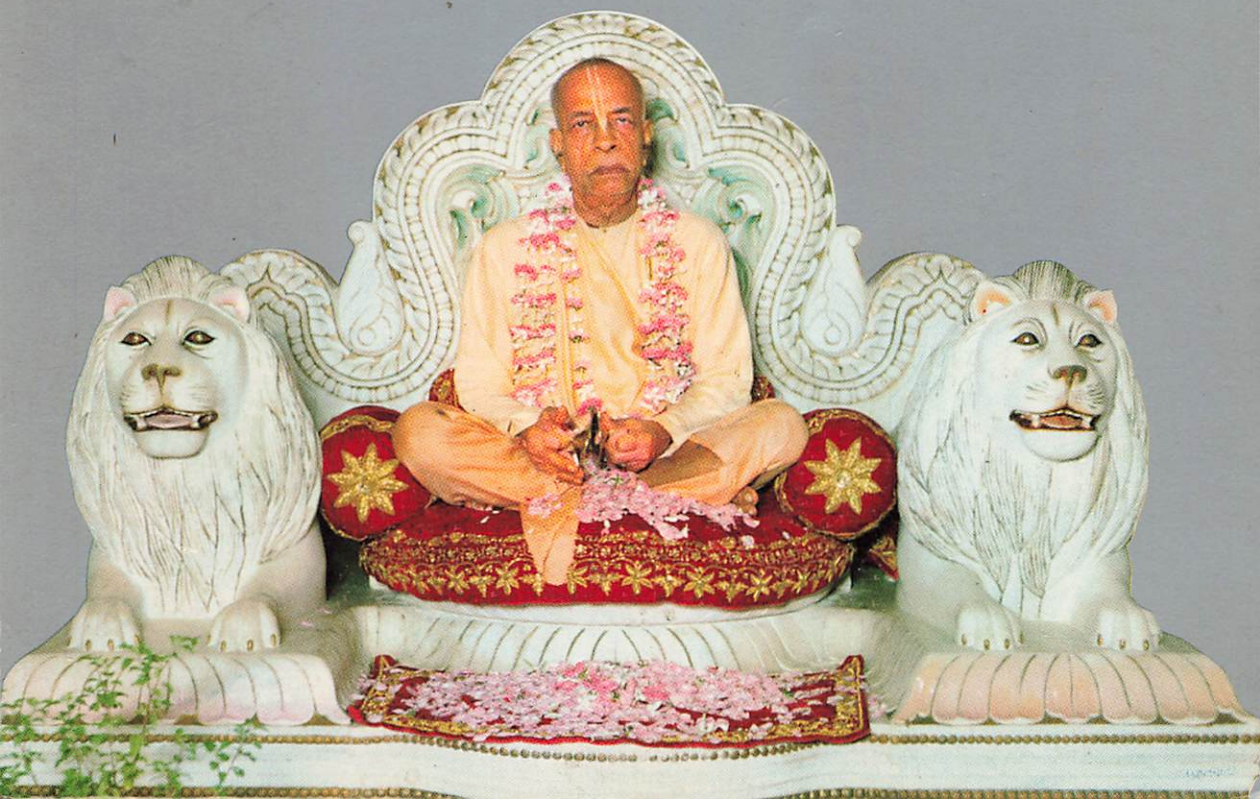


The Most Blessed Event
ŚRĪ VYĀSA-PŪJĀ

SEPTEMBER 7, 1977 THE APPEARANCE DAY OF OUR BELOVED SPIRITUAL MASTER

His Divine Grace
A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami
Prabhupāda

Founder-Ācārya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness



ŚRĪ VYĀSA~PŪJĀ

Śrī Vyāsa-pūjā
September 7, 1977
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THE BHAKTIVEDANTA BOOK TRUST
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THE MEANING OF VYĀSA-PŪJĀ

There is a secret to understanding Vedic knowledge:

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

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

If we at all want to follow the Vedic path to knowledge, we must observe the spiritual master’s appearance day with proper veneration. Vyāsa-pūjā is the special *pūjā* (worship) named after Vyāsa, the supreme authority on the Vedic literature, and offered to the spiritual master on his birthday.

As the empowered literary incarnation of Godhead, Vyāsa compiled all the *Vedas*, *Purāṇas*, *Upaniṣads*, and *Mahābhārata* on the instructions of Nārada, his spiritual master. Nārada learned the Vedic wisdom from Brahmā, who originally received it from the Supreme Lord Viṣṇu in his heart. The same transcendental knowledge comes in *paramparā*, the unbroken chain of disciplic succession, from Vyāsa through Madhva and others to Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu.

Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, the most munificent incarnation of Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa, transmitted the essence of Vedic knowledge by means of the Hare Kṛṣṇa *mahā-mantra*. As Lord Caitanya Himself explained to Prakāśānanda Sarasvatī:

*guru more mūrkhā dekhi' karila śāsana
mūrkhā tumi, tomāra nāhika vedāntādhikāra
'kṛṣṇa-mantra' japa sadā, — ei mantra-sāra*

“My spiritual master considered Me a fool, and therefore he chastised Me. ‘You are a fool,’ he said. ‘You are not qualified to study Vedānta philosophy, and therefore You must always chant the holy name of Kṛṣṇa. This is the essence of all *mantras* or Vedic hymns.’ ”

During the past century, Lord Caitanya’s pure representatives Śrīla Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura and Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura planted the seeds of a movement to spread the *mahā-mantra* all over the world. Those seeds have fructified in the form of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedānta Swami Prabhupāda, who has, in the past decade, initiated thousands of disciples from more than thirty countries in the chanting of Hare Kṛṣṇa.

Śrīla Prabhupāda is the most worthy recipient of Vyāsa-pūjā because only he has given Vyāsadeva’s literatures to so many without changing the meaning one iota. In fact, four hundred fifty years ago, the great *ācārya* Śrīla Vṛndāvana dāsa Ṭhākura wrote that in the future, representatives of Vyāsadeva would elaborately describe the pastimes of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, a statement later confirmed by Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura. By reading the publication of Śrīla Prabhupāda’s *Śrī-Caitanya-caritāmṛta*, we can understand that he is such a representative. Śrīla Prabhupāda’s books prompted one Indian scholar to write, “Upon seeing the work of Swami Bhaktivedānta, one is tempted to wonder whether he is not the same Vyāsa reborn to present his literatures in a universal language for modern man.”

Śrīla Prabhupāda, as your disciples, we are offering our very inadequate glorifications of you in the pages of this Ninth Annual ISKCON Vyāsa-pūjā book. We simply pray that you will find some pleasure in our meager efforts, for that is the actual meaning of Vyāsa-pūjā.



His Divine Grace Om Viṣṇupāda Paramahansa Parivrājakācārya Aṣṭottara-śata Śrī-Śrīmad
BHAKTISIDDHĀNTA SARASVATĪ GOSVĀMĪ MAHĀRĀJA PRABHUPĀDA

His Divine Grace Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī, the foremost devotee and scholar of the previous age, is the spiritual master of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedānta Swami Prabhupāda. He is the ocean of transcendental mercy and the bestower of devotional service upon the fallen souls. He is the deliverer of devotional service which is enriched with the conjugal love of Śrī Śrī Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa. He is the personified teachings of Lord Caitanya. Thus, he never tolerates any statements against the teachings of devotional service enunciated by Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī.

In 1936, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda delivered this poem as a Vyāsa-pūjā homage for His Divine Grace Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī.

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,
Lite up thy candle.
Struggle for existence
A human race.
The only hope
His Divine Grace.*
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.*
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.*

kali-kālera dharma — kṛṣṇa-nāma-saṅkīrtana
kṛṣṇa-śakti vinā nahe tāra pravartana

tāhā pravartāilā tumi, — ei ta 'pramāṇa'
kṛṣṇa-śakti dhara tumi, — ithe nāhi āna
(*Caitanya-caritāmṛta, Antya 7.11–12*)

THE WORLD TEACHER OF KṚṢṆA CONSCIOUSNESS

His Divine Grace

A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda

Founder-Ācārya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness

FULFILLING THE ORDERS of his own spiritual master and of Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda is enlightening the world in the science of *bhāgavata-dharma*—unalloyed devotional service to Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

Thousands of years ago, Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa descended in Bharata-varṣa—India—to impart the essence of Vedic knowledge: that the highest duty of every living being is to abandon all other engagements and surrender unto Him. Later, nearly five hundred years ago, Kṛṣṇa appeared in India again, as Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, to demonstrate, by His own example, how to surrender to Kṛṣṇa and how to love Kṛṣṇa. This mission of Lord Caitanya's was firmly established—on an unshakable foundation of Vedic evidence—by Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī Prabhupāda. Within recent history, this mission was preserved and enriched by Śrīla Bhaktivinoda Tṭhākura and Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī Mahārāja Prabhupāda. Now, by the infallible desire of Lord Kṛṣṇa and His representative *ācāryas* in the disciplic succession, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, the Founder-Ācārya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness, has carried this eternal mission beyond the borders of India and is establishing it around the world.

Those who have lost their vision because of the dense darkness of this age of Kali can receive light from His Divine Grace.



AS *ĀCĀRYA*, Śrīla Prabhupāda has shown his disciples—and the world—what it is to dedicate oneself fully to preaching the message of Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Heedless of personal comfort, His Divine Grace endeavors unceasingly to bestow Kṛṣṇa's mercy upon the fallen souls of this age. In his compassion, he is immersed in the mood of Prahlāda Mahārāja, who prayed to Lord Nṛsiṃhadeva:

*naivodvije para duratyaya-vaitaraṇyās
tvad-vīrya-gāyana-mahāmṛta-magna-cittaḥ*

*His Divine Grace
preaching at a
Hare Kṛṣṇa festival
in Hyderabad, India*



*śoce tato vimukha-cetasa indriyārtha-
māyā-sukhāya bharam udvahato vimūḍhān*

“O best of the great personalities, I am not at all afraid of material existence, for wherever I stay I am fully absorbed in thoughts of Your glories and activities. My concern is only for the fools and rascals who are making elaborate plans for material happiness and maintaining their families, societies and countries. I am simply concerned with love for them.”



Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu declared:

*pr̥thivīte āche yata nagarādi grāma
sarvatra pracāra haibe mora nāma*

“IN AS MANY villages and towns as there are on the surface of the world,
My name will be known.”

To fulfill Lord Caitanya’s prediction, Śrīla Prabhupāda has established more than one hundred centers of the *saṅkīrtana* movement—each with affiliated traveling parties—to spread Kṛṣṇa’s glories throughout the world.

*Disciples of Śrīla Prabhupāda
chant Hare Kṛṣṇa beneath
the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France.*





The Jagannātha Ratha-yātrā Festival in Trafalgar Square, London.

FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS in India, people have celebrated Kṛṣṇa as the Supreme Godhead, the Lord of the universe. Now, by the mercy of Śrīla Prabhupāda, hundreds and thousands of people celebrate the glories of Lord Jagannātha in cities all over the world. Śrīla Prabhupāda is teaching the whole world how all living beings can live together as one in harmony and joy—by serving the Lord of the universe.



Śrīla Prabhupāda's disciples have begun manufacturing their own mṛdaṅgas, to keep up with an ever-expanding demand from centers of the saṅkīrtana movement all over the world.

*The annual
Jagannātha
Ratha-yātrā Festival
amidst the
skyscrapers on
New York City's
Fifth Avenue.*



Members of Śrīla Prabhupāda's Vedic Ensemble for the Dramatic Arts (VEDA) enact the pastime of Śrī Kṛṣṇa's being bound with ropes by mother Yaśodā.

ŚRĪLA PRABHUPĀDA is presenting a cultural movement for the respiritualization of all human society. Music, dance, theater, cinema—all have value when glorifying Kṛṣṇa only. Presented under Śrīla Prabhupāda's expert transcendental guidance, India's imperishable heritage of genuine spiritual culture is being appreciated throughout the world, not just as exotic entertainment but as a profoundly meaningful way to understand and approach the Supreme Personality of Godhead. In a few months, Bombay will witness the opening of ISKCON's Center for Vedic Knowledge and Culture, which will include a Vedic temple, a 450-seat theater, a recording studio, a library, a *prasāda* restaurant, dioramas, and a comfortable 8-story International Guest House. This will be yet another of Śrīla Prabhupāda's great contributions to the cultural life of India, and of the world.



Śrīla Prabhupāda's disciples of ISKCON Cinema use the latest film technology to present the eternal message of Kṛṣṇa consciousness.



Artists at Śrīla Prabhupāda's First American Theistic Exhibition prepare a statue of Garuḍa, Lord Viṣṇu's winged carrier.



IN INDIA, Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura staged transcendental theistic exhibitions, using dioramas to illustrate the ideas and events recorded in the Vedic literature. Following in the footsteps of Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedānta Swami Prabhupāda has commissioned his disciples to stage similar presentations in the West. Śrīla Prabhupāda's First American Theistic Exhibition (F.A.T.E.) uses not only traditional figures formed of straw and clay, but also sophisticated computer-controlled audiovisual effects.

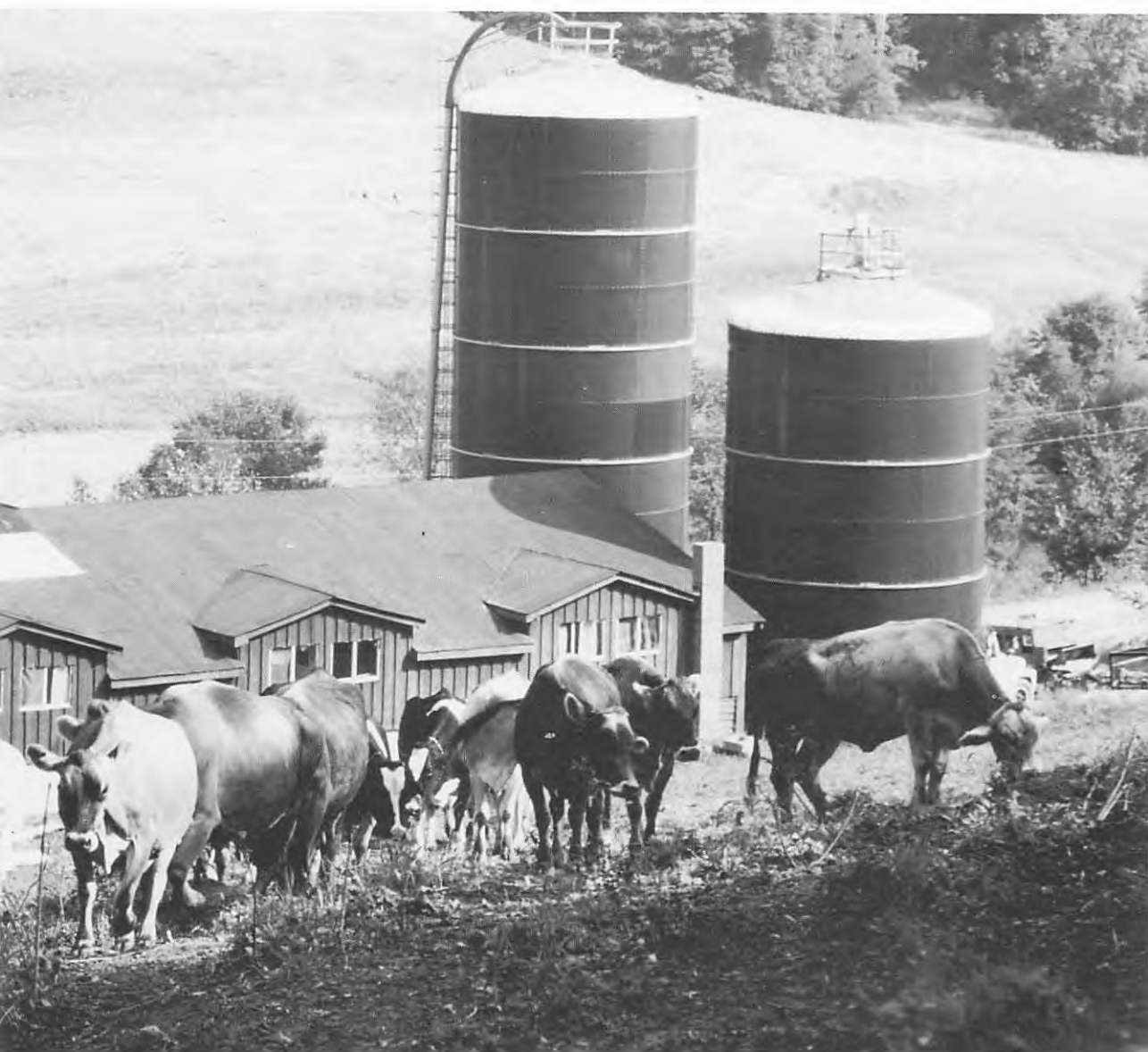
Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa's universal form, as revealed to Arjuna in the Bhagavad-gītā, is here portrayed by Śrīla Prabhupāda's First American Theistic Exhibition.



TO DEMONSTRATE the practical value of "simple living and high thinking," Śrīla Prabhupāda has established twelve Kṛṣṇa conscious farm communities in North America, South America, Europe, Australia and India. By protecting cows, growing crops and, in all activities, worshipping Kṛṣṇa, Śrīla Prabhupāda's disciples in these communities are illustrating the simple Vedic way to solve all economic problems and ultimately return home, back to Godhead, thus attaining the perfection of human life.

Cows graze undisturbed at New Vrindaban, Śrīla Prabhupāda's farm community in West Virginia.







Śrīla Prabhupāda's Gurukula children at play in Dallas, Texas.

*kaumāra ācaret prājño
dharmān bhāgavatān iha
durlabhaṁ mānuṣaṁ janma
tad apy adhruvaṁ arthadam
(Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 7.6.1)*

RECOGNIZING that nowhere in the world are there schools where children may be trained in the high Vedic standards of purity, sense control, and Kṛṣṇa consciousness, Śrīla Prabhupāda has reintroduced the old Vedic system of education—the Gurukula system—by which children are not only materially educated but also spiritually trained so that they may attain the highest perfection of life. Aside from small ISKCON Gurukula schools throughout the world, Śrīla Prabhupāda has now established the large, fully equipped Bhaktivedanta Gurukula in the holy city of Vṛndāvana for the children of ISKCON devotees and life members.

*Young Indian and Western devotees attend Gurukula at Śrīla Prabhupāda's
Māyāpur temple complex.*



ŚRĪLA PRABHUPĀDA is presenting the message of Kṛṣṇa consciousness so convincingly and scientifically that even scientists have stepped forward to become his disciples. Some of these scientists have formed the Bhaktivedanta Institute, an educational society of Ph.D.'s dedicated to presenting the Vedic scientific understanding to the general scientific community through disciplines such as physics, chemistry, biology and mathematics. Speakers from the Institute travel widely, and this fall the Institute is sponsoring in Vṛndāvana a scientific convention on the subject "Life Comes from Life." Among the scientific monographs published by the Institute is *Demonstration by Information Theory that Life Cannot Arise from Matter* by Sadāpūta dāsa adbhikārī (Richard Thompson, Ph.D.), one of Śrīla Prabhupāda's disciples.



HIS DIVINE GRACE Śrīla Prabhupāda has established one hundred three temples of Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa in thirty-six countries in North America, South America, Europe, Australia, Africa and Asia.

Each temple holds regularly scheduled worship of the Deity, sponsors *kīrtana*, distribution of *prasāda*, and classes in *Bhagavad-gītā* and *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* for the general public, and provides living facilities for devotees and guests. In short, the temples are like oases in the desert of *māyā*. And, most important, each temple is a preaching center from which Śrīla Prabhupāda's disciples go out to chant the glories of Kṛṣṇa and distribute Kṛṣṇa consciousness literature, following in the footsteps of their spiritual master.

Bhaktivedanta Manor, ISKCON's temple in the countryside near London. The Society also has a temple in the heart of London itself. On festival days like Janmāṣṭamī and Govardhana-pūjā, as many as ten thousand people may attend celebrations at Bhaktivedanta Manor.



ISKCON Centers Around the World

Africa: Natal, S. Africa • Mombasa, Kenya, E. Africa • Nairobi, Kenya, E. Africa • Port Louis, Mauritius

Asia: Ahmedabad, India • Bhuvaneśvara, India • Bombay, India • Calcutta, India • Chandigarh, India • Hong Kong • Hyderabad, India • Jakarta, Indonesia • Madras, India • Māyāpur, India • New Delhi, India • Śrī Laṅkā • Tehran, Iran • Tokyo, Japan • Vṛndāvana, India • **Farms:** Māyāpur, India

Europe: Amsterdam, Holland • Barcelona, Spain • Dublin, Ireland • Frankfurt A. Main, W. Germany • Geneva, Switzerland • London, England (city) • London, England (country) • Paris, France • Rome, Italy • Stockholm, Sweden • **Farms:** Indre, France • London, England

Latin America: Bogotá, Colombia • Caracas, Venezuela • Ciudad Bolívar, Venezuela • Georgetown, Guyana • Guadalajara, Mexico • Guatemala City, Guatemala • Guayaquil, Ecuador • Lima, Peru • Mexico City, Mexico • Rio de Janeiro, Brazil • San Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago • San Juan, Puerto Rico • San Pedro, Costa Rica • Santiago, Chile • Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic • Sao Paulo, CEP, Brazil • Valencia, Venezuela • **Farms:** Costa Rica (New Virajā) • Petropolis, Brazil

South Seas: Adelaide, S. Australia • Alexandria, Australia • Auckland, New Zealand • Lautoka, Fiji • Melbourne, Australia • **Farms:** Murwillambah, Australia (New Govardhana)

United States and Canada: Amherst, Massachusetts • Ann Arbor, Michigan • Atlanta, Georgia • Baltimore, Maryland • Berkeley, California • Bloomington, Indiana • Boston, Massachusetts • Buffalo, New York • Charlotte, North Carolina • Chicago, Illinois • Cincinnati, Ohio • Cleveland, Ohio • Dallas, Texas • Denver, Colorado • Detroit, Michigan • Durham, North Carolina • Gainesville, Florida • Honolulu, Hawaii • Houston, Texas • Indianapolis, Indiana • Kansas City, Kansas • Laguna Beach, California • Las Vegas, Nevada • Los Angeles, California • Louisville, Kentucky • Memphis, Tennessee • Miami, Florida • Milwaukee, Wisconsin • Minneapolis, Minnesota • Montreal, Quebec, Canada • New Orleans, Louisiana • New York, New York • Ottawa, Ontario, Canada • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania • Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania • Portland, Oregon • Rādhā-Dāmodara travelling temples • Salt Lake City, Utah • St. Louis, Missouri • San Diego, California • Seattle, Washington • Toronto, Ontario, Canada • Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada • Washington, D.C. • **Farms:** Buffalo, New York • Carriere, Mississippi • Dixon, Missouri (New Godruma) • Moundsville, West Virginia (New Vrindaban) • Mulberry, Tennessee (Murāri-sevaka) • Port Royal, Pennsylvania (New Varṣaṇa)



Above: Vestibule in Devasādhana Mandira, Śrīla Prabhupāda's Detroit temple. Right: In the heart of New York City, Śrīla Prabhupāda's Hare Kṛṣṇa Center. Below: One of Śrīla Prabhupāda's German disciples chants quietly on the lawn of ISKCON's temple near Frankfurt, W. Germany.





*From Their golden throne, Śrī Śrī
Rukmiṇī-Dvārakādhiṣa preside over New
Dvārakā, Śrīla Prabhupāda's temple in
Los Angeles.*

IN EACH of ISKCON's temples, Śrīla Prabhupāda has established the Deity of the Lord, who is duly worshiped according to *pāñcarātrikī* regulations by initiated *brāhmaṇas* among Śrīla Prabhupāda's disciples. From 4 A.M. to 10 P.M., Śrīla Prabhupāda's disciples are engaged in rendering different kinds of service to the Deity. Śrīla Prabhupāda has given a summary study of Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī's *Bhakti-rasāmṛta-sindhu* entitled *The Nectar of Devotion* to guide his disciples in the basic principles for worshiping the Deity.



Śrīla Prabhupāda offers āraṭrika to Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa at Bhaktivedanta Manor.



IN ADDITION to establishing temples in cities throughout the world, Śrīla Prabhupāda has also inspired his disciples to travel from city to city, town to town, taking the Deity of the Lord with them, to preach the message of Kṛṣṇa everywhere.

Greyhound buses with specially redesigned interiors act as traveling temples, carrying Deities, devotees, and literature about Kṛṣṇa throughout the United States.





One of Śrīla Prabhupāda's sannyāsi disciples offers ārātrika at an abhiṣeka ceremony for Deities to be installed in Śrīla Prabhupāda's traveling temples.



*Model for "The Vedic Planetarium
and Temple of Understanding."*



AMONG ŚRĪLA PRABHUPĀDA'S most important contributions are the International Centers he has established in holy cities of India so that visitors from around the world may go there to learn about the spiritual culture of India's Vedic heritage. In Vṛndāvana, where Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa performed His youthful pastimes five thousand years ago, His Divine Grace has established the Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma temple and International Guesthouse, already a place of pilgrimage for visitors both from India and from abroad. Recognizing that Śrīla Prabhupāda is making Kṛṣṇa and Vṛndāvana known all over the world, the Vṛndāvana city fathers have renamed the main road entering Vṛndāvana from Delhi "Bhaktivedanta Swami Marg" in his honor.

In Śrīdhāma Māyāpur, the birthplace of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, the already completed guesthouse, temple and residence buildings mark the initial stages of what is planned to be an entire Kṛṣṇa conscious city. When completed, "The Vedic Planetarium and Temple of Understanding," in the center of the city, will be the largest temple and cultural center in India.



Śrīla Prabhupāda's Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma temple in Vṛndāvana. The International Guesthouse stands behind the temple. To the temple's right, not visible in the picture, is the Bhaktivedanta Gurukula.

Śrīla Prabhupāda and international disciples at Śrī Māyāpur Candrodaya Mandira, ISKCON's presently existing temple and guesthouse at the birthplace of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu.



UNDOUBTEDLY Śrīla Prabhupāda's greatest contribution to the spiritual welfare of humanity are his books—nearly seventy volumes of commentaries upon and translations and summary studies of India's immortal Vedic scriptures. Śrīla Prabhupāda's books have now been translated into twenty-six different languages.

Śrīla Prabhupāda's books are unique because they present the message of the Vedic literature *as it is*, without personally motivated interpretations. Thus, for the first time, the true glory of Vedic knowledge and culture is being recognized throughout the world.

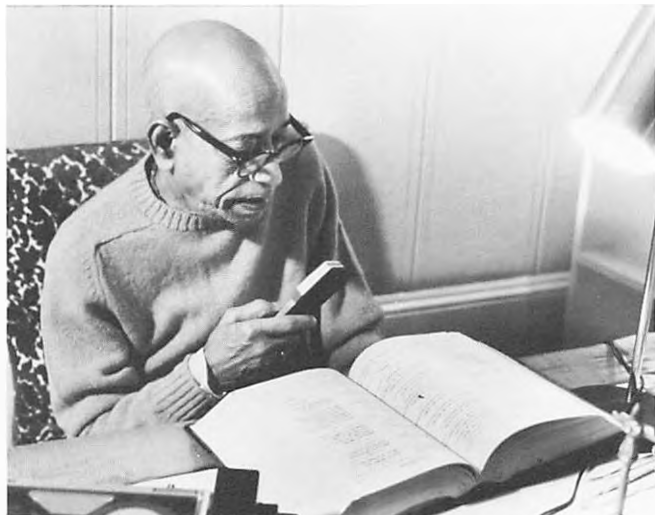
More than fifty-five million copies of Śrīla Prabhupāda's books are now in print. The English edition of *Bhagavad-gītā As It Is*, now in its third printing, has already surpassed two and one-quarter million copies.

More than twenty-five hundred college professors and university and public libraries have placed standing orders for full sets of Śrīla Prabhupāda's books, twelve hundred of these orders from India alone. More than ninety percent of all the college and university libraries in the United States have ordered Śrīla Prabhupāda's books.

The spiritual benefit that accrues to the reader from Śrīla Prabhupāda's books cannot even be estimated. But the appreciation that has poured in from the scholarly world can be at least partially understood from the following sample of reviews.

“Scholarship and religious devotion are joined in this work on the life of Caitanya. . . . The present work is a monumental, seventeen-volume translation of and commentary on *Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta*. . . .

*His Divine Grace
translating from the original
Vedic texts.*





While many of the comments are short, some are fairly long (three to seven pages) and could stand alone as essays. The description of the abode of Kṛṣṇa, Vaikuṇṭha, is a beautifully written essay. . . . The English style is excellent. . . . The set will be a valuable addition to upper-division undergraduate and graduate libraries.”

—April 1977 *Choice Magazine*
(World’s Leading Academic Librarians’ Journal)

“I have now read considerable parts [of *Bhagavad-gītā As It Is*]. As a human being I cannot but applaud the fact that your movement is bringing faith and joy back into the lives of many unhappy young people who have not been able to find those virtues in the religion and culture in which they were raised, and I wish you success in the good work you are doing.”

Yours sincerely,
A.L. Basham
Professor and Head of the Department of Asian Civilizations
The Australian National University

“We are well aware of the scholarly reputation of the works on Vedic and Bhaktic literature published by the Bhaktivedanta Book Trust, particularly the translations and commentaries, and feel that they meet, without doubt, the requirements of our Academy library, which have to do, above all, with authenticity. Our students are all deeply involved in comparative philosophical and religious studies, and have need of works which are not only of the highest scholarly standards, but also represent the traditions themselves, rather than only scholarly opinion about traditions. From this point of view, we . . . find the Bhaktivedanta publications of great value.”

Peter Lamborn Wilson, Librarian
Imperial Iranian Academy of Philosophy

“The appearance of an English translation of Kṛṣṇadāsa Kavirāja Gosvāmī’s *Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta* by A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami is a cause for celebration among both scholars in Indian studies and lay people seeking to enrich their knowledge of Indian spirituality . . . it will fill a most serious lacuna in our libraries and in our courses of the religious traditions of India.

“For the first time we possess a readily accessible edition of this great religious classic that will provide opportunity for scholars in Indian literature to compare the original text with a modern English translation

**Books by His Divine Grace
A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda**

Bhagavad-gītā As It Is • Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, Cantos 1–10 (50 Vols.) • Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta (17 Vols.) • Teachings of Lord Caitanya • The Nectar of Devotion • The Nectar of Instruction • Śrī Īśopaniṣad • Easy Journey to Other Planets • Kṛṣṇa Consciousness: The Topmost Yoga System • Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead (3 Vols.) • Perfect Questions, Perfect Answers • Dialectical Spiritualism—A Vedic View of Western Philosophy • Teachings of Lord Kapila, the Son of Devahūti • Transcendental Teachings of Prahlād Mahārāja • Kṛṣṇa, the Reservoir of Pleasure • Life Comes from Life • The Perfection of Yoga • Beyond Birth and Death • On the Way to Kṛṣṇa • Geetār-gan (Bengali) • Rāja-vidyā: The King of Knowledge • Elevation to Kṛṣṇa Consciousness • Kṛṣṇa Consciousness: The Matchless Gift • Back to Godhead Magazine (Founder) •

and become acquainted with the deeper spiritual meanings of this work through the learned commentary of Śrī Bhaktivedanta.

“Anyone who bothers to give a close reading to the commentary will sense that here, as in his other works, Śrī Bhaktivedanta has combined a healthy mixture of the fervent devotion and aesthetic sensitivity of a devotee and the intellectual rigor of a textual scholar. At no point does he allow the intended meaning of the text to be eclipsed by the promotion of a particular doctrinal persuasion.

“This exquisitely wrought volume will be a welcome edition to the library of all persons who are committed to the study of Indian spirituality and religious literature, whether their interests are sparked by the motivations of the scholar, the devotee or the general reader.”

Dr. J. Bruce Long
Professor of Asian Studies
Cornell University



Śrīla Prabhupāda's Bhaktivedanta Book Trust now resides in a new Los Angeles warehouse and office facility.

“It has been a great pleasure to read over *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* which is very elaborate, very precise, and very succinct. *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* by Swami Prabhupāda is an excellent presentation to the non-Sanskritic English-knowing population of the entire world. Problems dealing with Sanskritic works are manifold. First of all, the linguistic peculiarities of Sanskrit make the students feel frustrated. Secondly comes the ethnic or cultural background which is solely responsible for the selection of exact semantic content. Thirdly, the context in which the given *śloka* is to be comprehended. Swami Prabhupādajī has solved all these problems simultaneously in this treatise by providing the transliteration, the word-translation, the free-translation, and the purport of every stanza. This book is extremely useful for those who are interested in History, Philosophy, Politics, Linguistics, Religion, Sociology, etc. of ancient India. I highly recommend this book for all the public libraries. Also this can be used as an undergraduate text for certain courses on Philosophy and/or Religion of India. I wish Swami Prabhupādajī will bring forth treatises like this for the entire *Bhāgavatam* as well as other eminent Sanskrit works. Undoubtedly, this work of Swamiji's is a great contribution to the troubled human society of today's world.”

Dr. Sooda L. Bhatt
Assistant Professor
Boston University
Boston, Mass.

“Of all the commentaries on *Bhagavad-gītā* that have appeared until now in the Western countries, this present edition by Śrī A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda is the best. In order to appreciate his success in presenting to the West the authorized edition of *Bhagavad-gītā* it is necessary to understand the significance or importance of Lord Kṛṣṇa, the original author. In the Vedic literature of India, Viṣṇu is considered to be the Supreme Being by whose power there is order and stability in nature and who is worshipped with a spirit of love and devotion, in other words, *bhakti*, and it is understood that from time to time He incarnates, either totally or partially, with the aim of helping humanity. Lord Kṛṣṇa is the original and complete form of Viṣṇu. I am very excited to see this publication in Spanish of *Bhagavad-gītā As It Is* by Śrī A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda. Śrīla Prabhupāda was brought up from his very birth in the strict practice of *bhakti-yoga* and he descends from a line of *gurus* which goes back to the original speaking of *Bhagavad-gītā* by Śrī Kṛṣṇa. Here Śrīla Prabhupāda’s knowledge of Sanskrit is surprising and without parallel. His penetration into the meaning of the text only corresponds to a fully illuminated or fully realized soul who has in fact understood perfectly the meaning of *Bhagavad-gītā*. I personally intend to use it, this book, in the courses that I direct or teach on the language, culture and philosophy of India or those which I am teaching by invitation of the Mexican Government. This authorized edition of *Bhagavad-gītā* will serve a double purpose in the countries of Spanish language: 1. It will help to stop the terrible cheating of *gurus* and *yogīs* who are false and unauthorized and 2. it will be an opportunity for the people who speak Spanish to understand the precise meaning or significance of Oriental culture.”

Dr. Kailash Vajpeye
Dept. Oriental Studies
University College of Mexico
Mexico City

“A strange feature of the modern world is that in spite of vast advances in science and technology and the establishment of a good number of institutions for human welfare, mankind has not found true peace and happiness. Knowledge of material sciences and arts has increased tremendously in recent times and millions of volumes on each fill the libraries the world over. People and leaders in every country are generally well-versed in these arts and sciences, but despite their efforts human society everywhere continues to be in turmoil and distress.

“The reason is not far to seek. It is that they have not learnt the Science of God, the most fundamental of every other art and science, and cared to apply it to the facts of life. The need of the hour is therefore to do it, if mankind is not only to survive but flower into a glorious existence.

“To teach this Science of God to people everywhere and to aid them in their progress and development towards the real goal of life, *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* is the most eminently fitted. In fact, this great and ancient work of Vyāsa will fill this need of the modern times, for ‘it is a cultural presentation for the re-spiritualization of the entire human society.’

“His Divine Grace Śrīla A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, the Founder-*Ācārya* of the ISKCON movement has taken upon himself, in addition to his ceaseless travels and other multifarious activities in the service of the Lord, the stupendous task of translating this Sanskrit work into English in about sixty volumes, for the welfare and happiness of mankind. It is really astonishing how he is able to do this single-handed, and when one comes to think of this, apart from his other great literary works, one is tempted to wonder if he is not the same Vyāsa Muni reborn today to adapt his own old work into a universal language of this age for the spiritual uplift of the modern man.

“So far, eight volumes of this most beautiful literature on God have been brought out by the ISKCON, and the rest are under preparation. Needless to say that in keeping with the excellence of their other publications, the publishers have seen to it that the printing, get-up and pictures in these volumes are also of the highest quality, as though to serve as an ornament to the divine contents of the books.

“This is a rare opportunity to people and leaders of every country, race and community in the world to know and understand the glorious Science of God and work for its perfection. I would say that this encyclopedia of spiritual knowledge is more important and fundamental than the encyclopedia of any other branch of knowledge and should, therefore, find a rightful place not only in the public and private libraries, big and small, of educational and other institutions as also of every household, but above all in the hearts and minds of every man and woman.”

Śrī R. Subrahmanyam, M.A.
Deputy Director (Research)
Lok Sabha Secretariat (National Parliament)
New Delhi

“It is a great honor for me to have the pleasure of examining the publications of the Bhaktivedanta Book Trust. I find all of them to be of exceptional value for use in educational institutions and libraries. Particularly the ancient classic *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* I recommend to all students and readers in Indian philosophy and culture. The original text is presented, along with roman transliteration, word-for-word synonyms, accurate translation and extremely lucid commentary and exposition. It

ISKCON
International Book Production Ratings
(As of March 6, 1977)

1. English	43,450,500 Copies in Print
2. Spanish	2,947,000 Copies in Print
3. German	2,125,500 Copies in Print
4. Japanese	2,125,000 Copies in Print
5. French	1,670,000 Copies in Print
6. Portuguese	835,000 Copies in Print
7. Dutch	593,000 Copies in Print
8. Italian	448,000 Copies in Print
9. Hindi	315,000 Copies in Print
10. Bengali	305,000 Copies in Print
11. Swedish	300,000 Copies in Print
12. Telugu	115,000 Copies in Print
13. Swahili	110,000 Copies in Print
14. Gujarati	90,000 Copies in Print
15. Danish	60,000 Copies in Print
16. Chinese	55,000 Copies in Print
17. Marathi	25,000 Copies in Print
18. Korean	20,000 Copies in Print
19. Yugoslavian	20,000 Copies in Print
20. Oriya	20,000 Copies in Print
21. Polish	10,000 Copies in Print
22. Hungarian	10,000 Copies in Print
23. Czechoslovakian	10,000 Copies in Print
24. Tamil	10,000 Copies in Print
25. Russian	5,000 Copies in Print
26. Arabic	1,000 Copies in Print

Total International Production of the Books of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda	55,675,000 Copies in Print
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is a remarkable work, and definitely a landmark in the matter of elevating humanity toward world unification and divine consciousness.

“The learned author, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, is a world-renowned saint and savant in the field of Vedic philosophy and its practical application in the modern world, where he has opened over a hundred spiritual *āśramas* for the study and cultivation of Vedic knowledge. Factually, he is unequalled in his efforts to establish the Vedic way of life, *sanātana-dharma*, in all countries of the world.

“Certainly I am most grateful that this message of the *Bhāgavata* is being spread for the benefit of the world by such a qualified personality as Swami Bhaktivedanta.”

Dr. Kalia, President
Indian Library Association

“I consider as one of my greatest spiritual thrills that I had through a physical *darśana* (look) of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda on the 30th of March 1976 for the first time.

“I had the rare privilege to see with my own eyes the very embodiment of Kṛṣṇa consciousness, the be-all and end-all of all beings.

“Śrī Swami Prabhupāda has established the International Society for Kṛṣṇa Consciousness, which is spread in the 108 cities around the world. All the members of ISKCON are pure *brāhmaṇas* and Vaiṣṇavas, initiated in the most austere *sādhana* recommended by the greatest Gosvāmīs of Vṇḍāvana, Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī, the author of *Bhakti-rasāmṛta-sindhu* and Śrī Sanātana Gosvāmī, the author of *Hari-bhakti-vilāsa* and many other works.

“I had earlier known Śrīla Prabhupāda through his enormous works on *kṛṣṇa-bhakti*, the nucleus of all Indian Vedic spiritual literature. To name a few of them, the *Bhagavad-gītā As It Is*, *The Nectar of Devotion*, *Kṛṣṇa* (3 vols.), *Teachings of Lord Caitanya*, the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, *Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta* and the commentary on *Śrī Īsopaniṣad* will suffice.

“It is noteworthy to mention that the *Īsopaniṣad Bhāṣya* is the greatest contribution of Śrīla Prabhupāda as it completely refutes the Māyāvāda arguments of Śaṅkarācārya. This book is a treasure to be possessed by every Western scholar.

“Words fail me to describe the height of scholarship and devotion manifested in the volumes mentioned above. Our future generations and the posterity will definitely find a better world to live in through the efforts of Śrīla Prabhupāda as he stands for the feelings of International Brotherhood and spiritual integration of all mankind which is the backbone of the Vedic *sanātana-dharma* of India. The literary world outside India, particularly the Westerners, should be highly indebted to him, who has so scientifically acquainted them with what is best in Kṛṣṇa conscious India.

“I may be permitted to recommend to all scholars, professors and other Dharmācāryas the great importance and contribution of the books of Śrī Swami Prabhupāda.”

Śrī Viswanath Sukla, Ph.D.
Reader, Dept. of Hindi. M.U.

“The *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* is widely acclaimed as the Bible of Devotion *par excellence*. His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, who has been the messenger of the Gospel of God-devotion abroad, has brought out an exquisite edition of the *Bhāgavatam* with an English translation and explanation. The translator brings the spirit of the text, and the explanation is lucid. Going through the Third Canto, part four, which the Publishers have sent me, I find that the reader can get the utmost benefit from this publication. The perfume of divine love exudes from every page. The format, the get-up, the illustrations, are all pleasing to the eye as well as to the mind.”

Dr. T.M.P. Mahadevan
Centre of Advanced Study of Philosophy
University of Madras
Madras

“The *Bhagavad-gītā* is no doubt the most important and the best known work in the whole of the Indian literature. The magnificence of its spiritual concepts and the sublimity of its thinking has secured it a great popularity everywhere, as an easily intelligible presentation of the Divine. The *Gītā* has been edited, translated and commented countless times. The meaning of the text is, at least in its main lines, obvious and clear. The justification of a new interpretation is therefore, in my opinion, dependent on the message conveyed by the commentary.

“The translator and commentator Swami Bhaktivedanta represents the Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇava School and thus interprets the message of the *Gītā* ‘from the inside.’ While Śaṅkara in Canto 5.12 interprets the plurality of the beings enumerated to be only conventional, and according to the Māyāvādīs the individuals after liberation merge into the impersonal Brahman, Swami Bhaktivedanta states that Kṛṣṇa here authoritatively emphasizes the eternity of the individuality. The transcendental form of God can be immediately experienced by a person who is duly prepared, as it is told in Canto 11. Just these two points are, I think, the reason for the interest in the *Gītā* among persons with a searching spirit. Swami Bhaktivedanta’s translation and commentary do deliver this message very convincingly indeed.”

Pentti Aalto
Dept. of Asian and African Studies
University of Helsinki
Helsinki, Finland

REVIEWING the multitude of gifts that Śrīla Prabhupāda has given to us—his disciples—and to the world, we must conclude that no one has done more to glorify India, no one has done more to glorify Vedic culture, and no one has done more to glorify Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa in the modern age than our divine master, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhakti-vedanta Swami Prabhupāda.

We offer our respectful obeisances millions of times at his lotus feet.



VYĀSA~PUJĀ HOMAGES FROM THE G.B.C.



Each new *śloka* of *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* adds endlessly to my distress, knowing that the completion of this monumental task will bring your divine mission to its close, and leave me a hopeless, stubborn, wretched and fallen orphan. Soon you will no longer be there, in New York, Tehran or Māyāpur, to interject your causeless mercy into my darkened days. I fear that day when my parched dry heart will no longer receive your loving, compassionate showers, which are beyond all reason, logic and cause.

Due to this thought, a dark black cloud surrounds my whole existence and sinks me into a pit of abysmal depression. My whole life becomes meaningless, and the will to continue forsakes me. It is only then that the reality of this painful concern forces me to seek solace in the knowledge and realization you have so generously given me. A ray of hope enters my heart, and the voice of intelligence speaks thus to my weakened will:

“Your Father has entrusted upon you Matchless Gifts, which will safeguard you and even lead you back to your eternal abode.”

As a neophyte I see your gifts as your words and your movement. Your words consist of philosophy, claims and instructions.

Your PHILOSOPHY is simple, yet it includes all the past *ācāryas*, religions and philosophies. It goes like this: Śrī Kṛṣṇa is the ultimate goal and the undiscovered pleasure in every object of desire. He is Govinda, the pleasure giver.

You say:

“She can not be that ultimate.	This can not reach that ultimate.
He can not have that ultimate.	Kṛṣṇa says that He is the ultimate in
It can not give that ultimate.	everything.”
That can not bring that ultimate.	

Your CLAIM is very serious: Only those who follow YOUR instructions will reach that ultimate.

And your INSTRUCTIONS are the most straightforward. They cover every move, every act and every thought. Without doubt, with full authority and gravity, you repeatedly tell us: Together serve Kṛṣṇa unceasingly.

And this is the birth of your MOVEMENT—ISKCON. It is a precious gift, a golden carriage to carry on your words. It is your divine body, it is devotional service, it is Kṛṣṇa personified in this day on this planet. It is the path, the gate, and the home. In it you and your words will live eternally, and by it every living entity can reach his eternal abode.

Your final word to all of us is: simply cooperate, stick together, serve together. Particularly those of us you have entrusted with responsibility for managing (among whom I am one) should realize the full, practical meaning of cooperation and be faithful to your words in order to lead and teach leadership to others.



I see us far from this realization, but due to your mercy I have some faith. Faith in the spiritual miracles happening each day, in the consciousness of my Godbrothers, and that of my own. I also realize that I have to begin from myself, here and now, at the lotus feet of my Godbrothers.

Prabhupāda, rest assured, you have told us everything! It is now our duty to act and move towards that ultimate that you have promised us. You have requested that we cooperate, assuring that each of us can be a pure devotee.

If Kṛṣṇa is the ultimate and our goal is Kṛṣṇa, in order to reach that ultimate we reach out to you and beg your mercy on us fallen souls. You are our ultimate, we hold to your *dhoti*, take us Prabhupāda, take us!

Your most fallen servant, on these pages by your infinite mercy,
Atreya Ṛṣi dāsa adhikāri
GBC—Middle East

Vyāsa-pūjā Homage
to
His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedānta Swami Prabhupāda

The spiritual master is the mercy incarnation of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. His message is the message of God. His desire is the desire of God, and his pleasure is the pleasure of God. There is no other way to approach Kṛṣṇa than through the medium of His beloved servant, the spiritual master. Therefore, we must fall at his feet in all humility, without personal prestige or motivation, and beg his merciful glance upon us. Without becoming his unalloyed and thoroughly devoted servants, there is absolutely no escape from the miserable conditions of material existence. We must be, therefore, ever vigilant not to mistake him to be an ordinary man of whom we might become envious. Rather, we should be always proud of our spiritual master—proud of his courage, proud of his wisdom, and proud of his purity. He is actually Kṛṣṇa, manifested before our crippled vision, because he is delivering the message of Kṛṣṇa. He speaks what Kṛṣṇa speaks, and he lives it for all to see.

The spiritual master remains always in Vṛndāvana because wherever he goes, he makes that place as good as Vṛndāvana. Internally, he relishes in Kṛṣṇa's sublime pastimes of love, while externally he preaches the mission of Lord Caitanya for the benefit of all. Thus he is the best of all *jīva* souls and none is more dear to Kṛṣṇa than he.

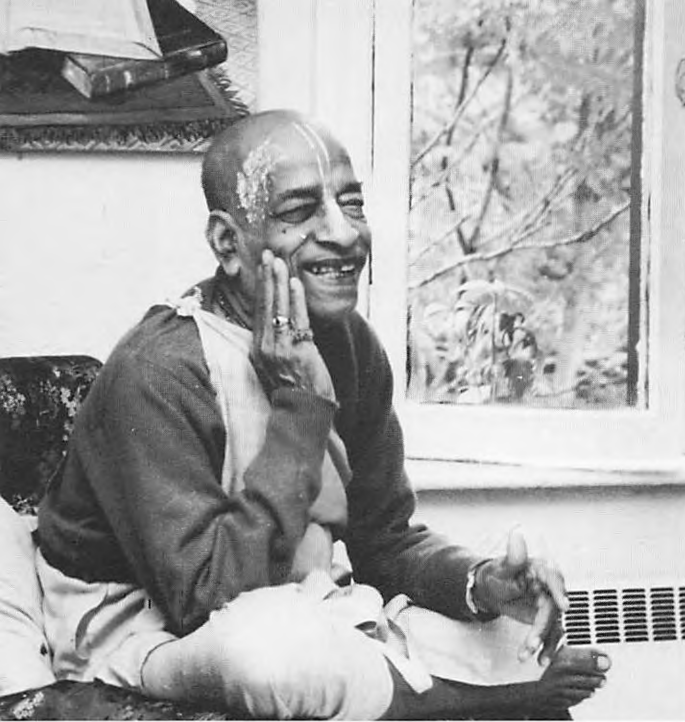
Caught in *māyā*'s grip, we can only sit humbly at his lotus feet, eagerly drinking every sound that springs from his lotus lips. Then, with all enthusiasm, obedience and submission, we must execute his divine command. He is our only hope, our shelter in a hostile ocean, our oasis in a barren desert.

When we approach the spiritual master, we must cast aside the crutches of material designations. We cannot maintain such artificialities and surrender utterly at his lotus feet. Foolish pride and a false sense of independence veil our real knowledge and hide the spiritual master from our vision. To become the menial servants of the spiritual master constitutes the perfection of our existence. Then our spiritual life is awakened, our eternal *rasa* established, and our platform of enjoyment revived. Once surrendered we are not disturbed, in any condition nor do we have any material desires, being completely satisfied simply to be his faithful servants. Unable to attain this position, the unsundered disciple, Balavanta dāsa, continues to suffer without solace and can only lament his wretched condition, praying for the benediction rain of his spiritual master's compassion.

Balavanta dāsa adbhikāri
GBC Southern U.S.A.







With the passing of each day, the vision of the newborn child expands. At first everything is unclear; then vague forms appear. Soon he is able to recognize that there are special people who always are concerned with his welfare. In this way he comes to know his father and mother as his security and protection. O beloved Gurudeva, you have taken us under your protection as your own children. At first we could not see what your exalted position was. But you gently opened our eyes with your divine knowledge and love, and soon it became clear that you were our eternal father, master and protector. As we watch your books appear, like golden waves emanating from your lotus mouth, you establish within our hearts the irrevocable faith that you are the Supreme Personality of Servitor Godhead. Merciful Śrīla Prabhupāda, I am such a low fool that I do not even qualify to look upon your lotus feet. Still you are so kind that you have personally instructed me on so many different occasions—even in the privacy of your personal quarters.

I pray to Śrī-Śrī Gaura-Nitāi that my mind be always overflowing with your divine instructions and that I become more and more attached to serving your lotus feet, as a person is attached to his very breath.

Bhagavān dāsa adhikārī
GBC—Southern Europe

The disciple's perfection's when the guru is pleased.
 I'm wanting that goal, and your orders received
 Are a boon that makes me the most fortunate soul.
 Śrīla Prabhupāda, a Kṛṣṇa conscious Africa's your goal.
 You've made it so easy, you've done everything first.
 You've cut a clear path under conditions much worse.
 To America you came penniless and alone.
 Now you're captain of the ship that will take us all home.
 You sent me on a voyage that seemed like years.
 Twelve days, just your words made me lose all fears.
 Step by step you guide us, the footing is safe.
 But I'm so hard-hearted, I forget and lose faith.
 And as the failing pupil gets the teacher's special aid,
 A Nairobi visit by your mercy was paid.
 Black students to the walls, your preaching to hear,
 The biggest crowd assembled in more than a year.
 Your form was effulgent and your message divine,
 "Please chant Hare Kṛṣṇa for a life so sublime."
 The first step was taken, it was clear what to do,
 You're the Founder-Ācārya, so we just followed you.
 Chanting and dancing in Thompkins Square Park
 Now happened again. Local papers remarked:
 "When you see these people, don't say 'Jambo!'
 Say 'Hare Kṛṣṇa!' It's much better than 'Hello!'
 Our programs were famous at the housing estates.
 No one could guess how much prasāda they ate.
 Our films were a hit, and Lord Jagannātha's smile
 Brought a great cheer and clapping heard for thousands of miles.
 The Safari kīrtana was the best it could be,
 Street dancing, prasāda and books that were free.
 One evening began with a Benz caravan.
 Indian members assembled, a sedate program they'd planned.
 Then we opened the doors and much to our surprise
 An ecstatic swirling mass of black kids arrived.
 The kīrtana began, and the sound was so ecstatic
 That I jumped off stage and began dancing automatic.
 "Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare Rāma!" was their only reply.
 Śrīla Prabhupāda, you've made Africa the Spiritual Sky.
 Our programs are small now, as it's hard to maintain.
 Many blacks and whites came but few have remained.
 The potential still here though, our "Club" does quite well.
 Eighty men come twice daily, take prasāda and then yell: "Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare
 Rāma!" and "Jaya Jagannātha!"
 It's working Śrīla Prabhupāda, it breaks that hard knot.
 A few African men are now holding on to your feet,



*And it brings back the times that have now become sweet.
How you took me by the hand and so extra patiently
Brought me up from the gutter to learn A B C.*

kirāta-hūṇāndhra-pulinda-pulkaśā
ābhīra-śumbhā yavanāḥ khasādayaḥ
ye 'nye ca pāpā yad-upāśrayāśrayaḥ
śudhyanti tasmai prabhaviṣṇave namaḥ
(Bhāg. 2.4.18)

*Kirāta, Hūṇa, Āndhra, Pulinda,
Pulkaśa, Ābhīra, Śumbha, Yavana,
The Khasa and others addicted to sin
Are purified by the shelter of the devotees of Him.
The Lord's the Supreme Power, and I beg to be found
With my head on the spot where His feet touch the ground.
You said this temple's real name was Kirāta-śuddhi.
Now five years have passed, and I'm beginning to see
The Africans are fallen aboriginal men,
But the purification is needed in myself more than them.
Vaiṣṇavas have a system for cleaning the heart,
And that system takes effect as soon as you start.
No bars on the nation or the color of skin.
A Vaiṣṇava's strong enough to make changes within.
Strī, śūdra, kirāta or dvija-bandhu.
O Prabhupāda, why can't we just do what you do?
Kṛṣṇa's friends are so busy cleaning dust-worn minds,
But my hours are spent with the faults that I find.
You say it's so easy, "Hold this Kṛṣṇa science fast,
Become the Lord's man and reclaim the general mass."
Śrī Caitanya's order is to travel the globe
Reclaiming all persons who want to be told.
A reasonable man with an inquisitive mind
Can accept this great message of a life so sublime.
Vaiṣṇavas don't all come from one special land.
Just as you, Gurudeva, aren't an ordinary man.
By the service of the Lord and your spiritual guide,
A special change happens within and outside.
A Vaiṣṇava's body changes spiritually at once.
Anyone who thinks different is clearly a dunce.
Lord Caitanya's all-powerful, and under any circumstance,
anyone from anywhere can take prasāda and dance.
His self-declaration teaches how we should be:
"I'm the servant of the servant of Lord Gopināthajī!"*

The devotees are few here, and perhaps it's because
 The news about Africa's gossiping buzz.
 Even though they are few, they're first-class by your grace.
 They're enthused more than me for preaching in this dark place.
 I thank you for sending them to help me.
 When I see them it's only your mercy I see.
 We're now just maintaining, but that doesn't please you.
 You said expand here and these programs renew:
 Ratha-yātrā, a farm, and Gaura-Nitāi on parikrama,
 Go to every town and village and distribute the bombs.
 The Name and prasāda to each and every man.
 I'll work until Africa's called "Black Vṛndāvana."
 Now I'm thinking to do this so as not to speak lame,
 But one problem is here and it's me whose to blame.
 There's a great difference between us, Prabhupāda, you and me.
 When you came to America you made your army.
 I'm not pure, so that feat is a bit out of sight.
 I depend on the men you send for my might.
 I want to please you and fulfill your desire,
 But without first-class men we'll not kindle that fire.
 Some men are quite pure now, so let them come here.
 They'll be stronger than ever if they serve for two years.
 The work is not hard, and yet spiritually
 There's a test every minute that when taken blissfully
 Trains the mind to take shelter like the buzzing honeybee.
 Many men aren't needed; one akṣauhiṇī will do
 Or just one mahā-ratha, Śrīla Prabhupāda, like you.
 To please you is the perfection of every devotee,
 Whether preaching or farming or vaidhi-bhakti.
 Their services vary, but one thing's the same—
 Your pleasure is the highest goal to attain.
 The Supreme Lord's all-powerful: prabhaviṣṇave namaḥ.
 He'll accept all our service even though He's so far.
 So I beg for His blessing and His sanctioning will
 That your orders sublime I'll completely fulfill.
 If this can be done, there's no doubt in my heart,
 A journey back home I'll be able to start.
 Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, for giving me a chance
 To serve you and take prasāda and dance.

(versified by Jānakīnātha dāsa brahmacārī)
 Brahmānanda Svāmī
 GBC—Africa



I beg to offer my most respectful *daṇḍavats* unto the lotus feet of my spiritual master, Oṃ Viṣṇupāda Paramahansa Parivrājakācārya Aṣṭottara-śata Śrī-Śrīmad A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda. You are the genuine representative of Śrīla Vyāsadeva, and therefore entitled to receive offerings from your disciples every year. You are the most faithful and confidential servitor of the Lord and therefore deserve as much respect as Lord Kṛṣṇa. In the *Caitanya-caritāmṛta* it is said that although every living entity is a servitor of God, the genuine spiritual master is a direct manifestation of the Supreme Lord. For a disciple to advance spiritually, he must be convinced of this.



