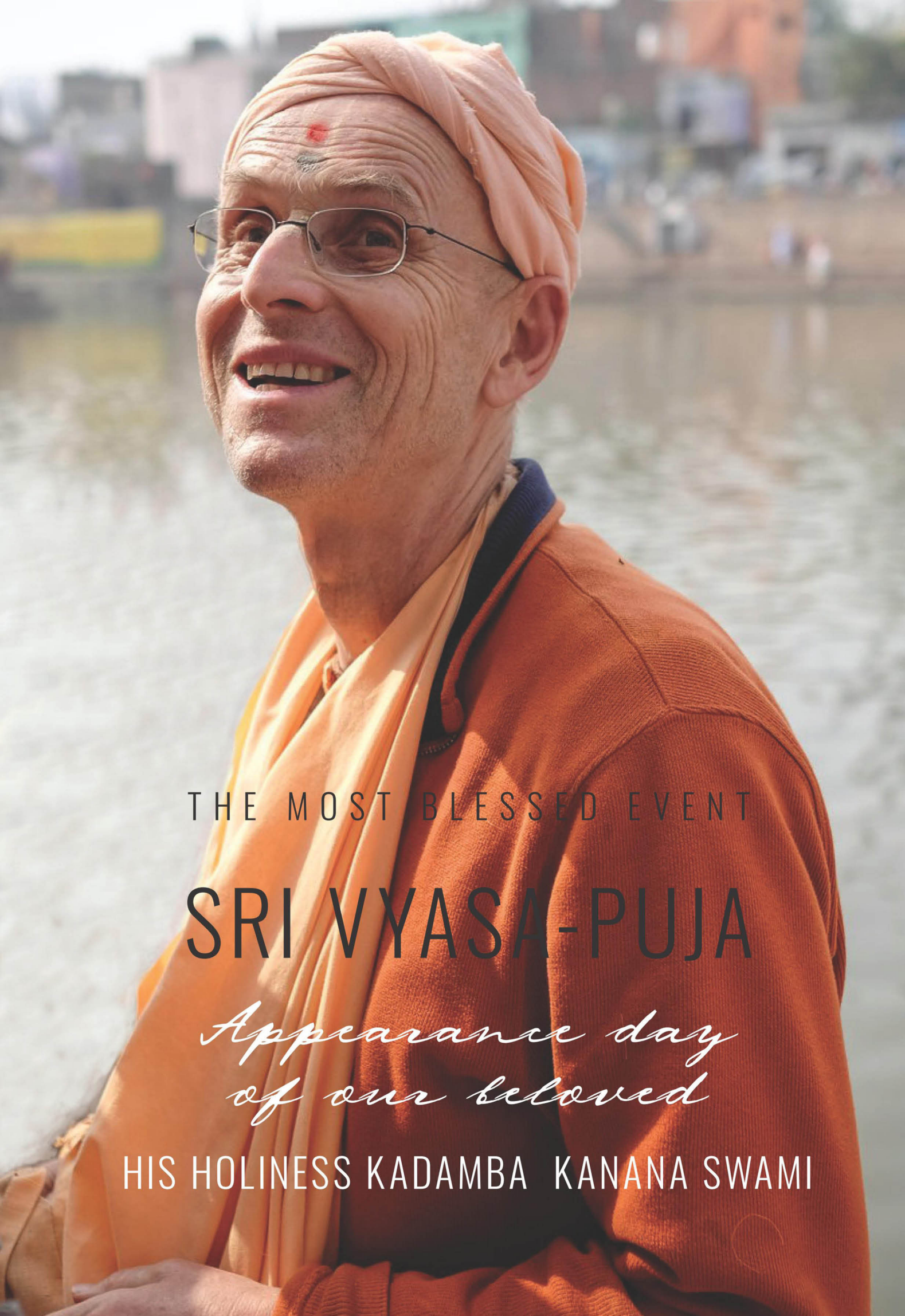




THE MOST BLESSED EVENT

SRI VYASA-PUJA

*Appearance day
of our beloved*

HIS HOLINESS KADAMBA KANANA SWAMI

SRI VYASA-PUJA

APPEARANCE DAY OF OUR BELOVED
SPIRITUAL MASTER HIS HOLINESS
KADAMBA KANANA SWAMI

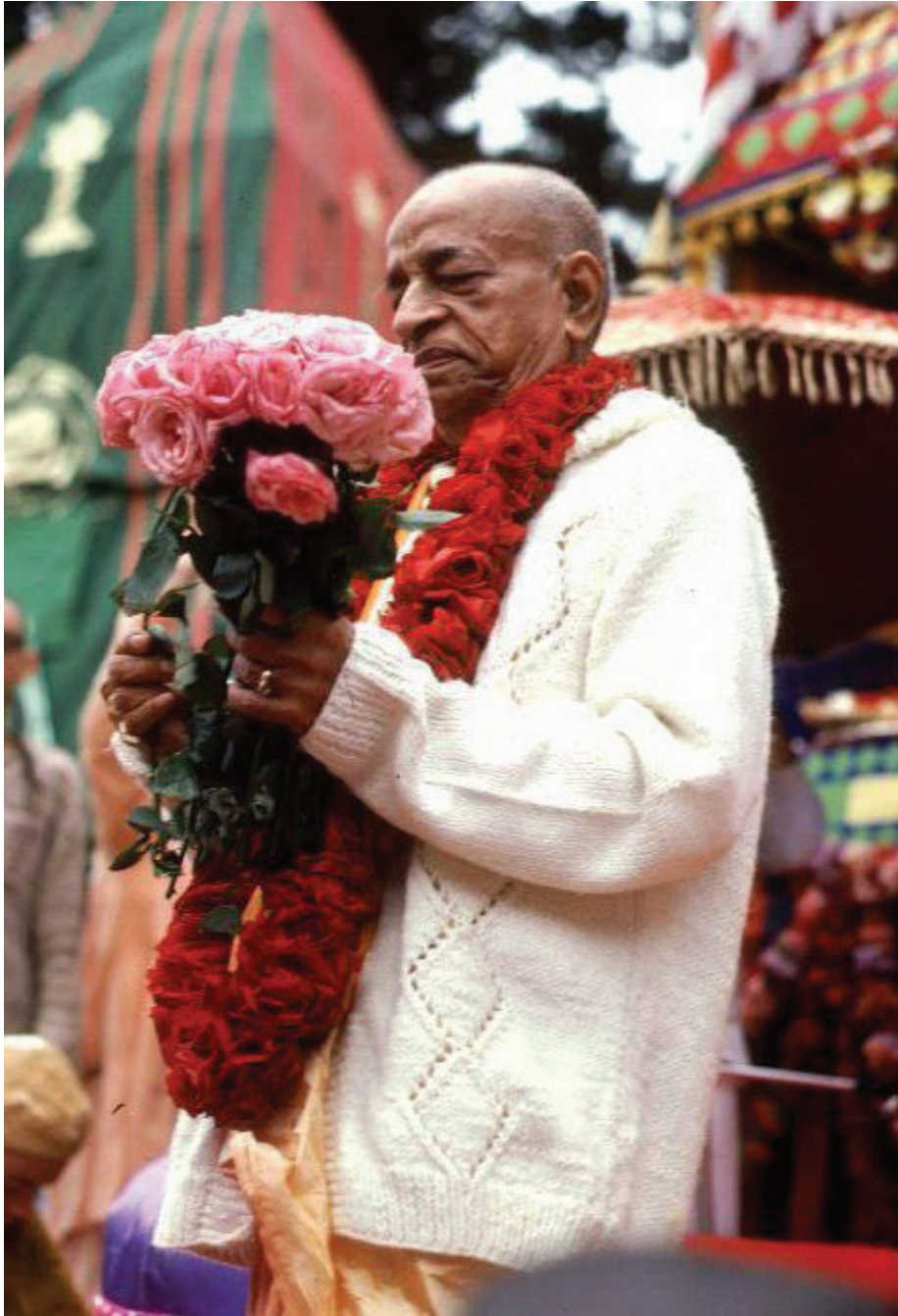
APRIL 2019

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HIS DIVINE GRACE A.C. BHAKTIVEDANTA SWAMI
PRABHUPĀDA, FOUNDER-ĀCĀRYA OF THE INTERNATIONAL
SOCIETY FOR KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS

ASSOCIATE OF SRIMATI RADHARANI AND REPRESENTATION OF SRILA NITYANANDA PRABHU

The real Vedic philosophy is acintya-bhedabheda-tattva, which establishes everything to be simultaneously one with and different from the Personality of Godhead. Srila Raghunatha dasa Gosvami confirms that this is the real position of a bona fide spiritual master and says that one should always think of the spiritual master in terms of his intimate relationship with Mukunda (Sri Krishna). Srila Jiva Gosvami, in his *Bhakti-sandarbha* (213), has clearly explained that a pure devotee's observation of the spiritual master and Lord Siva as being one with the Personality of Godhead exists in terms of their being very dear to the Lord, not identical with Him in all respects. Following in the footsteps of Srila Raghunatha dasa Gosvami and Srila Jiva Gosvami, later acaryas like Srila Vishvanatha Cakravarti thakura have confirmed the same truths. In his prayers to the spiritual master, Srila Vishvanatha Cakravarti thakura confirms that all the revealed scriptures accept the spiritual master to be identical with the Personality of Godhead because he is a very dear and confidential servant of the Lord. Gaudiya Vaisnavas therefore worship Srila Gurudeva (the spiritual master) in the light of his being the servitor of the Personality of Godhead. In all the ancient literatures of devotional service and in the more recent songs of Srila Vishvanatha Cakravarti thakura, Srila Bhaktivinoda thakura and other unalloyed Vaisnavas, the spiritual master is always considered either one of the confidential associates of Srimati Radharani or a manifested representation of Srila Nityananda Prabhu.

Sri caitanya-caritamrta Adi-lila 1.46

SIGNIFICANCE OF SRI VYASA-PUJA

BY ADI KESAVA DAS

There is a secret to understanding Vedic knowledge:

yasya deve para bhaktir
yatha deve tatha gurau
tasyaite kathita hy arthah
prakasante mahatmanah

“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.” [SU 6.23]

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

As the empowered literary incarnation of Godhead, Vyasa compiled all the Vedas, Puranas, Upanisads, and Mahabharata on the instructions of Narada, his spiritual master. Narada learned the Vedic wisdom from Brahma, who originally received it from the Supreme Lord Vishnu in his heart. The same transcendental knowledge comes in parampara, the unbroken chain of disciplic succession, from Vyasa through Madhva and others to Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu.

During the past century, Lord Caitanya’s pure representatives Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura and Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura planted the seeds of a movement to spread the maha-mantra all over the world. Those seeds have fructified in the form of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. Srila Prabhupada has further planted seeds which have fructified

in the form of his disciples who are helping him spread the Holy Names all over the world and they his disciples are planting seeds to further the mission.

H.H Jayadvaita Swami is one of the ripened fruits of Srila Prabhupada and our spiritual master H.H Kadamba Kanana Swami is the ripened fruit of the mercy of H.H Jayadvaita Swami. This makes our Guru Maharaj most worthy of worship as he is an authentic representative of our parampara and Śrila Vyasadeva. On this holy occasion of Vyasa Puja we your disciples are most blessed and fortunate to make our offerings and worship you.



A SPECIAL REQUEST

When we are in the presence of the spiritual master there are two aspects. One is what we offer to the spiritual master and the other is what we receive from the spiritual master. We are very much on the receiving end but after the disappearance of the spiritual master, then the crux of our relationship is what we offer to the spiritual master because it is there that we are again strongly reconnecting and we can feel that connection coming to life.

My appeal to you is to please carry on in this mission of spreading Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Assist me in this movement, creating space for individuals to be human and express a human nature and keep loyal to spiritual principles. Assist me whether I'm here or not and if you do that then I will be there.

Let us go back to Godhead this life-time. That is the idea. For those who are strong by nature, please carry others. For those who are weak by nature, please take shelter of others. Somehow help collectively. No one is strong all the time but some are stronger by nature and they are meant to lead and others to follow. So whatever it is, we are all taking our roles. I was given this role of spiritual leadership by my spiritual master and I am trying to embrace it and make that my life. You all have your part to play. Please realize what amazing precious opportunities are being delivered through this disciplic succession. Let us do it all the way. Let's not become distracted by the petty little things of this world.

