

Although we have no qualification to glorify your exalted spiritual qualities, yet with a humble service attitude we make this offering and hope you will accept it from this simple district on the east side of the small island of Bali, Indonesia.

Your Divine Grace is the well-wisher of all living entities, including your disciples, granddisciples, great-granddisciples, other followers, all of humankind, and other living beings. You gave Kṛṣṇa consciousness to the whole world, and only those who are fortunate can receive Caitanya Mahāprabhu's mercy as you delivered it to us. Although we never met you, your teachings have brought us closer to our Lord, Śrī Kṛṣṇa. By our following the rules and regulations, chanting the holy name, associating with devotees, and studying your teachings, our lives and the lives of many others have been greatly improved, and we have come to understand the value and real purpose of our existence.

We offer our humble obeisances to your lotus feet and express our gratitude to you for showering your unlimited, matchless mercy on us in the form of your guidance and association. You invested your valuable time and energy in traveling the globe to give us higher knowledge and elevate us to spiritual life. By doing that, you gave us spiritual enjoyment so that we could attain real happiness and the perfection of life. As you mention in your purport to *Bhagavad-gītā* 18.76: "The result of Kṛṣṇa consciousness is that one becomes increasingly enlightened, and he enjoys life with a thrill, not only for some time, but at every moment."

Here is our report:

## Daily Sādhana

In your lectures and books you speak about how we can become strong and steady in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. At the beginning of our spiritual lives, we learn obedience to your spiritual teachings. By hearing your recorded lectures and remembering your instructions, especially about daily *sādhana*, we try to practice according to how you have guided us, even though we are imperfect and have many faults. Our daily *sādhana* includes:

1. Going to bed early and rising early the next morning in order to start our daily morning services.
2. Finishing our sixteen rounds as early in the morning as possible.
3. Attending (or offering) *maṅgala-ārati* without fail.
4. Hearing *kṛṣṇa-kathā*, listening to your recorded lectures and *bhajans*.

5. Remaining always in the association of like-minded devotees.
6. Eating only *kṛṣṇa-prasādam*.
7. Distributing your books, *prasādam*, and the holy names in all situations.

We have learned from the *Śikṣāmṛta* as well as through the instructions of your disciples, particularly our spiritual master, that there are a number of basic principles and “must-do” practices in spiritual life. Without executing this *sādhana*, we cannot claim to be properly practicing devotional life. Knowing that, we have developed a little understanding of just how important *sādhana* is. Yet we still struggle to maintain and improve our daily *sādhana*, which is often unsteady due to the material propensities we have developed over lifetimes. We pray to your lotus feet that Śrī Nityānanda Prabhu may favor us. Please pray for us that we poor souls may attain His mercy in the form of spiritual strength so that we may execute our daily *sādhana* according to your directions and develop pure and godly character. As you mention many times, “This movement is meant for building character.”

### **Preaching Center and Sādhū-saṅga**

In early 2010, some local devotees in Jembrana expressed a desire to open and serve at a preaching center here. Then a devotee family, new to the movement at the time and wanting to support your mission, eagerly donated a piece of land. Constructing the center was a long process, but by Śrī Nityānanda Prabhu’s grace, wonderful facilities were finally manifest. The construction was completed in 2016, and in May 2017 the preaching center was inaugurated by your disciple His Holiness Subhāg Swami. Under his guidance we have learned many things, including how to distribute books and how to hold preaching programs for spreading your mission and the mission of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu.

Recently, devotees have joined our regular weekly *sādhū-saṅga* programs and attended festivals and training programs at the center.

### **Preaching and Book Distribution**

Following your spiritual instructions and by the mercy of Caitanya Mahāprabhu, we started distributing your books in 2011 and have continued to the present day. Together we try to find opportunities to distribute your books at area events or in other public forums—wherever people gather.

We have been accepted and recognized at some Hindu-Balinese temples and in public places, especially at well-attended Hindu festivals in the area. Many people gather at such functions, and so these functions provide a good opportunity for us to set up book stalls, talk to people, and convince them to buy your books. This is a good sign for your movement here. We find the public acceptance of your books increasing year by year.

#### **Books Distributed**

2014: 1,154  
2015: 1,447  
2016: 1,607  
2017: 1,798  
2018: 1,845

Total books distributed in Jembrana over these five years: 7,851

Devotees often come forward and humbly support us in various ways to help us distribute your books in our area. We feel bliss doing such service. By your causeless mercy you engage us in devotional activities.

This progress and these divine opportunities to serve your mission are only possible due to your causeless mercy. We simply want to become your humble instruments in spreading this wonderful Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

## Homages from Other Sources

We wish to please our previous *ācāryas* and Caitanya Mahāprabhu according to our means and capacity. We pray to your lotus feet that we may carry our spiritual master's order along with your order and teachings on our heads, no matter what circumstances we face. May we be fit to become your instruments in serving and pleasing Vaiṣṇavas. May our attachment to your instructions please you. May our desire and eagerness to serve increase more and more, and may we make tangible progress in our devotional lives, under your guidance. May Śrī Śrī Gaura-Nitāi always bestow Their mercy on us so that we can chant the holy name constantly and engage in His service for your pleasure and the pleasure of our spiritual master.

All glories to the *śrī harināma-saṅkīrtana* movement and to Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, the most munificent incarnation, who saves the fallen souls of Kali-yuga. All glories, all glories to you, Śrīla Prabhupāda!

*The servants of your servants at the Śrī Śrī Gaura-Nitāi Preaching Center in Jembrana, Bali, Indonesia.*

# GBC College for Leadership Development

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet. All glories to Your Divine Grace!

On behalf of the GBC College trustees, advisors, faculty, course coordinators, administrators, and staff, we present this humble offering at your lotus feet in order to bring you pleasure and invoke your blessings. It is undoubtedly your causeless mercy that allows us to carry out your divine plans of leadership education in ISKCON.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are honored to report that last year we continued our training of Zonal Supervisors in three languages—English, Russian, and Spanish—in three different locations. Last September, from the first batch of Russian-speaking devotees, twenty-nine graduated. Based on that success, leaders from central Asia want to train another batch of Russian-speaking devotees, for which preparations are underway as we write this offering.

After delivering the very first Spanish-language residential training in Latin America, held in March and April 2018 at the Jaladuta Institute in Campina Grande, Brazil, the LATAM staff is preparing to offer a second residential training. We look forward to graduating the first batch of Spanish-speaking leaders in the coming months.

In India, the College is now training its fifth batch of Zonal Supervisors. Their training is held in English, with two thirteen-day residential sessions held at the ISKCON New Vedic Cultural Center in Pune. Participants come from far and wide—Europe, India, the Middle East, and the United States—and continue to represent a mix of your disciples and granddisciples in their different *āśramas*.

On this auspicious day of your divine appearance, we pray to Your Divine Grace to please empower us to expand the course offerings to reach other levels of ISKCON leadership, including regional council members, project leaders, temple presidents, and others.

Thank you very much for your continued guidance, Śrīla Prabhupāda.

*Your servants at the GBC College for Leadership Development.*

(written by Rūpānuga Dāsa, President of the GBC College)

# Govinda Valley

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

You gave us what we need to get out of this world.  
We don't belong here.  
We are not our bodies but spirit soul, part and parcel of Kṛṣṇa,  
the Supreme Soul and Supreme Personality of Godhead.  
Our duty is to serve Him.  
Our duty to you is to help you spread this movement.  
It will spread, because that's your and Kṛṣṇa's desire.  
We can take part in the process and get some of the credit.

"Chant Hare Kṛṣṇa."  
"Serve Kṛṣṇa."  
"Come to understand your sublime supreme friend.  
Let Him guide you back  
From within your heart."  
"Kṛṣṇa will never cheat you."  
You told us all these things—  
Explained them so we could understand.

Around us everyone is cheating and being cheated.  
People are suffering due to their big false ego, suffering from delusion,  
impressed by what is purely illusion.

You gave us the process to make progress.  
You made it practical, achievable, and joyful.  
Simple, yet sublime.  
"Even a dog can take part," you said.  
"What is the difficulty?"

We should unite, despite our differences,  
Work together to show our love for you.  
Attract people based on your attraction and that of Kṛṣṇa,  
Reach the supreme destination by guiding others along with us.