In *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, Lord Kṛṣṇa tells Uddhava:

*ācāryaṁ mām vijānīyān nāvamanyeta karhicit
na martya-buddhyāsūyeta sarva-devamāyo guruḥ*

“One should know the *ācārya* as Myself and never disrespect him in any way. One should not envy him, thinking him an ordinary man, for he is the representative of all the demigods.” (*Bhāg.* 11.17.27) Here Lord Kṛṣṇa is specially instructing how a disciple should behave under the care of his spiritual master. A spiritual master is not an enjoyer of facilities offered by his disciples; rather, he is like a parent. Just like a child cannot grow up without the attentive guidance of his parents, one cannot learn to perform devotional service without the attentive guidance of the spiritual master. The ability to walk is born with a baby, and within a couple of years the child develops it with practice. Similarly, Kṛṣṇa consciousness is eternally present within the conditioned soul but can only be realized when guided by a true representative of Lord Kṛṣṇa.

The Supreme Lord is so kind that He appears in two features to save the conditioned soul—externally as the *ācārya* and internally as the Supersoul. You have appeared just to deliver the fallen *mlecchas*. Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Prabhupāda used to say, “If at all there is a shortage of anything, it is of love of God.” The modern *rākṣasa* leaders are denying God’s existence and thus misleading the human population. You took your spiritual master’s instruction to spread Kṛṣṇa consciousness seriously, and therefore you are so successful. It is essential that a disciple follow his spiritual master’s instructions rigidly. You are a true *tattva-darśī*, or knower of the absolute truth, and therefore always anxious to preach. Even in your present illness, I see that you do not miss any opportunity to talk of Lord Kṛṣṇa. You are a great Vaiṣṇava, Śrīla Prabhupāda. You are always trying to save the suffering humanity by giving them the supreme knowledge. You will always live by your divine instructions. On this auspicious day, I pray that I will always follow your instructions and help spread Lord Caitanya’s message. Only this will please you; nothing else will.

Your eternal servant,
Gopāla Kṛṣṇa dāsa adbhikārī
GBC—Northern and Western India
BBT Trustee



My Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

I cannot write anything that will properly glorify you. I am a condemned sinful creature. Somehow I was born with two hands and legs and have adopted the dress of a devotee as your disciple, but there is not a minuscule particle of sincerity or understanding in my heart.

I wonder how it is that I have passed so many empty days in your movement, surrounded by hundreds and thousands of your pure devotees without serving them properly, and still be allowed to continue. Your mercy is surely great. The mercy of your devotees is carrying me along back home, back to Godhead, although I am completely worthless and disqualified.

I cannot ask to be picked up as one of the most fallen in this world because you have already done that by your mere glance. I like to think that I might one day be accepted by your devotees as one of their devotees.

My words are empty and pretentious, but I continue to write this offering because I have no other alternative than to go through the motions and expressions of a devotee, hoping, like an alchemist trying to turn iron into gold, that Your Divine Grace will fill my empty words with spiritual life.

Dear Prabhupāda, no one knows who you really are and where you will go when your work on earth is done. How will I be able to keep hold of your lotus feet and remain free from the attraction of material energy which bewilders even Brahmā, the engineer of this universe? Therefore I think that you must make some special arrangement for me, because I am completely helpless and dependent upon you.

Your humble servant,
Haṁsadūta Svāmī
GBC—Śrī Laṅkā



Some people preach but do not act very nicely, while others act very nicely but do not preach. The wonder of the pure devotee (known as the *ācārya*) is that he both acts nicely and preaches. We have practically seen that you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, both act in wonderful ways and preach perfectly according to time, place, and circumstances.

You have conquered over the urge to speak, the urges of the mind, the force of anger and the forces of the tongue, belly, and genital. You have no desire for sense gratification and are free from all varieties of bodily conceptions. Therefore you are the perfect *gosvāmī*. Although now your body has grown “old and weak,” you are pushing it on through the force of your spiritual potency in order to spread this movement all over the world. This is simply amazing. (By this example we are forced to understand that dead matter is forced to work by the energy of the spirit soul.) Any other man would have lain down and died long ago, but you are expanding your service all the time. Although the demons are becoming more and more troublesome and place all kinds of obstacles in our path, you never become discouraged; rather, you inspire us more by your strong words and superhuman feats.

You are never disturbed at any moment because you are fixed in the Supreme, despite all difficulties which may arise due to the body, the demigods or other living beings. Because you are always united with the supreme will of the Lord, your activities are perfect in every way. We cannot understand how you constantly think of saving the fallen souls even when we disciples are ready to kill them for their being so foolish and demoniac and causing the devotees so much trouble. Therefore you are the *ācārya*. Prahlāda Mahārāja said:

*naivodvije para duratyaya-vaitaranyās
tvad-vīrya-gāyana-mahāmṛta-magna-cittaḥ
soce tato vimukha-cetasa indriyārtha-
māyā-sukhāya bharam udvahato vimūḍhān*

“O best of the great personalities, I am not at all afraid of material existence, for wherever I stay I am fully absorbed in thoughts of Your glories and activities. My concern is only for the fools and rascals who are making elaborate plans for material happiness and maintaining their families, societies and countries. I am simply concerned with love for them.” Once I asked you when you were reading the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, Seventh Canto, “Prabhupāda, I think you are always enwrapped in the mood of Prahlāda Mahārāja.” You said, “Yes—I am always thinking of

how to save all these fools and rascals.” You are always thinking how they might be relieved from their miserable conditions of existence and engaged in the service of the Lord. Although Prahlaḍa could have felt so much personal discomfort, extreme anxiety and pain by the persecutions of the demons, he was free from all difficulties because he simply merged in the ocean of transcendental bliss by chanting the Hare Kṛṣṇa *mahā-mantra*. You are always fully merged in the ocean of transcendental bliss by chanting and constantly meditating on how these fools and rascals can come to the highest perfection.

You have fully surrendered your life on the order of your spiritual master to spread Kṛṣṇa consciousness to the Western world, and you are doing that wonderfully through your books. You are so kindly giving us all that which is necessary to regain our lost transcendental consciousness and enter into the kingdom of God. By your mercy we can know that the kingdom of God is here when we engage in chanting His holy names and preaching His glories to the fallen souls.

It is simply because of your books that the world atmosphere is becoming clearer and people can see things as they are. Even though they cannot understand the books (perhaps they are not even aware of their existence), which are so spiritually powerful, the effect is there and people are imperceptibly becoming purified although they cannot understand how or why. The completely demoniac trend of human society is gradually changing, and soon the time will come when Kṛṣṇa will arrange the ways and means that Kṛṣṇa consciousness will envelop the world in floods of transcendental ecstasy, and it is all because of your books.

So you are the perfect *ācārya*, acting and preaching in the most perfect way, guiding us (especially me—how fallen and sinful a person I am!) to the light of knowledge and gradually freeing us from the bondage of illusion. Your every activity is leading us back home, back to Godhead, and you are forcing all the conditioned souls to also return someday, although they have no idea to do it on their own.

I am praying that you will have me always as your humble servitor, and if ever I decide to deviate from the correct path of devotion, please beat me severely and drag me back to your lotus feet.

Your foolish servant,

Harikeśa Svāmī

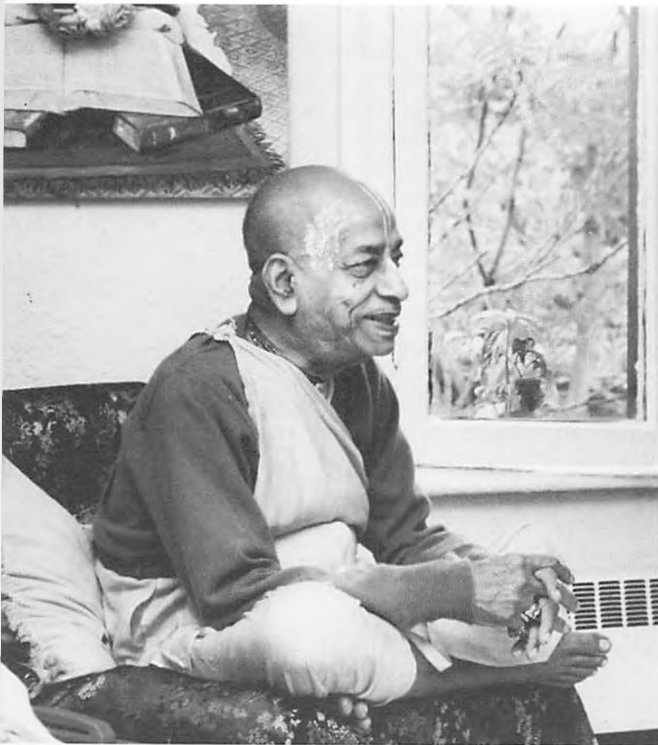
BBT trustee

GBC for Eastern Europe, Germany, Scandinavia, Switzerland and Austria

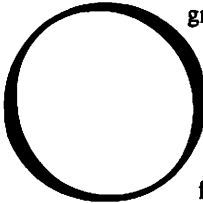
*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine*

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

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



Prema-bhakti yāhā haite, avidyā-vināśa yāte, vede gāya yānhāra carita:

 great spiritual master! O most glorious Śrīla Prabhu-
pāda! The exquisite Vedic *mantras* sing ecstatically of
your character. O most perfect Master! I fall down in
the dust of your lotus feet, begging you to fan the
spark of love within my heart. Kindle within my
heart the blazing fire of unalloyed love for your lotus
feet, so that the fire will immediately burn to ashes all
fruitive desires and mental speculation.

Śrī-guru-caraṇe rati, ei sei uttama-gati, yei prasāde pūre sarva āśā:

O most sublime messenger of Vaikuṇṭha! Your two lotus feet are the
transparent via media for seeing the abode of Kṛṣṇa. All liberations are
found in the dust of your feet. Gorgeous and eternal worlds are beheld
from the vantage point of the dust of your lotus feet. By tasting the nectar
of the dust of your feet, all material desires are quickly annihilated. I am
groping in the darkness of lust, O Gurudeva! Lead me at once to the dust
of your feet!

Guru-mukha-padma-vākya, cittete kariyā aikya, āra nā kariha mane āśā:

O most fascinating of those who speak and chant! Shine the beacon of
your transcendental speaking on my heart. The blissful songs that you
sing are a river of nectar flowing into our ears. All the infinite Vaikuṇṭha
planets floating in the spiritual sky, as well as the limitless material cre-
ation, are all revealed in your Bhaktivedanta purports. Only you know
our self-interest; let your instructions be eternally engraved in our minds
and hearts. Give us strength to drive out of our minds the venomous
black snakes of opinions opposing your instructions.

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

O great Gurudeva! You are glorious like the Supreme Personality of
Godhead. *Sākṣād dharitvena samasta-śāstraiḥ*: O inconceivable servitor
Godhead! You are so merciful that you permit a shameless rogue such as
myself to participate in your earthly pastimes. In your glorious descent to
the earth, you do not kill the demons such as myself, but you save us and
become our spiritual master. O beloved Gurudeva, you have shown your
mercy to me who was floundering in animal life. Now by your incon-
ceivable mercy let that animal become human, and let that human be-
come Vaiṣṇava, and please, beloved Gurudeva, let that Vaiṣṇava be
permitted to humbly and obediently return to his original, eternal post as
an atom at the lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa.

Hṛdayānanda dāsa Gosvāmī
GBC—South America

International Society for Kri

MARE KRISHNA MARE KRISHNA
MARE KRISHNA
MARE KRISHNA





Competent to Deliver the Universe
(In praise of His Divine Grace
A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda)

*The Golden Lord released the world
By pardoning the sins of all.
So, everyone went "Back to Home,"
But there were plenty more to fall.*

*Again the world is full of sin,
Degrading further ev'ry day.
Now atheists are gaining ground
The demigods all stay away.*

*But one who is much like the Lord,
Compassionate beyond compare,
Has entered this demonic place
Where even truthfulness is rare.*

*The world is overburdened with
Activities of sinfulness,
But he is so determined now
To smash them all to nothingness.*

*Despite profuse impediments
Confronting him repeatedly,
By tolerance and perfect faith
He perseveres to victory.*

*His vision is astonishing.
He fully knows Lord Kṛṣṇa's plan.
Like Arjuna or Hanumān,
What no one else can do, he can.*

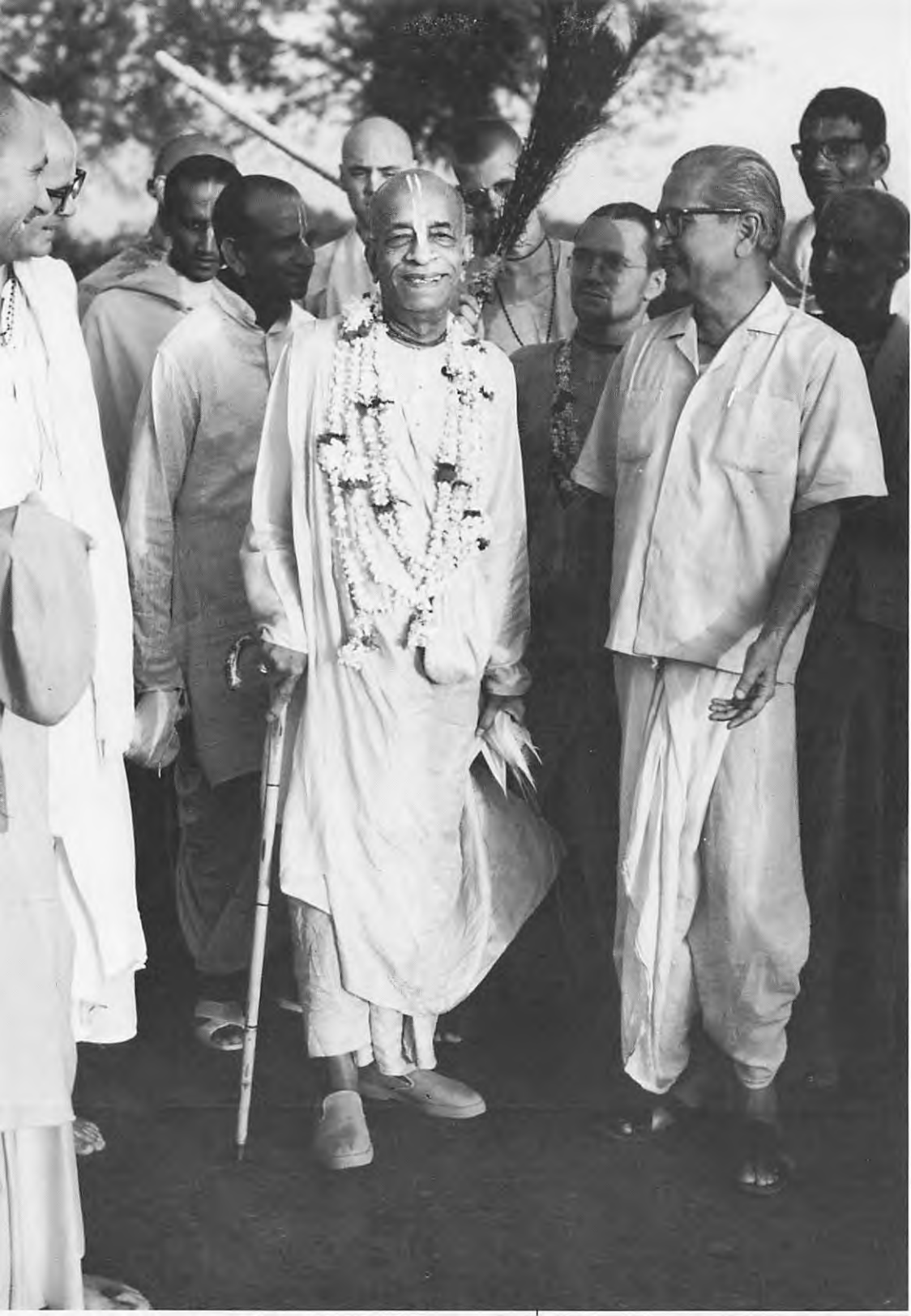
Jagadīśa dāsa
GBC—Gurukula

Vyāsa-pūjā Offering to His Divine Grace
Śrīla A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda:
The Transcendental Physician for the Modern Day

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

The bona fide spiritual master is accepted as good as Kṛṣṇa because he is the representative of Kṛṣṇa. This is confirmed in all Vedic scriptures and by all authorities. If one judges a spiritual master by his appearance, by his possessions, or by other superficial methods, the judgement will be imperfect. A spiritual master speaks from the transcendental platform the vibrations he has received from his spiritual master through disciplic succession. These transcendental words are known as *śabda-brahma* and cannot be compared with ordinary sounds. Just as a touchstone cannot be identified conclusively until it transforms base metal into gold, or a physician until he can cure his patient, similarly, a bona fide spiritual master is able to transform a disciple, even of inferior nature, into a first-class person, i.e., a devotee of the Lord. A spiritual master is not merely a pet or a fashion to maintain for some time and discard on a whim. The spiritual master is Kṛṣṇa's way for coming to us and guiding us back to home, back to Godhead. It is serious business.

Knowledge is the light by which the darkness of ignorance is vanquished. Knowledge implies real knowledge, or knowledge free from error. Any kind of knowledge can be obtained in one of two ways. One way is by experimental knowledge, which is compared to blind men feeling the different limbs of an elephant and giving their postulations on the form and nature of the elephant. The blind man holding the trunk thinks an elephant is a gigantic snake, and the man holding the leg thinks another way. In this way different theories are evolved from different angles of observation, with no angle being complete or correct. The other method is by receiving knowledge by the descending process, i.e., through *guru-paramparā*, or disciplic succession. Knowledge handed down from the source of all knowledge, or descending knowledge, is perfect and free from defect because it doesn't depend on the imperfect



perceptions of imperfect people. Just as the sun is self-illuminating, real knowledge from Kṛṣṇa is self-effulgent and doesn't depend on empirical speculation.

Considering the unique position of the spiritual master, it is essential to consider how one should approach him. *Bhagavad-gītā* says:

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

One must approach the spiritual master in a humble frame of mind, surrender unto him and offer him service. Then one should inquire about the truth from the spiritual master because he has seen the truth. This forms a reciprocal relationship of service and enlightenment between the *guru* and the disciple. In a challenging attitude one cannot get enlightenment from the spiritual master. Surrender means complete surrender without considering the momentary material profit or loss.

Everyone is looking for a friend—someone to love and trust. But in this material world if we put our trust in anyone, laying our head in his lap, he will cut our head off. This is the position. His Divine Grace Śrīla A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda is showing how one can be a real well-wisher for everyone. Śrīla Prabhupāda is relieving everyone, without discrimination, from all kinds of dangerous conditions. Actually, everyone is constantly suffering—at every moment we are suffering—so much so it is taken for granted. No one questions why he is being harassed and troubled by other creatures, why he is being agitated by his body and mind, why he is growing old or dying. Neither taking the miseries of life for granted nor the cures of the superficial symptoms will help. The expert physician searches out the root cause and treats it; subsequently, all symptoms disappear. The spiritual master is the total physician of our composite disease of material life and its miseries. Śrīla Prabhupāda is curing his disciples and giving them real healthy life to lead in this life and the next. A normal doctor may demand high personal fees, but Śrīla Prabhupāda is asking nothing for himself. Everything is used for the satisfaction of Kṛṣṇa, and to uplift others from their miserable condition.

A patient's relationship with his physician may end with the bill. But the spiritual master's relationship with his patient (disciple) is eternal. Viśvanātha Cakravartī Ṭhākura in his *Prayers to the Spiritual Master* describes how the spiritual master uplifts the devotee and trains him in this life, and in the liberated stage continues to guide the disciple to serving Kṛṣṇa with spiritual senses. On the other hand, if the disciple doesn't finish his business and reach Kṛṣṇa in this life, the spiritual master again takes birth in this material world to deliver the disciple. The relationship between the *guru* and disciple is individual and everlasting. It is most nectarine and sweet.

Considering the great risk the spiritual master is taking for his disciple and the great gift he is giving, every disciple must take seriously his obligation to his spiritual master. Our relationship with Śrīla Prabhupāda is not one-sided. We have sufficient instructions from Śrīla Prabhupāda through his books and personal lectures and instructions to understand what is required of us to satisfy his desires. Śrīla Prabhupāda has done so much for all of us, we should try to finish our business and not compel him to come again.

Śrīla Prabhupāda is establishing truth from the *Vedas*. Recently Śrīla Prabhupāda said: "In this world there are two groups. One group is good. One group is bad. They are fighting with each other for supremacy. Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma are standing aside and watching both groups. We belong to Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma's group." Only Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma's party is never defeated. (The whole world believed in the moon hoax, but Śrīla Prabhupāda stood firm. Now the cheating is being revealed. . . .)

Out of thousands and thousands of men, a few are surrendering in devotion. As Śrīla Prabhupāda's disciples our close connection must be maintained. How glorious, how rare are the devotees of Śrīla Prabhupāda! ISKCON is a transcendental hospital, curing all inmates of the material disease. Not everyone is cured upon admittance. It takes time. Day by day, moment by moment, according to sincerity and practice, the devotees are progressing. Any superficial symptoms of previous diseases are not very important in comparison with the fact of taking shelter of Śrīla Prabhupāda. Let us concentrate on the goal and consolidate our efforts to satisfy Śrīla Prabhupāda, spreading Kṛṣṇa consciousness for the welfare of the whole world. Remember, a great soul sees only the good quality in a person, while an envious person sees only the bad qualities.

Śrīla Prabhupāda's program is worldwide. Broad-minded persons can take part and feel their significance in Kṛṣṇa consciousness' massive program. Śrīla Prabhupāda is our physician, and he is administering the cure. Chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa, taking *mahā-prasāda* and working cooperatively with our Godbrothers to serve Śrī Kṛṣṇa and His devotees. The change of heart that the disciple undergoes under the guidance of the bona fide spiritual master is the proof of the effectiveness of the sincerity of the disciple. Śrīla Prabhupāda has already proved his efficacy, and now it is up to us to accept the cure and the medicine properly to perfect our lives and give this to others. This is Śrīla Prabhupāda's desire. On this holy Vyāsa-pūjā day let us offer Śrīla Prabhupāda our obeisances and glorify his name and instructions. I beg to take the dust of the feet of the great souls who have taken as their life and soul the service of Śrīla Prabhupāda!

Jayapataka Svāmī
GBC—Eastern India & Bangladesh



Please accept my most unworthy obeisances in the dust of your divine lotus feet. The history books are filled with tales of man's adventures, his journeys east and west in search of new frontiers, with their promises of wealth, wisdom and fountains of youth. In such vain search, man, even today, is climbing to the tops of mountains and diving to the depths of oceans. Let them look here and there to find what they will, but as far as I am concerned, all my searches have found their treasured goal in your lotus feet. As Dhruva Mahārāja prays:

*nūnaṁ vimuṣṭa-matayas tava māyayā te
ye tvāṁ bhavāpyaya-vimokṣaṇam anya-hetoḥ
arcanti kalpaka-taruṁ kuṇapopabhogyam
icchanti yat sparśa-jam niraye 'pi nṛṇām
(Bhāg. 4.9.9)*

Although time wears away my youth with its fabled inevitability and my experience of the things of this world grows year by year, each Vyāsa-pūjā finds me all the more convinced that the three worlds and all their



contents, when not engaged in the service of your lotus feet, are as useless as the stool of a boar. Although the measure of my conviction may increase, the foolish hobgoblins of my mind and senses still seek to push me away from your shelter. Although the whole world stands about me shipwrecked, why do I still look there for refuge? Oh, Śrīla Prabhupāda, because of Your Divine Grace only, there is still joy in the world, there is still hope in the world, there is still some future worth living for, some work worth doing, some words worth saying. Because of Your Divine Grace, man's search still has a chance of reaching a worthwhile conclusion. I think, therefore, that because of your continued presence on earth, the sun and moon still rise at their appointed hours, the cows still give milk and the Deities in the temple shine forth in all Their Splendor.

The whole world is deluded by impersonalism out of frustration because in our experience all persons have exploited us and cheated us, and know that I am also a cheater. But in you we have found a true friend and well-wisher, and we can see by your example what a person is really meant to be. So we worship your lotus feet and pray for your benediction. As Prahlāda Mahārāja prays in *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*:

*svasty astu viśvasya khalah prasīdatām
dhyāyantu bhūtāni śivaṁ mitho dhiyā
manaś ca bhadraṁ bhajatād adhokṣaje
āveśyatām no matir apy ahaitukī*

“May there be good fortune throughout the universe, and may all envious persons be pacified. May all living entities become calm by practicing *bhakti-yoga*, for by accepting devotional service they will think of each other's welfare. Therefore let us all engage in the service of the supreme transcendence, Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa, and always remain absorbed in thought of Him.” (*Bhāg.* 5.18.9)

We pray also that the whole world may become attracted to your message: that we are the tiny servants of the Absolute Supreme Personality of Godhead and that they may see that it is only by receiving the pure, unalloyed mercy of accepting Your Divine Grace as their spiritual master and saviour that their useless lives will gain value and meaning.

Please always give me this power of recollection. Please always keep me engaged in your service.

Your most fallen disciple & servant,
Jayatīrtha dāsa
GBC—United Kingdom, Midwest USA



Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

In the first chapter of *Ādi-līlā* in the *Caitanya-caritāmṛta* you have written, “It is not possible for a conditioned soul to directly meet Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, but if one becomes a sincere devotee and seriously engages in devotional service, Lord Kṛṣṇa sends an instructing spiritual master to show him favor and invoke his dormant propensity for serving the Supreme.”

Your mercy is incalculable because you have come to us, who were never serious and had no contact whatsoever with devotional service. You described us nicely in your arrival prayer: “Absorbed in material life, they think themselves very happy and satisfied, and therefore they have no taste for the transcendental message of Vāsudeva.” But just as Lord Caitanya engaged even the monkeys in Jhārikhaṇḍa forest in chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa, you have come and engaged us *mlecchas* and *yavanas* in dancing and singing about Kṛṣṇa.

You have become glorious by carrying out the desire of Bhakti-siddhānta Sarasvatī Prabhupāda; you are satisfied by virtue of your love for him and for Kṛṣṇa. There is nothing we can do to glorify you further. Our words are all inappropriate; our activities are so imperfect. Our only hope is that someday, by the potency of the Holy Name, we may become purified to the point of living as you have taught us. Then you, all the members of the disciplic succession, and Lord Kṛṣṇa Himself may become pleased to see all these fallen hippies dancing and singing just like devotees.

Kīrtanānanda Svāmī
GBC—Central North America





The light of your face, which glows with the golden hue of Lord Caitanya's empowered mercy, shines, dazzling my eyes, and illuminates the only path of devotion. You are the knower of the unknown, Kṛṣṇa, who does not reveal Himself but to the most pure of fully surrendered souls. Because you bestow your mercy on all, you are more kind than kindness. You are sweeter than the fresh rose in spring, and once knowing you no one could ever seek shelter in this empty material world again. You are more tolerant than the most noble tree, and you only see what little good there may be in my service.

I fall down in the dust of your lotus feet again and again and beg you, "Please forgive me." I am so proud, so vain. Let this demoniac pride be vanquished so that somehow or other I may begin to serve you.

Like a blind, stumbling dog following a munificent king, I am following you, hoping to lap up some scraps of mercy. In such a fallen state where is the question of service? Still you may kick me or reward me. That is your right because you are my only master. I know no other refuge than your benedicting feet.

Your fallen servant,
 Pañcadraviḍa Svāmī
 GBC—Latin America
 (Mexico, Central America,
 Colombia, Equador, Peru)

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Every living being in the world today is in darkness, forced to struggle hard for nonpermanent goals and for relief from the continual onslaught of the miseries of material life. You have the power to free us from this oppressive bondage, and because you are a pure devotee of Lord Caitanya, you are imbued with the divine characteristic of unlimited mercy for the fallen souls. Your blessings have been received by hundreds of millions of people, and the entire course of history is being changed by your inconceivable powers and your pure love for Kṛṣṇa. Generally, “in this iron age of Kali men have but short lives. They are quarrelsome, lazy, misguided, unlucky and, above all, always disturbed.” (*Bhāg.* 1.1.10) Their health and life-span is reduced because of irregular habits, overeating, indulgence in sense gratification, overdependence on another’s mercy and artificial standards of living—all of which weaken and waste their vital energy. Their laziness especially refers to spiritual practices, due to illusory bodily misidentification. Because everyone’s mind is victimized by many diversions of politics, cinema, sports, gambling, clubs, mundane libraries, bad association, smoking, drinking, cheating, pilfering, quarreling, etc., they are always disturbed and full of anxieties. The whole world atmosphere is surcharged with faithlessness, lying propaganda and the strain of competition for sense gratification, enmity and war. Despite external appearances, it is impossible for any person to independently achieve happiness, peace of mind, and freedom from the suffering inflicted by this distorted way of life.

When Raghunātha dāsa finally escaped from his family and achieved shelter at the lotus feet of Lord Caitanya, the Lord told him, “The mercy of Lord Kṛṣṇa is stronger than anything else. Therefore the Lord has delivered you from the ditch of materialistic life, which is like a hole into which people pass stool.” (Cc. *Antya* 6.193) Lord Caitanya emphasized that a life of material comfort is like a ditch of stool, and anyone addicted to the materialistic way of life is like a worm living in stool. Even though it is abominable, the worm cannot give up the stool, and similarly even though material life is wretched, the poor living entity cannot get out of this filthy entanglement. Only the mercy of Kṛṣṇa can save one from such misery!

At the beginning of the Kali-yuga, the sages at Naimiṣāranya, who had gathered to perform sacrifices to counteract the degrading influence of the age, questioned Sūta Gosvāmī how people would be able to receive the mercy of Kṛṣṇa since the Lord had left the world for his own transcendental abode. Sūta Gosvāmī answered that in this age the mercy of the Lord would be delivered to all people through transcendental books. “This *Bhāgavata Purāṇa* is as brilliant as the sun, and it has arisen just after the departure of Lord Kṛṣṇa to His own abode, accompanied by

religion, knowledge, etc. Persons who have lost their vision due to the dense darkness of ignorance in the age of Kali shall get light from this *Purāṇa*.”

Śrīla Prabhupāda, your books have descended from the spiritual world and are full of the all-powerful potencies of the Personality of Godhead. They are nondifferent from Kṛṣṇa and contain all His mercy. When your disciples voluntarily approach the fallen souls to distribute these books, and engage them in giving a donation and taking a book, their lives become perfect because they have received the inconceivable mercy of the Lord. Simply by giving a donation or taking a book they have begun their favorable association with Your Divine Grace, the spiritual master of the universe, and they become infected, by your blessings, with divine, transcendental qualities, beginning with the affinity to hear about Kṛṣṇa, to associate with His devotees, etc. Anyone who engages in Lord Caitanya’s *saṅkīrtana* movement in this way receives your transcendental blessings because you are the ocean of mercy. In this way, millions of people are taking your books every year and are receiving the seed of devotional life and love of Kṛṣṇa. It appears externally that you are in India or America, but actually you are in the spiritual world, eternally bestowing your blessings on all who come in contact with you. You are so powerful that simultaneously millions of living entities in all different parts of the world can receive your blessings at once through these books. Who can know your real position or the extent of your power? It is said in the *Ādi-līlā* that, “The internal devotees or potencies are all eternal associates in the pastimes of the Lord. Only with them does the Lord advent to propound the *saṅkīrtana* movement, only with them does the Lord taste the mellow of conjugal love, and only with them does He distribute this love of God to people in general.” (7.18–19) Lord Caitanya has sent you to this world to establish his mission and change the entire world order. All His desires are being fulfilled by you, and the earth planet is becoming a gateway for all the inhabitants of this universe to return to Kṛṣṇaloka. Just to receive your blessings the demigods on the heavenly planets are waiting in line to take birth here. This glorious day of your appearance in the world will be forever celebrated as the most significant transcendental event in the history of Lord Caitanya’s movement, for you have transformed the world’s *karma* and reestablished spiritual life. In great awe and reverence I fall at your lotus feet and beg to be engaged by you in helping distribute your books in every village and town, for as long as you’ll allow me this privilege.

Your unworthy servant,
Rameśvara dāsa Svāmī
GBC—Western USA

In 1492, Columbus sailed into the Atlantic, competing with other explorers to discover the easiest way to India, the land of wonderful spices, silks, tapestries, jewels, gold and silver. The feudal lords and barons of Europe wanted to add more taste to their venison. They desired finer fabrics, diamonds and emeralds to decorate their ladies. They required richer woven drapes for their dullish castle walls and precious metals to increase their wealth and power. Columbus landed at the Bahama Islands off the coast of Florida and, thinking that he had found India, called the natives “Indians.” He was in the vanguard of the many foolish men from the Western countries who have approached India for materialistic, external reasons. They never found the real treasure of India, hidden until Your Divine Grace revealed the complete science of Kṛṣṇa consciousness in your books.

The British were supposedly able administrators, but they never cared for the real opulence, the storehouse of love of God. They were determined to “civilize” the subcontinent, in their illusion not seeing the Vedic culture but only confusing the mud and thatched huts of Bengal with those of tribal Africa. Yet, a few centuries before the British rule, Lord Caitanya and Prabhu Nityānanda danced in those simple huts at Māyāpur, in the company of the greatest Vaiṣṇava saints, relishing the topmost internal pastimes of Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa. And these truths would still be secret if it wasn’t for the books of Your Divine Grace.

In 1492, Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu was enjoying the pastimes of His *paugāṇḍa* age, during which His chief occupation was to engage Himself in study. Meanwhile, Columbus sailed into the womb of oblivion.

Today, while Western skeptics continue to flirt with Māyāvādī catastrophe and hover over India’s external features—the so-called poverty, “over-population,” the “caste system” and underdeveloped technology—Your Divine Grace proceeds to methodically conquer the culture of the Western world, without firing a shot, simply by distributing your books.

Those concerned with external history say this is the year 1977, but historians will know it as the year 491, Caitanya Era, the Age of the Hare Kṛṣṇa Movement. Personally, I have no legitimate expectation of going back to Godhead, but I can only pray to remain in this Movement birth after birth for the next 9,500 years. I beg to remain your ISKCON man.

Your most fallen disciple,
Rūpānuga dāsa, GBC
Mid-Eastern U.S., Canada
Trustee, Bhaktivedanta Institute







*nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine*

Namaḥ—obeisances. Before you came, Śrīla Prabhupāda, there were no real obeisances. As children, we submitted to the guidance of our parents and society's overseers, but as we grew up we rejected their leadership. I know in my own case I submissively imbibed allegiance to conventional religious belief and nation-worship—and later found the objects of obeisances to be false, hypocritical, blind. Some of us in hopelessness then made "obeisances" to marijuana, LSD, hippy life, radical politics, or to more respectable material gods—but all were later exposed as cheaters. But in rendering utmost respect to you, we honor love and spiritual wisdom personified. Bowing down to you again and again is natural and proper. Why? Because you are the confidential servitor of Lord Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Lord Kṛṣṇa's greatness demands we make repeated prostrated obeisances when faced with His inconceivable, unlimited opulences as the Supreme Controller, the resting place of the innumerable souls and the source of all material and spiritual universes. You, Śrīla Prabhupāda, are the proven representative of Lord Kṛṣṇa, and in making obeisances to you we honor and please Kṛṣṇa Himself. And because you

alone have so kindly come and expertly taken us out of our abysmal suffering condition (*saṁsāra-dāvānala-līḍha-loka*) we personally thank you and bow at your feet, begging to be maintained by you in eternal devotional service to the Supreme Lord Kṛṣṇa.

om—address. As our spiritual master you have taught us how to address you and how to address the Supreme Personality of Godhead through you. Otherwise, as we did not know how to make obeisances, so we also did not know how to address you or the Lord. So you have given us this Śrīla Prabhupāda *praṇatī*, and it is completely right and fitting.

viṣṇu-pādāya—unto him who is at the feet of Lord Kṛṣṇa. Because you are most humbly taking shelter at the feet of the Supreme Lord, therefore you are the greatest person in human society and therefore we follow your example and instructions. We consider the dust of your feet the most treasured crown. You do not act outside of Kṛṣṇa's devotional service, and you always remain confident of the protection He extends to the surrendered soul. This is no mere figure of speech, but you have demonstrated your surrender as the boldest and *the most successful world-ācārya ever*, on behalf of Lord Kṛṣṇa.

kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya—who is very dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa. Because you are taking shelter of Kṛṣṇa's lotus feet, therefore you are very dear to the transcendental Lord. One who is dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa is very rare (*sa mahātmā sudurlabhaḥ*), and he is like an auspicious touchstone who can turn whomever he meets into another rare devotee of Kṛṣṇa. You are speaking Kṛṣṇa's eternal teachings throughout the world in millions of published books. Thousands of dedicated *bhaktas* are surrendered to you and engaged by you in full-time preaching of Lord Kṛṣṇa's glories. You have induced the whole world into chanting "Hare Kṛṣṇa!" Anyone with intelligence can understand that you are *kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya*, very dear to Kṛṣṇa.

bhū-tale—on the earth. You are preaching here on the earth, the planet of death. Lord Kṛṣṇa sent you here. You came to 26 Second Avenue, New York City, the earth, and the East Village newspaper proclaimed your mission with the front-page headline: "Save Earth Now!" You are the savior of the earth, and therefore you live amongst us, although you have nothing to do with the earth, being entirely spiritual. But because you are engaged in preaching you are moving all over this earth planet and informing us, "You are not this body, which is nothing but earth, water and fire. You are all eternal spirit souls; you belong to Kṛṣṇa and the spiritual world." It is no exaggeration to say you bless the earth wherever your lotus feet touch.

śrimate—all-beautiful. This describes Lord Kṛṣṇa, and it is also the ad-

dress preceding your name. You alone, out of so many *gurus* and *yogīs*, teachers and leaders, carry the eternally youthful beauty of Kṛṣṇa. The *Kṛṣṇa Book* describes that Devakī became the most beautiful to behold when Kṛṣṇa was residing in her womb before His birth. You also are pure and beautiful to behold, bearing Kṛṣṇa’s Holy Name in the prisonlike atmosphere of 20th century Kali-yuga.



bhaktivedānta-svāmin—A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami. Not just “gurudeva” we praise, or “the spiritual master,” but the one Śrīla Prabhupāda who is the object of our personal prayer and homage, the only one, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda. Keeping your name is our claim to Lord Kṛṣṇa’s attention. We will always go on chanting your name in Śrīla Prabhupāda Praṇatī; your name is directly the holy name and can be chanted as such.

iti nāmine—who is named. Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda!

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

namaḥ—obeisances. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda! All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda! All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda! All glories especially to his *vāṇī*. But all glories to his personal *darśana* as well, soft as a rose, and hard as the thunderbolt.

te—unto you. Our devotional service is rendered not to Lord Kṛṣṇa directly, but unto you. *Prasāda* means offering foodstuff first unto you. The vows of *brahmacarya* and *sannyāsa* are made unto you. *Grhasthas*' regulated promises are unto you; and their children are rendered unto you. Offerings of life, money, intelligence and words are unto you, and the entire *saṅkīrtana* movement is rendering service unto you—every book and every dollar collected is rendered unto you. And because you are *viṣṇu-pādāya*, we know for certain that whatever we render to you goes lovingly directed to Kṛṣṇa's lotus feet. There is no Kṛṣṇa *prema* unless it is *bhakti* unto you.



sārasvate deve—servant of Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī; spiritual master. We have heard the greatness of our grandfather spiritual master, your *guru mahārāja*. He was a lion-*guru*, and on his order you came to the West and saved us. Here you are impressing on us that you are the meek servitor of your spiritual master. You ask us to pray to you in your connection with Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī. You are our lord and master and yet you are the servant of Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī. “Whatever little success I have achieved,” you’ve told us, is coming from your *believing a hundred percent in the words of your spiritual master. You have complete faith in Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī Prabhupāda.* We cannot understand your intimate relationship with your spiritual master, but we aspire to worship you in your obedience to his order. That you are his servant is also the secret of *our* success; we want to help you carry out the order of your *guru-mahārāja*, Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Thākura, and thus please him.

gaura-vāṇī—the message of Lord Caitanya. This is the substance of your teaching. Scholars may say Caitanya Mahāprabhu was a great Vaiṣṇava saint of long ago, five hundred years past, but is He not still completely with us as we push on Caitanya Mahāprabhu's *saṅkīrtana* movement on your order? Yes, Caitanya Mahāprabhu is living in this Hare Kṛṣṇa Movement—Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare Kṛṣṇa, Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa, Hare Hare/ Hare Rāma, Hare Rāma, Rāma Rāma, Hare Hare. You are delivering His message undiluted, and it is being appreciated more and more by young men who are joining you, as well as by learned scholars, as the highest contribution to all living entities. And you have demonstrated in your seventeen volumes of *Caitanya-caritāmṛta*, with forcible logic and Vedic evidence, that Caitanya Mahāprabhu is Lord Kṛṣṇa Himself, the cause of all causes.

pracāriṇe—who are preaching. You have well earned retirement millions of times, but you go on preaching. Sometimes you are so weak you cannot stand, you cannot eat, but you go on preaching. “Help the suffering humanity. They are all in ignorance and cannot understand that there is another life. Give them Kṛṣṇa.” It is only rascaldom if we claim not to understand our duty as your disciples. I heard you myself at one initiation, as you handed the *sannyāsīs* their *daṇḍas*: “Now preach! Preach! Go preach!”

nirviṣeṣa—from impersonalism; *śūnya-vādi*—from voidism. Previously we did not even know the disease, although we were inflicted. Now we are cured and equipped to fight all kinds of Māyāvādīs. You have trained us all expertly. “I am simply praying,” you have said, “for the mercy to be able to fight on behalf of Caitanya Mahāprabhu.”

pāścātya; western; *deśa*—countries. The further west you go in India, people are most like asses, said Caitanya Mahāprabhu. Nārada Muni described the western gate of the body as the source of degradation through unrestrained sexual proclivity. But now Kṛṣṇa consciousness is firmly implanted in the West. “The brainwashing books are already there.” It is spreading like an epidemic. We can eventually see the day when the West becomes pious under Kṛṣṇa consciousness. The blind man and the lame man are cooperating. It is all because of your preaching, on the order of Lord Caitanya and Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī.

tāriṇe—who are delivering. Please engage us always in your sublime devotional service. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Satsvarūpa dāsa Gosvāmī
GBC—Pacific Northwest, Dallas

*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*

Your Divine Grace, my lord and master, has shown most scientifically that the fundamental principle of knowledge is to know the difference between *matter* and *spirit*, that is, between the field of activities and the knower of the field, *kṣetra-kṣetrajñayor jñānam* (Bg. 13.3). It is your divine mercy and priceless gift that we are blessed to see that matter per se is characterized by low information-content. It can be transformed into different complex forms, sizes, colors, tastes, fragrance, etc., of high information-content by the touch of the spirit (life) just like a potter can mold clay into different forms for different purposes. Missing this very basic point, the material scientists are guided by *māyā*, the illusory energy of the Divine Personality of Godhead, Śrī Kṛṣṇa, *māyayāpahṛta-jñānāḥ* (Bg. 7.15). So they take shelter of catch-words like “chance,” “molecular evolution,” “mutation,” etc., which can be shown to have no scientific validity whatsoever.

You have also demonstrated that the ultimate goal of all knowledge is to know Vāsudeva, Lord Kṛṣṇa, *vāsudeva-parā vedāḥ*. . . (Bhāg. 1.2.28), and the nature of the Absolute Truth must be the Supreme Personality of Godhead. You have proved without any tinge of doubt that *bhakti* is the only scientific process by which one can know the actual features of the Absolute Truth and is indeed the very science of the relationship between *jīvātma* and *Paramātmā*, which is the basis of Kṛṣṇa consciousness and the goal of life.

How fortunate is this most fallen soul to have been allowed by the all-merciful Lord Hari to have the *darśana* of your lotus feet. Your instructions are so powerful—like the echoing thunder of the monsoon season. “What good is your Ph.D. unless it is used for Kṛṣṇa?” you remarked oftentimes. Your glance is full of compassion and loving care. Remembering your divine instructions constantly makes me fearless like a child in the lap of his mother. Born most lowly, I never know how to behave and speak before Your Divine Grace. You tolerated and forgave all my offenses. There is no one more merciful than you, Śrīla Prabhupāda. Please allow me to prostrate myself before the dust of your lotus feet birth after birth.

Most fallen servant,
Svarūpa Dāmodara dāsa
GBC, Minister of Higher Education



*All glories, all glories
To our beloved lord,
Who appeared in Lokanātha Mullick's home
By his own sweet accord.*

*Jagannātha in procession
With young friends he did play;
Now introduced throughout the world—
Ratha-yātrā Day.*

*Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa arcanā
From his father he did imbibe,
Installed Them in all nations,
Mankind purified.*

*Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement,
Your banner is unfurled.
Mahāprabhu's message
Now overflows the world.*

*Your books, praised by scholars,
Act as cintāmaṇi stones,
Create Vaiṣṇava atmosphere
In all your readers' homes.*

*Bhagavad-gītā As It Is
Kṛṣṇa unalloyed,
Speculators, interpreters,
Cheaters—all destroyed.*

*You condemn them without exception,
No one dares reply:
"Anthill civilization,
Śva-vid-varāhoṣṭra-kharaiḥ."*

*Māyāpur's planetarium,
Vṛndāvana Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma,
Bombay science joins culture
Broadcasting hari-nāma.*

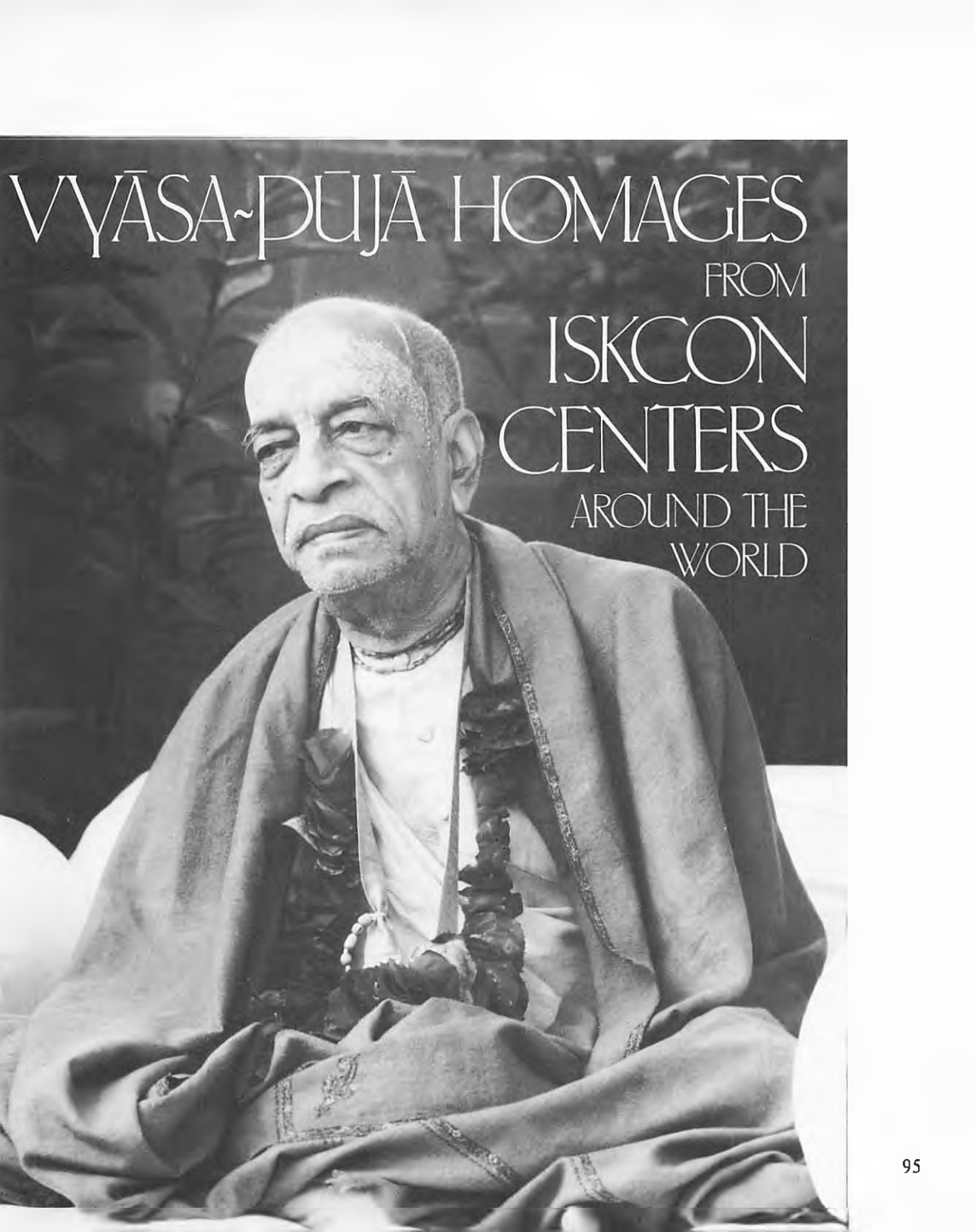
*Blessed are the devotees
Who shelter at thy Feet,
A life imbued with bhakti
Kṛṣṇa surely meet.*

*Your Grace, like the sun
Illuminates the day,
Blind, a fallen soul,
Your mercy I do pray.*

*Tamāla Kṛṣṇa Gosvāmī
Personal Secretary to Śrīla Prabhupāda
GBC—Northeast USA, China*

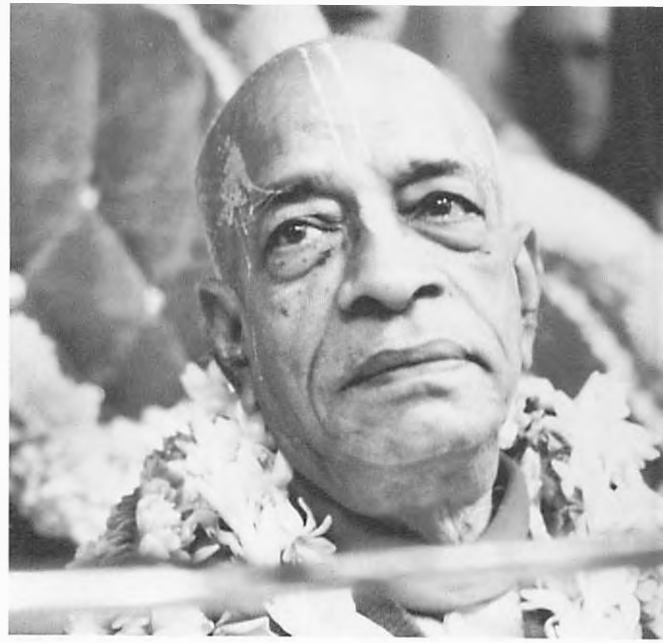






VYĀSA-PŪJĀ HOMAGES

FROM
ISKCON
CENTERS
AROUND THE
WORLD



Gurudeva kṛpā-bindu diyā

All glories to you, Śrīla Prabhupāda. You are the most dear servant of Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura because, in spite of all personal difficulties, you have taken his order to preach Kṛṣṇa consciousness all over the world as your life and soul. You are showing us by your example how to advance in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Give everything to the spiritual master and the spiritual master will give you everything—Kṛṣṇa. O Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are so fallen and you are an immeasurable ocean of mercy. We are the most fallen because you have given us the truth and we still reject it. O how unfortunate we are, O Gurudeva. The most sinful man can become Kṛṣṇa conscious simply by a small drop of your mercy—simply by your wish. From Lord Kṛṣṇa's abode you have come to this hell. O Śrīla Prabhupāda, even though we are so unwilling, please drag us back to Kṛṣṇa!

Your aspiring servants, Adelaide Mandira

Vaṁśīvadana Suvāsā dāsa	Nirabhadra dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Peter
brahmacārī	Sarva Lakṣaṇa dāsa	Bhakta Patrick
Gaura Maṇḍala Bhūmi dāsa	brahmacārī	Pūrṇacandra dāsa adbhikārī
brahmacārī	Bhakta Michael	Rāsamaṇḍala-devī dāsī
Veṅu Gopāla dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta John	Dāmodara



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

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

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

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

We are indeed proud of offering our humble obeisances unto your most exalted lotus feet. When Jesus Christ was on this earth, he had only a handful of sincerely dedicated disciples, but because he was a genuine master, now Christianity is spread all over the world. We have now no doubt that the message of Kṛṣṇa consciousness is going to sweep across the entire universe hundreds of times more than Christianity. This is because not only are you the most genuine *ācārya*—representative of God—but you are the most daring devotee. You have truly staked everything to spread the message of Kṛṣṇa. You have not hidden any secrets. You have boldly declared the supremacy of Kṛṣṇa in a place where they had hardly heard about Him. When every other Vaiṣṇava Godbrother of yours was afraid of dirtying his hands to pick up the fallen souls, you picked up the challenge and put your hands in the most foul muck of the Western materialistic existence. As a result, thousands of impure creatures like us are stuck to your lotus hand. Just as the fish which is flapping in the sand gets relief when put back in water, or a traveler in the desert gets new life when he sees a reservoir of water, we have found our home in your fearless shelter.

Your mercy is unlimited and all-pervading. Once you told us, “Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī has warned that the spiritual master should not take too many disciples, but I am still taking many disciples, because if I don’t where will they go? What will be their fate?” This mercy of yours is your unique quality. Actually, because of taking so many sinful people as disciples, your health has deteriorated. You have no *karmas* to pay for, but since you are accepting the sinful reactions of your fallen disciples, who sometimes go back to their old sinful habits, you are suffering. Of course, you are above any suffering because you are absorbed in the thoughts of Kṛṣṇa, but your sickness breaks our hearts. Recently when Your Divine Grace was sick in Māyāpur, one night your body was burning with high fever, and I was trying to massage you with the broken heart, grief and anxiety, being unable to take away your fever. But you all of a sudden started speaking: “Why are these rascal scientists saying life comes from matter?” and another time you asked, “What do they say when we say everything belongs to Kṛṣṇa?” So even in the midst of heavy fever you

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Formerly, we had no desire for becoming Kṛṣṇa conscious and were shamelessly serving the unlimited orders of lusty desires, without even wanting to give them up. But now you have awakened our spiritual intelligence and taught us to disobey the demands of *māyā*. Now we are feeling somewhat relieved, having realized what a dangerous predicament we were in. We were just like blind men walking on a cliffside with jagged rocks below. We think, therefore, that you have saved our lives; indeed, you have saved us from unlimited suffering through millions of lives. What can we say or do, therefore, to express our gratitude? Certainly we cannot ever repay this debt to you. By your mercy the gateway to liberation has been opened.

Mahat-sevām dvāram āhur vimukteḥ, we pray that we may follow your instructions without deviation or concoction and thus not cause you pain. You are kindly allowing us to assist you in the worship of Śrī Śrī Rādhā Gopinātha and in spreading the mission of Lord Caitanya. Without your mercy the whole world would have gone to hell, but, by your presence, millions will be saved.

How can we estimate our good fortune to be living on the same planet, which has become a *tīrtha* by the touch of your lotus feet, what to speak of actually being members of your movement? Certainly we must be amongst the most fortunate souls in the universe.

ISKCON Amsterdam

Locanānanda dāsa adhikārī	Prāṇa dāsa brahmacārī	Nābhasvatī-devī dāśī
Ātmānanda dāsa adhikārī	Echamaya dāsa brahmacārī	Lalitā-kunḍa-devī dāśī
Tīrthasādhaka dāsa adhikārī	Trilokanātha dāsa brahmacārī	Ugrasena-devī dāśī
Vimuktasaṅga dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Gad	Āhārada-devī dāśī
Hayeśvara dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Gordan	Gurubhakta-devī dāśī
Raṇadurmada dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Maximo	Marutvatī-devī dāśī
Bidañcandra dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Clive	Kāmadhenu-devī dāśī
Veṅkaṭeśa dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Karl Heinz	Kapardīnī-devī dāśī
Mahotsaha dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Jacinto	Rāmañīya-devī dāśī
Bhavasindhupūta dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Jerry	Vedasmṛti-devī dāśī
Vasūttama dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Manuel	Ādra-devī dāśī
Mahāvīdyā dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Jimmy	Santala-devī dāśī
Mṛṅgapati dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Leo	Bhakta Roepvati
Jaya Gopāla dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Arnold	Bhakta Ingrid
Yaśodā-vatsala dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Ebel	Bhakta Jean Louis
Jñānarāja dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Ed	Bhakta Rene
Mathurā dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Cesar	Bhakta Manzalya
Vṛṣṇi-varṇa dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Mahā Michael	Pupa Mañjari
Bhāṣyakāra dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Michael	Kṛṣṇa Caitanya
Akhiladhāra dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Gerto	Gaurahari
Vāyuvahana dāsa brahmacārī	Bavānī-devī dāśī	Inga
Divasīrṇha dāsa brahmacārī	Sailendriya-devī dāśī	Miriam
	Nikuñjavāsīnī-devī dāśī	

“Again there are those who, although not conversant in spiritual knowledge, begin to worship the Supreme Person upon hearing about Him from others. Because of their tendency to hear from authorities, they also transcend the path of birth and death.” (Bg. 13.26)

The essence of religion can be enunciated only by the Personality of Godhead Himself. Kṛṣṇa knows everything perfectly and the pure devotee is only speaking exactly what Kṛṣṇa speaks. Therefore, to hear from him means to receive the unadulterated Absolute Truth. When Kṛṣṇa is known all things become known, and that understanding illuminates everything as the sun lights up the day. Like dark and light, side by side coexisting, the surrendered soul experiences sublime life even in this world (*brahma-bhūtaḥ prasannātmā*) while the mundaner is always filled with anxieties and grief. The simple difference is the speck in the eye, the arrogant refusal to see the world as designed for Kṛṣṇa’s pleasure.