Kadamba Kanana Swami, Guru and Disciple: Awakening Spiritual Vision

ACYUTA GOTRA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

My dear father and well-wisher,

Today marks your auspicious appearance day, and I pray ever seekingly for your mercy. In the scripture writes the qualities of a spiritual master:

1) He should feel affection for his disciples - not only are you showing me affection, but more than affection for an undeserving son.

2) He should always be anxious for the welfare of all living beings - your mercy by your association with lot of people in spreading the holy name has also captured me through your dear most disciple, Rukmini.

3) He should have deep faith in the Lord - name your deep faith in Sri Giriraj, has showed me the blessing of how to approach the Lord, with a mood of service and love.

4) He should be peaceful, fully satisfied in activities of devotional service - your mood of service and peaceful when chanting the holy name has immense power that has conquered me.

I may not be the best of disciples, but I know I have the best of fathers in my life. May you continue to spread your shining glance over to this lowly aspiring disciple. I can allow my mind to go as far, but the glories of the spiritual master are unlimited. The mercy he gives, blessings and affection, not only to disciples but to the society for the benefit of their consciousness. By the chanting of the holy name.

May you kindly bless me with intelligence to serve better every day and be a good aspiring disciple.

Your ever indebted son,

Acyuta Gotra Dasa

ADAM BUDAY

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisance. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to you on this auspicious day of your Vyasa-puja.

mūkaṁ karoti vācālaṁ
paṅguṁ laṅghayate girim
yat-krpā tam ahaṁ vande
paramānanda-mādhavam

(CC Madhya 17.80)

“The Supreme Personality of Godhead has the form of sac-cid-ānanda-vigraha — transcendental bliss, knowledge and eternity. I offer my respectful obeisances unto Him, who turns the dumb into eloquent speakers and enables the lame to cross mountains. Such is the mercy of the Lord.”

By material calculation I am a fool, but still I receive this great gift of having your presence in my life. By your mercy only I am able to revive this dormant Kṛṣṇa consciousness. So please give me strength to continue and follow in the footsteps of guru-parampara.

Your aspiring servant,

Adam

ADIKARTA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya kṛṣṇa-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya kṛṣṇa-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya kṛṣṇa-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Lieber Guru Maharaja,

Nehmen Sie bitte meine, im Staub Ihres Lotusfüßens, achtungsvollen Ehrerbietungen an.

Alle Ehre sei an Ihrer Heiligkeit.

Alle Ehre sei an Sri Gauranga.

Alle Ehre sei an Ihrem Guru Maharaja His Holiness Srila Guru Dasa Jayadvaita Swami.

Alle Ehre sei an Srila Prabhupada.

Dank Ihrer Grundlosen Barmherzigkeit, der Barmherzigkeit meines echten Spirituellen Meisters Srila Guru Maharaja Kadamba Kanana Swami, darf Ich jetzt wieder erneut ein paar Zeilen als Offering für Ihnen zu schreiben, denn es tretet schon die Zeit Ihrer Vyasa-puja bald ein.

Diese äußerst glückverheißende Begebenheit ist im Grunde ein Feiertag für das ganze Weltall. Vor allem möchte Ich Ihnen, bei der Gelegenheit des Offerings, seit einiger Zeit äußerst dringend, die beste mögliche Gesundheit wünschen. Ihre Gesundheit bleibt dauerhaft immer weiter, unter anderem, eine der Hauptsachen. In der ersten Reihe selbstverständlich für Sie Selbst. Weiteraus gesehen aber, zusammen mit Ihren Schüller, auch für die meisten anderen Lebewesen des Weltalls. So ist die Anwesenheit eines reinen Geweihten, eines echten Spirituellen Meisters, unter der Gesellschaft der Menschheit wertvoll.

Sie Sind und bleiben ein Nektarozean der Grundlosen Barmherzigkeit, die von der Krsna stammt, trotzdem sie für die meisten Lebewesen verhüllt bleibt. Im Schatten Ihres Lotusfüßens finden viele Prabhus die transzendente Zuflucht. Sie Sind und bleiben ununterbrochen äußerst günstig zu allen Lebewesen. Als echter spiritueller Meister machen Sie ein jedem, der mit Ihnen in die Gesellschaft auch nur für eine kurze Zeit zusammengeführt wird, allmählich die Augen auf. Ein jedes Lebewesen, das solchen Glückstand erreicht hat, kann so durch das nachfolgen Ihrer transzendentalen Anweisungen, Anweisungen des echten Spirituellen Meisters, sogar ihres Bewusstsein Gottes erwecken. Alle offenbarten Schriften erklären, dass dank eines bloßen Augenblicks in der Gesellschaft des reinen geweihten, ist es dem Menschen möglich den allen Erfolg zu erreichen. So sehr ist, unter anderem, für das ganze Weltall, einschließlich auch mit dieser Erde zusammen, die Anwesenheit eines echten Spirituellen Meisters bedeutend. Man kann diese Tatsache kaum genügend zum Ausdruck bringen. Ein echter spiritueller Meister ist demselben Verehren wert sowie Krsna, denn in seinem Verhalten sich, findet man keine anderen Taten als den liebevollen Dienst dem Herrn.

Mit Dankbarkeit und demütig, möchte Ich Ihre Lotusfüße, die Lotusfüße meines Spirituellen Meisters, Srila Guru Maharaja Kadamba Kanana Swami, ununterbrochen verehren und auch daher neige ich mich vor Ihnen stets erneut und bringe Ihnen, mit dem herzlichen Glückwunsch, meine achtungsvolle Ehrerbietungen dar.

Ihr ewiger Schuldner und unansehnlicher Schüller,
Adikarta Dasa

ADITYA DEVI DASI

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

The time of year has come once again where we endeavour to offer you our sincere gratitude for all that you have given us, this year however, I feel that we have all been given the opportunity to give back to you. To offer some of our time and energy to help you with your new project, to uplift, restore and progress with ISKCON New York.

I am writing this offering from the ISKCON Kumbh Mela camp, this year held in Prayag where the Ganga and Yamuna meet. As I daily bathe nearby the sangam, where the two rivers rush to join one another, similarly I am reminded of sadhana and service that is given to us from you the spiritual master, and that which cleanses and purifies us. The importance of accepting an initiating spiritual master is compared to the flowing of the Ganges by Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur;

“As I sit on the bank of the Ganges in Navadvip, far from the Himalayas where the Ganges originates, and am able to touch her water here, the initiating spiritual master similarly brings the Ganges of pure devotional service, which emanates from the Lord’s lotus feet, and places it in my hand and on my head.”

And it is by bringing that devotional service to all, that your compassion lifts us up and gives us the opportunity to come into contact with the chain of disciplic succession. You travel the world in your mission to connect those who are searching for the truth to the path of bhakti, removing lifetimes of trial and error you align us with Sanatana Dharma.

“If the flow of the Ganges did not come to me, then, because I am an ordinary, powerless person, I would not have been able to climb the Himalayas to touch her water. Or if the flow of the Ganges from the Himalayas was interrupted on the way, I would have had to face the danger of accepting a polluted flow instead of the pure Ganga.”

As you know I am fortunate enough to have been able to travel to the Himalayas and in doing so I have returned with a deeper sense of gratitude and understanding for what our Founder Acarya Srila Prabhupada has given to the world, by pushing the waves of Sri Caitanya Ma-

haprabhu's mercy far beyond Indian shores. He took the words of his Gurudeva into his heart, and after many years of meditation fulfilled his desire to spread Krsna consciousness to the West.

Receiving the news of your new project whilst in Vrindavan dham has inspired me to follow in the footsteps of the great acaryas, and join together with other devotees to create a renaissance of Srila Prabhupada's mission in New York.

As we find ways to serve you in your mission we grow and begin to fulfil our guru daksine to you, and simultaneously we, ourselves begin to evolve into spiritual leaders developing our devotional service and relationships with others, and endeavouring to inspire others with our actions and attempts of selfless service.

Your servant,
Aditya Devi Dasi

ADVAITA SIMHA DASA

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you Guru Maharaja.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

yasya prasada bhagavat-prasado
yasyaprasadan na gatih kuto pi
dhyayan stuvams tasya yashas tri-sandhyam
vande guroh sri-cara naravindam

Hare Krsna Dear Guru Maharaja,

Right now I am sitting on the banks of mother Ganga and meditate about your divine qualities and instructions in Sri Mayapur Dham. I remember four years ago during Gaura Purnima festival here in Mayapur there was this Sanyasi shoe stand and in my enthusiasm I touched all the shoes and smeared the dust on my head. Suddenly you were standing behind me and took the shoes I just touched a moment before. I did not know if you were in Mayapur already at this time

I asked you if it is okay to take a bath in Radha-kund and you wanted to know why I wanted to bath inside there. You told me first I need to have a relationship with Radharani and the

only way to understand the divine couple is through Caitanya Mahaprabhu.

From the shoe stand we could see Panca-tattva and you pointed out to them and instructed me to first read as many literatures about Mahaprabhu as possible to get to know his mood more and more. And maybe in future I can think about it again but now I am not ready to enter Radha-kund and instead I should take three drops of Radha-kund on my head – it has the same benefit.

Actually from this day my spiritual life changed because suddenly I added Mahaprabhu to my life and start reading '*Navadvipa Dham Mahatmya*,' the compiled version of '*Caitanya Bhagavata*,' and then the '*Caitanya Caritamrta*.' I attended the Navadvipa parikrama and after that my relationship to Lord Gauranga increased. I got very attached to the deities here in the dham and my taste for chanting and dancing developed more. Now I am almost every day here at the Ganga and study the '*Caitanya Caritamrta*,' and I hope one day I can really relish and understand who is Mahaprabhu and become his true servant in his transcendental sankirtan mission.

I think to understand Mahaprabhu means to understand you as a represent of Lord Nityananda Prabhu the Adi Guru who is none different from Lord Caitanya. I humble beg you for your mercy to serve your divine lotus feet and one day I can be your assistance in the eternal Lila of Gaurahari.

Jay Nitai Gaura premanande Haribol.

Your ever aspiring servant,
Advaita Simha Dasa

ANAMIKA BHATT

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

One of the most important and significant hours of my life, Maharaja, came about in New Mayapur, back in August 2018. It was then that I had the chance to speak to you at length. Before then, we had spoken fleetingly in various places over the last two years. During that meeting, I realised what is meant when it is said that guru means heavy.

As I was talking to you about my background and some painful choices I had recently made, I felt your solidity. You were so grounded, like a rock. You spoke to me in such a matter-of-fact, down-to-earth manner, and I realised that you were applying sastric knowledge to my individual circumstances in a way that was meaningful for me, in a way that made sense to me. I may or may not ever get the opportunity to speak to you like this again (I hope I do!) but knowing that I have this kind of powerful and benevolent force behind me encourages me to do more to make my life a little more settled, more favourable to practise Krsna consciousness in a better way. I know that vani is better than vapu but I aim to do my utmost to be in your association as much as possible. You also asked me to connect with you more.

When I asked you how I might fulfil your vision, you again gave me something practical. You said that this is a period of re-stabilisation, and that is what I must focus on for now. You are sublime at seeing where people are, knowing what they are currently capable of and seeing their potential. I hope that I eventually come to a position where I can become more fixed up for you to truly put me in your service.

You have always been inspiring to me. I watched a video of you recently, carrying out the orders of your own spiritual master, our spiritual grandfather, Jayadvaita Swami Maharaja. You were so jolly and in your element doing such important service in New York. I know that I get bogged down in details and minutiae when I am performing a service, and often lose sight of why I am doing it. I hope I always have your example to learn from.

In New Mayapur, I had the very strong realisation that I had chosen exactly the right spiritual master. I was not looking for this confirmation (you were always the one as far as I was concerned), but I received it just the same. Your manner, the words you use to motivate and guide us, always hits the spot. I cannot put into words how grateful I am to be in your association, except to say Thank You. I hope I can become the kind of person who might be useful to you. I will dedicate my life to doing so.

Your servant,
Anamika

ANAND GOPAL RAMJEE

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Hare Krsna Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Maharaja, I have watched you on my laptop or mobile screen since nearly two years. I met you, talked to you since some five months now. Still, I have a very deep and strong feeling for you. Each time I think of you, or when I watch your videos, lectures, kirtans (or when I just see your photo) I have this deep feeling, as if I have always known you. As if we have been extremely close and as if you were the closest person to me.

