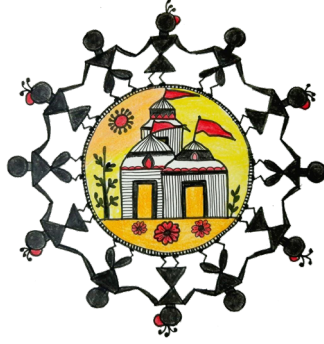


THE MOST BLESSED EVENT

Śrī Vyāsa-pūjā



THE APPEARANCE DAY
OF OUR BELOVED SPIRITUAL MASTER

His Grace Mahātmā Vasa

MAY 2023

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Prayers

TO OUR BELOVED SPIRITUAL MASTER

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā*

Obeisances to His Grace Mahātma Prabhu, who is dearest to Kṛṣṇa,
and who teaches both through his realizations and his actions.

*tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Obeisance to him who is the embodiment of the mood of his
Master Prabhupāda, who awards the joy of kīrtana, who reveals the
truth of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, and who is affectionately concerned
for the devotees.

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

I offer my respectful obeisances unto my spiritual master, who has opened
my eyes, blinded by the darkness of ignorance, with the torchlight of knowledge.



Introduction

In explaining the “*Worship of The Lotus Feet of The Spiritual Master*”, Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura quotes:

“There is no work as auspicious as serving the spiritual master. Of all worship, the worship of the Supreme Personality of Godhead is the greatest but the worship of the lotus feet of the spiritual master is even greater than the worship of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Unless this is firmly realized we cannot understand what saintly association means, we cannot understand what the shelter of a spiritual master means, we cannot understand that we are dependent, and he is our maintainer.”

Through Kṛṣṇa's favour, one of countless millions of wandering living entities is offered the chance to engage with a bonafide spiritual master. Such an individual acquires the seed of devotional service through the mercy of both Kṛṣṇa and the spiritual master.

As recited in the *Guru-vandanā*:

*guru-mukha-padma-vākya, cittete koribo aikya,
ār nā koriho mane āśā
śrī-guru-caraṇe rati, ei se uttama-gati,
je prasāde pūre sarva āśā*



“My only wish is to have my consciousness purified by the words emanating from his lotus mouth. Attachment to his lotus feet is the perfection that fulfills all desires”.

By hearing from the Guru, we can understand what the desire of the Lord is within our heart.

This vital translation is required for our deteriorating minds to absorb and understand the scriptures, for without it, they would not have the ability to transform our lives. Only through your simplification of the instructions as well as direct guidance would we be capable of practicing and carrying out the mission of this age.

Just through your association can we begin to develop the necessary qualities such as humility, discipline, devotion in service, as well as many others that you possess, and with that comes complete surrender to Kṛṣṇa.

There is no way to plainly state the spiritual nourishment one feels in the moment of serving you or being in your kirtan and getting your association. That similar feeling can be and is ignited when we diligently follow your instructions successfully, however long it takes to get us there. You patiently advise us and make it so very easy to ensure neither is neglected through both *vani* and *vapuh*.

Śrīla Prabhupada says:

“Therefore, in all actions, the experienced guide, the spiritual master, who is manifested mercy of the Lord, should always be consulted, and the path of progress will be assured.”

Thank you for holding our hands and guiding us in our search for Kṛṣṇa. Thank you for keeping us focused on the objective and counselling us both directly and



personally on how we might effectively achieve Kṛṣṇa *prema*. You instruct us on how to avert our diversions and *anarthas* and dovetail these into the desire to be fully Kṛṣṇa Conscious. Through your qualified lens, you allow us to see the mission and how it is truly possible and practical for us to achieve.

In this *Kali Yuga* period, Śrīla Prabhupāda has given us a booster card in the game we call life, and there are no simple words that one can use to describe that mercy of his and by extension, yours.

Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam Canto 1, Chapter 6, Verse 37, Purport reads:

“The freedom surrendered to the Lord does not mean that the devotee becomes dependent in every respect. To surrender unto the Lord through the transparent medium of the spiritual master is to attain complete freedom of life.”

This freedom described is to love and practice Kṛṣṇa Consciousness in the various approaches of service, all of which are moulded to our nature and individual *rasa*. Not only do you encourage and embrace our natural behaviour, but you nurture it so that we may use it in service to our dear Lord and his dearest devotees.

Service is a privilege which is extended to a conditioned soul by the mercy of Guru. In this way you create so many platforms for us all to engage with your teachings and that of your Guru Mahārāj. Your community efforts of preaching through social media, workshops and classes have had a positive impact on the individual and global communities. This has inspired others to deepen their spiritual practices, both for practicing and aspiring devotees. Therefore, as we are given the opportunity to serve the Lord’s dearest servants, this book is a miniscule attempt at showing that appreciation.



We write these offerings in the mood of creating a deep connection with you but also with Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Let us grovel at your feet, like children in need of a parent, with our offerings. Please accept it as a gesture of love, a fragment of which you have shown to many of those with whom you have graced your presence.

Happy Vyāsa-pūjā, dearest Mahātmā prabhu!
All Glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!
All Glories to you, Guru Mahārāj!



The Meaning of Vyāsa-pūjā

BY HIS DIVINE GRACE A.C. BHAKTIVEDANTA SWAMI PRABHUPĀDA

“Actually there is no difference between hearing directly from Kṛṣṇa and hearing directly from Kṛṣṇa via a bona fide spiritual master like Vyāsa. The spiritual master is the representative of Vyāsadeva also. Therefore, according to the Vedic system, on the birthday of the spiritual master the disciples conduct the ceremony called Vyāsa-pūjā.”

(Bhagavad-gīta As It Is 18.75, Purport)

“We have got debts to so many people. First debt is to the demigods. Just like the sun-god, moon-god, they are supplying heat, light. The Varuṇa. In this material world we have got so many debts. But people do not care for it. Just like we are receiving light from sun, but what we are paying to the sun? Therefore we remain debtor. This is Vedic idea. You are getting this electricity. If you don’t pay the bill, how long you will be able to use it? After some days the connection will be cut off. But although we do not pay any bill to the sunlight, because it is the order of Kṛṣṇa, it is giving us light. But how long it will go on? This is sinful. If you take something from a person and if you do not repay, that is sinful. *ṛṇa*. It is called *ṛṇa*.”



The Meaning of Vyāsa-pūjā

So there are so many debts. First to the demigod, then to the ṛṣis, saintly persons. Because we get knowledge, Vedic knowledge, from the ṛṣi, we must be debtor. *Guru-ṛṇa*: debtor to the spiritual master, to the sages, to the saintly persons, because we are getting knowledge from them. Therefore the Vyāsa-pūjā is there. Once in a year the disciples are worshipping the spiritual master and trying to repay that he has received from the spiritual master.”

(Śrīla Prabhupāda Lecture, July 11, 1974)

“Kṛṣṇa instructed Brahmā. Brahmā instructed Nārada. Nārada instructed Vyāsadeva. Vyāsadeva instructed Śukadeva. In this way our *guru-paramparā* system. Therefore we worship the guru as Vyāsa-pūjā because representative of Vyāsa. And who is Vyāsa? Representative of Nārada. What is Nārada? Representative of Brahmā. What is Brahmā? Representative of Kṛṣṇa. This is called *paramparā* system.”

(Śrīla Prabhupāda Lecture, March 13, 1976)

“So this Vyāsa-pūjā ceremony means to offer our thanks to the Supreme Personality of Godhead, because He is the original *guru*. As we receive this message through *paramparā* system from Kṛṣṇa to Brahmā, Brahmā to Nārada, Nārada to Vyāsadeva, Vyāsadeva to Madhvācārya, in this way, Mādhavendra Purī, then Īśvara Purī, then Caitanya Mahāprabhu, then six Gosvāmīs, then others, Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura, Jagannātha dāsa Bābājī, Gaura Kīśora dāsa Bābājī Mahārāja, Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī. Then we have taken.

So this... , as we come to this Kṛṣṇa Consciousness understanding through this long *paramparā*, similarly, in the Vyāsa-pūjā ceremony, whatever respect, honor and presentation you give, that goes to Kṛṣṇa through that *paramparā* system, from



down. As it is received through the *paramparā* system, so similarly, your offerings also goes through this *paramparā* system to the Supreme. The connection.

Our system is *gopī-bhartuḥ pada-kamalayor dāsa-dāsānudāsaḥ* (CC Madhya 13.80). It is sometimes called bureaucracy. If you apply something, at least in India, to the President, you'll have to submit to the local collector. The collector will submit to somebody else, somebody else, then secretary, you go; then to the President. So our system is that. So it is not that I am training my disciples to worship me, man-worship, I'm getting some honor from them for nothing. No. It is not that. Whatever honor, whatever respect, whatever presentation you are giving to your spiritual master, it will go to Kṛṣṇa by *paramparā* system. This is Vyāsa-pūjā. Therefore, it is called Vyāsapūjā.

(Śrīla Prabhupāda Lecture, August 22, 1973)

“So try to receive Kṛṣṇa’s grace through the disciplic succession, Caitanya Mahāprabhu. Then you will understand everything. *Yasya deve parā bhaktir yathā deve tathā gurau* (ŚU 6.23). This is the process, Vedic process. One should have unflinching faith in God and spiritual master. Don’t jump over God, crossing the spiritual master. Then it will be failure. You must go through. We are observing Vyāsa-pūjā ceremony, the birth anniversary of our Guru Mahārāja. Why? We cannot understand Kṛṣṇa without spiritual master. That is bogus. If anyone wants to understand Kṛṣṇa, jumping over the spiritual master, then immediately he becomes a bogus. Therefore Caitanya Mahāprabhu says, *guru-kṛṣṇa-kṛpāya pāya bhakti-latā-bija* (CC Madhya 19.151). That is Vedic injunction. *Tad viddhi praṇipātena paripraśnena sevayā* (BG 4.34). Nobody can understand Kṛṣṇa without going through His most confidential servant. This is the meaning of this Vyāsa-pūjā. You cannot surpass. If you think that you have become very learned and very advanced, now you can avoid the spiritual master and you understand Kṛṣṇa, that is the bogus. That is the meaning of this Vyāsa-pūjā



The Meaning of Vyāsa-pūjā

ceremony. We should always pray, *yasya prasādād bhagavat-prasādaḥ* (Gurv-aṣṭaka 8). *Yasya prasādād*: only by the grace of spiritual master we can achieve the grace or mercy of Kṛṣṇa. This is the meaning of this Vyāsa-pūjā, offering obeisances by *paramparā* system.

*(Śrīla Prabhupāda Lecture on Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura's appearance day,
March 2, 1975)*



“Adore, Adore Ye All The happy day”

Śrīla Prabhupāda wrote the following poem in February 1935, on the occasion of the Vyāsa-pūjā celebration of his spiritual master, Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura. It delighted Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta, especially the sixth stanza, which he felt captured the essence of his preaching against the māyāvādīs. After reading this poem, Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī was especially keen that Śrīla Prabhupāda preach and write in English.

(1)

Adore, adore ye all The happy day
Blessed than heaven Sweeter than May.
When he appeared at Puri The holy place,
My Lord and Master His Divine Grace.

(2)

Oh! my Master The evangelic angel.
Give us Thy light Light up Thy candle.
Struggle for existence A human race.
The only hope His Divine Grace.



Adore, Adore Ye All The happy day

(3)

Misled we are All going astray,
Save us Lord Our fervent pray.
Wonder thy ways To turn our face
Adore Thy feet Your Divine Grace.

(4)

Forgotten Kṛṣṇa We fallen souls,
Paying most heavy The illusion's toll.
Darkness around All untrace.
The only hope His Divine Grace.

(5)

Message of service Thou hast brought,
A healthful life As Caitanya wrought.
Unknown to all It's full of brace.
That's your gift Your Divine Grace.

(6)

Absolute is sentient Thou hast proved
Impersonal calamity Thou hast moved.
This gives us a life Anew and fresh.
Worship Thy feet Your Divine Grace.



Adore, Adore Ye All The happy day

(7)

Had you not come Who had told
The message of Kṛṣṇa Forceful and bold.
That's your right You have the mace
Save me a fallen Your Divine Grace.

(8)

The line of service As drawn by you
Is pleasing and healthy Like morning dew.
The oldest of all But in new dress
Miracle done Your Divine Grace.





The Universal Teacher

The following speech was given by Abhay Charan Das (His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda) before the members of the Śrī Gauḍīya Maṭha in Bombay, in February 1936, on the occasion of the appearance anniversary of Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura.

*sākṣād-dharitvena samasta-śāstrair
uktas tathā bhāvyata eva sadbhiḥ
kintu prabhor yaḥ priya eva tasya
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

“In the revealed scriptures it is declared that the spiritual master should be worshiped like the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and this injunction is obeyed by pure devotees of the Lord. The spiritual master is the most confidential servant of the Lord. Thus let us offer our respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of our spiritual master.”

Gentlemen, on behalf of the members of the Bombay branch of the Gauḍīya Maṭha, let me welcome you all because you have so kindly joined us tonight in our congregational offerings of homage to the lotus feet of the world teacher, Ācāryadeva, who is the founder of this Gauḍīya Mission and the president-*ācārya* of Śrī Śrī Viśva-vaiṣṇava Rāja-sabhā – I mean my eternal divine master, Paramahansa Parivrajakācārya Śrī Śrīmad Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī Mahārāja.

Sixty-two years ago, on this auspicious day, the Ācāryadeva made his appearance by the call of Ṭhākura Bhaktivinoda at Śrī-kṣetra, Jagannātha-dhāma at Purī.



Gentlemen, the offering of such an homage as has been arranged this evening to the Ācāryadeva is not a sectarian concern, for when we speak of the fundamental principle of *gurudeva*, or *ācāryadeva*, we speak of something that is of universal application. There does not arise any question of discriminating my guru from yours or anyone else's. There is only one *guru*, who appears in an infinity of forms to teach you, me and all others. The *guru*, or *ācāryadeva*, as we learn from the bona fide scriptures, delivers the message of the absolute world, the transcendental abode of the Absolute Personality, where everything nondifferentially serves the Absolute Truth. We have heard so many times: *mahā-jano yena gataḥ sa panthāḥ* ("Traverse the trail which your previous *ācārya* has passed), but we have hardly tried to understand the real purport of this *śloka*. If we scrutinizingly study this proposition, we can understand that the *mahā-jana* is one, and the royal road to the transcendental world is also one. In the Muṇḍaka Upaniṣad [1.2.12] it is said:

*tad-vijñānārtham sa gurum evābhigacchet
samiṭ-pāṇiḥ śrotriyaṁ brahma-niṣṭham*

"In order to learn the transcendental science, one must approach the bona fide spiritual master in disciplic succession, who is fixed in the Absolute Truth."

Thus it has been enjoined herewith that in order to receive that transcendental knowledge, one must approach the *guru*. Therefore, if the Absolute Truth is one, about which we think there is no difference of opinion, the *guru* also cannot be two. The Ācāryadeva to whom we have assembled tonight to offer our humble homage is not the *guru* of a sectarian institution or one out of many differing exponents of the truth. On the contrary, he is the Jagad-guru, the *guru* of all of us; the only difference is that some obey him wholeheartedly, while others do not obey him directly.



In the *Bhāgavatam* [SB 11.17.27] it is said:

*ācāryaṁ mām vijānīyān navamanyeta karhicit
na martya-buddhyāsūyeta sarva-deva-mayo guruḥ*

“One should understand the spiritual master to be as good as I am, said the Blessed Lord. Nobody should be jealous of the spiritual master or think of him as an ordinary man, because the spiritual master is the sum total of all the demigods.”

That is, the *ācārya* has been identified with God Himself. He has nothing to do with the affairs of this mundane world. He does not descend here to meddle with the affairs of temporary necessities, but to deliver the fallen, conditioned souls – the souls, or entities, who have come here to the material world with a motive of enjoyment by the mind and the five organs of sense perception. He appears before us to reveal the light of the *Vedas* and to bestow upon us the blessings of full-fledged freedom, after which we should hanker at every step of our life’s journey.

The transcendental knowledge of the *Vedas* was first uttered by God to Brahmā, the creator of this particular universe. From Brahmā the knowledge descended to Nārada, from Nārada to Vyāsadeva, and from Vyāsadeva to Madhva, and in this process of disciplic succession the transcendental knowledge was transmitted by one disciple to another till it reached Lord Gaurāṅga, Śrī Kṛṣṇa Caitanya, who posed as the disciple and successor of Śrī Īśvara Purī. The present Ācāryadeva is the tenth disciplic representative from Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī, the original representative of Lord Caitanya who preached this transcendental tradition in its fullness.

The knowledge that we receive from our Gurudeva is not different from that imparted by God Himself and the succession of the *ācāryas* in the preceptorial line of Brahmā. We adore this auspicious day as Śrī Vyāsa-pūjā-tithi because the *ācārya*



is the living representative of Vyāsadeva, the divine compiler of the *Vedas*, *Purāṇas*, *Bhagavad-gīta*, *Mahābhārata*, and *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*.

One who interprets the divine sound, or *śabda-brahma*, by his imperfect sense perception cannot be a real spiritual *guru*, because in the absence of proper disciplinary training under the bona fide *ācārya*, the interpreter is sure to differ from Vyāsadeva (as the Māyāvādīs do). Śrīla Vyāsadeva is the prime authority of Vedic revelation, and therefore such an irrelevant interpreter cannot be accepted as the *guru*, or *ācārya*, howsoever equipped he may be with all the acquirements of material knowledge. As it is said in the *Padma Purāṇa*, *sampradāya-vihīnā ye mantrās te niṣphalā matāḥ*: “Unless you are initiated by a bona fide spiritual master in the disciplic succession, the *mantra* that you might have received is without any effect.” On the other hand, one who has received the transcendental knowledge by aural reception from the bona fide preceptor in the disciplic chain, and who has sincere regard for the real *ācārya*, must needs be enlightened with the revealed knowledge of the *Vedas*. But this knowledge is permanently sealed to the cognitive approach of the empiricists. As it is said in *Śvetāśvatara Upaniṣad* [6.23]:

*yasya deve parā bhaktir yathā deve tathā gurau
tasyaite kathitā hy arthāḥ prakāṣante mahātmanah*

“Only unto those great souls who simultaneously have implicit faith in both the Lord and the spiritual master are all the imports of Vedic knowledge automatically revealed.”

Gentlemen, our knowledge is so poor, our senses are so imperfect, and our sources are so limited that it is not possible for us to have even the slightest knowledge of the absolute region without surrendering ourselves at the louts feet of Śrī Vyāsadeva or his bona fide representative. Every moment we are being deceived by the knowledge of our direct perception. It is all the creation or concoction of the



mind, which is always deceiving, changing, and flickering. We cannot know anything of the transcendental region by our limited, perverted method of observation and experiment. But all of us can lend our eager ears for the aural reception of the transcendental sound transmitted from that region to this through the unadulterated medium of Śrī Gurudeva or Śrī Vyāsadeva. Therefore, gentlemen, we should surrender ourselves today at the feet of the representative of Śrī Vyāsadeva for the elimination of all our differences bred by our unsubmissive attitude. It is accordingly said in *Śrī Gītā* [Bg. 4.34]:

*tad viddhi praṇipātena paripraśnena sevayā
upadekṣyanti te jñānaṁ jñāninas tattva-darśinaḥ*

“Just approach the wise and bona fide spiritual master. Surrender unto him first and try to understand him by inquiries and service. Such a wise spiritual master will enlighten you with transcendental knowledge, for he has already known the Absolute Truth.”

To receive the transcendental knowledge we must completely surrender ourselves to the real *ācārya* in a spirit of ardent inquiry and service. Actual performance of service to the Absolute under the guidance of the *ācārya* is the only vehicle by which we can assimilate the transcendental knowledge. Today’s meeting for offering our humble services and homage to the feet of the Ācāryadeva will enable us to be favored with the capacity of assimilating the transcendental knowledge so kindly transmitted by him to all persons without distinction.

Gentlemen, we are all more or less proud of our past Indian civilization, but we actually do not know the real nature of that civilization. We cannot be proud of our past material civilization, which is now a thousand times greater than in days gone by. It is said that we are passing through the age of darkness, the Kali-yuga. What is this darkness? The darkness cannot be due to backwardness in material



knowledge, because we now have more of it than formerly. If not we ourselves, our neighbors at any rate have plenty of it. Therefore, we must conclude that the darkness of the present age is not due to a lack of material advancement, but that we have lost the clue to our spiritual advancement, which is the prime necessity of human life and the criterion of the highest type of human civilization. Throwing of bombs from airplanes is no advancement of civilization from the primitive, uncivilized practice of dropping big stones on the heads of enemies from the tops of hills. Improvement in the art of killing our neighbors by means of machine guns and poisonous gases is certainly no advancement from primitive barbarism, which prided itself on its art of killing by bows and arrows. Nor does the development of a sense of pampered selfishness prove anything more than intellectual animalism. True human civilization is very different from all these states, and therefore in the *Kaṭha Upaniṣad* [1.3.14] there is the emphatic call:

*uttiṣṭhata jāgrata prāpya varān nibodhata
kṣurasya dhārā niśitā duratyayā
durgam pathas tat kavayo vadanti*

“Please wake up and try to understand the boon which you now have in this human form of life. The path of spiritual realization is very difficult; it is sharp like a razor’s edge. That is the opinion of learned, transcendental scholars.”

Thus, while others were yet in the womb of historical oblivion, the sages of India had developed a different kind of civilization, which enabled them to know themselves. They had discovered that we are not at all material entities, but that we are all spiritual, permanent, and indestructible servants of the Absolute. But because we have, against our better judgment, chosen to completely identify ourselves with this present material existence, our sufferings have multiplied according to the inexorable law of birth and death, with its consequent diseases and anxieties. These sufferings cannot be really mitigated by any provision of material happiness,



because matter and spirit are completely different elements. It is just as if you took an aquatic animal out of water and put it on the land, supplying all manner of happiness possible on land. The deadly sufferings of the animal are not capable of being relieved at all until it is taken out of its foreign environment.

Spirit and matter are completely contradictory things. All of us are spiritual entities. We cannot have perfect happiness, which is our birthright, however much we may meddle with the affairs of the mundane things. Perfect happiness can be ours only when we are restored to our natural state of spiritual existence. This is the distinctive message of our ancient Indian civilization, this is the message of the *Gītā*, this is the message of the *Vedas* and the *Purāṇas*, and this is the message of all the real *ācāryas*, including our present Ācāryadeva, in the line of Lord Caitanya.

Gentlemen, although it is imperfectly that we have been enabled, by his grace, to understand the sublime messages of our Ācāryadeva, Om Viṣṇupāda Paramahansa Parivrājakācārya Śrī Śrīmad Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī Mahārāja, we must admit that we have realized definitely that the divine message from his holy lips is the congenial thing for suffering humanity. All of us should hear him patiently. If we listen to the transcendental sound without unnecessary opposition, he will surely have mercy upon us. The *ācārya's* message is to take us back to our original home, back to God. Let me repeat, therefore, that we should hear him patiently, follow him in the measure of our conviction and bow down at his lotus feet for releasing us from our present causeless unwillingness for serving the Absolute and all souls.

From the *Gītā* we learn that even after the destruction of the body, the *ātmā*, or the soul, is not destroyed; he is always the same, always new and fresh. Fire cannot burn him, water cannot dissolve him, the air cannot dry him up, and the sword cannot kill him. He is everlasting and eternal, and this is also confirmed in the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* [SB 10.84.13]:



*yasyātma-buddhiḥ kuṇape tri-dhātuke
sva-dhiḥ kalatrādiṣu bhauma ijya-dhiḥ
yat-tīrtha-buddhiḥ salile na karhicij
janeṣv abhijñeṣu sa eva go-kharaḥ*

“Anyone who accepts this bodily bag of three elements [bile, mucus, and air] as his self, who has an affinity for an intimate relationship with his wife and children, who considers his land as worshipable, who takes bath in the waters of the holy places of pilgrimage but never takes advantage of those persons who are in actual knowledge – he is no better than an ass or a cow.”

Unfortunately, in these days we have all been turned foolish by neglecting our real comfort and identifying the material cage with ourselves. We have concentrated all our energies for the meaningless upkeep of the material cage for its own sake, completely neglecting the captive soul within. The cage is meant for the undoing of the bird; the bird is not meant for the welfare of the cage. Let us, therefore, deeply ponder this. All our activities are now turned toward the upkeep of the cage, and the most we do is try to give some food to the mind by art and literature. But we do not know that this mind is also material in a more subtle form. This is stated in the *Gītā* [Bg. 7.4]:

*bhūmir āpo 'nalo vāyuḥ khaṛiṁ mano buddhir eva ca
ahaṅkāra itīyaṁ me bhinnā prakṛtir aṣṭadhā*

“Earth, water, fire, air, sky, intelligence, mind, and ego are all My separated energies.”

We have scarcely tried to give any food to the soul, which is distinct from the body and mind; therefore we are all committing suicide in the proper sense of the term. The message of the Ācāryadeva is to give us a warning to halt such wrong activities.



Let us therefore bow down at his lotus feet for the unalloyed mercy and kindness he has bestowed upon us.

Gentlemen, do not for a moment think that my Gurudeva wants to put a complete brake on the modern civilization – an impossible feat. But let us learn from him the art of making the best use of a bad bargain, and let us understand the importance of this human life, which is fit for the highest development of true consciousness. The best use of this rare human life should not be neglected. As it is said in *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* [SB 11.9.29]:

*labdhvā su-durlabham idaṁ bahu-sambhavānte
mānuṣyam artha-dam anityam apīha dhīraḥ
tūrṇaṁ yateta na pated anu-mṛtyu yāvan
niḥśreyasāya viṣayaḥ khalu sarvataḥ syāt*

“This human life is obtained after many, many births, and although it is not permanent, it can offer the highest benefits. Therefore a sober and intelligent man should immediately try to fulfill his mission and attain the highest profit in life before another death occurs. He should avoid sense gratification, which is available in all circumstances.”

Let us not misuse this human life in the vain pursuit of material enjoyment, or, in other words, for the sake of only eating, sleeping, fearing, and sensuous activities. The Ācāryadeva’s message is conveyed by the words of Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī:

*anāsaktasya viṣayān yathārham upayuñjataḥ
nirbandhaḥ kṛṣṇa-sambandhe yuktaṁ vairāgyam ucyate
prāpañcikatayā buddhyā hari-sambandhi-vastunaḥ
mumuṣubhiḥ parityāgo vairāgyaṁ phalgu kathyate*



“One is said to be situated in the fully renounced order of life if he lives in accordance with Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. He should be without attachment for sense gratification and should accept only what is necessary for the upkeep of the body. On the other hand, one who renounces things which could be used in the service of Kṛṣṇa, under the pretext that such things are material, does not practice complete renunciation.”

The purport of these ślokaś can only be realized by fully developing the rational portion of our life, not the animal portion. Sitting at the feet of the Ācāryadeva, let us try to understand from this transcendental source of knowledge what we are, what is this universe, what is God, and what is our relationship with Him. The message of Lord Caitanya is the message for the living entities and the message of the living world. Lord Caitanya did not bother Himself for the upliftment of this dead world, which is suitably named Martyaloka, the world where everything is destined to die. He appeared before us four hundred fifty years ago to tell us something of the transcendental universe, where everything is permanent and everything is for the service of the Absolute. But recently Lord Caitanya has been misrepresented by some unscrupulous persons, and the highest philosophy of the Lord has been misinterpreted to be the cult of the lowest type of society. We are glad to announce tonight that our Ācāryadeva, with his unusual kindness, saved us from this horrible type of degradation, and therefore we bow down at his lotus feet with all humility. Gentlemen, it has been a mania of the cultured (or uncultured) society of the present day to accredit the Personality of Godhead with merely impersonal features and to stultify Him by claiming that He has no senses, no form, no activity, no head, no legs, and no enjoyment. This has also been the pleasure of the modern scholars due to their sheer lack of proper guidance and true introspection in the spiritual realm. All these empiricists think alike: all the enjoyable things should be monopolized by the human society, or by a particular class only, and the impersonal God should be a mere order supplier for their whimsical feats. We are happy that we have been relieved of this horrible type of malady by the mercy of His Divine



Grace Paramahansa Parivrājakācārya Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī Mahārāja. He is our eyeopener, our eternal father, our eternal preceptor and our eternal guide. Let us therefore bow down at his lotus feet on this auspicious day.

Gentlemen, although we are like ignorant children in the knowledge of the Transcendence, still His Divine Grace, my Gurudeva, has kindled a small fire within us to dissipate the invincible darkness of empirical knowledge. We are now so much on the safe side that no amount of philosophical argument by the empiric schools of thought can deviate us an inch from the position of our eternal dependence on the lotus feet of His Divine Grace. Furthermore, we are prepared to challenge the most erudite scholars of the Māyāvāda school and prove that the personality of Godhead and His transcendental sports in Goloka alone constitute the sublime information of the *Vedas*. There are explicit indications of this in the *Chāndogya Upaniṣad* [8.13.1]: *śyāmāc chavalam prapadye śavalāc chyāmaṁ prapadye*. "For receiving the mercy of Kṛṣṇa, I surrender unto His energy [Rādhā], and for receiving the mercy of His energy, I surrender unto Kṛṣṇa. Also, in the *Ṛg Veda* [1.2.22.20]: *tad viṣṇoḥ paramaṁ padam sadā paśyanti sūrayo divīva cakṣur ātataṁ ... viṣṇor yat paramaṁ padam*. "The lotus feet of Lord Viṣṇu are the supreme objective of all the demigods. These lotus feet of the Lord are as enlightening as the sun in the sky."

The plain truth so vividly explained in the *Gīta*, which is the central lesson of the *Vedas*, is not understood or even suspected by the most powerful scholars of the empiric schools. Herein lies the secret of Śrī Vyāsa-pūjā. When we meditate on the transcendental pastimes of the Absolute Godhead, we are proud to feel that we are His eternal servitors, and we become jubilant and dance with joy. All glory to my divine master, for it is he who has out of his unceasing flow of mercy stirred up within us such a movement of eternal existence. Let us bow down at his lotus feet. Gentlemen, had he not appeared before us to deliver us from the thralldom of this gross worldly delusion, surely we should have remained for lives and ages in the darkness of helpless captivity. Had he not appeared before us, we would not



have been able to understand the eternal truth of the sublime teaching of Lord Caitanya. Had he not appeared before us, we could not have been able to know the significance of the first śloka of *Brahma-saṁhitā*:

*īśvaraḥ paramaḥ kṛṣṇaḥ sac-cid-ānanda-vigrahaḥ
anādir ādir govindaḥ sarva-kāraṇa-kāraṇam*

“Kṛṣṇa, who is known as Govinda, is the Supreme Godhead. He has an eternal, blissful, spiritual body. He is the origin of all, He has no other origin, and He is the prime cause of all causes.”

Personally, I have no hope for any direct service for the coming crores of births of the sojourn of my life, but I am confident that some day or other I shall be delivered from this mire of delusion in which I am at present so deeply sunk. Therefore let me with all my earnestness pray at the lotus feet of my divine master to allow me to suffer the lot for which I am destined due to my past misdoings, but to let me have this power of recollection: that I am nothing but a tiny servant of the Almighty Absolute Godhead, realized through the unflinching mercy of my divine master. Let me therefore bow down at his lotus feet with all the humility at my command.

ABHAY CHARAN DAS

For Members, Śrī Gauḍīya Maṭha, Bombay



Vyāsa-pūjā Offering

TO HIS DIVINE GRACE A.C. BHAKTIVEDANTA SWAMI PRABHUPĀDA

My Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

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

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

I am writing this offering from Śrī Vṛndāvana dhāma, exactly 47 years after you opened this temple. I was present at that glorious opening along with hundreds of godbrothers and godsisters. It was such a special event, yet not one of us knew, or could even imagine, that a temple situated in a remote part of a remote village would someday become filled with a constant stream of pilgrims, or that Vṛndāvana itself would become a tourist destination.

Throngs of pilgrims are daily pouring into the Kṛṣṇa Balarama Mandir year-round. We hear every morning after maṅgala-ārati how many books were distributed, how many plates of prasādam were served and how many pilgrims chanted one round of japa. Today about 2200 books were distributed right on the temple premises, 7400 plates of prasādam were served and about 1500 pilgrims chanted one round of japa.



In 1975, as I stood and watched you offer the first āratī in the Kṛṣṇa Balarāma Mandir, the idea that the opening of this temple would someday put Vṛndāvana on the map, not only for people in India, but for people around the world, was beyond anyone's imagination.

Yesterday, as I was returning on a rickshaw from visiting some of the Vṛndāvana temples, we ran into a traffic jam. Rickshaws were lined up in both directions as far as the eye could see, while crowds of pedestrians struggled to squeeze through the spaces between the rickshaws and the crowded shops that lined every square foot along the side of the road. I jokingly said to my wife, "This traffic jam is ISKCON's fault!"

And then there is the temple in Juhu. The disciples you left in charge to struggle to secure the land started to feel that the project was not worth fighting for. After all, it was in an out of the way place and we were expending massive amounts of energy in trying to secure the land. Eventually one of the leaders in Juhu decided to give up the fight, and had you not intervened we would have lost the land and the money we had invested in it. Again, we had no sense of how a temple in such a remote part of Mumbai, far from its city center, would be useful, what to speak of as massively successful as it is today.

And the list goes on. The huge amounts of saṅkīrtana going on today in the form of books, prasādam, Harer-nāma, festivals, and various outreach programs, are having their effects although we may not have the vision to see the long-term consequences. I joined ISKCON at a time when people thought vegetarians would become sick from malnutrition, kīrtana was something that only strange religious fanatics did, practically no young men were joining ISKCON in India, and ISKCON had only a handful of congregational members worldwide.



Preaching in places like the Soviet Union and China was a pipe dream, and countries outside of India in which massive numbers of Indians had migrated for the past century were either slowly turning away from their culture or were focused on demigod worship.

Today these very places – India, Bangladesh, the former Soviet Union, China, South Africa, Mauritius, Singapore, Malaysia, and Fiji are where the greatest numbers of people are becoming devotees. Who could have imagined this in the early days of ISKCON?

Western Europe, North America, and the UAE have seen millions of Indians migrating to find a better way of life. Tens of thousands of these migrants have become devotees, and most of them became devotees after leaving India. In other words, they left India for material prosperity, did not have a deep religious commitment – or any religious commitment – but became devotees in the West because of their connection with ISKCON.

In 1975, in Māyāpur, you predicted there would be a world war. When it didn't happen you were asked why and you replied that it was because of our saṅkīrtana activities and therefore Kṛṣṇa changed his mind. We may think that ISKCON is an insignificant entity on the world stage, yet you told us that we stopped World War III at that time. You were asked about the rise in vegetarianism, interest in yoga and Eastern philosophy, and religious practices (which would include the popularity of kīrtana today) and you said it was all because of our saṅkīrtana activities that these changes had taken place.