This perspective is the gift of the bona fide spiritual master. He does not take the risks and burdens of the material world merely to deliver some temporary trinket of mystic *siddhis*, or a coyly turned rationale for dog and hog life. He is delivering eternal life, full of bliss and knowledge—nothing less—to all who are willing to strive for it. Because the pure devotee has actually seen the truth, he can bring the haze of ambiguous terms—Supreme, absolute, liberation, oneness—into the crystal-clear focus of ever-youthful Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa, surrounded by eternal loving servitors in the transcendental land of *cintāmaṇi*.

Therefore our obligation is clear—salvation delivered in exchange for sincere service. As that father invests time and trouble in an infant child with the hope that the child will become a good son later to assist him, so we are always praying to become mature sons and daughters able to assist in maintaining and increasing Lord Caitanya’s *saṅkīrtana* movement. May we always feel indebted.

Your eternal servants,

Badarīnārāyaṇa dāsa	Bhakta Eric	Amara-devī dāśī
Yamunātaṭācara dāsa	Bhakta Lonnie	Devala-devī dāśī
Mitravān dāsa	Bhakta Tim	Nīla Mādhava-devī dāśī
Paripūrṇa dāsa	Navasī-devī dāśī	Anasūyā-devī dāśī
Varṇśī dāsa	Dhenumatī-devī dāśī	







*By nature's own way we have all been bewildered.
In every step vexed, through this world we meandered*

*Without proper purpose in so many species.
Blind fools, our own suffering we saw but did not see*

*Your fixed lotus feet offering shelter to all.
Grieving, waiting in hell for your mercy to fall,*

*Bereft of your guidance to life's real purpose.
Confused, nay, perplexed—and of God hardly curious—*

*How could souls such as we ever know something higher
Than lamenting and hankering—without your desire?*

*brahmāṇḍa bhrāmite kona bhāgyavān jīva
guru-kṛṣṇa-prasāde pāya bhakti-latā-bīja*

Guru Mahārāja, you have given us the seed of life, the priceless science of *bhakti*. Please look upon us favorably as we attempt to water the seed, for if you are not enlivened by our service then we are only dead bodies, having no value to anyone.

You, Śrīla Prabhupāda, are of all value to everyone; a transparent via medium for Kṛṣṇa's mercy, revealing real life where before was only neuroscience. Save the whole world, Prabhupāda, somehow or other please save them all.

Please accept us among your footservants and order carriers.

New Panihati

Gokularaṅjana dāsa	Dināśraya dāsa	Svāhā-devī dāsi	Bhakta Nick
Jayasena dāsa	Dvārakā dāsa	Jaṭilā-devī dāsi	Bhakta Jeff
Rādhāmohana dāsa	Bhakta Gerry	Bhaktin Cindy	Bhakta Rowland
Carudeṣṇa dāsa	Bhakta Walter	Bhaktin Sandy	Balavī-devī dāsi
Haricaraṇa dāsa	Bhakta Jim	Bhakta Kim	Tārā-devī dāsi
Saṅkarṣaṇa dāsa	Bhakta Gabriel	Janaka Ṛṣi dāsa	Devakī-devī dāsi
Vaiṣṇavānanda dāsa	Bhakta Jerry	Murāri-sevaka	Prṣṇi-devī dāsi
Ramaṇotsuka dāsa	Bhakta Bryan	Balavanta dāsa	Syāmaprabhā-
Balabhadrā	Bhakta John	Janamejaya dāsa	devī dāsi
Bhaṭṭācārya dāsa	Bhakta Don	Mahāśakti dāsa	Karuṇāpūrṇaśakti-
Darpada dāsa	Bhakta Steve	Murāri Gupta	devī dāsi
Vedaḡuhyā dāsa	Nārādī-devī dāsi	Mahejya dāsa	Bhaktin Didri
Kokika dāsa	Mādhuryalīlānanda-	Sahaśrṅghri dāsa	Sādhu
Hamsagatī dāsa	devī dāsi	Amoghavīrya dāsa	Darubrahma
Maitreya dāsa	Madanamohani-	Sarvasiddhipata dāsa	Sarvaṇamaṅgala
Paramparā dāsa	devī dāsi	Bakula dāsa	Kṛṣṇamayī
Nirguṇa dāsa	Danakeli-devī dāsi	Syāmakuṇḍa dāsa	Rasāmṛta

Before attempting to glorify you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, let us first offer our heads at your lotus feet. By the power of our minds, and by our so-called knowledge, we can not properly see or understand you; how then can we hope to offer you the praise that you really deserve? It is not possible. Our only hope, therefore, of presenting a nice offering to you on this auspicious day of Vyāsa-pūjā is if, by your mercy, we can give up (if even for a moment) the ascending method of approach, and witness our own frailties and impurities. In such a state of humility, one may see just how far away from Kṛṣṇa he actually is and thereby simultaneously perceive how close to Kṛṣṇa you are. Only in such a state of utter humility and love is it actually possible to offer you sincere praise. Before continuing, let us apologize that we have not come to this condition. Lacking such humility, our offering will surely be laced with deceit and pretence. It will certainly be childish and lacking in sincerity. We hope you will forgive us for this.

The spiritual master is the mercy manifestation of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. As such he can never be considered separate or different from Kṛṣṇa. If one is fortunate enough to meet such a spiritual master, it is as good as meeting Kṛṣṇa.

“According to the deliberate opinion of all revealed scriptures, the spiritual master is nondifferent from Kṛṣṇa. Lord Kṛṣṇa in the form of the spiritual master delivers his devotees.” (Cc. *Ādi Līlā*, 1.45)

Thus we are very fortunate to have your association, Śrīla Prabhupāda, for associating with the pure devotee is as good as associating with Kṛṣṇa. Similarly, your instructions are nondifferent from the instructions of Śrī Kṛṣṇa, for you are His external manifestation.

Because of our lamentable condition, and owing to the fact that we find it difficult to utilize anything other than our senses in the pursuit of knowledge, Kṛṣṇa has sent you to us. You are a liberated devotee; you are a *śaktyāveśa-avatāra*, an empowered incarnation of Kṛṣṇa Himself, appearing only for the benefit of the most fallen souls.

“Since one cannot visually experience the presence of the Supersoul, He appears before us as a liberated devotee. Such a spiritual master is no one other than Kṛṣṇa Himself.” (Cc. *Ādi Līlā*, 1.53)

Your mercy is distributed in the form of transcendental sound, and by hearing you speak and by receiving your orders we have incurred a debt

that can never really be repaid. The burden of such a debt is not really a burden, however; it is a great joy, for the spiritual doorway has been opened. Now it is up to us to enter or not to enter. The only repayment we can make for taking these instructions is to act on them. This is the open secret of transcendental life. The spiritual master can be pleased by one who follows his instructions, and not otherwise. Our great hope is that someday we may be able to actually please you with body, mind and



words. This is the way in which a sincere disciple can genuinely honor or glorify his spiritual master. This Vyāsa-pūjā offering is like a tiny candle offered to a great sun, and we are ashamed that it could not be nicer.

*from your humble servants,
Hare Kṛṣṇa Marae and North Shore*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

*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*

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are very dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa, having taken shelter at His lotus feet. You are always absorbed in the thoughts of Lord Kṛṣṇa and cannot forget Him even for a moment.

*mac-cittā mad-gata-prāṇā bodhayantaḥ parasparam
kathayantaś ca mām nityaṁ tuṣyanti ca ramanti ca*

“The thoughts of My pure devotees dwell in Me, their lives are surrendered to Me, and they derive great satisfaction and bliss enlightening one another and conversing about Me.” (Bg. 10.9)

Śrīla Prabhupāda, everything you do and say and plan is as good as Kṛṣṇa’s plan. Therefore you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, are very victorious and successful in your preaching mission to fulfill the desire of Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu. You are a true *mahātmā*, always glorifying the Lord.

*satataṁ kīrtyanto mām yatantaś ca dṛḍha-vratāḥ
namasyantaś ca mām bhaktyā nitya-yuktā upāsate*

“Always chanting My glories, endeavoring with great determination, bowing down before Me, these great souls perpetually worship Me with devotion.” (Bg. 9.14)

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you can make this whole world God conscious and make everyone servant of Kṛṣṇa instead of servant of the senses, because the embodied soul, by his immemorial desire to avoid Kṛṣṇa consciousness, causes his own bewilderment. Due to this he forgets his constitutional position as eternal, blissful servant of Lord Kṛṣṇa.

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

“Just try to learn the truth by approaching a bona fide spiritual master. Inquire from him submissively and render service unto him. The self-realized soul can impart knowledge unto you because he has seen the truth.” (Bg. 4.34)

Śrīla Prabhupāda, by inquiring submissively and rendering service like a menial servant without false prestige and satisfying you is the secret of advancement in spiritual life. Inquiries and submission constitute the proper combination for spiritual understanding. Unless there is submission and service and inquiries to the spiritual master it will not be effec-

tive. Therefore, when the student is submissive and always ready to render service, the reciprocation of knowledge and inquiries becomes perfect.

*api ced asi pāpebhyaḥ sarvebhyaḥ papa-kṛttamaḥ
sarvaṁ jñāna-plavenaiva vṛjinam santariṣyasi*

“Even if you are considered to be the most sinful of all sinners, when you are situated on the boat of transcendental knowledge you will be able to cross over the ocean of miseries.” (Bg. 4.36)

Śrīla Prabhupāda, we, as your disciples, would like to become very disciplined to your instructions and become your menial servants. Even though we are so conditioned in our existence, we pray that you may accept our insignificant service so that we may purify our existence to cross the dangerous ocean of Kali-yuga.

*tvaṁ naḥ sandarśito dhātrā dustaraṁ nistitīṣatām
kalim sattva-haraṁ puṁsāṁ karṇa-dhāra ivārṇavam*

“We think that we have met Your Grace by the will of providence and thus accept you as the captain of the ship for those who desire to cross the dangerous ocean of Kali, which destroys all the good qualities of a human being.”

Śrīla Prabhupāda, we have been indulging in so much sense gratification for so many hundreds and thousands of years, and finally by the grace of Lord Kṛṣṇa we have come in contact with a pure devotee like yourself, Śrīla Prabhupāda!!

*brahmāṇḍa bhramite kona bhāgyavān jīva
guru-kṛṣṇa-prasāde pāya bhakti-latā-bīja*

“Upon traversing this whole material creation of Lord Brahmā, one fortunate soul might get the *bhakti-latā* (seed of devotion). This happens by the grace of *guru* and Kṛṣṇa.”

Your eternal servants,

Aṣṭasiddhi dāsa adhikārī	Vasusveṣa dāsa brahmacārī	Rāmaṇīya-devī dāsi
Sahadeva dāsa adhikārī	Vrajarāja dāsa brahmacārī	Rādhikā Rāmaṇa-devī dāsi
Pārvatī dāsa adhikārī	Vinoda dāsa brahmacārī	Bhaktin Cilla
Bhūtanātha dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Mike	Bhaktin Janice
Uṣāpati dāsa brahmacārī	Jñānamūrti-devī dāsi	Bhaktin Ricky

*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*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Hare Kṛṣṇa! Please accept our most humble obeisances and our prostrated selves in the dust of your lotus feet. We beg to offer you our service for the rest of eternity, and the following prayer for your pleasure to commemorate the most blessed event for all: your appearance day in this world.





Eight Prayers Glorifying the Spiritual Master

Invocation:

*Ordained was the time in '65
when His Divine Grace first came
with Bhāgavatams, \$7 and sweet hari-nāma,
our lives were n'er the same.*

*You came to us with our eyes shut tight;
delivering souls is your mission.
illuminating our ignorance with knowledge so bright
you freed us from māyā's condition.*

*You gave us the choice to serve māyā or God,
and going 'Back Home' is the goal,
prema-bhakti to Kṛṣṇa, the means and the end
only service to you is the toll.*

*"Distribute my books! Distribute my books,
distribute my books to please me!"
and pleasure to you is pleasure to Kṛṣṇa.
Life's meant for that opportunity.*

*Our previous lives, inexperienced by years,
that moment you came was our start,
now saṅkīrtana is our 'life and soul',
your instructions engraved in our hearts.*

*With determination, enthusiasm and patience we'll fight
māyā's onslaughts, with you at command;
You're like Hanumān bridging the gap to Śrī Laṅkā,
we're small spiders just kicking the sand.*

*O eternal father, please bestow upon us
sincere service; so our Lord we can meet,
after drowning so long in this ocean of death
help us cling to your sweet lotus feet!!*

*Blessed's the day when Śrī Kṛṣṇa appeared,
Śrī Kṛṣṇa Caitanya and you, and we pray
the day you return to cintāmaṇi-dhāma
we'll stay dāsa to you, our prabhu.*

Australian BBT-TSKP

Gopināthācārya dāsa	Alalanātha dāsa	Atīta-guṇa-devī dāsi
Kṛpā-kāra dāsa	Jñānasamudra dāsa	Aparājita-devī dāsi
Aṣṭasiddhi dāsa	Gaṇeśa dāsa	Jaleyu-devī dāsi
Ādipuruṣa dāsa	Guṇa-vratī-devī dāsi	Śrīlekhā-devī dāsi
Ātmārāma dāsa	Jñānamūrti-devī dāsi	Bhaktin Jackie

*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*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our most fallen, worthless obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet. You are the most glorious personality and you are the savior of the entire world. From your lotus mouth showers the transcendental rain of Lord Caitanya's pastimes of mercy, which destroys all the ignorance of this material world.

When this nectar mixes with the flood of devotional service, emanating just like moonbeams from your lotus feet, an ocean of Kṛṣṇa *prema* surges forth. Every place that Your Divine Grace's lotus feet set down unlock the floodgate of this love of Kṛṣṇa, and all the living entities there become drowned in the holy name of the Lord. Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare Kṛṣṇa, Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa, Hare Hare/ Hare Rāma, Hare Rāma, Rāma Rāma, Hare Hare.

We fall at your feet again and again. You are the supreme friend of everyone and you are the *ācārya* of the three worlds.

We are lowly, filthy, rotten and the most contaminated entities, and you, dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, are the only hope for such weak-willed and evil-hearted souls as us. We are madly engaged in chewing the chewed and sinking deeper and deeper into the hell of material life, completely and grossly covered with illusion.

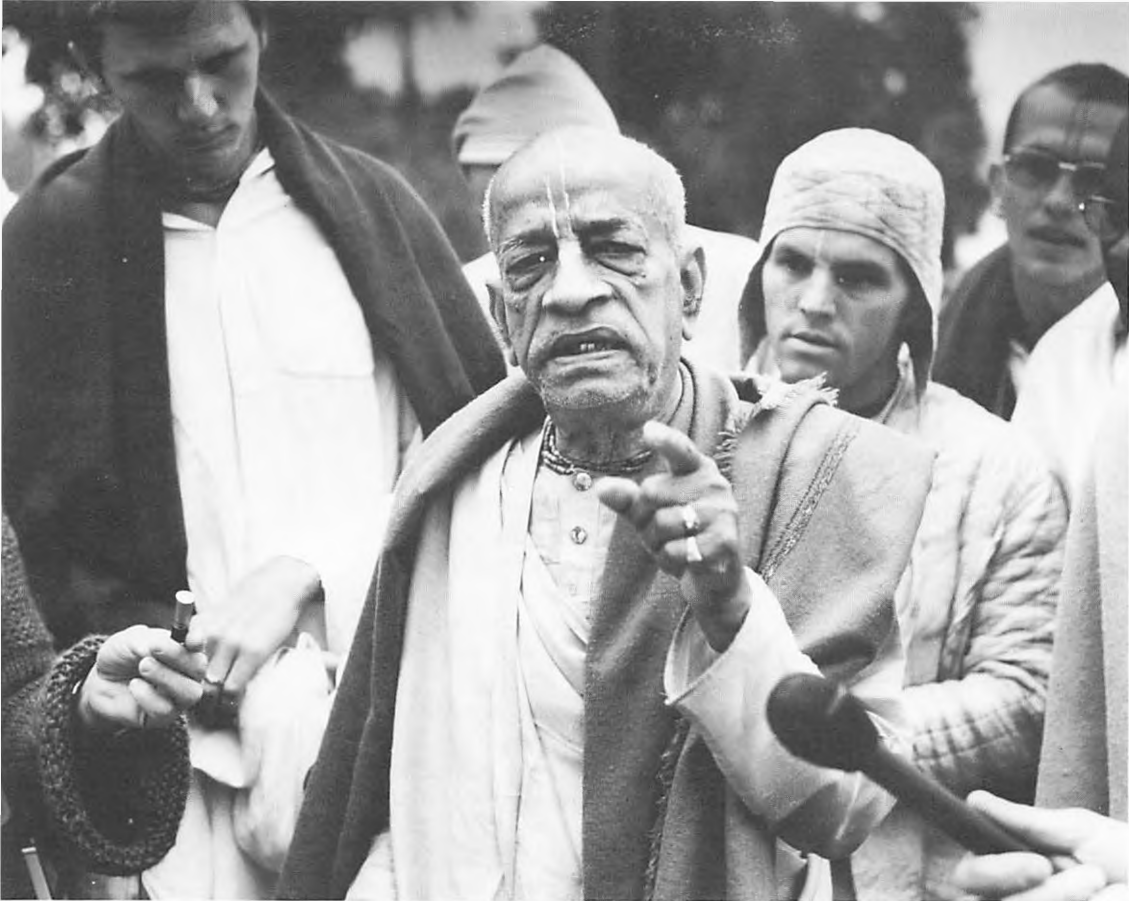
You are so kind, tolerant, expert and merciful that you are repeatedly saving us again and again from the burning stench of this illusion.

All glories to you, Śrīla Prabhupāda. Your golden face is just like the rising sun, and from your golden heart emanates the moonlight of compassion. When your golden lotus lips narrate the ripened fruit and essence of transcendental knowledge, you open our eyes and hearts to the eternal beauty and bliss of Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

We are now afraid of this material world. We don't want to take birth here anymore and work hard like an ass, foaming at the mouth, full of frustration and anxiety, and always being defeated by death: *pa, pha, ba, bha, ma*.

All this just to chew the chewed.

You are our only shelter and you have so mercifully saved us from this eternal hell.



You have given us the chance to be eternally young, blissful, and full of knowledge, just as you are. All fear of life is gone when we remember Your Divine Grace. When we chant Hare Kṛṣṇa we feel ourselves to be the most fortunate people in the universe.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, being your insignificant servant is better than any other position in the three worlds. We can never repay you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, nor do we even want that day to ever come that we are not eternally indebted to you. Our prayer is that the full meaning and purpose of our human form of life, which you have causelessly unveiled to us, be fulfilled with Your Divine Grace.

Let us remain forever as your tiny servants, and Your Divine Grace our spotless and pure spiritual master. Keep us forever as dust under your lotus feet.

Your eternal servants at ISKCON Baltimore

All Glories to Your Divine Grace

The struggle for existence does not take place for one in spiritual consciousness. You are absorbed in your service to Kṛṣṇa, and so you are unaffected by the three modes.

*daivī hy eṣā guṇamayī mama māyā duratyayā
mām eva ye prapadyante māyām etāṁ taranti te*

We are here in the material world, and except for yourself, most of us are in a material consciousness. By your mercy you have descended to this stool house, bringing with you the spiritual world and spiritual knowledge.

Just as Kṛṣṇa descends in the human form, you appear displaying Lord Caitanya's pastimes—but the unintelligent, such as myself, have no appreciation for pure devotees such as yourself.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are *jagad-guru*, enacting this *sāṅkīrtana* mission right here in this most degraded culture. The people here are of the lowest caliber of *mlecchas* and *sūdras*. And you, my divine master, have left your beloved Goloka Vṛndāvana to come and engage them properly in Kṛṣṇa's service.

The sinful activities of these Western people are but a reflection of my own sinister and envious mentality. You have given me the process for cleansing my body and soul, but I become slack unless chastised often. I pray to you for the strength to follow your teachings.

For all the knowledge and happiness you are bringing to us, the only thing you ask in return is that we distribute your mercy to others in the form of *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* and *Bhagavad-gītā*, which can make the whole world Kṛṣṇa conscious. We are so fortunate to have a chance to partake in this spiritual activity of dispersing knowledge which frees the soul of millions of sinful reactions.

However, most unfortunately, I have no strong desire to carry out your order. I simply want to live comfortably in the temple, enjoying my senses and doing whatever service satisfies *me*. By my self-motivated mentality, I have no compassion or love, and making someone else happy is only secondary.

My dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are *brahma-bhūtaḥ prasannātmā*: not affected by these material modes in which I am so deeply entwined, just as a snake tightly wraps his victim who is so foolish as to venture into dangerous areas.

You have taught me that "Humility means that one should not be anxious to have the satisfaction of being honored by others." But when my

service is praised I become enlivened, and when I am chastised I become morose.

You are unattached to everything in this world, and you are drawn to Kṛṣṇa like filings to a powerful magnet. You are always telling us about Kṛṣṇa and His pastimes and His service:

*satataṁ kīrtayanto mām yatantaś ca dṛḍha-vratāḥ
namasyantaś ca mām bhaktyā nitya-yuktā upāsate*

If only I can be attracted by your unparalleled good qualities and leave the undesirable association of my mind. I am struggling for material satisfaction, controlled by my unbridled senses and my monkeylike activities, which cover any of my good features.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you have saved me from falling off the cliff of human life into the cycle of evolution. If somehow, by your mercy alone, I can keep on distributing your books, and develop some appreciation of your appearance, then my life will become all-auspicious and successful.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, *please* accept my prostrate obeisances at your lotus feet, and *please* don't kick me away into the mire of nescience from which you dragged me.

I pray to you to give me the strength to carry out your order.

Your fallen and offensive servants,
New Jagannātha Puri Dhāma, Berkeley

Cāru dāsa	Magarāja dāsa	Rūpa-mañjarī-devī dāśī	Jagannātha-Purī-devī dāśī
Bṛhaspati dāsa	Mahā-Nidhi dāsa	Lamba-devī dāśī	Līlā-smaraṇa-devī dāśī
Svayanjāta dāsa	Rāmāśraya dāsa	Līlā-devī dāśī	Rohiṇī-devī dāśī
Bhakta dāsa	Jñāna-gati dāsa	Kṛṣṇa-laulya-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Lola
Hanumat-prasaka dāsa	Jagadeśa dāsa	Maheśvarya-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Debbie
Kṛta-karmā dāsa	Pravananada dāsa	Kasta-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Jean-Marie
Yājñavalkya dāsa	Mitrasena dāsa	Patraja-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Katy
Rāmānuja dāsa	Svaka dāsa	Nada-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Lyn
Vyāla dāsa	Candraśekhara dāsa	Nityarūpa-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Clare
Lokanātha dāsa	Nimāi dāsa	Lolā-devī dāśī	
Mauri dāsa	Gohita dāsa	Jayabhadra-devī dāśī	Children
Śakti-pati dāsa	Bhadravardhana dāsa	Buddhi-devī dāśī	Jagannātha
Vatsala dāsa	Bāla dāsa	Śubhalakṣmī-devī dāśī	Balarāma
Viśoka dāsa	Ṭhākura Haridāsa dāsa	Dīneṣṭa-devī dāśī	Kṛṣṇa
Maharṣi dāsa	Miśra Bhagavān dāsa	Maninī-devī dāśī	Sāmba
Bhāskara dāsa	Jīva dāsa	Lalitā-devī dāśī	Lokapāla
Vṛndāvana-	Ravi dāsa	Varāha-devī dāśī	Dhruva
candra dāsa	Bhakta Gilbert	Karuṇā-devī dāśī	Subhadrā
Varuṇa dāsa	Bhakta Bopot	Śoṇapurī-devī dāśī	Vṛṇḍā
Kuna-kāra dāsa	Bhakta Allen	Kopalatika-devī dāśī	Jayadevī
Trilocana dāsa	Bhakta Al	Kaṇva-devī dāśī	Yogamāyā
Parvata Muni dāsa	Bhakta Jack	Kalilalitā-devī dāśī	Lalitā
Haripāda dāsa	Bhakta Jamil	Prabala-devī dāśī	Mahāmāyā
Tapanācārya dāsa	Bhakta Richard	Sudharmā-devī dāśī	Devakī
	Vaibhavi-devī dāśī	Masini-devī dāśī	

Vyāsa-pūjā Offering: Utility is the Principle

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our prostrate 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-vāñī-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

In the *Bhakti-rasāmṛta-sindhu*, Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī states:

*anāsaktasya viṣayān yathārham upayuñjataḥ
nirbandhaḥ kṛṣṇa-sambandhe yuktam vairāgyam ucyate*

When one is not attached to anything, but at the same time accepts everything in relation to Kṛṣṇa, one is rightly situated above possessiveness.” As the most exalted *rūpānuga*, you embody this, Śrīla Prabhupāda. For example, if a wretched, bewildered *jīva* reluctantly offers some service to you, as Kṛṣṇa’s most intimate devotee you display your magnanimous nature by accepting that service, however faulty, and the *jīva* benefits by helping spread Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

Therefore, you are the most expert and wonderful spiritual master, and we thank you for engaging us on the BBT Library Party. Although you found us uneducated (even by *mleccha* standards), you have enthused and dispatched us to preach to the “intelligensia” who, at best, are no better than drunken Jagāis and Mādhāis in the garb of “Ph.D., professor, and dean.” Now, you are enabling even them to become purified by serving Kṛṣṇa. Some are purchasing your books; some are recommending them to libraries. And some scholars, in circles where asslike braying is the theme song, have suddenly produced sweet praises for you and your books, such as these:

“It is axiomatic that no book can be expected to entirely satisfy all its potential readers. Here is one, however, which can be said to come remarkably close to that ideal . . .” (re: *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*)

“It is really astonishing how Śrīla Prabhupāda is able to translate the entire *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, single handed, and when one comes to think

of this, apart from his other great literary works, one is tempted to wonder if he is not the same Vyāsa Muni reborn today to adapt his own old work into a universal language of this age for the spiritual upliftment of the modern man.”

Let them utilize your books more and more, as textbooks, reference books, required or extra-credit reading, and, eventually, as the solution to their ghostly-haunted lives of mental speculation and fruitive activity. Already, hundreds have written reviews; thousands have purchased individually; and at least two thousand libraries (public, private, and university libraries alike, representing eighteen countries on four continents) have utilized BBT’s standing order service to acquire a complete set of your books for their patrons.

So let the philosophers and religionists irrigate their “comparative approach” with the life-giving nectar of your preaching, Śrīla Prabhupāda. Let the literary specialists satisfy their passion for adventure and love by reading *kṛṣṇa-līlā* as rendered through the lotuslike lips of a pure devotee. May the sanskritists and Indologists, squinting at the diacritics, expand their vision to the extent of actually *understanding* the books they study, by utilizing *your* editions. Even the sociologists, artists, lawyers, and biologists can utilize your books, for as you said, “I touch on these fields whenever possible.”

Grasping for words to represent even one percent of your divine glory on this Vyāsa-pūjā day, we simply offer to you our Library Party services as one more example of what unqualified disciples can do with the help of a bona fide *guru*:

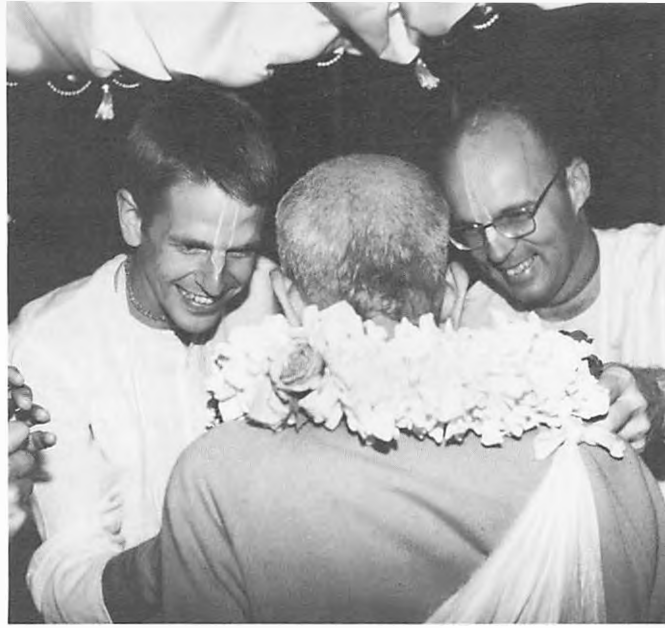
*mukam karoti vācāraṁ paṅguṁ laṅghayate girim
yat-kṛpā tam ahaṁ vande śrī-guruṁ dīna-tāraṇam*

“By the mercy of the *guru*, even a dumb man can become the greatest orator, and even a lame man can cross mountains.”

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, please allow us to utilize our lives in your service under any circumstances.

Your eternal servants, The International BBT Library Party

Satsvarūpa dāsa Gosvāmī	Kālakaṇṭha dāsa brahmacārī	Gokulānanda dāsa adbhikārī
Bhūgarbha dāsa brahmacārī	Mahā Buddha dāsa brahmacārī	Rādhā Kṛṣṇa dāsa adbhikārī
Ghaṇaśyāma dāsa brahmacārī	Mahā Krama dāsa brahmacārī	
Īśa dāsa brahmacārī	Śeṣa dāsa brahmacārī	



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

Real science means to approach a bona fide spiritual master and submissively inquire from him about the Absolute Truth in a spirit of sincere service. In this way one can learn the truth through practical realization in a systematic and effective way. Without spiritual knowledge, scientists, philosophers and scholars can only develop educational systems that basically amount to what has been called “intellectual animalism.”

This means that the result of their knowledge is directed ultimately toward the bodily necessities of eating, sleeping, mating and defending. These necessities, common to both men and animals, are met in the animal kingdom without universities. The human society should also take care of these necessities without great endeavor and thus free the human intellect for higher purposes.

Athāto brahma-jijñāsā, the motto of the Bhaktivedanta Institute, expresses this higher purpose perfectly. The human form of life is meant for inquiring into what I am, what God is, what the meaning of life and the goal of knowledge is. These are the questions of thoughtful men, and one must know the proper process for answering them—*tad viddhi praṇipātena*, by approaching the spiritual master.

Those who simply want to work hard for sense gratification cannot understand that life is a principle distinct from and superior to matter, and that the supreme life is Kṛṣṇa. All scientific, literary and philosophical research should be directed toward this conclusion, *idaṁ hi puṁsas*



tapasaḥ śrutasya vā svīṣṭasya sūktasya ca buddhi-dattayoh. Once having cleared away all doubts by careful understanding that Kṛṣṇa is everything, *vāsudevaḥ sarvam iti*, then one should fully surrender unto Him, *sarva-dharmān parityajya*, engaging everything in His devotional service. In this way, by fixing the mind on Kṛṣṇa in pure, unalloyed devotional service, *man-manā bhava mad-bhaktāḥ*, one can attain the supreme destination of life and go back home, back to Godhead, *yānti mad-yājinō 'pi mām.* The practical achievement of this goal can be realized simply by carrying out the orders of the spiritual master, accepting him as the authorized representative of the Supreme Lord.



We are so fortunate to have the opportunity to learn from you, Śrīla Prabhupāda. Essential truth concisely spoken is true eloquence. In a few words you can eloquently point out that which thousands of years of human speculation have failed to discover. Thus you are the greatest scientist, the most perfect professor, the most learned scholar and our most beloved spiritual father. You are not concerned with the mundane wranglings of inert minds, but you fill our hearts with *transcendental* knowledge, *divya-jñāna hr̥de prakāśita*. Attachment to your lotus feet is the perfection that fulfills all desires. We can feel very secure in carrying out your instructions perfectly. You have mercifully taught us to abandon the grinding mill of arrogant scholarship and to take up the path of humble endeavor in devotional service as the path of knowledge. By your mercy only is our success assured.



Today is the one day set aside especially for the glorification of our beloved spiritual master, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda. Of course, every day we are worshiping His Divine Grace: *śrī-guru-caraṇa-padma*. The lotus feet of our spiritual master are the only way by which we can attain pure devotional service. This is our daily prayer, but it is on this day, his glorious appearance day, that we stop and make a double appreciation of our lord and master, who so graciously bestowed his mercy on us by appearing on this day. Although every day in the association of a pure devotee is a festive occasion, the day on which he appears for giving us this daily association is doubly important and most dear to our hearts. He has appeared the day after the appearance day of Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa, which illustrates the ancient Vedic adage “by the mercy of Kṛṣṇa one gets *guru*”—now by the *guru*’s mercy we shall be able to get Kṛṣṇa. *Yasya prasādād bhagavat-prasādo yasyāprasādān na gatiḥ kuto ’pi*. Here in this verse Viśvanātha Cakravatī Ṭhākura emphasizes, as does Narottama dāsa Ṭhākura in *śrī-guru-caraṇa-padma*, the divine importance of having the transcendental spiritual guide. As the student without a teacher is a fool, the ship without a captain is sunk, the mountain

climber without a guide is lost, so similarly the spiritual aspirant without the divine master is doomed to failure on the path to spiritual perfection.

Human life begins at the point when one accepts with faith and devotion a spiritual master for his guidance out of the darkness of ignorance. But who is to be chosen, and how, is of the utmost importance, for to choose an impostor as a guide on the path of transcendence is the paramount danger which one may meet on his sojourn through this material world; nay, it can practically mean his eternal damnation here. As the teacher without a degree cannot teach, as a captain cannot sail without thorough experience, as the mountain guide cannot lead without having gone the path himself before, similarly the spiritual master which one chooses must be full completely with the required qualifications to guide one back along the venerable but difficult path of transcendence. The first and foremost is that he is an *ācārya* in the bona fide line of disciplic succession. Therein all qualifications are contained. First we should examine the disciplic succession and what it means: It is the unbroken chain of spiritual masters who have handed down intact the divine message of pure devotional service as it was enunciated by the original spiritual master, Śrī Kṛṣṇa, to His first disciple, Lord Brahmā. There is never any addition or subtraction made. As it was received, so it was given—the transcendental message. It is out of divine love and faith for the Lord that the spiritual masters will never change the message of the Lord, lest their heart of hearts be drowned in a ocean of grief at disappointing their beloved. So the *ācārya* is one who through his thought, word and deeds teaches the message of the disciplic succession, as inculcated to him by the *guru*, the *śāstras* and *sādhus*—previous saints in the line, and it is this alone which makes one qualified to be the preceptor of the spiritual path.

Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī, the eminent scholar and intimate disciple and associate of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, and poet among poets in Vaiṣṇava literature, has deftly praised the qualities of an *ācārya* in his concise but powerful and sweet treatise the *Upadeśāmṛta*. In the first verse he enunciates:

*vāco vegam manasaḥ krodha-vegam jihvā-vegam udaropastha-vegam
etān vegān yo viśaheta dhīraḥ sarvām apīmāṁ pṛthivīm sa śiṣyat*

Vaco vegam—It is most difficult to control the urge to speak. The tongue is most voracious and eager to speak always and anything, without cessation. It is he who can always control the ever-swaggering tongue and train it to vibrate transcendental sound only. Then he alone can become the *ācārya*.

Manasaḥ krodha-vegam—“My dear Kṛṣṇa,” Arjuna entreats, “is it not more difficult to control the mind than to control the raging wind?” The mind is so stubborn and obstinate that it controls the intelligence at

times, but he who trains the mind to concentrate always on the beautiful cowherd boy Govinda, His form, name, pastimes, paraphernalia and associates, he alone can be an *ācārya*. Did not Viśvāmītra the great sage become angry with Rambhā, did not Brahmā the creator of the universe become furious with the Kumāras, did not Lord Śiva, who is Mahādeva, burn Cupid to ashes in rage, but did not Lord Viṣṇu massage the feet of Bhṛgu upon the latter's insult? It is only when one is in the transcendental mode of pure goodness that one can be free of anger, because anger is the product of lust, and lust is the product of attachment via contemplation of the objects of the senses. So it is only one whose mind is fixed on the Supreme Lord, whose speech always glorifies the transcendental Lord, and whose gross senses, the tongue, the mind and the genital, are always withdrawn from the objects of the senses—completely controlled—he can renounce anger, the loss of which brings boundless joy. He alone can become an *ācārya*.



Jihvā-vegām—“The only way to a man's heart is through his stomach” is the old American quotation. The lusty desires of the cook are transferred through the food to the mind of the waiting recipient; the wicked desires of the hotel's cook are also readily available in the fancy prepared dishes. The heart is an open receptacle for the wicked and lusty desires of the cooks who prepare foodstuffs, which encourage sinful activities, save and except the foodstuffs prepared by the hands of the ardent devotee of the Lord for the exclusive pleasure of the Lord, the remnants of which are distributed and shared with great relish after being offered to the Lord by the devotee. One who can, with all the determination at his command, remove all desires for tasting anything but Śrī Kṛṣṇa's divine remnants can alone be called an *ācārya*.

Udaropastha-vegām—one should not endeavor to make the body fat and strong, thus increasing the bodily conception of life and clouding the

path to spiritual perfection. When the body increases in weight and strength, the urge to enjoy the genital also increases. One who denies the body undue and excessive increase in the vital fluid of life and conserves it therein for memory, determination and enthusiasm for spiritual pursuits, accepting only enough to keep body and soul together, he alone can be an *ācārya*.

The prince among poets in Vaiṣṇava literature, Śrī Rūpa Gosvāmī, says that *etān vegān*—he who controls all these urges—is *viśaheta dhīraḥ*, the one and only *dhīra*, a sober person in this world. Undisturbed by the influence of the modes of material nature on these six sense gratifying agents, he has conquered the material nature. The *dhīra* is *guru*, or heavy; that is, he is situated in one place above the material ocean's wave. Therefore Śrī Rūpa says, *sarvām apīmāṁ pṛthivīm sa śiṣyat*—he alone can go throughout the world and make disciples because he alone has become *ācārya*, one who teaches the path of transcendence from the *guru*, the *śāstra*, and the *sādhus*, by his thought, word, and deeds.

The *ācārya* is a veritable transcendental repository of spiritual knowledge and thoughts. His association is like touchstone, enlightening everyone he meets via the touch of transcendental sound vibration, which enters and purifies the heart of every true seeker who practically sees with his own eyes that every action of the *ācārya* is a manifestation of his divine knowledge and teachings, an example for all to follow. Such a veritable king should be approached with great caution, for Śrī Kṛṣṇa Himself has said, *ācāryaṁ mām vijānīyāt*. The *ācārya* is My very self. Just as the ambassador is given equal reception as the president he represents, so the spiritual master is to be received like Kṛṣṇa because he is thinking, speaking and acting on behalf of the Lord. He is doing what the Lord Himself would do for us if we were able to see Him with our spiritually blind eyes. We cannot reach the Lord in the heart, so He has come out and manifested Himself as *guru*, the external manifestation of Paramātmā, the Lord in the heart. And because He is in contact with Paramātmā, who is everywhere in full knowledge of everything, there is nothing which is secret for the *ācārya*. The *ācārya* may know whatever he may need or choose to know at any given second. As Vyāsa was *tri-kāla-jñā*, or able to perceive time in all three phases—past, present and future—so the *ācārya* has this power. Therefore it is said, *sarva-devamayo guruḥ*: he is the sum total of all the demigods. If one worships the *ācārya*, then he has fulfilled all his commitments to all the demigods. The *ācārya* is a veritable repository of all strength, fame, knowledge, beauty, and wealth. He is unrivalled in the worlds and should be approached with only the utmost respect and veneration. Verily it is said that when one stands before the spiritual master he should think himself a total fool. Further it is stated that one must never be envious of the *ācārya*, for it is enviousness of Kṛṣṇa. If the ambassador is insulted, the president is in-

sulted, therefore envy is an offense at the lotus feet of the spiritual master, which is known as *vaiṣṇava-aparādha*. Such an offense causes havoc on the progressive path back to Godhead. One should strictly avoid it. The *ācārya* should be approached in a humble frame of mind (*paripraśnena sevayā*), with an innocent and inquisitive mind and a humble service attitude, because this is the only method and combination which endears the *guru* to enlighten the disciple with transcendental knowledge. It is this knowledge we must obtain to transcend the material world.

No one is more kind and gracious than the *ācārya*. Coming to this rotten, miserable material world! What a great sacrifice for all of us, who are so unworthy—suffering for our sinful reactions, reducing our burden in traversing the path to spiritual progress. He is the greatest servant to all humanity, for he is the greatest servant of the Supreme Lord, Śrī Kṛṣṇa. Therefore he is master, spiritual master, *ācārya*, and it is his path we must follow, holding on tightly to his *dhoti*, for it is by his merciful glance alone that we can go back to Godhead. He has spared no pains in fulfilling the orders of his *guru-mahārāja* in coming to the Western world, facing terrible conditions of health, weather, eating, sleeping and traveling, giving up all bodily comforts, undaunted in his determination that “I must satisfy my *guru-mahārāja*.” This consciousness we must also attain. This we must also cry out for. We must throw off all of our material desires, shun all hope for liberation, and pray constantly day and night with all the courage at our command that we can in some small way satisfy even minutely our beloved spiritual master, His Divine Grace.

A new day is dawning in the history of the world, the face of all nations will change, their culture, their eating habits, their sleeping habits, their processes of mating and defending, their routine of keeping clean, everything from A to Z is being changed—their thoughts, their words and their deeds—all by the grace of one single personality, a personality so divine, so powerful, so learned, so beautiful, so wealthy, so renounced, so famous that he defies comprehension by the greatest material intellect and the swiftest material mind. Let us all on this day renew our pledge to become an integral part in his plan of changing the entire destiny of mankind by unreservedly surrendering our every thought, word and deed at the lotus feet of our spiritual master, who Ṭhākura Bhaktivinoda predicted would come and preach the message of Lord Caitanya unrestrictedly throughout the world, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, the fulfiller of Lord Caitanya’s prophecy that “My name shall be heard in every town and village of the world.”

Gaura Govinda Svāmī	Dhīrāsānta dāsa brahmacārī	Vyāpī dāsa brahmacārī
Bhagavat dāsa brahmacārī	Prakāśātmā dāsa brahmacārī	Hare Kṛṣṇa dāsa brahmacārī
Saṅjāta dāsa brahmacārī	Premalauna dāsa brahmacārī	Digpati dāsa adhikārī
Jitapraṇa dāsa brahmacārī	Mahābhujā dāsa brahmacārī	

*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*

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

We have no qualifications to make an offering to Your Divine Grace. Any qualification we may have to serve you is due to your causeless mercy only. So please let us realize our position, which is just like that of a sold-out animal, who is completely dependent upon its master in every respect. You are our master and have given us everything. You have brought us the Hare Kṛṣṇa *mahā-mantra*, the medicine that will wipe out the disease of illusion from which we are suffering. You are maintaining us daily, supplying us with *kṛṣṇa-prasāda*, with the shelter of your Vaiṣṇava temples and with the association of *kṛṣṇa-bhaktas*. You have placed us under the expert care of your devotee, His Holiness Kīrtanānanda Svāmī. You have given us Śrī Śrī Rādhā Vṛndāvana Candra to saturate our eyes and purify our hearts. You are destroying the long-cherished desire for sense gratification and in turn you are filling the mouths of your devotees with *kṛṣṇa-kathā*. You are a miracle worker, transforming dark-hearted *mlecchas* into bright-faced Vaiṣṇavas. And now it is coming to pass that in every town and village the holy names of Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare Rāma are being vibrated because you have so faithfully followed the instructions of your *guru-mahārāja*, His Divine Grace Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī. It is described that one drop of Lord Caitanya's mercy can inundate the entire world with pure love for Kṛṣṇa. Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are that one drop. Your Divine Grace is our only hope in this world of birth and death. O Gurudeva, please do not let us escape the deluge of your mercy.

Please help this sinner catch hold of your lotus feet. All glories, all glories, all glories to the emissary of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu.

Bṛiṣakāpi dāsa Papasthāya dāsa Sārjādi-devī dāsī
Nityodita dāsa Kṛṣṇāṣṭamī dāsa Varāha-devī dāsī







One who thinks that the spiritual master is a common man certainly possesses hellish intelligence and his eternal captivity in illusion is a certainty. Śrīla Prabhupāda, your body is completely spiritual and your every breath is a prayer to Kṛṣṇa. Your smile and shining teeth are a gateway to the spiritual world, and from your mouth there is a constant cascade of golden Vaikuṇṭha nectar. May I always bathe myself in the *kṛṣṇa-kathā* which flows from your lotus mouth. Your eyes are like a window to Goloka, and if one steadily gazes into your lotus eyes he becomes melted in ecstasy, for they twinkle with pure love of Godhead.

There are so many so-called important persons and foolish knaves in this material world who count themselves as greatly fortunate. But I know that I am truly blessed by Lord Caitanya because I have been allowed to serve you and become counted among your disciples. I do not care a fig for those so-called lucky fellows because I know that all their good luck goes sour at the bleak moment of their death. But among countless conditioned souls I have been benedicted by Lord Caitanya and Lord Nityānanda's mercy, and so I, who am worse than worthless, have been allowed to serve you, who are the best of all persons. No one else is the *ācārya*, no one else is *jagad-guru*, and no one else is more dear to me than yourself. I pray that after many lifetimes of service, Lord Kṛṣṇa will allow me to become your devotee.

Your eternal servants, ISKCON, Bogota, Colombia





Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda:

Please accept our eternal prostrated obeisances at your divine lotus feet. All glories to Your Divine Grace. On the auspicious occasion of Śrī Vyāsa-pūjā we meditate on your unlimited transcendental qualities and glorious pastimes in reclaiming the fallen conditioned souls, and we find that you are the personification of the transcendental love described by Śrī Prahlāda Mahārāja.

*naivodvije para duratyaya-vaitaraṇyās
tvad-vīrya-gāyana-mahāmṛta-magna-cittāḥ
śoce tato vimukha-cetasa indryārtha-
māyā-sukhāya bharam udvahato vimūdhān
(Bhāg. 7.9.43)*

You were living alone in Vṛndāvana, absorbed in thoughts of the lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa. From your sacred rooms at Rādhā Dāmodara, looking over the *bhajana-kuṭīra* of Śrīla Rūpa Gosvāmī, you were feeling transcendental bliss. Merged in that ocean of *bhakti-rasa*, what need was there for you to leave that holy place? What need was there for you to leave the sanctified atmosphere of Vṛndāvana, so pure and peaceful, to come to the hellish cities of the West?

*prāyeṇa deva munayaḥ sva-vimukti-kāmā
maunaṁ caranti vijane na parārtha-niṣṭhāḥ
naitān vihāya kṛpanān vimumukṣa eko
nānyaṁ tvad asya śaraṇaṁ bhramato 'nupaśye
(Bhāg. 7.9.44)*

You remembered the divine instructions of your beloved spiritual master, Om Viṣṇupāda Paramahamṣa Parivrājakācārya Aṣṭottara-śata Śrī Śrīmad Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī Mahārāja, and you left your idyllic existence in Vṛndāvana in order to deliver us poor fools and rascals rotting amidst the horrible noises and smells of our big cities.

The people in the West are completely devoid of God-consciousness, completely deluded by the modes of passion and ignorance. Only you could properly appreciate our abominable position. Intoxicated by sinful

life, we considered ourselves very advanced. What could we learn from you? Fat and complacent, we already had so many big leaders and teachers. How could we learn anything from You?

*matir na kṛṣṇe parataḥ svato vā
mitho 'bhipadyeta gr̥ha-vratānām
adānta-gobhir viśatām tamisram
punaḥ punaś carvita-carvaṇānām
(Bhāg. 7.5.30)*

You had come to the West out of compassion for us rascals, but how to save us?

*na te viduḥ svārtha-gatiṁ hi viṣṇum
durāśayā ye bahir-artha-māninaḥ
andhā yathāndhair upanīyamānās
te 'pīṣa-tantryām uru-dāmni baddhāḥ
(Bhāg. 7.5.31)*

We are so fallen and Godless, how could we ever understand your sublime message?

*naiṣām matis tāvad urukramāṅghrim
spr̥ṣaty anarthāpagamo yad-arthaḥ
mahīyasām pāda-rajo-'bhiṣekaṁ
niṣkiñcanānām na vṛñīta yāvat
(Bhāg. 7.5.32)*

We think that only by your causeless mercy could such wretched souls be engaged in the loving service of the Lord—only by your transcendental tricks and by the dust of your lotus feet. You sat under a tree in Thompkins Square Park and began chanting “Hare Kṛṣṇa.” And, when we thought, “Who is this fellow? What is he doing?” You began to explain the *Bhagavad-gītā As It Is*. You gave us a new life, and you taught us how to live. Some people have hearts like stone, some have hearts like gold, and some have hearts like butter. But your heart is like nectar, always melting in love of God. Therefore you were pleased by our simple efforts to dance and chant “Hare Kṛṣṇa,” and to honor the *kṛṣṇa-prasāda* you prepared for us. Only by your causeless mercy could we get any idea of Kṛṣṇa consciousness, and only through your transcendental love could our attachment for Śrī Kṛṣṇa develop. You gave us life and you taught us how to live. You taught us how to eat, how to sleep, how to wash, how to dress, how to worship, how to sit, how to speak, how to think, and how to serve. You gave us the “Hare Kṛṣṇa” *mantra* and the transcendental seed of *kṛṣṇa-bhakti*. The sunshine of your purity and the rainfall of your mercy created auspicious conditions in which the

seed could grow, and you tendered the young creeper, cutting the weeds with your sharp criticism, and supporting the sapling with your loving guidance.

What could we offer to Kṛṣṇa? Kṛṣṇa is *ātmārāma*. Furthermore, He resides in a limitless kingdom of spiritual gems, where He is always served with great reverence and affection by hundreds and thousands of goddesses of fortune. What could we ever do to please Him? Your heart is so soft that you were pleased even by the awkward attempts of His child trying to walk. And somehow or other, because you were pleased, we think that Lord Kṛṣṇa, out of His great love for you, may also have been pleased. Thus by *your* mercy only He granted us devotional service.

Although from one point of view we are still helpless children and can only cry for you, from another point of view you have trained us so nicely and expertly that we now feel we want to do something for you. You have given us life, but you are so kind that you want to bring everyone to their real understanding of life. Your mission is so great and we are so insignificant, but still you have engaged us in preaching—in the same spirit expressed by Śrī Prahlāda Mahārāja and in the same spirit demonstrated by your *guru-mahārāja* when he sent you to the West.

*evam janam nipatitam prabhavāhi-kūpe
kāmābhikāmam anu yaḥ prapatan prasaṅgāt
kṛtvātmāsāt surarṣiṇā bhagavān gṛhītaḥ
so 'haṁ katham nu visrje tava bhṛtya-sevām
(Bhāg. 7.9.28)*

We pray to remain eternally engaged in your transcendental loving service and to help give others the same life that you have given us.

Your eternal servants,

Surabhīr Abhipālayanta dāsa	Rāghava Caitanya dāsa	Vijeta dāsa adhikārī
Svāmī	brahmacārī	Bali Mardana dāsa adhikārī
Girirāja dāsa brahmacārī	Raghupati Rāghava dāsa	Āditya-devī dāsī
Amoghalīla dāsa brahmacārī	brahmacārī	Ārya-devī dāsī
Abhayāśraya dāsa brahmacārī	Rāma Rañjana dāsa brahmacārī	Gaṇḍīva-devī dāsī
Akṣaya dāsa brahmacārī	Rāma Tulasī dāsa brahmacārī	Ekayānī-devī dāsī
Arjuna dāsa brahmacārī	Siddhārtha dāsa brahmacārī	Kāntā-devī dāsī
Citrakāra dāsa brahmacārī	Subala dāsa brahmacārī	Kṛṣṇakāntā-devī dāsī
Ekanātha dāsa brahmacārī	Vijaya dāsa brahmacārī	Pālikā-devī dāsī
Gaurasundara dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Hasamukha	Rādhā Rāsavihārī-
Haridāsa dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Lau	devī-dāsī
Pippalai dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Manohara	Rāma-devī dāsī
Prasannātmā dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Sunila	Śyāmasundarī-devī dāsī
Puṇḍarīka dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Vibhūti	Taittreya-devī dāsī
Purī dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Viṣṇu	Viśva-devī dāsī
Pūrṇa Brahma dāsa brahmacārī	Nistraiguṇya dāsa adhikārī	Vṇḍavānī-devī dāsī
Rāma Śraddhā dāsa brahmacārī	Rāja Rāma dāsa adhikārī	

I

*In the spirit of enjoyment
We pedestaled genitals
Chewed thorns
Nuzzled stool
And tottered under an awesome load.*

*Blind, we saw happiness everywhere
Bound up, we struggled
Foolish we languished
Eternally we died.*

*Illusion was our happiness, reality, life.
We were trapped
Shackled
Imprisoned.*

*In a day without light
In a universe without sun
We were most important
We were crass, filthy, self-centered,
lowborn, liars.
Haughtily strutting
Through the cosmopolitan monotone
of scum
We pranced, insignificant specks.
In those lifeless depths
We thought we were God.*

*On the treadmill
We confidently ran
With Kali conviction
Further into darkness
Life after life
Death after death
Smiling all the while
Lost.*

II.

*And beyond that material cloud
On the other side of this tiny earth globe
Under the shelter of Śrī Śrī Rādhā Dāmodara
In pristine purity
You patiently sat
In paramparā surrender
To Bhaktisiddhānta's soul-saving order
Translating of the Vedas
That most delectable fruit
Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam.*

*Guardian of the Caitanya tree
With saffron flowing robes
You, triumphant guru
Then graciously offered us the intoxicating
fragrant flower
Śrī-hari-nāma
Graciously then you placed before us the
irresistible fruit
Pure love of Godhead.
And by your causeless mercy
The crows became swans.*

*You saturate our eyes with heart-melting
Śrī-vigraha
And our tongues never know the end
Of your most special gift
The Lord's prasāda.*

*You are the most esteemed ambassador
Our only contact
You are the crystalline looking glass
Our only glimpse
Of the supreme abode.*

*Your touchstone mercy
Our only foothold
The supreme magician
You turn bell metal to gold.*

III.

*By the grace of our spiritual master
Our every step
Is hallowed and steady
Returning back home
Through that long-forgotten door
Sevana.*

*By the grace of our spiritual master
Chills of eagerness
Wrench us from this body
As we fall flat hundred times,
thousand times
Eternally.*

*Śrīla Prabhupāda, eternal father
We are dogs.
How can we praise you?
Still, boundless is your mercy.
Though we grovel, spit and foam
in wrath
Still your cleansing rain
Purifies even the lowest born.*

*Master, regent, king
Your causeless mercy,
Your boundless grace,
Your eternal care. . .
Yet we still turn away.*

Prabhupāda . . . please!

*Devotees of New Guṇḍicā Dhāma
(Boston Yatra)*

Aja dāsa	Agraṇi dāsa
Nirāñjana dāsa	Kardama Muni dāsa
Śrīnātha dāsa	Matureśa dāsa
Kāliya Kṛṣṇa dāsa	Śivānanda dāsa
Narendra dāsa	Dīnanātha dāsa
Vasu Gopāla dāsa	Mādhava dāsa

Svarūpa Dāmodara dāsa
Sadapūta dāsa
Gadādhara Paṇḍita dāsa
Mukta Vandya dāsa
Rāma Vijaya dāsa
Jaya Yadunandana dāsa
Vallabha Bhaṭṭa dāsa
Śacīsuta dāsa
Śivānanda Sena dāsa
Rāgānuga dāsa
Prabhupāda dāsa
Madanagopāla dāsa
Bhakta Danny
Bhakta Tom
Bhakta Eric
Bhakta Angels
Bhakta Bobby
Bhakta Fernando
Bhakta Paul
Mūrti Vandya-devī dāsi
Madana-mohana
Mohini-devī dāsi
Gandharvikā-devī dāsi
Madhumati-devī dāsi
Mahālakṣmī-devī dāsi
Sumati-devī dāsi
Devahūti-devī dāsi
Jaya Lalitā-devī dāsi
Vijayadevī dāsi
Kulaja-devī dāsi
Rasa Parāyaṇi-devī dāsi
Bhaktin Heidi
Bhaktin Cecilia
Bhaktin Debbi
Bhaktin Sue
Bhaktin Susan
Bhaktin Yola
Bhaktin Kathy
Bhaktin Pat
Tri-śakti
Malinī
Śyāmakunḍa
Gopīvallabha
Navanīta Taskara
Cintāmaṇi
Nṛsīṁha
Kṛṣṇa
Kāṇḍī

*ohe! vaiṣṇava ṭhākura, doyāra sāgara,
e dāse karuṇā kori'
diyā pada-chāyā, śodha he āmāya,
tomāra caraṇa dhorī
chaya bega dami', chaya doṣa śodhi,
chaya guṇa deha' dāse
chaya sat-saṅga, deha' he āmāre
bosechī saṅgera āṣe
ekākī āmāra, nāhi pāy bolo,
harināma-saṅkīrtane
tumi kṛpā kori', śraddhā-bindu diyā,
deha' kṛṣṇa-nāma-dhane
kṛṣṇa se tomāra, kṛṣṇa dite pāra,
tomāra śakati āche
āmi to' kāṅgāla, 'kṛṣṇa' 'kṛṣṇa' boli',
dhāi tava pāche pāche*





Oh, venerable Vaiṣṇava, dearly beloved spiritual master, you are the life and sustenance of our existence. Just as the sun activates lifeless trees at winter's end and ushers in the flower-bearing spring, you have by your presence given life to a lifeless world. Please give us the shade of your lotus feet.