I feel as if you are my father, but not like a normal father; I mean, not his kind of father who is the father of this body, but the father of my soul, my spiritual father. Not this father who drives us in the material platform, who cares that we do things right, that we study well and so on, no. But the kind of father who drives the soul to the only one point, to the Supreme Being. I can feel that you are always seeing or feeling what I am doing. I feel the sense of begging to you for forgiveness, while I do something wrong. Like if I miss my sixteen rounds, or if my mind slips in a passion mode for one minute, or if I act in anger for a while.

I sincerely feel that you really are the representative of Lord Krsna, who does not live here on earth with us, so he has sent you dear Maharaja, to guide me, as if you are the one to whom I (the soul) must report to. The feeling is so deep and pure that I, being so fallen and impure, cannot understand or explain this. Please forgive me dear Maharaja.

The day that you held my hand on the doorsteps of Sri Sri Radha Golokananda temple at Phoenix, Mauritius and told me: "Stay with me, never leave me," Is the day that I will never forget; I shivered when you told me this. I hereby promise you dear Maharaja that I shall never leave you, whatever happens. This year, I shall be my first year for your Vyasa-puja and am eager to discover how this will go on.

I am very happy to have you as my Guru Maharaja and am waiting for the day that you will give me your Guru mantra, to enable me come a step closer to you. I have set the target for my initiation next year.

That is it Maharaja, sorry, I think I wrote too much as usual, for when I start writing, I cannot stop. I thank you for your time Maharaja. Please take care of yourself, as you are very dear to me.

Please accept my humble obeisances dear Maharaja.

Your humble servant and disciple,
Anand

ANASUYA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet again and again. All glories to you. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

A very happy appearance day to you.

Once I communicated to you my desire to read Sri Caitanya Caritamrta before completing Srimad Bhagavatam, as was the practice. You told me with a merciful smile that I could “peek” into it before my time. Similarly, your presence, Guru Maharaja, is an endless “peek” into the spiritual world, into the world of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu and Radha and Krsna. What I would do to have the eyes to see it all?

Thank you for taking me along on this path Guru Maharaja. It is no small feat to take one, let alone many, and your mercy seems to be forever increasing.

Once you were feeding me with a spoon, then you were holding my hand and now you are walking ahead, beckoning me to follow. Always you are there. The ocean of maya continues to roar. You are never fazed Guru Maharaja.

“From devotional service to Lord Krsna all good things will come”. The material world is no joke.

Similarly, the opportunity to engage in devotional service is a once-in-I-do not-know-how-many-lifetimes blessing and even more so is being able to serve you Guru Maharaja. Material issues can be harrowing and practicing spiritual life can seem, with misplaced consciousness, a real austerity, yet you manage always to have us laugh, cry and sing amidst it all. Underneath that you give out freely big pearls of wisdom that strike one silent with their seriousness.

Thank you for taking me on this spiritual adventure Guru Maharaja, propelled by the nectar of the holy name and covered with the dust of the dhama.

May I be worthy of taking the dust from your lotus feet, that dust from the spiritual world.

More than that, may I properly serve you. Happy appearance day Guru Maharaja!

Your disciple and spiritual daughter,

Anasuya Devi Dasi

ANTARDVIP DASA

Hare Krsna Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Please let me wish you all the best at the opportunity of your appearance day. I pray that Krsna provides you with good health and lot of strength to perform all your preaching and projects which any other person I know could never do. It is said that the disciple should not consider his Guru to be an ordinary human being. Besides other things, just the mere look at the range of your activities and your tireless effort, austerity, enthusiasm and drive cannot leave anyone in doubt that you are not ordinary. You are a pure devotee of Krsna and one can clearly see that it is him who empowers you to do all these things.

It seems time runs faster and faster. In recent years I have started to feel like that just as I wrote your Vyasa-puja offering few weeks ago but then suddenly there is already time to write a new one. As you said, in the second half of life it goes super-fast. Still the illusion of the material energy makes us feel that there is lot of time ahead and need to do anything and everything else but absorbing ourselves in pure devotional service.

It is really amazing how the covering potency of maya works. I hear the truth in the lectures, I read about it in books, I see that my body is getting old. But even when Yamaraj starts sending his reminders in the form of grey hair, wrinkles and various problems with the aging body, still I somehow resist surrendering completely and taking it all more seriously.

My sadhana is truly not the best. I am lazy and slow. I do not have any special qualifications. Lust still pushes me to try to find something to enjoy in this world. As you said, I am a dreamer, and somehow I am refusing to wake up. You know all this about me and you see all my weaknesses. Still you mercifully accept me and any little service I do. I am not the best disciple but you do not condemn me for my shortcomings but give me your mercy instead.

Thank you for everything dear Guru Maharaja. Thank you for dragging me out of my comfort zone and for tolerating me although I know it is not always easy for you.

You servant,

Antardvip Dasa

APARNA SHARMA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna Guru Maharaja,

Dandavat Pranam.

First of all, thank you so much for giving us the shelter on 30th November, 2018 in Damodardesh. I cannot explain what I have got, and the amount of bliss I feel in my heart since the day you have accepted this conditioned soul.

I had to be away from my material father after my marriage, but you are my/that father who is constantly with me not only in this lifetime, but life after life also. I pray Krsna for your good health and long life so that numerous more souls also get the opportunity to serve the mission of Srila Prabhupada.

Please accept my 'manasa' paad-sevaya and bless me to serve you through manasa-vachakarma.

Your fallen daughter,

Aparna Sharma

ARUNDHATI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

You are an ocean of mercy, who even though I have no special qualification, rescued me from the ocean of material distress by accepting me as your disciple. What I would have done if you would not have accepted me as your disciple is unthinkable for me. You initiated me ten years back in Berlin on 13 January 2009, in front of Lord Jagannatha, Lord Baladev and Srimati Subhadra. So this is a proper time for me to reflect on what has happen the last ten years of my life in Krsna consciousness.

I got more stabilized in my ashrama as I got married to Istvan and we now have a small daughter, Vaishnavi who is two years old. My service changed from being a full time devotee living in temple to being a full time devotee living outside and serving in the management in Govindas Goëborg, Sweden, and bringing up our little daughter in Krsna consciousness. Since seven years my husband and myself are in charge of Govindas Goteborg and there is always a good opportunity to be excited for keeping the restaurant going. It is a full time service but now I have a little daughter who is also a fulltime personality. There are no better words to describe the situation.

Taking part in temple program lectures is not an option anymore with our daughter Vaishnavi. This initially made me feel somewhat frustrated but with the precious blessings of yourself and the Lord I could change this situation in a very inspiring service for our congregation. For the regular temple programs on Friday and Sunday I offer children's program. We sing, do handcraft, have little theatre plays, listen to stories of Krsna and Lord Caitanya- according to

the upcoming vaishnav festivals. The other parents are supportive and more families are joining our yatra. This is a big blessing, thank you.

I hope you are pleased with my endeavour to support Srila Prabhupada's mission in the little way I can do.

I would like to meet you more often and see you in real life again soon.

Your servant and disciple,
Arundhati Devi Dasi

ATULYA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

My Dearest Guru Maharaja,

My greatest well-wisher, friend, beloved master, and the illumination that keeps me from wandering off into the darkness of which I was born. Please accept my most humble obeisances and this little offering of my most heartfelt thanks.

The path of devotional service that leads us back home is well traversed by many great souls before us and glows so brightly with the golden footprints of Sri Caitanya Maha Prabhu. This path is laden with beautiful touchstones and the precious jewels of Hari Nama Sankirtan and vaishnava sanga. It is most enchanting and is the true joy in which we seek.

Like a child, I see this effulgence and I want to grasp its shininess with both my hands and grasp it so tight that I can never let it go. Yet in my immaturity I know that I still do not understand it, become often bewildered by it and even at times become afraid or somewhat indifferent to it. Sitting here at Hare Krishna Valley, in one of Lord Caitanya's outback posts,

with simply forests, a herd of cows and only four other devotees in my company, I often pray to Giriraja “Could I actually stay on this path and reach it’s glorious destination? Will I actually do this? You though Guru Maharaja, have dedicated yourself to closely and carefully following the magnificent footprints of Srila Prabhupada. As we travel along in what you describe to me as the travelling caravan, and have traversed this path of devotional service, along the way gathering the touchstones and precious jewels with both hands.

You are now so fixed to this path that you can freely dance along it, coming back and forward to collect and give faith to those like me while lovingly handing over the jewels of the holy name, vaisnava sanga and Srila Prabhupada’s instruction. These exchanges give us, your followers, the determination, support and confidence to keep moving forward along the path. “Yes, with your guidance and mercy, maybe I could actually do this, maybe I will reach its glorious destination.”

I know that the path of devotional service is not a straight forward expressway, but a beautiful winding path with many hooks, turns and crossroads that require careful attention and consideration, and if it were not for you and your merciful guidance, I would be lost.

I am far from truly understanding you, your position, and the greatness you have obtained from your love for Krsna and your service to his instructions and mellows. I do understand however, that love for Krsna comes through Rupanuga vaishnavas such as yourself, and therefore with my lack of deep understanding, but much love, gratitude and commitment to your instructions. I humbly take the position before you and pray as Srila Bhaktivinode Thakur has prayed in Saranagati - “Krsna belongs to you. You have the power to give me Krsna! I am nothing more than a beggar running behind you, calling out his names, ‘Krsna! Krsna!’”

Being the beggar I am I am not empowered with the beauty of poetry or qualification to glorify you as you deserve. My limited understanding of the depth of your true character leaves me struggling to find the way to appropriately express your glories. Therefore I have taken the shelter of Srinivasa Acarya and meditated on the first verse of the Sri Sri Sad Goswami Astaka as my guide.

Like the six goswamis you are always engaged in chanting the holy name of Krsna and this chanting gives so many of us inspiration. Your kirtans often envelope me and sweep me up in the mood of Vrindavan and take my mind and meditations so easily to the groves along the bank of the Yamuna. I cannot comprehend the depth of love that flows with each recitation of the maha mantra. But I do see its effects on the conditioned souls like myself who hear it and often melt and flow in its soul soothing waves of nectarian bliss.

The joy you display in kirtan and harinama makes the heart open up and sing from its very depths. Especially when your mellows turn to dance and so lightly and freely you twirl, wave and glide, while always looking around and ensuring the rest of us are caught up in your mel-

low too. This is what I see as a beautiful example of no envy. The mellow you enter into during your kirtans; you do not keep for yourself. You share them; you distribute them lovingly to all who can hear them. This lack of envy must be why you are also so pleasing to people when you communicate with them on a personal level. I see you are popular with people from all walks of life, including the gentle and ruffians alike. I see you expertly communicate with each one of them in a way they personally connect with and relate to.

You make people feel they have your full attention and there is no envy or judgement. This is how I have always felt in our relationship. You have guided me and supported me without feeling like you are judging me. A most appreciated treasure I have felt, as I am somewhat stubborn, independent and rebellious by nature, and my situation hasn't always been a conventional one, but with your mercy, here I am today, still happily on the path of devotional service.

You also demonstrate a selfless dedication in your devotional service by taking on challenging projects and other missionary activities all for the deliverance of the conditioned souls in this material universe. I know when I struggle with the challenges of serving in a very small farming community, extending myself in the cultivation of others or dealing with the delicate nature of my child protection service, and I feel like the challenge is too heavy to bear. I think of you and the discussions we have had in regards to your own challenging services over the years, or the generous support you have shown me in my services, and your words and actions give me the determination to keep pushing forward with enthusiasm. I mean, who am I to complain, I've never had to deal with a biting camel!

As a result of your services, determination and the qualities I have only began to glorify, it is without a doubt you are fully blessed by Lord Caitanya and his associates, and because of who you are, these blessings you so freely share with others. A beautiful and inspiring example of devotion you show. As a benefactor of these blessings you share. I thank you with all my heart. All glories to you my beloved Guru Maharaja. You are an ocean of mercy and master of the devotional path. Please look upon me as the beggar I am, and bless me so that I may always be with the association of cows and blissfully assisting you eternally in the shadow of Giri Govardhana and groves of Goloka Vrindavan.

Your aspiring servant,
Atulya Devi Dasi

BAHULASVA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

It seems like I began to really appreciate the value of the maha mantra. Underlying expectations for what it can bring in fortune is described in so many ways in the scriptures. So we do not have mistrust as long we have faith in them. But still we struggle with our own life in practicing Krsna consciousness.