The first followers of yours were somewhat amused that you named your society the International Society for Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. After all, there was only one small storefront and a ragtag band of followers in this “international society.” But within a few years, temples started springing up around the US and Canada and then



gradually around the world. By 1969, the devotees in the UK met George Harrison and the Beatles, and made the Hare Kṛṣṇa mantra popular throughout Europe, acquired Bhaktivedanta Manor, and as the Telegraph newspaper headlines wrote, startled London with Rathayātrā (“Kṛṣṇa Chants Startle London.”)

In a lecture on the disappearance day of your guru mahārāja, I believe in Los Angeles in 1969, you revealed that even you could not have imagined such things. You told us, “I was born in a different family, my guru mahārāja was born in a different family. Who knew that I would come to America? Who knew that you American boys would come to me? These are all Kṛṣṇa’s arrangements. We cannot understand how things are taking place.”

In other words, the spreading of Kṛṣṇa consciousness happens through the transcendental arrangements of Kṛṣṇa in such a way that it appeared mysterious, even to you. You wrote in a letter, “Only about six years ago I could not even imagine how widespread and potent a force this Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement would become, but now I am seeing that it is simply a miracle by Kṛṣṇa that we are coming to the forefront of all other spiritual cultures in the world. So I think that in the future one day we shall become the ruling party, at least if we can do that in your country then we may also do it everywhere else. So I am always thinking in this way, big plans on behalf of the Supreme Personality of Godhead.”

You ended your letter by explaining the conditions in which this would take place. “But I can understand that such big plans will never come true unless the plan makers and executors of the plan remain always extremely purified.” So we have a prediction that can only come true if we maintain a society of pure devotees.

In 1972, as I sat in a Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam class in Los Angeles, you told us that this movement will go on with us or without us, but if we stay we’ll get the credit. It sounded like if we just stick around then everything will happen, even in spite of us.



But what you meant – and we sometimes overlook this – is that your confidence in the success of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement was not just based on the purity of the message and the process, but on the purity of those delivering the message.

Puṣṭa Kṛṣṇa Swami once asked you, “How far is Lord Caitanya’s prediction that Kṛṣṇa consciousness will go to every town and village, true?” You replied that it will depend on those who are preaching. In Mauritius, you said that Mauritius could (not would) be the first Kṛṣṇa conscious country in the world.

In 1976, Rāmeśvara Prabhu mentioned that you said that this movement will go on unimpeded for ten thousand years, to which you replied, “Yes, provided we keep it uncontaminated. You should take this opportunity.”

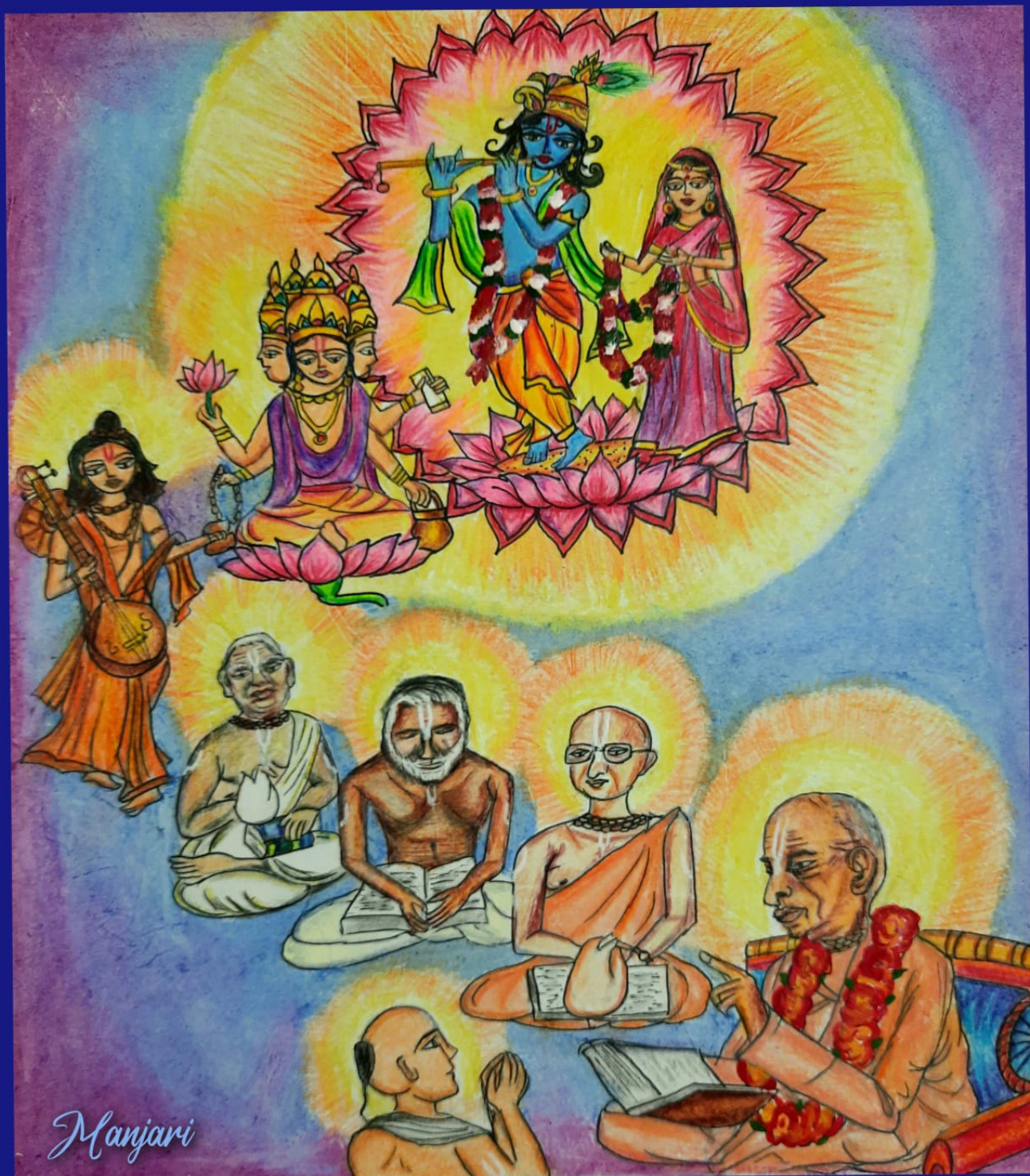
Śrīla Prabhupāda, you made it clear that this movement has the potency, whether we believe or not, to make drastic changes to the world, even alter the course of history, but the degree of ISKCON’s success will depend upon us. You are the one who set in motion the possibility that Mahāprabhu’s name could be heard in every town and village and you gave us the mantle. Now it is up to us to make this happen. I pray I can contribute in some small way to help make this prediction come true. Śrīla Prabhupāda, please bless me to always properly represent your teachings, be a living example of them, and be motivated only to please you and Kṛṣṇa.

Your insignificant servant,

Mahatma Dasa



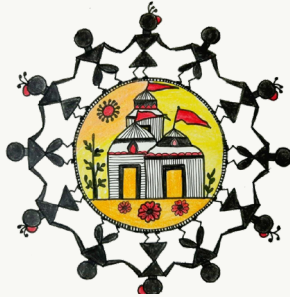




Manjari



Offerings from ...



ARGENTINA | AUSTRALIA | AUSTRIA | BRAZIL | CHILE | CHINA | COLOMBIA
CROATIA | ECUADOR | FRANCE | GERMANY | INDIA | IRELAND
ITALY | LITHUANIA | MÉXICO | POLAND | RUSSIA
SLOVENIA | SOUTH AFRICA | TRINIDAD & TOBAGO | UKRAINE
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | UNITED KINGDOM | UNITED STATES | URUGUAY





Argentina



Andrea

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Dear Guru Mahārāj, please accept my respectful obeisances.

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and all glories to you on this very special day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

I know I won't find words to describe how grateful I feel, but you understand us deeply beyond words. Your dedication and surrender to serving Śrīla Prabhupāda, your humility as well as your commitment to helping us become Kṛṣṇa conscious is my inspiration.

I know that I am only at the beginning of the road, that I still have a long way to go, and although I am anxious because I see that the goal is far away, I have faith in your words full of mercy. Through your online classes and retreats you have helped me gradually reach a deeper and clearer understanding of what it means to love Kṛṣṇa and how to go about achieving it.

I pray that I will be given the ability to serve you. Thank you for your instructions.

Your would-be servant,

Bhaktin Andrea



Argentina



Gisele

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
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śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

When I came to know about Kṛṣṇa Consciousness I got to know Śrīla Prabhupāda through his books, but the book that moved me to tears was Prabhupāda's Līlāmṛta. It is incredible! All of the challenges he went through to bring Kṛṣṇa to the West, so much devotion!! It is amazing, such mercy towards us, it inspires me to continue each day with more humility.

I only have words of gratitude towards you, for inspiring me every day with your preaching, with your humor, your dedication and for showing so much love towards all of your devotees. In this case, with this humble aspiring disciple.

I hope Kṛṣṇa shower you with blessings, allowing me to serve you.

Jay Gurudeva!!

Your servant,

Gisele Cardozo



Argentina



Kamala Sundari Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,
Please accept my sincere humble obeisances.

On this auspicious day of your appearance I can only say thank you!



Thank you for your determination and enthusiasm in coming to America and fulfilling the service that your Guru indicated to you and overcoming all of the adversities that were presented to you.

Thank you for your endless love and patience in establishing the movement and converting hippies into bona-fide devotees who are our teachers today.

Thank you for giving us a home around the world, because each temple is our refuge and a great family. Thank you for introducing me to Kṛṣṇa, thank you for my spiritual master, Mahātmā Das.

Please give me your blessings to continue on this path.

• • • • •

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Dear Gurudeva,

On the auspicious day of your appearance, I want to wish you a very happy birthday and may the love of your disciples, aspirants, well-wishers and godbrothers reach your heart and accompany you always on the arduous and beautiful path of distributing the holy name.

In these 9 years of knowing you, I have seen you preach without interruption, even beyond your strength, and you have also done it in every possible way by all available means. You have been able to preach even during the pandemic with



mandatory isolation, and you have done it daily, always following the example, values and instructions of Śrīla Prabhupāda.

I pray that I may follow your example.

As I said before, 9 years ago I met you, here in Mar del Plata, and I was captivated by your presence, preaching, love and humility, so much so that I followed you to Buenos Aires, on your tour and shared the first wonderful moments of your company and guide. I give thanks a thousand times for that blessed day when I met you and heard your words for the first time, as well as my infinite gratitude to Gunagrahi Mahārāja who brought you to Argentina.

Just finishing your tour and already leaving for your next destination, I realized that my very dear Gurudeva had found you, you were my spiritual teacher.

Then our emails began, which you answered very lovingly to give me the necessary instructions. Finally in Mayapur we met and in a very kind way, the one that characterizes you, you accepted to be officially my spiritual teacher, there when I asked you for refuge you told me „I already gave you refuge a long time ago“, it is impossible to remember without crying.

You have accompanied me with your guide, words, instructions, love, protection and presence all this time. Beyond the distance, I always feel you close to me, so much so that sometimes I have imaginary talks with you as if you were by my side.

The Guru is the merciful representative of Kṛṣṇa, he is the manifested compassion of the Supreme, and teaches us everything there is to know about the Lord, he is the external manifestation of Paramatma, full of unconditional love, always attentive to the care of his disciples, that is my Guru Mahārāj, Mahātmā Das.



Argentina

I pray that you always remain under the shelter of your very dear spiritual master, Śrīla Prabhupāda. My words are few and clumsy to describe your greatness. I am eternally indebted to you and also eternally grateful.

Who tries to serve you,

Kamala Sundari Devi Dasi



Argentina



Marcelo

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
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*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda! The best there is and the reason I am Kṛṣṇa conscious. Thanks to him I know Kṛṣṇa and know all of His devotees.

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Hare Kṛṣṇa dear Guru Mahārāj,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyaṁ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
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śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracārīṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tārīṇe*

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. Please accept my humble obeisances.

My dear Mahārāj, firstly, I would like to tell you all that you did and continue to do in my life everyday; Thanks to you, I can see this life differently. With your words, you make me feel strong enough to try and be a better devotee, to try to be Kṛṣṇa Conscious all the time and when I have problems, I always think of you.

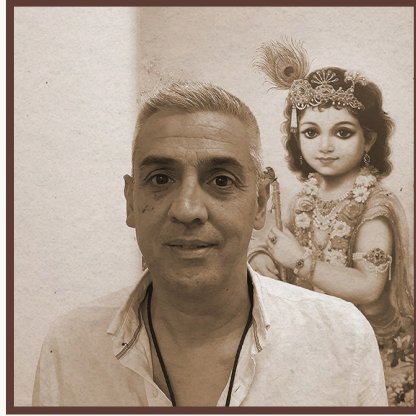
On this special day I wish you the best. Thank you for everything Mahārāj. You are in my heart everyday.

Your servant,

Bhakta Marcelo



Argentina



Maximo

Aspiring Disciple

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

I wanted to express my gratitude to Śrīla Prabhupāda for being the bearer of this transcendental message and for having been able to spread it very mercifully in the west to rescue us from the darkness of ignorance that prevails in this world.



I feel very lucky to have been able to have contact with his books that are the salvation of all humanity and how he allows us all to get this knowledge in a practical and profound way.

The connection or relationship I have with Śrīla Prabhupāda is through serving his mission and being able to propagate his teachings that he has left as a legacy through his transcendental literature, which teaches us to recognize and re-establish our true spiritual identity by understanding our position before God and our relationship with Him.

... ..

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble and respectful obeisances! All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

My Dear Guru Mahārāj, on this occasion I wanted to convey my deepest gratitude for consecrating your life and work to this preaching work that you carry out in total alignment with the desire of your Spiritual Master, Śrīla Prabhupāda. Thank you for your enormous compassion and mercy in delivering this transcendental science to other living entities coming from Sri-Guru Parampara from where this Spiritual knowledge descends.



Argentina

I remember when you arrived on one of your visits to Buenos Aires (Argentina) in 2019 and I had the great blessings of the senior devotees of being able to meet you at the airport, while we waited in kirtan for you to arrive. I felt great anxiety about how your great personality would impact me, you had that great uncertainty. Fortunately when I saw you arrive, I was hypnotized by the presence of your great person and a deep gaze that pierced my heart, which immediately awakened a deep connection. From then, I knew at that moment that you were the Spiritual Master to make me grow spiritually in CDK, a feeling that I have never experienced before.

I had not experienced that before and that was the moment in which I understood how important the role of the Spiritual Master is, in the life of the disciple.

Here is a quote from scripture that instantly makes me think of you when I read it, [MU 1.2.12]:

*tad-vijñānārthaṁ sa gurum evābhigacchet
śrauta-panthā, śrotriyaṁ brahma-niṣṭham*

“To learn transcendental science, one must approach a bona fide Spiritual Master in the disciplic succession, who is fixed in the Absolute Truth. ”

Your eternal servant,

Bhakta Maximo



Argentina



*Prema Rupini Madhavi Devi Dasi
& Prema Rupa Madhava Dasa*

Śikṣā Disciple

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisance. All glories to you.

Thank you for coming to America and giving your last years preaching and making so many wonderful devotees. Especially on this day, for giving your blessings to HG Mahātmā Das to continue expanding and taking care of Caitanya Mahaprabhu's



movement. He is helping so many devotees around the world to improve their relationship with Sri Kṛṣṇa with his mood. Many important services are done in such a nice mood that wherever he goes he sparks devotion in all the devotees.

• • • • •

Hare Kṛṣṇa Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept our humble obeisance. All Glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and to you.

On this auspicious day in Sri Dham Mayapur we want to offer our sincere gratefulness for your dedication to make us improve our devotional qualities, always encouraging us to become better persons, better devotees. Your mood inspires us. Your simplicity with your profound realizations make us become closer to Kṛṣṇa.

As much as we travel with you, spend time together, we can see how your name became a prediction that Śrīla Prabhupāda realized more than 50 years ago. Every year we become more attached to your wisdom, kirtans and sweet treats.

We are full of wonderful samskaras from the moments that we spend in your lovely association. When you talk, that impacts directly in our hearts because of your purity and your desire to awaken our love for Kṛṣṇa. Today we were in Radha Kunda in Mayapur and you talked about the importance of achieving Prema in this life. You are always showing the real path and how to go for it.

Your kirtans are from the spiritual world. You are one of the most important persons in our life. Thank you for giving your life to Śrīla Prabhupāda and showing us the way to go back to Godhead.



Argentina

We are so happy that this year we can serve you in Argentina and Uruguay and spend time with you.

Your servants, with love and affection

Prema Das & Premi Devi Das



Australia



Amrita Radhika Devi Dasi

Dikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances and all glories to yourself and dear Gurudeva. I'd like to thank you for always being my rock, my inspiration and my solace when I'm feeling bewildered by this material world. I often talk to you in my times of



suffering but also in my times of joy in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness because if it wasn't for you, there would be no Kṛṣṇa Consciousness in the west. You are always there to listen to my thoughts, my prayers, my gratitudes and I always feel that you reciprocate in such kind and loving ways. I take shelter in your books and I listen to classes from Gurudeva and he always shares your mood with us so precisely that I feel I have grown in my relationship with you because of him.

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, I don't think I will ever be able to repay you for all that you have done for us, however what I will promise you, is that I will keep trying in my endeavors to serve you as sincerely as I can. This is something I can try to do and hope that in some small insignificant way it can please you.

So thank you for always being there to hear my prayers and thoughts and for always being the solace need.

Your aspiring spiritual granddaughter,

Amrita Kadhika Devi Dasi

.....

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dearest Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances and all glories to you on your Vyāsa-pūjā.

When I write my offering I always try to find a verse and make it my meditation. The most recent verse I have re-read is BG 4.34:

*tad viddhi praṇipātena
paripraśnena sevayā
upadekṣyanti te jñānam
jñāninas tattva-darśinaḥ*

“Just try to learn the truth by approaching a spiritual master. Inquire from him submissively and render service unto him. The self-realized souls can impart knowledge unto you because they have seen the truth.”

This verse always humbles me and reminds me of the role you, Gurudeva have in my life. You, the self realized soul, is always imparting knowledge unto me through your classes, videos, emails, kirtans, japa sessions and your personal association. What I am reminded of daily is how little I know and how you are the torch light that shines the path for me to one day hopefully go back home.

To me this relationship is the most precious and beloved relationship I will ever have, and only because of your mercy I am able to have a glimmer of hope that one day I will be able to sincerely try to serve you, Śrīla Prabhupāda and Kṛṣṇa with pure



intentions and for this there are no words to describe how grateful I am, but also how eternally indebted I am to you dear Gurudeva.

With you and Śrīla Prabhupāda as my shining examples I feel that I can try harder and become stronger in my sadhana, service and how I co-operate and relate to others. I have realized that relationships and how we interact and treat others is where I can see myself growing the most at the moment. This is all because of you.

I listen to your daily videos and classes and always take something away and then try my best to implement your knowledge into my day to day life. So, for this dear Gurudeva I thank you and I will keep trying my best to try and improve myself, because of you.

Your insignificant servant,

Amrita Kadhika Devi Dasi



Australia



Anandamayī Devī Dāsī

Dīkṣā Disciple

Hare Kṛṣṇa His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedānta Swamī Śrīla Prabhupāda,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

I am writing to thank you for being such an influential mentor to my spiritual master HG Mahātmā Das. My spiritual master has transformed my life and I am very thankful that he had you as his spiritual master.



I know that the skills and knowledge he has acquired over the years has been greatly due to the influence you provided to him.

Your commitment to spreading Kṛṣṇa Consciousness has been an invaluable gift to those of us who have been fortunate enough to learn from you through your books. I am grateful for your dedication and your willingness to share your knowledge with others.

Thank you for being a pioneer, and for blazing a trail for others to follow, including my spiritual master, and now me.

Your servant,

Anandamayī Devī Dāsi

.....

Hare Kṛṣṇa Guru Mahārāj,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

This year I would like to thank you for your continued guidance and support. Your practical guidance and teachings have been invaluable to me on my spiritual journey, and I have been able to achieve a greater understanding of my beliefs and my relationship with Kṛṣṇa through your lectures and books.



Australia

As I plan your Sydney events, I am deeply inspired by your unwavering dedication to your spiritual master, and I sincerely hope to serve you in the same mood.

I am grateful for the time and effort you put into helping your disciples learn and grow. Your words of encouragement and advice have been instrumental in helping me make progress and stay on the spiritual path. Your wisdom and compassion have been a source of strength for me, and I am deeply appreciative of all that you do.

Thank you for being an inspirational spiritual master and mentor. I am deeply appreciative of the impact you have had on my life.

Hare Kṛṣṇa!

Your servant,

Anandamayī Devī Dāśī



Australia



Deanne

Aspiring Disciple

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

To my father whom I never met, yet feel living in each breath, the guide who has brought me home to my most natural state of being; a river of mercy, an ocean of love without which we would still be lost in the darkness of the material world.

Here you are with me, I hear your voice meandering through every page, in every verse and every purport. I see you living in the enthusiasm of raised arms and dancing feet, in the rhythmic sounds of the mrdanga, and the intoxicating smell of incense filling the temple walls. When I feel lost I remember you and your journey



to bring all this to me; to save our souls and bring us back home. How could I ever possibly show my gratitude? So, I will simply continue to read, listen, preach and pray.

With my palms and my forehead on the marble floor, may I always find myself in sweet surrender to my spiritual master Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Your servant,

Deanne Marie "Dee"

... ..

My dearest Gurudev, my spiritual master, may I offer my humble obeisances to your lotus feet!

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

I have been wandering in this lifetime and many before searching endlessly within material attachments for meaning - my pursuit of sense enjoyment led me far away from God. Yet in all its turbulence it has all led me here, in Kṛṣṇa's perfect timing.



It is only through your mercy that I can find my way home, it is only through your mercy that I can be saved.

My relationship with Kṛṣṇa changed the moment I realized that I simply could not do this without you, in that second of surrender everything changed. You have enriched my Bhakti with a deeper authentic understanding, allowing me to cultivate a real relationship with the Holy Name and so tenderly answered all my questions along this journey.

I pray for a life spent deeply devoted in sincere service to you, and to find myself always surrendered and in remembrance of Sri Kṛṣṇa and Srimati Radharani. Thank you for bringing me home.

Your servant,

Deanne Marie "Dee"



Australia



Gabi

Well-wisher

Thank you Śrīla Prabhupāda!

You have given me the shelter of your love, wisdom and knowledge for over 30 years in the form of your devotees, your temples and your books. With all you have given me I have been saved from being dragged underneath the waves of the material ocean.

Despite being only a minute spark of Kṛṣṇa's energy, I have safety, purpose and love, even in this life.



I am eternally indebted to you and will continue to endeavor to remember what I have learned and to practice it better over my lifetime.

Your servant,

Gabi Bliss

.....

Dear Mahātmā Mahārāja,

Thank you for being such a kind and patient influence in my life! Despite my turbulent mind and my emotional ups and downs, you have been like a steady rock for me over the last 12 months. I really wanted to just run away from my life and take shelter of you as a full time Hare Kṛṣṇa devotee last year.

After many years adrift in the material world I began to chant once more due to meeting up with a Śrīla Prabhupāda disciple I used to know and I found a real taste and a sense of relief to be engaged in devotional service yet again.

As you know, last year I spent 9 months doing nothing but the 9 kinds of devotional service outlined in Nectar of Devotion, which I read in three sittings. I was ready to give up everything and everyone standing in my way, including all my friends, family and my dog. (That last one would really hurt!)

I even had a dream, if you recall, the day before I was due to have darshan with you on zoom, where I saw and joked with Kṛṣṇa and I „gave him a job“ as the Captain of my heart! I was very encouraged by this as a sign that I should drop everything and run to join the nearest temple.



As soon as life came crashing back into my awareness, I realized that I was doing what you and others have called „spiritual bypassing“, using my spiritual practices to escape and avoid my responsibilities and deny my real material desires already fully activated. Of course I know that with Kṛṣṇa all things are possible and He can just cancel out my previous life and allow me to dive into full time devotion if that is truly what I want and I am ready for. But when I wrote to you the first time, the truth is I didn't know what I wanted, let alone what I did not want.

I did not want COVID-19 to exist. I did not want no-governmental organizations to have convinced governments globally via huge cash incentives to take over the health choices of private citizens all over the world in a massive fear based operation. I did not want severe droughts, fires and floods to destroy the town I lived in and hundreds in surrounding areas, leaving thousands destitute and homeless and many dead. I did not want to be in trauma therapy, revisiting my violent and abusive past in order to stop being haunted by it and feeling broken.

When I heard the Maha Mantra, saw the beautiful forms of Their Lordships in the temple and remembered what a safe haven Kṛṣṇa Consciousness was for me in my troubled past, once again I took shelter and once again I felt safe. Then I found you.

You are not pretentious, pompous or demanding. You are funny, approachable, goofy even. You are kind, gentle and patient. All the things I wished my Dad was. All the things I wished my brother was. All the things I wished all men were. All the things a spiritual master should really be. So, I tried to take shelter of you too.

Kind and smart Mahātmā Mahārāja!

I would love to just sing and dance all day and chant Hare Kṛṣṇa till the cows come home and peace descends into my tortured soul. But the fact is I am not ready to do that yet really. I have been avoiding getting a material life so well that I am in



the unenviable position of just learning how to earn a living and be responsible for getting my own needs met and being good at self-care. I really appreciate that you run lovely workshops on these things as it is vitally important for everyone in my opinion.

I guess it was foolish of me to think I could go straight from the mode of ignorance to Transcendental ecstatic bliss, bypassing passion and goodness altogether. I feel a bit sheepish, maybe like Arjuna felt when he realized he couldn't just run away and become a monk. He had a nature, a job to do born of that nature and that was Kṛṣṇa's will for him, so he surrendered to that in the end.

I do not regret for one second trying to be a pujari for Little Jagganath and Gaura Nitai in my home, doing Tulasi Arati daily, keeping Nirjal Ekadasi, devoting all of November to Sri Radhe, dancing for hours up the hill in front of the Ratha Yatra Cart or chanting till my fingers really hurt.

Kṛṣṇa has kindly cashed in those chips of sincere effort on my part in the form of removing my fear of moving ahead in everyday material life whilst helping me remain aware that the goal of life is full surrender to His Divine Love and Will, a day that will surely, with your help and prayers, finally come true for me.

Thank you for holding such steady love and concern for my well being and being a non-judgemental force for my good, propelling me forward into courage and action. Thank you for being so light hearted.

Your fan, well-wisher,

Gabi Bliss



Australia



Laura

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,
This is for you;

“You chanted the Holy Name on your beads,
as you sailed across the seven seas



To distribute love of God freely, sharing Nitai-Gaura's causeless mercy
To light the way back home for society, and set us free from our chains, and misery
Teaching us the names, Hare, Kṛṣṇa, and Rama and helping us fulfill our dharma
Instructing us how to clear our karma, and end the cycle of samsara"

Śrīla Prabhupāda,

How can one fathom the level of your compassion upon us fallen souls? You personally left Kṛṣṇa's direct association to come here and save us. You left your beloved Sri Vrindavan Dham, to travel to the heart of maya, so you could share Kṛṣṇa Consciousness with all of us who had forgotten.

You have patiently raised us like your own children. You have taught us how to live, and how to love. You went through so much discomfort and austerity for us, to so humbly and selflessly carry out the instructions of your beloved Guru Mahārāj. We are only here by his mercy, and thus I offer my most humble respects and obeisances unto his divine lotus feet millions of times.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, I pray that I can serve my spiritual master with such determination and carry out his instructions accordingly in order to distribute the love of Kṛṣṇa, and propagate love for Kṛṣṇa.

I love you so very much, Śrīla Prabhupāda, nothing I could say could ever be enough. All I can do is try my best to follow your instructions, so I can someday, see you again, fall down at your lotus feet, and bathe your feet with my tears.

Your aspiring insignificant servant,

Bhaktin Laura



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

To my dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!

As time goes by, I increasingly find myself feeling so very grateful and humbled that Kṛṣṇa has sent you to guide fortunate souls like myself, my dear God brothers and sisters, and any other devotee who has the privilege to benefit from the wisdom you constantly share with us all.

I can see that this is one of the ways that Kṛṣṇa extends His love to us all. I would like to thank you, so very much, for helping me to feel, and remember Kṛṣṇa's love, especially in the times when I alone forget it.

Kṛṣṇa— always knowing what is best for me, made so many arrangements so I could meet you. Since then, what seemed like an impossible task for me (becoming Kṛṣṇa's devotee), seems entirely possible because since then, you have inspired me to do better in my spiritual practice, to be better, to serve better and most importantly — to chant better.

I sincerely pray, by Nityananda and Gauracandra's mercy that I will qualify myself to become worthy of becoming your disciple and that I may assist you in your service unto Śrīla Prabhupāda, and remind other souls of Kṛṣṇa's love for them too.



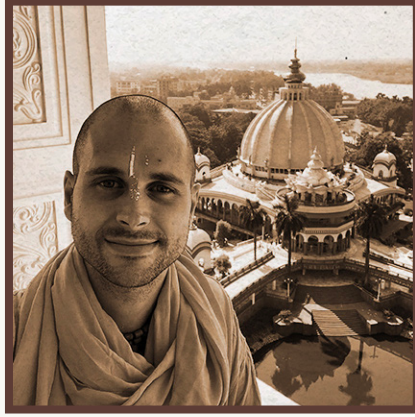
Australia

Thank you for always inspiring me on my journey, and for leading me on the way back to Kṛṣṇa. I hope that I may always remain wise enough to follow your footsteps.

*Your insignificant and aspiring,
to become worthy of being your servant,*

Bhaktin Laura





Nrsimha Caitanya Dasa

Dikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

As I am writing this, I am now concluding my first visit to India and I know it is only by your mercy to us ‘white elephants’ that this is possible. Each time I have visited your samadhi, or have visited your pastime places I can feel your presence there



and the same words erupt from me every time: "Thank you. Thank you for saving my life."

Śrīla Prabhupāda, I witness how much you have transformed the world and how much love people who have never met you, have for you. In a dark world which has many relentless snares to keep us from realizing our eternal position of servant of the servant of the servant, you boldly come to fulfill the wish of your spiritual master. Thank you for risking so much to give so much to those who didn't even know they needed saving.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, I didn't know I could feel so strongly about someone and yet every day I am reminded of how you saved my life and it leaves me wanting to serve you better as days go by. How can I possibly repay such an unlimited gift? I pray I may always deepen my understanding of you and the teachings you so lovingly gave to us so I can be of some use within your mission.

Your aspiring servant,

Nrsimha Caitanya Dasa



Dearest Śrīla Gurudeva,

Please accept my obeisances. All glories to you. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Although I am so insignificant, I feel so grateful that I am able to offer you these words of offering on such an auspicious occasion.

In this last year you formally accepted me as your disciple through Zoom. You told me after gifting me my new name that I should be bold and strong like Nrsimhadeva but compassionate and merciful like Lord Caitanya.

Gurudeva, this is a tightrope for me and I am trying so hard to get the balance right and it's by your instructions and mercy that I can fulfill this and altogether remain dasa.

You guided me through some very turbulent times in my Kṛṣṇa (and material) Consciousness. You brought me closer to Śrīla Prabhupāda through your amazing number of classes, workshops and you even responding to my elaborate emails in-between them all

The inspiration derived from your kindness, humour, patience and extraordinary practicality you provide to me and so many countless devotees is something I will strive my very best to exude in my dealings in life. When I see how so many people are positively impacted by your words and actions it makes me love you even more. I met you again in Govardhan and again you positively reshaped my life by allowing



me to believe I can indeed have a loving relationship with myself, the devotees, Śrīla Prabhupāda and Kṛṣṇa Himself. You truly give me the faith that I really can become Kṛṣṇa Conscious in this lifetime and do something good in this life.

On our parikramas I tried to literally walk in your footsteps that were left softly imprinted in the dust of Vraja. Whilst that was ecstatic and humorous, I came to realize the best way to get your mercy, is to follow your instructions, be loving and become a sincere Kṛṣṇa Conscious devotee.

Gurudev, I pray with all I have, that I am able to serve you sincerely. With all the humility I can muster, I fall at your lotus feet to offer myself to you in service again and again .

Your servant,

Nrsimha Caitanya Dasa



Australia



Sundari Radha Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Hare Kṛṣṇa dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances at the dust of your lotus feet. All glories to you
Śrīla Prabhupāda.



You are a perfect representative of your spiritual master, you showed us how to make the mission of the spiritual master one's life and soul. From the day you met your Guru Mahārāja, you dedicated yourself completely to following his instructions and fulfilling his desires. You always carried him in your heart, and as a result, you became the recipient of his mercy and lived out the prediction of Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu that the Kṛṣṇa Consciousness movement would spread to every town and village.

You are the embodiment of love and cooperation, yet within ISKCON there can be difficulty in achieving that same level of unity. Everyone has a different perspective on matters, varying needs, and strategies for carrying out your mission - all while having their own individual ways to serve you.

Despite this diversity, it is clear how much devotion they have towards you. Inevitably though these differences will create confusion amongst followers as well and give Kali an opportunity to enter.

I feel incredibly sad sometimes with some of the things that are happening within ISKCON, unimaginable things. However, you asked us to stay, to follow the principles. We are to follow because this is what you have asked, I pray for your mercy so that I can become sincere in loving you and following what you have asked regardless of how I feel about what is happening within ISKCON. There is no other answer.

I have had the good fortune to hear personal and intimate stories of your mercy, love, compassion and example through family members of your direct disciples. These stories bring me hope, faith, nurturing and guidance. I know being able to even hear these beautiful stories has only been possible because of your mercy.



I pray for your continued mercy, I so desperately need to continue to progress in my spiritual life.

Your aspiring servant,

Sundari Kadha Devi Dasi

... ..

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Hare Kṛṣṇa dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances at the dust of your lotus feet. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and yourself on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

Every year that passes, as I approach writing my offering on your Vyāsa-pūjā there is always one clear point of focus that stands out. In so many ways you are a perfect example of following the teachings of Bhagavad-gītā.

When challenges arise, mistakes are made (by me) or others you are so tolerant, and undisturbed that you show me such additional mercy that you joke with your awesome humor which of course brings relief to me or those who have made mistakes. This example and many others are a clear demonstration of seeing and living the truth, a truly perfect example.



You are a perfect example of kindness with an incredible ability to connect with others and meet them where they are at in a very personal and individual way but also to the masses. This is demonstrated by the type of courses and classes you give. You have used your real-life experience over 50 years and created Sattva Life, devotee care, workshops, classes and music that are a living example of love and compassion that deeply transform and support devotees.

My wish is to continue to build Sattva Life and focus on this full-time as a fully established organization that supports devotees' psychological and spiritual needs, so that devotees can get the help they need in facing their trauma that on some level is so painfully holding them back in spiritual life.

I pray for one drop of your sincerity in serving your mission in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, as you are a perfect example of living the mission of Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Thank you for loving me and accepting me despite my ongoing faults. I would be so lost without your guidance and love.