Oh, ocean of auspicious qualities, please wash away our faults and passions, and as the cloud pours water on the forest fire, extinguish this blazing fire of material existence in which we have been burning since time immemorial. Please give us the shelter of your lotus feet.

Oh, lionhearted and fearless father, out of your causeless kindness you have informed us of our eternal blissful nature as servants of Kṛṣṇa. Now please bestow upon us the faith to carry on this *saṅkīrtana* movement, which is benefitting all of humanity. Please give us the protection of your lotus feet.

Oh, Śrīla Prabhupāda, protector of fallen souls, please accept our humble offerings of homage and make our lives successful. If you do not accept our tiny offerings, then our lives are ruined and we will surely be lost again in the whirlpool of material suffering. Please, Śrīla Prabhupāda, give us the mercy of your lotus feet.

Your humble servants in Buffalo, New York



When you were in Caracas, Śrīla Prabhupāda, you made a statement that Caracas is a *saṅkīrtana* Temple. We have been trying to fulfill this statement by dedicating our lives to the preaching of Kṛṣṇa consciousness here in Venezuela.

I remember in your room in Māyāpur this year, many devotees were informing you of different activities of ISKCON around the world. We introduced our top distributor to you, and you remarked, “Yes, he has the mercy of Kṛṣṇa.” Then you continued by stating that actually everyone has the mercy of Kṛṣṇa, but in one sense the preaching of Kṛṣṇa consciousness is higher:

*na ca tasmān manuṣyeṣu kaścin me priya-kṛttamaḥ
bhavitā na ca me tasmād anyañ priyataro bhuvī
(Bg. 18.69)*

“There is no servant in this world more dear to Me than him, nor will there ever be one more dear.” Because actually you are the one who is doing the preaching, you are the most dear to Kṛṣṇa.

*bhārata bhūmite haila manuṣya janma yāra
janma sārthaka kari’ kara para-upakāra*

“One who has taken birth as a human being in the land of India should make his life successful, and work for the benefit of all other people.” This is the instruction given by Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu and you have taken up this mission with full faith in your *guru-mahārāja*. You have shown us that our real home is also in the transcendental land of Bharata-varṣa, in the transcendental *dhāmas* of Māyāpur and Vṛndāvana. Therefore we must also accept this instruction of Lord Caitanya as applying to ourselves. Therefore we should dedicate our lives to spreading your words to every town and village in the universe. Actually everyone is a resident of these transcendental *dhāmas*, and you have made it our duty to reveal this to the world.

Therefore you have so many projects; book distribution, temple construction in India, food distribution, farm projects throughout the world, and many others; and all of these projects have one aim, to fulfill the desire of your *guru-mahārāja* by gradually introducing everyone to Kṛṣṇa consciousness and providing occupations for all classes of men under Kṛṣṇa's *varṇāśrama-dharma* system so that everyone can go back to home, back to Godhead.

Kṛṣṇa states in the *Bhagavad-gītā* that the wise should not disturb the ignorant in their performance of *vikarmic* activities (Bg. 3.29), but you are more kind than Kṛṣṇa Himself, so we pray that you may benedict us with an atom of your infinite compassion for the conditioned souls, that we may be pleasing to you.

*tāhale ānanda hoy tabe hoy digvijay caitanyer kṛpā atiśay
māyā duṣṭa jata duḥkhī jagate sabāi sukhī vaiṣṇaver icchā
pūrṇa hoy*

“As the vast mercy of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu conquers all directions, a flood of transcendental ecstasy will certainly cover the land. When all the sinful, miserable living entities become happy, the Vaiṣṇava's desire is then fulfilled.”

So please, Śrīla Prabhupāda, let us become the instruments for fulfilling this desire of yours wherever you send us.

Your servants birth after birth,

Bīr Kṛṣṇa dāsa	Hari Veṇu dāsa	Bhuvanī Pāvanī-devī dāsi
Puruṣit dāsa	Matsya dāsa	Mūrti Mūrti-devī dāsi
Jayajagadīśa dāsa	Romasa dāsa	Amita-śakti-devī dāsi
Vīrabāhu dāsa	Antarya dāsa	Nityallā-devī dāsi
Hari Bhakti dāsa	Karuṇākṣya dāsa	Kartā-devī dāsi
Tamoha dāsa	Gopeśa dāsa	Tadakāri-devī dāsi
Kavi dāsa	Jatu Karṇya dāsa	Ānandini-devī dāsi
Ādiśeṣa dāsa	Bhakta Rene	Tri Śakti-devī dāsi
Rāmānujācārya dāsa	Bhakta Jorge	Bhadrākṛti-devī dāsi
Antaryāmī dāsa	Bhakta Eduardo	Jaya Rāma-devī dāsi
Jagat Cakṣur dāsa	Bhakta Hector	Jamini-devī dāsi
Kratu dāsa	Bhakta Angel	Bhaktin Irma
Darantavīra dāsa	Bhakta Jose	Bhaktin Maria
Viśuddha Sattva dāsa	Bhakta Ellio	Bhaktin Myrta
Jñāna Sukṛti dāsa	Bhakta Jario	Bhaktin Jannet
Nitya Svarūpa dāsa	Bhakta Hilberto	Bhaktin Georgina
Avatāri dāsa	Bhakta Jorge	Bhaktin Laura
Hari Cakra dāsa	Bhakta Edgar	Kṛṣṇa Caitanya
Rohiṇī Priya dāsa	Bhakta Omar	Akrūra
Mādhavāśraya dāsa	Bhakta Ricardo	Kiśorī
Paularṣi dāsa	Bhakta Felix	Hṛṣīkeśa
Jayavīrasimha dāsa	Bhakta Rafael	Vairāgya Vidyā

Dear 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*

Please accept our worthless obeisances. Please accept our insufficient gratitude for bringing us out of *māyās'* blazing fire and into the cool shade of Your Divine Grace's lotus feet. Whenever we try to express our appreciation of you it is embarrassing, because our gratitude can never equal what you are doing for us.

One time you came to visit us here at your New Tālavana farm community. We were able to hear you speak and see you face-to-face and experience your presence directly (*vapu* association). However, since then we are more and more experiencing how you are present in your instructions and we are still relishing your association (*vāṇī* association).

Actually, this is the most mercy. When you go somewhere not everyone will be able to go to your room to speak with you, but you are readily available to everyone in your books. The mercy and association of a pure devotee and the Supreme Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa are equally available to all in your teachings. Now, we do not want to let this priceless opportunity slip through our fingers.

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, in the *Caitanya-caritāmṛta* you said that "The service of the spiritual master is essential. If there is no chance to serve the spiritual master directly, a devotee should serve him by remembering his instructions. There is no difference between the spiritual master's instructions and the spiritual master himself. In his absence, therefore, his words of direction should be the pride of the disciple."

So we humbly submit ourselves at your lotus feet to pray that our minds and hearts will become eternally absorbed in your instructions. We also pray that we will be able to make ourselves suitable instruments for executing your directions perfectly. In that way we can always relish your association.

Your fallen servants, The devotees of New Tālavana Farm Community

Nityānanda dāsa	Candra Śekhara	Tim	Arjuna
Yogīndra Vandana dāsa	Brahmānanda	Kamarikānta-	Sūrya
Jagatkartā dāsa	Purī and family	devī-dāsi	Mitra
Rohita	David	Kiki	Bāla
Caturbāhu	Barry	Jennifer	
Vaiṣṇava	Jim	Jāmbavatī	



Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, please accept our humble obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet. As long as there is sunshine in this material world, please accept our respectful obeisances.

*tvaṁ naḥ sandarśito dhātrā dustaraṁ nistitīrṣatām
kaliṁ sattva-haraṁ puṁsām kaṇṇa-dhāra ivārṇavam*

“We think that we have met Your Grace by the will of providence, and thus we accept you as the captain of the ship for those who desire to cross the dangerous ocean of Kali, which destroys all the good qualities of a human being.” (*Bhāg.* 1.1.22)

We are very fortunate to come in contact with your grace. Otherwise we were simply suffering the cruel kicks of *māyā*, being forced to serve our senses. You are such a powerful Vaiṣṇava that you are delivering the whole world.

As it is stated in the *Caitanya-caritāmṛta*, by the grace of both the spiritual master and Kṛṣṇa, one receives the seed of devotional service (*bhakti-latā-bīja*), and by the watering process of *śravaṇam kīrtanam* this plant can be made to grow all the way up to Goloka Vṛndāvana.

We can see very clearly that you possess all of the qualifications of a bona fide spiritual master. Eight basic stanzas explaining the spiritual master are given by Viśvanātha Cakravartī Ṭhākura in his famous *Gurvaṣṭaka* prayers.

First of all you are able to deliver the fallen conditioned souls from the wheel of birth and death. So many previously sinful people are now following the restrictions of no meat-eating, no gambling, no illicit sex, and no intoxication by your teachings, and along with chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa, they are becoming free from birth and death.



You are always engaged in chanting and hearing the message of Lord Caitanya. By your potency people all over the world are chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa. Also in accordance with the will of Caitanya Mahāprabhu, you are spreading the teachings of *Bhagavad-gītā* and *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* all over the world.

You are always engaged in worshiping the eternal forms of Śrī Śrī Rādhā Kṛṣṇa and teaching us to do the same.

You are teaching also the simple and sublime method of eating and distributing *kṛṣṇa-prasāda*. Before, we were engaged in eating so many sinful things. But by taking *kṛṣṇa-prasāda* we can become purified in body, mind and soul. And the process is so joyful.

You are always hearing, chanting and serving Their Lordships Śrī Rādhikā Mādhava.

By these symptoms of a bona fide spiritual master you are worshipable on an equal level with God. This is because you are teaching the message of God and are therefore very dear to the Lord. We should always remember your lotus feet and at least three times a day we should offer you our respectful obeisances unto your lotus feet.

Thank you for giving us *Bhagavad-gītā*. Thank you for giving us the work of *saṅkīrtana*. Thank you for giving us *kṛṣṇa-prasāda*. Thank you for giving us the association of devotees.

As stated by Uddhava to Lord Kṛṣṇa in the Eleventh Canto of *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*: “O my Lord! Transcendental poets and experts in spiritual science could not fully express their indebtedness to You, even if they were endowed with the prolonged lifetime of Brahmā, for You appear in two features—externally as the *ācārya* and internally as the Supersoul—to deliver the embodied living being by directing him how to come to You.” (*Bhāg.* 11.29.6)

All glories to your lotus feet, Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Your unworthy servants at ISKCON Chandigarh, India

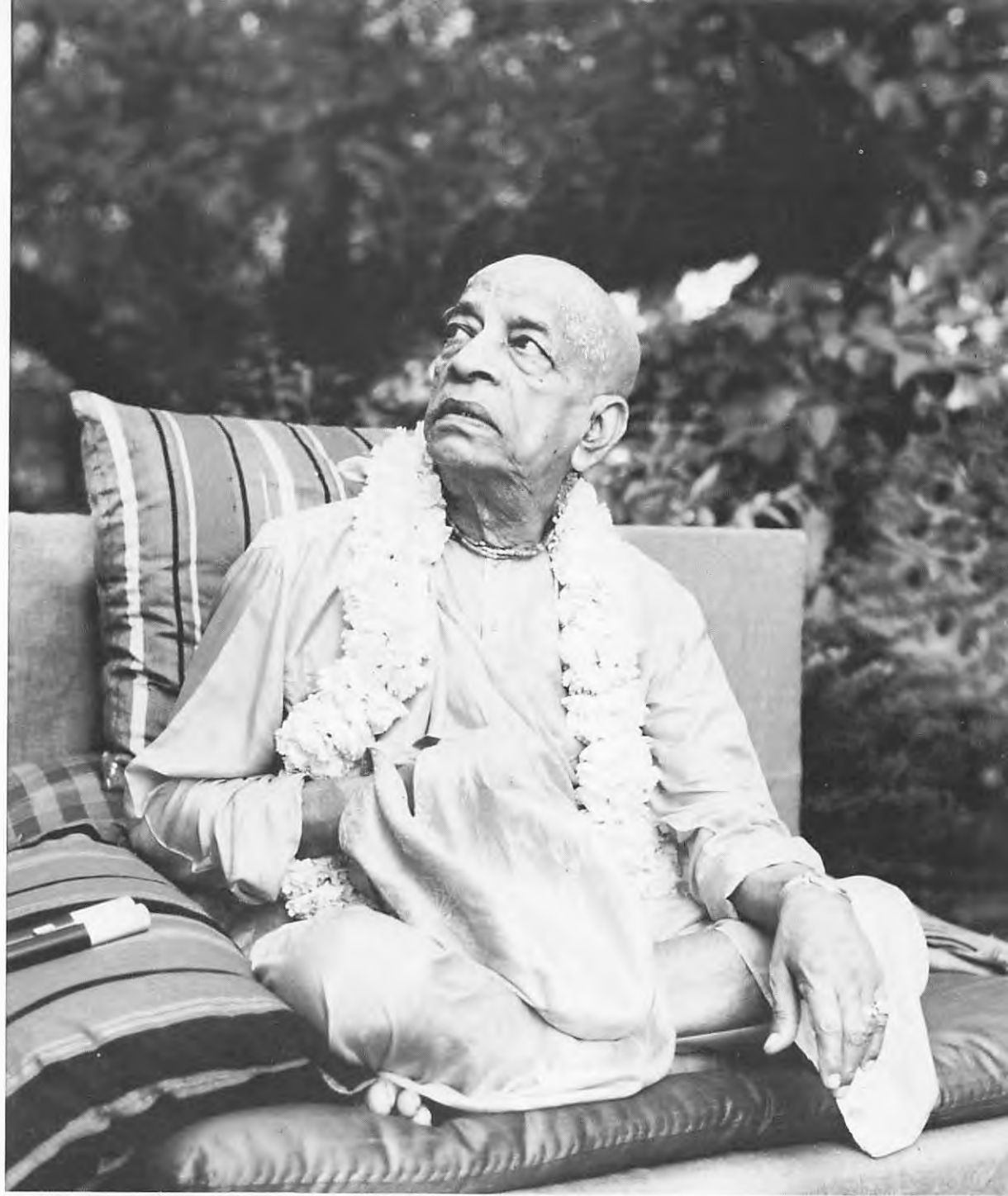
Trivikrama Svāmī	Rapuganātha dāsa	Bhakta Mahādeva
Caitya-guru dāsa	Lakṣmaṇa Āśraya dāsa	Bhakta Jagadīśa Mehta
Ruci dāsa	Bhakta Indra Sagar	Bhakta Kṛṣṇa Kumāra
Devarṣi Rāj dāsa		

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

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

This material world is full of death and darkness, and we are all blind creatures groping in the endless night. With no illumination in any direction everything seemed so hopeless and futile, but then by your appearance you revealed a new hope. This *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, the tonic for this diseased age of Kali, is unveiling a new and eternal way of life, full of light and knowledge without suffering and misery. It is indeed very fortunate for us that you have translated and published these books for the general use of the Western public. Where else can such books be found? Every page is filled with the glories of Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa, whose pastimes and activities are wonderful to hear and recite. Full of transcendental subject matter, *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* exposes the mirage existence of the material world and redirects the reader to his proper path, the path back to home, back to Godhead. With your clear purports to eliminate any tint of speculation, these books are presented so nicely that anyone will marvel at the true clarity and realization behind your every word.

Prabhupāda, these books are your mercy to the fallen conditioned souls and the foodstuff of your disciples. Our lives are maintained in so many ways by the association of these books. We think that these books are the greatest boon to humanity. Thank you for your kindness and compassion. We offer repeated obeisances unto you. We hope that you will continue on with this wonderful mission of translating the entire *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*. Please bless us with just a speck of your enthusiasm for book distribution, so that we may gain your pleasure.



*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 offer my respectful obeisances unto His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedānta Swami Prabhupāda, who is very dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa, having taken shelter at His lotus feet.”

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





All glories unto you, O spiritual master. It has been said by Śrīla Viśvanātha Cakravartī Ṭhākura:

*samsāra-dāvānala-liḍha-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.” These are the symptoms of a bona fide spiritual master, and anyone can see that you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, out of your causeless mercy and kindness, are delivering so many fallen souls from this blazing fire of material existence.

In material consciousness, we have found no peace, no happiness, no satisfaction, but now, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we have hope, because we have tasted a higher pleasure and that pleasure is simply to try to please you and Kṛṣṇa.

Please accept this Vyāsa-pūjā offering from the devotees here at Cleveland ISKCON, because without your blessings, our lives are spoiled.

Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda.

OM TAT SAT

Arijit dāsa	Sthayibhāva dāsa	Bhakta Stan	Mother Elsa
Bhama dāsa	Bhakta Larry Holt	Bhakta Maurice	Mother Donna
Candrabhānu dāsa	Bhakta Larry	Vrajanandana dāsa	Mother Theresa
Keśava dāsa	Bhakta Norman	Dhāmagrāha-devī dāsi	Mother Vicky
Mahā Mantra dāsa	Bhakta Kevin	Dīna Dayā-devī dāsi	Mother Diane
Mānasacandra dāsa	Bhakta Phil	Brahmavadni-devī dāsi	Mother Candra
Mahā Rudra dāsa	Bhakta James	Gaurāṅga-devī dāsi	Rādhikā-devī dāsi
Līlāmohana dāsa	Bhakta Tony	Pāpasūdanī-devī dāsi	

*It is revealed in the scriptures there is no other way
than to seek a master and at his feet stay.
Submissively and sincerely we must submit
so that Kṛṣṇa in our heart may someday sit.
We should see ourselves clear of this abominable existence
so that unto his words there will be no resistance.
Now there are many gurus with different teachings
for those in their hearts have different reachings.
He must come from Kṛṣṇa in the disciplic succession
then we'll be sure to find no repression.
Well versed in the scriptures in perfect control of his senses
he'll be able to help us over māyā's fences.
A mind of good qualities and extremely kind
there's no one like Prabhupāda we can find.
I pray to be with you through your instructions forever
so that this hard knot in my heart may some day sever.*

Devotees of New Vaiṣṇava Dhāma

Nārāyaṇa dāsa adhikārī
Sarvabhāvana dāsa brahmacārī
Guruprasāda dāsa brahmacārī
Nagari dāsa brahmacārī
Pañkajānabha dāsa brahmacārī
Kīrtideva dāsa brahmacārī
Śaunaka dāsa brahmacārī
Vidvān dāsa brahmacārī
Rāmalakṣmaṇa dāsa brahmacārī
Rameśa dāsa brahmacārī
Viduttama dāsa brahmacārī
Bhakti Wilbert
Bhakti Alberto
Bhakti Gerardo
Bhakti William
Divya-devī dāśī
Sevya-devī dāśī
Saurasani-devī dāśī
Narmadā-devī dāśī
Vijayamūrti-devī dāśī
Mother Melania
Mother Elizabeth-devī dāśī



Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Even though I am completely unqualified and more insignificant than an ant, still I am aspiring for your causeless mercy. I am that dwarf reaching for the moon. I simply pray to Kṛṣṇa for the intelligence to remain a servant of your nice disciples eternally.

*bhavantam evānucaran niranteraḥ
praśānta-niḥśeṣa-mano-rathāntaraḥ
kadāham aikāntika-nitya-kiṅkaraḥ
praharṣayisyāmi sanātha-jīvitam*

It is stated, “By serving you constantly one is freed from all material desires and is completely pacified. When shall we engage as your permanent eternal servants and always feel joyful to have such a perfect master?” (*Stotra-ratna* 46)

You are like a full moon that stands out brightly amongst so many stars. This cooling and ever-beautiful light that is emanating from you is the only shelter for such a rascal as myself. My past is extremely regretful and yet my mind doesn't permit me to regret. Planting the seed of devotion in a stonehearted creature like myself is difficult, but only a pure devotee like you could do such a thing. I was bound for the deep sea of hellish distress and now I feel the fire of hope within me. Without you I wouldn't know anything. Everything I have learned worth learning I've learned from you. Therefore the *śāstras* enjoin:

*tasmād guruṁ prapadyeta jijñāsuḥ śreya uttamam
śābde pare ca niṣṇātaṁ brahmaṇy upaśamāśrayam*

“Any person who seriously desires to achieve real happiness must seek out a bona fide spiritual master and take shelter of him by initiation. The qualification of his spiritual master is that he must have realized the conclusions of the scriptures by deliberation and he must be able to convince others of these conclusions.” (*Bhāg.* 11.3.21)

Because of having these very rare qualifications you are the living example of a perfect devotee. You always remember Kṛṣṇa, and the exalted *sādhus* and demigods chant your glories.

There are no bounds to your mercy and there is no end to your glories. As I dwell in this fire of material consciousness I pray that you please bestow your causeless mercy upon me.

New Virajā Dhāma

Nirguṇa dāsa adhikārī
Rāma-Vigraha dāsa adhikārī
Nīlācala-devī dāśī
Mother Molly



The other day we saw a tiny frog swimming in the urine of a toilet that had not been flushed. He was struggling to avoid the large stools and to scale the smooth slick sides of the toilet. Wondering how he had gotten into such a predicament, it occurred to us that we ourselves were in a similar situation when our spiritual master came to save us.

It is stated in the *Purāṇas* that there are many *gurus* who are very expert in taking away all of a disciple's money, but very rare is the *guru* who can take away all of his disciple's material anxieties. We are feeling very fortunate that among thousands of cheaters, the actual teacher, the *ācāryadeva*, has appeared to properly guide us, to save us from an ocean of anxiety. The *Bhāgavatam* analogizes that to take shelter of others, the cheaters, who propose themselves unceremoniously to be God or to be *guru*, is just like diving into shallow water. The result is that one simply breaks his head.

In order to be God, one must be *sarva-kāraṇa-kāraṇam*, the cause of all causes. Actually, the position of God has been held eternally by the Supreme Person, Bhagavān Śrī Kṛṣṇa, and it is not subject to change according to popular vote or committee appointment or any other process; neither can someone fit in as a "co-God" (i.e., "I am God, you are God, we are all God"), for the very word "God" implies the Supreme, the Ultimate, the Greatest Person. If it were possible for someone else also to come to that level, then the superlativeness of the Supreme would automatically become null and void, which it is not.



Although all conditioned souls have been vying for the position of God since time immemorial, the fact remains that it is already held in eternal tenure, and applications are not being accepted, nor will they ever be. Thus, notwithstanding the great opulences that any particular man might have, it is our recommendation that one try for a position for which he is actually suited and for which there are many openings. That position is *servant* of Śrī Kṛṣṇa, who is *already* God.

In the same vein, one also may not be considered to be a *guru*, or spiritual master, if he is preaching any message other than servitude to Kṛṣṇa. He must not concoct his own idea of God consciousness or spiritual life. *Mahājano yena gataḥ sa panthāḥ*. He must follow in the footsteps of the great spiritual authorities who precede him.

We have seen that our own spiritual master, His Divine Grace Śrīla Prabhupāda, meets the qualifications of a bona fide *guru* in that he is perfectly realized in his eternal position as servant of Kṛṣṇa and his full-time program is to implicate the rest of the world in such transcendental service. It must also be noted that his efforts have been highly successful. Now even in courts of law, the judges, lawyers, district attorneys, and grand juries are all chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa. More and more it can be seen that, due to the influence of our spiritual master and his ISKCON movement, the entire world is gradually becoming Kṛṣṇa conscious. It is therefore our fervent prayer that we may be as instrumental as possible in cooperating with this movement and providing to Śrīla Prabhupāda, in his gargantuan endeavors, whatever microscopic assistance that we can.

Dallas ISKCON

Gatravān dāsa brahmacārī	Nirantara dāsa adhikārī	Ānanda
Gopāla dāsa brahmacārī	Sumahat dāsa adhikārī	Bhadrasena
Īśa dāsa brahmacārī	Vallabha Sena dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Prahlāda
Jayadharma dāsa brahmacārī	Balvati-devī dāśī	Cañcalā
Jyotirmaya dāsa brahmacārī	Bimalā-devī dāśī	Govinda
Kalaṅka dāsa brahmacārī	Devī-devī dāśī	Īśvara Puri
Kanupriya dāsa brahmacārī	Divyāśakti-devī dāśī	Jagannātha-Puri
Mādhava dāsa brahmacārī	Dyuti-devī dāśī	Kalpataru
Mahādhyuti dāsa brahmacārī	Karuṇāmayī-devī dāśī	Keśava
Śrīman Paṇḍita dāsa brahmacārī	Khaṇḍavabha-devī dāśī	Mālinī
Yamunāpati dāsa brahmacārī	Līlāmañjarī-devī dāśī	Nimāi Paṇḍita
Bhakta Bob	Ragunandini-devī dāśī	Nitya Līlā
Bhakta Bruce	Sanātani-devī dāśī	Rāsotsava
Divyajñānānanda dāsa adhikārī	Śāsti-devī dāśī	Sāndīpani Muni
Gauraśaraṇa dāsa adhikārī	Śāśvatapāvana-devī dāśī	Satī
Gopīśa dāsa adhikārī	Suśarma-devī dāśī	Satyā
Jaganmitra dāsa adhikārī	Svarga-devī dāśī	Varāha
Līlānanda dāsa adhikārī	Trīśakti-devī dāśī	Vāsudeva Datta
Makharadhvaja dāsa adhikārī	Vali-devī dāśī	Yamunā-jīvana
Maṇḍaleśvara dāsa adhikārī	Vāmanadevī-dāśī	Gopī
Subandhu dāsa adhikārī	Bhaktin Nancy	



*nama ôṁ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine*

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

*mūkaṁ karoti vācālaṁ paṅguṁ laṅghayate girim
yat-kṛpā tam ahaṁ vande śrī-guruṁ dīna-tāraṇam*

I offer my respectful obeisances unto my spiritual master, the deliverer of the fallen souls. His mercy turns the dumb into eloquent speakers and enables the lame to cross mountains.

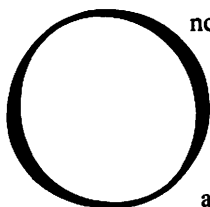
His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedānta Swami Prabhupāda is the life of the world, the only light in a dark universe. Without his shelter the whole world is wandering aimlessly in ignorance, fretting on the stage of human life and then disappearing beneath the waves of animal existence. But he knows everything! Nothing is inaccessible to him. His devotion is pure and he stands at the summit of existence. Yet in patient humility and compassion he left the serenity of Vṛndāvana and alone struggled against all obstacles to reclaim us. This is a very deep thing and cannot be lightly described. We must carefully consider that without him there is no value to anything in this world. There is no measure for the weight of our debt to him. We can only work with all our energy and in all sincerity to try to help him in his glorious mission. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda!

All the residents of New Badarinārāyaṇa

Siddhānta dāsa brahmacārī	Mahābhārtā dāsa adhikārī	Pāṇḍurāṇī-devī dāśī
Arthundu dāsa brahmacārī	Rādhā Dāmodara dāsa adhikārī	Śikhaṇḍī-devī dāśī
Viracandra dāsa brahmacārī	Pati dāsa adhikārī	Meru-devī dāśī
Anūttama dāsa brahmacārī	Śrīdāmā dāsa adhikārī	Bhaktīlatā-devī dāśī
Lalitāndana dāsa brahmacārī	Īśvara Īshmael	Bhaktin Kate
Sarvadṛk dāsa brahmacārī	Ojasvī	Bhaktin Colleen
Yajñapurūṣa dāsa brahmacārī	Rūpānanda	Bhaktin Denise
Jyoti dāsa brahmacārī	Devī-dāśī	Ācārya
Cakradhārī dāsa brahmacārī	Taḍit-devī dāśī	Janārdana
Yamunā Jim	Kadamba-devī dāśī	Rādhā Govinda
Bhakta Larry	Nāṭaka Candrikā-devī dāśī	Añjali
Jagannātha Jack	Tṛpti-devī dāśī	Subhadrā
Puruṣa Peter	Vṛndāvana Vilāsinī-devī dāśī	Nityanda
Kāla Claude	Anvradhu-devī dāśī	Kartamāsa
Tulasī Thor	Rāma Tulasi-devī dāśī	Bhaktīvinoda
Japa John	Nidrā-devī dāśī	Gopinātha rasa
Kuruśreṣṭha dāsa adhikārī	Aṣṭa-sakhi-devī dāśī	Nilā Mādhava
Svavāsa dāsa adhikārī	Jagajānanī-devī dāśī	Jubal
Prāṇa-vallabha dāsa adhikārī	Ramaṇa Reti-devī dāśī	Ārya
Kauśalendra dāsa adhikārī	Pūjā-devī dāśī	Śitā Rāma
Śrīnivāsa dāsa adhikārī	Viṣṇu-priyā-devī dāśī	Śrī Ramaṇī

*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*



Once, people had brains in their heads instead of stool. In those days the value of a bona fide spiritual master was readily understood. No one was accepted as a respectable gentlemen unless he had been thoroughly educated by a legitimate *guru*; thus young children were placed in the care of a learned spiritual master as a matter of course. Now such good sense is rarely found. Rendered foolish by this age, even the brightest men can see no use for an *ācārya*. They are confident. They are self-reliant. They are industrious—and they are completely blind. Consequently they are falling into the proverbial ditch; which is, incidentally, quite large enough to accommodate all of them. The energy and enthusiasm of these blind men is marvelous to see, as they rush headlong toward the brink—but it does make for harder landings. Overall, the situation is very, very sad indeed.

Fortunately for such misguided men, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, who is the father of everyone, is forever alert. Situated within each heart as the Supersoul, He is acutely aware of the sufferings of His sons within this material world. Out of compassion for them, to mitigate their pains, and to arrange for their transfer to the all-blissful kingdom of God, He sends His confidential representative, the bona fide spiritual master. As a nation sends its fully empowered ambassador to represent its interests in a foreign land, so the Vaikuṇṭha ambassador, the empowered *ācārya*, represents the Godhead within this material world. He embodies all the transcendental excellences found in the Lord, and is as fully capable a deliverer as the Lord Himself. One who foolishly takes the spiritual master to be an ordinary man thus makes the most dangerous mistake. *Guru kṛṣṇa-rūpa hana*. “The *guru* is as good as Kṛṣṇa.”

No one can fathom the transcendental qualities of the spiritual master; but of all his qualities, it is compassion which is the foremost. He cannot bear to see the poor souls wandering blindly in this dangerous material world, where even sighted men must watch their step. His heart goes out to them and he considers, “If someone is ignorant and addicted to the path of *saṁsāra*, how can one who is actually learned, merciful and advanced in spiritual knowledge engage him in fruitive activity and thus further entangle him in material existence? If a blind man is walking down the wrong path, how can a gentleman allow him to continue on his way to danger? How can he approve this method? No wise or kind man can allow this.” (*Bhāg.* 5.5.18) Thinking like this, the spiritual master

undertakes the rescue of all the fallen souls. One after another he arrests them, pulls them away from the precipice of sense gratification, and places them safely on the broad path of devotional service.

No sooner has this kindness been done, however, than the ingrates who have been saved turn on the rescuer to protest his interference. "Why have you checked our free movements? Have you no consideration for the rights of others? We'll have you jailed, or worse!" In this way the spiritual master has taken up a thankless and dangerous task, full of insult, injury and sometimes death. There are so many examples in



history of saintly persons who were abused by those whom they tried to deliver: Lord Jesus Christ, Haridāsa Ṭhākura, Lord Nityānanda, etc. Despite these difficulties, however, the pure devotees persist in their efforts to engage everyone in the service of the Supreme Lord, which brings immediate relief from all the miseries of material existence. Such kind and self-sacrificing souls are very rare. Although they are sometimes misunderstood by fools and rascals, their work does not go unnoticed; for Lord Kṛṣṇa Himself takes up the task of glorifying His pure devotees. In the *Gītā* the Lord declares, "For one who explains the supreme secret to the devotees, devotional service is guaranteed, and at the end he will come back to Me. There is no servant in this world more dear to Me than he, nor will there ever be one more dear."

With such an endorsement by the Supreme Personality of Godhead, it is sure and certain that the fame of the pure devotee spiritual master will spread unchecked all over the world; the order of Lord Kṛṣṇa cannot be ignored. At His command, all heads must bow down at the feet of the recognized spiritual master. Practically we are now seeing it to be so; for our own beloved spiritual master, His Divine Grace Śrīla Prabhupāda, is gradually becoming the most famous and worshiped personality in the world. Despite the envious efforts of his cripple-minded critics, Śrīla Prabhupāda's influence is spreading more and more. His books are now found everywhere, and are being studied by the most learned scholars. Millions of people are visiting his palatial temples all over the world, and bowing down before his *vyāsāsana*. And best of all, people everywhere are taking up the chanting of Hare Kṛṣṇa, simply by his humble request, "Chant Hare Kṛṣṇa and be happy."

As disciples of Śrīla Prabhupāda we have arranged for his glorification today in the form of this *Vyāsa-pūjā* book, as well as by celebrations in all of our ISKCON temples. The real mastermind of this universal tribute, however, is Lord Kṛṣṇa Himself. It is His incontrovertible will and pleasure that the name and fame of His pure devotee be glorified everywhere. In the face of such perfect expertise and determination, our immature contribution can hardly be considered significant. Still, we are hopeful that when our feeble words are added to those of thousands and millions of more qualified devotees, the resultant sound vibration will draw the attention and reverence of every intelligent man. May they all come and bow down before Śrīla Prabhupāda. He is the foremost representative of Lord Caitanya and the spiritual master of everyone. Today is his eighty-second birthday; we therefore prostrate ourselves in the dust at his lotus feet and offer him our most humble obeisances.

Detroit, Michigan Devasādhana Mandira

Govardhana dāsa	Dhanvigaṇeṣa dāsa	Gaṅgā	Yasogamī-devī dāśī
Narottamānanda dāsa	Rathayātrā dāsa	Devakīnandana	Sarvaśaktimatī-devī dāśī
Baṇu Gopāla dāsa	Ramānanda dāsa	Sitārāṇī-devī dāśī	Jāhnavī-devī dāśī
Indrabhartā dāsa	Jitātula dāsa	Vilāsini-devī dāśī	Ann
Udayānanda dāsa	Jyotirāditya dāsa	Sukhasagari-devī dāśī	Linda
Vrajendralāla dāsa	Rudra Paṇḍita dāsa	Dakṣayāṇī-devī dāśī	Linda
Navina Kṛṣṇa dāsa	Murāri Mahitī dāsa	Mukhya-devī dāśī	Robbi
Pañca Tatva dāsa	Bhakta Gary	Mahānandini-devī dāśī	Tara
Bhūṣaya dāsa	Bhakta Keith	Lekhaśravanti-devī dāśī	Aravinda
Prabhanu dāsa	Bhakta Wayne	Kalalapa-devī dāśī	Rādhikā
Viśālākṣa dāsa	Bhakta Tom	Cintāmaṇi-devī dāśī	Mṛkanda
Akhilānanda dāsa	Bhakta Jerry	Sukti-devī dāśī	Vibhu
Rāmīya dāsa	Ananta Śeṣa	Govinda Rupinī-devī dāśī	Jāhnavi
Ramānanda Rāya dāsa	Kṛṣṇa Candra	Ananta-devī dāśī	Sitā



From the devotees from the New Godruma Farm Community to our beloved Gurudeva on this most blessed day: Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are receiving benediction from the ocean of mercy. Just as the cloud pours water on the forest fire to extinguish it, so you are extinguishing the blazing fire of material existence, of repeated birth and death. Our lives are caught in a cesspool of sinful activities, so what good can come of it? We approach you, Gurudeva, with straw in teeth, because Kṛṣṇa declares that you have seen the truth. Give us sight, let us see!!

Now we pray, we beg, please let us stay with you in your service until we understand without deviation this king of all knowledge.

Gurudeva, just give us, your servants, one drop of your mercy. We are lower than the blades of grass; give us help; give us strength. Let us be as you are without desires or aspirations.

If you are not merciful unto us, we can only weep and we will not be able to maintain our lives.

Lokaśāra dāsa adbhikāri

Īśvarapati dāsa adbhikāri

Bhakta Jack

Bhakta Joe

Bhakta Gus

Kāla dāsa brahmācāri

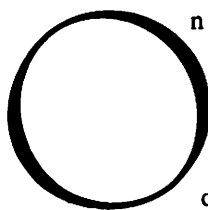
Yaśomati-devī dāsi

Uśā-devī dāsi

Keli Cañcalā-devī dāsi

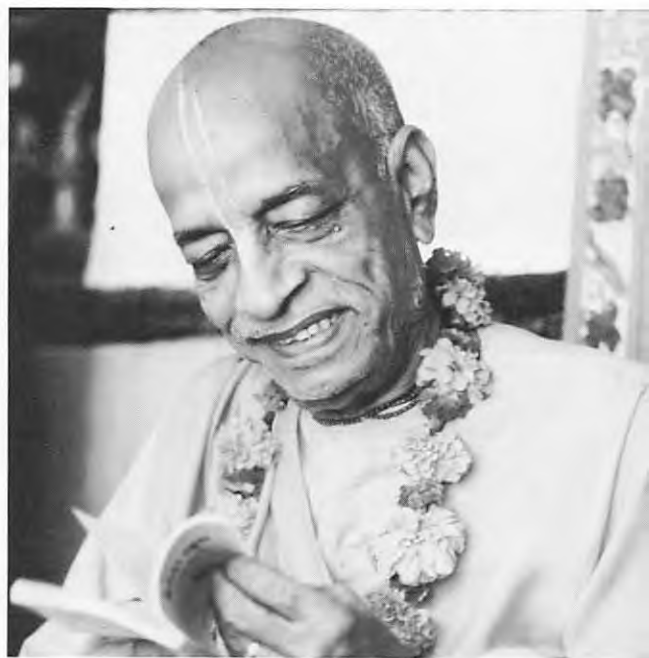
*om ajñāna-timirāndhasya jñānāñjana-śalākayā
cakṣur unmilitaṁ yena tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ*

"I was born in the darkest ignorance, and my spiritual master opened my eyes with the torch of knowledge. I offer my respectful obeisances unto him."

 In this most holy day, we, with our tiny and limited ability, attempt to glorify you, whose glories know no limits. You have given us wretched souls so much help and kindness that we may go on serving you eternally, ever indebted to you. The grace which you bestow so compassionately upon everyone is called divine, because it is coming from Kṛṣṇa. You are the manifestation of Kṛṣṇa's mercy in the material world, therefore you are known as His Divine Grace.

Who can understand the wonderful characteristics of the pure devotee? When we, your disciples, look upon you, we are simply amazed, our hearts filled with respect and affection for you. Please let us never consider you to be ordinary! Please let us always remember that you do not live in any planet of the material sky, nor do you feel any contact with material elements. Your so-called material body does not exist, being surcharged with the spiritual current of the Lord's identical interest, and thus you are permanently freed from all contaminations of the sum total of the *mahat-tattva*. You are always in the spiritual sky since you constantly share the transcendental loving association of the Lord.

You have kindly accepted us as your disciples, therefore our only business is now to please you. To please the spiritual master means to receive his blessings. Without the blessings of the pure devotee no one can make spiritual advancement. Once you said that real gratitude toward you is if we simply understand the importance of this Kṛṣṇa consciousness. In this dark age of Kali, Kṛṣṇa consciousness is greatly needed, because millions of people are suffering greatly due to having lost their proper vision. They have forgotten that the living entities are eternally subordinate servants of God. Living under these conditions, how would it be possible for them to become happy? Thus everybody is thinking in the bodily conception of life and remaining like animals. Just like in eastern Europe, where the attempt is systematically made to kill God, the leaders are so afraid of the name "God" that they are very enthusiastic to make all kinds of propaganda against religion. Scientists and professors are writing volumes of books about scientific atheism. Spending millions of



dollars, they have built huge arrangements for defense, to make sure that no other idea will obstruct their way. But can there be any hindrance before your *saṅkīrtana* movement? Can anyone stop this mission of Lord Caitanya? Despite all security arrangements and propaganda, can anyone remain hidden from your books, which are the illumination of perfection and purity? The words of the pure devotee penetrate all iron curtains of false propaganda. You are the intimate associate of Lord Caitanya, therefore you manifest His *saṅkīrtana-śakti* in person. Therefore no society can escape from being flooded with your books. This flood of *saṅkīrtana* sweeps away all useless security by which the demons try to avoid surrender to Kṛṣṇa. The devotees are drowned in this ocean of ecstasy, and the nondevotees are floating. In this way everybody, even the lowborn atheists, get the chance of being delivered. And all this is due to the divine attributes of the pure devotee, as it is confirmed in the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*:

*te vai vidanty atitaranti ca deva-māyām
strī-śūdra-hūṇa-śabarā api pāpa-jivāḥ
yady adbhuta-krama-parāyaṇa-śīla-śikṣās
tiryag-janā api kim u śrūta-dhāraṇā ye*

“Surrendered souls, even from the groups leading sinful lives, such as the woman, the laborer class, the *hūṇas*, the Siberians, etc., or even the birds and beasts, can also know about the science of Godhead and become liberated from the clutches of the illusory energy by surrendering unto the pure devotee of the Lord and by following in his footsteps in devotional service.” (*Bhāg.* 2.7.46)

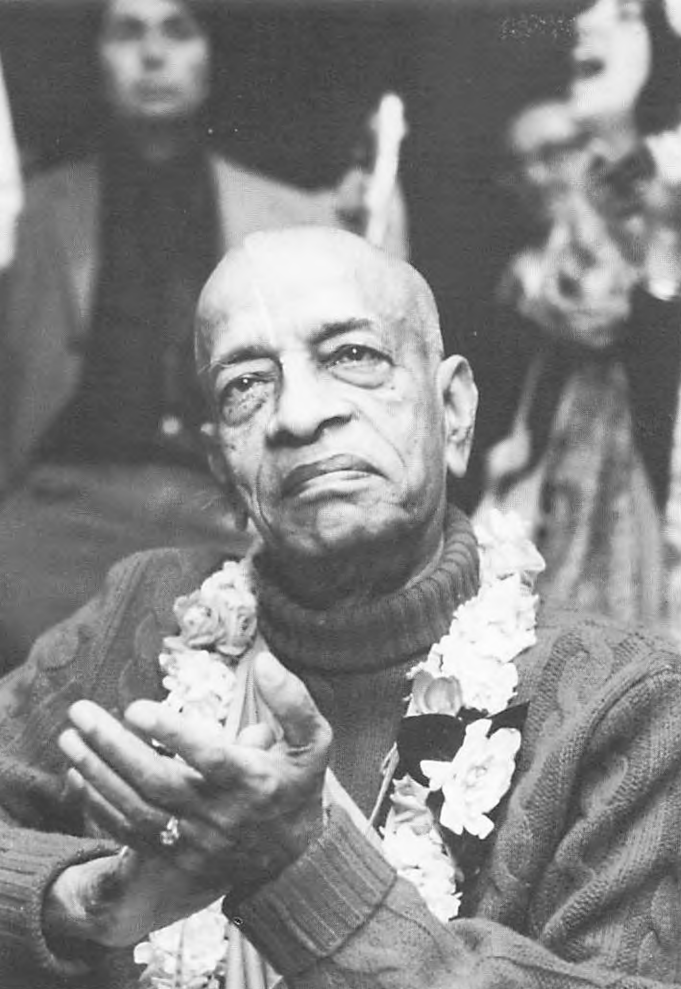
By helping you to spread this *saṅkīrtana* movement, we are doing the greatest welfare work. This is the only way to pay back a minute part of our debt to you. However, to perform this service there is need of good qualities. Unfortunately we haven't got any quality about which we could be proud. For anything really valuable we have to ask Your Divine Grace. Thus, we are a lot of beggars only.

O Gurudeva, please shower your rain of mercy upon us! Please give us strength and enthusiasm! Please let us take an eternal part in your *saṅkīrtana* movement! Please give us the chance to be with you and serve you wherever you are!

Your spiritual sons,

Avineśacandra dāsa brahmacārī	Paragati dāsa brahmacārī
Dvārakeśa dāsa brahmacārī	Prapūjāka dāsa brahmacārī
Kṛṣṇa-kṣetra dāsa brahmacārī	Śacinandana dāsa brahmacārī
Nikhilāndana dāsa brahmacārī	Sucandra dāsa brahmacārī





*My eyes weep
'cause they can't see you
and when my eyes
behold you
my heart quivers and throbs
and desperately cries
'cause my hands
long to touch your lotus feet
but due to my insignificant condition
I cannot reach you.
It is as if
in your presence
the incessant flow
of material desires
had no other choice
than to stop
even if for a moment.*

*Gracias,
tus eternos sirvientes*

Arindama dāsa brahmacārī
Mṛganātha dāsa brahmacārī
Bhakta Jorge
Bhakta Byron
Bhakta Jimmy
Bhakta Joselito
Bhakta John
Bhakta Dick
Bhakta Marcos Jr.
Gobhāṭa dāsa adbhikārī
Mādhurī-devī dāsī



*Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda
Your words
once they've struck the heart
of the innocent victim
are like the venom
that subtly cuts material life
short!
It is as if
in your presence
the incessant flow
of material desires
had no choice
than to stop
even momentarily.*

ŚRĪLA PRABHUPĀDA, "I.O.U."

*The material debts I had accumulated were too many to count.
Lawyer, doctor and dentist, such an incredible amount!*

*But as much as I'd make myself debtor to all,
by good ways and right means the sum soon did fall.*

*So many bills, so many ills, sometimes in the red, sometimes in the black
But there's one debt now that I could never pay back.*

*The debt to my spiritual master, can anything there greater be?
Nor could lifetimes of service remove that responsibility.*

*He opened my eyes which were closed tight for so long.
An operation that required śāstra, sat-saṅga and song.*

*Such methods were revolutionary in light of present-day "knowledge,"
which now only appears to be so much useless garbage.*

*A change of heart, a clean, fresh mind,
is there any surgeon this day, my soul, can he find?*

*I know they would try hard but by material means,
which is like trying to climb stars with "two-by-four" beams.*

*There's no man alive today who knows such an art,
of cleansing the mind and melting the heart.*

*To you dear Prabhupāda I've fallen in debt
with no way to reimburse the price that you've set.*

*You ask only simple service to Kṛṣṇa with love,
but try as I may can a crow become a dove?*

*Here's all that I have, just one humble prayer,
to convey a few words and show that I care.*

*Please take what I offer, though so little to give.
Somewhere in your deep heart please grant me reprieve.*

The devotees of the Fiji Islands

Vāsudeva dāsa adhikārī	Bhāgavatī-devī dāsī
Bhūhanā-mohana dāsa adhikārī	Śrīmatī Narābda-devī dāsī
Sevānanda dāsa adhikārī	Śravaṇīya-devī dāsī
Upānanda dāsa brahmacārī	Nīmāi-saraṇa
Sajjanāśraya dāsa brahmacārī	



*Moon is farther than the sun,
With this knowledge you have come.
Souls whose lives were without fun,
Now, however, you have won.*

*Words of wisdom on your lips,
Vedic scriptures are your stick.
Absolute Truth within your grip,
Paramparā is your whip.*

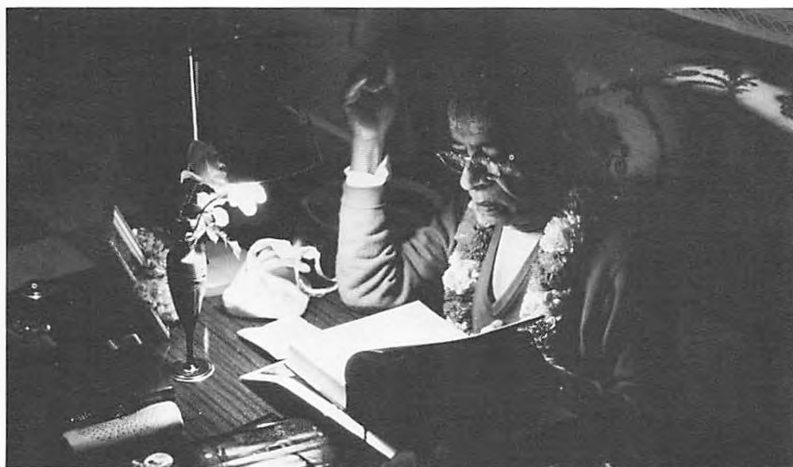
*Karmīs, jñānīs are your game,
Kṛṣṇa-bhakti is your fame.
Smashing concepts of "all the same,"
One way only—the holy name!*

*Life comes from life, you have proved.
Scientific nonsense thus disproved.
Devotion to Kṛṣṇa you've approved,
Māyā's illusion now removed.*

*Chemicals not we are made,
Impersonal calamity you have razed.
God is a person we have craved,
Road to Godhead you have paved.*

*Like a lion without fear,
Bringing the message both far and near.
Yasya deve parā bhaktiḥ,
All that's left is just to hear.*





Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our worthless obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet. Although it is not the position of the servant to ask from the master, we are simply praying that you benedict us with the potency to preach this knowledge all over the world. Last year we saw the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement become famous in every household throughout the planet, and even though we are now engaged in a fierce struggle with the demons who are trying to stop this movement, we are confident that this is Kṛṣṇa's plan for a glorious victory. Therefore Śrīla Prabhupāda, don't forget your fallen disciples here in Gainesville. We want to go too. Everyone loves a winner, and you are conquering the entire universe in the tradition of Prahlaḍa Mahārāja, Ambarīṣa Mahārāja, Arjuna and the Pāṇḍavas, Lord Caitanya and the Six Gosvāmīs, Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura and Śrīla Bhakti-siddhānta. Please take us with you. Don't leave us here to rot in this ocean of birth and death. Force us to become qualified to have your association. Please let us be there when the whole world surrenders at your lotus feet, and Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa are installed in the White House!

Your fallen servants,

Amarendra dāsa	Dīna Vatsala dāsa	Gāyatrī-devī dāśī	Śyāmapriya-devī dāśī
Puṇḍarikākṣa dāsa	Droṇācāryaguru dāsa	Śrānti-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Debbie
Akiñcana Kṛṣṇa dāsa	Jitakrodha dāsa	Smṛti-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Diane
Rāmānanda dāsa	Bhakta Bob	Gaṅgāgati-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Jill
Manuśreṣṭha dāsa	Bhakta Joel	Yaśodāmayī-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Jeanette
Vāṇinātha Vasu dāsa	Bhakta Richard	Gopapatnī-devī dāśī	



*Auspicious stars glittered in the firmament,
In anticipation of your divine descent.
And on the hallowed day on which you came,
The devotees danced and sang in ecstasy the holy name.*

*Your devotees are like so many grains of sand,
Benedicted by your books, and the touch of your hand,
Your words are soft but like thunder, and your character of gold,
The friend of the fallen, and the Vaiṣṇava bold.*

*You alone came to māyā's citadel,
And began to ring the real liberty bell,
The sleeping souls began to awaken,
And, for the first time, were spiritually shaking!*

*Chant! Chant! Chant! You commanded.
And everyone danced, completely enchanted.
Now "Hare Kṛṣṇa" has become a household word,
And in every city His name is heard.*

*No one can be our spiritual master
But you who have given the answer
To "who am I?" and life's purpose
Of being Lord Kṛṣṇa's eternal servants.*

*You are honored all over the three worlds,
As the most confidential servitor of the Lord,
And so amidst a chorus of celestial praise,
We submit this small offering to Your Divine Grace.*

*Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda.
Your servants at Guayaquil, Ecuador*

Gurudeva,

*Harassed by uncontrolled senses,
Haunted by mental speculation,
my heart remains a barren earth,
unfit to receive your seed of kṛṣṇa-prema.
You bravely declare any land fertile;
Undauntedly you plow away the rocks
and water the parched cracks
of my insignificant life.*

Eternal master,

*You have brought Śrī Caitanya's blessing
to such remote and useless spots as my heart,
Still reaping the fruit of eternal service
to Govinda's lotus feet.
You are empowered to bring all bewildered souls
back to home, back to Godhead,
and though bereft of all merit
I humbly implore Your Divine Grace
to permit this worthless creature
to assist you.*

*tvaṁ naḥ sandarśito dhātrā dustaraṁ nistitṛṣatām
kalim sattva-haraṁ puṁsaṁ karṇa-dhāra ivārṇavam*

For countless aeons we have languished in this world of chimera, enthralled by *māyā's* embrace. We have all but forgotten the lotus feet of Govinda, the primeval Lord. Had Your Divine Grace not intervened in the bleak and miserable wasteland of our life, the seed of devotional service to Lord Kṛṣṇa would never have been sown.

*brahmāṇḍa bhramite kona bhāgyavān jīva
guru-kṛṣṇa-prasāde pāya bhakti-latā-bīja*

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are the Supreme Personality of Servitor Godhead because only through your confidential service to Lord Kṛṣṇa has our journey through myriad sinful activities and their reactions been checked and *kṛṣṇa-bhakti* enshrined. You have uplifted such foolish scoundrels as ourselves, and therefore, you too are *patita-pāvana*. We remember having accompanied Your Divine Grace on a morning walk during which your silence was punctuated by the rhythmic tapping of your cane on the ground. While we were hoping to capture your merciful glance, you suddenly turned on us and stated a Sanskrit *śloka*, the only

word of which we could understand was *mleccha*. You then lapsed again into a long silence before revealing the meaning of your quotation. “You are all *mlecchas*,” you said tersely, “but by the grace of a pure devotee you have become Vaiṣṇava.” And then you did give us a merciful glance.

Vaiṣṇava ṭhākura tomāra kukura boliyā jana. The pure devotee is *ṭhākura*, as good as God Himself because he can deliver God to all manners of men. Therefore, we simply pray to become your *kukura*, or dog. Our qualities being nonexistent, we could never have reached you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, but Your Divine Grace being boundless, has nonetheless reached down to us. You have filled our body with vigor, our mind and intelligence with *rāja-vidyā*, and our heart with *prema*. We shall never be able to repay the awesome debt that we have incurred to you. Cāṇakya Paṇḍita declares that no amount of riches can ever repay one word of the spiritual master’s instructions. Nevertheless, we implore you to give us the steadfastness to do your bidding so that we may begin to try. We pledge our life to your exalted mission of bringing Lord Caitanya’s *nāma-saṅkīrtana* to every town and village.

*prṭhivīte āche jata nagarādi grāma
sarvatra pracāra haibe mora nāma*

You have often affirmed that you have given us everything—the holy name, the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, Deity worship, Kṛṣṇa *prasāda*—and that it is now simply up to us to preach extensively and tell everyone enthusiastically about Kṛṣṇa. Kindly grant us the strength to follow in your footsteps, whatever the condition of life in which Kṛṣṇa may deem fit to place us.

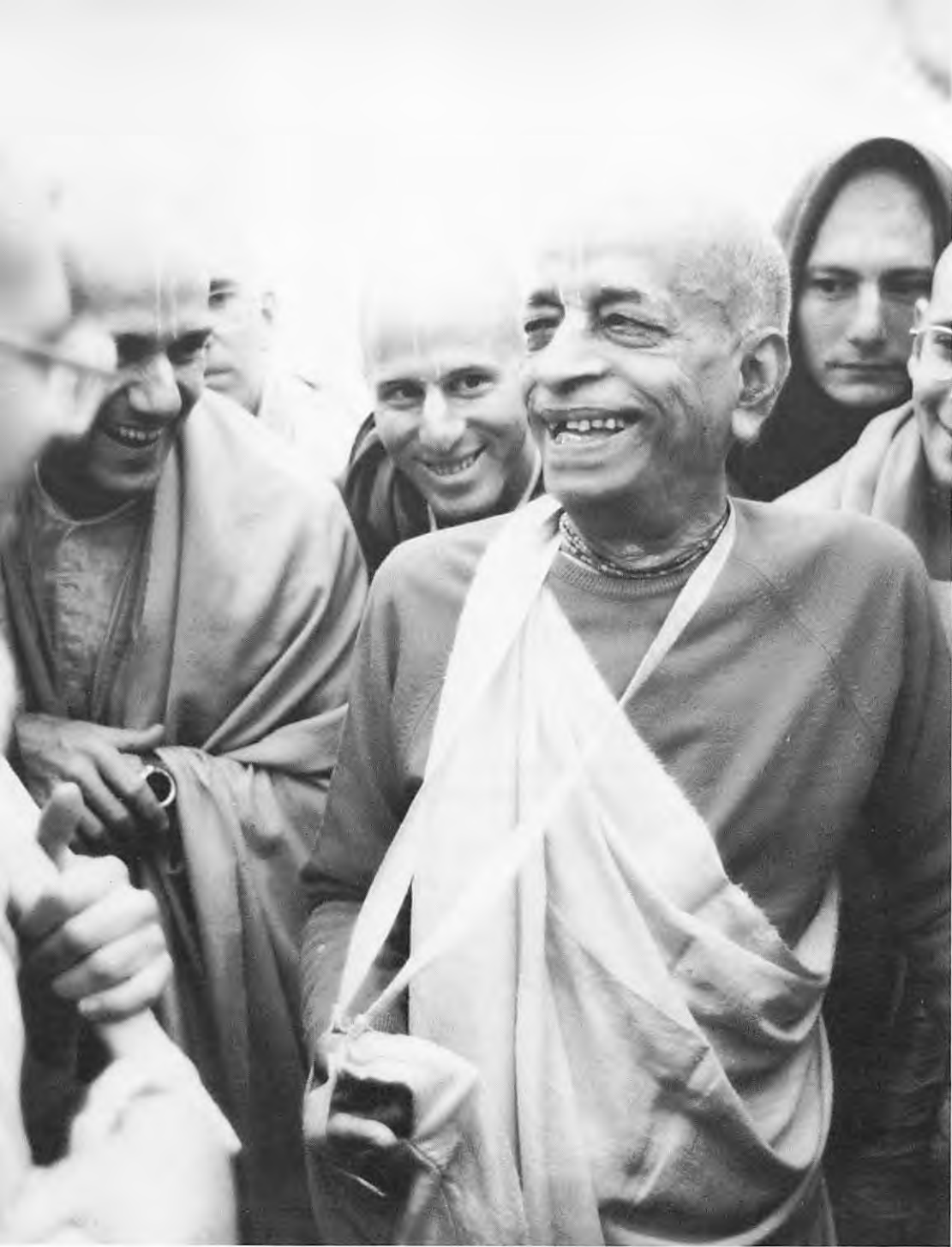
On this most auspicious day of your divine appearance in this world, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we address you with all the humility that we can muster and wish to reaffirm the vows which we made to you in front of the fire, the *mūrtis*, and the assembled devotees at the time of our initiation. Let us constantly remain your menial servants, for we have no refuge outside your lotus feet.

the devotees of ISKCON-Switzerland

Guru Gaurāṅga dāsa adhikāri
Rādhā Kṛṣṇa dāsa adhikāri
Candrapati dāsa adhikāri
Śaṅkarāraṇya dāsa brahmacāri
Sarva Pālaka dāsa brahmacāri
Pāvanaśana dāsa brahmacāri
Ādibhūta dāsa brahmacāri

Jaya Gurudeva dāsa brahmacāri
Yugalāmūrti dāsa brahmacāri
Jivadayā dāsa brahmacāri
Bhakta Manfred
Bhakta Guillermo
Hiraṇmayī-devī dāsi
Rāmya-devī dāsi

Mandahāsa-devī dāsi
Nanda Priyā-devī dāsi
Mandākinī-devī dāsi
Bhaktin Christine
Arjuna



All the living entities in the material world are day and night very busy under the spell of the illusory energy. Seeking for happiness and peace, the living entity experiences different degrees of so-called happiness and distress. Thus wandering from one body to another in 8,400,000 species of life—sometimes accepting the body of a plant or that of an animal or sometimes of a human being or demigod—the living entity completely forgets his eternal relationship with the Lord. Foolishly he is satisfied with his material position, never experiencing the real happiness he is seeking since time immemorial. Trying to establish himself under nice living conditions, all his attempts for happiness are burnt by the all-devouring time.