In our darkest or weakest moment we might think that: "I am sure it will work, but will it never work for me". I am a special worthless person. I was not even especially attracted to the lifestyle of a devotee. But I could understand there was a lot of common sense in the Bhagavad-gita and the other Vedic scriptures. Especially they forwarded the essential problems with all the suffering in the material life, and the solutions to it which in this age is very much centered around the chanting of the holy names.

This also confirms actually in every bon-a-fide religion. So it is a very non-sectarian process, who would not agree. But coming to our own practice, we have to face so many reluctances to chant these holy names. The mind wants everything but chanting, so we do it as a duty, as to 'wow' our spiritual master. Not much of a progress, but chanting and making it a habit. We do not like to get up from bed also, especially in the winter in Sweden. But we do, take a shower and brush our teeth. It feels a little better after doing so. Same with mantra, it feels a little better after doing it. With time I become to appreciate it more. It gives me strength and intelligence to restrain from many useless activities.

Now I see how it is the very helping hand in the spiritual path for when you take to the beads, you take the hands of Radha and Krsna who are empowered in the maha mantra. When we feel we walk in darkness, or stumbling on our attempt to practice Krsna consciousness, then we really need the mantra to hold onto very hard. When we feel we are slipping, falling, then take to the hand of Radha and Krsna, and they will lift you up again. Never giving up on us, even if we feel of giving up. But do not leave the hands of Radha and Krsna, Hare Krsna, because then it is difficult for them to carry us.

Sometimes our spiritual master has to remind us, and give us all the reason why we should continue this good habit of chanting. We also need good inspiration for doing so, and it comes from association with devotees, and from all the narratives with Krsna and his dealings with his devotees in scriptures.

In this world there is too much suffering, too much darkness, and we are so small and have no power. You might be depressed from that. Yes we are small, tiny parts, but Krsna is great and his power is unlimited as well as his mercy. So we try to be a carrier of that mercy in our own capacity. By doing so the lights come on, by sharing Krsna consciousness to others.

We depend on Krsna, and we depend on Guru. We should just stay in the association of the devotees and try to serve them. That is the only way we can find shelter in this world. Thank you Maharaja for your patience with this fallen soul.

All glories to Guru and Gauranga.

Your servant,
Bahulasva Dasa

BALARAM DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

I am really happy to say, that next year is gone and I am still here. It is due to your mercy. Thank you for your support which you are providing me through emails. Last year you sent me at least six emails. I am really grateful for it, because it repeatedly restored my faith and strength. I will distribute prasadam as long as possible, even at a cost of many trouble connected with this service.

Hare Krsna.

Your disciple,
Balaram Dasa

BALI MARDANA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

The year has passed so quickly. I currently listen to your classes on you tube daily and I also follow you on the blog. I always feel your presence through the classes and kirtan. I have had some dreams over the last couple of months and you have been in many of my dreams. I have noticed that you are very caring with devotees. My life has totally transformed when you entered into it.

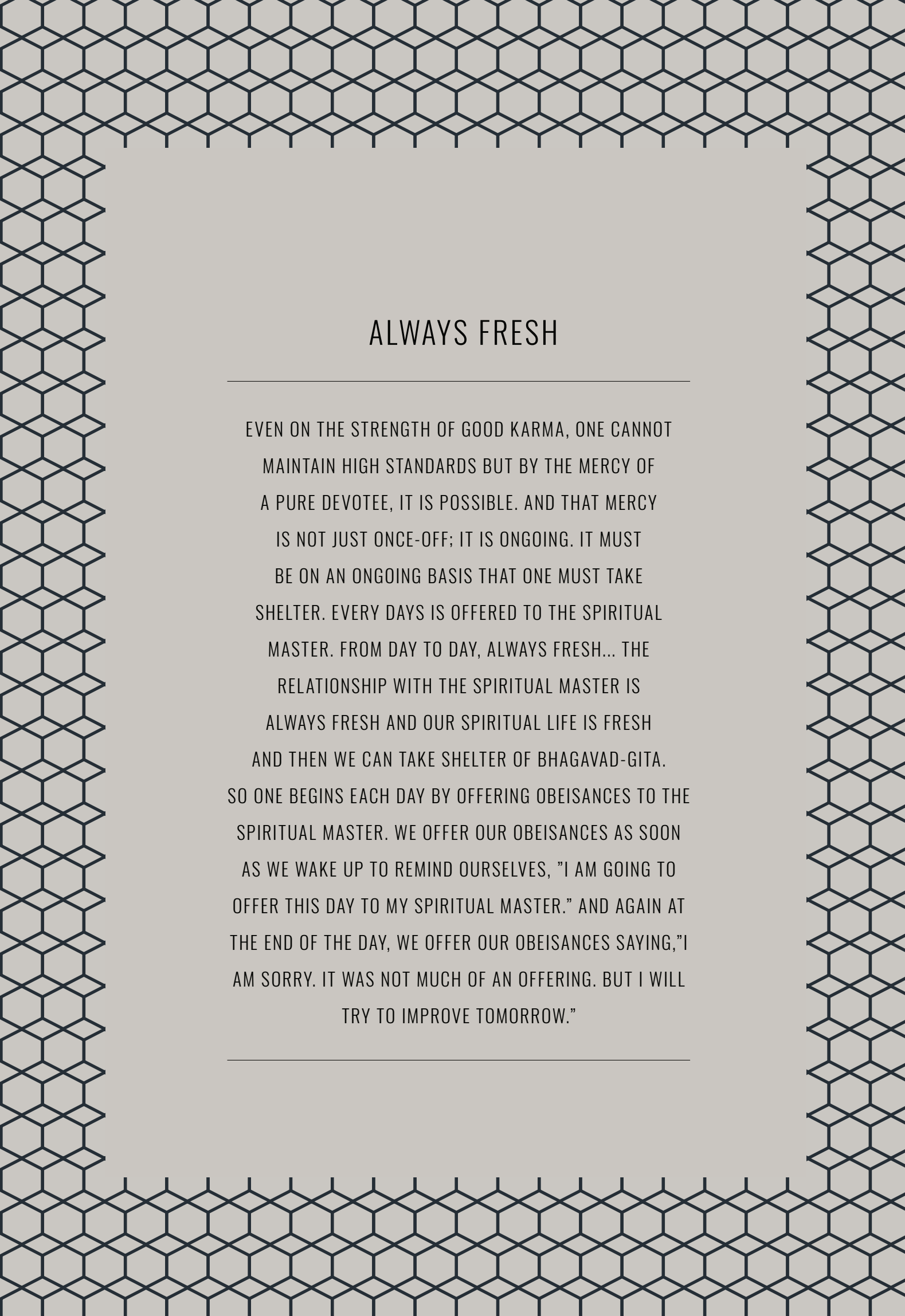
I really appreciate everything you have done for me and this comes from the bottom of my heart. I want to inform you about the progress within Iskcon Leicester. At the moment, hari-nam is going well and continue to do more harinam at the weekends. Alongside harinam, we are also performing well in distributing books. With all my heart and soul, I am trying to serve the devotees to the best of my ability.

“The spiritual master is the ocean of mercy and without a spiritual master, one hardly makes any spiritual progress.”

Your servant,

Bali Mardana Dasa





ALWAYS FRESH

EVEN ON THE STRENGTH OF GOOD KARMA, ONE CANNOT MAINTAIN HIGH STANDARDS BUT BY THE MERCY OF A PURE DEVOTEE, IT IS POSSIBLE. AND THAT MERCY IS NOT JUST ONCE-OFF; IT IS ONGOING. IT MUST BE ON AN ONGOING BASIS THAT ONE MUST TAKE SHELTER. EVERY DAY IS OFFERED TO THE SPIRITUAL MASTER. FROM DAY TO DAY, ALWAYS FRESH... THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SPIRITUAL MASTER IS ALWAYS FRESH AND OUR SPIRITUAL LIFE IS FRESH AND THEN WE CAN TAKE SHELTER OF BHAGAVAD-GITA. SO ONE BEGINS EACH DAY BY OFFERING OBEISANCES TO THE SPIRITUAL MASTER. WE OFFER OUR OBEISANCES AS SOON AS WE WAKE UP TO REMIND OURSELVES, "I AM GOING TO OFFER THIS DAY TO MY SPIRITUAL MASTER." AND AGAIN AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE OFFER OUR OBEISANCES SAYING, "I AM SORRY. IT WAS NOT MUCH OF AN OFFERING. BUT I WILL TRY TO IMPROVE TOMORROW."

BHAKTARUPA DASA

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to your lotus feet. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. I want to thank you for taking me through my first initiation I am really grateful. It makes me feel good and light. Maharaja it is through you that I am somewhere in my life. It is you that inspires me to advance more to spiritual life. Without you I would be nowhere in life today. You are truly the best Maharaja and thank you very much.

Your servant,
Bhaktarupa Dasa

BHIVYA MADAN

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to you.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna Maharaja,
Thank you for always staying by my side and guiding me in the world of ignorance. Thank you for becoming my guiding light and telling me how to become more and more Krsna conscious. Whenever I have any problem related to services, or when I tend to become lazy in Krsna conscious I open the Kadamba Kanana Swami blog and instantly get some lecture or post related to it automatically. Thank you so much for everything.

Your servant,
Bhivya

BRHAT MRDANGA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Hare Krsna Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to your lotus feet.

No one can estimate your glories or the depth of your devotion and attachment to Krsna. Who can understand the depth of the services that you have rendered and the nectar of Krsna-prema that you relish constantly? How can I, a very fallen and bewildered soul, even begin to appreciate you properly?

I was almost lost, but in the darkest regions where I found myself due to my own foolishness, I always felt your presence like a golden thread that kept everything together. That always offered me some hope. Everything had fallen apart, but your love and mercy had somehow or other kept it together. I can understand something of my connection that I have with you and how you are reeling me in. Closer and closer to be more surrendered. To give more up and put more of Krsna in. I realise how I offend you daily and, like a father, you never hesitate to embrace me. You are never forgetful of Krsna and as his representative I can understand a bit of Krsna's nature and his personality through you. It is so real and tangible, not just a mental thing anymore. You are in my every moment, trying to convince me to forget everything and accept Krsna whole heartedly without reservations.

Who can understand the persistence of your compassion towards someone as undeserving as myself? The services you are rendering is extremely important, yet you find time for personal exchanges with me.

Thank you for never giving up on me. Thank you for keeping your promise to always pray for my deliverance. Thank you for nourishing me and for being my life line. All glories to you on your vyasa-puja. May your glories be known to all. Please accept my whole self as my offering to you. I am insignificant, but I give you everything I have.

With love and reverence.

Your servant,
Brhat Mrdanga Dasa

CAITANYA LILA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

I was reading the other day in one of the cantos of Srimad Bhagavatam that by being engaged in devotional service, one is protected of falling into the path of fruitive work and mental speculation.

As we have heard many times before, the lotus feet of the spiritual master, are the bestower of devotional service. So, once again I would like to take this opportunity, to bow down to your lotus feet, asking for your protection, for your strength, for your guidance, for your mercy, for your love, for your instructions, for your inspiration, for your association as well as that of others vaishnava's. The only thing that I can keep begging and desiring for, would be to stick to this process of Krsna consciousness along with your invaluable presence. Thank you Maharaja for all that you mean in my life.

Your spiritual daughter in your service,
Caitanya Lila Devi Dasi

CANDRASEKHARA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Every year I try to describe my appreciation for you, your realisations, your teachings. However I am always fall short. You are so magnanimous, your golden heart so huge, your kindness so touching that you continuously conquer us again and again. You set such an amazing example for us to follow.

Most times your example is what keeps me alive in Krsna consciousness.

The last parikrama in 2018 was beyond all my expectations. My Krsna consciousness tends to dry up and you have advised that I go to the dham. And I always wondered how one place can reset things. After going I understand a little of how it works. Yes the dham has its potency, but you were the reason why my trip was just so magical and so touching. You showcased Krsna's kindness and I needed that. You helped my connection get better. I am so grateful.

Thank you again for everything. Praying that we get to spend more time with you in the holy dham .praying that I can implement all I have learnt from you.

Your servant,

Candrasedkhara Dasa

CHARU VINDA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

My Dear Guru Maharaja,

I will always be indebted to you for your causeless mercy of giving shelter. Your love and care has no bounds, in the footsteps of Nityananda Prabhu. You never judged the worthiness of your disciples, you just selflessly offered your shelter. You are so approachable and humble that your disciples feel free and welcome to discuss any subject at any time. You are always so concerned about your disciple's welfare, spiritually and materially. Your heart aches to see your disciples in pain.