Your aspiring servant,

Sundari Radha Devi Dasi



Australia



Vansh

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, all glories unto you. All glories to the holy name.

You are so merciful, that you came into this material world to deliver so many fallen souls. If it was not for you, I would have never came into contact with this Kṛṣṇa Consciousness movement. I would have never came intp contact with the Holy



Name. I would have wasted this precious human form of life. Although I was not able to meet you in person, I am always able to stay in touch with you through your books. Indeed as you said, you are forever alive in your books, and are distributing your causeless mercy freely to everyone through your books. I am forever indebted to you. It is a hundred percent true that;

*(yadi) prabhupada na haita tabe ki haita
(e) jivana bahita kise?
nitai-gaurera apara karuna
ke dita sakala dese*

If Śrīla Prabhupāda had not come, what would have happened? How could we have passed our lives? Who else would have distributed the unlimited mercy of Lord Nityananda and Lord Gauranga all over the world?

Unlimited obeisances unto your lotus feet.

Your servant,

Vansh



*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda! All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

It is my absolute fortune to have you as my śikṣā guru and hopefully one day as my dikṣā guru. A guru acts like a torch in darkness, and destroys all ignorance of the disciple. You were just that for me guru Mahārāja.

I remember seeing one of your videos on YouTube, and then watching many more and then how I contacted you for the first time. I remember writing very long e-mails one after another to you, full of questions and you answering each e-mail so nicely and patiently, for a fallen soul like me. With each response you have ever given me, it has only destroyed my dark ignorance, and provided me with deep enlightenment. It is my pleasure to be able to serve you and I hope to be able to do so eternally. I offer obeisances unto you again and again on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

Hare Kṛṣṇa

Your Servant,

Vansh



Australia



Yolanda

Aspiring Disciple

Dear Mahātmā Prabhu

Please accept my humble obeisance. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*



Australia

*nama om̐ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Each day I continue to grow in my bhakti path by chanting my rounds, reading Śrīla Prabhupāda books and involving myself in temple seva and our Mantra Project Sydney. I listen and watch many of your inspiring lectures online, to further my relationship with Kṛṣṇa in being a good and loving devotee in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.

I am forever grateful for your auspicious appearance in my life and thank you for accepting me in your shelter.

Your humble servant,

Yolanda Komoll



Austria



Samira

Aspiring Disciple

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my most humble obeisances. All glories to you. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!

I am forever grateful for what His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Śrīla Prabhupāda gave to the world. The ongoing sacrifices and struggles he went through to spread the Kṛṣṇa Consciousness movement is out of this world.



His determination, faith and trust in Kṛṣṇa and his Guru Mahārāja is not only inspiring, but also provides the perfect example of a humble servant. He lived for the instructions of his Guru Mahārāja and faithfully implemented them depending only on Kṛṣṇa.

His life and teachings are the most precious gift for humanity. His unconditional love towards everyone is exemplary of a pure devotee who only sees the spirit soul. By his causeless mercy he is showing us how to awaken the love for God and to remember our true nature – being an eternal spirit soul, a servant of Lord Kṛṣṇa. His only desire is to save as many souls as possible by spreading Kṛṣṇa Consciousness all over the world and serving Lord Caitanya's Sankirtan mission. May his endeavors never be lost and never be forgotten.

• • • • •

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



I am not a poet nor a good writer, but still I wish to express my gratitude to you. What you have done and still are doing to support devotees and serve His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Śrīla Prabhupāda is most valuable. I pray that I may somehow be able to give a little contribution back to please and serve you.

You brought light into my darkness. You gave my life purpose. Completely unqualified and fallen, you have accepted me anyways and have given me shelter. How can I ever pay you back? When I struggled the most your preaching saved me. Your words were my medicine. You are giving me hope that one day I will be allowed to go back to Godhead.

You are encouraging me to try my best even if trying my best feels not enough. To just keep going with faith and determination knowing that my only qualification is my sincerity. At times when I felt confused where I belonged and hopeless, your teachings comforted me and helped me to remember my humanness - being on a spiritual journey. I pray that I may always follow your teachings and instructions.

May the Lord always protect you and support you to continue serving His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Śrīla Prabhupāda.

In deep gratitude,

Your servant,

Samira



Brazil



Kṛṣṇakanta Gopalini Devi Dasi

Śikṣā Disciple

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda, who kindly preached to the western devotees to purify us, pull us away from our materialistic (sinful, rotten) lifestyle and give us Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, the most beautiful and sublime spiritual reality; and the maha mantra the most sacred of sounds, the holy names of Kṛṣṇa



Brazil

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

Today more than ever I would like to thank you for your kindness, support and guidance in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. As the years go by I understand more and more the importance of the teachings of Śrīla Prabhupāda and his books, they are our only shelter in this material world.

Thank you for inspiring so many of us.

Your servant,

Kṛṣṇakanta Gopalini Devi Dasi



Chile



Aldo

Aspiring Disciple

Beloved Śrīla Prabhupāda, beloved Ācārya, master and dear grandfather of our beautiful family, your pure image is always something that touches my heart. My eyes do not stop crying because of your beautiful qualities that break down all darkness in my heart and allow me in that moment of contemplation, to be closer to the love of God.

My life is yours, my heart and my being. My heart can't take it anymore in this world, and my greatest desire is to give you each one of my sighs. I love you beloved Ācārya, with all my heart.



Beloved Gurudeva,

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda to our beloved acarya and grandfather, without whom I would not be fortunate enough to have you as my teacher.

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Gurudeva, every day I think of you. My heart takes refuge in my thoughts of love for you, like someone who is cold and finds a place to heal their wounds. Every effort I make to be closer to God is dedicated to you, and each of my tears of love contemplates you in an endless embrace of comfort.

I love you, master, and I give you my heart, as a humble offering to your beautiful, inspiring being, who calls me from the depths of my soul to give my life to service. Through your beautiful book „Uplift Yourself, Change the World“ I feel closer to you, and when I need comfort, your words give me relief and make me feel at home.

I miss Kṛṣṇa so much, like a teenager who hasn't seen her boyfriend for months, like a mother who waits for her son to come home after going to war, like a little poppy when she spends the night, and longs for the day to feel the embrace of the sun's rays.



Chile

Beloved Guru Mahārāj, please accept my love, which comes in a torn and stained box, but is given to you as the only genuine thing I have.

Your servant,

Aldo



Chile



Drija Priya Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

Dear Gurudev,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātmā-prabhāve sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*



Chile

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

On this day, as wonderful as your Vyāsa-pūjā is, any offering or word falls short to express myself.

Now it is my first offering, and I am your official disciple, where I am honored by the beautiful name you gave me as the father you are to us, and I pray daily that one day I will be able to serve you properly and adhere to your instructions every day.

This year that ended in particular was very difficult for me, emotionally and through many tests and I know that it was to further develop my character and patience and that thanks to you I have been able to overcome these challenges and become more secure in myself, my service and devotees!

Your love and understanding towards others will always be a light for all of us who need a loving word and a connection to Kṛṣṇa.

Infinite thanks for all you do dear Gurudeva, wishing that Kṛṣṇa keeps you healthy, as we can learn a lot from your example and inspiration to serve you.

With love your disciple,

Drija Priya Devi Dasi



Chile



Francisca

Aspiring Disciple

Śrīla Prabhupāda is our main acharya, and the one who gave us the connection to the previous Vaisnava- acharyas. If we do not follow his instructions as they are, we cannot say that we will be connected with the Sri Vaisnava-guru-siksa-parampara.

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhave sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*



Chile

*nama om̐ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

Please accept my humble obeisance. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

I'm grateful for the tools that you have given me to continue with my spiritual life despite the obstacles. I could not do this alone, without your designated instructions, guidance and mentors.

Śrīla Prabhupāda says: „That spiritual life is difficult but material life is impossible.“

Before coming into Kṛṣṇa Consciousness and coming into contact with Mahātmā prabhu, all I knew was to work. Now I'm inspired every day to cultivate my spiritual consciousness and understand my relationship with Kṛṣṇa and follow the instructions of our acarya, Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Regarding the services, I take the opportunity to thank you for the trust and responsibility in giving me direct services (independent of my fixed services) and projects together with other devotees.

Your humble servant,

Bhaktin Fran



Chile



Gaura Priya Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracārīṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Hare Kṛṣṇa Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All the glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.
All glories to your loving service.

It is very difficult to explain my relationship with Śrīla Prabhupāda, structurally I read his books, I came to understand his mission in the world through you, but deep down, I don't even feel that I could claim to have a relationship with him.

He had so much mercy and compassion in this world to bring Kṛṣṇa Consciousness to the west despite having so many difficulties and even suffering. I look at myself and I don't see that mercy and compassion in myself, he was a very high soul.

I just try to do what I can, which is so little but at least there is something that I have learned deeply from you, Guru Mahārāj, that Śrīla Prabhupāda was always an unconditional loving, inclusive, tolerant and compassionate soul. That we learn as much from his books as from his humor in order to understand him. To see him as an example to follow in his way of treating and caring for his devotees.

But above all, is to love his mission in this world, and that is what you have given me about him Gurudeva; to love Śrīla Prabhupāda's mission and make it my life purpose in the time that I have to live in this world.

To preach, whatever the circumstance, the time, the people, the conflicts in the world, but to only preach Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.

Beloved Guru Mahārāj,

I have not known you for many years but knowing you has deeply touched my heart and my whole life. Listening to your teachings all this time has definitely helped me



question or refine myself on how to be a better human in this world and a better devotee to further Śrīla Prabhupāda's mission.

Although my path has been full of many errors, your accompaniment has always been based on listening, empathy, care and instruction to improve myself. In difficult moments I always think: „What would Gurudeva do in this circumstance?“ and one of the greatest gifts that I deeply appreciate and that you have given us in your preaching, has been the love you have for Śrīla Prabhupāda, the importance of preaching to more people in the world who need it, the importance of adapting to new changes, being a tolerant and kind person, even in difficult times. Teaching us the relevance of taking care of our relationship with Kṛṣṇa and Radharani and honoring that sacred bond, accepting with humility the karma that we have to receive, the appreciation towards the devotees and the service they do, the appreciation of people, the relevance of spiritual self- care and also taking responsibility for our mental health.

Your preaching has always inspired me a lot because of how inclusive it is with all people, how kind and sweet it is to everyone, and because there is always a perspective that we come into the world to collaborate, to build and not to destroy.

Thank you for being an example of strength, faith and temperance in complex moments, since it is a great example of life for me. I am not the best servant in the world, I have a lot to keep learning, but I wish I could sincerely serve you all my life. Thank you for accepting me as your devotee even though I have many thing to improve in my life.

I pray that Kṛṣṇa allows us to have more time with you in good health, that he gives you strength and temperance to face the obstacles on the way, that he gives you the strength to be our spiritual refuge for a long time. That with your teachings, you reach the hearts of many people in the world who need it and that many non-



Chile

devotee's and devotees can meet you in my country and hear your loving and inclusive preaching.

With all my love,

Gaura Priya Devi Dasi



Chile



Gita Devi Dasi & Vish

Well-wisher

Haribol! All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda, all glories to you!

On this special day we pray that Śrīla Prabhupāda will continue to guide you in your beautiful service.

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

We want to thank our community in Dhatri for the inspiration. During the pandemic, your support was essential for us and many people, to deepen the practice of Bhakti yoga in a friendly and contained way.



Chile

We pray that you have very good health and that you can continue many more years inspiring so many people. May this day be accompanied by all those who love you to celebrate your birth in this world. May Radha and Kṛṣṇa give you their blessings for many more years. Thank you for everything.

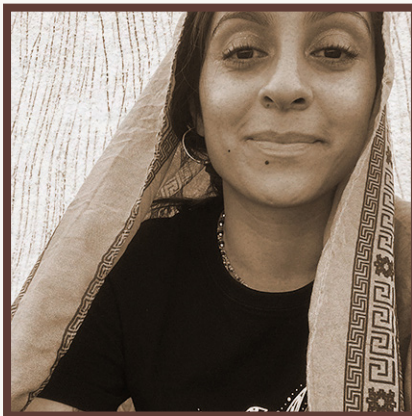
Happy birthday with love,

Gita Vali Devi Dasi

& Vishvanatha Chakravarti Thakur Dasa



Chile



Karen

Aspiring Disciple

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda, who with such determination and love gave us the most transcendental knowledge of all.

Thanks to our beloved teacher for his sincere service in guiding our lives on the loving path of self-realization.

Your divine grace, all glories to your legacy, beautiful Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.



Chile

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Mahātmā prabhu,

Thank you for guiding my steps on this spiritual path. I sincerely appreciate your playful and loving way of transferring transcendental knowledge to me.

You are in my prayers that Radha and Kṛṣṇa give you a very healthy life and you are always happy. All my blessings to you. I am at your service.

Your servant,

Karen Jara



Chile



Mandara Sakha Dasa

Śikṣā Disciple

My relationship with Śrīla Prabhupāda has always been one of service to his mission.

As the years go by, it changes, depending on the time, place, circumstance, country and candidate, as he mentions in the Bhaktivedanta purports of Sri Caitanya Caritamṛta. At one stage of my life I was a pilgrim monk and now in my married stage I continue to deliver his message to the people, promoting a space and loving spiritual development, free from fanaticism and sectarianism, where people can experience a personal and completely pure God. My relationship with Śrīla Prabhupāda is eternal because he has saved my life.



Hare Kṛṣṇa Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

All glories to All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.
All glories to your service.

Through this offering I want to express my gratitude to you for your contribution to the welfare of humanity. In life we always need someone to guide us, to show us the path we have traveled, and give us tools to deal with the continuous changes of life on this material existence

You have taken the path of enlightenment and I have decided to learn from the footprints that you leave. You are one of the people I admire the most because you make me feel that it is possible to be better every day and live a truly loving relationship with Kṛṣṇa and with all living entities.

Thank you so much!

I wish that Kṛṣṇa takes great care of your health so that I can learn from your preaching and receive your instruction for many more years.

I hope to repay you with service and also by putting your teachings into practice in the Sattva Life project in Chile.

Your well-wisher,

Mandara Sakha Das



China



Lilarani Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, our forever founder Ācārya,

You are one of the most important people in my life. Although I haven't seen you, my life has changed because of your causeless mercy.



I remember that when I was 28 years old, my life encountered some difficulties. I didn't know how to solve them. I began to ask the meaning of life — must I suffer? Is there any way to make me not afraid of anything in my life? In this quest, I met you. The first time I saw your photos, I thought you were very serious, but later, I found you to be the amazing personality you are.

When I read your books one by one, I marveled at the knowledge you taught us. It is so incredible, and it can fundamentally save living beings. I began to become fearless because of the association with the knowledge you gave us.

If you were alive, you would be 127 years old. Although you have left this world 46 years ago, I still feel that you are present with us. You live in your books and your Vani.

I used to regret why I wasn't born earlier, so I might have the chance to meet you and participate in your personal lila but now, I think I haven't missed anything.

Thank you for sending His Grace Mahātmā Prabhu as my Gurudeva, who makes me feel closer to you. I am participating in the pastime of ISKCON at the moment, and I will never lose you through this service.

I love this spiritual family very much. I have so many excellent spiritual siblings. I pray that you can bless me and help me cooperate with them to expand your mission under my Gurudeva's instruction. I pray to be a useful tool for you and my Gurudeva!



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Hare Kṛṣṇa My dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances!

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and to you Gurudeva!

All Vedic literatures advise us to approach a bona fide spiritual master to get free from the perplexities of life. A bona fide spiritual master is one who receives perfect knowledge from Kṛṣṇa through the agency of his spiritual master and then he delivers it as it is. I am very fortunate to be your disciple. As a bona fide guru, you lead us all forward.

Since your divine association was given to me, I feel that I have been purified all the time. Although I can not always be with you personally, but by your personal example, your books, your lectures, and your instructions which help me to accumulate my confidence and realizations of my Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.

I am particularly grateful that you are so pragmatic. All principles and standards are not inflexible and rigid from your side. With love, understanding, inspiration and all positive energy, you help us toddlers walk more steadily and further.

I have forgotten Kṛṣṇa, but you helped me revive the relationship with Him. He is my dearest person. He loves me and He's waiting for me to go home. With all your experience and wisdom, you help us avoid detours, identify the pitfalls in spiritual practice that hinder us from becoming more Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, You teach us self-love and to love Kṛṣṇa, I gradually feel the love from Kṛṣṇa, Śrīla Prabhupāda



and the whole sampradaya, which is passed on to each of us through you. You have taught us to make people aware that Kṛṣṇa loves them through our actions. You have spent your life as a messenger to deliver Kṛṣṇa's information.

I am really blissful to have such a sweet, soft and intelligent spiritual master. My only desire is to follow your lotus feet and do something which can please you.

On your divine birthday, I just want to pray to Kṛṣṇa to protect my spiritual master continue to preach with health, longevity and energy forever. I also pray for myself that I can be with you in the Holy place every year.

Heartfelt obeisances!

Your insignificant servant,

Lilarani Devi Dasi





Jagannathesvari Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Jaya Patita Pavana
Śrīla Prabhupāda!

To my dear spiritual grandfather, my respect, gratitude and appreciation for compassionately delivering the path of Bhakti Yoga to the West, gifting us with



the grace of Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu and being the instrument of Lord Jagannatha in spreading his mercy.

.....

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

All the glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. Please accept my humble obeisances.

Dear Gurudev, I can only thank you for the inspiration and guidance you give us who yearn for Bhakti.

Your teachings lead us to deepen our loving relationship with Kṛṣṇa, from who we are. During the last year, I have gotten more affection for Gaurasundara and for the chanting of the Holy Name. I know that I have a lot to improve as a nāma-sādhaka, but I know that such affection can only be due to your blessings.

Every time I feel sweetness while reciting the Holy Name, I know I owe it to you, Śrīla Prabhupāda and your Godbrothers who, like you, are surrendered to nāma-bhajana. You are an upright spiritual master and I know that you want us to also be upright



Colombia

servants, that is why your teachings on forgiveness, self- esteem, cooperative relationships, among others, help us to recognize the challenges of our temporary identity, to work in integrate our humanity in service to the divine and go beyond the mentality of duality that limits us to act in integrity.

I pray to Gauracandra that I may be a sincere and committed nāma- sādḥaka serving you, Śrīla Prabhupāda and the Vaiṣṇavas. I wish you good health so that your loving nāma- sankīrtana continues to spread the sweetness of the Holy Name.

Thank you for your lovely shelter.

Happy appearance day. My sincere affection and gratitude.

Your aspiring servant,

Jagannathesvari Devi Dasi

Cali, Colombia





Caitanya Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātmā-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Dearest Guru Mahārāja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and all glories to You on this auspicious day of Your Vyāsa-Pūjā!

Another year has passed in Śrīla Prabhupāda's and Your shelter, and what a blessing-filled year it was! I was married and initiated, got the opportunity to meet You and so many of my wonderful Godsiblings in person for the first time, and to experience the Holy Dhāma in Your association. What to speak of such big events - even a random day feels like a blessing and a fresh chance since Śrīla Prabhupāda and You appeared in my life!

Śrīla Prabhupāda's instructions are like a coordinate system which I can use to uniquely determine the position and value of everything that happens within and without me, to choose the best response, and to keep choosing the Only True Goal over and over again - and it is by Your instructions that I'm learning how to use that coordinate system properly and traverse the thorny, overgrown path from my head to my heart!

I pray every day for strength and intelligence to follow those instructions and remove material motivations from the tiny services I get the privilege to engage in. I try to be aware that without those instructions and service this body and mind are only a conglomerate of failings, which is dragging me into familiar and unfamiliar miseries and embarrassing me at every step. Whenever I choose those precious instructions over the instructions of my body and mind I see my life detangling and magically transforming. Sometimes I feel that even the lives of people around me are touched by Your mercy and my meager effort!



Croatia

I pray that one day, by Your and Prabhupāda's mercy, I will become qualified to truly grasp the gift of love that You and Prabhupāda have given me, feel at least a drop of sincere gratitude and try to reciprocate by pushing on Śrīla Prabhupāda's glorious mission.

Thank you, dearest Gurudeva.

Your insignificant servant,

Caitanya Devi Dasi





Aruna Radha Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

Every morning, when I wake up, the first thing that my consciousness does is to recite Śrīla Prabhupāda's Pranam Mantra followed by the pranam mantra of my dear Guru Mahārāj, and that makes me think of how blessed I am to be related to these unique souls. Śrīla Prabhupāda is my biggest example, from him I've learned how to pray, how to clean my heart and my mind, from him I learned the importance of living a life of values (focusing on the purpose of the values and not just following blindly). I've learned that my life can be a beautiful offering for Kṛṣṇa if I do things the right way, from him I learned common sense, I learned how to enjoy life without hurting anything or anyone.



My life became many times more beautiful, joyful, peaceful and meaningful since I heard from him and everything that is related to him is attractive to my heart. I love reading and hearing about Śrīla Prabhupāda, especially when his sweetness, his intelligence and simplicity is described. And I can't believe my fortune.

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Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

On this special day of your appearance I would like to thank you for your patience and your unconditional love. Thank you for being such a loving guidance for me, I appreciate every advice and every sweet word you have given me when I've been so lost. Thank you for being so forgiving and understanding, your kindness is sooo admirable.

I am so grateful for all the opportunities I've had to be in your presence. Your association feels like a fresh breeze on a summer day and I really miss those moments. You are my inspiration to be a better devotee and a better person every



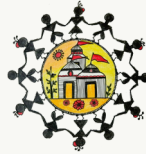
Ecuador

day, living a beautiful spiritual life in a practical way and helping others to improve themselves and to find real wisdom.

Yours sincerely,

Your servant,

Aruna Radha Devi Dasi



France



Annapurna Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

My infinitely dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my most humble obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet. All glories to you.

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Thank you infinitely for bringing me to Kṛṣṇa Consciousness and for always taking such good care of me since the very beginning. Thank you immensely for always being present with me, even if I'm not able to be present with you and reciprocate with you as you deserve. Thank you with all my heart to have sent Gurudeva to me in my life, to help me connect with you, Radha and Kṛṣṇa. I truly want to connect more to you, develop my relationship with you and serve you and your mission. Your sweetness melts my heart.

Thank you for everything you do for all of us, for all your love and affection, for your example, for this movement, for all the temples, for all the people you brought to Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, for all that you are giving us and all the books you wrote for us. A few days ago, I took a vow to Gurudeva, at the lotus feet of Govardhan, to read your books everyday. Thank you tremendously also for coming to my dreams. Please bless me to always properly represent your teachings, be a living example of them, save myself and contribute in some way in helping others become Kṛṣṇa conscious, and be motivated only to please Gurudeva, you and Kṛṣṇa. All my love and gratitude to you my dear most Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Your dedicated servant,

Annapurna Devi Dasi



My infinitely dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my most humble obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and all glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-Pūjā.

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Thank you eternally for everything you do to help me become a devotee of Radha and Kṛṣṇa, a servant and disciple of Śrīla Prabhupāda through you. By your mercy I am here today, immensely grateful and happy Śrīla Prabhupāda sent you in my life.

You are so merciful and kind
Loving, caring and compassionate
You are the shelter of my mind
Please tell me how to reciprocate

You know how to melt my heart
Your sweetness overtakes me
You're expert in kirtan art
Nectar of love flows through my ears

You are so concerned for us
You always help us to grow
You are so selfless, pure and soft
We're bound to you by your love



We all see Prabhupāda in you
You truly imbibe his qualities
I know he's very pleased with you
Gurudeva you're so dear to him

You are our true well-wisher
You teach us by who you are
We are touched by your example
You open and soften our hearts

I pray to be a good servant
To reach chanting suddha nama
To be a good representant
To please you and our Prabhupāda

Gurudeva, please bless me to always properly represent your and Prabhupāda's teachings, be a living example of them, save myself and contribute in some way in helping others become Kṛṣṇa conscious, and be motivated only to please you, Prabhupāda and Kṛṣṇa. All my love and gratitude to you my dearest Gurudeva.

Your dedicated servant,

Annapurna Devi Dasi



Germany



Ashalata

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Hare Kṛṣṇa, please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to your divine grace.



Thank you Śrīla Prabhupāda for all your sacrifices to bring Kṛṣṇa Consciousness and the transcendental sound vibration of the Hare Kṛṣṇa maha mantra to the western world. Thank you Śrīla Prabhupāda for making me meet a spiritual master I can follow despite my limited capabilities. Thank you for making it happen for me to meet and serve the devotees, finding my own purpose and getting the opportunity to get engaged in your transcendental mission in this lifetime. This could only happen by your grace, I will always try my best to please and serve the devotees and help to spread your mission until my last breath here on this planet. Thank you.

Your fallen servant,

Ashalata

....

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyām mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānām tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you Gurudeva on this auspicious day of your birthday.

I wish you a blissful Vyāsa-Pūjā and pray for many happy returns on this special day. Thank you for always letting me serve you in the mission of Śrīla Prabhupāda - even though I am the most unqualified jiva on this planet. Thank you for all your patience with me over all these years, for never letting me down and showering me with your blessings so that I can and still remain on this path despite all odds.

Everything that I am today, I am because of you and your teachings, your tolerance, acceptance, support and appreciation. I thank Kṛṣṇa every day that he brought you into my life and the opportunity to serve you makes this lifetime already kind of perfect...no matter what. I am still and like from the first day somewhere 2013, I am very enthusiastically serving you with what I have, as a Designer or if you wish sometimes as transcendental micro stand (do you remember Guru Mahārāj? ...like so many times, at the end we laugh about it. Thanks for this auspicious memory.)

You know Guru Mahārāj I would do everything to please you, just to get this little nectarean drop of your Kṛṣṇa Shakti and this is what keeps me going even on my weakest days. Thank you for everything! and Happy Vyāsa-Pūjā Gurudeva! with much love and gratitude.

Your most fallen, eternally aspiring servant,

Ashalata



Germany



Nedra

Aspiring Disciple

All Glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

I want to give much gratitude to Śrīla Prabhupāda because although I don't know so much about him, he has so much divine love for us and because of that I am connected with devotees and with a temple nearby. I can visit the temple and learn from devotees and learn about myself and my mistakes. Also, I often think about how he crossed the ocean and he was following the mission for Kṛṣṇa with so much love and desire for Kṛṣṇa and Guru. I feel much gratitude that I got in contact with Śrīla Prabhupāda in this life.



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. Happy Vyāsa-pūjā.

Thank you dear Kṛṣṇa and Gurudeva for coming into my life and because of that I am enabled to call Kṛṣṇa by His name. Although I have difficulties in planning I don't give up, because Kṛṣṇa gave me the opportunity as a gift to love Him and onto this I will hold on; this is the greatest gift I have.

Sometimes, I get tests from Kṛṣṇa on whether my sincerity and love is true for him. I know nothing but I know the one who knows me from the beginning of time and I have much love for Him and I want to show it by practicing and chanting. When I started to get stable, there came another Guru. And I prayed to Kṛṣṇa to show me what I should learn from the situation and to help me to stay stable in my sadhana. Sometimes I feel really very very sad that I will never go in the direction to God, searching for Kṛṣṇa and never find Him and that all devotees know so much more and I feel so small besides them because they have so much more knowledge and Kṛṣṇa loves them more because they know so much more about Him.



Then, I get the realization to never give up and to accept every little thing about Kṛṣṇa. He enables me to learn and to offer gratitude for all the little things I get to learn. And I try to go against my mind when my mind says that Kṛṣṇa loves all other devotees more. Then I say to myself that Kṛṣṇa loves all devotees the same and He doesn't make a difference.

And when I feel like not going to the temple because I feel that they are all like a team and I feel like not being a part then I say to my mind that Kṛṣṇa wants me to be here and learn the scriptures and about myself and my mistakes and to be a better person.

In the last months, I feel that I try to find Kṛṣṇa in situations and pray more and feel much more connected to Him. Also, I feel like monitoring my mistakes, so that I am aware of them and I can avoid them for Kṛṣṇa. After chanting and especially during chanting I feel much more connected to Kṛṣṇa and calm. But I must pray for stability through planning. Much gratitude to Kṛṣṇa and Gurudeva for each realization.

Your servant,

Nedra



India



Antaryami Balarama Dasa

Well-wisher

Śrīla Prabhupāda as a founder acharya of ISKCON and as a Jagat guru perhaps has a loving relationship with everyone due to his unparalleled mercy and compassion. Śrīla Prabhupāda is my śikṣā Guru and my eternal shelter.

.....

Hare Kṛṣṇa Mahātmā Prabhu.

Pranams. Please accept my most humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. I want to thank you so much for your inspirations regarding chanting.



India

Your wonderful workshops and quotes have really improved the quality of my chanting. Thank you so very much again and again.

Your servant,

Antaryami Balaram Dasa



India



Barsana Devi Dasi

Dikṣā Disciple

Hare Kṛṣṇa dandavat pranam my grand spiritual master. Śrīla Prabhupāda please accept my humble obeisances.

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*



*nama oṁ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Hare Kṛṣṇa dandvat pranam Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. Happy Vyāsa-Pūjā.

I, Barsana Devi Dasi, pay obeisances unto your lotus feet.

On the occasion of your Vyāsa-Pūjā I only wish to say that I am very fortunate that you have accepted me as your disciple and by your mercy you are giving me the highest goal of life which is Kṛṣṇa Prema.

This time I am very fortunate to have your association for a long time at Goverdhan during the retreat. I felt very blissful. I seek the same blessings from you in future also. You are very compassionate for all the souls.

Your disciple,

Barsana Devi Dasi



India



Bharat

Śikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Hare Kṛṣṇa Śrīla Prabhupāda. Please accept my humble obeisances.

I am extremely grateful for your loving sacrifice to let a fallen soul like me understand Kṛṣṇa and to accept Kṛṣṇa Consciousness so easily. I see your simplicity and boldness, both in combination and you make a complex subject matter of understanding the



supreme so simple and sublime. I would have spent 100 births reading and getting out the real purpose of human life and that would have been impossible for me. That's what mental speculators do. I see you helping me personally everyday, every minute. HH Bhakti Tirth Mahārāj says when a proprietor is not present physically, he is more worried about how things are happening. Similarly your physical absence certainly pains me yet you are more present now and worried about me. Whenever I have a doubt and issues, you are always helping me through devotees and your words in lectures, Bhagavatam, kirtan and Japa. Your voice is so important for me to hear everyday that I feel I am literally dead without you. It happens to me. I figure out why I am feeling so empty. Certainly, I have skipped hearing from you. Your unconditional love flows from your divine instructions and you have certainly sent many devotees, specifically HG Mahātmā Prabhu. I see you in him.

... ..

Hare Kṛṣṇa Mahārāj. Dandavat Pranam.

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. Happy Vyāsa-Pūjā!

Mahārāj, thanks a lot for your unconditional love, guidance, friendship, enthusiasm, melodious kirtan, songs, lectures, jokes, books, personal mails, time... this list never ends....

I see Śrīla Prabhupāda in you as I have never seen him physically, but I have seen you. You were able to see through my mail about what I was bothered with. Your love is certainly limitless and you are an inspiration for how a disciple should be. Your surrender to Śrīla Prabhupāda and your love for him is certainly shown by a tireless extension to fulfill his mission. I haven't seen your personal schedule precisely but I came to know that you are not taking proper rest and are always giving your time to devotees tirelessly. It's certainly very difficult to get personal association with



many Śrīla Prabhupāda disciples. You are among the most merciful who is very easily approachable and you lovingly give your association. I have precisely seen that you are very affectionately concerned for devotees like me.

Reading your books is like associating with you personally. A word from you can sustain me for weeks and certainly it should last for life as you said, but I am diseased of desire to be the enjoyer. My only wish is that you keep cutting my ego through your divine instructions. I have always been an open heart to you. Please be a surgeon to cut off the desire to enjoy from my heart. I give you full sanction to do that. I have observed your precise practical aspects of how to actually follow the instructions of Śrīla Prabhupāda in terms of training mind, self care (most important yet untouched topic), forgiveness, Psychology, emotional needs etc, how to dovetail them in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. You teach through your personal example and your tireless work on various workshops on vows, forgiveness, self care. This is what I really admire. You are dealing with such aspects that are vacant spaces in the foundation of ISKCON. I can say that for sure that if they are not dealt with and wouldn't have been pushed by you lovingly, everything would have fallen.

Once I asked you. How can I please you? Your words were to follow the instructions of Śrīla Prabhupāda. May I also develop the same love that you have for Śrīla Prabhupāda. I know that way is through you in disciplic succession. Kindly forgive my offenses unto you.

Your aspiring servant,

Bharat





*Dinanatha Dasa
& Manjari Devi Dasi*

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Hare Kṛṣṇa dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your Lotus feet. All glories to Your Divine Grace. It is mentioned in the *Śvetāśvatara Upaniṣad* 6.23 -

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

“Only unto those great souls who have implicit faith in both the Lord and the spiritual master are all the imports of the Vedic knowledge automatically revealed.”

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, at the age of 69 years, with full faith in Lord Sri Kṛṣṇa and on the orders of Your spiritual master, You traveled west and established ISKCON. Had it not been for Your faith, your efforts - braving all difficulties - we fallen souls would not have been fortunate to have this wonderful family of Vaiṣṇavas – your children and grandchildren.

We are eternally grateful to You, Śrīla Prabhupāda for all that You have done and given us – Your disciples who are guiding and saving millions of fallen souls, a wonderful family of Vaiṣṇava devotees, the scriptures that you have translated making it easy to understand, your various lectures, the various books that you wrote to help us in the path of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, and having given us HG Mahātmā Prabhu, in the form of our Spiritual Master – who completely echoes your thoughts and mood.



Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are eternally grateful and indebted for all that You have done. We hope and pray that we are able to better our services to your mission, in a mood of cooperation and humility.

Unworthy and fallen souls,

Dinanatha Dasa & Manjari Devi Dasi

....

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Hare Kṛṣṇa dear Gurudeva,
Jai Śrīla Prabhupāda!

On this auspicious day of celebration of your Vyāsa-Pūjā, Please accept our humble obeisances at your Lotus feet.

It is mentioned in the *Śvetāśvatara Upaniṣad* 6.23 -



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

“Only unto those great souls who have implicit faith in both the Lord and the spiritual master are all the imports of the Vedic knowledge automatically revealed.”

Śrīla Prabhupāda, at the age of 69 years, with full faith in Lord Sri Kṛṣṇa and on the orders of his spiritual master, traveled west and established ISKCON. Had it not been for his faith, his efforts - braving all difficulties - we fallen souls would not have been fortunate to have You as our Spiritual Master.

We are eternally grateful to Śrīla Prabhupāda for all that he has done and given us – his disciples who are guiding and saving millions of fallen souls, a wonderful family of Vaiṣṇava devotees, the scriptures that he translated and the various books that he wrote to help us in the path of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, and having given You to us, in the form of our Spiritual Master. We are eternally indebted to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

It is mentioned in the Bhagavatam - tuṣyeyam sarva-bhūtātmā guru-śuśrūṣayā and taranty añjo bhavārṇavam. Simply by rendering service to the spiritual master, one crosses the ocean of nescience and returns home, back to Godhead. We hope and pray that one day we are able to be of some service to You and thereby progress on this path. We consider it as your blessings and mercy to us that we are able to engage ourselves in some little services for You and Iskcon.