*yam yam artham upādatte duḥkena sukha-hetave
taṁ taṁ dhunoti bhagavān phumāñ chocati yat-kṛte*

“Whatever is produced by the materialist with great pain and labor for so-called happiness, the Supreme Personality, as the time factor, destroys, and for this reason the conditioned soul laments.” (Bhāg. 3.30.2)

The burning conditioned soul in the material world may get relief from its distress when getting in contact with the authorized spiritual master who is compared to the cloud that showers rain anywhere without consideration. This “rain” is the causeless mercy of the Lord and it is showered by the causeless mercy of the guru.

*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.”

The *ācārya* can instruct one about the value of human life. There is no need for the disciple to be rich, beautiful or learned. Everyone can become enlightened merely by associating with the bona fide *ācārya* even if devoid of all good qualities. Similarly Nārada Muni, when born as a *śūdra*, became enlightened by the association of great devotees. *Ācāryavān puruṣo veda*. Simply by associating with devotees of the Lord one will also become a devotee, and one will use this form of life the right way. This human form of life is not meant to be wasted for sense gratification. For that purpose there are so many other forms of life. If at the time of death you can remember the Lord then your life was successful.





Otherwise not. All that counts is *ante nārāyaṇa-smṛti*. Nothing else. This is the teachings of the *ācāryas*. It is our choice to take it or not. When we are sick we consult a physician who can give some good advice. He tells us “do this, don’t do that, eat this, don’t eat that, etc.” If we seriously follow the orders of the physician then we can become cured in due course. But if we don’t follow his orders then there is no chance of becoming cured.

Our disease is that we are accepting this material existence as real, but by the instructions of the *guru* we can become cured and taste real existence manifested in our eternal loving relationship with the Lord. But for that experience full surrender unto the spiritual master’s instructions is required. *Yasya prasādād bhagavat-prasādaḥ*. By the mercy of the spiritual master one receives the benediction of Kṛṣṇa.

Dear Prabhupāda, unfortunate as we are, we don’t care for your instructions, but instead we are always looking for sense gratification in the material world. When will we become like Śrīla Rūpa and Śrīla Sanātana Gosvāmī? Although being very advanced they considered themselves to be the most fallen, and taking a straw in their mouth they fully surrendered at the lotus feet of their spiritual master, Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu. That is the behavior of a perfect disciple. Please engage us in your service although we will never attain such qualities as they did.

Maybe, gradually we will get purified so that you can bless us with *bhakti-śakti*. Then we could do some minor service for you, namely carry on your message. Gurudeva, we are fools. We are diseased but we reject the help of a physician. How can there be any hope for us? You give us gold but we prefer to take dirt. It is just your mercy that you do not throw us away, although it is a waste of time to care for us.

Your eternal servants at ISKCON Germany

Harikeśa Svāmī
Ajātaśatru dāsa brahmacārī
Rohiṇī Suta dāsa brahmacārī
Śacinandana dāsa brahmacārī
Saritpati dāsa brahmacārī
Sucandra dāsa brahmacārī
Taponidhi dāsa brahmacārī
Uraṅgama dāsa brahmacārī
Urdvaga dāsa brahmacārī
Vṛndāranya dāsa brahmacārī
Yādavamaṇi dāsa brahmacārī
Akhila dāsa brahmacārī
Akṣara dāsa brahmacārī
Ananta deva dāsa brahmacārī
Aśoka Kumāra dāsa brahmacārī
Aṣṭaratha dāsa brahmacārī
Avināśa Candra dāsa brahmacārī
Bharata dāsa brahmacārī
Gaṅgādhāra dāsa brahmacārī
Gopeśa dāsa brahmacārī
Haṁsa dāsa brahmacārī
Haraka dāsa brahmacārī
Kāmadhenu dāsa brahmacārī
Kṛpārāma dāsa brahmacārī

Kṛṣṇakṣetra dāsa brahmacārī
Madhuha dāsa brahmacārī
Mahā Rāma dāsa brahmacārī
Maṇidhāra dāsa brahmacārī
Nikhilānanda dāsa brahmacārī
Niśpāpa dāsa brahmacārī
Pāvanaśana dāsa brahmacārī
Phalguṇa dāsa brahmacārī
Premacandra dāsa brahmacārī
Puruṇit dāsa brahmacārī
Ratnagarbha dāsa brahmacārī
Hṛtpati dāsa
Viruddha-śakti dāsa
Ātmavidyā dāsa adbhikārī
Vibhīṣaṇa dāsa adbhikārī
Aya dāsa adbhikārī
Cakravartī dāsa adbhikārī
Divyadhāma dāsa adbhikārī
Gaura Kiśora dāsa adbhikārī
Jayagaura dāsa adbhikārī
Mahārati dāsa adbhikārī
Pṛthu dāsa adbhikārī
Vedavyāsa dāsa adbhikārī
Harernāmānanda dāsa adbhikārī

Asaṅga-devī dāśī
Dīnaśaraṇa-devī dāśī
Gīrvāṇī-devī dāśī
Ekādaśī-devī dāśī
Ekānti-devī dāśī
Hṛimati-devī dāśī
Indirā-devī dāśī
Kañcāni-devī dāśī
Maṇimaṇjari-devī dāśī
Mṛḍani-devī dāśī
Parama-devī dāśī
Rambhoru-devī dāśī
Reṇukādevī dāśī
Rohiṇī-devī dāśī
Saumyārūpa-devī dāśī
Umā-devī dāśī
Revatī-devī dāśī
Śilpakārīṇī-devī dāśī
Bhakta Alfred
Bhakta Helmut
Bhakta Bom
Bhakta Detlef
Bhakta Nico
Bhakta Olivier





The spiritual master is the bona fide representative and personal friend of the Supreme Lord, and by his mercy we can also become dear to the Lord. And because the spiritual master is the representative of the Supreme Lord, he must be honored as such. Therefore, each and every day, each and every hour, each and every moment we must remember the lotus feet of our spiritual master, Śrīla Prabhupāda. That is the meaning of advancement in spiritual life.

Factually, before Śrīla Prabhupāda came to the west, none of us knew about Kṛṣṇa, none of us knew that the Supreme Lord is a person and has pastimes, that He has friends and a residence, and that each one of us can go back to home and play with Him. That information has only been given by our spiritual master. He has given us spiritual life, and without Śrīla Prabhupāda no one can find spiritual life. Therefore, there is no way to repay what he has given.

It is stated in the Vedic literature that when one approaches the spiritual master to acquire knowledge from him, one has to give something in return. That is called *dakṣiṇā*. But *dakṣiṇā* does not mean just a quantity of money. The only *dakṣiṇā* which is acceptable is one's life.

Śrīla Prabhupāda has given his life to spread this movement of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu, and has given up all the comforts of Vṛndāvana to come teach us about Kṛṣṇa. The only thing he asks is that we finish our sense gratification and chant Hare Kṛṣṇa. Therefore, let us offer our lives unto the lotus feet of our divine master, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda.

Madana Manohara dāsa brahmacārī
Vraja Vāsī dāsa brahmacārī
Urjeśvarī dāsa brahmacārī
Kṣetra Svarūpa dāsa brahmacārī
Jñāna Śakti dāsa brahmacārī
Jaya Jagannātha dāsa brahmacārī
Bhakta Luis
Bhakta Alfredo
Bhakta Gustavo

Bhakta Mario
Bhakta Hector
Bhakta Salvador
Rāma-Govinda dāsa adhikārī
Adhokṣaja dāsa adhikārī
Sanat Kumāra dāsa adhikārī
Bhakta Enrique
Girisutā-devī dāsi
Mandākinī Gaṅgā-devī dāsi

Mathurā-devī dāsi
Bhaktin Adriana
Bhaktin Rosalba
Bhaktin Victoria
Bhaktin Delia
Bhaktin Martha
Bhaktin Alicia



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

“I was born in the darkest ignorance and my spiritual master opened my eyes with the torch of knowledge. I offer my humble obeisances unto his lotus feet.”

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

“I offer my humble obeisances to my spiritual master, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, who is very dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa because he has taken shelter at His lotus feet.”

Srīla Prabhupāda, your mercy like our fortune is inconceivably unlimited. Really we have no qualification to be worthy of the dust of your lotus feet; neither do we have in our stock any truly pious activity. Therefore, it is just because of our inconceivable good luck (which is due, indeed, to the causeless mercy of the Supreme Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa), that our way was met with yours, and it is only because of your infinite causeless mercy that you kindly have picked us up from the filthy bog of sinful life; therefore, on this most auspicious day, we bow to your lotus feet and we implore you:

Please O our eternal father, O our lord and master birth after birth, don’t allow that we become bewildered and captivated by the illusory energy (*māyā*) of the Lord, in such a way that we forget the constant service to your lotus feet. We do not dare even to ask you that you remove the reactions of our sinful activities; simply we are begging that you allow us to develop a strong attachment to the service of your divine lotus feet and the ability to remember our eternal indebtedness to you.

Let all the universe sing the glories of *patita-pāvana*, our beloved spiritual master, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda.

*Your fallen servants of
Guatemala Temple:*

Prabhu dāsa brahmacārī	
Kalpataru dāsa brahmacārī	Arture Mazariegos Prabhu
Harināmānanda dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Carlos

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our most fallen obeisances at your lotus feet. This is our humble effort for Vyāsa-pūjā.

ŚRĪLA PRABHUPĀDA BENEDICTS EVERYONE

Śrīla Prabhupāda! the sage among so-called human society,

Teaches everyone to serve Rādhā Kṛṣṇa Deity.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! the only true saint on this planet,

Draws everyone to serve Kṛṣṇa as iron is pulled by some magnet.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! the supreme revolutionist of the Absolute Truth,

Awakens everyone sleeping in māyā with his lotuslike boot.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! the best example of a pure devotee,

Reaches everyone beyond the Māyāvādīs' concept of becoming one with the brahmajyoti.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! the real mahātmā among the fake mahātmās or durātmās,

Explains to everyone the relationship between the ātmā and Paramātmā.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! Kṛṣṇa's most exalted servant at the present moment,

Stops everyone from learning how to lament.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! the real defamer of the modern scientist, religionist,

political activist, communist, democratist, the gross materialist, and the atheist,

Tells everyone not to follow those miscreants that pose themselves as real educationalists.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! the foremost authority on Vedic culture,

Gives everyone a chance to stop acting like a vulture.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! who can change the world from darkness to light,

Helps everyone meditate on Kṛṣṇa all day and all night.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! the Supreme Personality of Servitor Godhead,

Allows everyone to return to Goloka Vṛndāvana to live forever instead.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! teaches us about Lord Caitanyadeva,

Enthuses everyone to chant Hare Kṛṣṇa.

Śrīla Prabhupāda instructs us to take kṛṣṇa-prasāda,

Encourages everyone to become Kṛṣṇa consciously mad.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! travels from his country to others,

Just to instruct everyone that the cow is one of our mothers.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! turns caṇḍālas into Vaiṣṇavas,

Defeats everyone, stops them from becoming big, big asuras.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! the bona fide spiritual master,

Heals everyone that is covered by material nature's plaster.

Śrīla Prabhupāda! the founder and ācārya,

Takes everyone out of the bondage of māyā.



Your servants,

Siddhajana dāsa
Bhūtādi dāsa
Sarūttama dāsa
Bhakta Jairam Singh
Bhakta Suresh Candra
Bhakta Murigal
Bakula-devī dāsi
Bhaktin Shirley
Bhaktin Pulmatie





*nala-veṇu-śaras-tanba-kuśa-kīcaka-gahvaram
eva evātiyāto 'ham adrākṣaṁ vipinaṁ mahat
ghoraṁ pratibhayākāraṁ vyālolūka-śivājiram*

“I then passed alone through many forests of bamboo, sharp grass, weeds and caves, which were very difficult to go through alone. I visited deep, dark and dangerously fearful forests, which were the play yards of snakes, owls and jackals.” (*Bhāg.* 1.6.13)

The duty of the *parivrājakācārya* (mendicant) is to travel everywhere and enlighten the inhabitants of the earth with the message of God. You, Śrīla Prabhupāda, because you took the order of your spiritual master as your life and soul, left your blissful *bhajana-kuṭira* (place of prayer) in Vṛndāvana, the serene land of Lord Kṛṣṇa's birth and pastimes, and at an age when ordinary men do not venture forth from their sitting rooms and front porches, came alone to the deep, dark and dangerously fearful concrete forests of the naked city.

O swanlike one, since that blessed beginning in New York you have been miraculously snatching countless conditioned souls from jackalllike lives, dousing the raging forest fire of material existence with showers of your mercy and nectarous wisdom. Unto such a spiritual master I offer my obeisances again and again and again and again.

On this holy occasion of the anniversary of your appearance, our prayer is to be blessed with one dram from your fountain of courage, one drop from your sea of conviction, one speck of dust from your ever-traveling lotus feet. May we not fear the weeds and caves, strange and dangerous places, but push on and on, following in your unfailing footsteps, to inundate with love of Kṛṣṇa, *every* town and village.

Lomaśa Rṣi dāsa
Yaśomati-suta dāsa adbhikāri
Nitya-līlā Sakhi-devī dāsi
Bhakta Gulab

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our obeisances and prayers of gratitude at your lotus feet.

*tvaṁ sad-gurur naḥ paramaṁ ca daivataṁ
yasyānuvṛtyā kṛtino bubhūvima*

“You are our spiritual master and supreme worshipable deity. By following in your footsteps we have become successful in every respect.”
(*Bhāg.* 1.11.7)

Certainly now that you have taken us on as your disciples, we must be the most fortunate few persons on this earth, which lies so helplessly besieged by the awesome forces of the age. If we can just hold fast to your mercy, you have assured us we will always remain without a doubt saved. Please, then, tell us again day after day, reminding us as we need to be reminded, of the simple formula Kṛṣṇa has given: *man-manā bhava mad-bhakto mad-yājī māṁ namaskuru*. As you have explained, Kṛṣṇa is asking only four things. “Always think of Me,” by being always engaged in hearing and chanting.



“Become my devotee,” by accepting the association of devotees and maintaining without fail the basic principles. “Worship Me,” both as the Deity in the temple by regular service and as the Lord of sacrifice by striving to spread His glories all over the world. And “Offer your homage unto Me,” continuing to acknowledge Kṛṣṇa’s kindness even within the most trying difficulty.

Perhaps you are even a little satisfied with our most weakhearted efforts to serve. Please, therefore, continue to rain your undeserved blessings on us. Defeat all our unnecessary diversions and set us straight more and more on this supreme perfectional path.

Your humble servants of ISKCON Hawaii.

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

*ceto-darpana-mārjanam bhava mahā-dāvāgni-nirvāṇam
śreyah-kairava-candrikāvataranam vidyā-vadhū-jīvanam
ānandāmbudhi-vardhanam pratipadam pūrṇāmṛtāsvādanam
sarvātma-snapanam param vijayate śrī-kṛṣṇa-saṅkīrtanam*

“All glories to the Śrī Kṛṣṇa *saṅkīrtana*, which cleanses the heart of all the dust accumulated for years together and extinguishes the fire of conditional life, of repeated birth and death. This *saṅkīrtana* movement is the prime benediction for humanity at large because it spreads the rays of the benediction moon. It is the life of all transcendental knowledge. It increases the ocean of transcendental bliss, and it enables us to fully taste the nectar for which we are always anxious.”

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our respectful and humble obeisances at your lotus feet. Your transcendental appearance is a display of Śrī Kṛṣṇa's grace upon all conditioned souls. He has sent you to mercifully distribute the *bhakti-latā*, the creeper of devotional service. Without this creeper of devotional service all living entities are bound to transmigrate from one species to another and from one planet to another, never finding real happiness. You have given us all the opportunity to return home, back to Godhead.

Such a matchless gift cannot be repaid. However, we must enthusiastically attempt to repay you even though we may always be unable. Our repayment is to follow exactly as you have directed, chant sixteen *good* rounds, follow the four regulative principles and preach this message of Caitanya Mahāprabhu.

We understand that to please you is the perfection of our lives. Our fervent prayer to you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, is that you give us the ability to recollect that we are your eternal servants and meant to engage all of our senses in your service.

Your servants, Houston Yātrā

Lakṣmī Nārāyaṇa dāsa	Brahmānanda Purī dāsa	Sarveśvarī-devī dāsi
Jyotir dāsa	Bhagavān Ācārya dāsa	Bhaktin Lisa
Siddhavidyā dāsa	Brahmatīṣṭha dāsa	Kīrtana
Sulocana dāsa	Subruta dāsa	Vṛndāvana
Dharmabhāvana dāsa	Bhakti John	Daśaratha
Dudgapana dāsa	Īcchānati-devī dāsi	Gaura Śakti
Brāhmaṇya dāsa	Bhakti-devī dāsi	Kedaranātha
Paśupati dāsa	Citta Śakti-devī dāsi	Meyācārya
Bhūṣaya dāsa	Cinmaya-devī dāsi	Rādhikā
Rāsapada dāsa	Sulocana-devī dāsi	
Vṛndāvana dāsa	Devarāja-devī dāsi	

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

Dearest Father,

Please accept our most fallen and worthless obeisances at your sacred lotus feet. We are certainly incapable of saying anything poetic, and any attempt to praise you will be marred by our filthy consciousness, our words remain the mumbling of fools.

We are facing the burning of *saṁsāra*. *Māyā* is dancing before our senses and you and Kṛṣṇa are calling us to come home. We are running towards your shelter, Father, but we are crippled, and we are always falling down and getting lost on the path you tell us to follow. Dark clouds of illusion are surrounding us and death like a fierce dog is closing in on our so-called youth. O Father! We are terrified of this material world. It is the worst nightmare; we are crying. Lost in the forest of illusion we fall again and again, but there is no time to count our bruises and lament. We are running toward you begging for shelter; we are running with you in defeating the atheism of the world, spreading the brilliance of Kṛṣṇa consciousness, and we are running for you in the performance of our prescribed *dharma*s trying to please you—our most wonderful and divine *guru-mahārāja*.

O Śrīla Prabhupāda! We are your servants, souls surrendered unto you, now and forever. Kindly tell us what to do. We remain,

A group of fools,

Manu Ṭhākura dāsa brahmacārī Girivanadhārī dāsa brahmacārī
Tribūvanātha dāsa brahmacārī Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma dāsa brahmacārī
Viṣṇu Datta dāsa brahmacārī





Unless one is recognized by the Supreme Personality of Godhead by one's devotional service, the human form of life is wasted. A devotee must therefore know how to render service unto Kṛṣṇa and thus be recognized by Him. It is explained in the *Caitanya-caritāmṛta* that one should serve both the spiritual master and Kṛṣṇa simultaneously to progress in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Service rendered to Kṛṣṇa under the direction of the spiritual master is bona fide service because the spiritual master is the manifested representative of Kṛṣṇa.

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

“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].” Therefore, when one satisfies the spiritual master he satisfies Kṛṣṇa.

O beloved Gurudeva, by your mercy we can now understand that everyone on this planet is enamored by the illusory satisfaction of sense gratification. Being fully engaged in illusory activities they are reluctant to take to the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement because they are unaware of the benefits of surrendering to Kṛṣṇa and so they are subjected to various miserable conditions of material existence. They are foolishly attached to so-called society, friendship and love, which simply produce different kinds of miserable conditions. Everyone, both man and woman, is attached to this material existence and is engaged in cheating one another in a great society of the cheaters and the cheated.

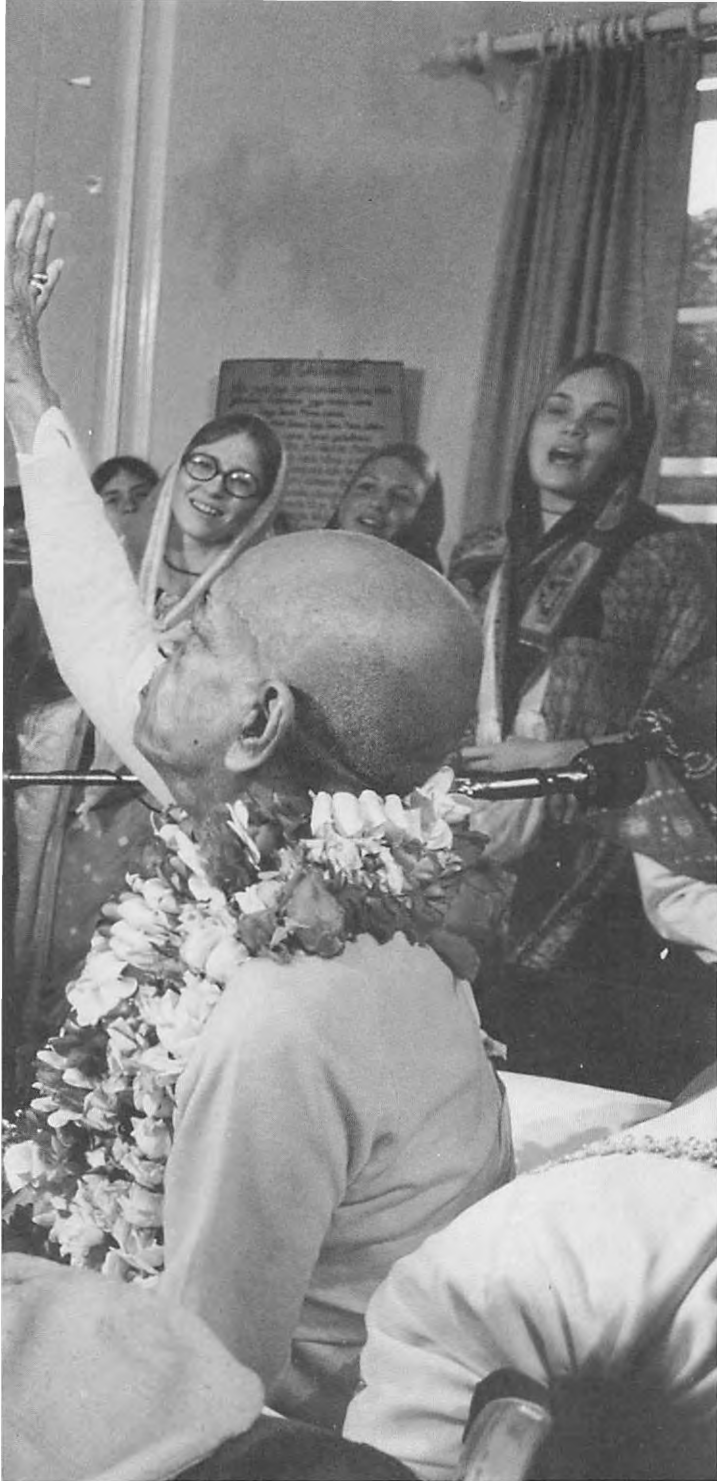
Modern society encourages people to become careless about spiritual realization, so everyone is full of anxieties thinking, “What is to be done? What is next?” And because they are strongly bound by material desires they continue to remain in craziness.

It is indeed very difficult to get out of the material entanglement but somehow or other we were favored by Kṛṣṇa. By His mercy only we were given the opportunity to associate with a pure devotee like Your Divine Grace.

We can therefore conclude that we must be specifically favored by Kṛṣṇa, otherwise how is it we are becoming Kṛṣṇa conscious and are engaging in the preaching work of this sublime Vaiṣṇava philosophy?

Your unworthy servants, the community of New Jhārikhaṇḍa





To remember

*Not autumn springs,
Wonderful waterfalls gleam
Nor sunset beams*

But

to remember

You

*Savior of our heart
Graceful knight
Whose words have broken
With sādhu sword
The nightlike fog of
Māyā's dark*

To remember

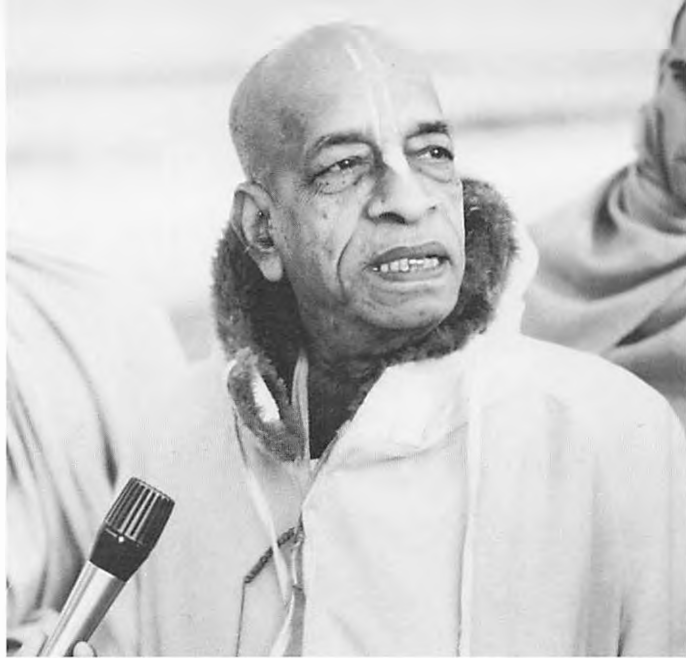
You

*And not forget again
We pray.*

Jagajivana dāsa
Payonidhi dāsa
Prahādanātha dāsa
Rādhā-madana-mohana dāsa
Arkamitra dāsa
Vāsudeva-parāyaṇa dāsa
Dāru Kṛṣṇa dāsa
Bhakta Aldo
Bhakta Eduardo
Bhakta Jose
Bhakta Aries
Mahānandī-devī dāsī
Madre Cristina
Madre Miriam
Madre Ana

GURUDEVA

1. *No modernistic soup you brew;
Your precepts taught of yore;
Eternal tenets, tested true,
Confirmed by Vedic law.*
2. *A stirring Gospel, time-intact,
Awaking dormant ways:
"Twixt loved and lover sleeps a pact
Inherent for all days."*
3. *Corruptive cheats, who strangle truth,
Have crippled mosque and church;
But Truth has held Himself aloof,
Avoiding vain research.*
4. *The truth is but for those sincere
Who turn their hearts to you,
Revealed to those of earnest ear;
But they are far and few.*
5. *Although the truth resounds aloud,
Throughout the globe declared,
The brainless booby, puffed too proud,
From death is never spared.*
6. *O woe to him who turns you down
And disregards your word:
He's lost, alas, a luckless clown,
By lust alone bestirred.*
7. *The simple truth is pure and plain:
Śrī Kṛṣṇa is our Lord.
One needs but chant His holy name,
His mercy down is poured.*
8. *We're not these skin-and-boney bags,
But are the souls within;
Yet, brandishing false fleshy flags,
We flap in squalid sin.*
9. *Repent your wicked ways, O man!
Surrender at his feet!
Remold your life to suit his plan,
And progress you will meet.*
10. *Don shining hope! Doff dull despair!
Bear japa beads in hand!
Ascend with care the narrow stair
To greet the promised land!*
11. *Be led by him along the way
That saints and sages trod!
Enjoy the gradual dawn of day,
O brilliant son of God!*
12. *Attract those trapped in groggy world
To leap along behind!
Triumphant banners fly unfurled.
True life and freedom find!*
13. *Pay homage unto him, all men!
Uphold his noble cause!
His Grace Divine will 'light on them
Who strive to keep his laws.*
14. *Although I'm chanting Kṛṣṇa's name,
I cannot gain a taste.
O master, bless me with a grain,
Lest human life I waste.*
15. *Redeem me from this wave-tossed world,
Where I am but a slave,
By surging sensual urges hurled.
O save me, Gurudeva.*



Our dearmost worshipable, most glorious Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our most humble *daṇḍavats* at your holy lotus feet. We are your most fallen disciples. We have no intelligence to understand the full import of your desires, or your greatness—still, by your grace, we wish to glorify you.

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

You are the most intimate associate of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and yet you have so kindly come here. You left the holy *dhāma* of Vṛndāvana to associate with us, who are too low even to be classified amongst the untouchables in the *varṇāśrama* system.

You have taught us the missing secret of life, which is practically unknown in this demoniac culture in which we have taken birth.

Ahaṁ brahmāsmi—I am not this body, I am spirit soul. What is the business of the spirit soul? *Jivera 'svarūpa' haya, kṛṣṇera 'nitya-dāsa'*—our eternal occupation is to engage in the transcendental loving service of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Kṛṣṇa.

*sei sarva vedera 'abhidheya' nāma
sādhana-bhakti haite haya premera udgama*

“By practicing this regulated devotional service under the direction of the spiritual master, certainly one awakens his dormant love of God. This is called *abhidheya*.” (Cc. *Ādi-līlā* 7.142) You have so mercifully taught us the most confidential of all knowledge, the activity of the eternal spirit soul in the spiritual world.

Now we are actually coming to life, by your grace. Before we met with your mercy, we were engaged in so many activities, all more or less entangling, and mostly degrading and impious. Now we can understand that, although we had such a high opinion of ourselves, although we were so firmly convinced of our positions as lords of material nature, actually we were not even exhibiting symptoms of life.

*jīvañchavo bhāgavatāṅghri-reṇuṁ
na jātu martyo 'bhibheta yas tu
śrī-viṣṇu-padyā manu-jas tulasyāḥ
śvasaṇ chavo yas tu na veda gandham*

“The person who has not at any time received the dust of the feet of a pure devotee of the Lord upon his head certainly is a dead body. And the person who has never experienced the flavor of the *tulasī* leaves from the

lotus feet of the Lord is also a dead body, although breathing.”
(*Bhāg.* 2.3.23)

Real life does not exist outside the approved path of devotional service, beginning with *śravaṇam kīrtanam viṣṇoḥ*. We are experiencing that we are actually becoming enlivened by this process of devotional service. Without devotional service, under your instructions, our breathing is no better than the pulsing of bellows. Actually, our every living gesture and activity is simply by your mercy. We are made of your mercy. *Tomāra karuṇā-sāra*.

Anything performed outside the scope of your instructions is simply conditioned activity under the influence of the three modes of material nature.

Your dearly beloved Śrī Kṛṣṇa, who can attract millions of Cupids, who is enlivening the cows and the senses, and who is the Lord of the *gopīs*, is known as Bhagavān, the possessor of all opulence. We can clearly see that you are also exhibiting these opulences by His grace. Who else is so wealthy that he owns large properties in major cities all over the world, as well as farms, gorgeous *mandiras* and prosperous businesses? Who else is so beautiful that people all over the world will weep and dance in ecstasy to see him? Who else is so influential that he can purify the polluted atmosphere of Kali, which destroys all the good qualities of the human beings? Who is so all-knowing that he can determine what is right action in every sphere of human activity? Who is so powerful that he can defeat the greatest philosophers, politicians, and religionists? And who is so renounced that he can live surrounded by such opulence, and still sleep two or four hours a day, and dedicate his life and soul to the ultimate welfare of all? Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are so famous that at every moment, as the sun takes his course, somewhere on the planet someone is bowing and reciting prayers in your praise. Your appearance is epoch-making, and your characteristics and mission are described in the Vedic scriptures. *Vede gāy yāhāra carito*.

We regret that our devotion and love for you is hardly more than skin-deep, hardly more than sentiment. You have said that when you write your translations and purports, you are thinking that this is to be a guide for the next ten thousand years. On the other hand, we find it difficult to maintain enthusiasm for more than forty-eight hours the continuous *kīrtana* which you requested.

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are like children. You are actually protecting us and nourishing us with the milk of the Vedic wisdom. We are as helplessly dependent on you as a naked baby is dependent on the mother. You are our real parent and guardian, for your protection is infallible.

You have written that this chanting of Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare Kṛṣṇa, Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa, Hare Hare/ Hare Rāma, Hare Rāma, Rāma Rāma, Hare Hare is like the genuine cry of the baby for the mother. You have awakened us to our desperate plight and taught us to cry.

This process of devotional service is so sublime, so simple, so direct and so profound. We have only to abide strictly by your instructions, to have full faith in the chanting of the holy name. We humbly pray that you will continue to shower us with your mercy, so that we can make our lives successful, by your grace.

Your most fallen servants,

Jagat Guru Svāmī	Tirtha Kāra	Jagadhātri-devī dāśī
Jayatīrtha dāśa adhikārī	Akhaṇḍādi	Añjana-devī dāśī
Vicitravīrya dāśa adhikārī	Raghuvaha	Nandalala-devī dāśī
Jaya Lakṣmaṇa dāśa adhikārī	Medhāvī	Yuvati-devī dāśī
Purañjana dāśa adhikārī	Satyavāk	Śaci-devī dāśī
Janakarāja dāśa adhikārī	Tulasī Priya	Vasana-devī dāśī
Jñāna dāśa adhikārī	Yāga Yaṅga	Rāmya-devī dāśī
Rāma Śaraṇa dāśa adhikārī	Śāstra Cakṣus	Rucira-devī dāśī
Nara Hari dāśa adhikārī	Tony Tasi	Śrīkāma-devī dāśī
Ādi Kartā dāśa adhikārī	Christos	Rāsalīlā-devī dāśī
Bhaja Hari dāśa adhikārī	Bhagavad Bhakta	Īśvarī-devī dāśī
Hare Kṛṣṇa dāśa adhikārī	Wynn	Jānakī-devī dāśī
Raghuvīra dāśa brahmacārī	Doug	Gokularāṇī-devī dāśī
Advaitācārya dāśa brahmacārī	Nick	Aṣṭasakhi-devī dāśī
Ilāpati dāśa brahmacārī	Stuart	Vṛndā-devī dāśī
Mohana dāśa brahmacārī	Kieran	Līlāvati-devī dāśī
Jananandana dāśa brahmacārī	Shamus	Subhadrā-devī dāśī
Muktyānanda dāśa brahmacārī	Grahma	Devakī-devī dāśī
Kulaśekhara dāśa brahmacārī	Tyāga Tony	Sāvitrī-devī dāśī
Amita dāśa brahmacārī	Ned	Kṛṣṇāṅga-devī dāśī
Bhaumadeva dāśa brahmacārī	Bhāva Bill	Bhaktin Diane
Citraketu dāśa brahmacārī	Pāṇḍu Paul	Bhaktin Claire
Dānavīra dāśa brahmacārī	Andy	Bhaktin Anita
Giri Govardhana dāśa	Chris	Bhaktin Liz
Virabhadra dāśa	Bhakta Andrew	Bhaktin Joanne
Kalyapaṇi dāśa	Bhakta Jim	Bhaktin Susan
Gokulānanda dāśa	Alberto	Bhaktin Sally
Kṛpāmaya dāśa	Ian	Maeve
Kṛṣṇa dāśa	John	Vaiṣṇava Caraṇa
Varṇśivādāna dāśa	Mañjvalī-devī dāśī	Kīrtana Rasa
Pṛtīvipatī dāśa	Padma-devī dāśī	Yaśodā
Rāsa Maṇḍala dāśa	Jagannātha Īśvarī-devī dāśī	Yamunā
Bhogānanda dāśa	Jagattama-devī dāśī	Rādhākuṇḍa
Daṇḍakāraṇya dāśa	Kamalāṅgi-devī dāśī	Rukmiṇī
Satānanda dāśa	Rādhā-Gokulānanda-devī dāśī	Subhadrā
Dharaṇī Dhāra dāśa	Hṛtkamālāya-devī dāśī	Prahlāda
Ātmādāna dāśa	Veṇurati-devī dāśī	Baladeva
Rasa Rasika	Jalasthita-devī dāśī	

London (Bury Place)

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

*You chant Kṛṣṇa's glories to spread His fame
to cleanse our hearts and make us sane
Endeavoring, determined, you never relent
You know the Lord, it's by Him you've been sent.*

*Constantly engaged in serving the Lord
Your love can never from Him be called
In this whole creation there is no space
for you there's nothing but His lotus face.*

*Resolute in purpose, your aim is one
to make us all happy, you're never done
You're the self-realized soul who never sits still
with no personal desire, but the Lord's to fulfill.*

*Śrī Bhagavad-gītā is proof of its own
like the sun with no shadow you've vividly shown
You are the proof, O Prabhupāda, lord of my sight
I challenge the man who can match your might!*

*Analyze carefully and make your test
Where is the solution to disease and death?
Just apply your logic to my guru
His mercy you'll find gives eternal youth.*

*Devoted to Kṛṣṇa, you never lament
You joyfully work. "It's for service we're meant!"
Person bhāgavata, there's no fault in you
You demonstrate this knowledge and show us it's true.*

*To write about you is to become purified
Remember your feet and in you confide
This day of yours is your mercy as well
Boundless your love, you've saved us from hell.*

Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Rohiṇīnandana dāsa adbhikārī	Orṅkāra dāsa brahmacārī
Raṅcora dāsa adbhikārī	Bhakta Andy
Sākṣī Gopāla dāsa brahmacārī	Peter
Yaśodā Dulāla dāsa brahmacārī	Līlāśakti-devī dāśī
Mataṅga dāsa brahmacārī	Rādhāpriya-devī dāśī
Citraketu dāsa brahmacārī	Devamaya-devī dāśī
Nilamaṇi dāsa brahmacārī	Kuñjamāndana-devī dāśī
Sarva Sargara dāsa brahmacārī	Kṛṣṇaveśa-devī dāśī
Yajñāṅga dāsa brahmacārī	Arcā-devī dāśī
Ātmātma dāsa brahmacārī	Kalaṅgana-devī dāśī

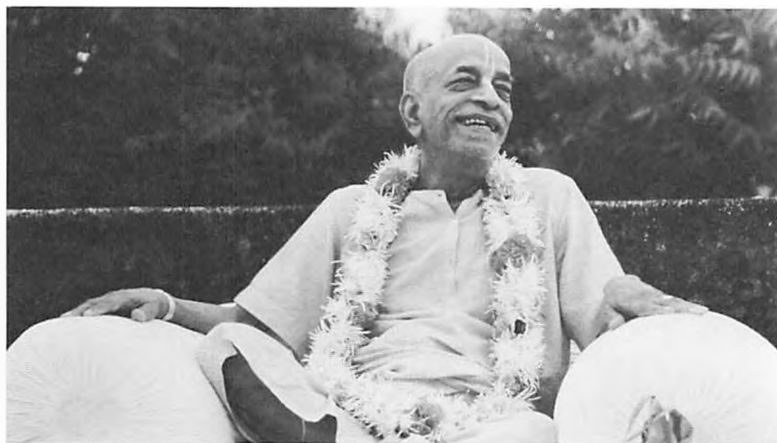


Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

To properly glorify your qualities and pastimes is as difficult as glorifying Kṛṣṇa. Kṛṣṇa is unlimited and unpredictable, and being fully surrendered to Him, you have the same features. There is no way we can ever repay you, either now or at any time in the future. You have given us everything; we have given you nothing but trouble.

In Māyāpur, you have built a transcendental city to cool our hearts and minds and give us the peace which escapes all living entities in the creation. While we walked happily to the Gaṅgā, you lay sick in your room, bearing the sinful reactions of millions of sinful lives of your disciples. The next day, you initiated over two hundred more. Who can possibly begin to understand your selflessness?

In Jagannātha Purī, some *paṇḍitas* chanted beautiful prayers for you in glorification of Lord Jagannātha. With tears in your eyes, you told them,



“I only want that these American boys can see Lord Jagannātha.” You never stop thinking of our welfare. We have done nothing to deserve your mercy. It is causeless mercy.

Despite all difficulties you never give up preaching about Kṛṣṇa. One night in Māyāpur, despite a crippling illness, you preached to us about determination in devotional service. You cited the example of Jaṭāyu, the vulture who was killed while trying to stop Rāvaṇa from kidnapping Sītā. You explained that although Jaṭāyu was unable to save Sītā, this does not mean that he was unsuccessful. Because he endeavored to the best of his ability to serve Lord Rāmacandra, he was successful, even though he failed to achieve the result. You are thus teaching us to follow your example of ceaselessly fighting for Kṛṣṇa, ignoring all obstacles.

Your doctor came to see you due to the severity of your illness. His purpose was to order you not to speak, so you could regain your energy. When he arrived in your room, you immediately took the opportunity to preach to him about Kṛṣṇa consciousness. *No force within this material world is powerful enough to stop your preaching.*

As we reluctantly left your association in Māyāpur to go to Vṛndāvana, we heard another amazing example of your tenacity. Your illness was so severe that you were unable to move. You commented that your father had died of the selfsame disease. We were all terrified, and we didn't know what to do. Then we heard your final comment. You started making plans for a preaching tour. We couldn't believe it. Later on in Vṛndāvana, one devotee was standing on the roof of the guest house, watching you as you sat in great pain on the roof of your house. To his amazement, you spent one full hour attempting to lift up your microphone. You then proceeded to translate the Tenth Canto. On another occasion you stated that you will go on preaching until your last breath.

You have given up everything to make the world Kṛṣṇa conscious. You alone are powerful enough to manifest the will of Caitanya Mahāprabhu in this world.

We can only lie in the dust of your feet and pray for your mercy. Please give us the ability to follow your instructions. Please empower us to act in such a way as to help you in your service, rather than hinder you. Your mercy is already manifested unlimitedly. Please empower us to accept it.

Your disciples in New Dvārakā.

Resident Sannyāsīs

Satsvarūpa dāsa Gosvāmī—GBC, BTG Editor-in-Chief
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Bhaktisiddhānta dāsa	Bāhulavana dāsa	Muṇipatnī-devī dāsī
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Rāmarāja dāsa	Kīrtirāja dāsa	Navina-devī dāsī
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Kaunteya dāsa	Jaganivāsa dāsa	Lalanānami-devī dāsī
Vidagdha dāsa	Jagat-Sakhā dāsa	Kṛṣṇa Vilāsini-devī dāsī
Rāsanātha dāsa	Garuḍa Paṇḍita dāsa	Rukmiṇī-devī dāsī
Pitā dāsa	Śrutaravā dāsa	Vidyā-devī dāsī

Jaganmayī-devī dāśī
 Bhramī-devī dāśī
 Yogamāyā-devī dāśī
 Yogamāla-devī dāśī
 Suprada-devī dāśī
 Kuṅkuma-devī dāśī
 Śaraṇagata-devī dāśī
 Ujjvala-devī dāśī
 Pārvatī-devī dāśī
 Hārdīṇa-devī dāśī
 Ānanda Cinmayī-devī dāśī
 Revatī-devī dāśī
 Rukmavatī-devī dāśī
 Antardhyāna-devī dāśī
 Dāntā-devī dāśī
 Oṅkara-devī dāśī
 Devamātā-devī dāśī
 Jīvana-devī dāśī
 Naraveśa-devī dāśī
 Śubhra-devī dāśī
 Bhrāntī-devī dāśī
 Bhadrā-devī dāśī
 Śatadhārī-devī dāśī
 Rasamañjarī-devī dāśī
 Naradevī-devī dāśī
 Vikraminī-devī dāśī
 Kṛṣṇa Priyā-devī dāśī
 Kṛṣṇā-devī dāśī
 Virmala-devī dāśī
 Jitāmṛta-devī dāśī
 Sandinī-devī dāśī
 Līlāmañjarī-devī dāśī
 Śaṅkarī-devī dāśī
 Saradī-devī dāśī
 Kaṅkā-devī dāśī
 Mañjarī-devī dāśī
 Mahāmañjarī-devī dāśī
 Sukhadha-devī dāśī
 Lokallīa-devī dāśī
 Vaikuṇṭha-devī dāśī
 Sāvitrī-devī dāśī
 Candra-devī dāśī
 Bhaktin Laurie
 Bhaktin Patty
 Bhaktin Myla
 Bhaktin Shirley

Children
 Gaura Kiśora
 Nītāi
 Jayadharmā
 Arjuna
 Ātmā
 Kuntī
 Jagannātha Prasāda
 Kiśorī
 Sudarśana

Mīrā Bāi
 Mānasa-candra
 Jayānanda
 Lakṣmī
 Jāhnavī
 Candrakāntī
 Rāgalekhā
 Rukmiṇī
 Dharma Patnī
 Rādhā-śakti
 Bhaktivārdhana
 Gopāla Kṛṣṇa
 Kṛṣṇa Kumāra
 Mandākinī
 Nīmāi
 Vaijayantī
 Jaḍa Bharata
 Candrāvalī
 Dvārakādhiśa
 Rūpa Manohara
 Rukmiṇī
 Gopāla Bhaṭṭa
 Īśvara Pūrī
 Kṛṣṇa-Prema
 Tulasyānanda
 Dhanvantari
 Kṛṣṇa Caitanya
 Sanātana
 Sītā
 Lakṣmaṇa
 Sarasvatī
 Katyāyanī
 Nāmācārya Haridāsa
 Cittaharī
 Nīmāi Candra
 Sundarī
 Gauracandra
 Maṇḍalībhadrā
 Kṛṣṇānanda
 Gopālananda
 Lalitā
 Rādhā Vṛndāvana
 Jagajīvana
 Śyāmasundara
 Harā
 Śiromaṇī
 Gauravāṇī
 Jānakī
 Ātmabhū
 Hṛṣīkeśa
 Subālā
 Śubhaviḷāsa
 Ananta
 Citralekhā
 Janārdana
 Madana-mohana
 Kālindī

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 Dvārakānātha dāśa adbhikārī
 Tryadhīśa dāśa adbhikārī
 Tuṣṭi-devī dāśī
 Vinoda Vāṇī-devī dāśī
 Vaikuṇṭha Mūrti-devī dāśī
 Svātī-devī dāśī

Gurukula Students
 Govinda Mayī
 Hitakāraṇa
 Nīmāi
 Rāsmī
 Govinda
 Rukmiṇī
 Śrīdāmā
 Yamala
 Arjuna
 Baladeva
 Bhakta Rūpa
 Gulab
 Janmāṣṭamī
 Līlā
 Rātha
 Nandinī
 Yamunā
 Nāgapatnī
 Dayānidhī
 Dhīra
 Kṛṣṇa
 Nīmāi Candra
 Rādhāṣṭamī
 Sundarī
 Draupadī
 Gāndhārī
 Ānanda
 Bhakta
 Bhakti
 Cakra
 Kṛṣṇa Kathā
 Garuḍa
 Sāmba
 Sammohinī
 Yudhiṣṭhira
 Ananta Śeṣa
 Śivajvāra
 Dāmodara Priyā-devī dāśī
 Kāmeśī-devī dāśī





*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*

To the unbinding one, free from the taxes of this law-made world, to the swan-like mendicant who begs and gives divine beverage of love of God. Unto him, we salute unto him, we bow down in respect, as the reed bends in the wind.

O messenger of the truth, your fame bounds no limits! Like a soldier, you go to fight this world, and knowledge is spread everywhere by your strength. Your weapon is mercy and your gift is causeless. You are the cause of mercy, for you are the proof of God. Kṛṣṇa is your slogan, Kṛṣṇa is everything, with that faith you have knocked at the door of our heart. “Wake up, wake up! Kṛṣṇa is waiting” . . . but we say “happy” is this world, and of death we laugh. Irony is our game and agony the result.

You came in this world to save us all, master, but ungrateful we are; we do not respect your kindness. We like to glorify the greatness of your deeds, but we are lazy and blind. We like to pray for grace for us, to be guided on the way.

O Prabhupāda, you are our lord and master, the very life of our soul; we are children bereft of all knowledge, why unto us, that love has been given? How wonderful, master, that by grace we have been chosen. O master, king of our heart, please tell us, who are you, master? We are degraded and low but still proud of ourselves, please let us grasp your lotus feet. Praying for inspiration, we like to respect you, O lord, O king of this world, master of all, can we become your servants?

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, in the *Caitanya-caritāmṛta* (Ādi-līlā 1.45) it is said:

*guru kṛṣṇa-rūpa hana śāstrera pramāṇe
guru-rūpe kṛṣṇa kṛpā karena bhakta-gaṇe*

“According to the deliberate opinion of all revealed scriptures, the spiritual master is non-different from Kṛṣṇa. Lord Kṛṣṇa in the form of the spiritual master delivers His devotees.”

When will we be able to realize that you actually are non-different from Kṛṣṇa? When will we be able to appreciate what you have given us? When will we be able to fulfill your desires? When will we stop committing offenses at your lotus-like feet?

Śrīla Prabhupāda, these are questions which we have been asking ourselves so many times. Especially they come to our miserable minds whenever you have to suffer from our offenses, like early this year in Māyāpur. At such moments we feel ourselves the most wretched persons in the creation, knowing full well that our offensive, neglectful and selfish service is causing you suffering. You have come like a loving father to deliver and save the lost children, but we, your eternal sons and daughters, pay only little attention to your instructions of how to come back home. We are so puffed up that sometimes we even make up our own plans to save ourselves. But like the frog in the well, we'll simply be eaten up by the snake.

We remember one day at the Ganges in Māyāpur, your secretary was reading notes from a diary. Someone was asking you: "Please, Śrīla Prabhupāda, be merciful unto me!" Immediately you replied: "*You* be merciful unto me."

You have given your mercy freely to everyone in innumerable ways—actually you are mercy personified—there is no need to keep asking for it. But have you ever received our "mercy"? The moment we can understand that we also have to be merciful towards you—by following your orders, by preaching purely, by doing our duties without selfish motivation—at that time we'll be of some assistance in your mission of changing the demoniac face of the world.

Until that moment, however, we will have to simply pray to be able to remain fixed in the dust of your lotus feet. Please, Śrīla Prabhupāda, don't kick us away! There is no meaning to life without you! You are the only hope for us! Without you there is no chance of becoming pure. Therefore, we pray that some day we may understand your exalted position as the Supreme Personality of Servitor Godhead and be able to act accordingly, and in this way our offenses might stop and this may let you complete your mission to benedict every living being with Kṛṣṇa consciousness. May this be our desire on this most auspicious day of the year.

Your worthless disciples, ISKCON Mauritius center

Kapila dāsa
Śaṅkāśa dāsa
Śrī-niketana dāsa



*All glories unto you dear Śrīla Prabhupāda!
On Vyāsa-pūjā—this holy of holy days!
A messenger descended from the Lord's abode,
Dispersing ignorance's darkness like sun's rays.*

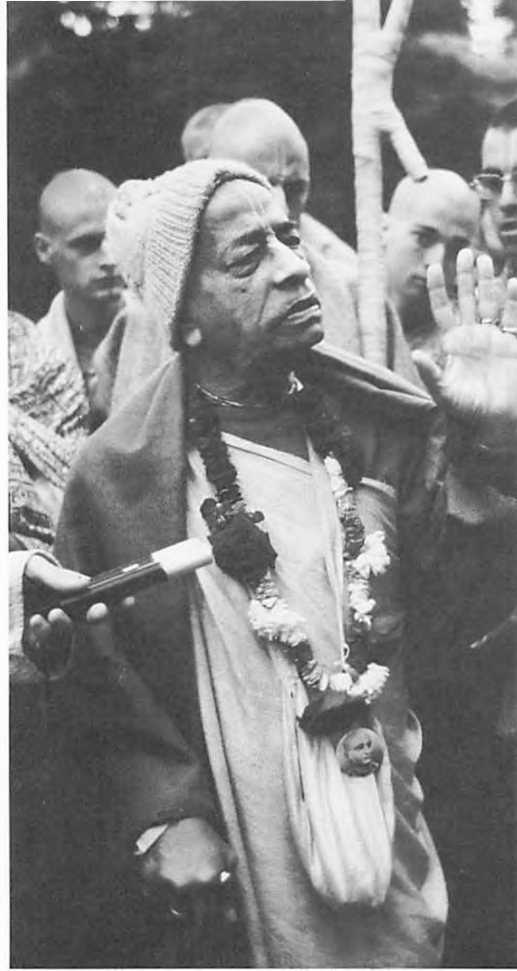
*Weaponless, yet armed with guru's order,
Dear Prabhupāda has crossed the raging sea.
No one imagined what he would bring—
From birth and death his mercy sets us free.*

*Falsely proud due to their scientific gropings
Scientists fool people with hope upon false hope,
Not even knowing the goal for which we're living.
Prabhupāda's true science gives real light and hope!*

*Great Nārada Muni, cursed to be ever on the move;
Likewise Prabhupāda remains his true descendant.
With hundred palatial temples to stay around the world
He's always preaching, touring—nowhere a resident.*

*Mother forces son to go to school each day.
Mother's "force" is welfare lest son's life go astray.
Childlike India imitates void Western culture,
Prabhupāda cries and battles to preserve the Vedic way.*

*Gauḍiya Maṭha has split and shattered.
Losing love and trust's fate we all can see.
Let's unitedly serve dear Prabhupāda!
No halting ISKCON's march—except internally!*





*Śrīla Prabhupāda struggling hard eleven years
That there may be "American Kṛṣṇa's".
Now "Hare Kṛṣṇa Bona fide," the Judge proclaimed.
Now our turn to fulfill Prabhupāda's wishes.
Mṛdaṅga's "big & small," Prabhupāda plays them all!
BOOKS—55 million printed—a miracle!
"Now double this year's sale!"—let all learn Kṛṣṇa's tale.
With Prabhupāda we'll overcome all obstacles!*

*Lord Gaurāṅga's message will save the world! In "every town and village"
His name will be sung!
The prediction must come true—It is His will!
And Prabhupāda's the one founder let it be rung!*

*Now at Māyāpur—the center of all that be
Trying humbly to fulfill the ācārya's dream.
May the entire world all know and love
Lord Caitanya, who's giving freely kṛṣṇa-prema.*

*Prabhupāda's our life and soul!
His lotus feet the refuge of mind and heart.
Fixing his service as our only goal—
We pray that from his order we'll not depart.*

**ALL GLORIES TO HIS DIVINE GRACE ŚRĪ ŚRĪMAD A. C. BHAKTI-
VEDANTA SWAMI PRABHUPĀDA PARIVRĀJAKĀCĀRYA-
PARAMAHANSA, OUR BELOVED SPIRITUAL MASTER!!**

*The Śrī Māyāpur Dhāma-vāsi's of Śrī Māyāpur Candrodaya Mandira
(The Temple of the rising of Śrī Caitanya Candra—the moon of Śrī Māyāpur
Dhāma)*

Jayapataka Svāmī	Tapamaya dāsa brahmacārī	Nistula dāsa brahmacārī
Bhāvānanda Gosvāmī	Parisevana dāsa brahmacārī	Śrāvānanda dāsa brahmacārī
Kṣīracora Gopinātha Svāmī	Subhāga dāsa brahmacārī	Ānanda Svarūpa dāsa brahmacārī
Pañcaratna dāsa brahmacārī	Śambhu dāsa brahmacārī	Anta Rūpa dāsa brahmacārī

Rāghava Paṇḍita dāsa brahmacārī
 Nitāi Candra dāsa brahmacārī
 Nadiyā dāsa brahmacārī
 Satyanārāyaṇa dāsa brahmacārī
 Veṅkaṭa dāsa brahmacārī
 Sattvika dāsa brahmacārī
 Mathurā Mohana dāsa brahmacārī
 Hemāṅga dāsa brahmacārī
 Jananivāsa dāsa brahmacārī
 Paṅkajāṅghri dāsa brahmacārī
 Puṣkara dāsa brahmacārī
 Bhagavatāmṛta dāsa brahmacārī
 Kaṇva dāsa brahmacārī
 Dayāsana dāsa brahmacārī
 Urukrama dāsa brahmacārī
 Kavirāja dāsa brahmacārī
 Godruma dāsa brahmacārī
 Dakṣa dāsa brahmacārī
 Durgama dāsa brahmacārī
 Tatpura dāsa brahmacārī
 Lagudi dāsa brahmacārī
 Anirdeśavapu dāsa brahmacārī
 Rasika dāsa brahmacārī
 Marutpati dāsa brahmacārī
 Nareśvara dāsa brahmacārī
 Ādiguru dāsa brahmacārī
 Navadvīpa Pati dāsa brahmacārī
 Gajendra dāsa brahmacārī
 Gaurāṅga Nityānanda dāsa brahmacārī
 Vāṇinātha dāsa brahmacārī
 Sukhāmṛta dāsa brahmacārī
 Brahmapada dāsa brahmacārī
 Prakāśānta dāsa brahmacārī
 Dhīrāśānta dāsa brahmacārī
 Caitanya Jivana dāsa adhikārī
 Abhirāma dāsa adhikārī
 Gaṇapati dāsa adhikārī
 Hiranya Garbha dāsa adhikārī
 Ānakadundubhi dāsa adhikārī
 Girimakeha dāsa adhikārī
 Śyāmasudarānanda dāsa adhikārī
 Murāri Hari dāsa adhikārī
 Gadādhara dāsa adhikārī
 Viṣṇudāsa dāsa adhikārī
 Viśvanātha dāsa adhikārī
 Jaladhāra dāsa adhikārī
 Atula Candra dāsa adhikārī
 Sukharañjana Mullick
 Nikhila
 Prabian
 Jagendra dāsa

Sudhīrakṣṇa dāsa brahmacārī
 Akiñcana Kṣṇa dāsa brahmacārī
 Prabhava dāsa brahmacārī
 Śaṅkaranātha dāsa brahmacārī
 Śaśibhūṣaṇa dāsa brahmacārī
 Haladhāra dāsa brahmacārī
 Golālaya dāsa brahmacārī
 Gaura Vighraha dāsa brahmacārī
 Ananta Kṣṇa dāsa brahmacārī
 Nitya Kṣṇa dāsa brahmacārī
 Phoni nayaka dāsa brahmacārī
 Govinda
 Gopāla
 Surajit
 Suśānta
 Vijaya Kṣṇa
 Śrījaya
 Praśānta
 Bhāskara
 Nīmāi No.1
 Nīmāi No.2
 Nikhila
 Nikhila No.2
 Nikhila No.3
 Ratan No.1
 Ratan No.2
 Tapan
 Svapan
 Naridāsa
 Gauradāsa
 Dīlīpa
 Dīlīpa No.2
 Samir
 Viṣṇupāda
 Śaṅkara No.1
 Śaṅkara No.2
 Himāṁsu
 Centu
 Subala
 Anatkumāra
 Gaurāṅga
 Nīrañjana
 Śadānanda
 Aruṇalāla
 Raṅgalāla
 Acintya
 Arjuna
 Yudhiṣṭhira
 Rameśa
 Sailen
 Kamala Kṣṇa

Viśvanātha
 Mukunda
 Śunila
 Kanai
 Bālāi
 Śyāmalāla
 Svapan No.2
 Prabhir
 Śrutirūpa-devī dāśī
 Mādri-devī dāśī
 Vṛndāvana vihārī-devī dāśī
 Hari Sthari-devī dāśī
 Kṣṇarūpa-devī dāśī
 Śucirāṇī-devī dāśī
 Snehalatā-devī dāśī
 Kiśori vallabha-devī dāśī
 Hari Sthānu-devī dāśī
 Prasūti-devī dāśī
 Viśālākṣī-devī dāśī
 Gopāla-devī dāśī
 Āditya-devī dāśī
 Gopīpriya-devī dāśī
 Nandini-devī dāśī
 Yamunā Ma-devī dāśī
 Haridāsa Ma-devī dāśī
 Malatī-devī dāśī
 Riya Ma-devī dāśī
 Phula Malar-devī dāśī
 Renu valla-devī dāśī
 Uton Strī
 Uṣā
 Sumitra
 Sepali
 Lakṣmī
 Gaura-devī dāśī
 Śāstrī
 Depod
 Ashim
 Jhulana
 Sinor
 Rita
 Angeli
 Pūrṇimā
 Shani
 Mañju Rāṇī
 Sundara
 Yamunā
 Tulasi

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

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

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our prostrated obeisances at your lotus feet. Your position of *ācāryadeva* is to be constantly glorified, because you are the direct representative and most intimate confidential servitor of Their Lordships Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa. It is stated in *Caitanya-caritāmṛta* (*Ādi-līlā* 1.45):

*guru kṛṣṇa-rūpa hana śāstrera pramāṇe
guru-rūpe kṛṣṇa kṛpā kareṇa bhakta-gaṇe*

“According to the deliberate opinion of all revealed scriptures, the spiritual master is nondifferent from Kṛṣṇa. Lord Kṛṣṇa in the form of the spiritual master delivers His devotees.”