You are understanding and patient towards your disciple's material conditioning, you guide them sublimely and engage them in service without enforcing it. Your disciples are always inspired and encouraged by the highest standard of devotional practice without being obvious. Your simplicity, humility and forgiveness with all other vaishnava qualities is your greatness. The list of your glorification could be endless. I take this opportunity to thank you for everything, I feel grateful and proud to be your disciple. Always seeking your blessings, mercy and service.

You humble servant,

Charu Vinda Dasa

CITRAKETU DASA & MURTI-SEVA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept our humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

On this day, everyone thinks about you differently. We also tried to think in a different way about you, but it is difficult to do so in such a way as to be worthy of you. One who consecrated his whole life to spread the glories of the holy names of Krsna must be regarded as a saint. You are such a person from every point of view, and you did not win this by gambling. This is the result of much austerity, determined effort and consistent decisions. Your whole life is glorious. You stand amongst the challenging waves of the world like a rock. You break the sad silence like a songbird. You give your body and soul as tools to everyone for a perfect life. This is your love that you give to everyone without conditions.

All glories to you, not only on your Vyasa-puja day, but eternally.

Your servants,

Citraketu Dasa & Murti-seva Devi Dasi

CITTA HARI DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Again I am very happy that I may witness one more of your birthday-celebrations with you.

Please

accept the service I do for Śrī Śrī Prahlād Narasiṃha and the devotees at the German Sim-
hachalam

farm. It is still very intense and still I am so busy that again I write this offering at the last pos-
sible day

in the evening. I am thinking about you every day and I am always perplexed on how much
service you are doing and how focused you are to follow your spiritual sadhana.

Last year I wrote that I learned from you that it is my duty that I am well. I am working on
this and

fortunately it's getting better although a bit too slow. You teach so much by your example, this
makes

me pray again and again that you may help me to become a good disciple of you.

I remain, deeply grateful.

Your servant,

Citta Hari Dasa

DAHANI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Hare Krsna Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my most humble obeisances. All glories to you. All glories to Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to our dearest Srila Prabhupada.

I am sure that everything I do well in my modest spiritual life is the direct consequence of your mercy and your prayers. It has very, very little to do with me. The Tulasi devi that grows nicely at our home, the lecture I to give at a small gathering of devotees, the supporting attitude I see amongst my god sisters and within our family – that is all there because of you, dear Gurudeva. While walking on a tight rope high above the ground you constantly and with lots of love throw showers of blessings upon us, and from time to time I get some of it, too.

Besides your lectures, the first thing that struck me with wonder when I first met several years ago was the fellowship of your disciples. That was something to admire and I thought: “See, they are having such a good time here.” Little did I know, within a month I was accepted into your dear family where I always feel welcomed and loved. Thank you for creating such a mood, for showing us how to grow and develop our God given tools and gifts. Thank you for teaching us what the real meaning of this human life is. In a lecture you held simultaneously in German and English (as you usually like to provide all your listeners the best service), you said your desire is to love not only your friends, the devotees, but all the people of the world, without any difference, even the spiders. I can assure you, you already do that, dear Gurudeva, because I am that spider. There is very little use of me. But I know and I feel you still love me and you are waiting for me to take up my part of the service seriously.

Thank you for seeing something in me that nobody does. When things get tough, I sometimes say to myself: “You are your father’s daughter.” And instantly the scene of the battlefield changes – it all becomes crystal clear, just like when you are around.

Dear Gurudeva, thank you for accepting me.

Your servant

Dahani Devi Dasi

DAYANIDHI DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Hivine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Yesterday I was driving while listening to your music as always.

Sometimes we remember a memory of the past by a smell and that makes us smile or cry.

Your music has the same effect on me:

When I listen to your music I remember Radhadhesh and those days together - amazing.

When I listen to your music I remember the many times we shared in Mauritius – amazing.

When I listen to your music I remember the New Mayapur and your kirtan – amazing.

It gives me a lot of joy but no pain.

Sometimes at random of our devotional activities (like distribution of books, during a festival or harinam) hearing your music opens doors which helps us and give us power.

Your music is a real pleasure.

Being your disciple is a great chance.

To be your disciple is a privilege.

Thank you for giving me this strength and every day that brings us slowly closer to the Supreme Lord Krsna. Thank you for your many blessings.

Your eternal servant,

Dayanidhi Dasa

(from Reunion Island)

DHANISTHA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

My Dear Guru Maharaja/Master,

On this day of your Vyasa-puja I hope that you spend an amazing day with all the god family in Radhadesh, I am sure that all my god brothers and sisters will celebrate you with so much love and affection because you have a very big heart and so much love for Krsna that it makes everyone become crazy of love and do all the preparations, decorations, prasadam, programs, gifts, travels, to please you. Whenever I think that there is no true love in this world I think of you, dear Gurudeva, your enthusiasm, kindness, humility, talent and grace in the service of the Lord and then realise that true love is only with Krsna, nothing else but Krsna.

I pray to Krsna to give me the intelligence to learn to serve you with that enthusiasm and determination that I see in my god brothers and sisters every year in this amazing festival.

Thank you for giving me the shelter in this world.

May you spend a beautiful birthday.

I humbly beg for your blessings and please forgive all the offences that I commit. All glories to you dear Gurudeva.

Your servant,

Dhanistha Devi Dasi

(Mexico)

DHRUVA DASA & AHUTI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

These words are dedicated to your holiness. I want to celebrate your devotion. You purify this planet. You propagate the mission of Lord Caitanya so sturdily. I admire you and follow you. I want to satisfy you. I want to be an instrument and serve the best as it is possible for me. I am dry like a desert and I constantly depend at your grace.

Please accept my service, the service of my wife and all the people who help me.

Your servants,

Dhruva Dasa & Ahuti Devi Dasi

DOYAL GOVINDA DASA

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Maharaja, how may I serve you? Just a few days ago it has been seventeen years since I joined the movement. But reading your wonderful contribution in the form of “A prayer of Deep Absorption,” shows that I am stuck in the stage of anartha nivrtti, because lobha is usually not awaken until the devotee achieves steadiness at the completion of anartha-nivrtti.

Furthermore, one can find in the book “Waves of devotion” on page 109 the statement: “Ragamika is the perfect devotional attachment found in the residents of Vrindavan and raganuga-sadhana-bhakti is the practice of a devotee who aspires to develop their devotional mood.”

This level is far beyond my present stage but having you as my spiritual master gives me the strong conviction that I can come to a higher level. Only by your mercy.

We will never forget our pastime in Capetown during Lord Nityananda’s appearance day as you made me dance as a puppet. Let me dance Maharaja, let me dance, so that I can serve your desires and repay my debt to you. During one Vyasa-puja address you mentioned that we shall not become Kadamba Kanana Maharaja but we shall take up the mood. The little spark of my personal Krsna consciousness lights a bit more and this lobha develops, this intense covetousness where my sole and overwhelming desire is to please you in a particular way. By following in your footsteps, myself and all my god brothers and god sisters are going to reach the highest goal. You are already there on a stage beyond asakti, but you come down being so merciful to take care of all of us.

Every year you tell us what is important for you. In 2010 you mentioned that kindness is so important, and it is difficult to be kind, but it should not be difficult. With this wonderful philosophy comes a natural compassion for all living entities and the more we become kind even to those who are not kind to us, the more we develop humility which leads us to the chance of chanting the holy name constantly.

As you are the servant of Lord Nityananda, you gave the instruction that we should go and knock on every door like Lord Nityananda and we should go out with books for at least one hour a day if we are grahastas. Let us do it, as you also mentioned let us bundle energies and

achieve something incredible. At the moment it is still a meditation but what is already in the ether is able to manifest in a gross form. For sure the willingness to sacrifice our own comfort for the higher goal is such an important desire you spoke out. I get myself ready so that you can come one day and pick me up so that I can be making my contribution also in the form of taking sannyasa if you give me your blessings.

You give all of us a greater vision of what we-self think we can achieve. You are our master, our friend and our ever well-wisher and for this I am very grateful to you and indebted to you. Thank you for giving all of us the shelter of your lotus feet. Please let me know how I may serve you to reach the perfection of life.

Your servant,
Doyal Govinda Dasa

ELISHA PATEL

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,
I offer my obeisances to you by bowing down to your lotus feet. All glories to Srila Prabhu-pada.

Happy Vyasa-puja day Maharaja. I can still recall your talk about Jada Bharata, when I was younger. This was one of my favourite stories in the Srimad Bhagavatam. I remember around that time persuading my mum to cook broken rice for me so that I could eat it just like Jada Bharata did. I also imitated to be like Jada Bharata so that I did not have to talk or answer any questions that my mum had asked me. I pray that Lord Krsna gives you the strength to continue with the preaching mission of Krsna consciousness. May you remain in good health, and I wish to see you soon. I really hope that you get the chance to come to Leicester again.

Your servant,
Elisha Patel (The daughter of Harsarani Devi Dasi)

FERI(FAHRADIN FAHRADINOV)

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Happy appearance day.

Thank you dear Guru Maharaja,

I am so fortunate to meet you in my life and to spend some time with you. You are my inspiration and I do not deserve your causeless mercy on me, but anyway you are giving it to me. You are so merciful to everybody. Such a wonderful example with Kings day. You just spread your mercy to everyone. Thank you again. I am so happy to be a part of your spiritual soldiers on the streets of Amsterdam and anywhere you wish.

Dear Guru Maharaja I love so much for your simplicity to do things and explain them. It helps me so much to understand Srila Prabhupada's books. You follow so faithfully your spiritual master, His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami and His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. You show us the right way to establish this spiritual connection with you. Dear Guru Maharaja I love and appreciate also your acting and musical skills. You are a great actor and this skill of yours helps us to easily understand the pastimes which you often recreate. You are an exquisite actor and musician in our movement and you are so kind and merciful to all of us, that you use your brilliant skills given to you by Krsna to teach us, to give us protection from material energy and to show us the path of Krsna. I am in love with your kirtans. They make my heart beat and remember our main duty in Kali-yuga - to spread the holy name of Krsna everywhere:

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna
Krisha Krisna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama
Rama Rama Hare Hare

Dear Guru Maharaja I love that you are a strong individuality and the example you give us to use our nature and individuality in service of Guru and Krsna. So thankful for your seminar on this topic in Radhadesh on last Vyasa-puja 2018.

Dear Guru Maharaja thank you for writing this wonderful book "Guru and disciple". It is so inspiring and useful for everybody in ISKCON. I love to read it often and try to remember your insight and guidance in these sacred relationships.

The best thing I love in you dear Guru Maharaja is that you always guide us in order to understand Srila Prabhupada's mood and you give us his vision. You are the bridge between us and His Divine Grace. You help us to understand and to continue the mission of Srila Prabhupada. I remembered your offerings to Srila Prabhupada's Vyasa-puja 2018. Your words just enter in my mind and they open my eyes so much to realise, that we do not have any credit. You told to His Divine Grace:

"We can take no credit for anything you have done at all. It was all your service. All the books that we distributed you distributed them. All the temples that we started and maintained and will be opened in the future it is all your credit and no-one else. And we are simply praying that we may be allowed to assist you and we may be of some use in your mission."

I loved that mood and I hope I will follow you in this mood in all of my life and this will be my main goal. To realise and live in that way that I am the servant of the servant of the servant, without any proud. Will pray always for that.

I wish you good health dear Guru Maharaja and I hope that I will always serve you and your servants. Always will be ready for your instructions and I will do my best to please you. You guide us so nicely in every step of our spiritual life and I am so sorry that I don't have any qualification to glorify you.

Thank you
Your servant,

Feri
(Bulgaria)

FRANKA ENGEL

Hare Krsna Dear Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet.
All glories to you.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Maharaja, although you have so many disciples all over the world, I have the feeling, you are there, if it is needed. You gave the most important advice of my life (until now) to me to read Srimad Bhagavatam.

To see the world through Srimad Bhagavatam, and how everything is connected with Krsna - this will bring real peace in the hearts of the human beings. Srila Prabhupada's books and your lectures especially your kirtans are my most important association at my place.

Until the age of forty five I had a materialistic view of life. Now being forty eight and after ten cantos of reading Srimad Bhagavatam and hearing and chanting, it has totally changed.

I bow grateful down to the lotus feet of Lord Caitanya, that his merciful glance touched my deep fallen soul.