Gurudeva, we are no one without your mercy. We thank you for always being there for us, guiding us, inspiring us in devotional service. Your words and teachings echo the words and mood of Śrīla Prabhupāda.



India

We pray that we may be able to better our services to You and Śrīla Prabhupāda's mission. We pray to Lord Kṛṣṇa, Radharani and Narsimhadeva for your long and healthy life and that all your projects, retreats, seminars, books may be extremely successful, so that fallen souls like us can benefit from them.

Gurudeva, we are not at all qualified to honor and glorify You. In case we have committed any offenses, we beg Your forgiveness.

With gratitude,

*Your most insignificant and unworthy servants,
aspiring to be better disciples one day,*

Dinanatha Dasa & Manjari Devi Dasi

Chennai, India



India



Gurunistha Devi Dasi

Dikṣā Disciple

Ever Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Whenever I hear your name or think of you, the words „Hope“ and „Kṛṣṇa“ come to my mind. You are my eternal Hope. My relationship with you is definitely eternal but in this life it started with „Your Voice“. One day my mother was walking down



a street in London, by a store and your voice stopped her. The shop-Keeper was listening to your lecture. Your voice came as a thunderbolt and that changed her life forever. She never looked back and though she never met you, she recognised her eternal relationship with you. All through my growing up years as a child and until the day she lived, I saw her preaching your word to everyone she met.

Thus, she helped me realise my eternal relationship with you. It's like you came to our home, one fine day and never left.

Your words have always given me guidance in all phases of my life, a life I cannot imagine my life without your boundless love and mercy. Your mercy further manifested in my life, when my Spiritual Master found me. I was lost and then I was found. Your mercy has never left me since then. My relationship with you isn't just of a Founder Acharya (sounds formal to me) instead it is of an eternal loving guide.

I am looking forward to the day when I finally get to meet you. I truly feel you are also waiting for me to show up there and I promise, one day I will.

Until then,

O he Vaiṣṇav Thakur, fir se Karuna kari

Forever grateful,

Gurunistha Devi Dasi



Ever Dearest Guru Mahārāj,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and your divine grace, which is Śrīla Prabhupāda's mercy manifestation in my life.

Words can't convey my gratitude towards you for accepting me as your disciple. I distinctly remember feeling incomplete and missing my goal in life (for years). There was something missing in my life, which I for the life of me couldn't figure out, until that day on Kṛṣṇa.com, when you appeared and found me. Since that moment in my heart I clearly know that my only purpose in life was to follow you. I still remember the moment, I saw you and I bolted upright, almost like the most breaking news of the century, just came up on my computer screen. You gave everyone your email ID in case they had any questions.

It took me a lot of courage (and a lot of email drafts) to figure out what I could write to you. I just knew I HAD TO WRITE. Didn't know who you were but I needed to tell you that „I am here“ „I am here“.

Today, thinking back after almost 14 years makes me realise how much my life has changed. You gave me (a no one) countless hours of your precious time and turned my life around. I shudder to think, what my life would have been today, if you had not found me that day. I would be lost or dead for sure.



You have always taught me how to join everything in life with Kṛṣṇa, any situation, the answer is Prayer and Kṛṣṇa. You taught me - „ Don't press the panic button, press the Hare Kṛṣṇa Button“

When I wrote to you crying, after you left, your reply was „ Follow Your Guru“. These instructions always stayed with me and I pray they always will.

Once I started reading Śrīla Prabhupāda's books in Bhakti Shastri, I realised more and more and more, how you have been just repeating the words of Śrīla Prabhupāda. I had so MANY light bulb moments. Made me realise more and more how deep your relationship with Prabhupāda is. How immense your love and devotion to Śrīla Prabhupāda has always been.

You are so realised and yet you chose to deal with an immature fool that I am, just to make my life better. Just to remind me of my eternal and constitutional position. You always know...I don't know how but You always do.

Guru Mahārāj before I came to the Rasa Retreat, I had this wish from many days that if I could chant Gayatri with you, but wasn't sure how that would happen as there were so many devotees and the retreat was going on. All through the journey I kept on thinking „Maybe, maybe not“. Then the moment I entered the hall at the retreat centre you said „ Now all the Brahmans can chant Gayatri“. I was speechless. You just knew.... you always know.

I am very grateful for your lectures on „ Beliefs „. They have tremendously helped me so much. I started to listen to them many years back but still they guide me. After so long also, out of the blue it occurs to me „ O This is what you meant by it“. I still have light bulb moments, what you said was so deep and foundational. Your immortal words helped me identify and address my deep-seated belief that I could not have a healthy body (which I was completely oblivious to). Until one day you



helped me understand my core belief. I am still a work in progress but am getting there. I always recommend these lectures to everyone. It can really help so many devotees get over so many self-created traumas.

Guru Mahārāj, if my life is different today, it is all because of you. Without your love, guidance, confidence, support and belief in me, I would be lost.

Śrīla Prabhupāda sent you to save me but you showed me how I can have a relationship with Śrīla Prabhupāda and keep growing it. I have FAITH because of you. I could give my life a million times for you Guru Mahārāj or go to hell a million times for you but I could also live as many times, a life, the way you and Prabhupāda would wish me to.

Thank you for not giving up on my fallen soul.

I have been debating asking you a question for some time but today at your lotus feet, I beg you to please (if you would so wish) bestow upon me Pure unwavering devotional service. I pray to you for strength and courage to be able to advance in my Bhakti. Please give me the intelligence, so that I may never ask for anything ever, other than Bhakti.

Thank you for being born to save all of us Guru Mahārāj.

Wish you a Very Happy Appearance Day!!

Your ever grateful Servant,

Gurunistha Devi Dasi



India



Himani

Śikṣā Disciple

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Honestly speaking, my journey with ISKCON started in July 2018 (University days), when my close friend from the Chowpatty temple advised me to visit an ISKCON temple. My first visit was a simple one. The second one was to a center nearby, and it changed my life I must say. While I was part of Bhakti Vriksha, and quite a few other services, I was in a testing the waters phase until 2020. COVID happened and many atrocities happened during the same time in every nook and corner of the world. And like any other human, I was filled with rage, anger, sadness, grief, helplessness and many other emotions engulfing me. And I was stuck in the city alone due to a



lockdown. But in April 2020, while stuck in the same grief thinking there is nothing I can do to help the world, I came across one post of Prabhupad's on Instagram - Morning walk, Feb 21,1975,Caracas.

Those words of Prabhupāda hit me strongly. It was a great realization and an eye-opener. The gist of the post was - to first help myself in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, and then to think of the world. And it also relieved my mental burdens a bit because it made me realize that I am not the only one who shoulders the unfairness of the world. Something beyond me is definitely a powerful,observant doer. I am a mere instrument. And from that day, my respect for Prabhupāda was upgraded to love, respect and admiration. Thereafter, I had many ups and downs in my life, but I survived only with the grace of Sri Sri Lakshmi Narasimha & Prabhupāda. Many ups and downs are yet to come, but I can confidently say that I will never stop following Prabhupāda's words; they are imprinted on my soul.

Your aspiring servant,

Himani

... ..

Hare Kṛṣṇa Mahātmā Prabhu, Dandavat Pranam.

Please accept my humble obeisances.All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. Happy Vyāsa-Pūjā.

It all started when I came across some of your videos on Youtube, Mahārāj. I previously read many of your quotes but never did the deep dive to find out who exactly is ,Mahātmā Das". I joined the telegram channel through Instagram, and



joined Japa Retreat in 2022. And my respect and admiration for you increased multifold. And I cannot even describe how much your Self-care retreat impacted me. While there are many rasas in devotional service of senior devotees, I was able to relate more to your devotional practicality. Your approach in Bhakti Yoga is unique Mahārāj, one of the best approaches to human psychology. Half of my Instagram saved posts are your quotes and I repeatedly go through them. I got married recently in December 2022, and even my husband is a devotee. He is also a follower of yours and in the initial days of our courtship, we used to send each other many posts and videos of yours :). It is a sweet memory etched in our lives. Your services in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness are having such a positive impact on many souls like me, more than you can ever imagine. There is a long way to go for me and I need to stabilize myself in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness and I am sincerely requesting your blessings for the same.

Your aspiring servant,

Himani



India



Janmastami Dasa

Śikṣā Disciple

Śrīla Prabhupāda has been my main guru since I joined in 1977. He transformed my life and continues to do so. I love serving him and his mission. I want to become more and more dedicated to his service and inspire others to see him as their foundational śikṣā guru.



Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

Please accept my humble obeisances on this most auspicious day of your āvirbhāva. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and to your transcendental service to him. I am deeply appreciative of your mood and mission, as it lines up so appropriately with Śrīla Prabhupāda's desire for developing his international mission.

Here's a powerful reference that in my humble opinion describes the development of your service and the wonderful service that you are currently rendering:

"A sincere student aurally receives the holy name from the spiritual master, and after being initiated he follows the regulative principles given by the spiritual master. When the holy name is properly served in this way, automatically the spiritual nature of the holy name spreads; in other words, the devotee becomes qualified in offenselessly chanting the holy name. When one is completely fit to chant the holy name in this way, he is eligible to make disciples all over the world... one who is actually advanced in the fulfillment of chanting the Hare Kṛṣṇa mahā-mantra induces others to chant also. Kṛṣṇadāsa Kavirāja Gosvāmī explains, kṛṣṇa-śakti vinā nahe tāra pravartana: unless one receives special power of attorney from the Supreme Personality of Godhead, he cannot preach the glories of the Hare Kṛṣṇa mahā-mantra."

(Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta, Ādi-līlā 7.83)

Mahātmā Prabhu, Śrīla Prabhupāda has arranged for you to receive Kṛṣṇa's "special power of attorney" in reciprocation for your sincere seva over so many years. I felt so uplifted by your saṅga in Māyāpur. Our last few days together served as a major battery recharge for me, awakening a much higher taste for chanting and hearing the holy name, and serving Prabhupāda's mission.



India

Thank you so much for your loving mood and your mercy. I am looking forward to serving you for many years to come.

Your servant,

Janmastami Dasa





*Kamala Lochana Dāsa
& Rasasthali Devi Dasi*

Dīkṣā Disciple

Dearest Guru Mahārāj,

Hare Kṛṣṇa.

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and your ever merciful Lotus feet.



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

This is Gurudeva, Your second Vyāsa-pūjā since we came into your merciful contact but this is our first offering after initiation.

It all seems like a miracle that we are practicing Kṛṣṇa Consciousness from a long time and associating with the devotee congregation but never was the desire for initiating so strong after we came into your contact. You cleared long standing doubts so clearly, promptly and affectionately, and finally when we along with our daughter met You and Guru ma briefly in Delhi and also drove alongside You for some time, that association just had a powerful impact on us and there was a sudden urgency for initiation.

We shall always be indebted to you for taking us under your shelter in spite of our disqualification and weaknesses. In every lecture we hear, in every retreat we attend, in every book we read, we can feel the compassion and mercy of Prabhupāda freely flowing.

The presence of Prabhupāda is felt in Your presence it seems as if we are associating with Prabhupāda when we associate with You.

The empowerment we can feel after initiation from You Gurudeva, Your guidance and instructions have made our endeavor for anartha nivṛtti easier and pleasing. How fortunate we feel to be under Your shelter Gurudeva cannot be expressed in words. Maybe we must have done some nitya sukṛiti in our past lives that we received such mercy.



*na hy am-mayāni tīrthāni
na devā mṛc-chilā-mayāḥ
te punanty uru-kālena
darśanād eva sādhaveḥ*

“No one can deny that there are holy places with sacred rivers, or that the demigods appear in deity forms made of earth and stone. But these purify the soul only after a long time, whereas saintly persons purify just by being seen.”

The above text was spoken by the Absolute Lord Himself in Kurukshetra advising the gathered crowd to glorify the saints instead of Him. We have practically experienced this power of association of saints through associating with You Gurudeva.

Hare Kṛṣṇa .

A very happy appearance day Guru Mahārāj.

Your insignificant servants Guru Mahārāj,

Kamala Lochana Dasa

& Rasasthali Devi Dasi



India



Keerthi

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are my savior. Without you, my life would have been messed up. It would have ended in suicide because of me not being able to withstand the frustrations that arise by this miserable world. Here relationships are so temporary, untrue, and cheating. When I was not happy with my life, Śrīla Prabhupāda I was convinced by your teachings. I understood there is one person who truly loves us



and that is Kṛṣṇa. You have taken me back to my father. Now I am so happy that I have a reason to live. I know what true love is because of you Śrīla Prabhupāda. You struggled day and night for us, just to take us back to Kṛṣṇa. Indebted to you lifetimes after lifetimes, you have saved me from entering into other species of life. You have shown me that I am not this body and that was a great relief. Now I need not work on polishing this body but I can work on developing a relationship with Kṛṣṇa and nourishing the soul. Śrīla Prabhupāda, your contribution is matchless. If you were not there, today this grand-daughter of yours would never find her life meaningful. Bewildered by my miseries and not understanding what's going around, she would have been in depression. Now I am a happy soul Śrīla Prabhupāda. Thank You so much for bringing Kṛṣṇa into my life.

• • • • •

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyām mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānām tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

My dear Gurudeva, please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Gurudeva, your life is glorious. The thing that attracts me most to you is Your happiness. You are such a blissful and joyful person. I heard that Śrīla Prabhupāda was pleased when He saw His disciples happy in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. I found you



to also be very happy in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. And I wanted my Guru who teaches me how to chant and it is Kṛṣṇa's mercy that Kṛṣṇa connected me to You. Your teachings on Japa are so impactful. Chanting is very important and I was not happy with the way I chant and your teachings are helping me a lot. It always makes sense to me that inattentive chanting will not help to develop a relationship with Kṛṣṇa. And as you said in a class, all varieties of sense gratification won't quench even 1% of love we are hankering for and it can be fulfilled only by good Japa. That touched me deeply. So your teachings are priceless Gurudeva. You are a simple and humble person and never made us feel that you are superior. Rather whenever, wherever I met you, you gave me a chance to talk to you, express my difficulties to you and you made me feel like I am also a worthy person. Your classes on self love are so helpful Gurudeva, because I was the one who lacked it very much and couldn't find balance in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness because I lacked caring and loving myself. You named me Atmaprema and I cherish it a lot now. You make me feel like I am also a person whose existence is important to Kṛṣṇa. You showed me how much Kṛṣṇa loves me. Also you always show me Kṛṣṇa's love. You truly represent it. Recently I met you and was deeply moved by one of your qualities. You are an ocean of compassion Gurudeva. Your anxiety is not your personal one, but the anxiety of others. You are a true Vaishnava Gurudeva. You are very exemplary and inspiring. It's very rare to get a Guru like you. I want to be your good disciple Gurudeva and thank you for representing Śrīla Prabhupāda.

And also your classes deal with many psychological issues which are very helpful for me. Thank you for being a great contribution to Śrīla Prabhupāda's movement.

Your aspiring servant,

Keerthi



India



Madhurima

Śikṣā Disciple

Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.
All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā!

It is only by your mercy, Prabhupāda's and Kṛṣṇa's mercy that I came across you and your amazing teachings. The Japa teachings first came into my knowledge through a lecture by HG Amarendra Prabhu. In a few months of exposure to Kṛṣṇa, shastra and Bhakti, many things were highly challenging.



Prabhu, your thoughts, ideas and belief systems and Jahnava mataji's professional insights, experiences and techniques are a blessing to whoever takes the time and listens to them.

Prabhu, you helped me breathe in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. I was kind of suffocating. I am still a total beginner yet I was feeling overwhelmed too much before.

I self created pressure and burden. I gave myself a poor score as I began comparing myself with others. From some online classes I got the impression that I have to preach. And somehow I am new to the concept and how can I preach if I don't believe it. I had an impression that I have to do certain things and not do certain things. Total turmoil.

A simple weekend shopping where I was buying some clothing was making me feel guilty. I soon knew I am torn between two lives. Like "Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde story". A time came when I said to Kṛṣṇa " I am not eligible to be in your league so let me stop all classes and just chant to keep my own connection with You". I literally stopped watching any videos or reels as I was so stressed.

It was during this time Kṛṣṇa and Prabhupāda were merciful to send me your class videos.

The first time you taught that it is okay to be at a low level. It is okay to relax and do Bhakti and still make little progress each day to make improvements. (I do realize this does not mean not progressing).

However, placing too many expectations will create a situation of quitting. As a result I took a few steps back and I restarted. And it is working. Way better than better.



I feel better. I feel alive. I feel happy. – And I credit all these to you. This light feeling is making me focus more on my chanting. Every day I am able to read some pages from Prabhupāda Līlāmṛita, the Bhagavad-gītā, and I also began hearing Srimad Bhagavatam classes online at my own pace. I am also improving in my service. With some ups and downs I am able to go forward and do service to you Prabhu and to other Matajis.

I am also improving in my family life and trying to look at struggles from different lenses. Household chores now are a “Service” or an “Austerity” I owe to my family who are also Kṛṣṇa’s creations. I am relaxed even if I have to wash utensils 8 times a day. You have taught me this and it is practical and the most perfect way to do our part in our Grhastha lives.

At the end of the day when I go to sleep, I still have energy and spirit to converse with Kṛṣṇa inside my mind. Your book on Chanting Japa and participating online in your Self Care retreat has been a healing experience for me.

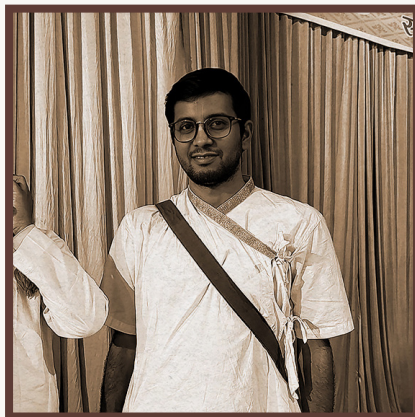
I am ever grateful to you and on your Vyāsa-pūjā day I wish you all the love and mercy of Radha Shyamsundar and Gaur Nitai.

Your humble servant (slow growing servant),

Madhurima Chowdhury



India



Mayuresh

Śikṣā Disciple

Hare Kṛṣṇa Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances, All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

When I came into the movement in 2015, Ajinkya prabhu had told me so much about Śrīla Prabhupāda and his contribution and in the later years also I came to know so much about him, and his sacrifices. But over the years I have understood that to acknowledge the contribution of Śrīla Prabhupāda in its real form, to understand what exactly he has gone through and what would have happened had he not done that, requires one to have a lot of depth in bhakti. Had he not spent those



nights translating books, so many of us would not be saved from the material cycle of birth and death. What amazes me the most is that just by chanting the holy names sincerely I can go back to godhead with the mercy of Śrīla Prabhupāda. That makes him the most merciful. Although we cannot chant like Haridas Thakur, we still get to go back to godhead if we are sincere enough. All glories to him and his movement!

Your humble servant,

Mayuresh

.....

Hare Kṛṣṇa Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances, All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

One of the most important and the most neglected part of many devotees is chanting the holy names. I was also not different when it came to chanting. But now after attending your workshops, seminars and retreat and especially getting your personal association I have developed a taste in chanting that I have never had before.

Most of the devotees live all their life thinking they would never be able to reach the stage of pure chanting of holy names because they are not capable. But you made it so practical and clear by your teachings that it doesn't depend on our capacity to chant purely, it depends on the capacity of Kṛṣṇa and that is unlimited.



India

I will forever be indebted for your mercy, love, compassion and the invaluable teachings you have given which has made such a big difference in my material and spiritual life. I feel closer to my aspiring Guru HH Jayapataka Swami Mahārāj because of your love for me!

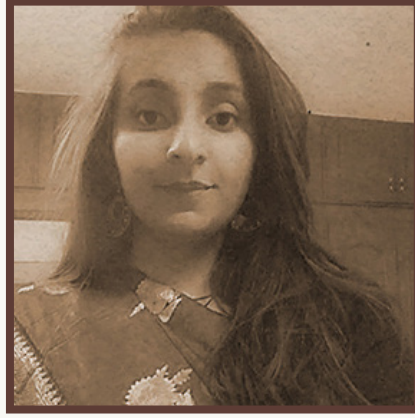
Thank you Mahārāj!

Your humble servant,

Mayuresh Joshi



India



Nidhi

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracārīṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tārīṇe*



Hare Kṛṣṇa Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances unto the dust of your divine lotus feet All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

The time of year has come when I have to write a Vyāsa-pūjā offering. The words and sentences just stop. How difficult it becomes to put the thoughts into words? ‘cakṣu-dāna dila yei, janme janme prabhu sei’, You are my master, birth after birth. Still we are unable to glorify you. Each and every moment of your life, you teach us by example. You never lose a single moment to glorify your spiritual master A.C. Bhaktivedanta Śrīla Prabhupāda. Anytime anyone credits you with the wonderful service you are doing, you attribute it to Śrīla Prabhupāda’s mercy.

To glorify, You, Śrīla Prabhupāda with words is impossible, You have done so much for us that words in all languages fall short to glorify You, Your Lila and the mercy You have showered upon us.

*saṁsāra-dāvānala-līḍha-loka-
trāṇāya kārūṇya-ghanāghanatvam
prāptasya kalyāṇa-guṇārṇavasya
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

“The spiritual master is receiving benediction from the ocean of mercy. Just as a cloud pours water on a forest fire to extinguish it, so the spiritual master delivers the materially afflicted world by extinguishing the blazing fire of material existence. I offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual master, who is an ocean of auspicious qualities.”



Śrīla Prabhupāda, my loving and magnanimous grandfather, thank you very much for giving me Guru Mahārāj; he is so loving, caring, merciful and kind. My only prayer to you is may I always be engaged in your service, my Guru Mahārāj's service and the service of all the Vaiṣṇavas.

• • • • •

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
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śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Wishing you a happy Vyāsa-pūjā, praying to always remain in your merciful shelter and in your loving service life after life.

It is said in the Caitanya-caritāmṛta, Ādi-līlā 5.209:

“Lord Nityananda delivers all those who fall down before Him. Therefore, He has saved such a sinful person as me.”



By this very same mood, you have saved me. How can I ever repay you for what you have done for me? Other than that, I always try and do my best to serve You and Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Just like Lord Nityananda and Śrīla Prabhupāda, you give your mercy to anyone who comes into contact with you. Giving them counsel and helping them in any way you can. Your level of devotee care is so exemplary, always showing so much compassion, towards all. Recently, you have also started teaching devotees to love and care for themselves as they are devotees too and how that would help them to care for other devotees more and more.

Thank you for all your valuable guidance and your wonderful classes. Your service is like my life and soul, I don't know what I would do if I didn't have services, through services, I imbibe your teachings better and feel inspired to follow them! Thank you so much for always being there for all of us. Thank you for teaching us by your example how to follow Prabhupāda and connect more with him through his teachings and service. Thank you so much for transforming the Japa of so many devotees, including me.

The amount of time and care you give to not only your disciples but to everyone in ISKCON is just another example of how merciful you are. So many devotees are always singing your glories, which just shows how loved you are.

You are my connection to Śrīla Prabhupāda, through you I feel connected to Śrīla Prabhupāda and receive His mercy, I pray to you and Their Lordships, Sri Sri Radha Madanmohan that may I always serve Śrīla Prabhupāda as your servant eternally.

Aspiring to serve you eternally, Your servant,

nidhi



India



Premamayi Devi Das

Dīkṣā Disciple

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you Śrīla Prabhupāda.

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda

I feel that you would have been my Guru Mahārāj since time immeasurable but this is my first offering to you as a Dīkṣā disciple. Now officially you are my Guru Mahārāj. I have always received guidance from you even before I could ask for it, or even think about it. It's all Kṛṣṇa's and your mercy that my initiation has been done because it is all like a miracle or dream come true for me. I am so blessed and fortunate to have you as my Guru Mahārāj.

Guru Mahārāj, Guru Mahārāj,
I am always indebted to you, Guru Mahārāj.
The mercy you shower
Is no less than flower.

No matter how much I am lower,
You are always there
To raise me higher & higher.

The Japa workshop,
Forgiveness on top,
Relationship to grow,
Let mercy of yours always on us flow.



India

Brahma samhita so good,
Listening to it
We all forget our food.

Guru Mahārāj, Guru Mahārāj,
Let me serve your lotus feet always
With No if, but or could.

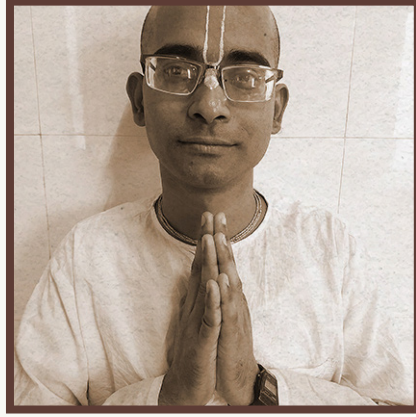
Your servant,

Premamayi Devi Dasi

Hare Kṛṣṇa



India



Rama Vallabha Dasa

Śikṣā Disciple

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my most humble and prostrated obeisances at your lotus feet. I am extremely grateful to you for awarding me this opportunity to see this day and to write something about you. With every passing day I feel what an impossible task you have accomplished.

To attempt to repay the Ācārya makes one a laughing stock, so says the Sastras , yet I will attempt to do so for my own purification.



Your life was filled with Kṛṣṇa Kṛpā Shakti and therefore you are named Kṛṣṇa Kṛpā sri murti. I have tried to write about a particle of some of them below.

Tower of Mercy Shower of Grace

Touch: Śrīla Prabhupāda's mercy has touched the lives of more than billions of people through his books, lectures, kirtans, temples ,devotees and spiritual paraphernalia. As a child of Five years I remember Sitting on the lap of my grandfather and hearing various Lilas of Kṛṣṇa and looking at your picture with an upraised index finger pointed or playing kartals with his eyes closed deep in absorption in Kṛṣṇa.I used to ask my grandfather ---Who was the old man ? Why was his photo given on the first page?. He would explain to me That was a photo of Śrīla Prabhupāda, the founder Ācārya of ISKCON.

This was the way Śrīla Prabhupāda touched my life for the first time.

In 1996 , I had the fortune of seeing some Brahmacharis who had on Their Sankirtan van from the back revealing two tall persons (Gaur Nitai)with raised arms. I was asked by my father to offer obeisances to them .We purchased an incense stick pack of the name Spiritual Sky. But what interested me more was the back cover of the Spiritual Sky as it told of transcendental sky beyond the material realm and it ultimately advised one to chant mahamantra. With great effort and hard struggle I could chant only 3 times a day. Thus Śrīla Prabhupāda You brought the Holy name into my life.

Not only did Śrīla Prabhupāda touch the lives of numerous newcomers but he touched the heart of his fledgling disciples with the care of a Bengali mother .Whether be it taking care of their minutest details of their likes dislikes, or guiding them through tough times or clarifying a deep philosophical point by humor through a myriad ways he touched the disciples with a Midas touch.



Teach: Śrīla Prabhupāda connected the whole human race to a very less understood, ancient and deeply philosophical chain of disciplic succession which propagated only Kevala Bhakti to the lotus feet of Lord Kṛṣṇa. Śrīla Prabhupāda's teachings descended from the distant age of Vedas containing the pristine truths of Spirituality and yet he could convey it expertly to his hippies who were Poles apart from such a culture. And to ensure that the Gaudiya Vaiṣṇavas teachings are carried on through the generations Śrīla Prabhupāda instituted various systems to educate devotees systematically all the while making sure that purity does not get watered down by flexibility.

The books of Śrīla Prabhupāda's that touched me the most were teachings of Queen Kunti where he mentioned that where does this flow of three modes stop. It stops at the lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa. Also how Lord Kṛṣṇa's face was filled with mascara as he tried to wipe his tears while Mother Yasoda chastised him for stealing butter. It was such a clear window into an intimate pastime.

Train: Śrīla Prabhupāda made sure that his teachings were not only understood but his disciples and grand-disciples were thoroughly trained in a lifestyle of pure devotion. Śrīla Prabhupāda by showing his own example through his lifestyle has set such Gold standards for all. He made this lifestyle a legacy for training future devotees. From waking up early to chanting, from preaching to scientists to bargaining land with Indian middlemen, From chanting with absorption to purchasing vegetables from the market, Śrīla Prabhupāda has left no stone unturned in demonstrating ideal behavior .

Transform: This one thing gives me a lot of faith in the life of Śrīla Prabhupāda of what an amazing transformation he has brought in the lives of his disciples. Aptly Śrīla Prabhupāda Writes in Srimad Bhagavatam "This Kṛṣṇa Consciousness movement will go down in history for having saved mankind in the darkest of the times." The transformation was most distinctly seen in the lives of westerners who turned from



hippies to Happies from sense gratifiers to sanyasis from social rejects to spiritual lighthouses.

In my own life I see what a great transformation has Śrīla Prabhupāda brought: from being a thoroughly confused student to one with clear goals, from one strongly addicted to bad habits. To one being initiated and from being puffed up to one practicing humility - this transformation has been slow but sure.

Transport: Although Śrīla Prabhupāda and his dear devotees do ultimately transport a soul back home back to godhead But even while being in this world and participating in kirtans, lectures, services, chanting suddenly one forgets this world and enters the spiritual world. This transport of the human mind from the physical to transcendental realm is based on hearing of pure sound vibration emanating from the lips of a pure devotee like Śrīla Prabhupāda.

In my own life I see that the transport from a mind filled with thoughts of cinema songs, movie scenes, sense gratification plans, so called scientific rationale to one contemplating on the pastimes and philosophy of the Lord is a long yet successful transport. And one can easily see if one is attentive to hear Kṛṣṇa Katha, one's mind can be transported to pastimes of the Lord like agahasur and one can remember how the cowherd boys were entering the mouth of the big snake or how the Vraja Vasis were sheltered under Govardhan.

This transport of a jiva from the shackles of maya to the association of devotees and gradually to the embrace of Kṛṣṇa has only been possible by the Mercy of His Divine Grace Śrīla Prabhupāda. Eventually each devotee awaits for the day when one will be transported to the abode of Lord.

Śrīla Prabhupāda is such a tower of mercy whose glory can only be gradually realized even though partially and without his mercy it is not possible to come to



the fold of devotional service. And it is his shower of grace which has inundated the desert like hearts with the nectarine flood of holy name.

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, I am most fortunate to get you as my spiritual grandfather. I beg at your feet to grant me strength to follow your instructions, to endeavor to chant attentively, to serve in the mood of servant of servant and to align my life according to desire of my spiritual superiors. Please grant me a particle of your mercy that I always cling to the association of Vaiṣṇavas despite the numerous attacks of maya. As you have always said, Maya is very strong, although I don't realize it still let me take shelter of your lotus feet and of Vaiṣṇavas and continue on the path of devotional service with enthusiasm, patience and determination.

Your insignificant servant,

Rama Vallabh Dasa

.....

Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

On this most auspicious day of your divine appearance, I take this rare opportunity to offer my gratitude for all the blessings you have kindly showered in my practice of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.

Although scriptures call one a joker one who tries to repay the debts of great souls yet out of desire for purification I will try.



The scriptures are full of glorification of the Spiritual master. King Satyavrata prays to Lord Matsya saying "By the grace of the Lord, those who have lost their self-knowledge since time immemorial, and who because of this ignorance are involved in a material, conditional life full of miseries, obtain the chance to meet the Lord's devotee." (SB 8.24.46)

So by some good fortune I got a chance to come in your divine association. Certainly it is a matter of great Fortune which had arisen on the horizon my life span when I got your holy association. Śrīla Prabhupāda says "To see personally the Supreme Personality of Godhead or His pure devotee is not an ordinary incident." (SB 4.22.7).

It is only by such Holy Association that the journey of myself going deeper into the science of Chanting Holy names Began. You have opened my eyes which were closed to the eternal relationship with Kṛṣṇa as You are paragam - "one who can take the disciple to the other side". Śrīla Prabhupāda continues "This side is conditioned life; the other side is the life of freedom. The spiritual master takes the disciple to the other side by opening his eyes with knowledge. We are suffering simply because of ignorance. By the instruction of the spiritual master, the darkness of ignorance is removed, and thus the disciple is enabled to go to the side of freedom." (SB 3.25.8).

Indeed you have removed the darkness in my heart and I can connect to Kṛṣṇa through prayers and chanting.

The aroma of Lord's lotus feet were far removed from the dirty chambers of my heart because of being covered with the cobwebs of lust, anger, greed and envy. But when I came in contact with your online sessions on Holy name and Self Care – a great deal of cleaning took place And I could find myself moving in the direction of all loving Lord Kṛṣṇa.



Many Conditioned souls are relishing the nectar of Kṛṣṇa's Holy name, experiencing the Loving care of Kṛṣṇa, Finding their Long Lost Friend in Kṛṣṇa and this is the result of Your Deep love for Kṛṣṇa. Śrīla Prabhupāda Writes "devotional service to the Lord is so powerful that it can cleanse the hearts of the people in general, by the devotional service of the pure, empowered devotee." (SB 2.8.5)

That Kṛṣṇa Loves me, That he is my friend , that He is my Guide That he hears my prayers even before I utter any prayers were no longer facts in the pages of scripture but an ever increasing eternal reality. Your deep compassion for fallen souls like me is the only hope in this great ocean of material existence where I am being tossed and turned by the various waves of anarthas and miseries.

It was really heart touching personally for me when I got the reply of my some insignificant questions asked to you. You replied in the form of audio which really made me feel closer to Śrīla Prabhupāda. Later, I got to enroll in the course of Self Care Which I felt is tailor made for Kali Yuga rebel Jivas like me which keep me tight at Lotus feet of Lord Kṛṣṇa.

I was immensely benefited by Your Japa Workshop which gave me a new lease of Life at a crucial point in my Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. Your instructions to Make Japa quality the highest priority is like a perfect Compass Back to Godhead. You had also shared how our relationship to Kṛṣṇa is through the Chanting of the Holy name. It is not just completing 16 rounds but an eternal relationship. Guiding us through various levels and consciousness of Chanting in one last session You instructed us to chant as if Radha and Kṛṣṇa were in front of us and were to chant for their pleasure. It was indeed a new realization for me. To chant for Kṛṣṇa's pleasure whether I feel ecstatic or not, I felt it marked the beginning of my understanding of the practice of pure devotional service. By your mercy Chanting for me is no longer a hackneyed call but a call with feelings.



Few years back I did offend a senior devotee by harsh words, at the moment I realized no one can help me at that moment not even Kṛṣṇa But I needed some shelter So I picked up bead bag and continued chanting for two hours and when my anger subsided I could peacefully forgive myself and also beg forgiveness from that senior devotee. But it was because of faith given by you that I could take that step of chanting when I was most disturbed.