By accepting the instructions of such a spiritual master and applying them with unflinching faith, one is assured of crossing this dangerous ocean of material nescience and becoming firmly situated in the eternal sphere of spiritual varieties that constitute the *jīva* soul's *sanātana dhārma*. One cannot possibly hope for advancement on this path without

the guidance and blessings of the pure devotee of the Lord. *Guru kṛṣṇa prasāde paya bhakti-latā-bīja*. The combined mercy of both guru and Kṛṣṇa is required to be situated safely beyond reach of the influence of the *māyā* potency. *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* (11.3.21) implores:

*tasmeād gurum prapadyeta jijñāsuḥ śreya uttamam
śābde pare ca niṣṇātaṁ brahmaṇy upaśamāśrayam*

“Any person who seriously desires to achieve real happiness must seek out a bona fide spiritual master and take shelter of him by initiation. The qualification of his spiritual master is that he must have realized the conclusions of the scriptures by deliberation and must be able to convince others of these conclusions.” Through your books, Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are revealing to this estranged world a vast wealth of Vedic knowledge which can actually benefit the conditioned soul and ease him out of his deplorable material predicament. To this end, Śrīla Prabhupāda, you have devoted your transcendental energies—your mercy shines like the new sunrise dissipating the darkness. In the *Vāyu Purāṇa* an *ācārya* is defined as one who knows the import of Vedic literatures, explains the purpose of the *Vedas*, abides by their rules and regulations and teaches his disciples to act in the same way.

We are not praying for you to shower your mercy, Śrīla Prabhupāda—that has already been done by your compassionate grace, for you are *jagad-guru*. Rather, we beg for the strength, determination and enthusiasm to gather this mercy from our lowly positions and to assist you in the glorious mission of Śrī Kṛṣṇa Caitanya *nāma-saṅkīrtana* as you benedict the entire world.

We beg to remain eternally at your lotus feet, with the dust of all Vaiṣṇavas on our heads.

Your servants at Śrī Melbourne Mahāprabhu Mandira

Balarāma dāsa brahmacārī	Ugraśravā dāsa adhikārī	Mahādevī-devī dāśī
Gaura-Manḍala Bhūmī dāsa brahmacārī	Jayaśīla dāsa adhikārī	Matidā-devī dāśī
Viśvahuṭ dāsa brahmacārī	Amogha dāsa adhikārī	Hari-devī dāśī
Anupāma dāsa brahmacārī	Nakula dāsa adhikārī	Vimala-devī dāśī
Prabhu dāsa brahmacārī	Kṛpākāra dāsa adhikārī	Śrīlekha-devī dāśī
Ātmārāma dāsa brahmacārī	Aṣṭa-siddhi dāsa adhikārī	Jñāna-mūrti-devī dāśī
Alalanātha dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Clayton	Aparājita-devī dāśī
Gopinātha Ācārya dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Greg	Guṇavratī-devī dāśī
Jagadātmā dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Chad	Mekhalā-devī dāśī
Ādi-Puruṣa dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Will	Rāma-devī dāśī
Bṛhaspati dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Patrick	Satyarūpa-devī dāśī
Gauragopāla dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Ken	Atītaguṇa-devī dāśī
Gaṇeśa dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Mark	Parāmrta-devī dāśī
Kūrma dāsa adhikārī	Yayantī-devī dāśī	Jayālu-devī dāśī
Vṛṣa dāsa adhikārī	Rāgātmikā-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Eleanor
Rāmaśaraṇa dāsa adhikārī	Nītīgata-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Jackie

To His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami 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-tārīṇe*

All glories to His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, the protector of the devotees and dearest servant of Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa.

All glories to you, O spiritual master, by whom we are relieved of the material suffering. Such suffering is so painful to the heart and difficult to surpass that it is impossible without your kind help. Therefore, in this, your yearly homage, we are making an offering unto you—our heart, our intelligence, and our endeavors—we offer everything unto you. We have accepted you as our lord and, therefore, everything belongs to you.

People who are not able to see your work in this world are too much covered by enviousness and their knowledge has no value. However, as the eternal time elapses, more and more persons will accept your certain and impressive victory in giving Kṛṣṇa consciousness to this insane and frantic, empty society.

Let all people hear your glories, your name, of your unlimited mercy. Let them know of your faultless character, of your spotless fame. Let them chant the holy names Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare Rāma, and thus become Kṛṣṇa conscious, sane and honest persons, who accept this *bhagavat-prasāda*.

Please Śrīla Prabhupāda, allow us to make this endeavor: to distribute your books and attain your mercy. Allow us to serve you birth after birth and take shelter in the sanctity of the dust of your lotus feet.

Your fallen disciples of MEXICO YĀTRĀ

Kratu dāsa	Bhakta Juan	Ugradānṣṭra dāsa	Rocaṇa-devī dāsi
Rāma Svarūpa dāsa	Bhakta Fernando	Sudarśana dāsa	Ādityeśa dāsa
Bhakta Felipe	Bhakta Francisco	Bhakta Octavio	Nandaprāṇa dāsa
Bhakta Luis	Bhakta Pedro	Strīyī-devī dāsi	Tadkāri-devī dāsi
Bhakta Jorge	Bhakta Fermin	Ojasvinī-devī dāsi	Sāndipani-devī dāsi
Bhakta Victor	Jaladoṣa-devī dāsi	Vāsudeva Prāṇa	Karmasākṣī-devī dāsi
Bhakta Isack	Silvia	Bhakta Miguel	Mahāpuṇya-devī dāsi
Bhakta Śaunaka	Maricela	Bhakta Miguel	Veronica
Bhaktin Draupadī	Maria de Jesus	Bhakta Eduardo	Carmen
Bhaktin Subhadrā	Carudha dāsa	Bhakta Jaime	Bhakta Alberto
Bhaktin Araceli	Cāṇḍī dāsa	Bhakta Fernando	Mother Blanca
Dvijahari dāsa	Satrājīti dāsa	Bhakta Guillermo	Bhakta Gerardo
Acaleśvara dāsa	Maitreya dāsa	Mārgasira dāsa	Sadanava dāsa
Kṛpālu dāsa	Madhvācārya dāsa	Bhakta Augustin	Vrajendra Kumāra dāsa



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

I was born in the darkest ignorance, and my spiritual master opened my eyes with the torch of knowledge. I offer my respectful obeisances unto him.”

My dear father and spiritual master, please let me offer my most humble and insignificant obeisances unto your merciful lotus feet.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are the only sure shelter for a fallen soul. The causeless mercy of Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa is manifested in this ghastly material world through your munificent personality, by whom all conditioned souls are given, without discrimination, the chance to be free of the clutches of the material existence by chanting the holy names of the Lord: Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare Kṛṣṇa, Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa, Hare Hare/ Hare Rāma, Hare Rāma, Rāma Rāma, Hare Hare.

By chanting the holy names of the Lord under your protection, O pure devotee of the Lord, the most fallen among the fallen ones can qualify himself to realize the transcendental pastimes of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Śrī Kṛṣṇa.

*janma karma ca me divyam evam yo vetti tattvataḥ
tyaktvā dehaṁ punar janma naiti mām eti so 'rjuna*

“One who knows the transcendental nature of My appearance and activities does not, upon leaving the body, take his birth again in this material world, but attains My eternal abode, O Arjuna.” (Bg. 4.9)

O my dear master, I am always lonely and bewildered, walking on the abyss-brink. Kindly be merciful unto me and don't let me throw myself headlong into it. Make me your eternal servant.

YAJÑO VAI VIṢṆU TSKP MEXICO

Viraha Prakāśa Svāmī
Kṣiti Mohana dāsa brahmacārī
Advayajñāna dāsa brahmacārī
Bhakta Daniel

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Your fathomless glories are so unlimited that in all of our attempts to appreciate them, we simply feel like frogs sitting in a well trying to appreciate the vastness of the unlimited ocean.

Since time immemorial we have been suffering within this material world, revolving on the unending wheel of birth and death. Driven by our insatiable and perverted desires, we have never even begun to find the first trace of relief from our continued misery. Now, by your inconceivable mercy, you have appeared to free us from this holocaust and deliver us back to home, back to Godhead. Your message of loving devotion is so simple and clear, but somehow or other, we are still foolishly attempting to hold on to this alien world and resist your divine instructions. Still, by your grace you are so expertly disentangling us who are so wretched and insincere and you are accepting our most fallen service. Undoubtedly you are the greatest servant of Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu as all of your desires and actions have proven. You are completely devoid of any personal aspiration, and by knowing the will of Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu you have completely absorbed yourself in that mood of unlimited compassion upon all of the fallen souls.

We can now only pray to you for your continued association, because without it we would remain eternally illusioned in this prison house of material existence. May we pray to you eternally for your continued mercy and the shade of your lotus feet.

New Naimiṣāranya Forest Devotee Roster

Narahari dāsa	Paramparā dāsa	Lasikā-devī dāsī
Rādhava dāsa	Śrīmaya dāsa	Janārdana dāsa adhikārī
Mahā Śṛṅga dāsa	Bhakta Stan	Ānanda Cinmayī-devī dāsī
Nandana Ācārya dāsa	Bhakta Jim	Govinda Priyā dāsa adhikārī
Laṅganeśa dāsa	Bhakta Chuck	Dikṣā-devī dāsī
Kṛṣṇa Mūrti dāsa	Bhakta David	Suvrata dāsa adhikārī
Dharma dāsa	Bhakta Bruce	Sukhada-devī dāsī
Rādhā Liṅgana dāsa	Bhakta Willie	Rāmadāsa dāsa adhikārī
Raghunātha Purī dāsa	Bhakta Japhy	Janakanandini-devī dāsī
Tejaḥ Prakāśa dāsa	Bhakta James	Narataka Gopāla-devī dāsī
Duradharśa dāsa	Madana Mohana dāsa adhikārī	Aṇḍa Rūpa-devī dāsī
Grahila dāsa	Vṛndāvanēśvarī-devī dāsī	Dhīra-devī dāsī
Rādhāśyāma dāsa	Carapa Padma dāsa adhikārī	Bhaktin Joan
Pañcagaṇḍa dāsa	Padma-devī dāsī	Bhaktin Fern
Viśvavṛkṣa dāsa	Mahā Varāha dāsa adhikārī	Bhaktin Terri
Candrānana dāsa	Bhaktin Alina	Paramēśvara dāsa
Nitāi Carapa dāsa	Bhargava dāsa adhikārī	Rādhā Mañjarī-devī dāsī
Tattvadarśa dāsa	Līlāsakhi-devī dāsī	Rāmacandra dāsa
Rāghaveśa dāsa	Jayadeva dāsa adhikārī	Kāliṇḍī-devī dāsī
Rudradeva dāsa	Bhaktin Peggy	Revatī-devī dāsī
Ramagopāla dāsa	Prema Rūpa dāsa adhikārī	Gaurāṅga dāsa

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

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

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

A short while ago you came to America with one desire: to try to spread the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement of Lord Caitanya in the Western world. Empowered by the divine instructions of your *guru-mahārāja*, Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī, you left a nice calm residence in Vṛndāvana to cross the dangerous oceans and humbly approach the people of New York to take up the Hare Kṛṣṇa chanting process. Now twelve years later you have so many disciples and temples not only in America but all around the world. This is indeed wonderful proof of your purity and spiritual strength.

We are continuing in the service of Lord Kṛṣṇa under your guidance, knowing well that by your authority this Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement will go to every town and village around the world, and it will be the only cure for this materially infected society. Although we may fall and stumble in our attempts to help you, like a young child helping his father, please forgive us for our clumsiness and continue showering your mercy upon us, for that mercy is like nectar and tastes very sweet even to the lame.

We thank you for the opportunity to worship your appearance, for this will be a landmark in history as the appearance of the savior of the world. We continually worship your lotus feet which are the only way by which one can obtain pure devotional service. These lotus feet are glorified in all the three worlds and are worshipable by great personalities like Lord Brahmā. Indeed the soothing shelter of your lotus feet is the path of topmost perfection to the spiritual abode of Goloka Vṛndāvana.

Only by the mercy of the greatest *avatāra*, Lord Caitanya, could it have been possible to obtain the association of the greatest *ācārya*. Please be merciful unto us although we are offensive fools. Please keep your lotus feet always manifest in the core of our hearts.

Minneapolis Yātrā

Śivarāma dāsa brahmacārī	Yajñahotra dāsa brahmacārī	Saṅga-devī dāśī
Śukra dāsa brahmacārī	Nātha dāsa brahmacārī	Mṛdāpriya-devī dāśī
Bhūdeva dāsa brahmacārī	Dharmaprāṇa dāsa brahmacārī	Nṛsīrṅha-devī dāśī
Triyogī dāsa brahmacārī	Bhaktavatsala dāsa adhikārī	Śyāmavallabha-devī dāśī
Cakrī dāsa brahmacārī	Varāha dāsa adhikārī	
Tattvavit dāsa brahmacārī	Paśupati-devī dāśī	

1. *Śrīla Prabhupāda your words are all
Steering us from māyā lest we fall,
Our lives are meant for serving you
Through thick and thin we'll still serve you,
Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda the savior for all.*
2. *The only strength that we can have
Depends on the attention we pay and have,
If we neglect your words of advice
We shall fall to sin and vice,
Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda, we will now behave.*
3. *The nectar flowing from your lotus feet
Is cool and soothing like honey sweet,
Our duty is to hand this nectar out
Freeing everyone from all their doubts,
Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda we'll serve your feet.*
4. *We pray that Kṛṣṇa will give us
The sound intelligence to remind us,
That only by your glance
Can we break loose and dance,
Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda, your words we trust.*
5. *Your books reveal the truth without doubt
Revealing the demons with a strong clout,
Your books are our friends
For they'll save us in the end.
Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda destroyer of doubt.*
6. *You are preaching here in this dark place
To a most demoniac and uncivilized race,
You are the greatest preacher of all
For your mercy reaches here and stops the fall,
Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda you are king of all race.*





My dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our most humble obeisances at your lotus feet. All glories to you, O spiritual master, because you are so patiently spoon-feeding us who are like envious adolescents, the nectar from the unfathomable ocean of the mercy of Lord Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu. When will we stop spitting out good fortune for the germs of material activity and instead surrender to “the ecstasy of intoxication by excessive drinking of the strong and tasty wine of the love of Lord Hari.”

“My Lord, devotees like your good self are verily holy places personified. Because you carry the Personality of Godhead within your heart, you turn all places into places of pilgrimage.” (*Bhāg.* 1.13.10) The Supreme Lord is not only within your heart, most blessed Śrīla Prabhupāda, but as it is stated in *Caitanya-caritāmṛta* (*Adi.* 1.61), you are identical with the Lord because you are constantly engaged in His service.

Let me take shelter of those devotees who are most expert at pleasing you by their constant service and let me beg from them a special favor—to be able to write something suitable to offer unto your lotus feet.

PRABHU-DATTA DEŚA

(Place of residence given by the Lord) Cc. *Antya* 4.144

*My heart's not in it anymore.
I'll not approach even one more door.
These cars are filled with lusty whores.
Strong desires which number crores.*

*It's just beginning to get cold,
The wind is biting, the motel room's old.
These men are new, they can't be told.
I'm quite ashamed for books not sold.*

*I'm leading these men but I need a guide,
I need a shelter, I want to hide.
Please help me Prabhupāda, don't let me slide.
Where to turn with your consciousness fried?*

*Phone to Memphis. Dhr̥ṣṭadyumna's there,
he'll help me find a shelter here.
He read Eighth Canto across that wire
And began my path to the devotional fire.*

*"I'm falling," I said. "A wife," he suggested.
"Mahārāja!" I remarked, a little disgusted.
"A leader of men must be fixed up.
If not, your orange robes, you'll have to give up."*

*Maybe he's right, I thought walking away,
Checking for coins and a little dismayed.
How can I make it, at least let me try.
O Prabhupāda, can this be the only reply?*

*Your answer came later in the form of a change
Tamāla Kṛṣṇa suggested leaving 'home on the range.'
"Start packing today you're Africa bound."
Now I know without doubting his decision was sound.*

*The example was set by Śrī Rūpa and Sanātana,
Leaving home to preach in Vṛndāvana.
That land was their home for the work of the Lord.
To follow them's done by these orders of yours:*

*Preach anywhere and everywhere this message sublime,
Chant 'Hare Kṛṣṇa' and fall in Caitanya's line.
Distribute the name anyway anytime
They'll benefit even by one single line.*



*Give them prasāda and teach them to play.
Dancing and chanting and some even stay
To work and chant more. Please come every day.
When working for Kṛṣṇa there's unlimited pay.*

*The men who stay here now chant sixteen rounds.
With their progress increasing by leaps and bounds,
They're tasting the nectar, and where is it found?
In your books and prasāda and that tumultuous sound.*



Nairobi devotees:

Brahmānanda Svāmī (Co-GBC)
Cyavana Svāmī
Ajāmila dāsa brahmacārī
Pārtha dāsa brahmacārī
Jānakīnātha dāsa brahmacārī
Tribhaṅgānanda dāsa brahmacārī
Hasyānanda dāsa brahmacārī
Ajāmila dāsa brahmacārī
Bhakta Martin
Bhakta Anthony
Bhakta Charles Cheto
Bhakta Andrew
Śucidevī-dāśī
Yaśaśvanī-devī dāśī

Initiated Life Members

Rāsālilā-devī dāśī
Rādhikā-devī dāśī
Sanātana dāsa
Naradeva dāsa
Dr. Shah

Africa T.S.K.P.

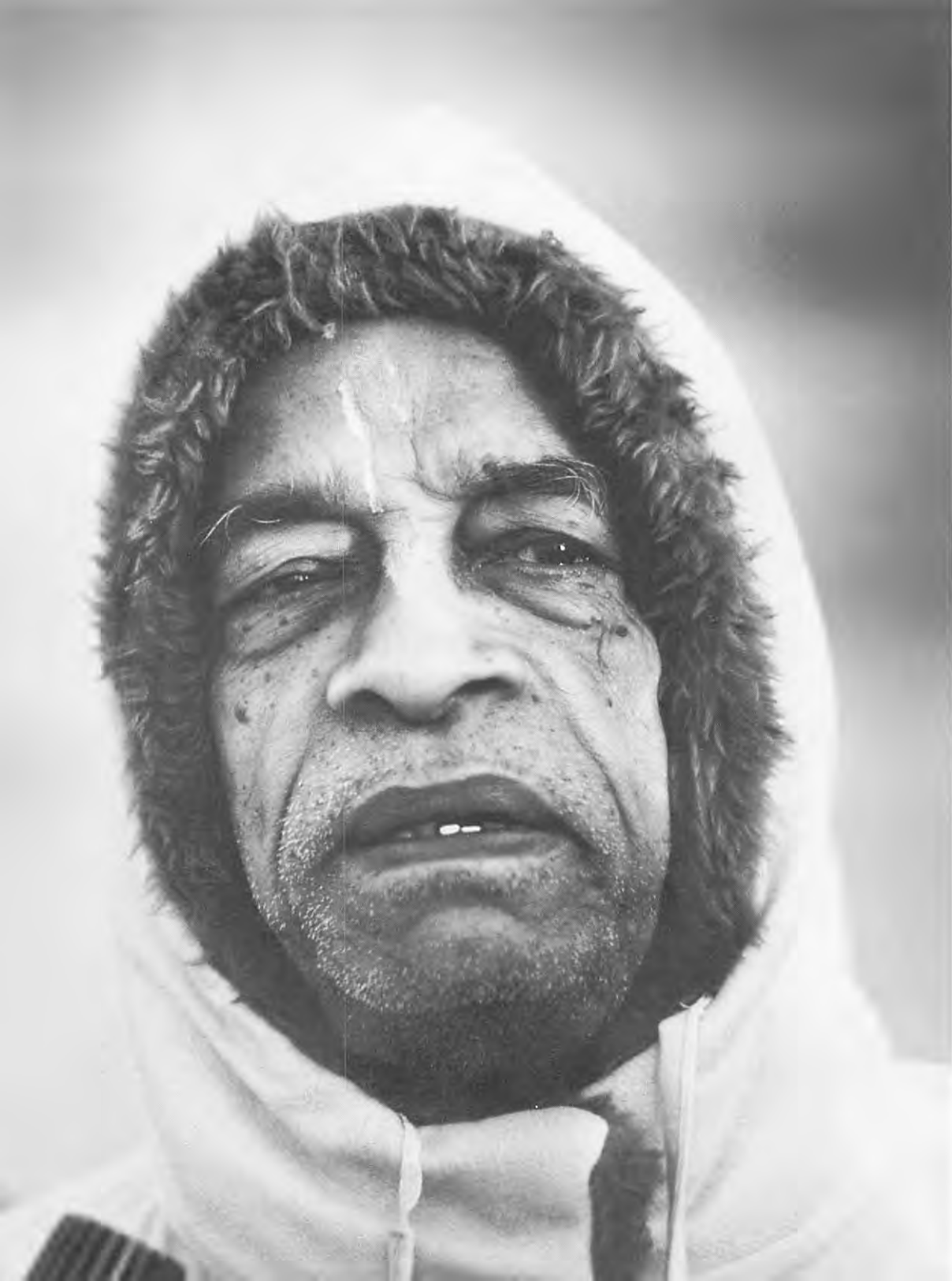
Jalakāra-devī dāśī
Gaurī-devī dāśī
Paṇḍita-devī dāśī

Mombasa devotees

Nava Yogindra Svāmī
Mahāvīrya dāsa brahmacārī
Sarvavītya dāsa brahmacārī
Arjuna prabhu
Ānandamaya prabhu

African Day Students

Charles Cheto
Samuel Sirari
Sammy Onyancha
Emmanuel Gatarayiha
James Makondio
Stephen Sarawel



*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*

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

Dear Beloved Śrīla Prabhupāda,

All glories to your lotus feet. On this holy day of your most auspicious appearance, we fall in the dust at your lotus feet and beg for the ability to properly glorify your divine and magnanimous character. You are the Supreme Personality of Servitor Godhead, freely bestowing your causeless mercy upon the unqualified and ungrateful conditioned souls of Kali-yuga. By your grace the entire material universe is awakening from an age-long sleep of godless ignorance to the joyous and eternal sound of Lord Caitanya's *harer nāma-saṅkīrtana*. We are amongst the most fallen of living entities and yet, somehow or other, by your causeless mercy, you have glanced in our direction, and now our lives have become successful. Who can properly describe the glories of your causeless mercy?

In the Eleventh Canto of *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* it is stated by the Supreme Lord Kṛṣṇa Himself:

“My dear Uddhava, the spiritual master must be accepted not only as my representative, but as My very self. He must never be considered on the same level with an ordinary human being. One should never be envious of the spiritual master, as one may be envious of an ordinary man. The spiritual master should always be seen as the representative of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and by serving the spiritual master, one is able to serve all the demigods.”

Who but you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, would deliver such low-born *mlecchas* and *yavanas* as ourselves, and turn us into Vaiṣṇavas, devotees of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa?

It is by your grace, Śrīla Prabhupāda, that we are tasting the nectar of devotional service to Śrī Govinda, the sweet transcendental cowherd boy of Vṛndāvana.

By your grace, Śrīla Prabhupāda, every day we are bathing and dressing the Supreme Personality of Godhead in His *arcā-vigraha* form, which is nondifferent from Kṛṣṇa Himself.

By your grace, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are travelling to the holy places such as Māyāpur, Vṛndāvana, and Mathurā, although we have no qualifications. And by your grace we are visiting Śrī Rādhā-Kuṇḍa, whose glories are unlimited, and which is unobtainable even by great

sages such as Nārada and Sanaka. When has the world seen such mercy as yours?

By your grace, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are giving up our grossly sinful activities such as meat-eating, intoxication, gambling and illicit sex life, and instead we are learning to practice the rules and regulations of *vaidhi-bhakti*, under your expert guidance.

By your grace, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are beginning to understand who we are, and we are also beginning to help others understand who they are.

By your grace, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are beginning to understand who is God and who is not God. And by your grace we are praying to Him, instead of defaming Him.

By your grace alone, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are all going back home, back to Godhead. But most of all, by your grace, Śrīla Prabhupāda, you have given us your association and instructions. Now, Śrīla Prabhupāda, by your grace, please bless us with the desire and ability to give these priceless gifts to each and every single conditioned soul in the material world.

All glories to your lotus feet, Śrīla Prabhupāda. May you please enjoy lasting good health.

With love from all the devotees of ISKCON Montreal

Nandikeśvara dāsa adbhikārī	Amarastavya dāsa brahmacārī	Bhaktin Daniel
Bhastrhārī dāsa adbhikārī	Īśāvatāra dāsa brahmacārī	Bhaktin Giselle
Hanumān dāsa adbhikārī	Kulaśekhara dāsa brahmacārī	Bhaktin Joanne
Māyāpūrsāsa dāsa adbhikārī	Padmapāṇi dāsa brahmacārī	Bhaktin Marie-Paul
Ravindra dāsa adbhikārī	Gururāja dāsa brahmacārī	Bhaktin Josee
Satyajit dāsa adbhikārī	Bhakta Armand	Bhaktin Lyne
Praghoṣa dāsa adbhikārī	Bhakta Brian	Bhaktin Marielle
Keśīśātru dāsa adbhikārī	Bhakta Rene	Subhadrā
Aprakṛta dāsa adbhikārī	Bhakta Pierre	Rādhārāṇī
Priyabhakta dāsa brahmacārī	Mandārī-devī dāśī	Sanātani
Priyabandhu dāsa brahmacārī	Jyotirāditya-devī dāśī	Sanātana
Ghoṣa Thākura dāsa brahmacārī	Māyāvati-devī dāśī	Bhaktivedānta
Vyapaka dāsa brahmacārī	Medhya-devī dāśī	Gaṅgāmāyī
Jitaratī dāsa brahmacārī	Sarada-devī dāśī	Yamunāmāyī
Tanohara dāsa brahmacārī	Saṅgāmāyī-devī dāśī	Mohinī
Jaya Govinda dāsa brahmacārī	Mikhileśvarī-devī dāśī	Sītārāṇī
Paranagara dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakti-devī dāśī	Rādhikā
Sadapuṣṭa dāsa brahmacārī	Kleśāṅgibhakti-devī dāśī	Nimāi
Dayālī dāsa brahmacārī	Dayā-devī dāśī	
Vidyārāja dāsa brahmacārī	Siddhi-devī dāśī	

Friends

Anil

Samir and family

Mothers Janie, Jackie, Dickie, and family

Bruce prabhū



O Prabhupāda

*You have come with grace divine
Us lost, forgotten souls to find.
Giving love, warm and tender
Showing the way to sweet surrender.*

O Prabhupāda

*Kicked hard by māyā, puffed-up and proud
This thought of surrender we never allowed.
Joyful debtors we will always be
Your menial servants eternally.*

O Prabhupāda

*You have given us life, you have given us hope
Completely helpless, we could never cope
With odds so great, a course so long.
Only your grace can make us strong.*

O Prabhupāda

*Our mission now is clear
There is no longer need for fear.
Legs for the lame man, eyes for the blind
This you have given us because you're so kind.*

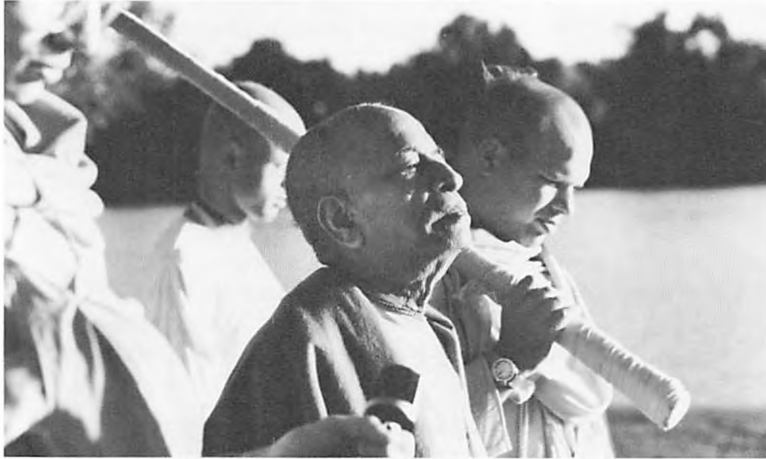
*mūkaṁ karoti vācālaṁ paṅguṁ laṅghayate girim
yat-kṛpā tam ahaṁ vande śrī-gurum dina-tāraṇam*

“I offer my respectful obeisances unto my spiritual master, the deliverer of the fallen souls. His mercy turns the dumb into eloquent speakers and enables the lame to cross mountains.”

Although we are dumb and lame we are still shameless in our fallen condition. O Prabhupāda, we have no appreciation of your boundless glories. Your transcendental attributes are innumerable and unfathomable and to describe them all would be impossible. Nevertheless, we are trying to say something about your glorious qualities and activities as an offering on this Guru-pūjā day. We offer this to you for our purification and to express our humble gratitude for your causeless mercy.

These descriptions of ourselves as lame and dumb may appear to be poetic over-exaggerations to some, but actually we are dumb in that we are unable to speak anything of value. Before meeting Your Grace we could only make croaking sounds, possessing useless tongues exactly like the frogs—*jihvāsati dārdurikeva*. In a fool's paradise one fool will speak all nonsense in order to impress other fools with his so-called learning. So, that is one thing. But to speak something meaningful requires that one hear perfect instructions from the realized soul. By

receiving instructions from you through your books, even the dumb can make eloquent speeches. This is due to your causeless mercy. Similarly we are also lame in that before receiving your mercy we could not accomplish anything beneficial. Before receiving your causeless mercy we were doing only harm to ourselves and others. With drugs, liquor and cigarettes, etc., we were destroying ourselves. And by meat-eating and the other sinful habits of illicit sex and gambling, we were causing so much pain to others. Our position was actually hopeless. We did not



know the goal of life nor did we know how to achieve it. We did not know the consequences of sinful life nor did we know about the highest reward for practicing devotional service in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Thus we did not know how to get out of material life.

*vidyāṁ cāvidyāṁ ca yas tad vedobhayāṁ saha
avidyayā mṛtyuṁ tīrtvā vidyayāmṛtam aśnute*

“Only one who can learn the process of nescience and that of transcendental knowledge side by side can transcend the influence of repeated birth and death and enjoy the full blessings of immortality.” (*Śrī Īśopaniṣad* 11) But, by your powerful preaching, you have made us aware of both.

Western society is concerned with the body, and consequently we were always hankering and lamenting. Whether we liked that situation or not, we had to accept it. We were lame, unable to help ourselves and others, but you have engaged us in the highest welfare work: namely spreading the message of Lord Caitanya Mahāprabhu and rescuing the conditioned souls from the clutches of *māyā*.

Out of compassion for our suffering condition you have given the

matchless gift of Lord Caitanya's divine love which we, unfortunately, take for granted. Our condition is like a delirious patient who is suffering from a severe illness. Not even recognizing the doctor as his friend due to madness, he fights with the doctor and tries to resist the medicine. But, as the doctor goes on administering the cure, so you also continue to show your mercy even though we are constantly offending your lotus feet. Thus you are showing us the real meaning of compassion.

As you more than once cited, *aśocyān anvaśocas tvaṁ prajāñā-vādāṁś ca bhāṣase*. "While speaking learned words you are lamenting for what is not worthy of grief." Because of blindness people are following blind leaders who don't know the real aim of life. They are unnecessarily lamenting on the basis of the body. However, you are lamenting for what is actually worthy of grief. You are sorry for the suffering conditions of repeated birth and death. As you continue preaching regardless of your health, we can see your deep concern for all of us. We were previously taking this world to be everything, but by your association, gradually we are understanding that your lotus feet are everything.

*nāma-śreṣṭhaṁ manum api śacī-putram atra svarūpaṁ
rūpaṁ tasyāgrajam uru-purīṁ māthurīṁ goṣṭhavāṭīm
rādhā-kuṇḍaṁ giri-varam aho rādhikā-mādhavāśāṁ
prāpto yasya prathita-kṛpayā śrī-guruṁ taṁ nato 'smi*

"I bow down to the beautiful lotus feet of my spiritual master by whose causeless mercy I have received the supreme holy name, the divine *mantra*, the service of the son of Śacimātā, the association of Svarūpa Dāmodara, Rūpa Gosvāmī, and his older brother Sanātana Gosvāmī, the supreme abode of Mathurā, the blissful abode of Vṇḍāvana, the divine Rādhā Kuṇḍa and Govardhana Hill and the desire within my heart for the loving service of Śrī Rādhikā and Mādhava in Vṇḍāvana." On this most auspicious day of your appearance we must thank you again and again for these matchless gifts. Although we are unqualified to serve you, we are simply praying that we may remain engaged at your lotus feet eternally.

*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*

ISKCON New Delhi devotees:

Bhagavad-āśrāya dāsa	Bhūmipati dāsa	Tamālakārttika dāsa
Rādhā Mohana dāsa	Sūrya Prasāda dāsa	Kṛṣṇagopāla dāsa
Uśika dāsa	Mahāmāna dāsa	Dīnādhyātma dāsa
Rasānanda dāsa	Patatrirāja dāsa	

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

*namas te sārāsvate deve gaura-vāñi-pracāriṇe
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe*

We here at New Orleans Yātrā humbly pray for the intelligence and the strength to serve your divine self, Śrīla Prabhupāda, in a simple and offenseless way. Please be merciful unto us.

Lord Brahmā's majestic position as creator of the vast cosmic manifestation certainly must be respected by every single entity. Śiva's potency is so intense that simply by his dancing the entire universe is devastated. The king of the demigods Indradeva rides his celestial elephant-carrier Airāvata. Armed with his powerful thunderbolts he can easily knock off the peaks of the greatest mountains. Vivasvān the sun-god lights and heats the extensive expansions of space as he smoothly makes his route in his effulgent chariot. The goddess of fortune Lakṣmī-devī is so enticing that just to have her association even the most reputed gentleman will engage in the most abominable activities. See him madly struggling to have her under his control, although he's actually under hers.

There are thirty-three million demigods and they are deputed by KṚṢṆA to see that the universe is properly facilitated. Their positions of control are far superior to the other innumerable conditioned souls. Yet all of them are trapped in temporary bodies stuck within the thick coverings of the universe.

Gurudeva! All these demigods are great masters but they all bow down to your lotus feet. Śrī Guru, you are the sum total of all the demigods, capable of delivering anyone within the fourteen planetary systems. Therefore we offer you our most respectful obeisances and beg you to keep us with you.

Most beloved Śrīla Prabhupāda, you have told us the secrets of time and space. Everyone is puzzled at the idea of life beyond, but you are showing us everything, taking us everywhere. The universal activities are so amazing and wonderful that simply by investigating these cosmic affairs one becomes aghast. But actually it's all a dream . . . a colossal phantasmagoria, *bhūtvā bhūtvā praliyate*.

*ābrahma-bhuvanāl lokāḥ punar āvartino 'rjuna
mām upetya tu kaunteya punar janma na vidyate*

“From the highest planet in the material world down to the lowest, all are places of misery wherein repeated birth and death take place, but one who attains to My abode, O son of Kuntī, never takes birth again.”

Jayate jagad-guru! Your glories are sung throughout the three worlds. You have saved us from this painful Ferris wheel-like transmigration of one body to the next, one planet to the next. Whether we are high or low, happy or distressed, in this body or that, it doesn’t matter because it’s all hellish. Our position now is that we are most thankful and forever indebted to you for taking us off this universal merry-go-round.

*samsāra-dāvānala-liḍha-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 raincloud 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.”

O master, we’ve tried and tried and tried like imbeciles to enjoy the miragelike variegatedness of this great manifestation. We’ve been through it all in this lifetime and in so many millions of lifetimes before. Now finally disgusted and exhausted we are through trying. You are so munificent that you were right there just when we needed you, just when we wanted you. By your causeless mercy our cosmic dream is over. You have awakened us to the reality of KṚṢṆA. *Vāsudevaḥ sarvam iti*. There is nothing else.

Brahmāṇḍa bhramite kona bhāgyavān jīva. While wandering throughout the universe in so many species of life, if one is very fortunate he gets the seed of the creeper of devotion by the mercy of KṚṢṆA and *guru*.

Without you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are lost. Please help us to hang on to your lotus feet. Praying for just one drop of your ocean of mercy, repeatedly we fall at your lotus feet. *Jaya Prabhupāda!!!*

Ānanda dāsa brahmacārī	Vaṁśīmohana dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Rick
Guṇavāsa dāsa brahmacārī	Vedānta-kṛt dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Rick
Jñānanātha dāsa brahmacārī	Raṅganātha dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Ed
Cāruṇā dāsa brahmacārī	Vṛkodara dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Tim
Jvarajit dāsa brahmacārī	Muralīmanohara dāsa	Mr. Jack Prabhu
Kālākṣara dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Jim	Śānti-devī dāśī
Paramātmā dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta David	Premamayī-devī dāśī
Rāsavilāsa dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Don	Kanyā Kumārī-devī dāśī

*Representative of Kṛṣṇa's mercy
our dear friend you strive to help us remember.
Your purity opens us to this eternal fire
of sacrifice to the Lord, then increasing
like a ray of light expanding never ceasing.*

*This energy is yours to rule
for you are Kṛṣṇa's ruled in sublime affection.*

*Gurudeva of compassion
fulfilling the desire of the Supreme Truth
your words are like jewels of effulgent fire
scattering the jackals of matter
that devour the breath of the soul.*

*O master
walking on this once barren land
holy dust, now holy dhāma
teaching us to live in simplicity
to see Kṛṣṇa everywhere in a special way
for there is magic in His dealings.*

*By your grace one gets Kṛṣṇa
delivering Rādhā Vṛndāvana Candra
for our eyes and hearts to focus on
capturing the inmates with Their beauty.*

*Only by your grace, because you have captured Him
a friend to this art of eternal rasa,
Can we surrender enough to hold
a second of this masterpiece?*

*When will you come and bless us
by living in your palace, Śrīla Prabhupāda?
It is a creation of your heart
for us to offer ours.*

*If you stay for one night
or a million years
this palace, these souls
are eternally yours
to glorify the most beautiful
cowherd boy of Vṛndāvana.*

—Inmates of New Vrindaban







Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

With the morning sunshine streaming onto the veranda in Māyāpur, you declared that place to be Vaikuṇṭha. “Where else can one always hear Hare Kṛṣṇa?” you said. When asked about your health, you said, “I am not feeling very well these days. Actually I am not fit to even be here.” Yet actually you were the only one qualified to be there. The only intelligent man is one who considers his own material intelligence to be useless and submissively accepts that knowledge emanating from the Supreme Personality of Godhead through the via media of the *paramparā*. You are completely transcendental yet display the humility befitting one of the countless fallen conditioned living entities embarrassingly caught in the material existence.

You criticize the scientists and educators who ever-so-humbly recommend themselves to be lords and masters of all knowledge, although they are devoid of the most basic understanding of the process of self-realization. You say that we do not even need to argue with them about any points of religion, since we can defeat them on the basis of the most simple principles of mechanical engineering. With all their wrenches, graphs, dials, and sophisticated modern equipment, they cannot meet your challenge to just repair a broken machine, namely, a dead body, so that it will get up and walk and speak again. In that way you challenge them and show that their knowledge is nothing but rascaldom and show that the real means of accepting knowledge is related directly by the perfect seer of all things, Lord Kṛṣṇa.

You said that one should be like Sanātana Goswāmī and approach the Supreme Personality of Godhead in all humility, acknowledging one’s own lack of realization of one’s original spiritual identity.

*āpanāra hitāhita kichui nā jāni!
grāmya-vyavahāre paṇḍita, tāt satya māni
kṛpā kari’ yadi more kariyācha uddhāra
āpana-kṛpāte kaha ‘kartavya’ āmāra
‘ke āmi’, ‘kene āmāya jāre tāpa-traya’
ihā nāhi jāni—‘kemanē hita haya’
‘sādhya-‘sādhana’-tattva puchite nā jāni
kṛpā kari’ saba tattva kaha ta’ āpani*

“I do not know what is beneficial for me and what is detrimental. Nonetheless, in ordinary dealings people consider me a learned scholar, and I am also thinking of myself as such. Out of Your causeless mercy, You have delivered me from the materialistic path. Now, by the same

causeless mercy, please tell me what my duty is. Who am I? Why do the threefold miseries always give me trouble? If I do not know this, how can I be benefited? Actually I do not know how to inquire about the goal of life and process for obtaining it. Being merciful upon me, please explain all these truths.” (Cc. *Madhya-līlā* 20.100–103) Sanātana Gosvāmī was the most exalted devotee of Caitanya Mahāprabhu and was qualified by humility, knowledge, and purity. You are just like Sanātana in all these qualities, yet you possess even more bountiful mercy. When Caitanya Mahāprabhu ordered Candraśekhara to go outside his door and greet the devotee standing there and bring him in for an audience, Candraśekhara Ācārya could not even recognize Sanātana as anything more than a “Muslim mendicant.” But due to Sanātana’s great devotion, Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu seated him in an elevated place right next to Himself and embraced him, recognizing him as the greatest of all Vaiṣṇavas present.

Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu is called *mahā-vadānya-avatāra*, the most merciful. You, the devotee of Lord Kṛṣṇa, are more merciful than Kṛṣṇa Himself. Although Sanātana Gosvāmī was qualified to some degree by his transcendental characteristics, we have no such qualification. We are refugees from a sinful world where animal slaughter is a way of life, speculation is an honored principle, illicit sex life is an economic convenience, and intoxication is the only solace. Yet somehow or other you are willing to give us shelter and take us into the association of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu.

We are so weak in our ability to execute the principles of *bhakti-yoga* that we are very easily influenced by the material energy, and therefore we are called marginal, or *taṭastha-śakti*. We are like that uncertain area between the seawater and the dry sand on the beach, which is sometimes moistened or even drenched by the waves of the ocean of material existence, and which sometimes gleams in the bright midday sunlight of uncontaminated spiritual existence. We are affected by the demands and designs of materialistic persons and have the tendency to fall prey to their wiles—sometimes grossly and sometimes more subtly—by allowing ourselves to become influenced by the preaching of atheistic, demoniac scientists, politicians, and philosophers of the modern age. Although you are preaching only on the platform of perfect realization and can perfectly describe the sure means of escaping the pounding waves of material existence, we still become affected by the mundane intellectuals and scholars who try to rationalize everything and see this Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement as just one more tiny eruption in the placid continuum of social awareness. But you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, are able to discern the real truth and therefore, being uninfluenced by such rascals, always instruct us in the art of pure Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

You purify our cluttered minds and filthy hearts—preaching like your Guru Mahārāja, Caitanya Mahāprabhu and Lord Kṛṣṇa Himself—on how to take up the bow on the battlefield and fight at the divine behest. When we might think to make concessions or accommodations to the social conventions of the material world, you encourage us to fight, to give up attachments to fathers, sons, mothers, cousin-brothers, and teachers in order to execute the will of the Supreme Lord. Although we want to cling to our material existence, you cut us away and instead put us in the association of Arjuna on the battlefield, kneeling before Lord Kṛṣṇa, bearing his chastisement and taking up the fight. In material life there is nothing but degradation and ignominy, couched within birth, death, old age, and painful disease. But you are giving us the glory of the fight rather than the placid indolence found in dying old dogs.

According to *Caitanya-caritāmṛta*, the farther west one travels the more demoniac the people become. We are so far away from Māyāpur and the abode of Caitanya Mahāprabhu, lost in the far reaches of the West, and therefore we are more demoniac than even the infamous Jagāi and Mādhāi, who were so degraded as to even offend the most merciful Nityānanda Prabhu. Yet still you are saving us and guiding us back to the spiritual world. No one could sing of your glories enough; no one can offer you enough homage. You have descended swanlike in the Western world, at ease even in the most hellish conditions provided by Kṛṣṇa's most expert assistant, Māyādevī herself. Because you are never forgetful of Kṛṣṇa, you give the only constructive knowledge and the only real help. Without you our lives are useless, tormented, and hopeless; but serving you, we can aspire for the spiritual world. Unlike Sanātana, who admitted his ignorance and begged for instruction in the science of the self (*ātma-vidyā*), we are interested only in showing our pitiful expertise in perfecting our material sense gratification. Yet still you gently chide us, entreating, "When will you let me set you free?"

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you alone know Kṛṣṇa's plans and what is within our hearts. We will wander aimlessly if we do not have your command. Please do with us as you will.

Your servants at ISKCON New York,

Ādi Keśava Svāmī
Sudāmā Gosvāmī
Añjana dāsa brahmacārī
Agrahya dāsa brahmacārī
Ajitānanda dāsa brahmacārī
Ācārya Ratna dāsa brahmacārī
Aśeṣa dāsa brahmacārī
Bhūdhāra dāsa brahmacārī
Bhṛgupatī dāsa brahmacārī

Bṛhadbhānu dāsa brahmacārī
Bhaktivinoda dāsa brahmacārī
Bhaktijana dāsa brahmacārī
Baddha Hari dāsa brahmacārī
Bhūmipatī dāsa brahmacārī
Bhūtavān dāsa brahmacārī
Daśaratha Suta dāsa brahmacārī
Dīnaśaraṇa dāsa brahmacārī
Dravaṇākṣa dāsa brahmacārī

Divya Līlā dāsa brahmacārī
Giriśreṣṭha dāsa brahmacārī
Gajāhanta dāsa brahmacārī
Gaṇapati dāsa brahmacārī
Gavam Guru dāsa brahmacārī
Hṛṣīkeśa dāsa brahmacārī
Harīsarūpa dāsa brahmacārī
Indriyeśa dāsa brahmacārī
Jivadhāra dāsa brahmacārī

Jñānaguhya dāsa brahmacārī
 Kapīndra dāsa brahmacārī
 Kāśīrāma dāsa brahmacārī
 Kaviddatta dāsa brahmacārī
 Kṛṣṇotkīrtana dāsa brahmacārī
 Kṛtākṛta dāsa brahmacārī
 Līlāpuruṣottama dāsa brahmacārī
 Lokamaṅgala dāsa brahmacārī
 Māyeśvara dāsa brahmacārī
 Nītai Gauracandra dāsa brahmacārī
 Paravidha dāsa brahmacārī
 Praghoṣa dāsa brahmacārī
 Preraka dāsa brahmacārī
 Pūrṇāmṛta dāsa brahmacārī
 Puṣkarākṣa dāsa brahmacārī
 Rajendranātha dāsa brahmacārī
 Rāgaputra dāsa brahmacārī
 Raghupati dāsa brahmacārī
 Romapāda dāsa brahmacārī
 Rohiṇī Suta dāsa brahmacārī
 Romabhadrā dāsa brahmacārī
 Subuddhi dāsa brahmacārī
 Sadācāra dāsa brahmacārī
 Śaṅkī dāsa brahmacārī
 Sañjaya dāsa brahmacārī
 Sārvabhauma dāsa brahmacārī
 Sanātana Dharma dāsa brahmacārī
 Trilokeśvara dāsa brahmacārī
 Urjasvat dāsa brahmacārī
 Viśvatomukha dāsa brahmacārī
 Vipra dāsa brahmacārī
 Virendra dāsa brahmacārī
 Viṣṇu Gadā dāsa brahmacārī
 Vyāsaputra dāsa brahmacārī
 Varūthapa dāsa brahmacārī
 Vaiśaṣeka dāsa brahmacārī
 Vākreśvara Paṇḍita dāsa brahmacārī
 Vidyābhūṣaṇa dāsa brahmacārī
 Yadugaṅguli dāsa brahmacārī
 Adarṣī dāsa adhikārī
 Antima dāsa adhikārī
 Hari dāsa adhikārī
 Jaya Gaurasundara dāsa adhikārī

Kṛṣṇa Caitanya dāsa adhikārī
 Lohitākṣa dāsa adhikārī
 Nayaṇābhīrāma dāsa adhikārī
 Nanda Kīśora dāsa adhikārī
 Pahlāda Priya dāsa adhikārī
 Puru dāsa adhikārī
 Prajāpati dāsa adhikārī
 Śrī Rāma dāsa adhikārī
 Traidāsa dāsa adhikārī
 Vṛndāvana dāsa adhikārī
 Vṛndāvanacandra dāsa adhikārī
 Yogeśvara dāsa adhikārī
 Bhakta Andrew
 Bhakta Angelo
 Bhakta Bob
 Bhakta Carlos
 Bhakta Eddie
 Bhakta Joe
 Bhakta Joel
 Bhakta Lewis
 Bhakta Lewis
 Bhakta Leroy
 Bhakta Lance
 Bhakta Lou
 Bhakta Matt
 Bhakta Maha Mike
 Bhakta Michael
 Bhakta Napoleon
 Bhakta Paul
 Bhakta Rich
 Bhakta Scott
 Bhakta Walter Sr.
 Bhakta Walter Jr.
 Peter Hawkins
 Alarka-devī dāśī
 Jāmbavatī-devī dāśī
 Jāhnavī-devī dāśī
 Lokadevī-devī dāśī
 Merumālā-devī dāśī
 Nitya-devī dāśī
 Pramada-devī dāśī
 Pūrṇasakti-devī dāśī
 Rāmādevī dāśī

Revatī-devī dāśī
 Rasajāna-devī dāśī
 Śravaṇīya-devī dāśī
 Śatarūpā-devī dāśī
 Līlasmṛti-devī dāśī
 Śyāmagha-devī dāśī
 Vrajamaṇḍala-devī dāśī
 Jyotirmayī-devī dāśī
 Nirāṇjana-devī dāśī
 Acyutapriya-devī dāśī
 Īśa-devī dāśī
 Kamalatikā-devī dāśī
 Mitravṛtti-devī dāśī
 Śīlavatī-devī dāśī
 Hari Nāma-devī dāśī
 Bhaktin Autumn
 Bhaktin Beth
 Bhaktin Doris
 Bhaktin Elli
 Bhaktin Kathy
 Bhaktin Maureen
 Bhaktin Sheila
 Bhaktin Teri
 Bhaktin Cheryl
 Bhaktin Joyce
 Bhaktin Nancy
 Cintāmaṇi
 Nīmāi Mādhava
 Caitanya Priya
 Tamālā
 Kuntī
 Nīmāi Śaraṇa
 Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam
 Badarāyaṇa
 Puerto Rico
 Apūrva dāsa adhikārī
 Lakṣmī Nrsīṁhadeva dāsa brahmacārī
 Puruṣārtha dāsa brahmacārī
 Yamunāpriya dāsa brahmacārī
 Kamalīnī-devī dāśī
 Mūrtivandya-devī dāśī
 Nanda-devī dāśī



Vyāsa-pūjā offering by the devotees of the bullock cart saṅkīrtana at the lotus feet of Śrīla Prabhupāda

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please kindly accept my most prostrated obeisances at your lotus feet. Unlimited glories to you, Your Divine Grace. The only reason I am in this unwanted existence is that I have misused the minute independence given to me by Kṛṣṇa. I have been trying my best to lord over the material world from time immemorial. But each time the Lord's external energy, *māyā*, was kicking me. And the Lord ultimately made me *bhāgyavān*, fortunate, and has brought me to your lotus feet. You are the external manifestation of Paramātmā, and you are the representative of the Lord. Now I am totally at your mercy. And now I do not know anyone else except you as my lord and the controller of all my wanderings.

Once upon a time I was situated on the spiritual planet where the predominating Deity is the Lord Himself. And now once again I am situated on the ISKCON planet, where you are the predominating deity. But unfortunately I am the same person with the same age-old propensity of being independent. So now at this stage I repeatedly pray at your lotus feet—O vice-lord, be kind enough to take my minute independence away. Do not offer me the choice but your service. I have no power to discriminate and do not have any understanding of my own self interest, *na te viduḥ svārtha-gatiṁ hi viṣṇum*. So I beg that you make me your slave eternally and do not allow me to speculate or make plans of my own. I fell down from the spiritual sky and now your mercy manifestation ISKCON has picked me up. But if I fall down from the ISKCON planet there is no other hope for me. Let all my own plans go to hell. Let only your plans and work get done. Let only your desire get fulfilled. And as an obedient slave let your desire become my desire.

O Śrīla Prabhupāda, please fulfill this, the only desire of mine, and no more.

Always praying this, We eternally remain your servants,

Lokanātha Svāmī	Ātmatattva	Jagat Vicitra dāsa brahmacārī
Kṛṣṇadāsa Vaidya dāsa	Abhayāśraya dāsa brahmacārī	Līlā Kamala dāsa brahmacārī
brahmacārī	Kṛṣṇa Prema dāsa brahmacārī	Purī dāsa brahmacārī
Ravi dāsa brahmacārī	Rohiṇītanaya dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Vilāsa

*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*

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our eternal obeisances at your divine lotus feet, Śrīla Prabhupāda, where even the most fallen of sinful beings can be accepted by your overwhelming compassion.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, although we seldom have personal association with you, still you are giving us your association through your writings and teachings, and in these books we find your presence. Every word you speak is so full of devotional inspiration that even the most sinful of people can be enlivened to engage in devotional service to Lord Kṛṣṇa. Now we simply have to perfect the art of hearing from you.