I thank from my heart our Lord Sri Krsna, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, for the greatest mercy I could receive - to connect me with you, a real spiritual master from the guru-parampara.

Your causeless mercy, great lectures and kirtans and personal advices made steps possible for me, which looked impossible before. Thank you so much for all your care, your answers to my questions and your help, to integrate Krsna consciousness in my personal life situation.

Your humble servant of the servant,
Franka Engel
(Schwerin, Germany)

GANDHARVIKA RAI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna Maharaja,

This is an opportunity to express our gratitude. Thank you Maharaja for always inspiring us to surrender more, to give everything to the Lord and to dedicate fully to Srila Prabhupada's mission. Our soul is longing for that and when we hear you speaking that way it becomes an evidence, a relief. My life has changed so much the last two years - taking a step towards Krsna. By taking up full time service in New Mayapur dham I got so much mercy, being accepted in your spiritual family, having a service opportunity so fulfilling, getting such an inspiring Krsna conscious husband, such unique project to serve in so many way. All by the mercy of Guru, displaying as a sun ray the light and warmth of our sun, Srila Prabhupada.

I am so grateful to get a flavour of what it means to just put Krsna in the centre of our life. To realize how association with devotees is compulsory. And to witnesses how just by surrendering a bit more everyday by Guru's example, more devotees get inspired to do so. Thank you Gurudeva for accepting us how we are and pushing us to be fully engaged in Srila Prabhupada's and Krsna's service.

Looking forward to have your personal association again this summer in New Mayapur.

Aspiring to serve you.

Gandharvika Rai Devi Dasi

(New Mayapur France)

GAURA MOHAN DASA

Dear Spiritual Master,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to you.

The spiritual master is not a normal person, nor an unreachable superhuman being.

The spiritual master is a guide to the intimate devotional service of Sri Sri Radha Krsna.

You are not only a guide but also dear to your disciples' heart. You warm our hearts, which are hard because of material ambition, with transcendental Krsna katha.

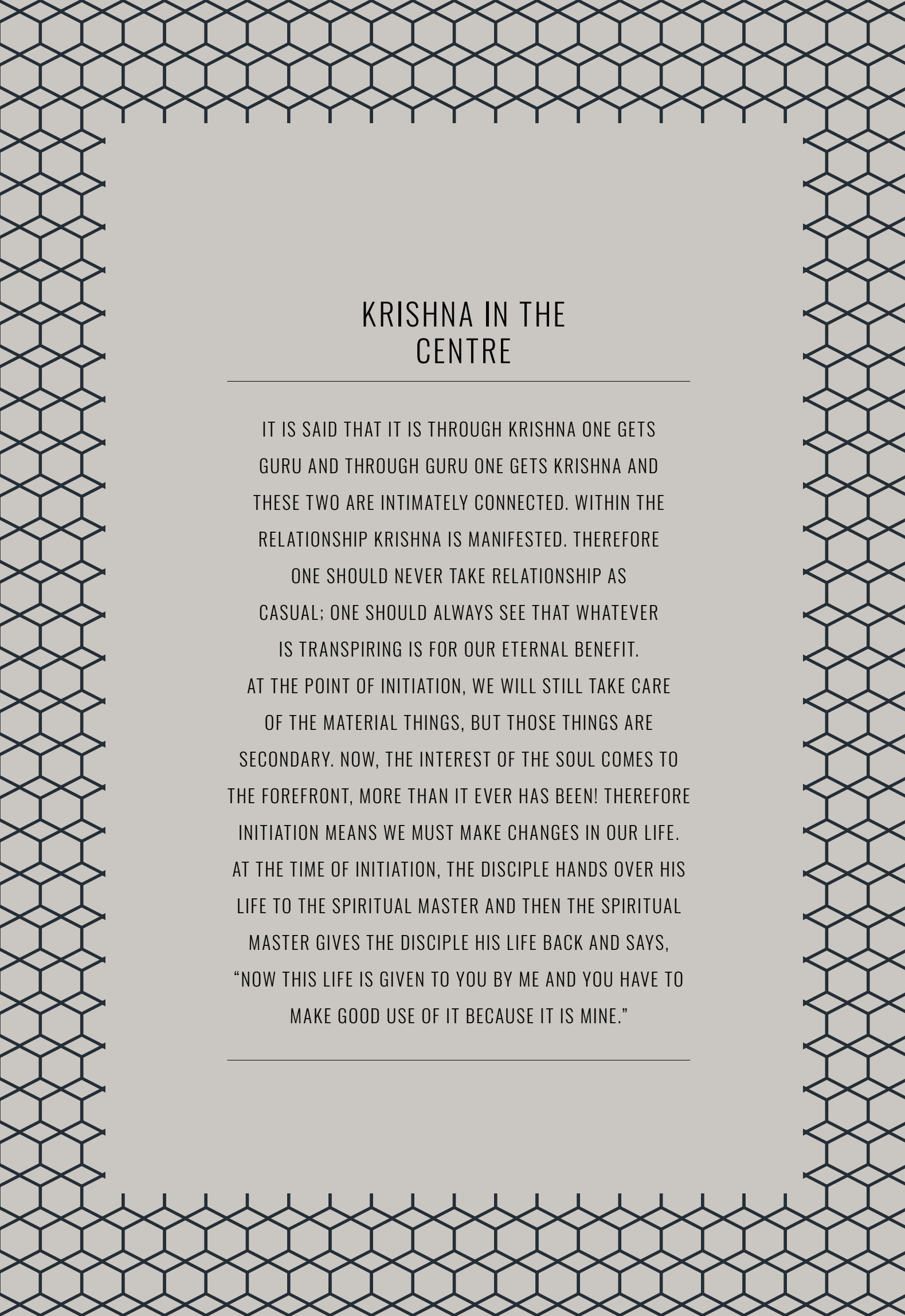
Your association and kindness lets our heart melt. Our unsecure und unripe understanding of Krsna seva, you dissipate with your warm dealings with us.

We hope that you please continue being there for us, as without you there would be a big gap in our hearts. Wanting always to be close to you.

Your disciple,

Gaura Mohan Dasa





KRISHNA IN THE CENTRE

IT IS SAID THAT IT IS THROUGH KRISHNA ONE GETS GURU AND THROUGH GURU ONE GETS KRISHNA AND THESE TWO ARE INTIMATELY CONNECTED. WITHIN THE RELATIONSHIP KRISHNA IS MANIFESTED. THEREFORE ONE SHOULD NEVER TAKE RELATIONSHIP AS CASUAL; ONE SHOULD ALWAYS SEE THAT WHATEVER IS TRANSPIRING IS FOR OUR ETERNAL BENEFIT. AT THE POINT OF INITIATION, WE WILL STILL TAKE CARE OF THE MATERIAL THINGS, BUT THOSE THINGS ARE SECONDARY. NOW, THE INTEREST OF THE SOUL COMES TO THE FOREFRONT, MORE THAN IT EVER HAS BEEN! THEREFORE INITIATION MEANS WE MUST MAKE CHANGES IN OUR LIFE. AT THE TIME OF INITIATION, THE DISCIPLE HANDS OVER HIS LIFE TO THE SPIRITUAL MASTER AND THEN THE SPIRITUAL MASTER GIVES THE DISCIPLE HIS LIFE BACK AND SAYS, “NOW THIS LIFE IS GIVEN TO YOU BY ME AND YOU HAVE TO MAKE GOOD USE OF IT BECAUSE IT IS MINE.”

GAURA NARAYANA DASA

Dearest Guru maharaja ,

Please accept my humble obeisance.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

In the Srimad Bhagvatam 3.25.21, Srila Prabhupda writes in purport while describing the qualities of devotee; ' He is merciful because he is the well-wisher of all living entities. He is not only a well-wisher of human society, but a well-wisher of animal society as well. It is said here, sarva-dehinam, which indicates all living entities who have accepted material bodies. Not only does the human being have a material body, but other living entities, such as cats and dogs, also have material bodies. The devotee of the Lord is merciful to everyone-the cats, dogs, trees, etc. He treats all living entities in such a way that they can ultimately get salvation from this material entanglement”.

When I read this, it reminded me the past time you were narrating from Vrindavan, that how one time one devotee was hitting the dog in Vrindavan temple and you told him that if he hits the dog one more time you would break his legs.

When you narrated this story, we were chuckling but while I read the pages of Bhagvatam it gives a deeper insight of your deep compassion for everyone, and when I reflect on that compassion, I understand that I am just a mercy case of your causeless compassion.

Out of your causeless compassion you have given access to us which is rare, even for the yogis.
sri-guro paramananda premananda phala-prada
vrajananda-pradananda-sevayam ma niyojaya

You have given us an opportunity to serve Sri Krishna; you have given us the chance to taste the fruit of highest bliss, you have given us the opportunity to be part of Chaitnya mahaprabhu's Sankirtan movement and many more things just by your compassion.

You always speak about the two aspects of guru disciple relationship receiving and giving aspect, when I weigh what I receive with what I give, it's incomparable, and I realize that I can never ever repay for what you have given and giving to me but I can promise you that I do have a desire and I am trying to somehow assist you in this movement, as a token of gratitude. I beg to be the receiver of your mercy.

Your mercy case

Gaura Narayana Das

GISELLE LE ROUX

Please accept my humble obeiscances.

All glories to your lotus feet, to our dearest param-guru Jayadvaita Swami, Srila Prabhupada and the parampara.

My Dearest Guru Maharaja,

You appeared to me in the darkest time of suffering, illusion and vulnerability.

You stole my heart from the moment I laid my weak eyes on you.

You appeared first frail (materially),

With a blazing and eternal soul.

Loving eyes that I had known.

So determined.

And drew out of me a well of compassion, understanding, humility, selflessness,

And glimpses of the deepest ecstasy I could ever have known

Then second, you returned,

In an effulgent halo of gold, gold radiating from your very skin,

ablaze with the spiritual world.

Everytime, you crack open my heart,

My mind, show me a little more of my soul,

Shattered another layer of my illusion and suffering.

And show me how to try and give Krishna.

And show much more I would like to do

In serving you, in serving

these inconcievably incredible devotees.

These magnamious souls of whom all.

You are my greatest inspiration.

You are my greatest inspiration.

You have given me the essence of Lord Caitanya's sankirtana movement!

Not that I am at all deserving.

You have stolen my heart,

and I can only ever hope and endeavour

to be *sliver* of the

compassionate, tolerant, gentle, sincere,

hilarious, determined, merciful, eternal,

humble, generous, selfless, servant of the devotees
That you are -
Always aglow.
With so much of Krishna,
With so much of soul
And that swanky step!

Oh my dearest Guru Maharaja,
How can I ever repay you?
How can I ever thank Krishna enough,
To have brought me to you?
And brought you into my heart
Mind and dreams?

How can I ever thank you enough.
For every moment of consideration, for every challenge,
For every wise word and look?

I am still mostly struggling.
But still, I know,
That I am probably the most fortunate, rebel soul.
Trying my best to be on my way back home,
With you the grooviest sannyasi this realm has ever known!

I wish all the best for you in everyway!
I hope to see you happy many more times,
And still lots to do - so do not disappear anytime soon.
Thank you for the privelage of your devotional service
I hope I can get myself together enough in time,
To serve you.

Thank you so very much.

Hare Krishna.

Your servant,
Giselle

GITA GOVINDA DEVI DASI

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Gurudeva,

This year, after making seven annual broken attempts to write a glorification letter to you in the right words, the right mood, the right tone, and the right way, I got overwhelmed by reading the following, which deeply touched my heart. It is this sentiment which I tried to express to you, exactly as in the way it is presented. I am not an elevated, advanced soul, thus unable to express myself in that sincere and humble way, but a similar shadow sentiment of this is there in my heart.

Without having the intention to imitate the words and the mood of a great soul, a pure devotee of Lord Krsna, dear to his spiritual master, to Srila Prabhupada and all the great acharyas, please allow me to quote:

“By your example you save me again and again from being a fool and engage me as your servant. sarva devo mayo guru -You embody all the good qualities of the demigods. Your complete loyalty to Srila Prabhupada makes me poor in devotion. Your strictness in following him makes me aware of my duty. Your vast learning in his books reminds me that I must study. Your kind and compassionate dealings with people, the faith you have placed in me, win me over again and again. upadeksyanti te jnanam jnaninas tattva-darsinah “The self-realized souls can impart knowledge unto you because they have seen the truth.” (B.g 4.34). All your qualities are simply purifying me. Even with all my shortcomings I can never forget, that ‘Nothing but the best will do’. I pray that I may find the strength to fulfill your desires in this lifetime.” (Source: Vyasa-puja offering His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami).