By following your instructions in the seminar and in the Japa Affirmations book I find myself more and more touched and transformed by chanting the Holy name. Although earlier I was full of material desires but by your association I am toddling on the path to Kṛṣṇa's desires and sometimes praying; My dear lord I desire to chant Holy Name in association of your devotees who do not want any material thing from You, Please do not fulfill any of my material desires. Such sudden auspicious changes in a dirty filthy heart of mine are because of your association.

The holy Ganges of your blessings and Compassion are the only hope for hearts of conditioned souls like me which are burning with lust and envy.

The nectar of your holy words extinguish the forest fire of material existence. They call us like the flute sound of the Lord and eventually carry us to His lotus feet.

You carry the fragrance of Lord's friendliness with the Jivas and thus heal our eternal wounds of impersonalism.

You nourish our parched hearts like rain showers in which sprouts the creeper of Bhakti. I humbly beg forgiveness at your lotus feet for any offenses I made at your lotus feet.

On this auspicious day I pray to Sri Sri Radha Vrindavan Chandrajī, Sri Sri Jagannath Baladeva Subhadra ma, Sri Sri Gaur Nitai, Sri Balaji Bhagavan to bestow upon you



India

the best of health so that you can rescue many souls drowning in the ocean of maya characterized in this age by impersonalism, loneliness and hatred.

I humbly beg for your blessings so that I can take shelter of Holy name offenselessly and serve the Vaiṣṇavas.

Your servant,

Rama Vallabh Dasa



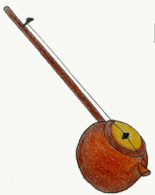
India



Kashmi

Śikṣā Disciple

Hare Kṛṣṇa. Please accept my humble obeisances on the lotus feet of Bhaktivedanta Swami Śrīla Prabhupāda ji. He has done the greatest service to mankind by introducing Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. Guided by the vision of his Guru Mahārāj Bhakti Siddhanta Saraswati Thakur ji, he published and distributed Bhagavad-gītā, Bhagavatam and various other books based on Vedic shastra and built Iskcon temples worldwide. I had the good fortune of reading his books and as I graduated to reading Bhagavad-gītā and Bhagavatam, my life got completely transformed and I could feel the love of Kṛṣṇa. The maha-mantra works like magic and is a lifeline to millions of souls in this yuga of Kali. I pay my humble respects to him. Jai Śrīla Prabhupāda Ji.



Dear Mahātmā Das,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

I am blessed to have attended your Self-care classes twice. I got answers to many questions I had in mind. I used to think that it is ok to suffer physically or tolerate pain in the service of the Lord. As a patient of arthritis, I used to feel frequent pain during yatras but did not realize that I have to cure myself to be a better devotee. Your lecture on Self-Love opened my eyes. I realized that it is important to take care of one's physical, emotional and mental health to have spiritual growth. The second most important wisdom was that Kṛṣṇa loves us irrespective of our faults and shortcomings. So many times, we have the feeling that we are not doing enough devotional service and we don't deserve Kṛṣṇa's love but the fact is Kṛṣṇa loves us unconditionally and this fills me with so much gratitude towards Him. He guides us and is always with us.

Thank you so much for these pearls of wisdom Gurudeva.
Dandavat pranam. Hare Kṛṣṇa.

Your servant,

Rashmi Dhyani





Katikeli Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



My Dearest Gurudev,

Please accept my humble obeisances
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to you!

Just few days ago you left Mayapur. We had five long days with you. You showed us how unconditional love is spread. Being extremely personal, loving, and accessible, and so much committed to serving Srila Prabhupada, you gave us hope that we can do it as well. You inspired everyone around you to improve ourselves, to open up our heart and to dedicate this lifetime to Krishna.

In one of the classes, you said: "A pure devotee can save the whole planet" and in my mind I saw Prabhupada reaching Boston after 35-day journey from Calcutta. He was going down the Jaladuta holding a suitcase and an umbrella. He also had few boxes of books and small amount of moori he had bought from India because he wasn't sure he will be able to find anything to eat. And had 40 rupees, he couldn't use anywhere! But he had the most powerful thing a devotee can have. He had full faith in Krishna and the holy name, and he was absolutely committed to his spiritual master's instructions.

Prabhupada came to the west to give us the priceless gift of knowing Krishna. He saved us from material suffering, from ignorance and from meaningless life. His goal was saving the whole planet by spreading the process of Krishna Consciousness that was presented by Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu.

18 years ago, Prabhupada saved me! It is only by his causeless mercy that I got in touch with bhakti and finally met you, Gurudev. I came to India to look for something I wasn't sure what it was. In my first day in Delhi, I met an Israeli devotee who gave me "Bhagavat Gita as it is" and "Krishna book". Both in Hebrew! I didn't know then,



but my life was about to be turned around. Few months later, in Vrindavan, it hit me. I chose to become a devotee. Few years later I was blessed to meet you, Gurudev.

I will never be able to thank you or repay you for all the things you taught me.

Thank You for being such a role model for me. I'm praying to be able to follow your example.

Thank you for accepting me as I am, seeing the good in me.

Thank you for always being my shelter.

Please, forgive me for all my offenses.

Please always keep me at the shelter of your lotus feet.

Your daughter,

Katikeli Devi Dasi



India



Rohan

Aspiring Disciple

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you.



I feel very fortunate to come under your lotus feet and our glorious Guru Pramapara. I feel so special that the personalities from our Guru Parampara are directly the intimate associates of Sri Sri Radha Kṛṣṇa who came here mercifully to give us love of Kṛṣṇa.

I will be indebted to you forever. My emotional & spiritual strength has increased a lot. I have faced many challenges where if without your instructions, I would have collapsed for sure. But now I feel like even If I become a street beggar with many problems, I will not be depressed at all.

When I first started to read your books, I took great pleasure in reading Lord Kṛṣṇa's heroic pastimes where He used to perform supernatural pastimes like killing demons and fighting. I was amazed by them, but I was bored with the ordinary Vraja pastimes such as Lord Kṛṣṇa and Lord Balarama going to play with His friends and performing very ordinary things, like eating, joking, Kṛṣṇa massaging Lord Balarama's lotus feet and mimicking cuckoo bird's voice, Kṛṣṇa pinching the gopis's small child when He was unable to find the butter, Kṛṣṇa and Balarama passing urine in butter, etc. But after reading them for some time, I realized that the ordinary Vraja pastimes are very sweet and addicting and you have very kindly put them in less quantity in Kṛṣṇa Book to make them more valuable. Now I have great taste for them. I can now understand your sweet mood, which is sweeter than nectar. I also skipped the Rasa Lila chapter in Kṛṣṇa Book for 2 years thinking, I'm not qualified, but then you forced me to read it and I realized my previous unfortunate decision.

I thus pray to you, that I may get to read the ordinary sweet Vraja pastimes more and more and by your mercy also experience your mood.

I also feel like I can understand the pain of other living beings now, from plants to human beings. Whenever, I see a plant or some fly, I try to chant Hare Kṛṣṇa maha-mantra, near them so that they may get a human body and come to Kṛṣṇa



India

Consciousness somehow. I came to know that the human body is very valuable from you, and I got lucky!

Your humble servant,

Rohan

.....

Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātmā-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

I am now very thankful to you for improving my chanting. I used to chant 4 rounds somehow previously, but after that I came to 8 rounds and then 16 rounds, and currently I'm at 24 rounds. Actually, I was told to chant and listen which is common advice and that process was very dry and boring, so I only came up to 4 rounds, then eventually I came to know from you that Ravana, didn't touch the real Sita Devi but just Her shadow because, he was not qualified.

And we should also feel like this while chanting as Sri Sri Radha and Kṛṣṇa are non-different from Their names, and we being unqualified cannot see Their forms and pastimes while chanting. This made sense to me, and I then increased my chanting with taste.



India

So, thank you very much for improving my Japa. I am improving my skills in different domains so that I may serve you and Śrīla Prabhupāda very nicely.

Your humble servant,

Rohan



India



Saswati

Śikṣā Disciple

Hare Kṛṣṇa Prabhuji, Dandavat pranam.

Śrīla Prabhupāda na hote toh ham nahi hote. We would have been living like cats and dogs, not knowing our purpose. Śrīla Prabhupāda extended his mercy in giving us Guru's like you and many others who are as compassionate and merciful as Prabhupāda and as a sun is non different than its rays so are the Guru varga that have been training and mentoring us. Jai Śrīla Prabhupāda, Jagat Guru Śrīla Prabhupāda ki Jai!



Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Today on your Vyāsa-pūjā, I take this opportunity to thank you for your kindness and encouragement that I always receive. Deeply I thank you and express my gratitude in improving myself in my prayer and chanting sewa. I have always been encouraged by your short videos, talks and quotes. Thank you for always being there and mentoring me. I pray that you always keep good health and inspire others and myself towards Bhakti.

Hare Kṛṣṇa.

Your servant,

Saswati





Satyarupa Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Dear Gurudeva.

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and to yourself. Happy appearance day and thank you for appearing in my life as well!

Thank you for guiding us towards Prabhupāda's mercy and reminding us how he's always there for us. I always thank Śrīla Prabhupāda for removing my darkness of ignorance and giving meaning to my life. I tell him that since he saved me, I belong to him now. He can either keep me as a useless object in his possession or he can use me in any of his services. Since Prabhupāda didn't waste anything, he sure would find some use for me!

Thank you Gurudeva for always connecting us with Prabhupāda and showing us his mercy and compassion. There are still so many things I don't understand about his heart and about your heart. But one thing I'm coming to realize is that Prabhupāda's disciples are so Prabhupāda conscious! Even your jokes are Prabhupāda conscious! One time you had some knee pain and I asked you about the pain. You said it's just old age and then you jokingly said give me your youth! To me that joke simply meant a reference from the story of King Yayati from Srimad Bhagavatam. Later on I found out that Prabhupāda used to joke with the devotees in the same way, jokingly asking to exchange their youth with his old age. Any of your godbrothers would have gotten this immediately, but it took me months to actually get to what was in your heart.

Another time, I was listening to one of your recorded kirtans and in the middle of the kirtan you stopped a devotee from clapping his hands because he was clapping on the wrong beat and it was hilarious when you told him to sit on his hands if he couldn't stop himself from clapping. Recently I was listening to one of your classes where you were explaining how Prabhupāda used to teach the devotees to learn etiquette by observing the Indian guests, and you mentioned how Prabhupāda



India

would say sit on your left hand if you can't stop using it. It hit me then that your joke about sitting on the hands was inspired by Prabhupāda.

I wish I could imbibe even a fraction of your Prabhupāda consciousness. I feel fortunate though that you're there to guide me. You can never tire of sharing Prabhupāda stories and examples of how he applied Kṛṣṇa consciousness practically.

Thanks for engaging me in your service to Prabhupāda. Thanks for your care and for compassionately looking after me.

Your foolish servant,

Satyarupa Devi Dasi





Shruti

Aspiring Disciple

Śrīla Prabhupāda is my life and soul. I got my life's real purpose and direction only by getting associated with his teachings and books and his disciples.

The strong foundation of Kṛṣṇa Prem in my life is solely because of him.

Mahārāj, I have one very personal realization I want to share. I had many encounters like this. Śrīla Prabhupāda mentions that "I am forever present for all who are seeking me."



Once back in 2014, when a new ISKCON temple came up in Kanpur, I genuinely prayed to Śrīla Prabhupāda to please send me a partner who was chosen by you and who will help me in growing my devotion.

And after this my partner whom I met in 2017, is exactly fulfilling my wish to Śrīla Prabhupāda in all respects and he's also helping me getting closer to my Kṛṣṇa Consciousness as well as he made all arrangements for my stay in Sri Vrindavan Dham to strengthen my bhakti and solidify it.

So this is one of the personal encounters. Śrīla Prabhupāda is actually loving and watching all of us dearly and closely.

... ..

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Hare Kṛṣṇa Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!



India

Wishing you very good health and a great year ahead on your Vyāsa-pūjā. Mahārāj your presence in my life is like a beacon of light among the dark clouds.

Thank you for always guiding me through all my decisions of Vraj Dham settlement, hindi online teaching and everything.

We are fortunate and extremely blessed to have such a genuine and gentle Guru like you in my life. For me your presence and your selfless smile gives me faith that I always have shelter.

May Their lordships always keep blessing and empowering you to guide and help us all through.

Your servant,

Shruti



India



Sureshwar Dasa

Dikṣā Disciple

My dear spiritual grand-father Śrīla Prabhupāda Please accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet and please guide me to serve me in your mission.

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Hare Kṛṣṇa dandavat pranam Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet.

On the occasion of your Vyāsa-pūjā, even though I am not qualified to glorify you, only by your causeless mercy I say that at the very young age of 19 you committed to Śrīla Prabhupāda and engaged in Guru and Kṛṣṇa's services.

I see that whatever instructions were given by Śrīla Prabhupāda and previous acharyas you are following them and received all the qualities of Prabhupāda within you. Also, I see Mahārāj, just how much compassion you have, always. You think of how people engage in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness and you are preaching day and night. You read the present day people's mind and you know how to make it possible that they accept Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.

Guru Mahārāj, I see that if anyone asks any questions, you see to it that whoever has asked, you will keep on replying until he is convinced. This shows how much concern you have for each soul. Please forgive me if I have committed any offense and always keep me in your shelter.

Your servant,

Sureshwar Dasa



Ireland



Ghiridhar

Śikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

It is only the mercy and compassion you have shown towards me and every creature in this world, which is the guiding light in today's world. I had been in a very materialistic condition, blind and ignorant of my abominable activities. I never



knew what is right and what is wrong. Sri Sri Radha Rasabihari Mandir, one of your dear temples, was where I got an opportunity to associate with devotees, who inspired me to chant Hare Kṛṣṇa Mahamantra and read Bhagavad-gītā As It Is.

Today I am able to prepare and offer food to Lord Kṛṣṇa, get the Lord's mercy and have a valuable purpose in life (Bhakti), only because of you. I am not just cooking to satisfy my tongue and stomach but for the pleasure of the Lord to the best I can.

Whenever I get frustrated in my Sadhana, only your books, lectures and devotees are my refuge. I am able to enjoy the Nectarean Hari Katha and chant Harinaam in spite of being so fallen and conditioned, only by your mercy.

It is only through your and Kṛṣṇa's mercy, I am able to realize some of my countless anarthas, which I either never knew before or accepted them as a part of me proudly, out of ignorance. You built a home for the whole world - ISKCON, without which I would have never got the association and knowledge of Lord Kṛṣṇa.

You gave us the message and love of Godhead, AS IT IS, without any discrimination. You were so humble to every living being. You regarded all your godbrothers as your Guru's representative, you were ready to sacrifice yourself to fulfill your Gurudeva's instructions, and you were so merciful even to people who are not interested in Spirituality by Rath Yatra, prasadam and book distribution. Each of your pastimes is filled with your compassion. All your mercy is in your books. It is through them you live and associate with us.

Your only motive was to let people realize their dangerous situation, spiritualize themselves and go back to Godhead. That is clearly known by this pastime when you said "If ISKCON was to get closed, a person who has all of my books can start another ISKCON."



I will always be indebted to you, and I am very happy about it. All I want is to become firm in my Sadhana and distribute this knowledge to all others which is not possible by me alone. I need your mercy and guidance in this journey/battle. May I never forget your teachings, respect and honor all devotees and never forget Kṛṣṇa in any situation.

.....

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

Hare Kṛṣṇa. Please accept my humble obeisances. On this auspicious day of Vyāsa-pūjā, I want to Thank you for inspiring and influencing me through all ups and downs, be it Bhakti or Personal Life. Your daily Youtube videos on “Living the Wisdom of Bhakti” deals with varied aspects ranging from Japa to dealing with Anarthas to Self Care, giving motivation and hope whenever I needed it the most.

It was causeless mercy that I came to know about your Self-Care Workshop and Spiritual Bypassing Playlist. They were the medicine for my situation. I had heard and read philosophy, but only realized through your videos how I never understood the essential point. Just by remembering your teachings, I feel calm and grateful.

I love your Kirtans especially, Brahma Samhita (both old and new). You inspire me by being motivated to make ISKCON better - To see ISKCON as our family and contribute to making it better. You always take time to respond to my questions through emails and try to explain the situation and solution in the best way. You



Ireland

include all possible perspectives so that I am not pegged to just one thought process. You present the facts frankly and practically and explain them very deeply, be it in your videos or in your emails.

I have read many of your Illuminations on your website and I just keep reading them. You clarify each concept - What it is and What it is NOT like Low Self-esteem and Humility. You guide us not only on the path of Bhakti, which is in itself so rare and valuable but also clearly awaken us using real-life mistakes one usually performs. I can relate so much to them because I am doing exactly that! I cannot express how much influence your videos have on me.

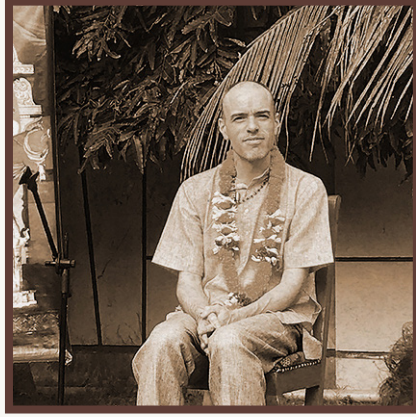
I pray for your and Kṛṣṇa's mercy to have your personal association and be able to humbly serve you.

Your servant,

Ghiridhar



Ireland



John

Aspiring Disciple

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to your lotus feet. It is because of your mercy, great determination, endeavor and faith in the Holy Name that has given me a small glimpse of Kṛṣṇa and what it is truly like to be a devotee of the



Lord. I am forever in your debt and I pray that some day I will be able to continue in your service and spread the glories of the Holy Name.

....

Dear Mahārāj,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyām mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānām tat-parāya ca*

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to your lotus feet. When I listen to your classes or attend one of your lectures I always think that this is a person who I would like to be like one day. You are a person of all good qualities like compassion, integrity, honesty and wealth of knowledge and wisdom too. You are an inspiration to so many people who find in you what they need in their daily lives. I am forever indebted to you and I honestly don't know how I will ever be able to repay you. You carry the torchlight of Prabhupāda with you wherever you go and I'm grateful for that.

Your aspiring servant,

John



Ireland



Timea

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

I pray that I can always seek shelter at your lotus feet and that I always have faith in you and Kṛṣṇa, no matter what challenges I must face.

I thank Śrīla Prabhupāda for selflessly giving us Kṛṣṇa, "our Kṛṣṇa" as he used to say, and for giving me hope, that even a fallen soul like me can go back to him and



overcome the cycle of birth and death and live in a world where every word is a song and every step is a dance with pure love for all living entities.

I pray that I can serve you Gurudeva one day with pure heart and devotion as you serve Śrīla Prabhupāda every day.

Thank you dear Gurudeva. Thank you dear Śrīla Prabhupāda.

... ..

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances at the dust of your lotus feet. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda! All glories to you!

This last year has brought many changes into my life for the better, and I understand now, that everything has a perfect timing and we can experience mercy when we truly open our hearts and have faith in Guru and Kṛṣṇa. Those moments are very precious.

We are all on this spiritual journey trying to follow in your footsteps and it is not easy. I know I am still falling short after these many years. I am trying to be better and do better. Having your guidance on how to develop our love for Kṛṣṇa by being conscious of ourselves and others has been a great help for me the past year and I will continue listening to your related lectures repeatedly, so I can improve myself and purify my heart and build the character of a devotee.

I am so looking forward to seeing you during your upcoming visit to the UK. In my heart I am already preparing for it. It has been such a long time since I had the fortune to be in your association in person and I want to thank you in advance for



Ireland

blessing all of us with your visit. I pray that next year I can take part in your retreat in India, that would be a true blessing.

A little while ago I came across a beautiful prayer by Surdas that really touched my heart, and I felt I would like to offer it to you because it describes your wonderful qualities so perfectly. Even though I am not yet an initiated disciple of yours, it is my desire to be in front of you one day taking my vows with full faith and devotion. Please accept this prayer from my true self, who is yet to be revealed:

"I offer my obeisances to my spiritual master who gave me beautiful Kanti-mala, effulgent tilak, the beautiful form of a devotee, and who offered me his shelter.

In one of his hands he is holding my hand, and with his other hand, he is holding the lamp of knowledge, which helps me to cross over the dark ocean of the material world.

My Guru deserves the greatest respect because he can only rescue one in a blinking of an eye. I bow down to him again and again and again."

Thank you for your relentless preaching, prayers, kindness and love you show to us, and giving shelter at your lotus feet even to someone like me.

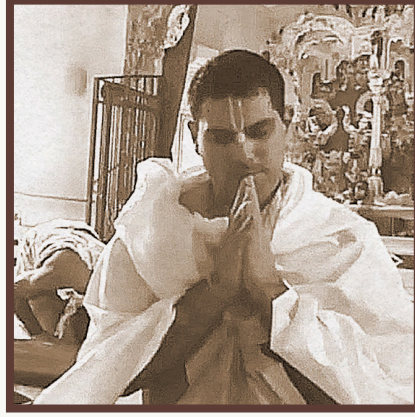
HareKṛṣṇa,

Your unworthy servant,

Bhaktin Timea

Ireland





Markandeya Dasa

Dīkṣā Disciple

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

*śrī-caitanya-mano-'bhīṣṭaṁ
sthāpitaṁ yena bhū-tale
svayaṁ rūpaḥ kadā mahyaṁ
dadāti sva-padāntikam*



*vande 'haṁ śrī-guroḥ śrī-yuta-pada-
kamalaṁ śrī-gurūn vaiṣṇavāṁś ca
śrī-rūpaṁ sāgrajātaṁ saha-gaṇa-
raghunāthānviataṁ taṁ sa-jīvam
sādvaitaṁ sāvadhūtaṁ parijana-
sahitaṁ kṛṣṇa-caitanya-devaṁ
śrī-rādhā-kṛṣṇa-pādān saha-gaṇa-
lalitā-śrī-viśākhānviatāṁś ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṁ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṁ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāminn iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

My dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, please accept my humblest respectful obeisances at your beautiful lotus feet. This letter is meant to thank you again and again, though it will never be enough, for saving me from the pang of the material existence and for teaching me, through your books and instructions, what real Love is. The most precious gift you have given me is the opportunity to serve my dear Gurudeva, your beloved son, who is helping me to cross over this world of death and suffering.

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, you appeared to destroy the darkness of illusion, to save the world from the impersonal calamity prevailing in this dark age of Kali, and to show us the safest way to come back home, back to Godhead.



With your pure devotion you have pierced the cover of the material universe and established temples all over the world which are like Vaikuntha Gates or portals of salvation.

You are the general-in-chief, the Senapati Bhakta of whom Lord Caitanya has spoken; you alone have gotten through to the fallen souls of Western countries—even in the most remote regions. Creating their good fortune, you have qualified them to be authentic spiritual teachers, just as Lord Gauranga ordered.

You have declared war on Maya, the illusory invincible Energy of the Lord, and you have always been victorious and glorious.

By your effulgent example you teach us how to become pure devotees, as Kṛṣṇa asks in the Bhagavad-gītā. Every moment of your glorious life is an unparalleled lesson and a matchless gift.

Your ever-expanding compassion knows no bounds. You are the expansion of the mercy of Lord Nityananda, the extension of the transcendental body of Lord Gauranga and you have given us the most precious, sweet gift of the Holy Name.

By carrying in your heart great love for your illustrious Master, you have revealed to us the secret of true Love, bringing us the most precious jewel of Guru prema-bhakti. You melted the hearts of all your disciples, as you did also with my beloved Spiritual Master, with that flame of your transcendental love and compassion.

You worked tirelessly on the translation of the sacred texts of our Gaudiya tradition—rendering them available in so many languages and easy to understand, giving your life in your old age, your health and your profound spiritual realizations, just to guide us. All this is only due to your unconditional mercy.



You have established ISKCON, which is your transcendental body and of which you are the soul. This ISKCON is the same vessel of the Lotus feet of Śrī Kṛṣṇa, which makes short work of crossing and surpassing the ocean of mortal existence in this material dimension.

You gave to everyone indiscriminately, the original amrita Himself, Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Person, and continue to do so through your disciples and the instructions in your books.

There is no end to celebrating and glorifying you. Showing your sincere gratitude with our hearts full of devotion, we can only hope to make you satisfied, being aware that we could never hope to repay you in full.

Thank you Śrīla Prabhupāda, countless times I thank you, for giving us the most precious treasure of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.

All glories to you, Jagad Guru, Patita-pavana, ocean of mercy! Please always grant me shelter at the lotus feet of my spiritual Master and at your lotus feet. Please forever engage me in the loving service of Guru and Kṛṣṇa, life after life.

Your very small spiritual grandson,

Mankandeya Dasa



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

*nama om̐ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṁ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṁ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om̐ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

My dearest and beloved Śrīla Gurudeva,

please accept my obeisances from the bottom of my heart which will never be filled enough with gratitude and love for you. I could never put into words the love and gratitude I feel for having you as my Teacher, as my Spiritual Guide. You bring me closer to Śrīla Prabhupāda, to his Devotional sentiment, and I thank Śrīla Prabhupāda for bringing me closer to you and your devotional sentiment. He led me to you and you lead me to him. I thank Kṛṣṇa for introducing me to Śrīla Prabhupāda, through his books, and I thank Śrīla Prabhupāda for introducing me to you my beloved Gurudeva.

In this way, by glorifying Śrīla Prabhupāda I make you satisfied and by making you satisfied, I can hope to please Śrīla Prabhupāda and the Guru Parampara so as to make Kṛṣṇa satisfied.



The duty of a disciple is to please his Guru in any way possible, because if the Guru is satisfied Kṛṣṇa's Mercy will descend on the disciple. This is the real success I long for.

Thank you Gurudeva, thank you for accepting me as your disciple, for trusting me despite my disqualifications and failings.

My prayer to the Lord will always be that I can serve you life after life in the mission of Śrīla Prabhupāda and Lord Caitanya and always make you satisfied with my service. To glorify the figure of Śrī Guru, on the occasion of your Vyāsa-pūjā, I wish to dedicate to you these two beautiful poems composed by Kashishvara Pandit and Surdas Pandit.

Glorification Poem of Sri Guru by Kashishvara Pandit

"The forehead of the Guru is the disciple's only source of satisfaction.
The eyes of the Guru hold the secret treasure of the three worlds.
The nose of the Guru is the pride of knowledge for the disciple.
The lips of the Guru are the gateway to Vedic knowledge.
The tongue of the Guru is the nectar pot of Dhanvantari.
The neck of the Guru is renunciation from the material world.
The shoulders of the Guru are the Grace of devotional life.
The chest of the Guru is the abode of the Divine Couple.
The hands of the Guru are the source of all blessings.
The torso of the Guru is an ocean of devotional bliss.
The thighs of the Guru are the strength of the disciple's Bhakti.
The Lotus Feet of the Guru are like Cintamani gems.
The toes of the Guru are like unto millions of pilgrimages.
The toenails of the Guru are the moonlight of love for Kṛṣṇa.
The shadow of the Guru protects the disciple eternally.



The dust from His Lotus feet are the wealth of the 14 worlds.
The remnants of the Guru's Prasada are the nectar of Kṛṣṇa's lips.
Clothes used by the Guru are the good fortune of the disciple.
And the words of the Guru are the disciple's only shelter.
That blessed day on which one is accepted as a disciple by the Guru,
the disciple should pray as follows at the ceremony's conclusion:
My dearest Spiritual Master, without your support in this world, I was drowning in
the ocean of great sorrow and lamentation. You are my only shelter now.
You kindly took my hand and placed me in the boat to Vṛndāvana,
where one finds Divine Love for Radha and Kṛṣṇa.

Oh my Guru, my shelter, my only savior! From this day forth, I am yours. May my
body become your asana, my hands become your instruments, and all my senses
be engaged in your service. Please kill my false pride, destroy my material desires,
beat my uncontrolled senses, smash my misfortune, and deliver me to the Son of
Mahārāja Nanda. Today I offer my respects to you again and again and again."

Sūrdās in glorification of the Spiritual Master

"I offer my obeisances to my Spiritual Master, who has given me a beautiful Kanti
Mala, effulgent Tilak, the beautiful form of the devotee, and has offered me his
shelter. With one hand, he holds my hand, and with the other he carries the lamp of
knowledge, helping me to cross over this dark ocean of the material world. Sūrdās
says: my Guru deserves the greatest respect because only he can rescue one in the
blink of an eye. I bow down to Him again and again and again".

Eternally your debtor and servant,

Markandeya Dasa





Kṛṣṇapremi Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Back when I first started to chant japa I knew nothing about Kṛṣṇa Consciousness nor Prabhupāda. I just knew that there are beads you chant a mantra on which works wonders. As it was my first time meditating with mantras I found it difficult to repeat the same words as I could not find a flow of it. So I searched for a japa audio recording on youtube and the one I stumbled upon was Śrīla Prabhupāda. And just like that, without even knowing, Śrīla Prabhupāda has been guiding me ever since. Before Kṛṣṇa led me to my Guru Mahārāj, I felt that Prabhupāda is my Guru and I do not want any other. His vani spoke so deeply through his books that gradually it transformed my whole world. The transformation which was so powerful nothing could reverse it.

I often wonder what if Prabhupāda would have never boarded the Jaladuta ship? Westerners would have never heard about the maha-mantra, got a glimpse of the transcendental literature, nor would they have had a chance to remember their eternal relationship with Kṛṣṇa.

As years go by I feel more and more indebted to Śrīla Prabhupāda and his mission. Yet I cannot help but notice how little do I contribute in comparison to what the devotees did back in the day. He has given all of his life till his last breath to serve his Guru Mahārāj and leave us his books. Yet maya is so strong it drags us down every day. The only way to keep our heads out of the water in this ocean of miseries is to grab tight onto the maha-mantra and Prabhupāda's books.

And so I beg with all my heart, dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, may I never take any of this for granted. I beg for your mercy, may I always remember Kṛṣṇa and look for guidance and shelter in your vani.



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātmā-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

This year I often looked back at how much my life has changed ever since Kṛṣṇa sent you to my life. Only now did I start to see the full picture and realise how fortunate am I that at the critical moment you turned my world upside down with your instructions and as a result I can now stably progress on my path of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. All of your instructions have led me to where I am today. You have guided me so selflessly through the ups and downs, always pointing me towards Kṛṣṇa.

This year Kṛṣṇa so mercifully granted me a chance to serve you in person. Those days were the best of my life and I will forever be grateful that at least once I was able to meet you. I have witnessed with my own eyes how you see right through us. How you see what is in our hearts and minds without us even saying a word. I have also witnessed once again how Śrīla Prabhupāda is present in every word and action of yours, how deeply immersed you are in the Holy Name and how personal you are with every single devotee. You continue to give every single ounce of your energy to the family of Śrīla Prabhupāda, taking care of the devotees and teaching how we should take care of ourselves.

Your classes are like my vital dose of medicine to keep the maya flu away, to remember Śrīla Prabhupāda and to keep developing and never compromise my



relationship with the Holy Name. Having opportunities to continuously serve you is my greatest fortune.

I often feel as if I am not doing enough to please you, that my service is so insignificant and that I should put in more effort into my sadhana and practice. But you never chastise me or put me down. Your instructions always highlight the good and empower me to do even better. From you I learn how to love and appreciate every single devotee, to always see the good in others and to never judge. I learned how important it is to take care of Śrīla Prabhupāda's movement and how the change always starts with ourselves.

I beg for your forgiveness for any offenses I may have made and pray to Kṛṣṇa to always keep me humbly at your lotus feet. May I always serve you with my thoughts and actions. I am eternally grateful for your shelter.

Your humble servant,

Kṛṣṇapremi Devi Dasi



Lithuania



Tauras

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you.



I don't know how it happened that almost two years ago I got your book. Now I understand why your mercy is called causeless because there wasn't a single thing about me that was good. I was proud, selfish, greedy and I still am most of it but due to your mercy – the Holy Name, I start to change.

I feel so thankful to you because I realize that my life was going in a totally wrong direction but you corrected me and gave me a goal worth pursuing. I know it's a long road to walk and I barely have any realization but I believe in you and I am sure that by following you Kṛṣṇa will give me the understanding I need to be successful. Therefore, I sincerely say thank you for saving me.

Knowing you one can start to understand what it means to be truly caring and personal. You looked at each very personally and always found a way to inspire. And you still do! You are like a palette of unseen to this world colors with that you coloured those, who were sincere to follow you.

Your Divine Grace, please, bless me with an understanding that everything I have in my life is by your mercy, so that I could always take shelter of your lotus feet.

Your unworthy servant,

Tauras



*nama om̐ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

On this day I would like to express gratitude to you, although I know that You deserve much more appreciation than I have now.

The only words that come to my head are “Thank You for bringing me closer to Prabhupāda” I remember I was reading the document you compiled about Guru Aśraya and there was a question: “How did you feel when you realized that Prabhupāda had saved you from imminent dangers and suffering?” At that time I couldn’t answer the question. I barely had any relationship with our eternal saviour. By your grace I start to understand that he actually saved us.

Our Founder-Ācārya’s lectures, books are giving me life and it’s all by your mercy. Devotees had told me that it is important to take the shelter of Śrīla Prabhupāda’s lotus feet but I never really understood them, it was cloudy.

But then... you came into my life and turned it upside down. You gave me Prabhupāda and told me that it’s normal to be normal, that it’s okay to be yourself and that Kṛṣṇa Consciousness is natural. In this world of negativity I often am cruel towards myself but you introduced me to supreme practice and now help me connect with Lord Kṛṣṇa in a healthy way. Who else can give such a real thing?



Lithuania

Everyone now just offers something we don't need, a false ego boost but you give something invaluable and real.

From the first moment I met you, I admire your humility, kindness, realness... Thank You for being a living example of His Divine Grace teachings. I don't know how it is even possible that such an egoist like me gets your association, therefore I hope that someday I will take your association not for granted but truly appreciate it the way you deserve.

Your aspiring servant,

Taurus





Vrnda Sundari Devi Dasi

Dikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda, all glories to his lotus feet.

Śrīla Prabhupāda removed all my fears about the bhakti path, I knew that to join would be a life changing experience. I read all I could about him and all was just perfect. I love the kindness of Śrīla Prabhupāda, his kind heart and strong words, and his courage to change the world. I feel very humbled to be in his movement. I remember the first time I entered his samadhi in Vrindavan, I thought: Oh my dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda, how strongly I miss you, please bless me, I am scared of my own senses. I still fight every day. Save me Śrīla Prabhupāda! Even though I never met him, I feel a strong separation that can't be filled. Śrīla Prabhupāda gave up everything for us and asked to chant in return. I am no good for big services, but I chant everyday, and remember Śrīla Prabhupāda. It feels like I met him for sure, because I miss him so much.

... ..