*Your servants at Govinda Valley, Sydney, Australia.*

(written by Padmanābha Dāsa)

## Govinda's Preaching Center

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

If we had thousands of mouths, our words still could not fully glorify you. Nevertheless, we are eager to taste even a drop of the ocean of the nectar of your qualities by relishing and broadcasting them on your Vyāsa-pūjā day. It is truly our duty, as your followers, to do so, and we offer this service for self-purification, to keep our minds and hearts properly situated. We also do so out of genuine pleasure. Casual eulogizing would not convey the depth of our appreciation for your matchless gift of the most revolutionary and effective humanitarian movement since Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu's advent. You are the only one who has taken the unadulterated, entire Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava culture and teachings and brought them to life in every corner of the globe. When you were physically with us, "Hare Kṛṣṇa" quickly became a household word. Within eleven years you made ISKCON a worldwide organization.

We pray that you please give us the strength, purity, and intelligence to follow strictly in your footsteps. We aspire to be your honest assistants in spreading Kṛṣṇa consciousness by introducing people to Kṛṣṇa and devotional service, using your powerful, divine weapons of the Hare Kṛṣṇa *mahā-mantra*, transcendental literature, and *kṛṣṇa-prasādam*. If we are able to do so, by your grace, we know our lives will be successful and perfect, and your ISKCON will grow for generations to come.

Humbly praying for your mercy,

*Your servants at Govinda's Preaching Center at Govinda's Gourmet to Go Restaurant, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.*

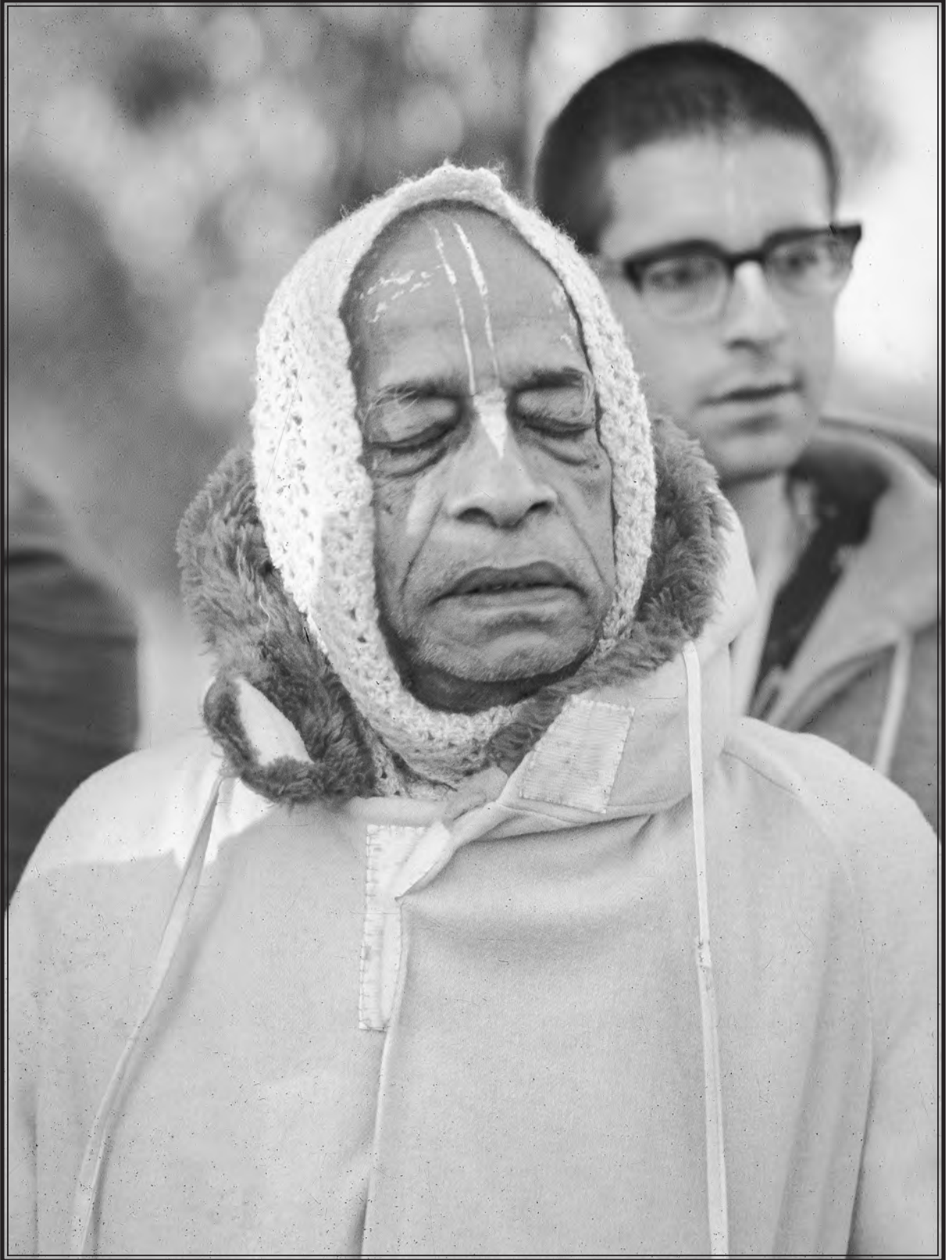
## Gṛhastha Vision Team

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

We offer our respectful obeisances at your lotus feet and appreciate this opportunity to serve as one of the *aṅgas* of your spiritual body.

In times like these, the world cries out for examples—examples of real *gṛhastha* family life, examples of healthy spiritual relationships, examples that give hope that ordinary people can follow godly principles and become healthy and happy in this life and go back home, back to Godhead in the next. As members of the Gṛhastha Vision Team, we endeavor to be those examples and to show that husbands and wives and their children can make Lord Kṛṣṇa the center of their lives, serve one another with love, and help each other grow.

To this end, this past year we hosted our yearly Couples Retreat in the beautiful setting of Gītā-nāgarī, provided hundreds of couples with marriage and family education, and distributed many copies of our



## Homages from Other Sources

book, *Heart and Soul Connection: A Devotional Guide to Marriage, Service, and Love*, which is dedicated to you. Members of our team, particularly Uttama Prabhu and Pārtha Prabhu, have traveled extensively around the globe, facilitating seminars, workshops, and trainings to encourage “healthy marriages, happy families, and a strong ISKCON or spiritual community.” The book has also now been translated into Portuguese, Russian, and Italian!

We’ve written several articles for the GVT website ([vaisnavafamilyresources.org](http://vaisnavafamilyresources.org)) and elsewhere, articles such as “Loving Service: The Basic Principle of a Magnanimous Marriage,” “Harmonious Discord in Marriage,” and “Increasing Our Dependence on Kṛṣṇa.” These articles share with your followers and other servants of the Lord some healthy and spiritually empowering relationship skills. Feedback we’ve received, letting us know that our efforts are effective, include the following comments:

“We should always devote some time to appreciate people who use their time to give love and teach so many important things to us all. We are so lucky to be around, to learn from this couple and to be part of the same spiritual family. Thank you very much for your service. May Krishna bless you to continue doing this for so many years.”

“I am eternally grateful for the premarital education we received. And then getting refresher courses after the fact. Such an excellent service. Thank you!”

Śrīla Prabhupāda, please bless us to continue cooperating well, to work smarter in your mission so that we may see more and more healthy, happy *grhastha* families—which will produce healthy, happy children and adults who can willingly and skillfully accept responsibility as spiritual warriors in Lord Caitanya’s mission.

Thank you for the loving and brilliant way you showed us how to live, and may we always be engaged in assisting you in spreading love for Kṛṣṇa wherever we are and wherever we go.

With love,

*Your servants on the Gṛhastha Vision Team.*

(written by Kṛṣṇanandini Devī Dāsi)

## International Society for Cow Protection

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisances. All glories to you, our beloved spiritual master.

We stand waiting under the high canopy of leafy branches and Spanish moss. He approaches, serene, ethereal, and separate from the herd. He is the Brahman ox, and his name is Śrī Uddhāraṇa Datta Ṭhākura.