These words, this attitude I was trying for years to convey in my miserly attempt to offer my sincere gratitude to you. It is only by your mercy that I became aware of the value of becoming a devotee.

At the time I studied Law at Leiden University I was associating with rich, influential, arrogant people, drinking wine, eating meat and so on. Nobody could save me. I was too arrogant and full of pride, how could I hear others speaking if I was lacking eagerness to hear and consider myself a master and not a servant, if I was lacking humility. But then I met you. I remember my sister Sharda when she met you for the first time in the Hilligaertstraat in Amsterdam (former temple) eight years ago while I introduced you to her, asking you “Are you sure you can handle her?” You firmly answered “Yes.” You knew that one can only be conquered by Divine

Qualities. Your Guru Maharaja is extraordinary intelligent. He already noticed these qualities in you. How otherwise he accepted you as his disciple? By chance? Everything is in Krsna's hand.

Although, you put a lot of energy in me, fact is also that simply by looking at you, simply by your example I changed, although I admit, still – due to this deep rooted false ego - a long way for me to go. As your spiritual master changed you by embodying all the good qualities of the demigods, you are changing hundreds and hundreds of persons. You symbolise compassion, humility, kindness and so much more. Although you are not a disciple of His Divine Grace Sri-la Prabhupada your deep love and devotion for Him is beyond understanding. It is so obvious that sometimes in your kirtans when you conclude with “Jaya Prabhupada”, it goes so deep, heartmelting, it is like crying out for the Divine. It proves that you are not just a Prabhupada's man, you are truly deeply connected and associated with him, like a knot in the heart which is unable to get untangled. That is why on his Appearance Days (I noticed several times in Vrindavan Dhaam) Srila Prabhupada explicitly invites you on stage. Everything on that particular day is dictated by His Divine Grace.

You also mentioned that it is Srila Prabhupada's as well as your Guru Maharaja's faith that keeps you going on in your steady service at their lotus feet. Now the same happens with us, your disciples. As your instruments we only can move on on this Krsna consciousness path on the strength of your mercy and faith in us. You accepted me despite all my shortcomings. You have faith in me, although I do not deserve it. How many times I really was not nice to you, but you do not only teach us about ksama you live it by yourself, you live all that you teach us by yourself. You have forgiven me, although I realize that Krsna does not. Still you have faith in me and keep inspiring me in following your footsteps. Your qualities are driving me mad and I feel captured, totally conquered by every step you take, by every move you make. This is definitely the medicine I need, called purification. Simply your presence is purifying me. Your humble mood reminds me of not making issues of small things, while you yourself face so many ups-and-downs, also considering your fragile health, yet always remain fixed on Krsna, steady through all seasons of a year. Year in year out.

Prabhupada sent you on my path when I was desperately praying to him for a spiritual master. He knew this pure devotee can change her, “mission impossible”. You gave and still are giving me so much. I want to get rid of this immature tendency to simply take from you but I really do not know how to repay.

In this desperate mood, realising the power of sincere prayers I am wholeheartedly following in your footsteps repeat what you said to your Gurudeva:

“I pray that I may find the strength to fulfil your desires in this lifetime.”

May my dear most Sri Gopal fulfil this sincere prayer of mine.

Your servant,
Gita Govinda Devi Dasi

GODRUMA DASA

My Very Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami (Guru Maharaja),

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you, Jayadvaita Swami and Srila Prabhupada!

The last two years have been the ultimate testimony of how much and how persistently you are giving out the mercy to us: You have blessed our wedding by being personally present, lived in our house, encouraged us in whatever we planned to do and gave us so much practical advice for our life ahead - simply stunning.

You have to deal with so many souls, so many lives and destinies which you are part of. Whenever I am witnessing your interactions with people you are shining the light, you make people happy, just in giving your care and attention. In this way, you are supremely personal, your thinking is supremely deep and your knowledge of how the world is working is so supremely vast.

You like to point to your Dutch origin in explaining why you are the person you are. And as far as I have experienced the Dutchmen in general, they are hard to impress. So are you. But with you it is really serious. You are not impressed by the frivolities of this world, including your own body.

No matter how much it is falling apart and gives you a hard time, you go on tirelessly with what you humbly call your "service." Giving Krsna to people in the world which is so much opposed to him.

You know the opponents well, you know their strengths and their weaknesses and you know exactly how to deal with them in the best possible way. That is maybe one of the most attractive features in your unfathomable personality: That you can deal with anyone and anything and it always looks like a dance. Yes, to me it looks like you are constantly dancing - dancing for Krsna. Maybe not always physically, but you definitively embody this as an overall mood. And you show us how we can do this as well, how we can make our lives a dance for Krsna.

Even though dancing is generally something light and carefree, you are simultaneously grave, knowing well all the abysmal brutalities of this mṛtyu-loka. You know the art of dancing in hell with a heart full of love and confidence and a brain full of knowledge and understanding.

You reach out to us as a friend and this relationship with you is often difficult for me to grasp. You, my friend? Okay. But me, also a friend to you? How can I reciprocate properly? After all you are my master, and as an aspiring disciple I must acknowledge this in showing some awe and reverence. How can these rasas be combined? I do not know yet.

Anyway, I am so proud to say that you are my loving father and friend, my ever-wellwisher and above all my loving spiritual master. I pray to soon become your worthy disciple and to understand what it means to be your friend at the same time.

Eternally grateful for being accepted in your family.

Your aspiring servant,
Godruma Dasa

GOKULARANJANA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

When I was a child I always wondered how much energy you put in your kirtans - almost being constantly in the stretching zone and probably even beyond this. For your wild kirtans and dancing you were called the rock`n roll Swami. I could not understand from where you have so much energy.

Now after a few years I can understand that through your deep connection with Krsna he provides you with everything you need in your service to please him. He provides you with both energy and knowledge. In this way you give us a perfect example how to serve Krsna and that in Krsna consciousness nothing is impossible.

Even though, shortly before my initiation, last sankirtan festival some problems arose. You personally took initiative to solve them and made several phone calls. I would not had this courage to make this happen, but you, having a bigger vision for your disciples (than what they can imagine by their own mind) you made this possible. This showed me how much you care for the spiritual advancement of your disciples, irregardless of the level they are starting. Like a spiritual father being concerned that all your disciple come back home again.
Hare Krsna.

Your aspiring servant,
Gokularanjana Dasa

GOPALI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

My Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

I must be the last one to send an offering as it has been the fifteen day after the deadline to submit it. Thank God that I am surrounded by many wonderful devotees and that they let me to sneak it in somehow. I thought hard about the offering even though last few weeks I was very busy, up to the point where I had to sacrifice sleeping some days in order to cope with load of duties. But that is no reason for losing a chance to compose an offering for you. I would not hesitate a moment to let my whole world to stop and sit in midst of anything to write it to you. If only I had the words. I am meditating on my offering to you throughout whole year. I have even written two poems that could be good candidates, but that it was not it. As a child cannot grasp or fully appreciate the greatness of his/her parent as he/she does not have much experience of life and its trials, but still can bring much pleasure by expressing his/her gratitude by their own means. Similarly, I have little qualification to write about you, but still I will try no matter how goofy or clumsy it may come out.

I have been thinking of the element of personal contact with the spiritual master and that will be the topic of my offering. It may not be necessary for spiritual advancement but for a neophyte like me it is crucial. Although in my case probably no advancement is happening, still your presence, may it be distant, saved me from degradation. I have just heard about one god sister who decided to stop with her substantial service she did for you for many years. It immediately made me contemplating about my service to you and how I never want to lose it. It is the main thing that keeps me in Krsna consciousness. It is like an armour that draws my direction to Krsna and thus does not allow me to fool around with material energy too much. That thought brought me to further thought – that it is you who keeps me on the spiritual path. Your bhajans, kirtans, lectures, behaviour, spiritual strength, mantras and initiations you gave me, instructions and support. You helped me or interfered when it was needed. Your direct personal influence was always the most effective medicine.

Thank you so much for all of that. I can see how you are giving it to so many, hundreds of people. I have no doubt that you are empowered by Krsna and that he chose you to guide us. I may not show it as much as would be fitting but your words and actions are deeply affecting my heart and I even learnt from the words you told me years ago when at that time I was not able to fully understand. Honestly, I have not tasted tastier taste than serving you. It is very specific, attractive, pleasing, fulfilling and addictive. I will extract few lines from my poem for you. I carry them for many years in my heart:

One day you came and I knew you were the one.
You were the rain you were the sun.
But I needed both, because I needed you.
You were the one I was dreaming of all my life.
When it is dark you are my light.
I will not forget who is always my guide.

I wish I can endlessly serve you my beloved Guru Maharaja.

Your servant,
Gopali Devi Dasi

GOVARDHANESVARI DEVI DASI

Hare Krsna lieber Guru Maharaja,

Manchmal beneide ich die Engländer um die Anrede, Dear Maharaja. Das dear drückt mehr aus, als jede Anrede, welche mir im Deutschen einfällt. Bitte akzeptiere meine demütigen Ehrenerbietungen. Jaya Jadvaita Swami. Jaya Srila Prabhupada.

Alles Liebe und Gute sowie vor allem Gesundheit wünsche ich Dir. Ich danke Krsna Dich als Spirituellen Meister zu haben. Ja, Dich sogar wie Krsna als täglichen Begleiter zu wissen. Morgens werde ich bereits durch Deine Stimme geweckt durch Musik von Dir. Das ist natürlich gleich eine Erinnerung an das Chanten des heiligen Namens.

Tagsüber höre ich mir gern einmal einen Vortrag von Dir an. Leider hatte ich diesen Monat ein Desaster mit meinem Handy und ich habe viele nicht gesicherte Aufzeichnungen verloren. Schade, aber diesen oder jenen Vortrag werde ich vielleicht in den täglichen oder wöchentlichen News wieder finden. Kommende Vorträge auf dem neuen Handy werde ich noch vor dem Aufnehmen sichern! Es gibt Dinge, die passieren nur einmal. Für mich ist es immer wieder beeindruckend, mit wie viel Energie und Elan Du für Deine Schüler da bist. Keine böse Mine, wenn sie Dir keine Ruhe lassen. Beeindruckend. Ich wäre da manches Mal schon aus der Haut gefahren. So viel Geduld, Hingabe, Liebe und Vorbild ist unbeschreiblich. Du kennst die Schwächen von uns und machst

Mut und gibst Ratschläge, wie man es besser machen oder organisieren kann. Immer ein offenes Ohr und guter Zuhörer. Ein guter Lehrer sowieso. Deine Mimik, Deinen Humor und Beschreibungen in lebendige Bilder gefasst, sind in den Vorträgen immer wieder ein Genuss, und es macht Spaß Dir zuzuhören.

Ich bin besonders begeistert, wenn ich abends nach Hause komme und kann noch einen Mitschnitt oder sogar Live Übertragung von Dir sehen oder wenigstens hören kann. Technik kann etwas wunderbares sein. 9 Den Vorträgen abends nach der Arbeit intensiv zu lauschen und zu übersetzen ist mir oft zu anstrengend. Da hilft nur Teilen auf Facebook, um lange Suche zu vermeiden. Deiner Stimme lauschen ist für den Augenblick genug. Das gibt Ruhe nach dem Arbeitstag. Bei nächster Gelegenheit wird der Vortrag noch einmal intensiv gelauscht.

Es ist ein Geschenk Dich als Spirituellen Meister, Begleiter und Freund zu haben.

Ich werde weiterhin mein Bestes versuchen Deinem Vorbild zu folgen.

Dankeschön.

Deine Dienerin,

Govardhanesvari Devi Dasi

GURUDASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

I take this wonderful opportunity to glorify you, Guru Maharaja. Lord Caitanya in his earlier years taught Krsna consciousness through grammar. Similarly, I would like to present the English alphabet so I can present your qualities that I find most important and obvious.

ABC. Here it goes:

Accurate in assessment of anyone you meet.

Beaming with spiritual energy, effulgent and glowing.

Chaste to Srila Prabhupada, his mood and teachings.

Determined to take your disciples back to Godhead.

Eager to enthuse all the devotees at all times.

Favourable, specifically to the dedicated preachers.

Genius in visioning and managing important Krsna consciousness projects.