Hare Kṛṣṇa Guru Mahārāj,

please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Thank You for being such a good spiritual master and taking care of my spiritual life. Thank You for showing Your mercy and initiating me, but even now I feel no worthy to receive such gift. I remember last year how I met You in Vrindavan, it will stay forever in my heart. One evening I saw You standing long in Śrīla Prabhupāda samadhi and praying. I wish Śrīla Prabhupāda will answer all your prayers as he trusted You so much. I am very inspired by Your mood and dedication, kirtanas, books and seminars. Actually, it's funny to say, but I can't do house and family duties if I am not listening to Your voice, it's always playing. I listened many hours of Your seminars. When I listen to You - I feel safe and motivated to keep going. I wish one day to meet in Vrindavan again, but couldn't make it this year. Also, thank



Lithuania

You so much for visiting Lithuania. Everyone was so happy. And the last evening in Kaunas was very special, when people couldn't stop singing the maha mantra and dancing. It strengthens everyone's bhakti just to see You in such a mood that only Śrīla Prabhupāda had, but now it is passed to his disciples. I wonder everyday, how do You keep so enthusiastic and spread it to others. It's wonderful. I feel the luckiest soul in 3 worlds to have You as my spiritual master. Please accept my humble obeisances to your lotus feet.

Your servant,

Vrnda Sundari Devi Dasi





Yasodamayī Devī Dāśī

Śikṣā Disciple

Dear Śrīla Gurudeva. Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Before I met you I never understood Śrīla Prabhupāda and actually I never had any connection with him. I thought that he was a little bit too strict and even rude and gave so many rules that I just could not understand.

When you came into my life, which was totally the best blessing that I could think of at THAT moment in my life. You just changed my perspective towards Kṛṣṇa Consciousness and especially Śrīla Prabhupāda.



I felt how much love and kindness and support and understanding he had and still has for us. Just like you.

You showed me that devotional service is about love not about punishment or being afraid to do something wrong.

Your inspiration and your love and support gave me strength to make things right and to follow the process as Śrīla Prabhupāda gave us.

You gave me faith in Śrīla Prabhupāda and in this path in general. I've never been so sure about what I am doing and why I am doing it.

I will be in debt for all my life... and I hope that more and more people will come and take your guidance and take this wonderful path of Krishna Consciousness, which you showed me can be really fun and glorious at the same time.

*With all my love,
Your servant,*

Yasodamayi Devi Dasi





Anuradha Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracārīṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Beloved Śrīla Prabhupāda thank you so much for being the water that this desert world needs.

Every time I have doubts about my present and life, you are the sunshine that lights my dark mind. Your life and example are simply inspiring and the example the world needs to see to BELIEVE again.

Your mercy for spreading Lord Chaitanya's movement it is completely unimaginable, unlimited and inspiring. If were not for you life and example many of us wont be here anymore. as my Guru Mahārāj says If Prabhupāda did not give up you do not have the right to do it. So I am here.

... ..

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

I offer my respectful obeisances unto my spiritual master, who has opened my eyes, which were blinded by the darkness of ignorance, with the torchlight of knowledge.

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyaṁ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṁ tat-parāya ca*

Obeisances to His Grace Mahātma Prabhu, who is dearest to Kṛṣṇa, and who teaches both through his realizations and his actions. Obeisance to him who is the embodiment of the mood of his master Prabhupāda, who awards the joy of kīrtana,



who reveals the truth of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, and who is affectionately concerned for the devotees.

Beloved Gurudeva, Beloved Guru Mahārāj, thank you, thank you, thank you 1000 times thank you.

Your light is so bright that It does not allow darkness to be your presence is so high that a limit mind can not stay your purity floods my being your mercy melt my heart your being is an auspicious presence in my mind your example a wonderful thing to follow and an immense sunshine for the world

Gurudev has only seven words but unlimited love enough compassion and surrender a lot.

Beloved Gurudev, currently I am in a leadership position in Mexico city yatra, lots of problems, lots of politics, lots of criticism and hate, lots of quarrels and hypocrisy. I could be full of resentment, sadness and all bad feelings in my heart because of that. The truth is I am not, I am grateful to have this opportunity to serve you, to be an exemplary disciple of you. Every time I need to learn how to solve a team problem, I listen to your classes about working together, how Prabhupāda wanted us to be united in diversity.

When I need your advice about resentment I listen to your forgiveness classes, so you are always with me. When I feel alone or exhausted I see your example. How merciful you are that still you are traveling around the world to spread love and compassion, unstoppable, unlimitedly compassionate.

When I am tempted to hold onto anger or hatred in my heart I just think of you and it goes away because you are my example to be, I cannot let you down, you have given me so much that I am in debt forever with you. I can not fail, I can not , not



México

follow you. I do not want to, you deserve such elevated disciples, and you gave me so much inspiration to be a real disciple, a real follower.

Thank you so much again and again my beloved spiritual father.

Your aspiring servant,

Anuradha Devi Dasi





Karunika Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

To you my most humble obeisances and eternal gratitude.

One very blessed day, Kṛṣṇa sent you as a shining star to bring light to our consciousness, elevate the spirits, and translate His message to us.

Thank you infinitely for taking us by the hand and with all calmness and patience to lead us towards our beloved God and to the divine world of Kṛṣṇaloka where surely you are today. Please receive the obeisances of this humble devotee who admires and loves you very much.

... ..

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances along with these simple words that I now dedicate to you with all my love and admiration.

On this special occasion in which we celebrate very happily your appearance day, apart from congratulating you greatly, I give infinite thanks to Kṛṣṇa for having granted me the privilege of having you as my Master, because it is YOU who brings me closer to HIM through your wise teachings.



México

I feel very blessed by your presence in my life and I hope every day I deserve a little more that great blessing, being a better devotee of Kṛṣṇa.

Words are not enough to thank you.

I wish you to be immensely happy in this beautiful path to Kṛṣṇa through which we walk, YOU far ahead and me following far behind, but with all my fervor.

Your servant in training,

Karunika Devi Dasi





Rasika Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



All glories to our beloved Śrīla Prabhupāda!!!!

Thank you so much for all you've done for this world.

You have given the most loving gift which is Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.

Thank you so very very much for sharing with the world the way in which we can connect to Kṛṣṇa immediately and experience once again the loving relationship we have with Him.

All that you have given us is a treasure.

I pray to be able to help you in your mission in any way as little or big as possible.

• • • • •

Hare Kṛṣṇa dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances and love.

This is a very special day and I want to thank you again and again for all your loving guidance, time, mercy, tolerance and for constantly reminding me of Kṛṣṇa, and for inspiring me so much with your actions and life to surrender everything to Him. I'm so blessed and fortunate to be your disciple. I know Kṛṣṇa loves me so much because He sent you into my life.

I know I have a lot more work to do in me and that many times I don't live up to the standard that I would like to but that is always in my mind and constant effort.



A short poem I wrote for you:

Your light shines so brightly.
That light that comes from your spiritual master
Your mercy overflows my heart.
I have nothing significant without your service to impart.
My service to you satisfies my soul.
And that service is my ultimate goal.

I pray to Kṛṣṇa I can please you and Prabhupāda and make you both smile.

Your servant,

Rasika Devi Dasi



Poland



Jakub

Aspiring Disciple

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories, all glories, all glories to you.

I am not a perfect example of a disciple, not even a perfect example of a human being. I am not the best servant, not the most humble, not the nicest, most of the time I think you would not even want to look at me if you saw me. But I am the most grateful for the amazing gift you gave us which is knowledge of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, this amazing gift of The Holy Names, Kirtan, Prasadam and all the incredible mercy that showers upon us thanks to you. I am the most grateful, and



I feel the luckiest person in the world that despite my lack of qualifications I am welcome and I have a chance to do even the smallest service. But the most grateful I am for inspiring and creating such an amazing devotee and the best example of the servant as His Grace Mahātmā Das is.

• • • • •

Dearest Guru Mahārāj,

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

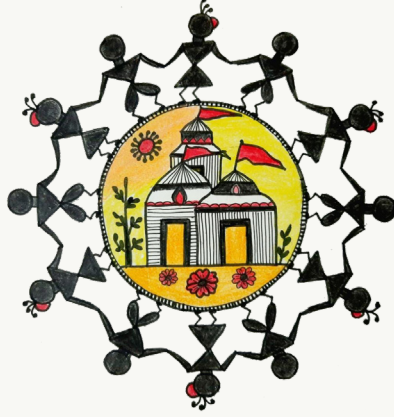
Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

On this all auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā, as every year I wonder what to wish you. What do one wish for someone who has everything? As you are full of bhakti, there is no need for anything else. Your presence in this material world is a blessing for not only your disciples but to everyone who will want to listen. Your wisdom being directly passed from Śrīla Prabhupāda, your incredible mood, openness, understanding, insight and the fact you do not keep your heart in your chest – you give it away every time you address someone. This all makes it so easy to love you and to have a will to serve you, serve devotees and Kṛṣṇa. What I wish you dearest GuruMahārāj is that all of your disciples would rise up to the task and become worthy of everything that you give to us.

Your humble servant,

Bhakta Kuba





Ananda Vrindavan Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Hare Kṛṣṇa dear Guru Mahārāj!

Please accept my humble obeisances! All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!

Dear Guru Mahārāj, thank you very much for your causeless mercy that you give to all of us! Thank you for the your Kṛṣṇa consciousness and that always supports the spiritual path and helps the vehicles. At Govardhana, you told the story of the retreat about Prabhupāda, how he tried to convey to everyone that already in this life one can achieve success and return back to Kṛṣṇa, it was there at Govardhana that I understood this through you, what Prabhupāda was talking about! I understand, that this is possible thanks to you! Your kindness is always felt to everyone around, thank you for teaching us by your example how to live this life! I would very much like to wish that thousands of devotees gather for your retreats and through this they can develop in Kṛṣṇa consciousness! Jai Gurudev! All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!

Your servant,

Ananda Vrindavan Devi Dasi





Gandhari Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Hare Kṛṣṇa, dear Guru Mahārāj!

Please accept my humble obeisances! All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda! Thank you for the opportunity to be your disciple and express my gratitude to you.

Prabhupāda becomes closer and closer to me. I feel my life is valuable and not unsuccessful when I am engaged in service and mission. In September 2022, you initiated me and called Gandhari dd. After it I felt that my life became more focused on pleasing you, Śrīla Prabhupāda and Kṛṣṇa.

Thank you for bringing us closer to Śrīla Prabhupāda. In Vrindavan, in the Śrīla Prabhupāda's garden, I had a great experience of chanting between you and Prabhupāda. It was so special and emotional. First, I sat behind you, but you asked to sit in front of you. So, I became between you and Prabhupāda. And you were also chanting and sometimes stopped. It was like an assessment for me. And then I realised my level of chanting I should never reduce.

Thank you so much for the example of being spontaneous. We always hear that everything depends on Kṛṣṇa, only He is a controller. And during Govardhan retreat and following time in Dhāma I saw what it was in a day-to-day life.

For this year I managed to develop more prayerful mood. It was thanks to your book Japa Affirmations and instructions during our pilgrimage to holy places of India.

Thanks to the opportunity to translate your classes, I see that it gives me more understanding of different topics. I am closer to understanding Prabhupāda. And also, you mentioned that disciples should know everything the Guru knows. Thanks God I love reading and studying. I do it with great please. And due to it all I feel that I am engaged into serves in the best way.



Russia

Thank you, dear Guru Mahārāj for your care, attention, and love. I observe the way my life is changing and see that it is only because of your mercy, knowledge, instructions, example, and care. I wish you healthy ages of living and more sincere disciples.

Your insignificant servant of your servants,

Gandhari Devi Dasi



Russia



Loka-lila Devi Dasi

Śikṣā Disciple

My respectful obeisances to Śrīla Prabhupāda for his books! He had to go through so many hardships to give us this priceless gift! The priceless gift of pure love for the Divine Couple and Their Holy Names!

.....

Dear MahātmāPrabhu,

please accept my humble obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!



Russia

It is difficult for me to find words to write you the offering, but I cannot skip this possibility, and just want to thank you again for the fact that you are here and for what you giving all us.

Thank you for coming to this world and saving fallen souls, like myself.

You have many more qualities that deserve glorification. And, probably, the most bright one is your devotion. You are an example of devotion of the disciple to your spiritual master, Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Thank you for accepting each of us as we are, not as we are expected to be by ourselves or others. This is very important.

I want to say an enormous thank you for the instructions that you are giving us through your classes and by answering questions.

Thank you for your huge heart! Your heart is the place where Kṛṣṇa lives – that's why it is so huge! Thank you very much for being in my life.

Your servant,

Loka-lila Devi Dasi



Russia



*Rukmini Seva Devi Dasi
& Gennady*

Well-wisher

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

We offer our respectful obeisances to Śrīla Prabhupāda and the entire guru-parampara.



Śrīla Prabhupāda is undoubtedly the best guru of our time. Prabhupāda's breadth of thought and depth of understanding of spiritual truths is boundless. And his heart is filled with love. And with that love he filled the hearts of his disciples, who are now imparting that love to new generations.

.....

One such sincere disciple is you, our dear Mahātmā prabhu.

We were very impressed by your seminar about self-care in the context of spiritual life. We could feel your personal concern for the devotees. That attitude softens the heart and makes more room for Kṛṣṇa. We hope that someday we can learn to take care of our loved ones and friends in the same way.

We were very happy to see you in Mayapur and hear your wonderful kirtans and lectures. We look forward to seeing you again.

We bring you our humble obeisances!

Your servants,

Gennady Kandel

& Rukmini Seva Devi Dasi

Moscow



Russia



Valentina

Aspiring Disciple

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, please accept my humble obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet. All glories to you.

From the moment I met you, I have always felt your natural care, love and protection. You have dedicated your life to helping others. You are a perfect disciple of your Gurudev. By your life you showed us that being a disciple and a servant is glorious. You showed us what is real success in life and gave us path how to reach it. I humbly beg that you engage me fully in the mission of harinama sankirtana and share with me a drop of your ocean of compassion and mercy.



Dear Mahātmā Prabhu, Hare Kṛṣṇa,

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

From the bottom of my heart I thank Shri Kṛṣṇa for bringing me to your lotus feet at the foot of Giriraj.

I was very inspired by your teaching on how to develop a 10 out of 10 relationship with Śrīla Prabhupāda. And also, your compassion for living entities and your deep desire to help them get in touch with Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. And your love for kīrtan. Your lectures and answers to questions inspire and give hope for the reality of gaining success on the spiritual path already in this life.

In the commentary BG 18.57 Śrīla Prabhupāda says:

“The Sanskrit word mat-parah is very important in this verse. It indicates that one has no goal in life save and except acting in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness just to satisfy Kṛṣṇa. ... While acting in such a way, one naturally has to think of Kṛṣṇa. This is perfect Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.”

And later on:

“That order of Kṛṣṇa comes through disciplic succession from the bona fide spiritual master. Therefore the spiritual master’s order should be taken as the prime duty of



Russia

life. If one gets a bona fide spiritual master and acts according to his direction, then one's perfection of life in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness is guaranteed."

Your life is the embodiment of these words. You live to please Śrīla Prabhupāda. Thank you very much for setting such an example.

Hoping to become your humble servant,

Bhaktin Valya

28 February 2023 Govardhan (India)



Russia



Viktor

Śikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Guru Mahārāj, please, accept my humble obeisances at the dust of your lotus feet. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Your spiritual master, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Śrīla Prabhupāda, brought to the West the mercy of Lord Nityananda, that has no limit and does not



distinguish between fallen and advanced. By causeless mercy of Śrīla Prabhupāda even such a sinner like me could change his life up to unrecognised condition. I will remain forever grateful for the family he gave to me. But the greatest gift I ever got from Śrīla Prabhupāda is my spiritual master. Just like no one can get the mercy of Lord Gaurāṅga without the mercy of Lord Nityānanda, I would never be able to receive the mercy of Śrīla Prabhupāda without your mercy and understand his example without having your example in front of my eyes.

I approached you in the hardest moment of my life, being suppressed by an unbearable burden of my own sins, limitations and misdeeds. You had no reason to accept and help me, still you mercifully granted me with your divine association. From all the incarnations of God only Nityānanda Prabhu never makes any difference between sinner and saint or qualified and unqualified, bestowing His mercy upon everyone. From all the āchāryas only Śrīla Prabhupāda saved so many fallen and ignorant people of Kali-yuga in the epicentre of degradation – mlecchadesha without taking into consideration their level of qualification. When I saw how you act in the mood of Śrīla Prabhupāda and Lord Nityānanda, my faith became stronger a thousand times. Therefore, you take the central position in my whole spiritual life.

Surely, I am a bad disciple, I can't please you by any means and this is fully and only my fault. Whatever be, I will still keep doing my best in following your instructions. Sometimes in my spiritual life amazing things happen, which I don't even deserve and this is fully by your merit. For my every step in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness I'm indebted to you forever. Please, accept my unlimited gratitude and sincere congratulations with this day of great fortune for all your disciples – the day of your appearance.

Your unworthy servant,

Viktor Klepikov





Lilasuka Dasa

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracārīṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



When I started to practice Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, Śrīla Prabhupāda's story of sacrifice inspired me the most to surrender more and more to his instructions. I could not understand and it seemed amazing to me how he went in his old age to US, a country completely unknown to him, out of his unlimited compassion to save the conditioned souls who were rotting in the materialistic way of life and to give them the highest purpose.

Later on by reading his books and listening to the pastimes he performed I got more convinced that he is a pure devotee who loves every single living being. I feel eternally indebted to him and I know I cannot repay this debt. My deep desire is to give his association to other people, to lead other people to him so they can get his mercy, develop a deep relationship with him and make their lives successful.

.....

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisance. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

Śrīla Prabhupāda (address at London's Conway Hall, in 1969): "My spiritual master used to say, "The spiritual master is the transparent medium." For example, I can see the letters of this book very nicely through these transparent eyeglasses, without which I cannot see because my eyes are defective. Similarly, our senses are all defective. We cannot see God with these eyes, we cannot hear Hare Kṛṣṇa with these ears, we cannot do anything without the medium of the spiritual master."

As we can see the letters of the book very nicely through the transparent medium of the eyeglasses, similarly we can see Kṛṣṇa through the transcendental sound received by the spiritual master. By your preaching of transcendental knowledge I



experienced and realized what Śrīla Prabhupāda mentions above. I can see clearly and very nicely that I am a servant whose duty is to serve God and his part and parcels and ultimately develop pure love for Him. Although it is hard to accept this sometimes and what to speak about applying it, it becomes very easy by your words and example.

Whenever I have a doubt, an unsolved challenge, unanswered question I get clear vision when I hear from you. It does not matter whether I am listening to a class from 10,5,2 years ago... I always hear exactly what I need to hear for my particular situation. When I experience this I am always amazed and appreciative how Kṛṣṇa is always using you as His loving instrument.

You don't only preach but you walk your talk. You show by example how to bring knowledge from the head to the heart, as you say, and live it in every moment.

Through you I can understand Śrīla Prabhupāda and his teaching more deeply, I feel a desire to connect with Śrīla Prabhupāda on a deeper level. I see how you act as his servant and disciple always glorifying him for his enormous sacrifice made out of compassion for the fallen souls and always emphasizing his position as the main śikṣā-guru and ISKCON Founder-Acharya, always showing by example the sentence "All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!"

Through you I can better understand myself. Why am I acting in the way I am acting and how to change that. How to accept myself with all the good things and the bad things and how to love myself so that I can better serve you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, the devotees and Kṛṣṇa.

Thank you for all the sacrifice you are making to help me and others. You are always my great inspiration and a living example of Śrīla Prabhupāda's teachings, a perfect gentleman as Śrīla Prabhupāda would put it when asked how to recognize a true



Slovenia

follower of the Kṛṣṇa Consciousness movement by his behavior. I pray I can also become a staunch follower of Śrīla Prabhupāda like you and to present his teachings by my living example like you do.

Your servant,

Lilasuka Dasa



South Africa



Caitanya-lila

Aspiring Disciple

Jai Śrīla Prabhupāda!

Only after a few years of sincerely attempting to and following Śrīla Prabhupāda's instructions through his association in the form of his books and devotees was I able to grasp his hand that is leading me through this darkness of ignorance.

According to Śrīla Prabhupāda, the genuine guru is the one who is most addicted to Kṛṣṇa. May I become addicted to Kṛṣṇa with the help of His representative; he who is Guru (which means heavy, heavy with Kṛṣṇa's knowledge and authority)



My recollection of my relationship with Kṛṣṇa is only possible because of the mercy of His sincere devotee, Śrīla Prabhupāda, my great grandfather.

Once again, thank you for your contribution. Thank you, Guru Mahārāj, for using your Lila to strengthen my relationship with Śrīla Prabhupāda.

.....

Dearest Guru Mahārāj

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and all glories to you Gurudev! Please accept my respectful obeisances unto you.

Happy Vyāsa-pūjā Mahārāj! How fortunate I am to be able to express my gratitude to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

That is yet another show of mercy from the Lord and Śrīla Prabhupāda to have you as a sincere and dedicated devotee and guru to whom we can turn in our search and remembrance for our constitutional position.



Śrīla Prabhupāda quotes sastra: "You don't see a saintly person by your eyes. You see a saintly person by ears.."

Only through your teachings and discussions about our relationships with others, as well as our dearest Blue Boy and His pastimes, have I been able to bring my desires of relishing and advancing in Kṛṣṇa Conciousness into action, and for that I am eternally grateful.

Your step-by-step instructions have made it ever so easy for me to progress, not just spiritually, but in all aspects of life.

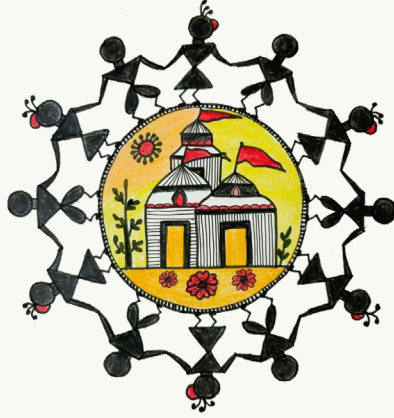
I hope to serve you better eternally, to contribute and share the love of Godhead with even a fraction of your devotion and enthusiasm, which you continue to demonstrate.

Your servant of the servant,

Caitanya-lila



South Africa



Gopi Jivana Dasa

Dikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Gurudeva, we take shelter of you, who carries the mood of your master, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Śrīla Prabhupāda.

All of the Ācāryas in our line have graced the earth with the same magnanimity, with arms outstretched, ready to receive all who are eager to evolve and grow



spiritually. It is not that we change any of the core principles of this most glorious path of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, but we must uphold that mood of our line – that if any soul approaches holding even an inkling of sincerity, then we welcome them in, nourish them, and patiently guide them along.

Our line is that of Kṛṣṇa Kṛpā Śrī Mūrti – those who are The Embodiment of Kṛṣṇa’s Mercy. There is no limit to how Śrīla Prabhupāda embodied Kṛṣṇa’s mercy. With unrivalled eagerness, he searched out the sincerity in the hearts of one and all. He fanned that spark of love of Kṛṣṇa, within those who, more often than not, from an external perspective, had no qualifications to approach Kṛṣṇa. Śrīla Prabhupāda was part of that downpour of mercy that is so needed in our age of Kali. Śrīla Prabhupāda writes, in the purport to Srimad Bhagavatam 1.7.22:

“Material existence is something like a blazing fire in the forest, which can be extinguished by the mercy of the Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa. The spiritual master is the mercy representative of the Lord. Therefore, a person burning in the flames of material existence may receive the rains of mercy of the Lord through the transparent medium of the self-realized spiritual master.”

Such a topmost spiritual master, the jagat guru, the spiritual master fit to lead the entire universe, does not discriminate in terms of where and how such a downpour of mercy takes place. Again, in his writings, we can find Śrīla Prabhupāda speaking about a level of devotional service, expressed in the role of guru. And certainly he is also referring to himself. The purport to Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, Madhya 16.55 says: “If one is true to Gaura-Nitai’s service in the disciplic succession, he can even exceed Nityananda Prabhu’s service. This is the process of disciplic succession. Nityananda Prabhu delivered Jagai and Madhai, but a servant of Nityananda Prabhu, by His grace, can deliver many thousands of Jagais and Madhais. That is the special benediction of the disciplic succession. One who is situated in the disciplic succession can be understood by the result of his activities.”



And how is it that Śrīla Prabhupāda can exude that powerful explosion of mercy, that spreads like a wave as high as the heavens? It is because he imbibes every aspect of Lord Nityananda's example. Nitai is referred to as "adosha-darshi", for he does not focus on the faults of others beyond a point where it is relevant or helpful. In that same way, Śrīla Prabhupāda did not understand the faults of anyone to be a disqualification in their pursuit of bhakti. Any boundaries, any faults, any bodily designations were shattered to pieces, like the chains on the doors to the storehouse of prema.

Prabhupāda warned us in Nectar of Instruction:

"Those who think that Kṛṣṇa Consciousness is limited to a certain section of people, a certain section of devotees or a certain tract of land are generally prone to see the external features of the devotee."

And many of his godbrothers scorned his efforts. Giving bhakti to meat eaters? Giving brahmana initiation to women? Allowing women to sit on and speak from the vyasasana? Many felt appalled, but it was certainly only due to their lack of vision, not seeing how wide the doors to the storehouse of love of God had been flung.

In a morning walk (January 9, 1977, Bombay), Prabhupāda said:

"My Godbrothers criticise that "You keep women in the temple." I tell them, „I cannot reject.""

There was never any question of rejecting anyone or focusing so much on their external designations or inclinations so as to discourage them from bhakti yoga. And we rejoice that this same mood is the guiding light which is informing your every move and gesture, Gurudeva, Mahātmā Prabhu. As much as we mourn the



fact that many have missed this essential mood of our acaryas, we rejoice to see that there are stalwart leaders, children of A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Śrīla Prabhupāda, who understands the heart of their father.

We bow down before you again and again. Our prostrated obeisances at your lotus feet is our only wealth. What do we have to offer you to try and express our gratitude for having sought out the sincerity within us? We can only bow our heads and serve you, embarrassed at the patience you always show as we creep towards surrender at a snail's pace. But please know that this mood you carry, like a family jewel, passed down from Gaudiya vaishnava generation to generation, is our greatest source of inspiration. Seeing how much you believe in us is the very sun that illuminates our lives. We pray that you will continue to show us the infinite joy and satisfaction that comes along with this mood and our sincere hope is to be set alight by this fire of bhakti, to stay within that fire, and to spread this mood further and wider, engulfing others with its flame.

*amsho bhagavato 'smy aham
sada daso 'smi sarvatha
tat-kripapakshako nityam
tat-preshthasat karomi svam*

"I am a tiny part and parcel of the Supreme Lord and I am always and in every way His eternal servant. As I am always hoping for His mercy and kindness, I offer myself to His most dear servitor, my spiritual master."

Your aspiring servant,

Gopi Jivana Dasa





Lilashakti Devi Dasi

Dikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda, the ocean of mercy who set sail upon the oceans to shower this fallen soul with mercy. Śrīla Prabhupāda, who built a house in which the whole world can live. All glories to our eternal spiritual master, who lives through his disciple to take us back Home. Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda! My obeisances over and over!

.....

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my obeisances upon your lotus feet. Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda.

I could and should write verses to glorify you. I would sing them every day all day if you so wished. But, what to write when you know my heart so well? How to find the words when they don't exist?

All I can say is thank you. Even when I shy away from writing to you from the shame of not being my best for you, you find a way to let me know that I am enough. That Kṛṣṇa loves me as I was, am and as I will be. That assurance, your kindness, is the strength I need to push through and to do my best to be a real devotee in Kṛṣṇa's eyes. Past the superficial. Past societal. Your mercy cannot be compared.

I thank you for being my anchor and solace.

All glories to you Guru Mahārāj!

Your clumsy but sincere daughter,

Lilashakti Devi Dasi



South Africa



Kasaraj Dasa

Well-wisher

All Glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.
All Glories to the wonderful devotees.

Honorable Mahātmā Prabhu,

Since 1989 to our dear Śrīla Prabhupāda ISKCON - my heart has been true Some time in 2009 my family did meet you on a bus outside Vrndavana Dham. Time has changed many things for us.



South Africa

My best wishes to you on this Vyāsa-pūjā. I can say that you are a superstar. Daily I receive whats app group chat or your quotes, comments, this and that

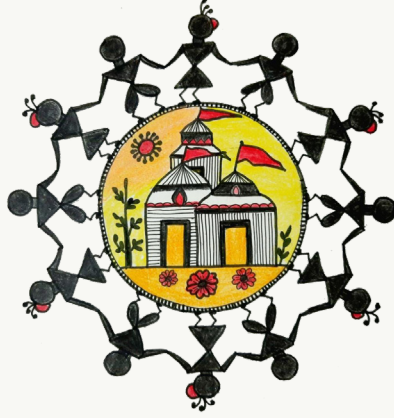
My kids are now grown
My life - I have reaped the seeds that I had sown
Many people say soon I will be alone
Body at 53 starting to ache and groan
But I am hoping to be steady
Śrīla Prabhupāda has advised us to be ready
Death, Death, Death
Currently I am doing my best chanting and shouting at the top of my breath
I am so glad those many years ago we did met
Perhaps one day you will visit South Africa - yet

May your Vyāsa-pūjā be glorified. Hare Kṛṣṇa.

Your servant,

Kasarij Dasa





Tulasyananda Devi Dasi

Dikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Hare Kṛṣṇa, Dear Gurudeva, Your Grace Mahātmā Dasa,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

O' Kṛṣṇa, how can I even begin to describe
The appreciation and admiration I have deep inside
For a soul
That not once thought of me as broken or unwhole
A soul that lovingly took me under their shelter
Thought nothing other than how can I help her
How can we take her back to Your loving embrace
Take her home, back to Godhead, her rightful place.

O' Kṛṣṇa, how can I begin to pay back
This soul that carries all that I lack
This soul that carries, always, his guru in his heart
Never once forgetting him, never losing that spark
Always sharing Your message without so much as a falter
Treating us all as equal, as sons and daughters
Leading by example, as his guru before
Always giving us more and more and more.

O' Kṛṣṇa, will you please continue to allow me
to serve my Guru Mahārāj to the best of my ability
To be part and parcel
In any way possible
To witness his visions come to fruition
And not stand idly by as he spreads Your mission



South Africa

My Guru
My Mentor
My Father
My Protector

He is all of these things and so much more
And I hope to serve him and show him the roar
Of the lion by this world made to hide
But which he insists I hold deep inside

O' Kṛṣṇa he is my father and I want him
He is my protector and I need him
He is my Guru and I love him
It feels strange to say these words
Saying I love him feels absurd
but I know he will never deny me
His desire for my best is all but a guarantee

Your miserly servant,

Tulasyananda Devi Dasi





Atrisha

Aspiring Disciple

My Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you.

Growing up, I had always seen signs around the country with the Maha mantra and a picture of you, Śrīla Prabhupāda. I always wondered about you. And what did it mean to chant and be happy? After 19 years, luckily one day I came across Kṛṣṇa Consciousness on the internet. Then, I found your Bhagavad-gītā As it is on my bookshelf at home and I started reading. That Bhagavad-gītā was always there; waiting to be read. I grew up seeing it around. My entire life changed because of



you, Śrīla Prabhupāda. You are my inspiration. Your life is an inspiration to me. You made so many sacrifices to save us. You gave so much Śrīla Prabhupāda, to the world and I feel eternally grateful for you and to you. Thank you for everything, Śrīla Prabhupāda. Thank you your classes, your books, your temples and your personal example. I will forever be indebted to you for changing the course of my life.

Your servant,

Atrisha

.....

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Happy Vyāsa-pūjā!



I'm feel very grateful that Kṛṣṇa brought you into my life and I am eternally indebted to you for your help, your guidance and your care. I would have been so lost without your kindness and mercy. You are like the rays of sunshine. You spread joy and light wherever you go. Your guidance has been empowering for me and it has helped me to change, to grow, to heal and to help myself. Thank you for helping me to help myself. I feel that this has been a very important lesson for me to learn. It has been quite a journey and I feel appreciative of your presence in my life. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve. Thank you for your compassion and care. Thank you for connecting self care and Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. Thank you for everything and for all that you do for ISKCON.

Your servant,

Atrisha



Ukraine



Asta Sakhi Devi Dasi

Dikṣā Disciple

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātmā-prabhava sadā*

Obeisances to His Grace Mahātmā Prabhu, who is dearest to Kṛṣṇa and who teaches both through his realizations and his actions.

*tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*



Obeisance to him who is embodiment of the mood of his Master Prabhupāda, who awards the joy of kirtana, who reveals the truth of Kṛṣṇa consciousness, and who is affectionately concerned for the devotees.

• • • • •

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Hare Kṛṣṇa Dear Gurudeva,

please accept my humble and respectful obeisances, all glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to your Grace on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

According to your request I shall first glorify our param guru Śrīla Prabhupāda and then express my gratitude to your Grace.

Without our most dear Śrīla Prabhupāda I would never have all the most amazing things-the holy name, the devotees and you dear Śrīla Gurudeva. Śrīla Prabhupāda had given us the mercy of Lord Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and saved us from birth, death, old age and disease. Patiently and tirelessly preaching and serving his Guru's mission his entire life- he gave a great example of determination and devotion to all of us, his followers . Śrīla Prabhupāda is the kindest and most merciful, he came from the spiritual world to the center of Kali Yuga, New York City just to rescue our souls and destroy the darkness of ignorance. Generously distributing the greatest treasure he gave us absolute knowledge and opened the back door to goloka Vrindavan.



Prabhupāda's life and example is overwhelmingly inspiring and I, being completely incompetent, aspire to one day come at least a little closer to the amount of devotion Śrīla Prabhupāda had to his guru and to be in service of you, Gurudeva.

From the first moment I met you in Ukraine I accepted you as my Spiritual Master in my heart without knowing it. You've maintained me spiritually ever since then. The first time I experienced an attraction to the holy name or KC philosophy was through your kirtans and lectures. I had always felt inspired hearing from you and whenever I would stop it felt like something was missing. I am immensely grateful to you for always bringing me to a better place, it is surely by your mercy that I can make any advancement. Thank you for inspiring me to move into Kṛṣṇa House, it's a great fortune to be physically closer to you and have your association and the association of other exalted Vaishnavas.

I strive to become a useful servant to your mission. I pray to always have your shelter and guidance. I pray to never leave you. I pray to be a better servant and a better devotee. I have no qualities of a vaishnava and my heart is filled with envy, pride, lust, apathy and other innumerable bad tendencies, but by your merciful prayers I can overcome all these anarthas. I pray to always follow your and Śrīla Prabhupāda's will in no matter what circumstances. No matter what happens to me, please be merciful to my nonsense self and accept my insignificant attempts to serve.

*Forever grateful to you,
Your humble servant,*

Asta Sakhi Devi Dasi





Vignanasana Govinda Dasa

Śikṣā Disciple

My Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

Prayers to Lord Gaura Hari that HG Mahātmā Prabhu lives long and stay as beacon light to the human society.

I am a grand disciple of Śrīla Prabhupāda and an initiated disciple of HH Jayapataka Swami Mahārāja Its Śrīla Prabhupāda who is saving me with his causeless mercy through his vani and books - Śrīla Prabhupāda is exemplary in every field of spiritual life.