Aloof from the herd, he is often seen by himself in the woods, contemplating, meditating, alone. Are you not well, Śrī? Are you preparing to leave your body? Or are you some sage in the body of an ox?

Mādhava approaches through the trees—six feet at the shoulders, one ton in body weight, and gentle as a baby. Compassionate Mādhava in a Brown Swiss body. He gives love and protection to those cows that are ill and those not well loved by the herd. He cares not what the other herd members think. He thinks for himself and takes action. His action is to show kindness.

The ox, the male cow, is the forgotten member of the bovine species.

You, Śrīla Prabhupāda, gave us instructions about the noble ox. While taking a walk around the New Tālavana farm on August 1, 1975, you had a conversation with your disciples.

**Devotee:** Śrīla Prabhupāda? A materialist or someone who wouldn't know, he may say that when the bull is not plowing, all he is doing is eating. You have to pay money to feed him grain or to grow grain to feed the bull.

**Śrīla Prabhupāda:** They will grow and they will eat. Rather, they will help you for *your* eating. The father also eats, but he maintains the family. Therefore the bull is considered as father and the cow as mother. Mother gives milk, and the bull grows food grains for man. Therefore Caitanya Mahāprabhu first challenged [the] Kazi that “What is your religion that you eat your father and mother?” Both the bulls and the cows are important because the bull will produce food grain and the cow will supply milk. They should be utilized properly. That is human intelligence. . . . And everything for the cows, but what for the man? They will give everything for cows because they will eat cows—other farmers. But you utilize the animals for growing your food.

**Brahmānanda:** The idea is we should maintain the animals, but then the animals should provide foodstuffs for the men.

**Śrīla Prabhupāda:** Yes.

**Brahmānanda:** And that way there is cooperation.

**Śrīla Prabhupāda:** Yes. The animals, bulls, should have helped in spite of that—instead of that—machine. Then it is properly utilized. And others, they cannot utilize these animals. Therefore what they will do? Naturally, they will send to slaughterhouse. But we are not going to send to the slaughterhouse. Then what we will do? They must be utilized. Otherwise simply for growing food that the cows and bulls we engage ourselves? You are already feeling burden because there are so many bull calves. You were asking me, “What we shall do with so many bulls?”

**Nityānanda:** Well, when they grow up, we will train them as oxen.

**Śrīla Prabhupāda:** No, what the oxen will do?

**Nityānanda:** Plow the fields.

**Śrīla Prabhupāda:** Yes. That is wanted. Transport, plowing fields. That is wanted. And unless our men are trained up, Kṛṣṇa conscious, they will think, “What is the use of taking care of the [cows]? Better go to the city, earn money, and eat them.

We are living in Kali-yuga, in the twenty-first century, a time of amazing advancements in technology—a time when more and more machines are replacing not just animals but also humans. Plowing with oxen? How ancient, how backward, how archaic. And, some will say it is cruel to make the oxen work.

These are some of the obstacles and objections. However, your instructions remain and are timeless. As your disciples and granddisciples, we understand your instructions are to be followed. Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, you gave the instruction, but we pray to you, we worship you, we cry for your help so that we can to follow your instructions with intelligence, wisdom, compassion, and knowledge.

The teamster “yokes up” her team of oxen. She speaks to each ox, addressing them by name. Once

## Homages from Other Sources

yoked, the oxen are a team, linked together, in union with each other to perform their agricultural activities. The teamster and oxen walk through the open field, listening to the songs of numerous birds, smelling the fragrance of the blooming flowers that saturates the air as the morning mist rises from the earth. Their hoofs massage the earth, and their dung and urine fertilize the soil, which produces the grass they will eat and the grain we humans will eat. Offering the result of their labor to Lord Kṛṣṇa with love and devotion gives spiritual meaning and perfection to their lives.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, this is your vision: the oxen working, the oxen utilized, the oxen loved and respected as fathers—cows and bulls protected.

You overcame obstacle upon obstacle to follow the instructions of your spiritual master. You did not waver. You were true to the Vedic scriptures but innovative in bringing the Vedic scriptures to us fallen, cow-eating Westerners. How do we follow your example? How do we become your worthy disciples? Only through your mercy can we hope to be a part of fulfilling your instructions. We are grateful to you, humbled to be your disciples, and eternally indebted to you for gifting us with a purposeful and meaningful life. Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda.

*Your servants at ISCOWP (International Society for Cow Protection, Inc.).*

## ISKCON Student Center

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet. On this auspicious occasion of your appearance day, we feel delighted to be able to glorify you and express our gratitude to you and the entire *guru-paramparā*.

As we continue reading your books, chanting the Hare Kṛṣṇa mantra, associating with devotees, and practicing the various aspects of *bhakti-yoga*, we frequently realize that we are not the body but spirit soul.

The next hurdle most of us face is that as spirit soul we need to learn to serve the Supreme Lord and His instructions in order to remain transcendental to the modes of material nature. Certainly, the most important instruction given by Lord Caitanya and you to all persons in Kali-yuga is to practice and preach Kṛṣṇa consciousness. This is corroborated by a verse from *Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta* (Ādi 9.41):

*bhārata-bhumite manuṣya-janma haila yāra  
janma sārthaka kari' kara para-upakāra*

“One who has taken his birth as a human being in the land of India [Bhārata-varṣa] should make his life successful and work for the benefit of all other people.”

In your purport, Śrīla Prabhupāda, you highlight that not only Indians but all human beings should first become fixed on the path of *bhakti-yoga* and then give the mercy of the Lord—through the Hare Kṛṣṇa mantra, spiritual books, and *prasādam*—to the general public. This is the real welfare and benefit of the people and their community. Many times, when we are not properly situated in Kṛṣṇa consciousness and our motives to serve and preach are not pure, we create problems through our preaching. Regardless, we should continue to preach and propagate Kṛṣṇa consciousness, because people are in dire need of it, and because by continuing even our imperfect endeavors we will become purified.

So, we should practice and preach Kṛṣṇa consciousness. However, many times we limit our preaching to family members or members of our own community or a certain class of educated, cultured, or elite people. The real challenge, which shows a devotee's potency, is whether we can deliver the Lord's mercy to sinful people and transform their hearts. This is what Your Divine Grace did. *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* 2.4.18 states:

*kirāta-hūṇāndhra-pulinda-pulkaśā  
ābhīra-śumbhā yavanāḥ khasādayaḥ  
ye 'nye ca pāpā yad-apāśrayāśrayāḥ  
śudhyanti tasmai prabhaviṣṇave namaḥ*

“Kirātas, Hūṇas, Āndhras, Pulindas, Pulkaśas, Ābhīras, Śumbhas, Yavanas, members of the Khasa races, and even others addicted to sinful acts can be purified by taking shelter of the devotees of the Lord, due to His being the supreme power. I beg to offer my respectful obeisances unto Him.”

In an effort to follow in your footsteps and adhere to the instructions of scripture, we have been trying to give the mercy of Lord Gaurāṅga to the Thai people. We have been taking care of a preaching center in Ramkamheng, Bangkok, for about a decade, serving under the guidance of the authorities of ISKCON Thailand. We must admit it is challenging, and at times we feel frustrated, since we are not yet advanced in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. However, when we realize that our imperfect and minute efforts are still going in the right direction, we feel inner satisfaction and the strength to continue.

Recently, more Thai people have started to join the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement, and about a dozen have joined ISKCON and taken initiation in our *guru-paramparā*. Although externally our results are small, I would like to thank you for your kind reciprocation in awarding us a deeper taste for the holy name and steadier faith in the path of devotional service. It is internally satisfying and soothing to us, and we feel enlivened to continue fighting *māyā* and spreading the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement in Thailand.

Trying to serve,

*Your servants at the ISKCON Student Center in Ramkamheng (ABAC), Bangkok, Thailand.*

(written by Antaraṅga Gopāl Dāsa and Sumādhurī Līlā Devī Dāsī)

## ISKCON Television

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīnī iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Now that I'm 71 years old, I meditate on your pastimes when you were about my age. You arrived in

## Homages from Other Sources

the US in September 1965, at age 69. Your first ten months here were the most difficult, but from July of '66 through May of '67 the preaching was nonstop, in New York and San Francisco. You had the energy of a young man. Then a serious medical condition slowed you down, but you never quit. I've thought a lot about quitting lately. You wrote me, "Make films about Krishna." I've done some with ITV, but you gave me that disease of not being able to think small. I want to see big-production Kṛṣṇa conscious movies in theaters and on the Internet.