We find that the more we associate ourselves with you through your books and devotional service through your grace, the more we want others to also come and hear your every word. And as they realize your exalted position as spiritual master of the universe and take to your lotus feet as their only possible shelter, we all become joyful to see you increasingly glorified. Your Divine Grace should be worshiped by every sane human being, and it is our duty to see that this happens. We find that as people read your books, their understanding and appreciation for you increases and so does ours. So we shall attempt to spread Kṛṣṇa consciousness to all corners by your instruction and permission with increased book distribution. We hope that you shall derive some amount of pleasure from our meager offerings at your feet.

Please, Śrīla Prabhupāda, allow us the intelligence to appreciate our position as your eternal servants and in this mood continue working very honestly and hard to distribute the highest knowledge to all humanity in the form of your books. Kindly permit us to continue trying to please you through our service, as imperfect as it may be. We beg to remain your humble servants.

The disciples of your Ottawa center,

Gaura dāsa brahmacārī
Lakṣmīnātha dāsa brahmacārī
Nirantara dāsa adhikārī
Kṛṣṇadāsa dāsa adhikārī

Rūpa Vilāsa dāsa adhikārī
Bhakta Denis
Bhakta Robert
Paurṇamāsī-devī dāsī

Vāruṇī-devī dāsī
Mitravindā-devī dāsī
Bhaktin Sue
Bhaktin Diane

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

We offer our respectful obeisances unto our spiritual master, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedānta Swami Prabhupāda, who is so dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa, having taken shelter of the Lord's lotus feet.

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

Our respectful obeisances unto you, O servant of Sarasvatī Gosvāmī. You are kindly preaching the message of Lord Caitanya and delivering the Western world from voidism and impersonalism.



*śrī-guru-carāṇa-padma, kevala bhakati-sadma,
bando mui sāvadhāna-mate
yāhāra prasāde bhāi, e bhava toriyā yāi,
kṛṣṇa-prāpti hoy yāhā hoite*

“The lotus feet of our spiritual master are the only way by which we can attain pure devotional service. I bow 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.”

It is impossible to describe just how exalted is the position of the spiritual master. We must first seriously understand how small and insignificant we are and, upon understanding this, surrender completely to our

beloved spiritual master. Only at this time do our lives become of value.

All glories to you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, because you have come to save the entire world. Sanātana Gosvāmī humbly submitted to Lord Caitanya that, “People consider me to be a very wise man, but I do not know who I am, where I come from, or where I shall go after death.” This is exactly our position because we also did not have any knowledge of our real nature. Your spiritual master, His Divine Grace Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī, said that this material world is not a fit place for a gentleman. Anybody in this world, trapped within a material body, has to suffer the threefold miseries in different forms of distress until such time that he reaches the point of complete surrender to the bona fide spiritual master.

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

“I was born in the darkness of ignorance, and my spiritual master opened my eyes with the torchlight of knowledge. Therefore I offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of my spiritual master.”

Only by your grace can one become freed from this false conception of identifying with the material body. We were all so proud of this miserable body, worshiping it and giving it our complete attention, without knowing that it is just a bag of stool, blood, urine, mucus and bile. There is nothing glamorous about it at all.

By your causeless mercy you have come to deliver the fallen souls of this Kali-yuga, so we can rightfully say that you are *suhṛdaṁ sarva-bhūtānāṁ*, or the friend of all living entities, who can deliver us from all material miseries. In this age of Kali, the qualities of mercifulness, truthfulness, cleanliness and austerity are almost lost and it would have been impossible for any of us to become freed from the clutches of *māyā* if you had not come to save us. By your causeless mercy you have made us the most fortunate by creating ISKCON so that we can have *sādhusaṅga* to protect us from *māyā*.

*sādhusaṅga-kṛpā kimvā kṛṣṇera kṛpayā
kāmādi 'duḥsaṅga' chāḍi' śuddha-bhakti paya*

“One is elevated to the platform of devotional life by the mercy of the Vaiṣṇava, the bona fide spiritual master, and by the special mercy of Kṛṣṇa. On that platform one gives up all material desires and the association of unwanted persons. Thus one is elevated to the platform of pure devotional service.” (Cc. *Madhya* 24.97)

The *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* (3.23.56) states:

*neha yat karma dharmāya na virāgāya kalpate
na tīrtha-pada-sevāyai jivann api mṛto hi saḥ*

“A person whose work does not lead him to spiritual life, a person whose spiritual rituals do not lead him to renunciation or a person situated in renunciation that does not lead him to devotional service to the Supreme Personality of Godhead, must be considered as a dead man in spite of the fact that he is living.” So, the ultimate aim of the human form of life is found in the unalloyed devotional service to the Lord, and this goal we have to reach in this very life. It is only by your grace that one can reach this perfection, and on this day of Vyāsa-pūjā we all bow down at your lotus feet and pray to obtain your mercy.

You are the perfect *ācārya* because your very life shows us that pure devotional service cannot be checked by any material conditions. In any condition, whether it be advanced age or temporary illness, you have proved that pure devotional service is directly under the protection of Kṛṣṇa’s divine energy.

By your example we must now have faith in your instructions, and it is the duty of every one of us to follow in your footsteps. ALL GLORIES TO YOU, ŚRĪLA PRABHUPĀDA!

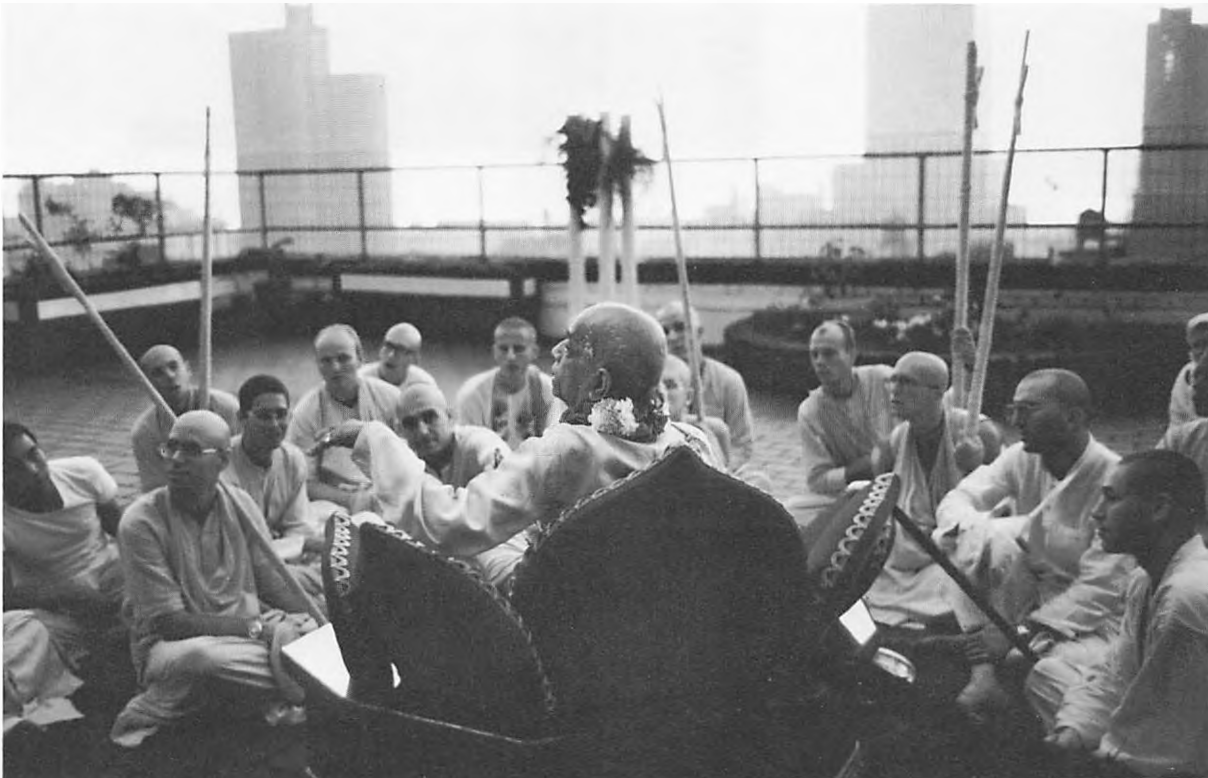
Your fallen servants at Paris ISKCON

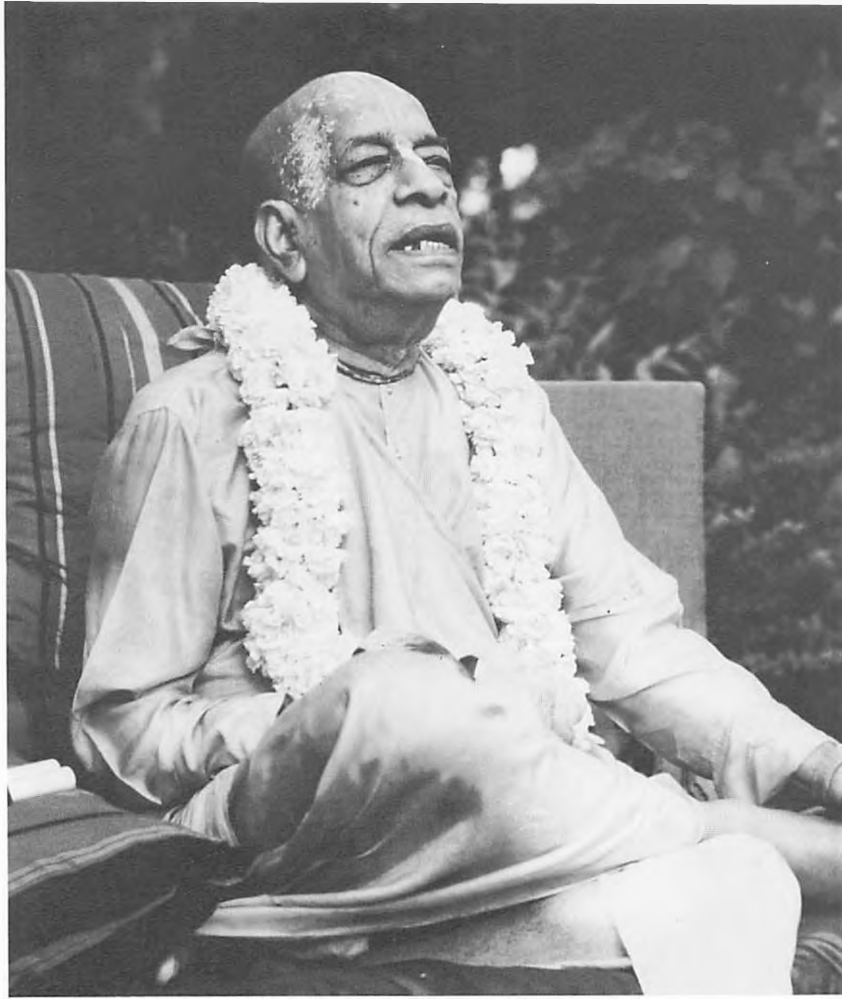
Traveling Saṅkīrtana	Jagatkīrti-devī dāśī	Īśvara dāśa adbhikārī
Prṭhu Putra Mahārāja	Śrī Vidyā-devī dāśī	Janaprāṇa dāśa adbhikārī
Śrī Hari dāśa brahmacārī	Bhakta Amale	Paraśurāma dāśa adbhikārī
Caitanya Nitāi dāśa brahmacārī	Bhakta Manavi	Svayambhur dāśa adbhikārī
Indradyumna dāśa adbhikārī	Guṇamayī-devī dāśī	Pārijāta-devī dāśī
Jagadvāsī dāśa brahmacārī	Jiva-devī dāśī	Mahimābhūṣaṇa-devī dāśī
Jagatsreṣṭha dāśa brahmacārī	Malatī-devī dāśī	Aṭṭagamaṇa-devī dāśī
Gopasvāmī dāśa brahmacārī	Śītālā-devī dāśī	Nitāi Gaura
Rāmadāśa brahmacārī	Bhakta Julia	Rāsavihari
Bhīma dāśa brahmacārī		Rādhā Govinda
Jaya Nṛsiṁha	Paris Temple	Bhaktin Anne-Marie
Pāvana deva dāśa	Ādirāja dāśa brahmacārī	Sophie
Rādhikā Ramaṇa dāśa brahmacārī	Vrajisama dāśa brahmacārī	Narakantaka dāśa brahmacārī
Bhūtabhāvana dāśa brahmacārī	Caitanya Bhāgavata dāśa brahmacārī	Pitavāsa dāśa
Indriya dāśa brahmacārī	Mahānāma dāśa brahmacārī	Svarūpananda dāśa
Sahadeva dāśa brahmacārī	Ārādhyā-devī dāśī	Vṛṣakṛtī dāśa
Keśināśana dāśa brahmacārī	Damādāminī-devī dāśī	Bhakta Andre
Jagadānanda dāśa brahmacārī	Dīneśvara-devī dāśī	Bhakta Antonio
Prasannātmā dāśa brahmacārī	Gopānandini-devī dāśī	Bhakta David
Rāsada dāśa brahmacārī	Kratasreṣṭha-devī dāśī	Bhakta Stephan
Sahasramūrdana dāśa brahmacārī	Mahāmedhā-devī dāśī	
Adhīśekhara dāśa adbhikārī	Navalaṅga-devī dāśī	Paris Farm, New Māyāpur
Carāṇambuja dāśa brahmacārī	Bhaktin Brigitte	Gaura dāśa brahmacārī
Akhileśvara dāśa brahmacārī	Bhaktin Leonor	Haribolānanda dāśa brahmacārī
Amala Purāṇa dāśa brahmacārī	Bhaktin Michele	Kṛṣṇa Baladeva dāśa brahmacārī
Ariṣṭarasaṇa dāśa brahmacārī	Bhaktin Rosa Alba	Mahāvīdyā dāśa brahmacārī
Gabhīrātmā dāśa brahmacārī	Abhinanda dāśa adbhikārī	Parātmā dāśa brahmacārī
Kūṣastha dāśa brahmacārī	Arcanānanda dāśa adbhikārī	Sadāśivapriya dāśa brahmacārī
Mahābala dāśa brahmacārī	Dayāmṛga dāśa adbhikārī	Śālagrāma dāśa brahmacārī
Āditi-devī dāśī	Harivilāsa dāśa adbhikārī	Sudarśana dāśa brahmacārī
Daṇḍa Keśi-devī dāśī		Valyavapu dāśa brahmacārī

Vedāṅga dāsa brahmacārī
 Avyaya dāsa adbhikārī
 Acintyarūpa dāsa adbhikārī
 Kṛtājya dāsa adbhikārī
 Indradymna dāsa adbhikārī
 Viṣṇurāta dāsa adbhikārī
 Bhagavān dāsa adbhikārī
 Sādhujāya dāsa adbhikārī
 Śvara dāsa adbhikārī
 Śivātmaka dāsa adbhikārī
 Viśvambhara dāsa adbhikārī
 Umāpati dāsa adbhikārī
 Jayakula dāsa adbhikārī
 Janardradhī dāsa adbhikārī
 Prabhava Vighraha dāsa adbhikārī
 Hayaya dāsa adbhikārī
 Viśeṣa-devī dāśī
 Govardhana-devī dāśī
 Cakriṇī-devī dāśī
 Kṛpāmayī-devī dāśī
 Uṣāmatī-devī dāśī
 Kṛṣṇa Bhāminī-devī dāśī
 Draupadī-devī dāśī
 Haripriyā-devī dāśī
 Pralambaharī-devī dāśī
 Kiśorī-devī dāśī
 Śatarūpā-devī dāśī

Ilāvati-devī dāśī
 Aditi-devī dāśī
 Kuntī-devī dāśī
 Jagat Kīrti-devī dāśī
 Annāda-devī dāśī
 Gaṅgāmayī-devī dāśī
 Garuḍī-devī dāśī
 Jyeṣṭha-devī dāśī
 Merumāla-devī dāśī
 Paṇḍita-devī dāśī
 Sahasrākṣī-devī dāśī
 Śītalā-devī dāśī
 Bhakta Andre
 Bhakta Denis
 Bhakta Francois
 Bhakta Freddy
 Bhakta Herve
 Bhakta Richard
 Bhakta Seege
 Bhakta Thierry
 Bhakta Mirian
 Bhakta Paule
 Bhakti Kīrtana
 Bhakta Suta
 Caitanya
 Dhruvānanda
 Hanumān

Joy Prabhu
 Raghunātha
 Vaiṣṇava
 Bhakti Dharma
 Bhakti Kiśorī
 Bhaktin Sarah
 Devakī
 Kāla
 Kāminī
 Kuntī
 Lalitā
 Mañjarī
 Satyā
 Vaijayanti
 Vṛndāvana
 Kṛṣṇa-kathā
 Gāyatrī
 Kṛṣṇa Bhakti
 Gaura Satī
 Candrāvalī
 Gauravāṇī
 Dhumyā
 Dhīra Lalitā
 Sujāta
 Gopī
 Jāhnavī
 Sati





Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept our most fallen obeisances at your lotus feet. When you arrived in Philadelphia in the summer of 1975, we drove you from the airport in a hired Cadillac limousine; this was noted by an envious reporter, who later challenged you: “Why did you ride in a Cadillac limousine from the airport?” You replied: “My disciples have provided me with this limousine, but actually, it is not at all good enough. They have not done very well by me. *Sākṣād dharitvena samasta-śāstrair uktas tathā bhavyata eva sadbhiḥ*,” you quoted. “The spiritual master is to be worshiped on an equal level with God. Because the spiritual master is the most confidential servant of God and is therefore very dear to him, he receives the same honor that is paid to the Supreme Lord. God rides in a chariot of gold, so my disciples should have provided a golden car for me. This Cadillac is not at all sufficient.”



The reporter sat there speechless, but the devotees from Philadelphia were feeling ashamed. How far short we fall in every way! It's true: you do deserve a car of gold. No service we perform, no praise we offer, no surrender we proffer, comes even respectably close to what, by rights, ought to be given to you. We had even been feeling somewhat proud of the hired Cadillac limousine; so often, indeed, we have found ourselves thinking, "Now I have performed some real service for Śrīla Prabhupāda," or "Now I have really surrendered to His Divine Grace," or similar inglorious notions.

But how can we ever render unto you the service that we owe? Our debt cannot be discharged, except by further borrowing. We have discovered that when we attempt some service, unless we obtain your mercy, we cannot properly perform it. Without your grace, we always fail. Thus we simply become increasingly entangled in the network of indebtedness, and we cannot escape your grip; thus we remain forever your bondservants.

Neither are we able to mint with our dull and earthy tongues the sterling and golden words that piled in heaps still would not exhaust the value of your priceless worth.

Forever indebted, perpetually embarrassed, we cannot pay the price for your matchless gifts.

But still we can dream . . . that one day will come when the bedazzled crowds at the airport will see you mount a car of burnished gold, flaming like the sun, surrounded by throngs of purified chanters chanting your glories in exquisite verse. The golden chariot shall carry you down a road inlaid with gems, over a carpet of stemless fragrant flowers. Rows of flowering trees will line the way, forming a perfumed canopy overhead, and there will be lakes of sweet-smelling water like nectar, with jeweled bathing places. Flocks of birds will pour out their songs in ecstasy, and the shining silk banners, proclaiming your glories, shall sway in the cool, scented breezes.

In this we only could hope to begin to receive you properly. And what would the reporters have to say then?

Your most fallen servants in Philadelphia

Ravindra Svarūpa dāsa	Pravṛcārya dāsa	Devayānī-devī dāśī	Bhakta Steve
Sudāsa	Jaya Mādhava dāsa	Havridhani-devī dāśī	Bhakta Ron
Mahāśakti dāsa	Jaya Baladeva dāsa	Bhaktavaśya-devī dāśī	Bhakta Brett
Raghunātha dāsa dāsa	Hari Murāri dāsa	Lalitāmṛta-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Sandy
Brahmānanda Purī dāsa	Rādhānātha dāsa	Mallika-devī dāśī	Bhaktin Shirley
Viṭṭhaleśvara dāsa	Guru-karuṇa dāsa	Bhakta John	
Devānanda Paṇḍita dāsa	Jīvanātha dāsa	Bhakta Jim	
Bhūbhṛt dāsa	Saudāmani-devī dāśī	Bhakta Dan	

*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*

*brahmāṇḍa bhramite kona bhāgyavān jīva
guru-kṛṣṇa-prasāde pāya bhakti-latā-bīja*

It is stated in your *Caitanya-caritāmṛta*: Out of many millions of living entities wandering throughout the creation of Lord Brahmā, one who is very fortunate gets an opportunity to associate with the 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.

Somehow or other you have chosen us as your disciples, Śrīla Prabhupāda. Even though we have no qualifications and our hearts are covered with deep layers of material dust, still you so patiently guide us on the path back to Godhead. Our conditioning and association in this material world had us convinced that intoxication, illicit sex life, eating animal flesh and gambling would give us the highest taste. This taste cannot be found anywhere in this material world. No amount of money, fame or learning can have it. Only by the grace of the pure devotee of the Lord can one be given the highest state—Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

Our thank you seems so insincere and insignificant, Śrīla Prabhupāda. We can only pray to Kṛṣṇa to please keep us eternally engaged in your service for only by your grace, Śrīla Prabhupāda, can we escape the miserable condition of repeated birth and death.

Your eternal servants,

Dharmātmā dāsa adbhikāri	Gopālasyaapriyā-devī dāsī	Acintyaśakti-devī dāsī
Dāmodara dāsa adbhikāri	Pradhānagopikā-devī dāsī	Karyāṭṭa-devī dāsī
Mahā-devī-devī dāsī	Sūkṣmarūpiṇī-devī dāsī	Premakā-devī dāsī
Rāgātmikā-devī dāsī	Sukalīna-devī dāsī	Manasvinī-devī dāsī
Lajjavatī-devī dāsī	Maṅkumārī-devī dāsī	Dvijapriyā-devī dāsī
Mahārha-devī dāsī	Kṛṣṇa-mayī-devī dāsī	Vrajamāṇḍala-devī dāsī
Vedamāta-devī dāsī	Nirmala-devī dāsī	Mother Robin

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

*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*

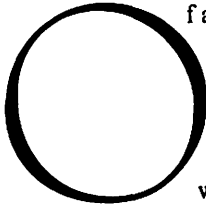
Our dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Along with all our wonderful Godbrothers throughout the world, we, the residents of New Maṇipura Dhāma, prostrate ourselves in the dust of your lotus feet, begging for your mercy and inspiration to assist you in pushing on the great *saṅkīrtana* movement of Lord Caitanya. O divine master, please forgive all our offenses, rectify our faults and remove the snake of envy from our hearts. O merciful Gurudeva, please bestow upon us enthusiasm, determination, and patience, the jewels of pure devotion. Infuse us with your compassion, O beloved Śrīla Prabhupāda, for this is the loving quality of the true Vaiṣṇava. Shower upon us, O ocean of mercy, the spirit of cooperation that we may most effectively spread this most important movement. O *simha-guru*, most of all give us the strength and courage to continue on against all obstacles in this dangerous age of Kali. Please don't let us fall, O merciful spiritual master. Outside of serving you, there is nothing else to do with our lives. Now we surrender unto you, Śrīla Prabhupāda. Please give us the shelter of your lotus feet!

Begging to remain your servants in New Maṇipura

Dīna Bandhu dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Bill	Mālādhārī-devī dāsi
Antara dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Tom	Bhaktin Wanda
Bhāgavatācārya dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Bill	Gopālānandinī
Śukadeva dāsa adhikārī	Bhakta Steve	Nārada Muni
Gīrijarāta dāsa adhikārī	Akūtī-devī dāsi	Kṛṣṇāṅgi
Pati dāsa adhikārī	Śrīda-devī dāsi	Rāmānuja
Vibhu dāsa adhikārī	Kusumapita-devī dāsi	Bhīma
Anantātmā dāsa brahmacārī	Jagamohini-devī dāsi	Mādhurya Līlā
Ekaniyasvabhāva dāsa brahmacārī	Śrīmatī-devī dāsi	Nīla Mādhava
Kavirāja dāsa brahmacārī	Meru-devī dāsi	Jagadīśa
Jyotīndra dāsa brahmacārī	Palinī-devī dāsi	Nāimiṣāraṇya
Rāmyaka dāsa brahmacārī	Abhaya-devī dāsi	Bhaktin Jenny
Śyāmasundara dāsa brahmacārī	Janmaśūnya-devī dāsi	

Śrīla Prabhupāda,



f all your qualities, I would like to praise your ability to look at the world and genuinely appreciate the good in it. Generally, devotees are swanlike because they want to serve Kṛṣṇa. This service to Kṛṣṇa is the essence of life. The swan has the ability to extract the essence, the milk, from a mixture of milk and water. So I can see, Śrīla Prabhupāda, that you are

paramahamṣa, the supreme swanlike devotee.

You are traveling through this material planet, simply extracting its essence, the eternal relationship of service between the people and Kṛṣṇa. You have explained that “Kṛṣṇa is so kind and favorable that if a servitor is accused even of great offenses, Kṛṣṇa does not take this into consideration. He simply considers the service that is rendered by His devotee.” You are obviously acting on Kṛṣṇa’s behalf in this matter, and by your example, you are giving us a taste of real love, the only foundation on which we can build our Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

Love is manifested in the desire to serve the beloved. That is your teaching, the essence of spiritual life. *Jīvera ‘svarūpa’ haya—kṛṣṇera ‘nitya dāsa’*. Never mind our crowlike tendencies, if we can just get firmly fixed up in some service to your lotus feet, we will be rightly situated.

Your fallen servants, New Varṣaṇa Farm

Paramānanda dāsa	Indirā-devī dāśī	Kaulinī-devī dāśī
Satyabhāmā-devī dāśī	Jagannātha dāsa	Rāmacandra dāsa
Premānanda dāsa	Vṛndā-devī dāśī	Vidyānanda dāsa
Madhavendra Purī dāsa	Bhurijana dāsa	Vedātmā dāsa
Jāhnava-devī dāśī	Jagattariṇī-devī dāśī	Vyāsāsana dāsa
Devakīnandana dāsa	Vṛndāvana Līlā-devī dāśī	Viṣṇuyaśā dāsa
Kamra-devī dāśī	Darpaha dāsa	Sarvapama dāsa
Keśava dāsa	Locana Padma-devī dāśī	Gudakeśa dāsa
Īśvara Purī dāsa	Pratyatoṣa dāsa	Kṛṣṇotkīrtana dāsa
Gaurahari dāsa	Urmilā-devī dāśī	Bhaktā Viśvareta dāsa
Praphulla Mukhī-devī dāśī	Mādhava dāsa	Viśvakarmā dāsa
Siddha Bābā dāsa	Steve Prabhu	Yudhiṣṭhira dāsa
Arjuna dāsa	Kathā Ruci-devī dāśī	
Vāmanadeva dāsa	Candra-devī dāśī	



*Oh, compassionate Guru
More welcome than the sun
Shine upon our hearts
Till our ignorance is done.*

*Your words have such power
They free men who truly hear
From scientific serfdom
Ignorance and fear.*

*You are the impetus,
Enthusing us—Go on
Increasing the flood
Of Śrī-Kṛṣṇa-saṅkīrtana.*

*Please never leave us
Bereft of your strong embrace
Our lives have no meaning
Minus Your Divine Grace.*

*We beg to offer our assembled lives
like straws before your holy feet.*

Your disciples at New Hastināpura

*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*

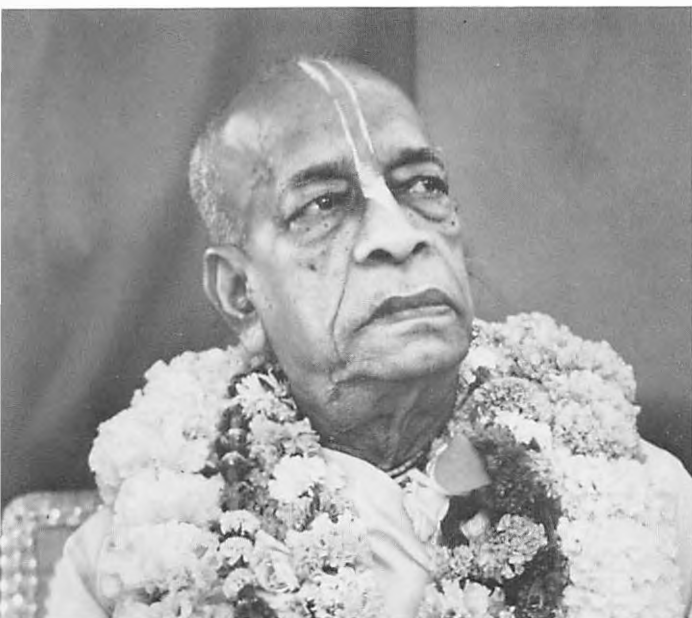
*Even as I sit to write
these words
under the evening light
the mind puts up a tremendous fight.*

*It concocts the paltry conception
of possibly gaining recognition
for a masterful poetic creation.*

*No matter the activity performed
the mind is incessantly torn
apart*

by these impure desires.

*It seeks, like a miser, to be adorned
with the glass jewels of fame, adoration,
and distinction.*





*These three baubles I don't admire
but their presence arouses that impelling desire
to be crowned as īśvara.*

*Coronated as "I am" (in existence) apart from Kṛṣṇa
and attempting to establish this fact
this false king (the mind) tries to preserve what
he has
and independently carry what he lacks.*

*But that burden of illusion is great
and my feet are slipping under the heavy weight.
The only thing which can change this fate
is the mercy-stick of support
from Śrī Gurudeva.*

*Śrīla Prabhupāda,
with your smiling lotus face
and swanlike grace
you extend that rod
with a reassuring nod
and encourage all to take hold.*

*Your unlimited mercy one cannot estimate
yet this is but one of your unlimited traits
of many that you possess.*

*Śrīla Prabhupāda
I'm simply praying
despite the asslike braying
of this untamed mind
that I may hear your words
with an open ear
and lock them in this leaden heart
then instead of speculation
draw on the truth you impart
that Kṛṣṇa is God
and I His servant.*

Your eternal servants at Puerto Rico

Lakṣmī Nṛsīṅha dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Santos
Karṇapūra dāsa brahmacārī	Apuṇva dāsa adbhikārī
Puruṣārtha dāsa brahmacārī	Kamalinī-devī dāśī
Haridāsa dāsa brahmacārī	Siri Singh
Yamunā Priya dāsa brahmacārī	Caitanya dāsa
Viprahita dāsa brahmacārī	Nanda-devī dāśī
Bhakta Fernando	

*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

*You are the General
Directing the fight
Revealing the Godhead
Destroying māyās' might.*

*Like Arjuna, we fear the battle call
We hesitate—we tremble—we fall.
Like Lord Kṛṣṇa, you lift us up by your instruction
You chastise—you enlighten you save us from destruction.*

*Remembering the cowherd boys, fearless we march
Into the Aghasurine cities and towns
Defying their 'fishy bad smells' and
Skyscraper fangs touching the clouds.*

*Armed with your books, forward we thrust
Deep into māyā's kingdom,
Illusions dispelled, the conditioned souls
Experience real freedom.*

*Māyā advanced through the godless technological race
Her gleam and glitter turn men's eyes from God's grace
Fouling the air, poisoning rivers and lakes
The scientists are modern Kāliya snakes.*

*And with your strong words
You kick on their heads
Replacing their venom
With nectar instead.*

*O Master! O Lord!
Please show us the arts
Of chanting and dancing
And purifying our hearts!*

*"Jaya Prabhupāda" and "Hare Kṛṣṇa"
These our battle cry! Pray to remember
Your lotus feet when we die.*

*And in your monumental plan
To create a new history
Remember your words—"Without a hard struggle—
What is the chance for a glorious Victory."*





Śrīla Prabhupāda, all glories to you. How can I glorify you adequately? Only by your mercy will it be possible for me to begin. Like Haridāsa Ṭhākura, you are an ocean of transcendental qualities. Like Vāsudeva Datta, your compassion knows no bounds as you are prepared to bear the sins of the universe and go to hell for Lord Śrī Caitanya. As Vakreśvara Paṇḍita danced all night, you once danced for Lord Jagannātha's entire festival in London, giving the Lord and all your devotees great joy. Just to hear this is wonderful. Who can estimate your fame? It is spread all over the three worlds. Like Rūpa and Sanātana, you are increasing the limits of the ocean of love of Godhead. Tirelessly preaching

like no one else, you are never-endingly speaking of Lord Caitanya's mission, inspiring all of your devotees to preach this *nāma-saṅkīrtana*. O Śrīla Prabhupāda, so great you are, you have saved the world with your Bhaktivedanta purports.

You are my heart, my life and soul. My morning rising is by your call of service to the transcendental Lord Śrī Kṛṣṇa. Morning bath, *viṣṇu-tilaka*, saffron robes, Gāyatrī, thousands of Godbrothers, *japa* and *maṅgala-ārātrika* are all from you; priceless gifts of service and association you have bestowed. The Deities and Their *prasāda*, more than we can eat, and a first-class transcendental home; you have offered all this. What I could not have dreamed of in eternity, what would have been impossible for me to conceive of with this mundane mind, into this ISKCON Kṛṣṇa consciousness I have gained entrance by your grace. You are His Divine Grace, the mercy incarnation of Kṛṣṇa, and this movement is a manifestation of your pure, uncontaminated desire to please Śrī Gaurasundara.

This mission, your life and soul and every breath, is pure nectar, simply sublime and full of transcendental ecstasy. To take part as your assistant birth after birth—let that be my only desire. By assisting your preaching I can taste the highest bliss and know who are Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa—your youthful loving couple for whom you've given up this world in madness. You are Their Lordship's eternal servitor and topmost devotee, and for this I have the proof. For Them you have come here and saved me and all of us. You are making everyone a Vaiṣṇava. Who can resist you? It is not possible. You have defeated everyone. You have taught the world real science, the best economy, perfect government and better business. You are the greatest cook, the best musician and sweetest vocalist. Even Nārada and Vyāsadeva sing your glories. You are the greatest author, greatest devotee, greatest spiritual master of all time, yet more humble than a blade of grass. Tolerating my offenses, always encouraging me, O Śrīla Prabhupāda, I am your dog. I cannot begin to glorify you yet you have allowed me to write some words. I love you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, please let me distribute your books wherever you see fit. You are my guide, my master, and my life is all your mercy. I am falling at your lotus feet, please consider my plea. You are my only shelter, what can I do? I am appealing to you and you will not turn me away. You have given me this *sannyāsa* order of life, now again I promise you, I make this vow, eternally I am your menial servant.

Thank you, Śrīla Prabhupāda. All glories to you!
Śrī Śrī Rādhā Dāmodara Traveling Saṅkīrtana Party

Tripurāri Svāmī
Dhṛṣṭadyumna Svāmī

Śrī Śrī Coṭa Gaura Nitāi TSKP

Sura dāsa brahmacārī
Kalki dāsa brahmacārī
Bhuvaneśvara dāsa brahmacārī

Bus No.1: Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Dāmodara

(Cincinnati Preaching Center, Louisville Preaching Center)

Kavindra dāsa adbhikārī	Vrajendranandana dāsa brahmacārī
Gaurāṅga dāsa brahmacārī	Prahādānanda dāsa brahmacārī
Mahā Muni dāsa brahmacārī	Ratnabāhu dāsa brahmacārī
Rāmācārya dāsa brahmacārī	Jīva Pāvana dāsa brahmacārī
Coṭa Haridāsa dāsa brahmacārī	Māyāpuradhāma dāsa brahmacārī
Goloka dāsa brahmacārī	Mukunda Datta dāsa brahmacārī
Bhagavān Ācārya dāsa brahmacārī	Dayāla dāsa brahmacārī
Aindra dāsa brahmacārī	

Bus No.2: Śrī Śrī Nīmāi Nitāi (Indianapolis Preaching Center, Milwaukee Preaching Center, Madison Preaching Center)

Gopījanavallabha dāsa brahmacārī	Raghunandana dāsa brahmacārī
Jñāpaka dāsa brahmacārī	Pūrṇacandra dāsa brahmacārī
Mahādeva dāsa brahmacārī	Śrīla dāsa brahmacārī
Rāsarāja dāsa brahmacārī	Rāya Kṛṣṇa dāsa brahmacārī
Dhruva dāsa brahmacārī	Lokasvāmī dāsa brahmacārī
Śaṅkara Paṇḍita dāsa brahmacārī	Keśiha dāsa brahmacārī
Uddhava dāsa brahmacārī	

Bus No.3: Śrī Śrī Gaura Nitāi (Durham Preaching Center)

Janārdana dāsa brahmacārī	Caturvyūha dāsa brahmacārī
Śastivara dāsa brahmacārī	Pārtha Mitra dāsa brahmacārī
Datta dāsa brahmacārī	Rāṅgajī dāsa brahmacārī
Anūttama dāsa brahmacārī	Mārkaṇḍeya dāsa brahmacārī
Pyari Mohana dāsa brahmacārī	Kundara dāsa brahmacārī
Govinda Datta dāsa brahmacārī	Śāsvata dāsa brahmacārī

Bus No.4: Śrī Śrī Nitāi Gauracandra

(El Paso Preaching Center, Memphis Preaching Center)

Brahmā dāsa brahmacārī	Viśva dāsa brahmacārī
Rasātala dāsa brahmacārī	Nakula Brahmacārī dāsa brahmacārī
Sunanda dāsa brahmacārī	Rāja Vidyā dāsa brahmacārī
Dṛṣya Kṛṣṇa dāsa brahmacārī	Madhuhāra dāsa brahmacārī
Dhṛṣṭa dāsa brahmacārī	Gaṅgā Nārāyaṇa dāsa brahmacārī
Naikātmā dāsa brahmacārī	Caitanya Candra dāsa brahmacārī
Hāsyagrāmī dāsa brahmacārī	Rasapada dāsa brahmacārī
Puṣpagopāla dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Charlie
Tattvavāda dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Mark

Bus No.5: Śrī Śrī Nitāi Caitanya Candra (Kansas City Preaching Center)

Keśava Bharati dāsa adbhikārī	Vyāsapada dāsa brahmacārī
Subuddhi Rāya dāsa brahmacārī	Bṛhadbhanu dāsa brahmacārī
Mahā Mantra dāsa brahmacārī	Dravanākṣa dāsa brahmacārī
Atendriya dāsa brahmacārī	Vaikuṇṭha Deva dāsa brahmacārī
Gopālācārya dāsa brahmacārī	Giridhārī dāsa brahmacārī
Pṛthuśravā dāsa brahmacārī	Subuddhi dāsa brahmacārī
Muktanātha dāsa brahmacārī	Varūthapa dāsa brahmacārī
Bhadrāṅga dāsa brahmacārī	Rāgaputra dāsa brahmacārī
Bhakta Bob	Gaṇapati dāsa brahmacārī
Jagīśvara Ṛṣi dāsa brahmacārī	Rohiṇī Suta dāsa brahmacārī
Cakrī dāsa brahmacārī	Rajendranātha dāsa brahmacārī

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

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Narottama dāsa Ṭhākura says that the spiritual master is *karuṇā-sindhu*, an ocean of mercy. You are an unlimited ocean of mercy, and there is no person more glorious than you in all the three worlds. Out of compassion you have come into this world of fallen souls to bring us back to Godhead, although we don't have any qualities. Just as the sun can extract water even from stool and transform it into pure drops of rain, you extracted us from our stoollike lives full of sinful activities and impersonalism and elevated us to a position enviable even by the demigods. It is said that even great *devas* desire to take birth as devotees in this movement, and you, with your mercy, have transformed such fallen souls like us into devotees.

Gurudeva! As the sunlight is more potent when it goes through a lens, in the same way Kṛṣṇa's mercy is greater when it goes through you. Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu is glorified because He saved Jagāi and Mādhāi, whose activities were just like childish pranks in comparison with our abominable sins. Caitanya Mahāprabhu has saved with His mercy Jagāi and Mādhāi, but that same mercy, filtered through you, has increased millions of times, therefore you are now saving hundreds of thousands of Jagāis and Mādhāis.

In *Kṛṣṇa Book* there is a description of autumn in which it explains how the earth becomes luxuriant after the rainy season. Likewise, the devotees, after joining the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement, become bright and look like they're coming directly from Vaikuṇṭha. But just like the earth becomes dry during the summer season, we also become dry and lose our qualities if we forget your instruction, because these qualities are not ours but are only a reflection of some of your unlimited qualities.

*yogyatā-vicāre, kichu nāhi pāi
tomāra karuṇā-sāra
karuṇā nā hoile, kāṇḍiyā kāṇḍiyā,
prāṇa nā rākhibo āra*

Gurudeva! As the lotus flower grows in the mud but is never touched by it, you stay in the mud of this material world but you are never contaminated. Your lotus eyes see always Kṛṣṇa, your lotus lips chant always Kṛṣṇa's glories, your lotus hands are always engaged in Kṛṣṇa's service, your lotus feet dance always for the Lord, and your lotus mind is always fixed on the Lord. When Kṛṣṇa plays His flute, the waves of the Yamunā carry lotus flowers to His feet. In the same way, your mind always brings thoughts of love to Kṛṣṇa.

*ohe! vaiṣṇava ṭhākura, doyāra sāgara,
e dāse karuṇā kori'
diyā pada-chāyā, śodha he āmāya,
tomāra caraṇa dhori*

Śrīla Prabhupāda, our only hope is to get hold of your lotus feet; we cannot do anything else but pray to always have your mercy and be able to follow in your footsteps. *Māyā's* attacks are so strong that we can fall down any day. Gurudeva, give us a drop of your mercy so that we can resist *māyā's* attacks. Make our ears constantly full of your instructions and inundated with Kṛṣṇa's pastimes so that they will not be attracted by the whispers of *māyā*. Please, enter into our rebellious minds and make them full of thoughts about Kṛṣṇa so that they will not be attracted by the waves of desires. Impress your holy image in our eyes so that they will not be attracted by *māyā's* winkings. Give us the strength to engage our hands in chanting the *japa-mālā* that you have given us and in performing devotional activities, otherwise these hands will be engaged in caressing *māyā*. Give us the enthusiasm so that our legs will be always engaged in dancing in front of the Deities (which are manifested due to your mercy) and for running from one person to another in order to distribute your books so that our legs will not be engaged in running after *māyā*. Give us a drop of your mercy so that our tongue can really taste the transcendental sound of the *maha-māntra* and the nectarean flavor of *prasāda*. In this way we will lose the desire to taste the garbage of the material world. Give us the strength to engage all our energies in distributing your books. By doing this we will not waste our energies foolishly in sense gratification.

*nāmnām akāri bahu-dhā nija-sarva-śaktis
tatrārpitā niyamitaḥ smaraṇe na kālaḥ
etādṛśī tava kṛpā bhagavan mamāpi
durdaivam idṛśam ihājani nānurāgaḥ*

“O my Lord, Your holy name alone can render all benediction to living beings, and thus You have hundreds and millions of names, like Kṛṣṇa and Govinda. In these transcendental names You have invested all Your transcendental energies. There are not even hard and fast rules for chanting these names. O my Lord, out of kindness You enable us to easily approach You by Your holy names, but I am so unfortunate that I have no attraction for them.”

You are always deeply absorbed in tasting the ecstasy of chanting the glories of Lord Caitanya, so we just pray to you to allow us to taste one drop of the ocean of bliss you constantly feel, so that we can keep chanting the holy name *Yasyāprasādān na gatiḥ kuto 'pi*: without your blessing we are completely lost and helpless. Without you we would still go here and there barking like dogs searching for some illusory, ephemeral

pleasure: we would still be in the stool like hogs, thinking ourselves happy.

Gurudeva! Without your presence the three worlds would be completely empty. We invoke your merciful glance upon us: please give us the strength to follow you and to push on this *saṅkīrtana* movement.

Gurudeva! We have no words to describe your glories. Śrīla Prabhupāda, the more we serve you, the more we realize your greatness and also our insignificance.

From Rome, the very same empire of ignorance and vice, your disciples prostrate themselves at your lotus feet, calling for your protection, O emperor of gentleness, king of self-control, austerity, purity, tolerance, honesty, wisdom, knowledge and piety. You are the emperor of the real world of bliss, please help us to get out of this realm of *māyā*.

Pāñcājanya dāsa adbhikāri

Śrī Giridhārī dāsa adbhikāri

Yavanaha dāsa adbhikāri

Hetu dāsa adbhikāri

Tridaṇḍī dāsa adbhikāri

Jivanānanda dāsa adbhikāri

Somaka dāsa brahmacārī

Dhenupālaka dāsa brahmacārī

Bhūtika dāsa brahmacārī

Dayānidhi dāsa brahmacārī

Mṛtyuhāra dāsa brahmacārī

Suptavigraha dāsa brahmacārī

Madhusevita dāsa brahmacārī

Mānasātita dāsa brahmacārī

Satyaṛāja dāsa brahmacārī

Durgama dāsa brahmacārī

Vaibhava dāsa brahmacārī

Citrāka dāsa brahmacārī

Manonātha dāsa brahmacārī

Candraśekhara dāsa brahmacārī

Pāpaha dāsa brahmacārī

Pāṇḍuputra dāsa brahmacārī

Mahācandra dāsa brahmacārī

Caitanyapāda dāsa brahmacārī

Svastika dāsa brahmacārī

Bhakta Stefano

Bhakta Hayden

Bhakta Gianni

Bhakta Piero

Bhakta Michele

Bhakta Leonardo

Bhakta Saro

Bhakta Marco

Bhakta Giampiero

Bhakta Fabrizio

Bhakta Manfred

Bhakta Sabino

Bhakta Sergio

Bhakta Gianni

Bhakta Santiago

Bhakta Franco

Bhakta Pietro

Bhakta George

Bhakta Giorgio

Bhojini-devī dāsi

Pūrṇāmṛta-devī dāsi

Citrarūpiṇī-devī dāsi

Vanadevī-devī dāsi

Yogānandakāri-devī dāsi

Alī Kṛṣṇa-devī dāsi

Vicitravāsini-devī dāsi

Amohamoha-devī dāsi

Nandirūpakā-devī dāsi

Artiha-devī dāsi

Bhaktin Lola

Bhaktin Barbara

Bhaktin Susi

Bhaktin Luana

Bhaktin Bruna

Hari-kīrtana

Coletta

Devaki







Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

While observing how all the countless species of life herein are being so greatly pained by this duality of the material world, we have begun to appreciate how many millions of lifetimes of suffering we have spent transmigrating from body to body in this miserable place.

Having finally collapsed at your lotus feet, we are realizing how essential is the association of your devotees, without whom we would continue to seek reciprocation with the living dead.

... and your service, bereft of which we'd be perpetually drained by the demands of our senses, and engulfed in the concoctions of our devious minds.

... and your books, without which we'd have no more to utter than sound vibrations which had previously driven us all crazy.

Dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda, anything of value that we think, feel, or do is only because of your unlimited mercy upon us.

We realize, also, that any expression of thanks is but a mere fragment of the gratitude we should actually be feeling. Therefore, we must also beg forgiveness for our innumerable offenses that are keeping us from properly appreciating our relationship with you. And we pray that someday we may become true *bhaktas* at your lotus feet, and help fulfill your most cherished desire to reunite the people of the world at the lotus feet of your most beloved Lord, Śrī Kṛṣṇa.

Your most fallen servants, San Diego Yātrā



The spiritual master is the eternal associate of the Supreme Lord, Kṛṣṇa, and by his causeless mercy only is one able to embark upon the path of devotional service. A moment's association with you, Śrīla Prabhupāda, can cancel out the miseries of unending births in *samsāra*, and so I am only praying that one so foolish and fallen as I can come to know you, if but for only a moment. I long to have eyes annointed with the pure love necessary to see you. And when I come to know you, then I will also know Kṛṣṇa because you are always situated at His lotus feet. Please let me go with you, for I want to serve you always, whether you are present before me or we are separated in love. You are my eternal spiritual master, the eternal companion of my soul, and my only refuge in this chaos of material existence. I beg to kick this grotesque, distorted false ego to pieces and cry to serve you in sincerity. But for you, life is nothing more than an unending, screaming nightmare existence. Please engage me eternally and thus keep me always near you.

Your eternal servants at Santa Cruz, Bolivia

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

The debtor born of parents—obliged to those who have given him life. Material obligations in family, friendship, society, and love tie him, fry him, gag and bind him. And he dies! Drowned in the obligation ocean. *Brahmāṇḍa bhrāmīte*—frustrated, wandering fool. *Kona bhāgyavān jīva*—then by good fortune he is born again. *Guru kṛṣṇa-prasāde pāya*. His father teaches him to walk and talk, to live and love, and in so doing gives the most marvelous gift, something always wanted, wondrous gift of light—*Bhakti-latā-bīja*—KṚṢṂA. The gift is real, the obligation too. What do we owe to him who has given us reality? Where is repayment's refuge? "Take the gift," he says, "accept the gift," he says, "that is how to repay me." Here is an eternal, blissful debt we can never repay; but let us dedicate our eternal existence to the task—the endless obligation that makes the debtor a saintly son.

Jagajīvana dāsa	Bhakta Juan Carlos	Bhakta Fernando
Atulānanda dāsa	Bhakta Juan Antonio	Madre Susana
Japānanda dāsa	Bhakta Cano	Madre Raquel
Mathurā-maṇḍala dāsa	Bhakta Pepe	Madre Jeannete
Śacīsuta dāsa	Bhakta Alvaro	Madre Valeria



“Any person who seriously desires to achieve real happiness must seek out a bona fide spiritual master and take shelter of him by initiation.”
(*Bhāg.* 11.3.21)

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

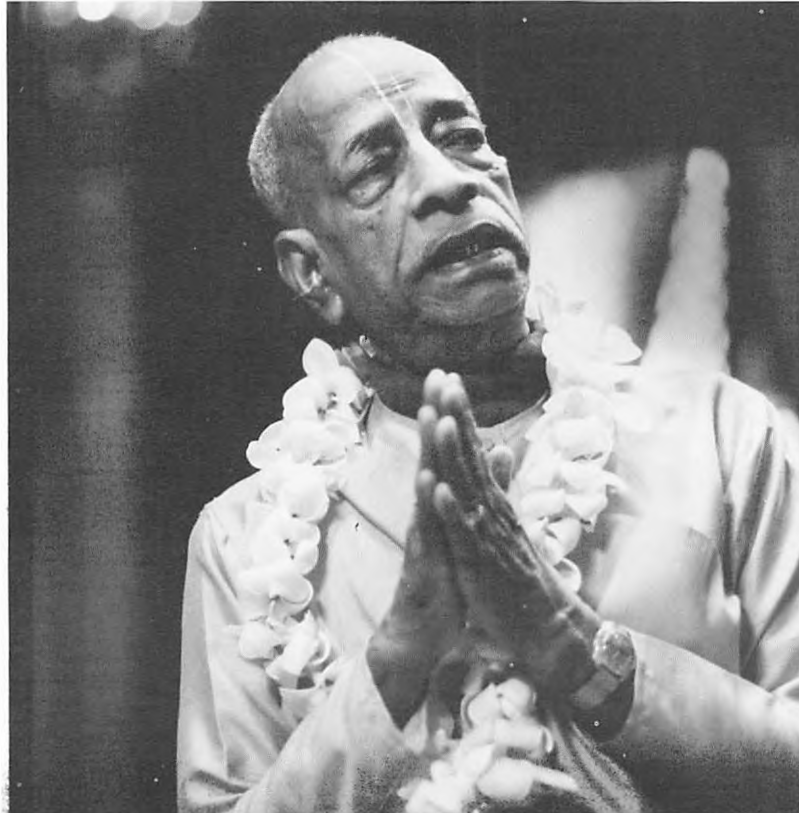
Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

We beg you to accept our prostrate obeisances at your divine lotus feet. O divine lord and beloved master, we don't know how to honor you properly; we pray you to excuse this incapacity. Please give us the power to properly honor all living beings. Please give us the power to understand your supreme glories.

Dear spiritual father, we are devoid of all strength and intelligence. We are very low and fallen. How can such persons honor and explain the qualities of a great *paramahansa* and sublime Vaiṣṇava like you? But somehow or other we have gained shelter at your divine lotus feet, due to your great mercy upon all the conditioned souls.

*O venerable Vaiṣṇava, we beg to remain in your service,
Your servants,*

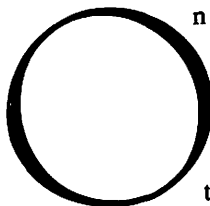
Rādhā-śaraṇa dāsa brahmacārī
Minākṣī dāsa brahmacārī
Amala Harināma dāsa brahmacārī
Viprahita dāsa brahmacārī
Bir Candra dāsa brahmacārī
Jyotsna dāsa brahmacārī
Lalita Govinda dāsa brahmacārī
Viśvadeva dāsa brahmacārī
Rocismān dāsa brahmacārī
Prayāga Pāvana dāsa brahmacārī
Nemicakra dāsa brahmacārī
Vadīrāja dāsa adbhikārī
Bhakta Dhimas
Bhakta Ramon
Bhakta Guelo
Bhakta Enrique
Virāya-devī dāsi
Pranada-devī dāsi



*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,



On the occasion of this Vyāsa-pūjā day, we desire to declare our complete dependence upon your transcendental mercy. The whole world was waiting for you. War, famine, and constant burning desires for love were ravaging the poor conditioned souls. But, now you have come. Oh, Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are the greatest of all masters. You are the greatest of kings, poets and scholars. You are the greatest of generals. Your opulences have no limit. You give us shelter though we are filled with the bad qualities of anger, greed and envy. Without you our bodies become useless. We are simply animallike servants of illusion, accepting death again and again.

Please engage this insignificant soul in the service of Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa. After being tortured for an eternity by the witch *Māyā*, we have finally accepted you as the captain of our ship. These bodies are yours. Let us help expand your mercy everywhere through the inadequate work of our own hands. Śrīla Prabhupāda, we pray that you will be very strong and healthy as you surcharge this dark world with your transcendental energies. We want to give up our selfishness and serve you in cooperation. Please allow us to realize that by accepting the shelter of your lotus feet and worshiping you by preaching Kṛṣṇa consciousness under the direction of the GBC and *sannyāsīs*, we are perfectly situated in *your* service. In this spirit we can continue to help you spread this movement, and Lord Caitanya's name will be glorified in every town and village.

In Vṛndāvana you were living in one house before you moved into the Rādhā Dāmodara temple. The landlord showed us the spot where you sat, chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa and seeing the transcendental form of the Lord. At that time, in the Western world no one knew of Lord Caitanya, what to speak of following His instructions. Now, by your mercy, in almost every major city of the world, the conditioned souls can follow in your lotus footsteps by sitting before the Deity and chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa. Thus you have expanded Vṛndāvana.

Please give us the strength to follow your bold example. O Gurudeva, purify our sinful hearts as we struggle to preach Kṛṣṇa consciousness in this dark material world. By your mercy the hearts of the living entities who have all fallen under the influence of so many ism's will be conquered.