Mercy of Śrīla Prabhupāda is further enhanced by his amazing disciples who are gems shining continuously from different facets.

.....

Your Grace will ever stay in my heart and day - since you had transformed one of the key aspects of devotional service which is chanting.

You had very kindly accepted our service to transcribe and proofread and design your classic book Japa Affirmations. You had kindly released the same also in Shyamadesh - UAE bringing inspiration to all the assembled souls during the occasion.

I shall remain forever indebted for this one but most important transformational change which is perpetually taking place day after day

I love HG Mahātmā Prabhu

Humble Servant,

Vignanasana Govinda Dasa Sharjah



United Kingdom



Dayashini

Aspiring Disciple

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Lord Caitanya and Lord Nityananda, all glories unto you!!

Over time, I have slowly started to understand the magnitude of your love and compassion towards us, me, especially as a fallen soul. Your dedication and commitment to seeing through your spiritual master's instruction.



I am not qualified and don't have the capacity to understand how much you have accomplished dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Through the sweet words of your dear disciples, I have come to see and realise how loving and accepting you truly are and I sound surprised, due to my conditioning. By reading your books I feel your compassion and love wash over me.

I pray I can come to a place of understanding your books and You dear Śrīla Prabhupāda. Please forgive me for any offenses I may have caused.

Your Aspiring Servant,

Dayashini

... ..

Dearest Mahātmā Das,

Please accept my humble obeisances, All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda, All glories to you!

Below is my offering to you, to show you my appreciation and gratitude for you and the service you do.

As the flower blooms,
Slowly, opening, growing, blossoming into its full potential original state.

Droplets of love and nurture
encourage it to grow and shed what is not needed.



Songs of wisdom and hard truths shake the flower
into letting go of what may be hindering the flower's growth.
The flower is protected by the gardener. Protected from the toxic environment.
The gardener whispers love and guidance, Constantly nurturing the flower with
sweet instructions descended from a line of gardeners.

Eventually, the flower responds to the Instructions
Guidance
Whispers of Wisdom

The flower starts to bloom,
Yet, becoming dependent on the gardeners' Instructions
Guidance
Whispers of Wisdom

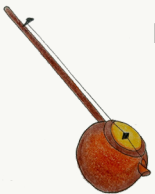
The flower is grateful to the gardener whose instructions unknowingly have been
feeding the soul of the flower.

I see and hear your compassion throughout your classes. Your determination and
compassion to help other beautiful souls nurture their bhakti creeper is truly selfless.
Your classes have helped me be more accepting of myself as a human being, yet
reminding me gently and lovingly of Prabhupāda's instructions.

What I find so attractive in your classes is the reminder of the responsibility we have
to ourselves - mentally, emotionally, and spiritually; yet still bringing it back the goal
of bhakti, being our authentic self, and serving others from a sincere place.

I am forever grateful for your guidance and instructions.

I pray I can please you in that is pleasing to Śrīla Prabhupāda.



United Kingdom

May you constantly please Śrīla Prabhupāda and may whatever your mission be,
fully manifest.

Your Aspiring Servant,

Dayashini



United Kingdom



Dee

Aspiring Disciple

Hare Kṛṣṇa Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances - all glories to you!

Thank you for your mercy and allowing me to serve you during my stay at the Bhaktivedanta Manor recently, where I had the enormous privilege of ironing your clothes. Getting the opportunity to do so in Prabhupāda Rooms where you had spent time, was truly inspiring. I pray that Kṛṣṇa gives me more opportunities to serve your lotus feet in years to come!



I find immense strength, courage, solace and warmth listening to your lectures and recordings of your morning walks. Your unwavering trust and faith in Kṛṣṇa is an inspiration to us all. I pray that you guide devotees to maintain their trust and continue to seek shelter in your movement despite trials and tribulations.

Your humble servant,

Dee

... ..

Hare Kṛṣṇa Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances - all glories to Śrīla Prabhupad.

I found your visit to London last year and being able to serve you very inspiring! With your mercy I have been able to chant 16 rounds daily on top of my sadhana. Thank you also for your very kind message in December and offer to pray to Prabhupad for me.

Thank you for always accepting me for all I am (with all my flaws). Your advice to me during our first zoom meeting “you just do you” has become my life mantra, where I endeavor everyday to live authentically with Kṛṣṇa at the center. I have also been following your advise to not think like a lawyer and be a compassionate manager at work. I strive daily to be more understanding of my line reports and find ways to convey tough messages as compassionately as I can. Please pray that I am able to be that compassionate manager/leader that is able to engage my head and heart when it comes to decision making.



Thank you also from the bottom of my heart for supporting the cause of Vaishnavi Dīkṣā gurus and not being afraid to speak up on issues others shy away from addressing. You always make bhakti so practical that I take a 'life tip' every time I listen to your classes.

I pray that I am able to continue to serve you and Prabhupāda's movement in years to come.

Lastly, I would also like to take the opportunity to wish you good health and every success on your future projects on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

Your humble servant,

Dee



United Kingdom



Draupadi Devi Dasi

Dikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

I deeply and sincerely pray to you that I can always keep turning and looking to your life when I am in need of guidance and be steered in the right direction. This past year I am trying to read more of Srimad Bhagavatam. I am realising more and more



that I need your blessings and mercy to take shelter of the teachings within Srimad Bhagavatam and to be able to take time and study this beautiful sastra properly. Sometimes I feel many things around me are always crumbling down, I deeply pray that I can keep taking shelter of Kṛṣṇa the same way you do and learn to trust that His plan is always the best and perfect plan.

I sincerely pray that I can keep serving and give myself to my Guru Mahārāja in any way possible to help him in his mission to serve you. I humbly plead you to help me stay engaged in service and show me how I can keep being a better disciple.

I deeply pray I can serve your lotus feet. I hope that I can give back to you by spreading Kṛṣṇa Consciousness through the creative arts to transform hearts.

Your servant always,

Draupadi Devi Dasi

.....

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Dearest Guru Mahārāja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda! All glories to You on this auspicious day of Your Vyāsa-pūjā!



How quick this past year has flown but what a beautiful year you have blessed me with. You have given me the biggest blessing of all by accepting me and giving me a new fresh start in my spiritual life. I am forever indebted to you for this dear Guru Mahārāja.

This past year I have been able to get so much association with you in person during your visit to London. This has filled my heart with so much joy and gratitude. You have showered me with an immense amount of kindness, care and love.

This past year I have been undergoing many tests, situations and feeling alone, thinking I can overcome these by myself and constantly trying to hold on and keep control of everything.

Without exchanging many words with you Guru Mahārāja, you knew exactly what was going on within me and gave me one important instruction, which is to not fear taking shelter of Guru, Sastra and Sadhu.

I was fearing to let go and hold on to these three important gems of my life.

Irregardless of how many times I am tested with my faith, you always accept me and help me to hold on to you throughout the bumpy journeys and teach me that there is nothing to fear as long as I have Guru & Kṛṣṇa.

Just like a father comforts his daughter when she struggles, you give me strength, hope, faith and reassurance through your sweet words that I and everything else will be okay.

You mention “when there is difficulty and all else fails, one must say, by the grace of Guru and Kṛṣṇa, I will get through this”.



This is something I have kept referring to and holding on to because knowing I have you and Kṛṣṇa has given me so much happiness and comfort in knowing everything will work out.

After you left London, I have felt so much separation from you and kept thinking about the beautiful memories of your visit here. Staying in contact with you and listening to your classes have given me so much warmth and made me feel you are right here, in my heart, regardless of where you physically may be.

Guru Mahārāja, I am and will always remain indebted to you for everything you have done and given me. You have a pure heart filled with love and care to give out to so many souls.

Thank you for taking me in. Thank you for tolerating me. Thank you for never judging me and guiding me to become the best version of myself I can possibly be. Thank you for always giving me shelter.

Only by your mercy, will I be able to offer everything I have and dedicate my entire life to serving you my dear Guru Mahārāja.

I sincerely pray that I can keep being an instrument in serving your mission and keep taking shelter of your beautiful lotus feet.

Your servant always,

Draupadi Devi Dasi





Ekaterina

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

While sitting in Śrīla Prabhupāda's rooms in the Radha Damodara temple in Vrindavan, I realized just how much he loves me and how grateful he is for the small amount of preaching that I am doing. This has melted my heart and inspired me to dedicate my life to his mission of spreading Lord Caitanya's sankirtan movement. I would be grateful if you could guide me on the best way that I can do this.



Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Your Grace!

Your association and guidance gave me the confidence that I can go back to Godhead in this lifetime if I stick to the process Śrīla Prabhupāda has given us and also take shelter of you and your instructions. This was my main take-away from the past year.

I have found your seminars on self-care and japa extremely beneficial. I have realized that I have been neglecting my self-care and that this is an area I need to work on. Thank you for helping me see it as an essential part to our sadhana and spiritual progress. I have also realized how much the devotees around me need it and I am looking forward to taking the intensive course to get trained up to teach it in the future.

Your seminar on japa has taught me to set the right mindset, mood and intentions as well as to clear distractions in order to be more present to the holy name. This in turn allowed me to fully concentrate on Kṛṣṇa which helped me develop a deeper relationship with the holy name and I am also starting to see the different ways in which Kṛṣṇa is present in His holy name.

I started to chant 16 round every day in the beginning of summer, I can feel the difference it makes to my life and my sadhana – it helped me see Kṛṣṇa's presence more and deal with problems in a more healthy and Kṛṣṇa Conscious way.

Meeting you in person at Karuna Bhavan has been one of the highlights of the year for me. I feel so fortunate. Seeing you in person has confirmed that you are my Dīkṣā guru, and your seminars were extremely relevant to my practice of bhakti-yoga, elevating my progress even more.



I believe that the end of my last relationship came directly due to your association and taking shelter of you more. It was the last obstacle that was keeping me away from Kṛṣṇa and overcoming it has helped me practice the process properly. It also gave me the opportunity to move to Cardiff to be closer to the devotees – a situation which I never thought would be possible.

Thank you for empowering and encouraging me in my preaching services – I am able to do more and I can sense that there is more purity in my preaching and I am now able to influence others in a way that is true to the parampara. I feel more inspired to give my all to Śrīla Prabhupāda's mission. Listening to you talk about Śrīla Prabhupāda and clarifying the misconceptions we may have about him inspires me to preach more.

In the second half of last year I started to host regular house programs for the ladies who regularly attend our Mantra Vibes monthly programs. We all benefited from this experience. It has brought us closer together and created a safe space for everyone to open up and discuss spiritual topics. It also gave me an opportunity to practice showing others how much Kṛṣṇa loves them and allowed us to exhibit the six loving devotee exchanges.

I would love to repay you for everything that you have done for me. I know that Śrīla Prabhupāda says that we can never repay the guru, but I would like to try to do even a little bit, by taking-up some service for you.

As you know, I am currently moving to Cardiff and taking time to recover from the end of my recent relationship. But as soon as I am more stable and settled in my new home, I will be grateful to serve you in any way that I can.

Thank you so much for changing my life, bringing me closer to Śrīla Prabhupāda and Kṛṣṇa, and the sacrifices that you are making for all of us. Thank you for inspiring



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and guiding me in my service to Kṛṣṇa. I'm praying and endeavoring to follow your instructions to go back to Godhead in this lifetime.

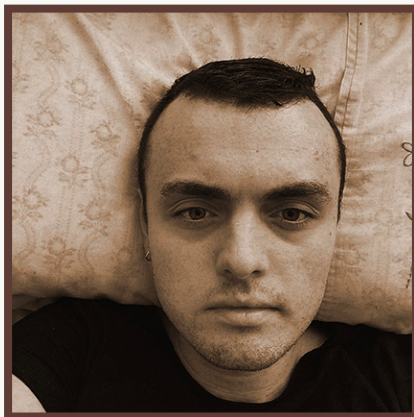
Mahātmā Prabhu ki, jaya! Śrīla Prabhupāda ki jaya!

Your aspiring servant,

Bhaktin Ekaterina



United Kingdom



Jamie

Śikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you.



I used to think myself unfortunate, in that I was born twenty one years after you left your body and departed from this world. But now, I remember to meditate on the fact that there are millions of people present on this planet right now who know your face, and/or recognise your name, but due to their ignorance or circumstance, are unable to study your teachings, associate with your disciples and experience the joy of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness like I have been able to. For this reason, I consider myself very undeserving of such mercy, but incredibly fortunate and always grateful.

... ..

Dearest Mahātmā Prabhu,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

I haven't known you long, only a couple of months, but I will always be grateful to you for the kindness you have shown me and the wisdom you have given me in this short time. Having watched many of your videos online before speaking with you directly, I felt more nervous to be in your association than I have in auditions and interviews, but you instantly reassured me and even asked me questions, although I have no qualifications and had never spoken to a spiritual master before. This selflessness stayed with me, and I still speak to other devotees about it.

Since our conversation, I have enacted your advice to the best of my ability; I began the mentorship programme and now have an official mentor who is helping me improve my daily sadhana and building on my desire to become a better devotee. I have also enrolled on an ISKCON disciples course so that one day I may be worthy of initiation. As well as this, I am engaging in service (currently proofreading) and focussing more and more on my relationship with Śrīla Prabhupāda, or my 'Grandfather Guru' as you described him. Most surprisingly though, after months



of studying, the guidance you kindly imparted to me on our zoom call helped me realise that I needed to change my qualification in order to make myself feel more contented and better equipped for my future. I switched to a BA (Honours) English Literature and Creative Writing degree and was suddenly inundated with ideas and inspiration as to how I can use the skills I'll learn to serve Lord Sri Kṛṣṇa and Śrīla Prabhupāda's movement, in which you are a much-admired figure. I have always enjoyed writing and was amazed that after years of training and aspiring to be an actor, one conversation with you could point me towards a conclusion that had alluded me for so long.

I have met so many wonderful devotees because of your mercy and I am truly grateful to have the presence of such an inspiring and dedicated disciple of Śrīla Prabhupāda in my life - I know that it's an honour and you have enriched my life so much that I'll undoubtedly never forget it.

Your humble servant,

Jamie





Jayaradhe Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to your lotus feet.



I humbly write this prayer as an insignificant grand disciple/grand daughter, who has somehow been fortunate enough to have the association of one of your disciples. As I hear your lectures or read your books, I realise more and more how fortunate I am to have come to Kṛṣṇa Consciousness and the devastating life I have been saved from because of you and your sacrifice.

Thank you Śrīla Prabhupāda for boarding the Jaladuta and coming to the West to save the numerous fallen souls that would otherwise be lost with you. I pray to always remain grateful for everything you have given us and to always be situated in service to you and your devotees.

Your insignificant servant,

Jayaradhe Devi Dasi

... ..

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātmā-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Please accept my humble obeisance. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

Wishing you a wonderful appearance day and feeling eternally grateful that we are able to celebrate such an auspicious and wonderful occasion.



Thank you for everything you have given me gurudeva: devotional service, connection to Śrīla Prabhupāda & the parampara, impetus for self love, impetus for service, inspiration, kirtan, instructions, personal time, personal guidance, hope (when everything felt hopeless), seeing the best in me despite the faults - I don't think I can name everything because the list is endless!

Although I have witnessed this multiple times, I am still moved to tears seeing how devotees are helped and transformed by your classes, workshops and retreats. This serves as a constant impetus and motivation to me to always be kind, always be compassionate and always try to help. I have seen how you never give up on anyone and you are never too busy for anyone who needs the help. I pray I can assist you in your mission of helping devotees help themselves. I see how you are moved and touched by devotee's suffering and a deep desire to help them through this so they can thrive in their Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. I pray to also develop this same deep compassion for others, to see and hear someone out and to not judge.

My biggest fear is to be a disappointment to you - so I pray that whatever small service I can render, it is somewhat pleasing to you and helps you in your service to your guru.

As I do my best to serve you, I deeply pray that my efforts are somewhat pleasing to you, Śrīla Prabhupāda and Kṛṣṇa, that I will always remember your instructions, that I will always try my best to execute your orders and that I can be of some assistance in your service to your spiritual master. I pray to have even a fraction of the devotion you have to your spiritual master and remember the immense privilege it is to be able to do devotional service.

You once said that "all the fortune is in the instruction" and that "the main thing for the spiritual master is that the disciple is trying". I pray to never forget how fortunate I have been to have your association, numerous opportunities to serve you and that



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no matter what happens in life, that I never give up and always keep trying. Though I can never repay you for what you and Śrīla Prabhupāda have given me, I pray to always try to follow these instructions and share the mercy that has been kindly bestowed onto me.

Your aspiring servant,

Jayaradhe Devi Dasi





Kamal

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

1896; Śrīla Prabhupāda appeared on this earth.
Coming to save lost souls forever,
From death, old age, disease and birth.



Twenty six years later he met with Śrīla Bhaktisiddhanta Mahārāj,
Who requested he take Lord Caitanya's teachings
To the western world at large.
Over ten years later, he took formal initiation;
Surrendering to the saintly spiritual master, With complete dedication.
Three years later accepting a final request,
To preach this philosophy in English
From Bhaktisiddhanta on his deathbed.

1944: He started "Back to Godhead"
Glorifying the Lord in English,
As his spiritual master had said.
For the next two decades, he would continue to write, 1st canto;
Srimad Bhagavatam,
Was now within sight.
All the while so faithfully going deeper within,
Developing a bhakti so potent,
Nothing could stop him.

From there what happened in 1965,
Was he spread Kṛṣṇa Consciousness
So fast, so far within an unstoppable drive.

Souls upon souls, person upon person,
All received his mercy
On his western excursion.
So what I see is a lifetime of preparation and devotion.
To save us from lifetimes of misery, birth and death;
Just going through the motions.
He gave his whole life to such a selfless, noble endeavour.



What can we do to repay him?
Just try to live and breathe his teachings;
ISKCON Forever!

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*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Your journey in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness started in 1969.
Only aged 19 yet so intelligent,
By finding this philosophy so sublime.

Shortly after you dropped out of the prestigious college of Berkeley,
Already recognising time was limited,
On this realm so earthly.

Later meeting Prabhupāda, close to where you resided.
Tears flowing down your cheeks,
As the pure devotee was sighted.

From there following his instructions through letter.
Abandoning dream to become a rockstar,
You graciously accepted he knew better.



South Africa, Mauritius – you went wherever needed.
Abandoning selfish desires,
To ensure Prabhupāda's mission succeeded.

Just as Prabhupāda understood your psychology,
You see right through mine.
Always giving what I need to hear (not want)
Strategies always proven right over time.

Humble and non-duplicitous,
You kindly allow us to learn from your mistakes.
From chanting, our mind, relationships;
Always showing the path to take.

Your love for Prabhupāda and Kṛṣṇa knows no bounds.
To me that much is clear.
By how you present this philosophy in a multitude of ways,
To penetrate my stubborn ears.

A talent for music
That must have come from a transcendental plane.
As your melodious kirtans,
Leave me drunk on Kṛṣṇa's names.

Gurudeva I cannot put into words
My gratitude to you.
I am always asking and asking, never giving.
Yet giving is all you do.



United Kingdom

So I ask just one more blessing,
That you might bestow upon me.
If I can be a fraction of the disciple you are to Prabhupāda,
I consider my life complete.

Your servant,

Kamal





Priya-Darsini Devi Dasi

Dikṣā Disciple

Through hearing about Śrīla Prabhupāda from his disciples, I am starting to develop more of an understanding of his mood. Thank you Prabhupāda for being so accepting, understanding and kind to all. Thank you for leading by example by being so practical and helping me to see what my intentions really are. Thank you for being so fearless and for teaching us that love is always above fear.

For a while now I have been reading the Kṛṣṇa book on most evenings. I have found that through reading, my mind feels at peace and it gives me the clarity and contentment I am seeking. Furthermore through reading I am able to develop a proper understanding of the nature of the material world. This helps me navigate



myself in the world and see myself as separate to the mind. When I neglect this act of self-care, I am pushed by external influences and the mind becomes an enemy. These sacred texts, give my heart solace in times of need and enables me to develop the right consciousness. Thank you Śrīla Prabhupāda for the sacred literature you have written. They anchor me.

Yesterday I went to the ISKCON temple in Ireland. I was taken back by how welcoming everyone was. I felt joyful and content seeing everyone dancing and coming together. I haven't felt like this in a while. I came to the realisation that when I try to find relief in the material world, I am left feeling dissatisfied and incomplete. The missing piece of the puzzle is always Kṛṣṇa and my completeness comes from my relationship with him.

I am immensely grateful to Śrīla Prabhupāda for establishing this international society that is inclusive to all. No matter what country we visit, we will always have a temple to go to where we can feel a sense of belonging. We are a family. Thank you Śrīla Prabhupāda for caring about all of us.

.....

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

On this auspicious day, I wanted to wish you a very Happy Vyāsa-pūjā. Thank you for being so kind and patient with me throughout these years. You have always accepted me despite my many anarthas and have encouraged me to keep going despite them. Thank you for all your wonderful workshops, classes and books that enable me to understand how to practically apply the teachings and become conscious of my underlying beliefs and motives. I have been reading the Uplift Yourself book that you wrote and each time I read the sutras, I see that there's so much more to learn. I very much appreciate these words of wisdom.

At various points, I always come back to the instructions you have given me. They are still just as necessary for me to hear now, as they were then. I must live and act in accordance with those instructions. As a result this year I wanted to share with you that I am doing my best to follow the instruction you gave me to live my dharma. I have been immersing myself in Art and have found a deep sense of inner fulfilment and healing through this. I wanted to share this quote by you:

“Connect with your talents and begin a project that employs your natural gifts and inspires you to serve. Don't think about what is possible, think about what will really move you. Then begin with what you have from where you are at. The moment you start your project, the moment you do one little thing to move closer to your goal, everything shifts. Purpose, focus and inspiration increase. Things start to happen to move your project forward. Out of the blue, people and situations show up to help you. It is one of the mystical secrets of success that the world hears what's in your heart - and responds.”



Recently, I have definitely found this to be the case. When I decided to dive deeper into Art, I found that the lord sent people to help and he reciprocated with my prayers. The deeper I go into my Art, the more I realise how dependent I am on the lord and the teachings of the Bhagavad-gītā to help cultivate the right consciousness. I am starting to see that I am just an instrument. I am becoming more and more conscious of my intentions and motives and the importance of good self-esteem.

I was listening to a class by S.B Keshava Swami where he was explaining how when you follow your dharma it protects you. He further expanded on this by saying that “when you follow your dharma, you are in your psycho-physical optimum and thus you have greater strength to avoid distraction and temptation. You are following the plan of the lord because you are hearing Kṛṣṇa’s plan for you”. I am realising more and more how when I follow the instruction you have given me then I feel closer to you and more energised and inspired.

I remember a few years ago you said to me that as I continue to improve each year, then my life would become more of a service to others. I pray for the strength to make your vision for me, my vision and serve with the right consciousness. I see there are many areas where I need to grow so I pray that I can be kinder and more patient with others and myself. I always find that I can be honest with you and you never judge me but always encourage. I really appreciate and treasure this sacred relationship we have. Thank you for everything.

Your aspiring servant,

Priya-Darsini Devi Dasi



United States



Abraham

Aspiring Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Please accept my humble obesiencies. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!

Śrīla Prabhupāda you are the guiding light in my life. Without you everything would become meaningless and there would be no purpose to this miserable world. I see you as the caring father that protects and cares for me. That nurtures and protects me giving me the highest goal in life. I've often been called to your caring affectionate side and this is only growing. But as I grow to understand more about your character by reading about you from your disciples is that you have some many different personalities and features. You seemed to have expertly used them according to the people you were with. When I first learned of you Śrīla Prabhupada I only focused on the sweet, caring, gentle fatherly side you had and disregarded the heavy correcting guru aspect. But as our relationship is developing I see that I can not limit you to only my lenses. I can not limit you only our relationship.

You are my spiritual father, my param spiritual master, the guiding beacon of my life. Yet you are also so many other things to so many other people. And our relationship does not change any other person's relationship with you.

I ask on this day of my spiritual master's Vyāsa-pūjā celebration, your disciple, if I may be engaged in lifetimes of your service and then return back to Godhead in this lifetime.

Thank you for saving me Śrīla Prabhupāda and giving me the opportunity to be your grand-disciple.

Your aspirng son,

Abe



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obesiences, All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!

You are someone who has explarly lived the teachings given by your spiritual master Śrīla Prabhupāda.

The mission he has placed on your head given through the parampara has been diligently executed by you. Channeling Śrīla Prabhupādas unlimited compassion you have patiently dealt with so many disturbing elements, just to support our journey back to Godhead.

All of these qualities that you give to the world, have been mercifully given to you by Śrīla Prabhupāda and over this last year you have began to introduce me to him. I am forever grateful for this and am ready to accept the continued mission of passing down this illuminating torch of devotional service to the blind masses. Thank you for wonderfully representing Śrīla Prabhupāda and the parampara and connecting me to their eternal teachings.



Due to your kind, fatherly affection I often forget that you are transcendently connecting me to Kṛṣṇa. But by your actions and instructions I see that the relationship we have is not of this world, it is something so rare that I have never had an opportunity like this in my sojourn to this world of suffering.

Just like Śrīla Prabhupāda you are always encouraging us to take advantage of this golden opportunity and in your presence I feel completely capable of taking up the burden given to you by your spiritual master and that you are giving to me, to make the whole world Kṛṣṇa Consicous.

Thank you Gurudeva for connecting me to Śrīla Prabhupāda and thank you for connecting me to Kṛṣṇa.

Your aspring servant,

Abe



United States



Ananda Moya Dasa

Dikṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.



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

Oh dear Śrīla Prabhupāda I read one of your little books 15 years ago and your words had a deep impact and my life has changed since then; there is a pastime that accompanies me all the time, once when you had just arrived in the West you started to preach to the young people who by then were immersed in all kinds of illicit activities; Sometimes I wonder what would have been the course of my life if I did not know about you, if I did not read all the books that you so lovingly wrote in all those tireless nights, I think of all those tremendous experiences that you had to go through when you traveled here to the West to satisfy your spiritual master and expand the mission of Lord Caitanya, that I feel nothing but gratitude and recognition that you are truly Patita Pavana. Thank you for your teachings, for your example and for your love for your devotees. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda Patita Pavana Ki....

.....

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṁ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṁ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Obeisances to His Grace Mahātmā Prabhu, who is dearest to Kṛṣṇa, and who teaches both through his realizations and his actions.

Obeisance to him who is the embodiment of the mood of his master Prabhupāda, who awards the joy of kīrtana, who reveals the truth of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, and who is affectionately concerned for the devotees.

All glories to HG Mahātmā Prabhu.

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

Dear Guru Mahārāja,

Please accept my humble and respectful obeisances at your lotus feet.

I am writing to you on this auspicious day for this world, for thousands of people all over the world have found a word of hope through your preaching and through your humble teaching and example of love and service, for the solid base that sustains you is the untiring desire to satisfy your beloved master Śrīla Prabhupāda; And in you, thousands of people and myself have found that light of hope that there is something better, something superior and it is a blessing because what Śrīla Prabhupāda brought to the West we know through his books, but the practical and significant example in this time is your loving service and of course the great teaching of His Divine Grace Śrīla Prabhupāda.

So how not to glorify your auspicious appearance, how not to express that I feel grateful and happy to have the best grandfather and spiritual father.



United States

Thank You dear Gurudeva, Thank You for Your humble service, Thank You for being here,

Thank You for Your love...

Happy Vyāsa-pūjā.

Your servant,

Ananda Moya Dasa

Houston TX, 2023



United States



Deepti

Aspiring Disciple

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

*śrī-caitanya-mano-'bhīṣṭaṁ
sthāpitaṁ yena bhū-tale
svayaṁ rūpaḥ kadā mahyaṁ
dadāti sva-padāntikam*



vande 'haṁ śrī-guroḥ śrī-yuta-pada-
kamalaṁ śrī-gurūn vaiṣṇavāṁś ca
śrī-rūpaṁ sāgrajātaṁ saha-gaṇa-
raghunāthānviataṁ taṁ sa-jīvam
sādvaitaṁ sāvadhūtaṁ parijana-
sahitaṁ kṛṣṇa-caitanya-devaṁ
śrī-rādhā-kṛṣṇa-pādān saha-gaṇa-
lalitā-śrī-viśākhānviatāṁś ca

nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe

• • • • •

Dear Guru Mahārāj

Please accept my humble obeisance. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you . On this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā I would like to thank you for all spiritual growth I am having with your guidance.

I am very impressed with all the wonderful videos and classes you take to help all of us progress in our Bhakti path .

Although there are some blockers and obstacles in my spiritual journey, I am still able to move forward successfully because of your encouragement and your every word of encouragement motivates me to do even better.



United States

I reach several books of Prabhupāda and watch your YouTube videos and follow you in social media regularly. I try to follow and implement all the good things I learn from you. I am very grateful to be your disciple and looking forward for more advancement in my bhakti and spiritual growth.

Your humble servant,

Deepti Kudranga



United States



Gaura Mani Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

Hare Kṛṣṇa Dear Gurudev,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!



Some words - hopefully poetic- in thoughts of you:

You are a fierce tiger in humble dress
Creative and empowered
Touching hearts in many lands
Empowering others to see themselves

Lighting Lord Caitanya's flame in the hearts of many
Bringing jivas closer to their true nature home
Melodic kirtans - incisive responses
Ever- fresh topics to enliven others

A friend to all, ever patient and encouraging - a dear friend and servant of Kṛṣṇa-
thank you for letting me take shelter at your lotus feet.

May the small attempts of mine in service please you in some way- this is my prayer.

Hopefully some day soon, Akua SEVA will come to life and serve Sattva Education.

Your faithful servant,

Gaura Mani Devi Dasi





Janaki Devi Das

Dīkṣā Disciple

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

I am so naive, so ignorant, so helpless. When I meditate on how I can know you and how I can serve you, sometimes it feels like a very impossible thing to know. But I am so grateful to be in the light of your disciples because they share aspects of your personality that I could never access by myself.

Through their memories, books, and their service, I come closer every day to understanding what it is you came to the West for. Understanding your mood and your mission has helped me so much in finding my place in Kṛṣṇa's service. There



is a heavy amount of reason to doubt spiritual leaders and organizations in this Kali yuga world, but in the face of all adversity, you brought purity without any self-interest or ill- motivation- so that we could experience pure love that could only come from the person who is the source of everything good! Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, for giving us Kṛṣṇa. Giving us the knowledge of how to realize our constitutional position as His servant. And showing us how to live a life eternally full of bliss.

Your aspiring servant,

Janaki Devi Das

• • • • •

Dearest Gurudev,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Please accept my most humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda! And all glories to you on the auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā!



As I attempt to glorify and thank you for your presence in my life, I also beg forgiveness because it will definitely be inadequate. The words do not exist and my capability to express it is too limited, but still I will try.

*āsraya kariyā bando sṛī guru carana
jāhā haite mile bhāi kṛṣṇa-prema dhana*

Taking refuge of Sri Guru, I bow at his feet.
Oh brother, by this, the treasure of Kṛṣṇa prema is attained.

jāra prati gurudeva hana parasanna kona vighne seha nāhi haya avasanna

Whoever courts the pleasure of Sri Gurudeva in all respects will not become disheartened by any obstacle. (excerpts of Guru Vandana by Sanatan Das)

Kṛṣṇa has very generously granted me many opportunities to serve you and be in your personal association this year. I have witnessed first-hand your never-changing, absolute love and attachment for Kṛṣṇa, for Śrīla Prabhupāda, for the Vaishnavas, and for all of Kṛṣṇa's parts and parcels. I have seen you put on retreats, workshops, seminars, lectures (in person and online), private darshans and spontaneous meetings utilizing every second of your valuable time for the benefit of others. For the sake of being of service, you have no regard for basic necessities like eating and sleeping; it is baffling and inspiring how one person can give so much of themselves to others. You are the embodiment of anya-abhilāṣitā-śūnyam and dāsa-dāsānudāsaḥ.

Not long ago, a devotee approached me and asked me what to look for in a spiritual master. And although I have no realization outside of my own experience... In response, I meditated on your personal qualities and instructions. You are simple. You have no motivation outside of being a servant, following the instructions of



your spiritual master. You are constantly in his presence and so completely attached to the lotus feet of Śrīla Prabhupāda that your words and actions are undisturbed reflections of his compassion. You are kind, gentle, patient, tolerant, merciful, equal to all, generous, and humble. You are expert, poetic, and truthful. You have all the qualities of a Vaishnava. You are completely surrendered to Kṛṣṇa. Willing to do anything and everything, big or small, for His pleasure. And due to having these perfect qualities, you inspire and encourage others to take up Kṛṣṇa Consciousness for as long as it takes, through any difficulty. This is the conclusion I came to: surrender to that person who waters your faith- that attaining love for Kṛṣṇa is worth giving your life to, however long it takes and no matter what difficulty you are faced with. Surrender to that person who mirrors the acharyas and is sākṣād-dhari.

Thank you for being that to me. For helping me understand and deepen my relationship with Śrīla Prabhupāda, for bringing me closer to Kṛṣṇa, and always guiding me and inspiring me on my journey back home. Thank you for empowering and entrusting me to be an instrument in Śrīla Prabhupāda's glorious movement and in spreading Kṛṣṇa Consciousness even though I have no qualification. By nature I am an eternal servant of Kṛṣṇa, but it is only due to your mercy that I have the rare fortune of regaining any of my memory. I pray that you keep this meager servant in your close and constant association, that I can develop attachment, sincerity, and taste for following your instructions, and that by your mercy, I can understand your heart and mission and be useful to you- thus, I can escape the clutches of māyā and become eligible for shelter at Kṛṣṇa's lotus feet.

Thank you eternally for your guidance and presence in my life. Please accept my loving, humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

Your aspiring servant,

Janaki Devi Das





Kṛṣṇa Jivani Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

Jai Jai Śrīla Prabhupāda!

"The lotus feet of our spiritual master are the only way by which we can attain pure devotional service. I bow down to his lotus feet with great awe and reverence. By his grace, one can cross the ocean of material suffering and obtain the mercy of Kṛṣṇa."

I am not sure if I am even qualified to write a prayer or even give a glorification. There is so much, I want to say and express. But I can say everything I do, say, or have in my life I owe it to Śrīla Prabhupāda, He was the one who took mercy upon



me and took me away from the life I was leading. It was thanks to his mercy, his association from his books and classes that I am standing here, He is the reason why I got the chance to be a disciple of my Guru Mahārāj. For me even if this doesn't go with the Guidelines he is my Grandfather and Father, he is the one who led me to have a little bit more of an understanding of why I even exist in this material world, and why should I serve Kṛṣṇa. I would never be able to repay this debt to Kṛṣṇa or even to Him, but I will keep trying and trying to improve in this journey and serve others just the way He would have wanted us to.

There are so many things that I need to realize, understand and hear, but I am glad He gave us so much to continue in this Journey. Thank you for uncovering my dusty eyes and for helping me to clean my heart. Thank you for choosing my soul in this lifetime, to start this journey.