Janārdradhī and I met six years ago, and we bonded over the same idea. Now we finally have a script we can present to professional directors and financiers. The theme is cow protection: "Rādhā and the Great Rescue." Kṛṣṇa loves the cows, and you ordered us to love and cherish them too. Producing big-production movies is certainly not easy. I can't imagine what you were thinking when you envisioned a worldwide society of *kṛṣṇa-bhaktas* when you were all alone in New York. You are the personification of positive thinking. Every day I feel like giving up, but you never did. You taught us by your example to simply live the instruction of the spiritual master. I find that to be a lot harder than it sounds. Nevertheless, we have continued and are making good progress.

Please bless us to stay the course. We have a lot of Kṛṣṇa conscious commercial films ready to produce. We just need to get that first big break. In Hollywood there is a saying that you're only as good as your last movie. We're anxious to make a new movie.

Meanwhile, I'm chanting sixteen rounds daily and following the four regulative principles. Also, I was asked to serve as chairman of the new SABHA, which has taken over the temple presidents' function of providing checks and balances on the GBC. I have come face to face with the very challenges you yourself faced in getting your disciples to cooperate. Again, not as easy as it looks from outside the circle.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you set such a high bar for your followers. Please bless me moment to moment so that I can live up to your expectations. You were indefatigable. May your example shine brightly and propel us down the road of determination and enthusiasm without attachment to the results. Below, I've included an example of the first half of your 1967 schedule, when you were roughly my current age of 71. Please keep my feet dancing, my brain taxed for Kṛṣṇa, and my energy like yours in your ripe old age, when you could always walk faster than your disciples. I beg to remain at your lotus feet, serving in humility.

*Your servants at ISKCON Television*

(written by Nṛsiṁhānanda Dāsa, Director of ISKCON Television)

January 1 – Lecture BG 10.2–3, New York  
January 1 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 20.385–394, New York  
January 1 – Publishes *Back to Godhead*, vol. 1, no. 5  
January 2 – Lecture BG 10.3, New York  
January 2 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 20.391–405, New York  
January 3 – Lecture BG 10.4, New York  
January 3 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 21.1–10, New York  
January 4 – Lecture BG 10.4–5, New York  
January 4 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 21.13–49, New York  
January 5 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 21.49–61, New York  
January 6 – Lecture BG 10.08, New York  
January 6 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 21.62–67, New York  
January 7 – Lecture BG 10.08, New York  
January 7 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 22.06, New York  
January 8 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 22.06, New York  
January 9 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 22.11–15, New York  
January 10 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 22.14–20, New York  
January 11 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 22.21–28, New York

## Śrī Vyāsa-Pūjā 2019

January 15 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 22.27–31, New York  
January 16 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 22.31–33, New York  
January 20 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 25.19–31, San Francisco  
January 20 – Publishes *Back to Godhead*, vol. 1, no. 6  
January 21 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 25.29, San Francisco  
January 22 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 25.31–38, San Francisco  
January 23 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 25.36–40, San Francisco  
January 24 – Lecture CC *Madhya* 25.40–50, San Francisco

February 1 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.39–47, San Francisco  
February 1 – Publishes *Back to Godhead*, vol. 1, no. 7  
February 3 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.49–65, San Francisco  
February 6 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.66–76, San Francisco  
February 8 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.76–81, San Francisco  
February 10 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.80–95, San Francisco  
February 13 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.106–17, San Francisco  
February 15 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.17–109, San Francisco  
February 15 – Publishes *Back to Godhead*, vol. 1, no. 8  
February 18 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.108, San Francisco  
February 20 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.109–114, San Francisco  
February 22 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.113–17, San Francisco  
February 24 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.118–121, San Francisco

March 1 – Appearance day of Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura  
March 1 – Lecture SB 6.1.7, San Francisco  
March 1 – Publishes *Back to Godhead*, vol. 1, no. 9  
March 3 – Lecture SB 7.6.1, San Francisco  
March 8 – Lecture SB 7.6.3–4, San Francisco  
March 10 – Lecture SB 7.7.22–26, San Francisco  
March 13 – Lecture SB 7.7.25–28, San Francisco  
March 15 – Lecture SB 7.7.29–31, San Francisco  
March 16 – Lecture Purport to *Bhājahū Re Mana*, San Francisco  
March 17 – Lecture SB 7.7.32–35, San Francisco  
March 18 – Lecture CC *Ādi* 7.149–171, San Francisco  
March 20 – Lecture SB 7.7.40–44, San Francisco  
March 20 – Publishes *Back to Godhead*, vol. 1, no. 10  
March 22 – Lecture SB 7.7.46, San Francisco  
March 23 – Installation of Jagannātha deities, San Francisco  
March 24 – Lecture SB 1.2.14–16, San Francisco  
March 25 – Lecture SB 1.2.17, San Francisco  
March 26 – Gaura-Pūrṇimā

April 1(?) – Publishes *Back to Godhead*, vol. 1, no. 11  
April 5 – Conversation on Lord Caitanya play, San Francisco  
April 21 – Publishes *Back to Godhead*, vol. 1, no. 12

May 25 – Suffers a stroke

June 1(?) – Publishes *Back to Godhead*, vol. 1, no. 13  
June 1 – Beth Israel Hospital, New York

## Homages from Other Sources



Staying at: Stinson Beach

Departs for India via London and Moscow

July 24 – First visit to the United Kingdom, staying at the Excelsior Hotel, Middlesex

Staying at Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa temple near Kashmiri Gate

Staying at Rādhā-Dāmodara temple, Vṛndāvana

August 28 – Janmāṣṭamī

August 29 – Vyāsa-pūjā, appearance day of Śrīla Prabhupāda

## Lalitā-pura Sevā-kuñja Āśrama

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

All glories to Śrī Jagannātha, Śrī Baladeva, and Śrī Subhadrā-devī! All glories to Śrī Śrī Guru and Gaurāṅga! All glories to you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, on your glorious Appearance Day!

Śrīla Prabhupāda, thank you very much for the mercy you have given us, allowing us to engage in devotional service and to chant the holy name of Kṛṣṇa.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, we run your project at Lalitā-pura Sevā-kuñja Āśrama. We have received so much mercy and association from your disciples and other followers. Śrī Śrī Jagannātha, Baladeva, and Subhadrā have been pleased to come here. But out of ignorance we still commit many mistakes and lose our eagerness to serve your devotees, you, and Kṛṣṇa.

With these dirty hearts we beg you to bless us so that this project can develop as you hope. Please be merciful so that we will increase our spirit for distributing Kṛṣṇa's holy name in our area. May your mercy flood us so that we can do every large and small thing in service to you and your projects.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, may your name be glorified in all the three worlds.

*Jaya om viṣṇu-pāda paramahaṁsa parivrājakācārya aṣṭottara-śata śrī śrīmad His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedānta Swami Prabhupāda kī jaya!*

*Your servants at Lalitā-pura Sevā-kuñja Āśrama, Palangkaraya, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia.*

(written by Mahātmā Dāsa)

## Milton Preaching Center

Our dearmost Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisances unto your lotus feet on this glorious and auspicious occasion of your Vyāsa-pūjā *mahotsava*, 2019.

All glories to Śrī Śrī Rādhā–Kṣīra-corā-Gopīnātha! All glories to ISKCON's Milton *yātrā*! All glories to Your Divine Grace!

On this most sacred anniversary of your appearance in this world, we fall at your lotus feet and beg for the ability to properly glorify your divine and magnanimous character.

We are amazed to see your movement growing day by day: hundreds of temples, thousands of devotees, countless millions of books distributed, billions of utterances of the holy names—your efforts are bearing fruit.

You made such a grave, incredible sacrifice when you traveled by ship across the Atlantic for three weeks at an advanced age of 69, suffering two heart attacks in the process.

You arrived on the shores of America with only a few dollars, a bag of cereal, your typewriter, your books, and an unshakable desire to spread the mission of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu on the order of your spiritual master.