The devotees of ISKCON Sao Paulo

Pramāṇa Svāmī	Bhakta Heitor
Acyuta dāsa	Bhakta Miguel
Prapanna dāsa	Bhakta Guilherme
Alanātha dāsa	Bhakta Lourival
Lokasākṣī	Bhakta Sebastiao
Jagat Bharata dāsa	Bhakta Tarso
Īśvara dāsa	Bhakta Adailton
Guruvagni dāsa	Bhakta Antonio
Virocana dāsa	Bhakta David
Aradhya dāsa	Bhakta Cicero
Ugraha dāsa	Bhakta Augusto
Jagat Vicitra dāsa	Bhakta Romel
Devaśreṣṭha dāsa	Bhakta Alemazinho
Paṇindra dāsa	Bhakta Edson
Prakāśānanda dāsa	Bhakta Vicente
Mahā Kāla dāsa	Bhakta Hasso
Kāraṇa Kāraṇa dāsa	Bhakta Hugo
Vyāsa dāsa	Rāgabhūmi-devī dāśī
Munipriya dāsa	Mahāyogeśvara-devī dāśī
Paraṅgacit dāsa	Nairvāṇi-devī dāśī
Kṛṣṇa-kṣora dāsa	Rasāsuna-devī dāśī
Gokula Sattva dāsa	Deva-devī dāśī
Durasada dāsa	Mūrti-devī dāśī
Līlānanda dāsa	Muktihetu-devī dāśī
Trilocana dāsa	Śrīṅkala-devī dāśī
Paramaharṣa dāsa	Dhānya-devī dāśī
Jagat vāsī dāsa	Ānanda Mūrti-devī dāśī
Sahasranāma dāsa	Saubhāgya-devī dāśī
Caitanya Svarūpa dāsa	Rāsavāsīni-devī dāśī
Kaivalya Svarūpa dāsa	Madhusvara-devī dāśī
Kāśī Miśra dāsa	Paramā Śakti-devī dāśī
Kula-deva dāsa	Bhaktin Laura
Ratnanidhi dāsa	Bhaktin Liciet
Bhakta Wanderley	Bhakta Socorro
Bhakta Marcello	Bhaktin Graciela
Bhakta Rabello	Bhaktin Flavia
Bhakta Edmundo	Bhaktin Ana
Bhakta Jose	Bhaktin Niccia
Bhakta Ademar	Bhaktin Gloria
Bhakta Francisco	Bhaktin Luiza
Bhakta Edmilson	Bhaktin Valdete
Bhakta Adalberto	Bhaktin Monica
Bhakta Paulo	Bhaktin Cintia
Bhakta Americo	Purāṇārka
Bhakta Caspar	Maṇḍali Bhadra
Bhakta Daniel	Kṛṣṇa dāsa
Bhakta Samuel	Sarasvatī
Bhakta Nelson	Nārada Muni
Bhakta Cacho	Yamunā
Bhakta Rubens	Nārāyaṇa
Bhakta Diego	



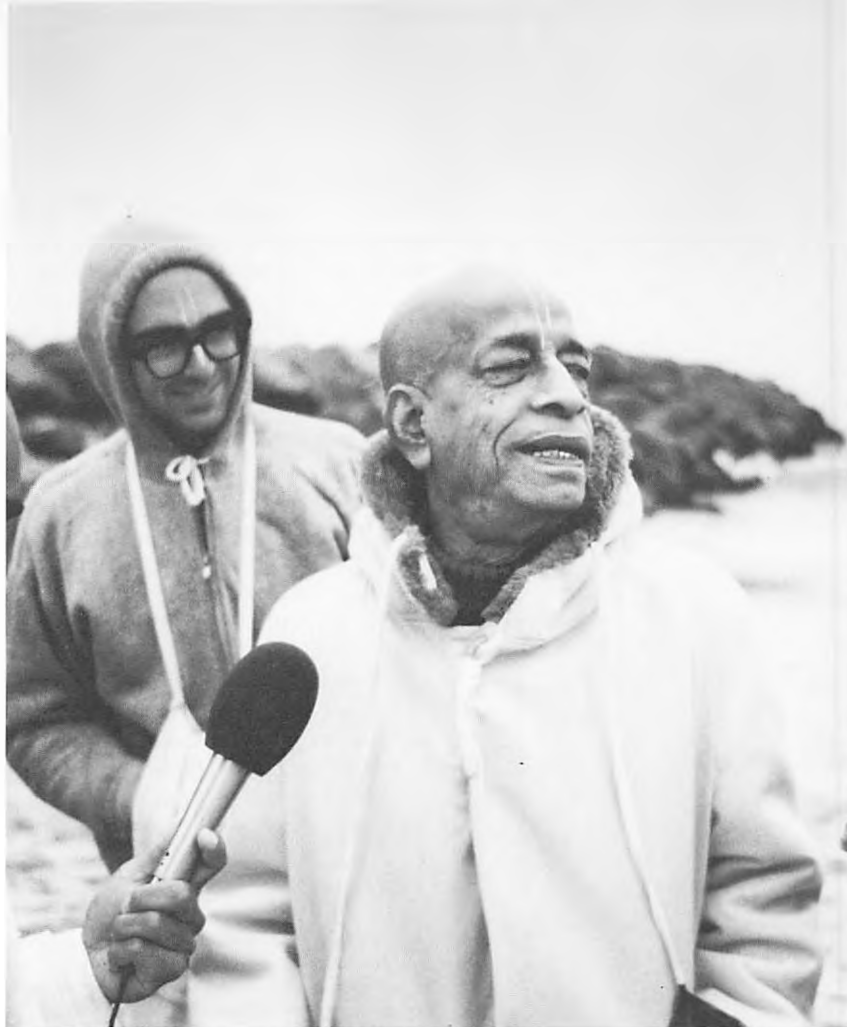
Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda:

Srīla Prabhupāda, we feel that you are our real father because you have given us spiritual birth. The shelter of your lotus feet is protection for us against the hellish existence of material life. By your ideal example and your patient and kind instruction you are teaching us everything. You are teaching us how to eat, how to clean ourselves, how to sleep, how to pass stool, how to dress, and most of all you are teaching us how to love. Śrīla Prabhupāda, we are your children, and it is by your mercy that we exist. You are taking us gently by the hand as helpless babes in the lap of *māyā* and teaching us to walk naturally in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. It is painful and frustrating for us, and we fall down, but you help us up with encouraging words. Prabhupāda, we are afraid that if you take away your helping hand now we will simply fall on our faces and not be able to get up. Please do not leave us like this!

Actually, we can understand that the relationship with the spiritual master is eternal and that he is always with his sincere disciple whether he remains on this earthly plane or not. The spiritual master lives not in a body but in his instructions. No one can say, Prabhupāda, that you have not given us in your books all the instructions necessary for us to go back to home, back to Godhead. Prabhupāda, we pray that we can somehow grow up and mature quickly so that we can follow these instructions without being such a burden to you!

Your menial servants of Seattle Yātrā,

Bāla Kṛṣṇa dāsa	Bhakta Bruce	Jīva-devī dāsi	Karaṇākṣi-devī dāsi
Bharata dāsa	Madhumatī-devī dāsi	Candra Kānti-devī dāsi	Dhasarati-devī dāsi
Hāsyapriya dāsa	Stritāmā-devī dāsi	Candrahāsa-devī dāsi	Rudrāṇi-devī dāsi
Kṛṣṇacandra dāsa	Mokṣa-Rūpa-devī dāsi	Karla-patī-devī dāsi	Śyāmapriya-devī dāsi
Kūrmārūpa dāsa	Kṛṣṇāṅgi-devī dāsi	Surāṅgi-devī dāsi	Vedavati-devī dāsi
Rocana dāsa	Mekahalā-devī dāsi	Padyāvalī-devī dāsi	Prṣṇigarbha-devī dāsi
Śukadeva dāsa	Bhaktimatī-devī dāsi	Parata-para-devī dāsi	Lalitā-devī dāsi
Stavyadeva dāsa	Devakī-devī dāsi	Klamahara-devī dāsi	Gopānandīnī-devī dāsi
Bhakta Phil	Kilimbā-devī dāsi	Pavanī-devī dāsi	Dharinī-devī dāsi
Bhakta Tom	Tamra-devī dāsi	Jivānaśadhi-devī dāsi	Sadhvī-devī dāsi
Bhakta Kato	Kṛṣṇadevatā-devī dāsi	Svāhna-devī dāsi	Bhaktin Shirley



*All glories to His All-merciful Divine Grace Om Viṣṇupāda Paramahamṣa
Parivrājakācārya Aṣṭottara Śata Śrī-Śrīmad A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami
Mahārāja Prabhupāda!!!*

Our dear lord and master, we offer our most humble obeisances at your lotus feet. Your Divine Grace has been sent to every corner of this planet in order to save the poor conditioned souls from the miseries of *māyā*. In the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* it is described how Kali was banished to live in places where gold is hoarded. Here in South Africa this is the largest industry. They are all working like *mūḍhas* to acquire this yellow stool. Perhaps in no other country on the planet do these lost souls labor under the



bodily conception of life to the degree that they do in South Africa. Those with different color bodies have to live in separate areas, go to different schools, ride in separate buses, sit on different park benches; the list is almost endless. Baffled by *māyā*, frustrated at every step by illusion, they desperately take shelter of intoxication and sense gratification.

Yet even this capital of Kali on the furthest edge of the dark continent has been benedicted by the lotus feet of Your Divine Grace. When you visited South Africa, thousands came to the program to hear the ambrosial nectar and transcendental knowledge presented by Your Divine Grace, and we pray that you may bless us with another such visit. Out of your endless compassion, countless numbers of lost souls have been drawn into the net of your mercy by reading Your Divine Grace's writings, tasting the *prasāda* offered to the Lord, becoming life members of ISKCON, and hearing and chanting the names of Kṛṣṇa.

We, your unqualified and undistinguished servants, know that there is no way for us to repay the blessings you have heaped upon us. For the most part, we are simply the sitting places of lust, envy, greed and all bad qualities. By your mercy only we have been raised out of darkness, delusion and suffering and shown the light of transcendental knowledge. Therefore on this Vyāsa-pūjā day we beg you to accept this insignificant offering, even though we are so selfish and full of envy.

May we always remain your humble servants,

Tulasī dāsa	Yamunā Jivana dāsa	Līlā-devī dāśī
Balabhadra dāsa	Caitanya Carāṇa dāsa	Ratnaraṅginī-devī dāśī
Gokulendra dāsa	Jayānteya dāsa	Bhaktin Tara
Pārtha Sārathi dāsa	Bhakta Balan	Bhaktin Deolinda
Raṅjahit dāsa	Bhakta Danny	Bhaktin Frances
Rukma dāsa	Bhakta Henry	Abhaya Carāṇa de dāsa





*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*

Our dearest Śrīla Prabhupāda,

The spiritual master is to be honored as much as the Supreme Lord because he is the most confidential servitor of the Lord. According to the deliberate opinion of all revealed scriptures, the spiritual master delivers his devotees. “One should know the *ācārya* as Myself and never disrespect him in any way.” The bona fide spiritual master always engages in unalloyed devotional service to the Supreme Personality of Godhead. By this test he is known to be a direct manifestation of the Lord and a genuine representative of Śrī Nityānanda Prabhu.

When the deluded spirit soul enters the material world to make his feeble attempt to reject Kṛṣṇa, the compassionate Supreme Lord in the form of Balarāma or Nityānanda expands Himself through various forms down to the Supersoul within the heart. This Baladeva-Nitāi is known as the original spiritual master; as the *guru* within the heart, *caitya-guru*. He attempts to guide the living entity back to the spiritual world. But when the soul becomes eternally addicted to material sense enjoyment, the impartial Supersoul fulfills his unlimited material desires according to his *karma*, and the soul can no longer directly hear the Supersoul asking him to go back to home. For these *nitya-baddha* souls, however, Balarāma again manifests Himself in the external form of the bona fide *guru*. The *ācārya*, or pure devotee, has a different position from the Supersoul in that he can interfere with the conditioned soul who is misusing his marginal independence to reject Kṛṣṇa. The spiritual master is not sworn to impartiality like the Supersoul.

Only out of His immense compassion does the Personality of Godhead reveal Himself as the spiritual master. He is the Supreme Personality of Servitor Godhead. It is worthwhile to take shelter of such a steady devotee, who is called *āśraya-vigraha*, or the manifestation or form of the Lord of whom one must take shelter. This is also confirmed by Śrīla Viśvanātha Cakravartī Ṭhākura: by the mercy of the spiritual master, one receives the benediction of Kṛṣṇa.

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you explain in the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* that it is Nārada Muni only who can deliver the path of *bhakti-yoga*: *nāra* means

the Supreme Lord and *da* means one who can deliver. But you are the bona fide *ācārya* in the succession from Nārada: therefore now it is you only who can deliver Kṛṣṇa to the fallen soul.

Everyone in this horrible place is afflicted with the jaundice of *avidyā*, ignorance, and they cannot find the sweet taste of real spiritual happiness. But you have brought the sweet, transcendental sugar candy from Goloka in the form of Kṛṣṇa's name, form, qualities, pastimes and devotional service, and as the supreme doctor, you are trying to spoon-feed this medicine to all the fallen souls in order to cure their diseased condition. That sweet taste is found in its pure form in the great sound incarnations of God like *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, *Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta* and *Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā*. So under the order of your spiritual master, you are dedicating your life to translating these books and explaining them to the entire universe.

In the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, you explain that these transcendental sounds vibrating on your tongue are directly the saffron dust particles coming from the Lord's lotus feet. You also explain that the dust of the lotus feet of the spiritual master is his instructions, and that these instructions should be the life and soul of the disciple. So every day we are singing: *guru-mukha-padma-vakya, cittete koriyā aikya ār nā koriho mane āśā*—our only wish is to have our consciousness purified by the words emanating from your lotus mouth. Therefore we must surrender to all of your instructions to make this wish completely true. Now we are foolishly taking instruction from our minds, whose message is the sum total of all the bogus *gurus* that we've followed since time immemorial (*mano-rathenāsati dhāvato bahiḥ*). But you explain our real duty in the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*: "One must accept a spiritual master who comes in the disciplic succession, and under his direction, one must then engage his three propensities, namely his body, mind and words. The body should be engaged in physical activity under the order of the master, the mind should think of Kṛṣṇa incessantly, and one's words should be engaged in preaching the glories of the Lord. If one is thus engaged in the loving service of the Lord, one's life is successful." In this way you are always canvassing on Kṛṣṇa's behalf—*man-manā bhava mad-bhakto mad-yājī māṁ namaskuru*.

Lord Caitanya preached *prema pumartho mahān*—the goal of human life is to develop pure love for God. And in Detroit you said, "*Guru-kṛṣṇa-prasāde pāya bhakti-latā-bīja*: And to approach *guru* means just to beg Kṛṣṇa from Him." But we do not know what to ask from you. You are the desire tree which can give your disciple whatever he wants. But we are so fallen that we are asking for broken glass instead of the real gem that you possess: pure, unalloyed devotional service. Associating with you through your instructions, *vāñī*, gives us the vision by which we can leave the dark forest of material enjoyment and obtain the Lord's

shelter. In the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, you explain that a devotee who follows the instructions of the Lord approaches Him (*mām eti*), and as a spiritual person, such a devotee returns to the Personality of Godhead and plays and dances with Him. So actually surrendering to all of your instructions makes us eligible for more and more mercy from Kṛṣṇa—*yasya prasādād bhagavat-prasādah*.

The disciple must be eager to follow the spiritual master's orders. "To those who are constantly devoted and worship Me with love, I give the understanding by which they can come to Me." This is very practical. A teacher instructs the student if the student is capable of taking more and more instructions. Otherwise, in spite of being instructed by the teacher, the student cannot make strides in his understanding. This indicates that Kṛṣṇa is prepared to give *bhakti-yoga* to everyone, but one must be capable of receiving it. That is the secret. So every day we are singing: *śrī-guru-carāṇe rati*—attachment to your lotus feet is the perfection of life. We must become steadfast in our determination to follow every instruction you have given us.

You always try to enliven us about Kṛṣṇa, which increases our desire to serve you, because serving you is the only way to reach that Supreme Lord. You explain this in the *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*: "If one seriously accepts the lotus feet of the Lord, he is purified by the grace of the Lord and by the grace of the Lord's servant. One who is brought under the lotus feet of the Lord by the endeavor of the Lord's servant, the spiritual master, is certainly immediately purified, however lowborn he may be. He becomes eligible to return home, back to Godhead. This is the sign of associating with great devotees. A devotee takes instruction from a liberated soul and is thus overwhelmed with ecstasy from transcendental pleasure."

Śrīla Prabhupāda, you explain in the *Bhakti-rasāmṛta-sindhu* that association with a pure devotee can have two effects. If it is properly executed, even a *mleccha* can be elevated to the platform of *paramahansa*. But if offenses are committed against a pure devotee, then one's attachment to Kṛṣṇa can be reduced to practically nothing. So we are begging that you sanction our feeble attempt to follow your instructions. Please don't let us fall away from your service because of our offenses. If you examine us, you will find no good qualities. Your mercy is all that we are made of. If you are not merciful unto us, we can only cry hopelessly.

Your fallen servants,

Mākhanalāla dāsa adhikārī	Durlabha Darśana dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Ken
Prāṇa dāsa brahmacārī	Guruvagmi dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Hare
Jagad-dhātā dāsa brahmacārī	Sarva Devamaya dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Rick
Caturātmā dāsa brahmacārī	Jiva-pati dāsa brahmacārī	Bhakta Ken
Bhīma dāsa brahmacārī	Akrūranātha dāsa brahmacārī	Tilaka-devī dāsa



*O Śrīla Prabhupāda, on this blessed day
Our humble obeisances unto you we pay
And with folded hands we fervently pray
For Kṛṣṇa to protect you always.*

*For your mission is surely the greatest of all
To rescue those souls who've decided to fall
From Kṛṣṇa's service to follow māyā's call
And take birth in this horrible place.*

*This material world is a deep dark well
Where everyone gradually is gliding to hell
Where sight, sound, touch, taste and smell
Are our masters so impersonal and cruel.*

*You have appeared to give us direction
How to become free from this hellish connection
From material life you are giving us protection
We were drowning in this material pool!*

*Your compassion for us is unflinching and sweet
Where would we be without your lotus feet?
Simply no better than dogs in the street
Looking for shelter somewhere.*





*So you have come to show us the way
How to perfect our human life in every way
To approach the goal and never sway
This is your, mercy so rare.*

*Many are the gurus who come to steal our wealth
They say "give me money, I'll give you better sex and good health"
But rare is that guru who can actually help
Our miserable material condition.*

*So many gurus have come and gone
They may juggle some words but what have they done?
Some magic tricks perhaps, but factually no one
Has been found to improve his position.*

*But since Your Divine Grace has come to save the West
So many people have by your mercy been blessed
With the strength to conquer Mâyādevi's test
And advance in spiritual life.*

*By your preaching work, destroying the Kali-yuga dream
You are deprogramming the world from dirty brain to clean
You are the greatest revolutionary the world has ever seen
Uprooting Kali's quarrel and strife.*

*Certainly no one but you has been so assured
That the diseased condition of the world can be cured
So many troubles for this end you've endured
To save the world from disaster.*

*You are jagad-guru, the savior of all
Mercifully spreading hari-nāma you walk so tall
Śrīla Prabhupāda, you are the greatest and we are small.*

*Please eternally remain our lord and master.
Jaya Gurudeva, Śrīla Prabhupāda!*

Yaśomatinandana dāsa brahmacārī
Karaṇāmṛta dāsa brahmacārī
Jagad Vasu dāsa brahmacārī
Gaura Keśava dāsa brahmacārī
Puruṣa dāsa brahmacārī
Sarvākṣa dāsa brahmacārī
Jñāna Samudra dāsa brahmacārī
Alalanātha dāsa brahmacārī
Ātmārāma dāsa brahmacārī
Jayadharma dāsa adhikārī
Gaṇeśa dāsa adhikārī

Dvaipāyana dāsa adhikārī
Rāma dāsa adhikārī
Girirūpadhārī dāsa adhikārī
Mahotsava dāsa adhikārī
Kṛpākāra dāsa adhikārī
Bhakta Robert
Bhakta Robert
Bhakta Chad
Bhakta Tom
Atri-devī dāsi
Kāmarūpa-devī dāsi

Rāsarānī-devī dāsi
Guṇavratī-devī dāsi
Lakṣmaṇā-devī dāsi
Śailavāsīnī-devī dāsi
Jitaśakti-devī dāsi
Atitaguṇa-devī dāsi
Śrī Lekhā-devī dāsi
Aparājita-devī dāsi
Jaleyu-devī dāsi
Bhaktin Jackie

*nama oṃ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine*

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

*mūkaṁ karoti vācālaṁ paṅguṁ laṅghayate girim
yat-kṛpā tam ahaṁ vande śrī-guruṁ dīna-tāraṇam*

“By the mercy of the *guru* even a dumb man can become the greatest orator and even a lame man can cross over mountains.”

You tell the story of the wild tiger in the jungle who was harassing the members of an *āśrama* as they travelled to and from the temple on the jungle path. In an attempt to appease the hungry beast, the head of the *āśrama* placed a large bowl of milk out for the tiger each day without fail. As time passed, the satisfied animal, being freed from the anxiety of having to search out his own food, began to think to himself, “Yes, this man loves me,” so he could understand the motive of the *āśrama* head and did not bother the devotees any more.

Similarly, each day you give us such beautiful *prasāda* and ask for nothing in return. Surely one day our dull, animallike intelligence will realize, “Yes, this person loves us,” and we will serve your lotus feet with grateful enthusiasm.

Kṛṣṇa and the *dhāma* of Goloka are not our real goal. Just to become your real disciples and to relish your pastimes is the direction given in the *Vedas*:

*ārādhānāṁ sarveṣāṁ viṣṇor ārādhanaṁ param
tasmāt parataraṁ devī tadyānāṁ samarcanam*

Lord Śiva tells Pārvatī that of all types of worship, worship of Viṣṇu is the highest, but higher still is the worship of His devotees.

The light of the *Vedas* will reveal you to this darkened world; the Hare Kṛṣṇa movement is but a facet of your character. The *Vedas* sing your glories and all pure devotees throughout all creation realize your exalted position. Your fame is not to be limited to this small planet, and your power is given by Kṛṣṇa Himself. Your accepting us as disciples is an obvious display of your causeless mercy.

Let us realize that our position is only through the flow of your unceasing compassion upon us and all souls.

Oh, Śrīla Prabhupāda, give us the strength to bow our heads in the path of your universal march of all beings back to Godhead.



Viśvakarmā dāsa adhikārī
Ayodhyāpati dāsa adhikārī
Kṛpāsindhu dāsa adhikārī
Tārakanātha dāsa adhikārī
Kṛṣṇa-kathā dāsa adhikārī
Kāmsahanta dāsa adhikārī
Girijadhava dāsa adhikārī
Drupada dāsa adhikārī
Trilokanātha dāsa adhikārī
Divyānanda dāsa adhikārī
Kārttikeya dāsa adhikārī
Akiñcana dāsa adhikārī
Vallabha Caitanya dāsa adhikārī
Garuḍa Vahana dāsa adhikārī
Śubhaviḷāsa dāsa adhikārī
Rameśa Lāla dāsa adhikārī
Gauḍīya
Śauri dāsa adhikārī
Bhakta Ray
Manohara Patel
Bhakta Prakāśa
Praharaṇa-devī dāśī
Śrī Kāri-devī dāśī
Atigarvita-devī dāśī
Malinī-devī dāśī
Anala-devī dāśī
Loka Dṛṣṭi-devī dāśī
Rudrāṇi-devī dāśī
Pratima-devī dāśī
Kṣīracora-devī dāśī
Manohara-devī dāśī
Mohinī-devī dāśī
Lalitā-devī dāśī
Lilāśuka-devī dāśī
Kṛṣṇa Karuṇā-devī dāśī
Āśālatā-devī dāśī
Kamala Lāla-devī dāśī
Subuddhi-devī dāśī
Bhaktin Pārvatī
Kalpana Patel
Bhaktin Sharon
Lakṣmaṇā
Śrī Gāndhārī
Draupadī
Bhaktivinoda
Lilāśuka
Nītāi
Sudāmā
Minākṣī
Indreśa
Yugalapīriti
Sanātana
Rūpa
Kṛṣṇa-devī dāśī
Śrī Rādhā-devī dāśī



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

*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,

Our merciful lord, we are trying to the best of our ability to glorify your divine mercy, which is impossible due to a lack of purity. We cannot perfectly glorify thee, but because of your potency, by endeavoring, one day we will become purified. The only thing we can say is what you taught us. You are so magnanimous that the only way you can be satisfied is by your own benevolent activities, which involve delivering souls from the clutches of *māyā*, which is a matchless gift for which we can never repay thee. Thinking to repay our beloved master and lord is *vinoda-pātra* (joking).

Please allow us to serve you eternally, and kindly accept our most humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

Your Most Fallen Servants at ISKCON Trinidad

Tārṅśya dāsa adhikārī
Vama dāsa adhikārī
Niṣkiñcana dāsa adhikārī
Hari deva dāsa adhikārī
Kṛṣṇa Śaraṇa dāsa brahmacārī
Gopati dāsa brahmacārī
Vāsuki dāsa brahmacārī

Kīrtanīya dāsa brahmacārī
Devendrānuja dāsa brahmacārī
Tadakahā dāsa brahmacārī
Vajranātha dāsa brahmacārī
Sevānanda dāsa brahmacārī
Bhakta Robert
Jāmātā-devi dāsi

Tattva-darśinī-devi dāsi
Līlārati-devi dāsi
Mahendrāṇī-devi dāsi
Mokṣada-devi dāsi
Bhaktin Ivy
Rachel



*O merciful Prabhupāda, your eyes they can heal,
Taking hard-hearted souls, and making them feel.*

*Your mace is your mercy, soothing and warm,
Your love is our guidelight through māyā's dark storm.*

*Your heart, it contains the Lord's loving grace,
His smile you partake of, face to face.*

*You've given us hope, as the ship was going down,
With you as our captain, we surely won't drown.*

*The guru, the śāstra, the sādhu, it's said,
Without your pure kindness, we would surely be dead.*

*Devotional service, the ultimate goal,
The need of the world, the need of the soul.*

*Bestowed upon freely, without legislation,
Pure love of Kṛṣṇa, life's destination.*

*To kindle a fire of freedom and light,
You say we must stand, prepared always to fight.*

*By never retreating from what seemed defeat,
We're learning to serve at your two lotus feet.*

Once upon a time, long, long ago, some very foolish children of a very rich father decided to run away from home. And although the father knew of the plans of the children and although he was hurt to hear of their scheme, still he allowed them to do as they had planned. And so they left.

On the first day of their journey they were robbed of their intelligence by the thief of lust. On the second day they began to feel weak from lack of the food of spiritual knowledge. On the third day the mud and dirt from the road became caked on their clothes and covered their qualities of kindness, humility and compassion. On the fourth day they were beaten and disheartened by the rogues of false theories and mental speculation. On the fifth day they contracted the disease of sense gratification and because of this they could no longer remember where they had come from, nor who they were. On the sixth day they could understand that they had somehow gotten lost in the forest and on the seventh day the cold rains of selfishness and greed began to pour incessantly upon them, soaking their clothes, and the winds of envy and false pride chilled them to the bone and burned their faces.

It was in the dark, rainy night of that seventh day that a gentleman appeared before the children. He carried with him a candle, and seeing the pitiable condition of the children he took compassion on them and brought them home with him.

Not desiring anything in return, the gentleman first of all discarded the filthy wet clothing of the children, bathed them, gave them clean, warm clothing, and began to cook for them and feed them daily. In this way the gentleman began to nourish the children back to health, and when they became well enough to understand, he explained to them what had happened and that he had been sent by their father to retrieve them. Upon hearing this the children became joyful, and along with the gentleman they all began to make the happy journey back home.

My dear Śrīla Prabhupāda, you have retrieved us from this horrible material world and have given us devotional service to Kṛṣṇa. We simply pray that you will allow us to express our gratitude to you by letting us assist you in your mission to fulfill the desire of Lord Caitanya. Just as the sun floods the world with its rays, so you are flooding the world with your transcendental qualities. It is our greatest honor if we are allowed to share in this inundation.

Śrīla Prabhupāda

*No mortal can surpass you
No man can stand a chance
You've given us the emerald road
The step to deliverance.*

*What mercy lies within you
Your kindness knows no bounds
You've given us the complete shelter
In transcendental grounds.*

*Such strong determination
With loving ties is laced
You've given us the highest power
A transcendental taste.*

*So thoughtful and so pensive
As how to carry on
You've given us that royal order
To please Madana Mohana.*

*Most pleasing is your talking
Breaking down those gloomy walls
You've given us eternal light
We march down māyā's halls.*

*With only Kṛṣṇa's guidance
You're captain of this ship
You've given us a place to ride
Guaranteed a one-way trip.*

*How giving is your nature
A quality of few
You've given us your very life
What can we give to you?*

The devotees of Vancouver Yātrā



Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

I am sitting in the very rooms you resided in and started our movement in, hearing the same bells you heard, writing this in the same spot in which you wrote and translated the immortal *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam* (bringing the higher world of Kṛṣṇa to the lower world of matter), and seeing the formidable jewellike form of Rūpa Gosvāmī's *samādhī*, steady and encouraging. Your old stove stands in the corner, and I retaste the *prasāda* you cooked for us back in 1966. What a trick! Who would have thought that you could bring order and responsibility to those Kali-yugites, dedicated to chaos and irresponsibility.

I sit and stare, and the blank page stares back at me. It is again the time to write a Vyāsa-pūjā homage, though it should be done at every moment. How do I glorify you, who are so unlimitedly glorious? It is hardly expressed in a few thousand words, and I cannot aptly put my overwhelming feelings for you down on paper (just as I must desist from adding a humble, self-effacing statement to all others herein, since I cannot begin to deface what is already so low that it is uncriticizable). It is you who give us the taste for the spiritual. I am not so serious, but love for you keeps me plodding along, and I pray that all of us may continue to back you with fuller conviction as you still show us the way back home.

In these rooms I see advertisements for your first three volumes of *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*; I see "League of Devotees" pamphlets; I see "De's Pain Liniment." I see old membership books, chemistry beakers, bookstore distribution lists, etc. I see all the services we are presently engaged in, and you have already done them. I think I should just recount some of the examples of your preaching in Vṛndāvana, since this is being written on behalf of the Vṛndāvana devotees. This will be my glorification to your limitless, wonderful qualities.

Once I awaited your arrival in New Delhi airport. You requested me to arrange a car to go to Vṛndāvana. "Vṛndāvana doesn't mean buying a ticket. It is an attitude, a way of accepting the special mercy of the *dhāma*." You were not only arranging the ticket but taking me through the gate yourself.

I thought that if I could choose the highest pleasure—spiritual or mundane—of all the unending pleasures available, that pleasure would be to be with you in Vṛndāvana. The purest devotee and the purest place combined. Now the desire is being fulfilled.

Vestiges of sentiment and romanticism still needing to be dispelled from our brains and cut by your sword of correctness lay waiting to be smote down like untrained soldiers.

Before having come into your direct contact, we read books of so-called spirituality, ideas with no applicable basis. The books spoke of a neophyte disciple waiting before the door of his *guru* with quiet

determination, while excessive heat and cold attacked the beatific devotee. After three days of patient austerity, the gate opens, the *guru* stands there, and the neophyte becomes a disciple. But you saw that we cannot even stand in one place for five minutes. So you engaged us in Kṛṣṇa's service. Another of these books told of a disciple's not eating for many days. But you saw how we grow restless if we don't eat, so you fed us *kṛṣṇa-prasāda*. You in fact teach us the perfect balance of sanctity and actuity, of work and play, of *bhajana* and preaching, of action and inaction, of devotion and preaching, of *pāñcarātrika* and *bhagavad-viddhi*. And so with the idea of the highest pleasure of you and Vṛndāvana together, I anticipate your arrival in Delhi's Palam airport.

There are only two of us to greet you, but you accept our garlands and sandalwood and rosewater with a grace that makes us bashful, as if the whole of the world were there greeting you. The Ambassador car pulls up, and we await some words. You hand me your (at the time) small white satchel, which you carry our movement around in; but still you say nothing. You glide into the front seat, and we get into the back with your traveling secretary.

Exchanging whispered news of devotees and activities around the world, we talk in low, subdued voices, so as not to disturb you. Minutes pass like hours as we await your transcendental words, some instruction, some acknowledgment. But transcendental as you are, you remain silent. I have another realization: there is no need for you to acknowledge or appease us. By now our society has begun to establish itself as it should be—catering to your mood, not ours. If you want to be silent, that is correct, and we should not expect or push anything else. And so from that time on, whenever meeting with you I let you establish the mood, not me. If you want to joke, I joke; if you want to chastise, I bow my head remorsefully; if you want to talk business, I talk business; if you want to talk philosophy, I talk philosophy.

I remember in Calcutta once when being sent on a special mission I came in and stated with importance, wanting glorification, "I am going now," and you simply turned and walked into the bathroom.

Yet in the car we still anticipate some divine instruction, some words of wisdom—anything—as you in all your natural beauty sit relaxed in the front seat. At a red stoplight, the Indian version of the Hell's Angels roll up next to your open window. You turn your head slightly and say "Hare Kṛṣṇa," and the young grease-ball says "Hare Kṛṣṇa" back. He jabbars to his friends, and they jabber back, and they turn into Gandharvas and young innocents by your grace. We still await, murmuring the *mahā-mantra* silently.

We glide to the outskirts of New Delhi on the way to Vṛndāvana. Your voice of authority and patience finally breaks the vacuous silence. You say, "Cement."

Another realization—here again all those romantic books about perfumed saints and do-nothing *sādhus* vanish like bubbles popping in the air. The practical application of devotion instead.

You point to a large water tower and say, “We should build one like that in Vṛndāvana.” We are on the way to finalize all the arrangements of a piece of land given to us by the grace of Śrīmatī Rādhārāṇī, after the promises of court jesters, kings, mice and men all failed. You had sent me to Vṛndāvana to scout land and/or already-built temples. We narrowed down our choice to this piece of land in holy Ramaṇa Reti (“enjoyable sands”).



When we arrived in holy Vṛndāvana, your ever-bright eyes became even brighter. We are staying at Saraf Bhavan, and you set up camp on the top floor, like a field general. The floor consists of six small side rooms around a long hall, and we are preparing for the next few days of amazing events.

Somehow or other, without any advertising or announcements, your old friends, Godbrothers, officials, etc., start showing up. Summoned by some silent nonunderstandable means, they begin to appear—like silent natures out of jungle thickets, an enigma to the common covered man.

We first arrange for a ground-breaking ceremony with the ex-owner of the land in Ramaṇa Reti, the present site of our Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma Mandira, while in the next room another dissatisfied person, who wanted the same piece of property, waits. Police and retired members of parliament appear, and you talk to them, and they convince the agitator that any thoughts of getting the piece of land are in vain. One Gosvāmī, hardly able to see, led by his son, comes from Rādhā Dāmodara, while his archrivals—two other Gosvāmīs—arrive simultaneously. You spring up from your seat faster than a speeding bullet and put the enemies in dif-

ferent rooms to avoid their fighting (although they live in the same temple compound, they haven't spoken to one another for years). You satisfy each one of them separately; they each take you as an ally, and you discuss and draw up papers which arrange our stay at some rooms at the top of Rādhā Dāmodara Temple. Your secretary is simultaneously drawing up the contract for accepting the Ramaṇa Reti property and the contract for the rooms at Dāmodara.

Some *bābājīs* (in their off-white cloth) and your slightly bearded Godbrothers arrive, and you at once host them and then feed them amidst all the other agreements and arrangements. You are like the great ringmaster we used to see as children, running the whole show, the central attraction, training all—a dancing bear in one ring, a tightrope-walker in another ring, and the lions in another ring—you continue to control from your seat this great transcendental circus in this most transcendental arena, Vṇdāvana.

I remember one time a dog charged at you, snarling, looking like Śālva or the Keśī demon charging Lord Kṛṣṇa. You raised your stick and said, "Come on." The dog stopped short, you gestured slightly with your stick, and the dog sat down, still growling. Then you threatened again, and he lay down and whimpered. When we rounded the block for the second time, the whole performance was repeated, but the third time we saw that the dog was your servant and friend; he was tamed. I thought of him as my companion or Godbrother, remembering how you similarly trained us all.

You then explained how "Beware of the dog" was a symptom of modern false civilization, where one may walk down the street peacefully and from behind a large closed gate the dog barks at you, "Don't come here"; each gate separating one man's property from the other man's property, no one sharing, no spiritual center.

I was beginning to learn by your example the balance between practical hard work for Kṛṣṇa and temple devotions which sanctify that hard work. In Kṛṣṇa consciousness there is no room for dry rituals. "Necessity is the mother of invention," you told, and I could see that "devotee" means whatever Kṛṣṇa wants, that's all. We are His toys. The sincerity of the offering is the essence, not the wealth. "Anyone in any part of the world may offer a fruit, a flower, some water, to Lord Kṛṣṇa, and He will accept," you taught. And so you engage us to work hard, day and night, for Lord Kṛṣṇa. "We should not waste a moment," you recently wrote me in a letter. "Take my example, not a moment is wasted. The *karmīs* sit in the park and say, 'My son-in-law said this, etc.'"

The next day I came to see you, and some more transcendental instructions were taking place between you and Subala dāsa:



Śrīla Prabhupāda: You do not like to live with the devotees?

Subala: No.

Śrīla Prabhupāda: Why is that?

Subala: They gossip and talk nonsense.

Śrīla Prabhupāda: Then you must change the gossip into transcendental talks. So many people come to me with nonsensical talks, and I transform them into transcendental talks.

Subala: We are always fighting.

Śrīla Prabhupāda: You must consider it to be your fault. If each thinks that way, there cannot be fighting. If someone calls me “Prabhu,” and I think I am master, that is wrong.



Subala: I just want to stay in Vṛndāvana.

Śrīla Prabhupāda: It is better that you give Vṛndāvana to others. If I did not leave Vṛndāvana, you would not know Vṛndāvana. Rather you should go out and preach and come back and build a skyscraper (pronounced “scrapper”).

The next day on the morning walk, we saw many devotees, *sādhus*, etc., as regular as *ārātrika*, who came to you to pay respects (they are so regular you can set your watch by them). We started to walk towards Ramaṇa Reti. You tell how the *nimba* tree is medicinal. We see women picking up cow dung, and you say, “Everything is used in India. That is proper.”

I say, “Cow dung is purer than other dungs; it does not attract as many flies.” You smile mischievously and say, “Oh, you have done research?” Then you say, “Therefore this is proof that cow dung is anti-septic.” I say, “Yes,” and you order me to study nature, for that will reveal many truths of the *Bhāgavatam*. Especially this is true in Vṛndāvana.

“Living in Vṛndāvana is like lying on the lap of Kṛṣṇa,” you say, but later you qualify that “Kṛṣṇa is not loitering in Loi Bazaar.” And over the years you come and go, you come to speed up the construction of the temple, you taste the water, you stand and count the bags of cement used. You question in much detail. “How much is the price of āṭā (flour)?” I say Rs. 1.60 a kilo, and you split up all the prices to how much an average devotee can eat. For instance, “a devotee eats one quarter of a kilo of rice. The rice costs Rs. 1.80, so a devotee eats one quarter of that. Therefore Rs. .45 is spent per man on rice.” And you break up all the items, including spices, wood for cooking, and still you cut down on the amount we are spending to feed the devotees. One of the items, a vegetable, you ask what is the cost per kilo. I say, “60 paisa.” You tell the story of “damn cheap babu.”

The foreign babu comes and gets the local prices and says, “damn cheap, damn cheap” while he is being charged twice the amount as the local residents. “Sixty paisa,” you say. “It should cost 30 paisa.” I quip that those are the prices in 1953. (I remember seeing your account book in your rooms at Rādhā Dāmodara and how much you would spend, and you would account for everything.) You then say, “Do it that cheaply anyway,” and we do it by your empowered potency. You ask not only the price of vegetables, but the cost of cement, steel, as well as the timings of the Frontier Mail, the Toofan Express and the Punjab Mail Trains. You expect me to know all the local residents, and you introduce me to them as they come to see you.

You initiated me into the vast etiquette and intrigues of Vṛndāvana society, and sometimes send me on seemingly impossible missions, like the time you sent me to borrow three crores of rupees (Rs. 30,000,000) from the home minister of India, to be paid back in foreign exchange, or the time you sent me to ask the American ambassador to India to allow us to live in one of his houses free, or when a king wanted Rs. 50,000,-000 for his palace and you told me to say that since we are *brāhmaṇas* and you are king, you must give to *brāhmaṇas*. If we see all these things in the transcendental light, they are not outrageous; rather, it is the mundane darkness that is outrageous.

I remember the time we were walking on the banks of the Yamunā, the full moon still in the morning sky. You point with your cane to the moon and say, “They say the moon is dust. Why are those sands [pointing to the Yamunā] not shining and those sands [pointing to the moon] shining? If it is reflection of the sun as they [the scientists] claim, then the sun is there—why are those [the moon’s] sands shining and those [the Yamunā’s sands] not?” The moon-talks intrigue us all as we press close to one another to hear you.

Sometimes we walk through the back alleys of this vast wonderland. Your cane rings on the red stones. You decided to reside one night again



in your old rooms, and four of us are fortunate enough to accompany you, sleep in a heap in your kitchen to keep warm, in the post-Kārttika night chill.

Slowly the Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma construction begins, a well is dug, but the water is salt. But then another, producing sweet water blessed by Balarāma, awes the neighbors, who all have salt water. The construction rolls on slowly, a string of endless obstacles, no money, no materials. You push us harder; you come yourself and solve everything. You come and live at Sethji's house nearby, a pandal cover is erected to fuel your preaching fire, and you speak how the true *bhakta* is the only unmotivated *yogī*, whereas *jñānīs*, *yogīs* and *karma-yogīs* all are tarnished by motivated liberation-wishes.

During another mass pilgrimage the devotees stay at Lakṣmī Rāṇī Kuñja, and you deliver the famous *Nectar of Devotion* series of lectures at Rādhā Dāmodara Temple. After the lectures, devotees and guests all squeeze into your small rooms.

You talk to me many times about *vairāgya*, how we should give up material attachments. You also teach tolerance. I asked you whether it is sometimes very hot or cold in Vṛndāvana to test how much one loves Kṛṣṇa by staying here, and you answered, "Yes, sometimes Kṛṣṇa tests that way." *Titikṣā* must be developed.

Your house is finally being completed. I remember the frantic rush to put everything in order for your first viewing; the floor and your newly varnished desk dried literally thirty seconds before you walked in. Of course this is not unique, as probably every temple in the movement has experienced this same rush before your arrival and how miraculously everything comes together almost the same instant as you step your lotus feet inside.

Your old Godbrothers come, and you host them in your new rooms, along with the late afternoon stream of guests from every part of India. You sit back relaxed and talk to them, enlighten them, until night comes and the bright stars appear in the Vṛndāvana sky. Again your magnanimity is all-embracing. I remember one night you say to me, "Let's go to some temples. Can you arrange? What time is their *darśana*?" Later you tell me, "*Darśana* does not mean for you to see the Deity, but rather for the Deity to see you." I arrange a car; by that time the news has leaked out, in the unexplainable way of our Kṛṣṇa conscious grapevine-communications, more speedy than any modern telecommunication system, and suddenly I am being petitioned, lobbied, cajoled, begged and ordered that I take everyone along. You get in the front seat along with the driver and then you motion to one devotee "Come on," and as the front seat is filled, you say, "There is room in back, come on," and the back seat is filled by the pillars and big guns of our Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement. A stack of GBC's and *sannyāsīs* squash in the back seat.

After it is filled, Gargamuni Mahārāja shows up, and you say, “Come on, come on,” and so he squeezes in the already saturated back seat. As the car is ready to limp off, Pañca Draviḍa Mahārāja comes ambling along with his *daṇḍa*, eager to join, and we can’t refuse him. He lays across all of us, with his hands and legs hanging out the window. You ask, “Where to first? Where to next?” and my muffled reply comes from under the Vaiṣṇava bodies. When we reach Govinda temple, you walk out majestically, and we pile out, like the clowns in a circus, all getting out of the small car. During the morning walks, we sit down by the side of the road, and you teach the whole *varṇa* and *āśrama* system.

Your personal friendliness knows no bounds. Like a kind father, you instructed me to invite all the *gosvāmīs* and special people of Vṛndāvana to our first Vyāsa-pūjā ceremony at Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma Mandira. It was gloriously decorated, and many special guests came. We had just finished washing your lotus feet. I was drying your lotus toes one by one by one, and you looked at me and asked, “Have you invited such and such?” As I worked very hard to make everything nice for you, I readily said, “Yes, he told me he would be a little late,” and you looked pleased. After we bathed and dried your feet, the senior devotees began to offer flowers and offer *daṇḍavats* (prostrating themselves) three times. As I was offering *daṇḍavats* for the second time, you called me again. I thought, “Uh oh, who did I forget to invite?” Śrīla Prabhupāda always catches all of our mistakes, and I leaned close to you. Instead of asking anything, you simply took your fingers and so kindly ruffled my *śikhā* and the top of my head. All the devotees crowding around cried, “Ahhh!” in one well-wisher’s voice. I felt my years of service again rewarded. You are so Kṛṣṇa conscious that every time your finger extends, your lips open, your eyes look, or your eyebrows twitch, it is great preaching. I begin to become astounded at how much of your precious time you have given to us. Recently going in to see you in your new rooms in Bombay, I say, “I don’t want to take too much of your precious time.” You reply, “No, no, you can come any time, and also bring some honey.” You then ask, “How do you like these rooms?” I say, “They are wonderful because you are in them now, but if you were in another place, they too would be wonderful. Because of Your Divine Grace they are a *tīrtha*.” *Tīrthikurvanti tīrthāni*, you corrected my pronunciation and said, “Yes, one who keeps Kṛṣṇa always, one who remembers Kṛṣṇa—

*yoginām api sarveṣāṁ mad-gatenāntarātmanā
śraddhāvān bhajate yo mām sa me yuktatamo mataḥ*

—that place becomes Kṛṣṇa conscious.” Then we both at the same time, as if by magic, said: *man-manā bhava mad-bhaktaḥ*.

Each minute with you is the fulfillment of a dream, a special event, and you have given the treasure-house of many hours. (You have

changed our vocabulary, so we talk like you.) We gesture like you and give the same answers to questions as you do, and we try to preach like you. We embrace the *paramparā* not out of duty but because we are attracted to your way of doing things. Your defense of Kṛṣṇa is boundless, and we watch in awe at your untiring strength as everyone except simple devotees are exposed to be fools and rascals. A simple proof of your changing us is that the word 'duty' was unknown and unused in our upbringing. No one taught us a sense of duty because no one knows what or whom to serve. The whole system of *dharma* and duty has become a practical engraved truth to many now, as you have brought duty to us,



and even though the things from the ancient *Vedas* at first seemed unattractive, they are now a way of life.

These truths shown by your example that have changed so many lives are wonderfully unique and obviously graced by Lord Kṛṣṇa. The general society may not understand us, but they have to recognize us. A judge recently in court stated that we are bona fide, which in itself is a great step for what was an unknown teaching just eleven years ago. It took Moses, Muhammad and Jesus Christ much longer to establish their teachings as bona fide in the courts of law. Now it is our duty to change the scientists, who are the modern *smarta-brāhmaṇas* and high priests of today. You tell me, "Our movement is sublime, the books are sublime, and Kṛṣṇa is supplying everything. Now go out in Poland and Russia and arrange for meetings with the scientists." I say, "Communist scientists?" You say, "Why not? Two plus two equals four both for the communists and capitalists. It is not that because I am communist I can say two plus two equals five."

"You must convince them of this Kṛṣṇa consciousness. I predict that Russians will become first-class theists." I said, "Yes, because there are less sense objects to distract them." "They will view my books carefully. They have respect for Indian culture and the Sanskrit texts. The Jagāis

and Mādhāis will change. Even Vālmīki was dacoit and changed, so you go and arrange everything.”

One of your greatest gifts is your great understanding of every situation in perfect perspective. They (the lawyers in New York) wanted to end the “brainwashing” litigations, but instead you wanted to extend them for fourteen years, using your books as evidence. “Exhibit A—*Bhagavad-gītā*” Only you can come up with the most remarkable ideas, using each situation in its best capacity to give Kṛṣṇa consciousness to everyone. Where we are short-sighted you see all sides of each situation and apply it. So many times I have watched as we, your disciples, have wanted to condemn, but you see and explain the other point of view. This fairness, according to time and circumstance, must be learned. You have said about someone we were criticizing, “He is not to be blamed; he was taught what he knows, as you have been taught what you know, so rather than blame him, rectify his teachings.”

For example, one day as we were shooing away ducks in our path, we said, “You rascals,” but you calmly replied, “As you are thinking they are rascals, they are thinking you are rascals.” So you always teach that preaching means seeing from the perspective of Lord Kṛṣṇa’s viewpoint and attracting others also to Kṛṣṇa’s Vedic version. We owe our gratitude to you only. What I feel when in your association—that strength, that determination, that enthusiasm, that ecstasy—is an unequalled feeling, for only you are the great touchstone of deliverance. I pray that we all can remember these feelings and remain steady in our devotional service.

Vṛndāvana devotees

Akṣayanānda Svāmī	Rāghavendra dāsa	Śrī Padambuja dāsa	Lakahita-devī dāśī
Gurudāsa Svāmī	Yaśodālāla dāsa	Bhaktivārdhana dāsa	Rādhā Kuṇḍa-devī dāśī
Vrajendra Kumāra dāsa	Tirtharāja dāsa	Goloka Vāsini-devī dāśī	Kāma Gāyatrī-devī dāśī
Kuṭīcaka dāsa	Tamāla Kārttika dāsa	Mohini Śakti-devī dāśī	Lalitāṅgi-devī dāśī
Mr. Bhartarya	Kailāsa Candra dāsa	Antaradhyanā-devī dāśī	Śrīmatī-devī dāśī
Dhīranāyaka dāsa	Daśaratha Suta dāsa	Manīṣā-devī dāśī	Yugala Pīṛīti-devī dāśī
Raghupati Prāṇa dāsa	Āśraya dāsa	Kṛṣṇa-devī dāśī	Nitāi-devī dāśī
Aniha dāsa	Kamala Nārāyaṇa dāsa	Raṅgavatī-devī dāśī	Śacīmātā-devī dāśī
Turiya dāsa	Brahmānandajī	Sārādi-devī dāśī	Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma TSKP
Nīlamaya dāsa	Anila dāsa	Viśālinī-devī dāśī	Śruti Sagara dāsa brahmacārī
Prabhāsa dāsa	Rajmal Janwasiya	Śaktimatī-devī dāśī	Dhanvantari dāsa brahmacārī
Jivadayā dāsa	Rkṣarāja dāsa	Śaradiya-devī dāśī	Kailāsa Candra dāsa brahmacārī
Jaya Govinda dāsa	Puruṣottama dāsa	Bhavatārini-devī dāśī	Paradheya dāsa brahmacārī
Sac-cid-ānanda dāsa	Rādhā Govinda dāsa	Neelam	Asita dāsa brahmacārī
Taruṇa Kṛṣṇa dāsa	Bhakta Nityānanda	Vṛndāvana Īśvari	Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma Communist
Jaya Gaurāṅga dāsa	Bhakta Jaya Rāma	Gokulānanda	Country Preaching Program
Viśāla dāsa	Bhakta Jaya Nārāyaṇa	Vrajarāṇī	Umāpati dāsa adbhikārī
Bhūmipati dāsa	Bhakta Sudarśana	Nipuṇa	Śrī Garbha dāsa adbhikārī
Vibhu Caitanya dāsa	Bhakta Vrajendra Kumāra	Amṛta	Kīrtirāja dāsa adbhikārī
Mathurādīna dāsa	Bhakta Śiva Mūrti	Sundararūpa dāsa adbhikārī	Ilāvati dāsa adbhikārī
Puṇḍarikānātha dāsa	Viṣṇudāsa	Rajendranandana	Sitā
Sundaramūrti dāsa	Rāmadāsa Abhirāma dāsa	Lakṣmīmaṇi-devī dāśī	





Srīla Prabhupāda, my dear and eternal Gurudeva, please accept my prostrated obeisances unto your lotus feet. At this time I would like to offer you my gratitude and respect. You have so kindly come, engaged in the Lord's mission, and picked me up out of a swamp of sinful activities and shown me the way to the clear and refreshing waters of devotional service. Only by Your Divine Grace have I been given this opportunity to salvage my useless life and make it into something valuable, something full of meaning. You are speaking the pure words of the Supreme Lord without personal interpretation, and thus you are empowered to change my life into one of submissive service unto Śrī Kṛṣṇa. You are my only connection with the Lord. Without you there would have been no possibility of my even knowing who Kṛṣṇa is, what to speak of being given the opportunity to become purified and offer intimate and pleasing service unto Him. Of course due to my many offenses, I am very far from the standard of pure devotional service. But because of your shining and perfect example, I know of it, and by your mercy, someday in this lifetime I hope to achieve your mercy. Please forgive me for being deaf and blind in my attempts to hear your instructions submissively and to see how you want me to act. It is due only to my lack of intelligence that I do not fully understand the absolute necessity of giving up my material attachments and becoming Kṛṣṇa conscious right now. If only I can realize that my eternal identity is that of being your surrendered servant, then the perfection of my life will be attained. I pray unto you, Śrīla Prabhupāda; please give me the desire to surrender my whole existence, my mind, my words, my deeds, and all that I possess, unto you for your satisfaction. I fall at your lotus feet trying to make a sincere attempt to please you by becoming Kṛṣṇa conscious. Please tolerate my offensive nature. Let me stay under your shelter and please don't kick me away.

Your insignificant servants,

Jagadīśa dāsa adbhikāri
 Ōmkāra Nātha Sharma
 Dhanurdhāra dāsa brahmacārī
 Smarāhari dāsa
 Pralambā dāsa brahmacārī
 Vakreśvara dāsa brahmacārī
 Kāliya Kṛṣṇa dāsa
 Ekendra dāsa brahmacārī
 Bhakta Vatsala dāsa brahmacārī

Dhīrodātta dāsa brahmacārī
 Kṛṣṇadāsa
 Dvārakādhiśa dāsa brahmacārī
 Mañihāra dāsa brahmacārī
 Mārkaṇḍeya dāsa brahmacārī
 Keśava dāsa
 Dhīroddhata dāsa
 Trivikrama dāsa
 Rajendranandana dāsa

Dvadevadāsa dāsa brahmacārī
 Kapiladeva dāsa brahmacārī
 Vṛndāvana dāsa brahmacārī
 Līlā-smaraṇa dāsa brahmacārī
 Deva deva dāsa brahmacārī
 Madana dāsa brahmacārī
 Katyāyana dāsa brahmacārī
 Raghunātha dāsa brahmacārī



Eight Prayers Glorifying the Spiritual Master

ŚRĪ~ŚRĪ~GURV~AṢṬAKA

by Śrīla Viśvanātha Cakravartī Ṭhākura

*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.”





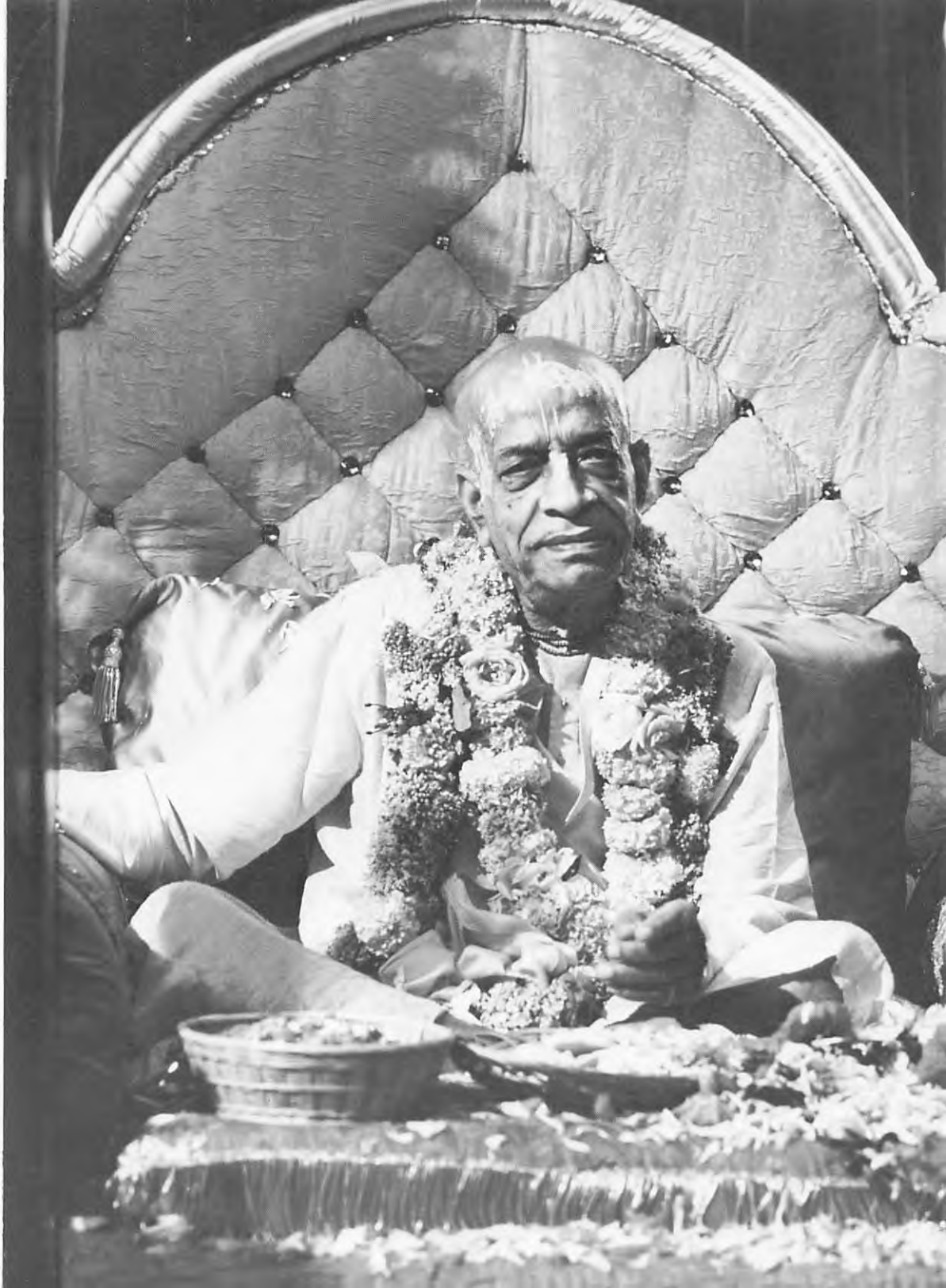
*mahāprabhoḥ kīrtana-nṛtya-gīta-
vāditra-mādyan-manaso rasena
romāñca-kampāśru-taraṅga-bhājo
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

“Chanting the Holy Name, dancing in ecstasy, singing, and playing musical instruments, the spiritual master is always gladdened by the *saṅkīrtana* 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.”

*śrī-vigrahārādhana-nitya-nānā-
śṛṅgāra-tan-mandira-mārjanādaḥ
yuktasya bhaktāṁś ca niyuñjato 'pi
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

“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.”





*catur-vidha-śrī-bhagavat-prasāda-
svādv-anna-trptān hari-bhakta-saṅghān
kṛtvaiva trptim bhajataḥ sadaiva
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

“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.”

*śrī-rādhikā-mādhavayor apāra-
mādhurya-līlā-guṇa-rūpa-nāmnām
pratikṣaṇāsvādana-lolupasya
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

“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.”





*nikuñja-yūno rati-keli-siddhyai
yā yālibhir yuktir apekṣaṇīyā
tatrāti-dākṣyād ati-vallabhasya
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

“The spiritual master is very dear because he is expert in assisting the *gopīs*, 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.”

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

“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].”





*yasya prasādād bhagavat-prasādo
yasyāprasādān na gatiḥ kuto 'pi
dhyāyaṁ stuvaṁs tasya yaśas tri-sandhyaṁ
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam*

“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.”