• • • • •

Hare Kṛṣṇa Guru Mahārāj,

Please received my humble obeisances! All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and the Vaiṣṇavas! All Glories to you!

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Guru Mahārāj, I am never sure how to start to write. I feel that even if I write a thousand lines, I will never be able to convey my feelings. I feel very blessed just by being given the chance to write you an offering. Please forgive me in advance if my letter and wishes don't go according to the guidelines, I am just a mercy case trying to improve.

I want to also say that you were present in our wedding celebration with Akshay - it was something that I will always cherish in my heart. Thank you for giving your darshan and your time to both of our families. Especially with the class you gave us during the ceremony. Thank you for blessing our marriage. I will never forget seeing you and Jahnava Mata when we entered the wedding mandap. I will forever have this memory in my heart and in my mind. I thought for a moment this was a scene that was created by my imagination.

This past year was a year full of changes and challenges, but thanks to you and your time and association, I was able to come out of it. Moving away from Hong Kong took a big hit on my spiritual life and there was a time I was afraid I was not going to be able to make it. It was because of your mercy and thanks to your guidance that I was able to rationalize and get my thoughts together in order to continue on this path back to Godhead. Thank you for giving me your time and for the video call, thank you for listening and answering all my questions. For having patience with me since I know I talk a lot and type a lot.

I want to be 100% transparent in my offering and more than highlight only the good, I want to highlight the things I am committed to Improving. One of them is full surrender and trust that Kṛṣṇa will take control of everything, I am not in charge of anything. He is the only one in full control. Patience in improving my daily sadhana, I realize I need to have more patience, somehow I want everything to happen fast. Being Kind, this past year I also realize I need to be more kind, this quality is something I want to improve, not only to others but also to myself. READ



MORE, I need to develop taste for reading and pray to understand and realize what I am reading. Regarding services, I continue to take care of the Cows here in the Goshala every weekend as well as the Goshala Social media. The cows and the bulls are waiting to have your association too!

Thank you for all the service, the time, and the association you give to all of us. We couldn't be more fortunate. Thank you for thinking of us when you give us instructions when you record your classes when you give us your time. Thank you for showing us every single time you speak - how Kṛṣṇa should be the center of our lives, and how mindful we should be when we do service to the devotees. Thank you for showing us how we should take care of other devotees in order to continue on this path back to Godhead.

I can't wait to have your association and please forgive me once again if my offering does not go according to the guidelines. I am sorry if sometimes I write too much.

Happy Vyāsa-pūjā Guru Mahārāj! Jai Jai Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Your servant,

Kṛṣṇa Jivani Devi Dasi



United States



Michael

Aspiring Disciple

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

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*



Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
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śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Please accept my humble obeisance. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

I have never written anything like this before, but I want to express the gratitude I feel for the impact you have had upon me. I was first exposed to Kṛṣṇa Consciousness in the early 90's. I had my first association with devotees around 1997. In spite of years of chanting and reading Prabhupāda's books, I divide my devotional life into two parts. There was everything I did before I met you, and now there is my life since I have had the great fortune of being exposed to you, your teaching, and your example.

Meeting you has been the catalyst for a whole new understanding of, and commitment to, service to Kṛṣṇa and his glorious devotees. I have never met anyone who has melted my heart like you. You are like a lens that transmits and magnify the love coming from Kṛṣṇa and Śrīla Prabhupāda. While it has only been a short while since I met you and began driving into the wisdom you share (your books, your workshops, your affirmations, your kirtans, your classes, your videos), I think of you constantly and am overwhelmed by the love and compassion you share and



exhibit. When I learn something new from you, I feel that it is wisdom/information that the world needs. I hope to, in some small way, help you spread the love Kṛṣṇa and Prabhupāda have for all of us.

You have asked for us to share about our growth and how we are meeting challenges. Any spiritual growth I am experiencing, I attribute directly to your mercy. Here are some things that I have recently come to believe/understand: it is possible (through the mercy of guru and Kṛṣṇa) to go back to Godhead in this lifetime, all things are possible through the holy name, as long as act (to the best of my abilities) to please Kṛṣṇa, I am being successful, I don't need to know what the future holds or what the timeline is for my improvement as a devotee, I just need to trust in guru and Kṛṣṇa and "stay on the boat," and that Kṛṣṇa loves me for who I am because of who He is. Since meeting you, I have made japa a priority. I have stopped accepting "bad" chanting. I make it a point to wake at 4:00 and chant first thing in the morning. I have begun performing weekly service at the local ISKCON Kirtan Center. I have worked on developing relationships with other devotees. I have shared your writing and teachings with others.

You have melted my heart. I had my first experience crying during japa chanting along with you during a workshop. I cry listening to your song "Maybe;" I feel like you have already given me so much and that I can never possibly repay you. I am in awe at how devoted you are to your beloved Śrīla Prabhupāda and how tirelessly you work to help and serve the devotees. I feel such a deep love for you in such a short time.

Thank you for being such a wonderful servant of Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you Mahātmā Prabhu.

With love and gratitude from an aspiring servant,

Michael Flor



United States



Nirali

Śikṣā Disciple

Dear Mahātmā Prabhu,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.

When I was younger, I couldn't really appreciate Kṛṣṇa or His devotees. I did have some attachment for Prabhupāda after reading Planting the seed and hearing his lila. It never ceased to amaze me how accepting he was of everyone. He was compassion personified- yet never meek or docile- always lion like in his preaching.



I knew back then following Prabhupāda was the right path, yet I couldn't give up my materialistic ways (I am a special kind of rascal I know).

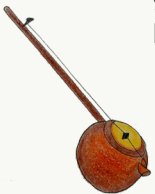
At times in college, I felt Prabhupāda's presence in my life, yet I strongly pushed it away. When I read or heard that "Prabhupāda came to this earth to save you", I would think of that as a general statement- he came to save everyone, not me individually. But that's the thing. Once you render some service, however small, he won't let you go. It was not just Kṛṣṇa bringing me back to Him, it was Prabhupāda leading the charge. I didn't realize it then how much Prabhupāda did for me personally.

Like all devotees, hearing Prabhupāda Lila is like nectar. You can understand that there is no one on the planet like him, and you can catch a glimpse of Kṛṣṇa's beauty by trying to understand Prabhupāda's heart. It was after reading Yamunā devi's book that my understanding grew deeper. Reading about Yamunā Devi Dasi and Prabhupāda's relationship helped me understand what love really means. Prabhupāda's compassion is a well that has no end. He moved mountains for Kṛṣṇa and his devotees. It's something I will never fully appreciate or grasp.

... ..

Hearing you speak about him, it's clear you are a Prabhupāda man - full of compassion for the fallen souls. Ready to give everything for Prabhupāda. It's melted my heart to see a living example of Prabhupāda's compassion in you.

I felt like there was a spring in my step after meeting you through your lectures. It's become so much more than that. My bhakti, my everyday life, is filled with sweetness because of you. Even my boring desk job is sweet because I get to hear your kirtan while I crunch numbers. I used to pray for things- understanding, guidance, support in my spiritual and material life, acceptance. In one fell swoop Kṛṣṇa gave me everything and more by sending you. There is no way I can repay



United States

this debt. I pray that I can become qualified to serve you now and for lifetimes to come (even if it means peeling potatoes in Siberia!) I can't fathom Lord Caitanya's unlimited mercy. Please accept this fool and rascal as your servant. I will surely disappoint you, but I pray I never stop trying.

Your servant,

Nirali



United States



Prem Kishore Dasa

Dīkṣā Disciple

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please empower me to serve your mission and to please my Guru. Guide me on my path of devotional service and keep me steadfast in my determination. Without your grace, nothing is possible. Please shower me in your grace so that I can share the holy name to as many people as possible, so they may become free from the bondage of this material world and see that everything is connected to Kṛṣṇa. Please bless me so that I may please my Guru.



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Beloved Guru

Oh, beloved Guru, warm embrace,
Opulent in love, mercy, and grace.
This waking soul eager to inquire,
Is continually filled, eternally inspired,
Thinking of the day, not far off he hopes,
When your vision is fulfilled, until then he floats,
On a raft of care inflated by you,
extending from Śrīla Prabhupāda, honest and true.
Chaste to our Paramparā, steadfast and strong,
You've served his desire, sincerely lifelong.

A list of your qualities I could not write, for surely,
they are endless like the sun's light.
Warm and nourishing on the darkest of days,
Troubles seem meaningless in the light of your rays.
Hurricanes may pass and oceans may move,
By meditating on your desire, I remain enthused.



The Name comes alive when I'm in your presence,
Opening my eyes with your guidance.
Seeing through windows of carved up pain,
Feeling the Name's love, may it always remain.
Strong my desire and steady my pace,
To serve your vision and put a smile on your face.

I pray, therefore, that I become sincere,
So my vision of your desire is always clear,
To make it my own, one with my heart,
So it stays forever and never departs.
The qualities of a devotee are alive in you,
Endless mercy and grace, my beloved Guru.

Your servant,

Prem Kishore Dasa



United States



Radhapriya Devi Dasi

Dikṣā Disciple

Thank you Śrīla Prabhupāda for allow the world to know the glories of the Holy Name, thank you for giving the chance to people to know about Kṛṣṇa and the Holy Dhāma, thank you for your effort to create a movement to promote the true love for God.



Hare Kṛṣṇa Dear Guru Mahārāj!

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyām mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānām tat-parāya ca*

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śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and to your lotus feet.

Thank you so much Guru Mahārāj for your presence in my life, as it said in the Śrīmad Bhāgavatam, Eleventh canto (20.17): "...This human body can be compared to a perfect constructed boat having the spiritual master as the captain and the instructions of the Personality of Godhead as favorable winds impelling it on this course..." Your sacred instruction helps me in so many ways that you can't imagine. Your wise words are the motor of my daily life in this material world, sometimes I feel down, I feel that I don't have enough energy and see you, how you serve everyday Śrīla Prabhupāda without taking a break.

I hope I can understand your words better. Sometimes my ego doesn't allow me to hear with the proper ears the teachings that you kindly share, occasionally I try to be the "Captain of the boat", I know that even seeing multiple times that this doesn't work, I continue insisting. I pray that someday I'll be able to fully surrender to your instructions and find the best way to serve you.



United States

Your entire life is a constant inspiration for me, and thank you, because, beside my tons of mistakes you trust in me, this means the world to me!

May the Lord give you more year with us, with health and your infinite smile that turns a dark day in beautiful one.

Happy Vyāsa-pūjā.

Your crazy and eternal disciple,

Kadhapriya Devi Dasi





Rasa-manjari Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

What you have given us, Śrīla Prabhupāda, cannot be measured with any scale or measurement. It is the deepest, darkest, luminously beautiful blue ocean of causeless mercy, the immeasurably valuable process of learning to love and serve God, Kṛṣṇa, the sweet, mischievous, cowherd boy who plays his flute and is just having fun. This whole greatness can't be understood with a material and conditioned mind like mine, either. But I am so intensely grateful, for the things that I can see everyday keeping me happy in devotional life, sometimes working in ways that I can't really quite understand. We remember Kṛṣṇa, in so many ways, thanks to your groundbreaking broad-mindedness - during the spiritual program given by you - the mangal-aratis, the morning japa with your soft chanting on the



background, Guru Pujas, classes, breakfast prasadam, the kirtans, of course. We remember Kṛṣṇa during our practical daily work, school, hobbies and chores. We think of Kṛṣṇa while we are with strangers, colleagues, friends and family, helping them to connect with Him too and open our hearts to daily teachings sent by Kṛṣṇa through them. We dream of Kṛṣṇa when we go to bed and sleep sometimes too - it's all thanks to you, to get closer, to never forget, but always remember Kṛṣṇa. All glories, all glories to you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, to your perfect teachings for the forgetful Kali-yugaitis. You truly are the Spiritual Master of the Universe!

... ..

Hare Kṛṣṇa dear Gurudeva,

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyām mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānām tat-parāya ca*

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet. I wish you the sweetest Birthday, a day that has become so meaningful to all of us, your disciples, well-wishers and friends. A day to celebrate the beginning, an ominous seed, of something that has changed our lives later by its full bloom - you, your teachings, your support, your mercy, you as our Spiritual Master. Not to mention the lives yet to be touched and inspired by your love and devotion! I wish to remember your profound effect, a positive chain reaction, on my life everyday like this. I also aim to



remember what a lucky fool I am; "According to their karma, all living entities are wandering throughout the entire universe. Some of them are being elevated to the upper planetary systems, and some are going down into the lower planetary systems. Out of many millions of wandering living entities, one who is very fortunate gets an opportunity to associate with a bona fide spiritual master by the grace of Kṛṣṇa. By the mercy of both Kṛṣṇa and the spiritual master, such a person receives the seed of the creeper of devotional service." CC Madhya 19.151

I wish to serve you, Śrīla Prabhupāda and this sankirtan movement by being a gardener; yes, in the literal sense as it is who I professionally am, but also as the gardener of the seed of the heart, mine and others - following in your footsteps of the one being affectionately concerned for the devotees. I wish to support practitioners on their paths with compassionate listening, help them recognize the weeds and build boundaries; fences to protect their beloved creeper of devotional service. I wish to help to cultivate the seeds of bhakti to newcomers' hearts through kirtan, friendship, art and through natural, simple living and high thinking.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for being an advocate of a healthy, holistically supportive Kṛṣṇa Consciousness movement. Every day you give us so much hope, mercy, support and wisdom on this sublime path, practical understanding and strength to do our devotional service and duties right and joyfully. You spread this pure knowledge of bhakti, the king of education, the most secret of all secrets, all over the world by your powerful methods, inspiring teaching and your personal touch.

Your servant,

Rasa-manjari Devi Dasi



United States



Shahnaz Om

Well-wisher

Hare Kṛṣṇa and all glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda for all the sacrifices made in order for people outside of India to have a chance to learn of Bhakti and Kṛṣṇa and Lord Chaitanya.

Hare Kṛṣṇa Mahātmā Prabhu!

Happiest of Birthdays and many, many more. Wishing you great health, peace and true joy.



United States

Many thanks and blessings to you and your family. I hope you get your favorite cake made for this celebration.

Your servant,

Shahnaz Om



United States



Shalini

Śikṣā Disciple

Śrīla Prabhupāda is my Param Guru; the one who led me to the lotus feet of my Gurudev, HG Mahātmā Das. I offer my respectful obeisances at the lotus feet of Śrīla Prabhupāda.

.....

My Dearest Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.



*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Wishing you a Very Happy Appearance day and many more to come, so you can guide and lead millions unto the lotus feet of the Lord!

My heart will forever be indebted to you for accepting me as your shiksha disciple on November 25, 2021. I am very new to this and thus please forgive any offenses I may commit in making this offering.

Every lecture of yours is a gem for me. Your guidance and instruction speaks to each of us individually. I once asked you how you know our questions even before we have asked them. It is true Gurudev, you are able to anticipate our individual doubts and you address them so quickly and promptly.

You give individual attention to your disciples, a rare chance a disciple can get. It is a privilege for us that you make time to address our queries with so much patience. It shows me how much you care for each soul and how eager you are to guide us towards the spiritual abode. I especially enjoy the humor with which you teach sometimes; it makes the mood lighter yet the lesson you teach is of utmost importance.

Thank you for the Self-Care workshops and all the guidance on Chanting attentively. The awareness you have created in these areas is astounding and we can benefit tremendously by holding on to your instructions regarding these.

Gurudev, ever since that day on November 25, 2021, I see your grace in every moment of my life. I have been facing some health issues and the services I was able to do



United States

earlier were becoming difficult to manage. I was worried about losing service, but magically, after your acceptance, I started getting services I could perform online. In fact it came to a point that I actually had to turn down some because of not being able to handle it all at once. It's like you heard my prayer!

I pray that I can continue to serve you and heed your instructions. I am very grateful for your shelter and indebted to you.

Thank you so much for your loving care and I will try my best to be sincere and to follow you with my heart.

With Love and Gratitude,

Shalini Mansukhani Dallas

Texas



United States



Sri Radha Devi Dasi

Dīkṣā Disciple

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe
nirviśeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you, Guru and Gaurāṅga.



This past year I think you have seen how I have slowed down in life. Since I was little I would take on project after project, multiple at a time, going going going and not really taking a break. This past year has been a time of taking on new experiences and also a time of taking breaks.

I have been investing my time in; sadhana, devotee relationships, homeschooling devotee children, noticing nature and overall admiring Kṛṣṇa's plan for me in the different experiences I had this past year.

Two weeks ago I returned to Michigan from Vrindavana and have been reflecting on your time in the Radha Damodara temple, preparing to come to America.

In getting to be in your room at Radha Damodara temple, I decided to read your Vrindavana Bhajan and parts of your 'Light of the Bhāgavata', that I understand you worked on in the rooms I got to spend some time in.

Your 6th verse in Vrindavana Bhajan stuck out most to me.

'Then, my dear brother, kindly try to carefully understand what is the real significance of "being well" in this material world! No one is actually "well" here in the material world, yet they say "I am well." This is the way Maya, the Lord's illusory potency, bewilders the conditioned souls. Thus they accept temporary bodies through repeated birth and death. Being bewildered in this way, the conditioned souls remain forgetful of their eternal, ever-blissful existence in devotional service of Lord Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and instead they are always busy serving their material senses trying to enjoy material sense gratification. Even though they are forced to leave their bodies against their will by the cruel hand of death, their material illusion is not broken, and the conditioned soul remains bound in ignorance.'



United States

I am praying I can loosen my grip more in this next year, on my mentality that is so firmly still gripped on enjoying this material world. I can feel non-enthusiastic about devotional service at times because I still have such a firm grip on enjoying for my benefit.

Thank you for being the example of a true devotee. Showing how serving Kṛṣṇa is the position of achieving much more bliss than the small, temporary bliss of my trying to enjoy Kṛṣṇa's external energy.

Your eternal servant,

Sri Radha Devi Dasi

....

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

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

Dear Guru Mahārāj,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and all glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyāsa-pūjā.



Currently in my reading of Srimad Bhagavatam I just completed the 20th chapter of the 10th canto entitled: The Rainy Season and Autumn in Vṛndāvana. After completing this chapter I went to my bookshelf to read: Light of the Bhāgavata, knowing that Śrīla Prabhupāda wrote this 20th chapter in this book form when he was staying in Vrindavan.

Verse 17 in Light of the Bhāgavata says: ‘When the clouds appear in the sky the peacock begins to dance in ecstasy, as a sincere soul becomes overwhelmed with joy on the appearance of a saint at his house.’

Śrīla Prabhupāda’s purport: ‘In the age of Kali, as described before, people in general no longer take pleasure in the presence of saints and sages, nor are they interested in spiritual enlightenment. The saints and sages, however, take all risks to propagate the message of Godhead. Lord Jesus Christ, Ṭhākura Haridāsa, Lord Nityānanda Prabhu, and many such sages risked their life to propagate the message of Godhead. Self-realized saints and sages take such risks for the spiritual enlightenment of the people in general. They do not take vows of silence meant to win cheap glory from the ignorant mass of people. God is satisfied only when His devotees take all sorts of risks to propagate His glories. Such devotees are unafraid of the difficult journey to cross the ocean of nescience. They are always anxious for the welfare of the fallen souls, who are attached to the false enjoyment of materialistic life, in which they forget their eternal relation with God.’

‘It is the duty of the saints and sages to enlighten the fallen souls, and reciprocally it is the duty of the householder to receive the saints and sages cordially, as the peacock dances in ecstasy at the presence of clouds in the sky. The fire of threefold miseries experienced by materialistic men can be extinguished only by the cloud of mercy of the saints and sages who can pour down the water of transcendental messages to put an end to the miseries of the householders.’



I see that this is the mood of your service. You take on all sorts of risks like traveling & potential disrespect to share Śrīla Prabhupāda and Kṛṣṇa's glories. You are also always anxious for the welfare of the fallen souls with your consistent answering of devotees messages, giving classes back to back and bestowing your time liberally.

It is my duty and honor to be your pet peacock. My miseries can only be extinguished by your cloud of mercy, which you profusely pour down on me. I'm working on making my vessel into a proper one that doesn't have so many holes and can catch all of the rain, to save it, and pour it down on others as well.

I look forward to 'Kṛṣṇa willing' getting to see you in person for your Vyāsa-pūjā this year.

Your servant sadhu in progress,

Sri Radha Devi Dasi



United States



Sydney

Aspiring Disciple

Hare Kṛṣṇa Gurudev,

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

please accept my humble obeisances and all glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.



My prayers to Kṛṣṇa, Prabhupāda and to you, Gurudev, are to get to know Prabhupāda better through His books and teachings to strengthen this relationship. I pray for help to be able to focus on all the positive things going on vs the negative... Focusing on the negative or perceiving happenings as negative, has slowed down my growth and my relationship with Prabhupāda more than I like to admit, but I will always be authentic and truthful...

Your classes and association have been such an example of Prabhupāda, and I have learned so much about self-care and what I need to do in order to keep on the path....

The Turtle is my spirit animal and I have and am still learning to embrace my turtleness...to be slow and steady and to use my shell wisely and as needed...but, to not to stay hidden...Prabhupāda did not stay in His shell, nor have you, and I want to get out of mine more as well. I pray for Kṛṣṇa to keep teaching me through Prabhupāda and you, Gurudev, and for Kṛṣṇa to always keep me close and to help me to be wise, to listen better, and to NEVER forget Him...

My offering to you this year, Gurudev, is to work harder to get to know Prabhupāda more fully and work on my relationship with Him, and to put into practice all of His and your teachings and I vow to continue moving forward...even if slowly.

I have been in my shell, stopped, and full of fear for far too long...I will come out of my shell and start moving slowly, but carefully so as to avoid my previous problems...trying to do too much and go too fast...thus falling down.

This has unfortunately created an intense fear of failing, which has allowed me to stay deep in my shell, therefore halting my progress for awhile...You have taught me that even moving an inch a day is better than not moving at all...I will not give up, and I will continue on the path, slowly but surely and sincerely.



United States

I wish you much happiness and great health and safety this year...Happy Vyāsa-pūjā Gurudev...I thank you Sincerely for Your patience and your willingness to take Prabhupāda and His Teachings of Kṛṣṇa to everyone you can...I hope one day to be initiated and to be a good example for others for Prabhupāda's and your mission to love and serve Kṛṣṇa with everything we have to give.

In your service,

Sydney



United States



Vanamali Dasa

Dīkṣā Disciple

All glories to Sri Radha Govinda. Jai Śrīla Prabhupāda!

I can't completely say anything about Śrīla Prabhupāda that would describe the gratitude I have for his appearance in my life. Not a day goes by without my appreciation of his teaching touching me.

In 1970 I was barely 15 when introduced to the movement, I was captivated by the music and chanting of the devotees. A mataji walked up to me and handed me an invite to the temple on 2nd Avenue. Two weeks later, I went, and have been on the journey since.



I know that Śrīla Prabhupāda has been by my side since step by misstep. And know that by sheer grace that he led me to finally ask for initiation from Gurudev Mahārāj Mahātmā Prabhu. The process continues.

Jai Sri Kṛṣṇa!
Jai Śrīla Prabhupāda!
Jai Gurudev Mahārāj

Your servant,

Vanamali Dasa

.....

Dear Gurudev Mahārāj,
Jai Śrīla Prabhupāda.

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātmā-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Please accept my humble obeisance. I don't know what to say other than to thank you for taking on this grateful soul.

Though I don't have much contact with you directly, I nonetheless have been given the mercy to have become your servant. Your daily videos are always seen to speak to me directly, which is how I first became attracted to your teachings. You were offering a class on forgiveness.



United States

At the time I was having a small conflict with another devotee and I was trying to find a way come to some solution. I found that your class melted that part of me that wanted to win. I was blinded by my ego. It took time for me to come to term with this, but I have since. I learned I was the one who needed to change.

Thank you for accepting me as your disciple. I will always be in debt. Jai Sri Kṛṣṇa
Jai Śrīla Prabhupāda Jai...Jai...Jai Gurudev Mahārāj

Your servant,

Vanamali Dasa



Uruguay



Cristina

Aspiring Disciple

Hare Kṛṣṇa dear Gurudeva! Accept my humble obeisances!
All glories to you and Śrīla Prabhupāda!

Dear Gurudeva! Very happy Vyāsa-pūjā to you.

Thank you for accepting me as an aspiring disciple without hardly knowing me!

Dear Mahārāj, my glorifications to Śrīla Prabhupāda are based on the strength and fortitude he showed to carry out the mission of His spiritual master.



Sometimes I feel very far from being able to understand that master-disciple relationship. It is very deep. I hope I can do at least something right when I am initiated with you.

I am very grateful to Śrīla Prabhupāda for spending hours of his existence translating the books that are now my primary sustenance and nourishment.

At times I feel very foolish and think: Śrīla Prabhupada, what would he think of me if he realized that I don't know how to maintain the mission he treasured so much?

However, I realize that Śrīla Prabhupāda would not feel that way about me. He would love me and thank me for trying to chant, correctly, Kṛṣṇa's names. Śrīla Prabhupāda would appreciate my innate nature and help me to put it in favor of Kṛṣṇa consciousness and my advancement.

Sometimes I justify my inability to be a devotee with this lack of self-respect. Then I degrade myself and turn away from Kṛṣṇa. And I remember...Śrīla Prabhupāda was very lonely and needy in the early days of this movement in the West. I have everything thanks to you and Śrīla Prabhupāda. Why do I feel so much contempt or worthlessness towards myself if I know that people like you and Śrīla Prabhupāda gave their lives to save us.

I have to love and save myself first and then I will appreciate and value your and Śrīla Prabhupāda's mission.

Thank you Gurudeva for reading my somewhat spontaneous and still mixed feelings offering. I am not pure in my comments but at least I know I want to be.

Blessings Gurudeva. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda and to you. Hare Kṛṣṇa



Hare Krisna Gurudeva!

*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhūtale
gurave citti-ceṣṭābhyāṃ mahātma-prabhava sadā
tat-prabhu-bhāva-rūpāya kīrtana-hlāda-dāyine namas
tattva-prakāśaya bhaktānāṃ tat-parāya ca*

Accept my humble and respectful obeisances! All glories to You and Śrīla Prabhupāda!

Happy Vyāsa-pūjā dear Gurudeva!

Thank you for making my japa better day by day! Thank you for making me a better person and devotee!

Thank you for loving me and sustaining me in this journey of growth! For accepting me in spite of my mistakes and calamities.....

Thank you for making me love myself more so I can love Kṛṣṇa more!

Thank you for making me feel valued in Kṛṣṇa consciousness; for giving me a place in Sri Kṛṣṇa's heart; a place in the Lord's house.

Thank you for teaching me how to have a dignified and healthy marriage; for guiding me towards healthy relationships....

Thank you for teaching me forgiveness and love.

Thank you, gurudeva, for dedicating your life to preach peace and goodness...

Thank you for helping so many people who were afflicted; doing a thorough job on our psychology. Thank you for your kirtans and your melodies.

I have so much to thank you Gurudeva. He gave me the opportunity to know who I am and where to go, to know how to live and also to die.



Uruguay

He hardly knows me and yet he takes the risk of carrying my karma. That is something I value very much from you. That is why, before taking initiation, I am striving to improve and become better.

I appreciate it very much, Gurudeva! I am very fortunate to have you Hare Kṛṣṇa

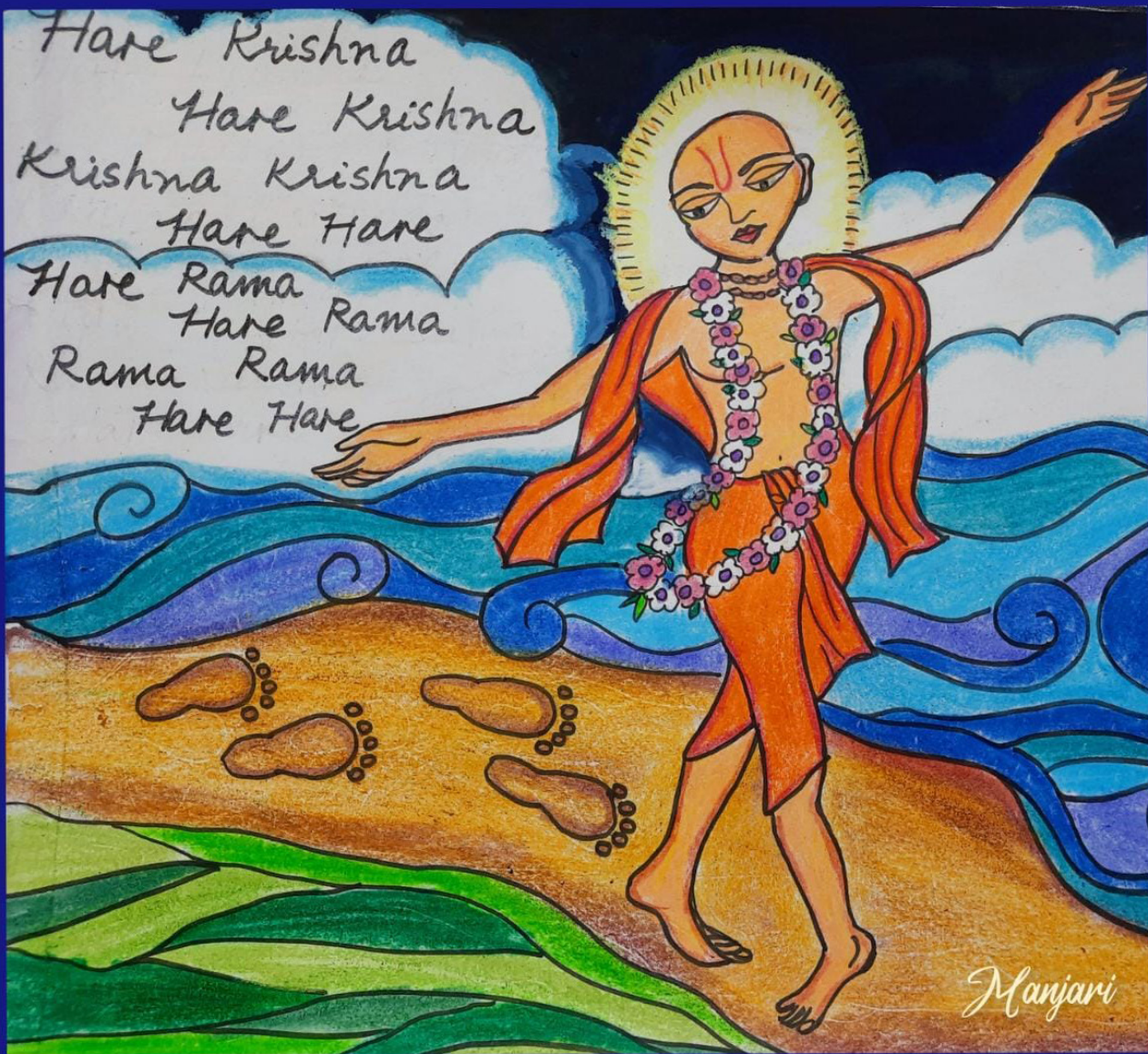
Sincerely,

Bhaktin Cristina Sanroman





Hare Krishna
Hare Krishna
Krishna Krishna
Hare Hare
Hare Rama
Hare Rama
Rama Rama
Hare Hare





Manjari



EIGHT PRAYERS TO THE GURU

Śrī Gurv-aṣṭaka

BY ŚRĪLA VIŚVANĀTHA CAKRAVARTĪ ṬHĀKURA





(1)

*saṁsāra-dāvānala-līḍha-lokatrāṇāya
kāruṇya-ghanāghanatvam
prāptasya kalyāṇa-guṇārṇavasya
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

TRANSLATION

The spiritual master is receiving benediction from the ocean of mercy. Just as a cloud pours water on a forest fire to extinguish it, so the spiritual master delivers the materially afflicted world by extinguishing the blazing fire of material existence. I offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual master, who is an ocean of auspicious qualities.



(2)

*mahāprabhoḥ kīrtana-nṛtya-gīta
vāditra-mādyan-manaso rasena
romāñca-kampāśru-taraṅga-bhājo
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

TRANSLATION

Chanting the holy name, dancing in ecstasy, singing, and playing musical instruments, the spiritual master is always gladdened by the sankirtana movement of Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu. Because he is relishing the mellows of pure devotion within his mind, sometimes his hair stands on end, he feels quivering in his body, and tears flow from his eyes like waves. I offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual master.



(3)

*śrī-vigrahārādhana-nitya-nānā
śṛṅgāra-tan-mandira-mārjanāda
yuktasya bhaktāṁś ca niyuñjato 'pi
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

TRANSLATION

The spiritual master is always engaged in the temple worship of Śrī Śrī Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa. He also engages his disciples in such worship. They dress the Deities in beautiful clothes and ornaments, clean Their temple, and perform other similar worship of the Lord. I offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual master.



(4)

*catur-vidha-śrī-bhagavat-prasāda
svādv-anna-tṛptān hari-bhakta-saṅghān
kṛtvaiva tṛptim bhajataḥ sadaiva
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

TRANSLATION

The spiritual master is always offering Kṛṣṇa four kinds of delicious food [analyzed as that which is licked, chewed, drunk, and sucked]. When the spiritual master sees that the devotees are satisfied by eating bhagavat-prasāda, he is satisfied. I offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual master.



(5)

*śrī-rādhikā-mādhavayor apāramādhurya-
līlā-guṇa-rūpa-nāmnām
prati-kṣaṇasvādana-lolupasya
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

TRANSLATION

The spiritual master is always eager to hear and chant about the unlimited conjugal pastimes of Rādhika and Mādhava, and Their qualities, names, and forms. The spiritual master aspires to relish these at every moment. I offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual master.



(6)

*nikuñja-yūno rati-keli-siddhyai
yā yālibhir yuktir apekṣaṇīyā
tatrāti-dākṣyād ati-vallabhasya
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

TRANSLATION

The spiritual master is very dear, because he is expert in assisting the gopis, who at different times make different tasteful arrangements for the perfection of Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa's conjugal loving affairs within the groves of Vṛndāvana. I offer my most humble obeisances unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual master.



(7)

*sākṣād-dharitvena samasta-śāstrair
uktas tathā bhāvyata eva sadbhiḥ
kintu prabhor yaḥ priya eva tasya
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

TRANSLATION

The spiritual master is to be honored as much as the Supreme Lord, because he is the most confidential servitor of the Lord. This is acknowledged in all revealed scriptures and followed by all authorities. Therefore I offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual master, who is a bona fide representative of Śrī Hari [Kṛṣṇa].



(8)

*yasya prasādād bhagavat-prasādo
yasyāprasādān na gatiḥ kuto 'pi
dhyāyan stuvaṁs tasya yaśas tri-sandhyam
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

TRANSLATION

By the mercy of the spiritual master one receives the benediction of Kṛṣṇa. Without the grace of the spiritual master, one cannot make any advancement. Therefore, I should always remember and praise the spiritual master. At least three times a day I should offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of my spiritual master.