You did this for the sake of all the fallen souls, and by your grace so many previously lost souls are now on the path leading them back home, back to Godhead.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are like a combination of Śrī Nārada Muni and Śrīla Vyāsadeva. The great saint Nārada Muni continuously travels throughout the entire universe spreading Kṛṣṇa consciousness, and Śrīla Vyāsadeva compiled the *Vedas* and *Purāṇas*. You are such a great soul that you did both, traveling and preaching while writing innumerable books.

We at ISKCON Milton are a small group trying to be your servants, happy and grateful for the opportunity to assist you in some small way in your preaching mission. Despite our lack of qualification, we are very eager to represent you in the Halton Region of Canada.

We would like everyone visiting our community to receive the sweet taste of Kṛṣṇa consciousness and the inspiration to strictly follow your divine instructions, as we did when we first visited one of your centers.

We do not have much experience, but under the guidance of your disciples and senior devotees we aspire to improve our expertise in our service. We would like our service to be a beautiful offering at your lotus feet that will please you by spreading your glorious mission in the Milton area.

For your pleasure, Śrīla Prabhupāda, here are some highlights of the year 2018:

We distributed around 1,000 of your books.

We established an initiation sanctioning committee and identified mentors to train candidates for initiation.

We started a Sunday school that is now regularly attended by around eight children.

We established a Child Protection Team headed by a Child Protection Officer.

We moved from bi-monthly Saturday programs to weekly Sunday Feast programs.

And we've welcomed people who are new to Kṛṣṇa consciousness and ISKCON and who are continuing to choose to attend our weekly programs.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, we seek your blessings to start Bhakti-Vriksha and chanting groups to systematically train and inspire our small congregation in the process of Kṛṣṇa consciousness. We also have a plan to strengthen ourselves spiritually by collectively chanting the Hare Kṛṣṇa *mahā-mantra* and studying your books.

We look forward to distributing 1,100 of your books this year to meet the North America target of a 10% increase over the previous year.

It is our good fortune to be a part of your ISKCON mission. We feel that our relationship with you is based on love and service. We know we have a long way to go to show our gratitude to you, and we also know that we can never repay you for all the love you have shown to all of us.

Your order and desire was that the entire world would become Kṛṣṇa conscious. Now we're trying in a very tiny way to help fulfill your order and desire. Please bless us so that we can all work together cooperatively to distribute love for Śrī Kṛṣṇa. You have given us everything; we just have to learn how to use it correctly. Please keep on guiding us in our service and allow us to capture the essence of Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

Kindly bless us with the capacity of being loving and collaborative with one another, and with the intelligence required to spread your message widely and efficiently in the Halton Region. Your causeless mercy is our only hope.

Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, for all the instructions you've given us through your association, books, lectures, letters, and conversations, and the institutions you established.

*Your insignificant servants of ISKCON Milton, Canada.*

## Ota Preaching Center

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisance at your lotus feet.

On this auspicious anniversary of your appearance, permit me to express my gratitude to you for having made available the knowledge of Kṛṣṇa consciousness and the process of devotional service to Kṛṣṇa.

I beg you to bless me so that I may remain in this process and appreciate all seemingly negative experiences as sources of my growth in the process. May I remain under the guidance of your servant's servants, who have successfully undergone the process and who have become worthy instruments in the propagation of your glories and those of the disciplic succession and Lord Kṛṣṇa.

I beg you to grant us an enabling spirit in our Nigerian *yātrā* so we can appreciate the sacrifices you underwent to enable our advancement in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. May we also understand the wisdom you have given us. Kindly bless us with the determination to apply that wisdom and benefit from all you have given us. May we become worthy instruments in your mission and benefit all the people in our environment for the greater glory of Lord Kṛṣṇa.

Hare Kṛṣṇa.

*Your servants at the preaching center in Ota, Nigeria, West Africa.*

(written by Gaṅgā Prasād Dāsa)

## Radio Krishna Centrale

Beloved Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble and respectful obeisances at your divine lotus feet.

You are the personified mercy of Śrī Śrī Gaura-Nitāi, bestowing on the whole world the supreme benediction: pure devotional service to Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

You are incomparably magnanimous, and none can compete with Your Divine Grace. You are the embodiment of the real *mahā-bhāgavata*, with no shadows or blemishes.

You are unmistakably the highest example of devotional purity, the quintessence of love for Śrī Kṛṣṇa. Every phrase, every word, of your teachings conveys pure love for Kṛṣṇa. Your words come from the absolute platform and inject unalloyed Kṛṣṇa consciousness into any sincere soul seriously willing to listen.

Your one-pointed desire to please Śrī Śrī Gaura-Nitāi shines through everything you said and did. Not even the most subtle speck of separated self-interest can be spotted in Your Divine Grace's personality, speech, plans, or behavior. Just as your presentation of Śrī Kṛṣṇa's *Bhagavad-gītā* is "as it is," so Your Divine Grace is the manifestation of Kṛṣṇa's pure devotee "as it is."

As your disciples and representatives, our only duty—and only glory—is to reflect, like a mirror, Your Divine Grace as you are, without unwanted superimpositions.

We want to bring all those whom we preach to into close contact with Your Divine Grace, enthrall them to read your transcendental books, have them listen to your discourses, and show them how you applied pure Kṛṣṇa consciousness practically to every single aspect of your devotional service, aiming solely to please the Lord. We hope that by giving people constant association with Your Divine Grace they will come to know you more and more, absorb your pure devotional mood, and become enlightened by your lucid explications of the Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava *siddhānta*. These persons will become more and more irresistibly attracted to Your Divine Grace, and real love for you will inevitably be evoked in their hearts.

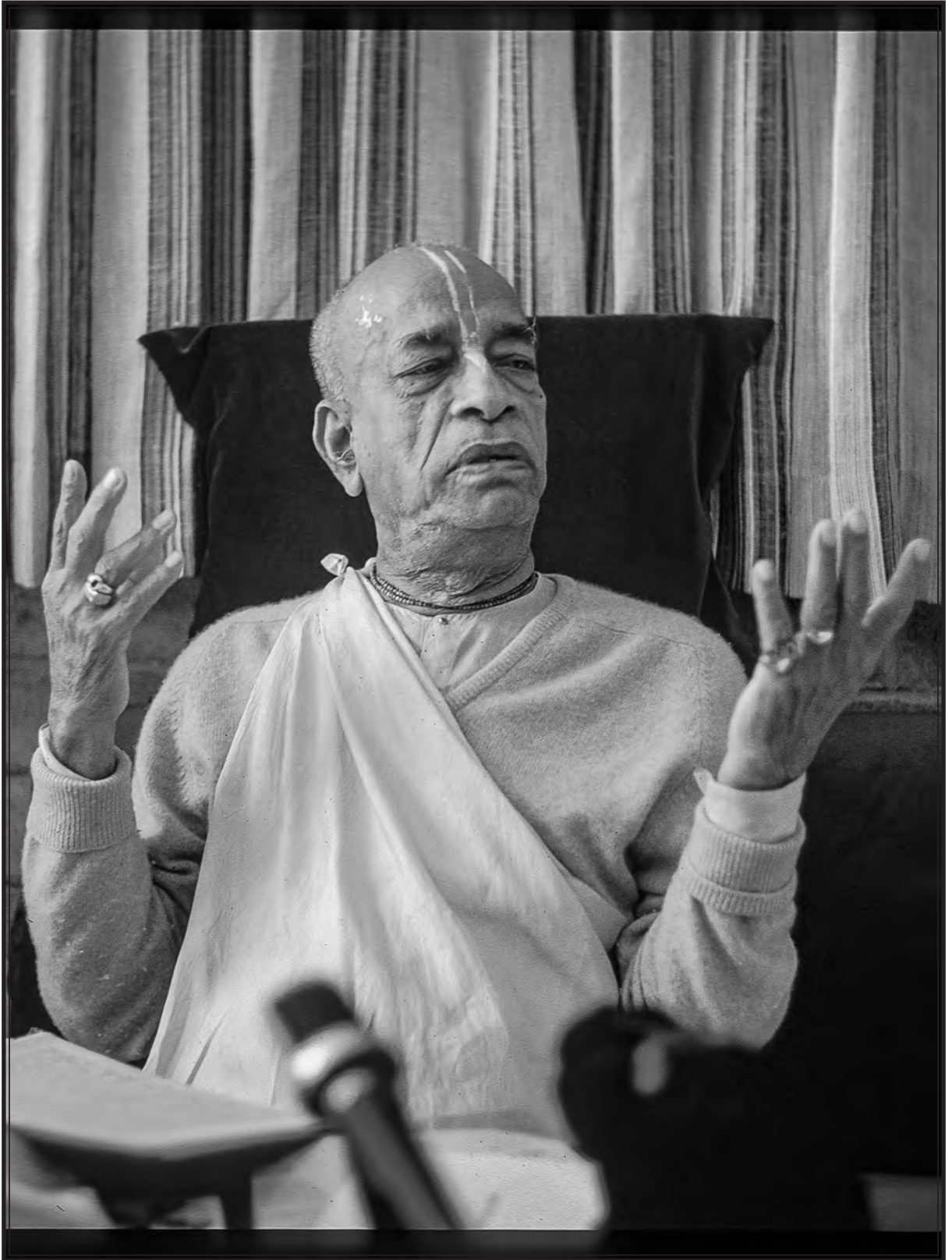
Then, whomever they meet and whatever they see and hear, they will be able to understand in terms of the Kṛṣṇa conscious philosophy you exhaustively explain in your books. With this understanding and their desire to please Your Divine Grace, they will then clearly know what to accept as real or reject as false. This will be their greatest fortune.

In this way, Your Divine Grace will be pleased, Śrī Śrī Gaura-Nitāi will be pleased, and our lives will also be successful.

Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, for allowing us to bring to your lotus feet whatever little service we are able to offer.

*Your menial, respectful servants at Radio Krishna Centrale, Italy.*

(written by Narakāntaka Dāsa)



## Saint John Krishna Center

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisances. It is difficult to find words to express our gratitude for this gift you have given us, this gift of *bhakti*, this gift of community in spiritual life. “Thank you” seems woefully inadequate to express the depth of our gratefulness. We eat together because of you. We sing together because of you. We dance together because of you. We chant together because of you. We even go to the beach together because of you.

So much has been done because you have given us the gift of Kṛṣṇa consciousness. We hope this center pleases you and does its part in spreading the chanting of Lord Kṛṣṇa’s holy names: Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare Kṛṣṇa, Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa, Hare Hare / Hare Rāma, Hare Rāma, Rāma Rāma, Hare Hare. We will do our best to share the chanting of the holy name, your books, and *prasādam*, and to learn to chant sincerely.

*Your servants in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada.*

(written by Nakula Dāsa)

## Śaraṇāgati

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisances. All glories to you.

On this most auspicious anniversary of your appearance, we wish to attempt to understand and appreciate the worldwide association of ISKCON, which blossomed and continues to blossom under your transcendental influence.

In your household life, while you ran a pharmacy, your godbrother Dr. Kapoor once asked in subtle jest if you had some tonic for developing love of Kṛṣṇa. Your reply was to give him the tonic’s formula:

*tṛṇād api sunīcena taror api sahiṣṇunā  
amāninā mānadena kīrtanīyaḥ sadā hariḥ*

“One should chant the holy name of the Lord in a humble state of mind, thinking oneself lower than the straw in the street. One should be more tolerant than a tree, devoid of all sense of false prestige, and should be ready to offer all respect to others. In such a state of mind one can chant the holy name of the Lord constantly.”

Then you told Dr. Kapoor that you were going to spread this formula all over the world. Only time would tell.

In 1977, I met Mr. Ruben, with whom you conversed on occasion back in 1967 in New York City. Mr. Ruben described his lunch-break discussions with you and how, sitting together on a park bench one afternoon, he told Your Divine Grace of his adventurous plan to go on a world tour. You pointed into the park and told Mr. Ruben, “One day you will come back to Kṛṣṇa.”

When I met Mr. Ruben he had just completed a ten-year world tour, not once hearing anything more of your fledgling society, until the day in 1977 when he visited the Vancouver temple. He told me how while he sat with you, you pointed into the park and said, “I have temples, disciples, and printing presses all over the world.” Mr. Ruben described the simultaneous respect and disbelief he felt at that moment. He had utmost respect for Your Divine Grace, yet he was well aware that you had only one small temple and a handful of followers. You continued, “They are simply separated from us by time. We simply have to move through time and have faith in Kṛṣṇa.”

Time *did* tell. On that eventful day in 1977, Mr. Ruben saw that your vision had indeed manifested. We have all been given a glimpse into that transcendental vision—a vision set in motion by Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu.

In the *Caitanya-maṅgala* (*Sūtra-khāṇḍa*, song 12, texts 564–65), Lord Caitanya clearly mentions that He will send His leading preacher abroad: “If some sinful people escape to far-off countries, then My commander in chief (*senāpati-bhakta*) will appear in order to distribute Kṛṣṇa consciousness.”

For us who struggle in the confines of time and space, it is difficult to fully comprehend your vision, which is situated in the eternal pastimes of Lord Caitanya.

Time continues to tell us much more. Around the world your vision continues to become manifest in the form of more temples, dynamic and creative preaching programs, and dedicated devotees.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are most grateful to be a part of your transcendental, lotuslike vision, which unfolds via the devoted efforts of your sincere followers. We are in awe as we travel the world and see how you have given so many devotees inspiration in their hearts to use their creative talents to inspire others to immerse themselves in Lord Caitanya’s loving network.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you did not simply create a material institution but created a divine manifestation of eternal devotion, love, and compassion, descending from Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu and moving through time and space, changing the world. We pray to always remember that our outward successes are only manifestations of your divine grace, and that the trials and tribulations we overcome on the path are offerings of devotion to your lotus feet.

*Your devotees at Śaraṇāgati, British Columbia, Canada.*

(written by Pārtha Dāsa)

## Śrī Nīlācala Dhāma Foundation

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

*om ajñāna-timirāndhasya jñānāñjana-śalākayā  
cakṣur unmilitaṁ yena tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ*

## Homages from Other Sources

Dear Parama Guru Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please kindly accept our most humble obeisances at the dust of your holy lotus feet on this most auspicious and blessed day, the anniversary of your holy appearance. We beg your mercy so that we can continue preaching Kṛṣṇa consciousness in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia.

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, on February 25, 1973, you came to Jakarta and visited the local Hindu temple at Rawa Manggun and the Gandhi School at Pasar Baru, in the central part of the city. In the same part of the city that was touched by your holy lotus feet—Pasar Baru—we have established a small preaching center. The center is in the old building of the former Gandhi School; the owner has kindly loaned it to us to use as a temple and preaching center since 2003. So we've been here for almost sixteen years.

But now, when the preaching mission is going on nicely and the temple is getting more support from the Indian community, the owner wants to take back his property and has given us six months to move. In this center we are worshiping small Gaura-Nitāi Deities, Śrī Śrī Jagannātha, Balarāma, and Subhadrā Devī, and both big and small Deities of Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa.

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are the personification of Kṛṣṇa's mercy (*kṛṣṇa-kṛpā-mūrti*), you are a devotee very dear to Lord Gaura (*gaura-priya-jana*), you are a dear friend of Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī (*rādhā-priya-sakhī*), you are an ocean of compassion (*karuṇā-sindhu*), you are the friend of the most wretched (*dīna-bandhu*), and you are the purifier of the fallen (*patita-pāvana*).

You appeared in this world just to fulfill the mission of Śrī Gaurāṅga Mahāprabhu—to save the fallen souls by giving them *kṛṣṇa-prema*, love of God, Kṛṣṇa.

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, please be kind and merciful to us so we can find a better place and continue our devotional service of preaching the mission of Kṛṣṇa consciousness in Jakarta.

*Śrīla Prabhupāda's Śrī Vyāsa-pūjā Tithi Mahā-mahotsava kī jaya!*

*Your devotees at Śrī Nīlācala Dhāma Foundation, an ISKCON preaching center in central Jakarta, Indonesia,*

## Thunder Bay Preaching Center

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet.

This is the first time I have written you a Vyāsa-pūjā offering. Please forgive me if I make any mistakes.

I have never met you in person, but through your books and recorded videos and lectures I have tried to know you and your teachings. You have blessed millions of people on this planet through your divine work of spreading Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Following in your footsteps and serving your instructions, my wife, Suniti Devī Dāsī, and I have been preaching in a remote town in northwestern Ontario, Canada, under the guidance of our Guru Mahārāja, His Holiness Gopāl Krishna Goswami, as well as His Holiness Bhaktimārga Swami. We have established a preaching center here in Thunder Bay, and for ten years have celebrated Ratha-yātrā and the Festival of India. This is all by your blessings. We are also distributing books and *prasādam* to all.

Please keep us under your shelter and bless us so that we can continue to spread your Kṛṣṇa consciousness mission.

Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda. Hare Kṛṣṇa.

*Your servants at ISKCON Thunder Bay, Canada.*

(written by Premkishor Dāsa)

## Vṛndā-kuṇḍa

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Every day when I do *parikramā* of the Śrī Śrī Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma Mandir, I see the picture of you offering a peacock fan to the assembled devotees. I clearly remember that day, Rāma Navamī 1975, when you inaugurated your Vṛndāvana temple. That was the fulfillment of one of your biggest dreams—to make a glorious temple in the holy place called Vṛndāvana in order to attract everyone in the world.

I remember how when the temple doors first opened the crowd surged forward. All the devotees were happy to see you standing at the middle altar before your dearest Lordships, Śrī Śrī Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma, ready to offer Their very first *ārati*. When you turned to offer the incense to the devotees, a wonderful smile of satisfaction played on your lips. With each offered article that smile broadened. Finally, when you offered the peacock fan, your face glowed with a smile of the fullest satisfaction anyone could imagine!

When you first started the construction in the then-remote area known as Ramaṇa-reti, people asked why you were building a temple so far from anywhere. Who would go there? And at that time we were practically alone, way out on what is now known as Bhaktivedanta Swami Marg. But now, thousands and thousands of pilgrims flock to see your home temple. At *sandhyā-ārati* especially, one can hardly find an empty space in which to stand. In the evenings, then, I feel you looking down from Goloka with that same smile of great satisfaction.

Please let me always remember your wonderful smile within my heart, and please bless me to do something in your service so that you will smile with satisfaction upon me.

*Your servants at Vṛndā-kuṇḍa, Vṛndāvana, India.*

(written by Deena Bandhu Dāsa)

## Yashodapura Ashram

*om ajñāna-timirāndhasya jñānāñjana-śalākayā  
cakṣur unmilitam yena tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

*namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāñī-pracāriṇe  
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

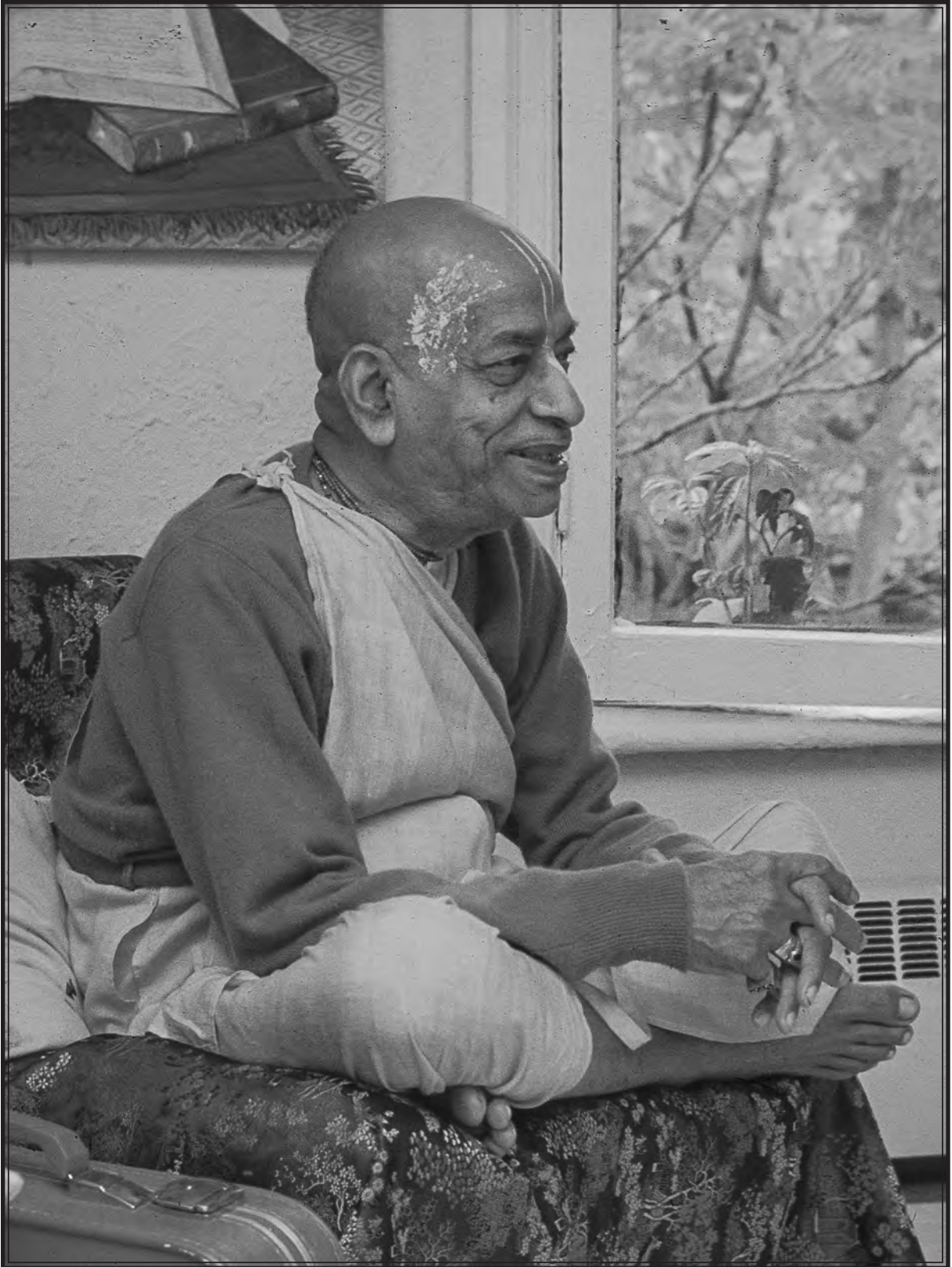
Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

First please kindly accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet. It is due only to your causeless mercy that I have been given chance, although I am unqualified, to write this short glorification on Your Divine Grace's Vyāsa-pūjā day. All glories unto you! All glories unto you!

Śrīla Prabhupāda, Your Divine Grace distributed mercy to everyone—every race, every nation—just as the sun distributes light and heat equally without discrimination. With your equal vision you saw that everyone needs the wisdom of Kṛṣṇa consciousness, regardless of their social or economic background. Furthermore, you knew that in every town and village people will one day chant the holy name of Kṛṣṇa, as predicted in the scripture. The ISKCON society that Your Divine Grace established teaches the holistic process to achieve that goal, and is thus designed to accommodate anyone. The *saṅkīrtana* movement distributes the holy name and transcendental literature to the people in general. Spiritual initiation facilitates those people who want to practice Kṛṣṇa consciousness seriously by chanting the Hare Kṛṣṇa *mahā-mantra* regularly, following the regulative principles, and thus officially connecting to the *paramparā*. Then there is Deity Worship, which enables devotees to learn about *arcana* and other processes related to it. Deity worship also attracts people to see the wonderful form of the Lord. Then *daiva-varṇāśrama-dharma* enables devotees and people in general to understand scientific social system created by Kṛṣṇa Himself, based on high thinking and simple living in Kṛṣṇa conscious agrarian communities. This is the most favorable environment for practicing devotional service. All this is due to your mercy, Śrīla Prabhupāda! All glories unto you! All glories unto you!

Śrīla Prabhupāda, occasionally we perform *harināma-saṅkīrtana* when there are more devotees in town. We also sometimes perform in the villages, combined with other programs. We also distribute Your Divine Grace's books in the Cambodian (Khmer) language, e.g., *Beyond Birth and Death*, *On Chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa*, and *Kṛṣṇa: the Reservoir of Pleasure*. Another pamphlet printed in Khmer is entitled *The Urgent Need for Kṛṣṇa Consciousness*, from *Back to Godhead* magazine. A *bhakta* name Gopinātha Prabhu sponsored the printing of these books and pamphlets for distribution. On *harināma* we also distribute invitation cards and pamphlets. Here in Siem Reap there are a lot of tourists, so we occasionally also distribute English books. Once every two months we go to the capital of Cambodia, Phnom Penh, to distribute books and do house programs. His Grace Kāla Prabhu encourages us to do more book distribution and helps us in many different ways. All this is due only to your mercy, Śrīla Prabhupāda! All glories unto you! All glories unto you!

Śrīla Prabhupāda, *prasādam* distribution (Food For Life) is the most frequent program we perform here. We cook *prasādam* and distribute it to schools, orphanages, villages, slum communities, etc. Various devotees have been helping on this project. Jaya Rādhikā Mātāji from Malaysia always encourages people to help our *prasādam* distribution program financially and gives us good advice how to run the program. Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, for inspiring so many people to help. We often combine the *prasādam*-distribution program with *kīrtana*. Occasionally we involve people in the cooking, to teach them how to



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cook for the Lord, and we also show them how to offer the *bhoga* to the Lord. All this is due only to your mercy, Śrīla Prabhupāda! All glories unto you! All glories unto you!

Śrīla Prabhupāda, we regularly worship our Deities of Śrī Śrī Gaura-Nitāi in the center, maintaining a home standard of worship in consideration of various factors. We also conduct a regular Sunday program and celebrate major festival days, inviting our contacts around the town. We also conduct house programs, visiting our various friends to have *kīrtana* in their houses. Although it may seem that there has been very little visible result of our preaching activities here, we are sure that by your mercy, Śrīla Prabhupāda, our efforts will one day fructify. We feel that now Lord Caitanya is preparing everything here in Cambodia for a flood of Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Often we can't detect the mysterious ways of the Lord.

This center is connected to a rural community project (which is still in the pioneering stage) named Yashodapura Eco-Village, located about 1.5 hours from us by motorbike. All this is due only to your mercy, Śrīla Prabhupāda! All glories unto you! All glories unto you!

Śrīla Prabhupāda, Your Divine Grace is the source of inspiration for all of us in this Society. Whatever insignificant services we are rendering are possible only because we are trying to follow in your footsteps. Please kindly be merciful unto us here so that we can continue to render service unto your lotus feet. Please also give me the ability and courage to render services to the devotees here, who are always melted in the ocean of service to your lotus feet! All glories unto you! All glories unto you! Hare Kṛṣṇa.

*Your servants at Yashodapura Ashram, Siem Reap, Cambodia.*

(written by Kumudākṣa Dāsa)

## Yashodapura Eco-Village

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmīn iti nāmine*

I offer my respectful obeisances unto His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, who is very dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa on this earth, having taken shelter at His lotus feet.

*namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Our respectful obeisances are unto you, O spiritual master, servant of Sarasvatī Gosvāmī. You are kindly preaching the message of Lord Caitanyadeva and delivering the Western countries, which are filled with impersonalism and voidism.

*vāñchā-kalpatarubhyaś ca kṛpā-sindhubhya eva ca  
patitānām pāvanebhyo vaiṣṇavebhyo namo namaḥ*

I offer my respectful obeisances unto all the Lord's Vaiṣṇava devotees, who can fulfill the desires of everyone just like desire trees, and who are full of compassion for the fallen conditioned souls.

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

As the founder-*ācārya* of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness, you established many temples, centers, schools, and farm communities all over the world. Any country Your Divine Grace visited became fertile ground for the growth of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement. No matter what the people's cultural background, no matter what their religion, no matter what their socioeconomic condition, your message of Kṛṣṇa consciousness deeply touched their hearts, thus offering them peace and happiness—an altogether much better life.

Your Divine Grace enlightened millions of people with the light of Kṛṣṇa consciousness, from east to west, from north to south. Your Divine Grace cultivated many Kṛṣṇa conscious leaders to continue the mission. Your books, containing your words of wisdom, will continue to transform countless lives until this Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement completely overhauls the world so it reverts to *kṛṣṇa-bhakti*.

By Your Divine Grace's mercy and the blessings of the Vaiṣṇavas, we have survived almost a decade in the Angkor region of Cambodia despite many challenges. In our Yashodapura center, located about a fifteen-minute drive from the Angkor Wat temple, we are working to become worthy instruments of Your Divine Grace for spreading Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

In 2009, when this project started, we were all still very young. We didn't know much about anything outside our country, and we didn't even know much about Cambodia. We certainly didn't know much about how to serve ISKCON's mission. But we came here with only one desire: to help our spiritual master's farm project. We had heard that His Holiness Bhakti Rāghava Swami had started a farm project, and without any hesitation and with full faith in His Holiness' words, we came here to learn to be surrendered servants.

In 2010 we took our first step on the land that would become Yashodapura Eco Village. At that time it was a jungle area located about 50 km from the town of Siem Reap. In those days it was hard to even find a road to go there. The first patch of land was 12 hectares, and now in 2019 we have about 43 hectares. Over the years we have established good relationships with the local Cambodian villagers through our outreach programs, shared farming enterprises, and cow protection initiatives. Gradually, we have begun to understand what Cambodia is.

Generally, villagers here live below the poverty line, with a low literacy rate. But they can still smile, because their lives are localized and they are thus together with their families. They are friendly and hard-working and love their culture and traditions. Since 2017 we have been working with local families to cultivate our land. Our interactions offer us an opportunity to introduce them to Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Now there are twelve families practicing Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Two of these families live on the land, and ten live in the local village. Each family cultivates one hectare of agricultural land and receives an agreed-upon share of the produce. All the families agree not to use any chemical fertilizer or pesticide in farming.

In 2013 we constructed a simple building on the farm, and in 2017 we built a base camp in the village. This camp functions as the place for our visitors to stay, in close proximity with the local people. Two full-time devotees at the base camp are already growing vegetables. At the farm we grow rice, bananas, and mangoes.

We are trying to follow what you said, Śrīla Prabhupāda: "Grow your own food, chant Hare Kṛṣṇa, and go back to Godhead." This is our simple formula to solve all the problems of this material world and, at the end of our lives, go back to Godhead. Śrīla Prabhupāda, you predicted that thousands of people would eventually join our farm communities. This is why you wanted us to establish these communities, where devotees could learn to live simple lives based on agriculture, cows, and Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

Enthused by your words, we established the farm and gradually attracted some locals to become devotees too. When we started, book distribution and congregational chanting were not new for Cambodia, because Bhakti Rāghava Mahārāja had already been preaching in Cambodia since 2004, long before we acquired the land. By 2010 we had published several books in the local language. Now we have about six of your books in Cambodian that we distribute. We also have some local people practicing Kṛṣṇa consciousness sincerely.

We believe that devotees at your farm communities should also preach. Devotees generally say that the cities are the preaching bases. But Lord Caitanya said that *harināma* would spread to every town

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and village in the world. Having faith in His words, we believe that many of these villagers will one day become sincere devotees. We can see a glimpse of this as we see them begin regular chanting.

In the future we plan to expand our farming activities, especially in terms of grain, vegetable, and fruit production. We plan to install a water tank and build a water reservoir, because maintaining a sufficient supply of pure water is our biggest challenge, especially in summer. We also plan to expand our base camp in the village by building a school where children can learn Vedic philosophy, science, art, and dance, along with agriculture and cow protection, and where they can also receive vocational training.

On this special day of your Vyāsa-pūjā, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we request you to shower your blessings upon us. We are slowly pushing on this project, but we request you to kindly help us develop it faster, by your mercy. Let us enter the “marathon mood,” with more focus, a faster pace, stronger faith, and greater purity. Help us work harder, more intelligently, and more sincerely.

We also apologize for all the mistakes we’ve made and the offenses we may have committed in the course of rendering our services. O Your Divine Grace! Kindly lift us up from the pit of passion and ignorance so that we become better servants. Please shower your divine blessings on the Cambodian people so that more and more of them accept *kṛṣṇa-bhakti*.

Thank you very much.

*Your servants at the Yashodapura Eco-Village, Siem Reap, Cambodia.*

(written by Guṇāvatāra Dāsa)