Hope giving to everyone including the hopeless.

Influential, influencing hearts to surrender to Lord Caitanya.

Jolly, friendly and blissful.

Knowledgeable, deep understanding of all spiritual angles.

Level headed, full of sobriety.

Musically don, leading heart touching kirtans.

Natural, down to earth, and keeping it real whilst being fully pure.

Open minded yet fully focused on the goal.

Pleasing to see, hear and to be around.

Qualified to have disciples all over the universe.

Ready for whatever life throws at you.

Slick, sharp and cool.

Thankful for whatever smallest service rendered.

Understanding difficulties, problems that devotees may have and supporting them through it.

Valuable yet a priceless asset to the earth.

Warm, caring and kind.

X-ray vision can see the heart of people you deal with.

Yearning for pleasing Lord Caitanya and Srila Prabhupada.

Zero tolerance on vaishnava apradha and zero tolerance on deviation of Prabhupada's teaching.

O'Gurudeva,

By causeless mercy, I, an entangled soul, have placed myself under yourself, a compassionate Vaishnava Guru, for deliverance. You and Krsna are my only life and soul. I have no other life and do not want anything else. Keep this fallen idiot under your lotus feet.

Love always.

Your servant,

Gurudasa

HAMSA AVATAR DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

susrusoḥ sraddadhanasya
vasudeva-katha-rucih
syam mahat-sevaya viprah
punya-tirtha-nisevanat

O twice-born sages, by serving those devotees who are completely freed from all vice, great service is done. By such service, one gains affinity for hearing the messages of Vāsudeva. (SB 1.2.16).

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to your Holiness.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada and His Divine International Society for Krsna consciousness.

As you often say that to purify our heart we need to be absorbed in Krsna consciousness. This absorption is possible only when we have some taste, some affinity for hearing the message of Vāsudeva. Therefore it is my great good fortune that I obtain a service to your lotus feet and thus also to the lotus feet of Jayadvaita Swami and Srila Prabhupada.

This was my meditation for last Janmashtami at Ljubljana. You were speaking about doing something special during this holy day to get some extra mercy. Every Janmashtami I am trying to be with devotees whole day on programs, kirtan, helping in the kitchen, going to harinam and so on. Last year I was thinking to do some personal service to you. I then found out that my wife had the same idea before in her mind and so she asked me to take care of our daughter Amala. That meant to take her to a famous Ljubljana swimming pool. So I was thinking: "What to do!", at least Kavita will do something for you.

Thus I with Amala we spent an hour in traffic jam to aquapark and one hour back. Two hours in that aqua palace I was just thinking: “What a strange Janmashtami.” How to think of Krsna? Because of traffic we even did not catch a harinam so I was quite disappointed. But at the end my wife told me that one mataji needed some amaranth for cooking a lunch for you. That was my chance so I was like an hour wandering throughtout Ljubljana to find some health shop to get the amaranth. Finally at the third shop they had the one I was looking for. Meanwhile our daughter Amala was also helping in some service to you. After all this we realised that just a small service to you can give us the ultimate spiritual bliss we are looking for.

With quite a similar meditation of some service I went to Mayapur dham this year. Also to study at Mayapur Academy. By the mercy of Gauranga we found that Jayadvaita Swami was there also. So thanks to Tulsi Prabhu I get a free course of massages and I was able to massage Maharaj twice a week. Also with my wife and Amala we were engaged to collect flowers for Maharaja for his everyday puja. Thus with my study we were nicely engaged in the dham. I was quite missing there also the distribution of Prabhupada’s books, because it was the time of Srila Prabhupada’s book distribution marathon. But by the mercy of Krsna and his sincere servant Tulsi, who showed me that after mangala arati that we can easily distribute Bhagavad-gitas inside the temple room every day. No snow no freeze like other years, just take and give for “Du’isata Ṭākā” and get a bliss. This is the mercy of Srila Prabhupada, only a little service to his mission can give the ultimate goal of life.

Thank you very much dear Maharaja that I can still do some service to you. Thanks for your great patience with me. Thank you that I can be a member of the International Society for Krsna consciousness. I hope that one day I will be a good instrument in your lotus hands.

Your tiny servant,
Hamsa Avatar Dasa

HARI VALLABHI DEVI DASI

Dearest Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada and all glories to you!

Today I would like to tell you some of the things I am grateful to you for.

Thank you for making everything an adventure. I will never forget the day you broke Krishna Kirtan Prabhu's sink and could not understand what kind of householder does not have a toolkit to be found. You called me and Nimai into the dilemma but anything we suggested you had already thought of and done so. In the end I drove to work to get the toolkit I had just ordered for the office. You quickly fixed the sink and told me to keep it a secret otherwise Krishna Kirtan Prabhu will think you just come to London and break his house and then you will never be welcomed again.

Thank you for taking the time to read my reflections of my service and time with you each visit in letters as you are leaving because I am too shy or nervous to have a proper conversation with you like a normal human being.

Thank you for being so sensitive. Every morning you can see my mood and emotions without me voicing any of it and you adjust yourself to fit me. When I am more nervous, you mimic me to make me laugh and lighten the atmosphere. When I get fed up of how unfairly services are allocated between men and women you just know, and tell me stories of how useless some of the boys have been as your personal servants over the years to encourage me in my services anyway; and when I do not even know how I am feeling or why, you are able to give me the missing link so I can make sense of everything because you know my heart better than I do.

Thank you for reminding me of the importance of maintaining discipline. A few years ago you told me that your health is dependent on your diet and that it is not easy to follow such rigid restrictions but it is my job to ensure it happens and that I have to protect you. I consciously followed this for a long time but thought one day you might like some variety, so I took a risk and asked if you would like some sour cream. You took me back to the start immediately, "You are meant to be protecting me." I sheepishly tried to explain and justify why I brought it but, as always, you were faster, smarter and were not having any of my nonsense, or sour cream.

Thank you for appearing in this world, for appearing into all of our lives and for appearing in my heart. Please always keep me close in the shelter of your service, there is no one I would rather do breakfast for every day but for you.

With love.

Your aspiring servant,
Hari Vallabhi Devi Dasi

HARI VILASA DASA

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

For a few years I have been involved in “preaching.” An old-school word to say the least. It conjures up images of a man in a black toga, towering above the masses, standing on a pulpit, telling other people, “This is how it is.” Being in the audience is a bit boring, but it looks fun on the pulpit. Prabhupada said we should preach, maybe I should give it a go.

But it does not take long to understand one important detail – the pulpit is just a prop. Preaching means people, and people mean trouble. Krsna says, “Surrender unto Me,” (B.g. 18.66). The preacher repeats, and most just scoff then move on to better things. But a few linger around and say, “Okay, I will give it a go.”

O my God. What now? They actually want to surrender. I guess now I have to help them. But I am not really surrendered. I will have to work on that first. Then, I guess they need some service. Otherwise, how can they get Krsna’s mercy? O God, this is getting complicated.

Once the ball gets rolling, all hell breaks loose. The conditioned souls with their crazy attachments can cause so many dramas. If you tell them not to do it, they start crying. If you let them do what they want, they just get into trouble. They ask you what they should do, and you tell them, and they do something else, and when they realize they made a mistake they come back to ask you to fix it. “L’enfer, c’est les autres.” Sartre had a point.

At some point the realization hits – you have to work with the people at their level. There is a verse that helped me figure this out. It is my special verse. It is verse 26, chapter 3 from Bhagavad-gita:

na buddhi-bhedaṁ janayed
ajñānāṁ karma-saṅgināṁ

joṣayet sarva-karmāṇi
vidvān yuktaḥ samācāraṇ

So as not to disrupt the minds of ignorant men attached to the fruitive results of prescribed duties, a learned person should not induce them to stop work. Rather, by working in the spirit of devotion, he should engage them in all sorts of activities for the gradual development of Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

This verse helped me a lot. I do not have to fight people or cut them down. It is okay if they are attached to all kinds of things. Just somehow or other get them to do something for Kṛṣṇa or chant his holy name. Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu will do the rest. Śrīla Prabhupada is also there. It is a good verse.

But recently, I realized something else. There was a bit of a situation and someone needed you to take care of it. And then you needed someone to help you take care of it. "Could you help?" My mind was racing a mile a minute. Would I survive it? What about my space? What if I get fried out? I have seen better men than me go down. You would understand if I say no. I could try again next life? "Okay, I can help a little bit, or for a while."

You were smiling. I wondered what was going through your head, and then it hit me. You must know it too the Bhagavad-gita, 3.26.

Your servant,
Hari Vilasa Dasa

HARINAMANANDA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

You are my best friend. I know you have told me that Krsna is my best friend - but I do not know him. Krsna is so kind. My whole life I have had so many, best friends, but over time the friendship sails off into the foggy distance of ignorance. But with you I feel like you are always there for me, especially on harinam.

The time when we were to fly together to Mauritius from Johannesburg with Antardvipa Prabhu last year. So I thought I will do some harinam around the departure gates before the flight and it was something small - nothing amazing.

I just thought, "Well probably the only opportunity to do some harinam today." By your mercy has become a normal thing for me now. Somehow do harinam every day.

Apparently you told me that you saw me from the airport lounges and Antardvipa Prabhu showed me a video of you watching me. When I saw that video I had deep realisation. You are always looking out for us. That is a best friend.

We conditioned souls have no ability to be anyone's best friend. You are not always looking over me from a window in an airport lounge, but from the liberated platform. I pray to you, the captain of my ship - that I always stay under your compassionate glance as I try my best to assist you in your service to, suhṛdaṁ sarva-bhūtānāṁ, Lord Sri Krsna - sailing all the way to his lotus feet.

Your servant,

Harinamananda Dasa

HARSARANI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

I bow down to your lotus feet endlessly. I take shelter at the dust of your lotus feet which is always submerged in Vrindavan. Please allow me to take that sacred dust from your lotus feet and place it upon the head for added protection.

Your Vyasa-puja is an auspicious day for us all, for it enables us to all reflect our relationship with you and appreciate your presence within our lives. To me every day is a special day because I know that you and Lord Krsna are in my life making it complete and a feeling of contentment. This is also a time for me to reflect on my relationship with you by looking back over the years. I want to glorify and commend you. Thank you very much for existing and having accepted me as your eternal servant.

These days I am dumbstruck in your presence and lost for words due to being in awe and reverence. I really like loitering near you when you visit and sense an aura of purity around you. I love the way you interact with others. To serve you personally gives me great joy. To relish the maha that came directly from your lotus mouth is very purifying, with the after effect of ecstatic and blissful symptoms.

Life as your disciple feels ever fresh, exhilarating, exciting and adventurous and this is because you and Lord Krsna are in my life. I feel the same way when it comes to devotional service which is electrifying, addictive and surcharged with so much energy. I wonder where does all this energy come from? No doubt it is from you through Lord Hari.

I depend on you and Lord Krsna (in the form of the holy name) with my services. You have always had a profound effect on me ever since the first time I saw you. You had captured my body, heart, mind and soul with your lively kirtans and lectures.

Your words are chiselled all over this mind and heart from all those years of transcribing your lectures. Unknowingly at times I am repeating the phrases that came out of your lotus mouth. I wonder where that amazing realization came from? Then I am reminded that it came through you from the lecture that I had transcribed in the past.

The advice you have given me over the years are like valuable jewels that are precious, unique and everlasting. From advice on raising a child, to working for Krsna (since through Srila Prahbupada you have taught me to relate everything to Krsna), through to describing that every day in the spiritual world is a festival and so the list goes on.

As I vividly recall the one occasion just before taking the first initiation I was very upset and could not stop crying due to a problem which would have hindered taking initiation. I had a strong desire to be initiated by you and no other spiritual master. I spoke to you about it and you calmly replied: "Initiation is a transcendental activity where it does not involve the body. You will get initiated." I felt so relieved and happy with your comforting words of reassurance. During my first initiation you said,

"At the time of initiation we are saying that, "From now onwards Krsna I am yours." I was just overwhelmed by those words "Krsna I am yours." Even now, I recall those words often daily. Then just after my initiation you whispered in to my ear to say, "You should have done this a long time ago." Maharaja you are right as always. That day was one of the happiest day of this life.

The day after my initiation when I went to visit you. You made the following statement:

"The bond between the spiritual master and his disciple is eternal and can never be broken. No one can break that bond." That comment meant a lot to me and it still does.

Another advice you gave that I still hold onto is: "Always seeing the good quality within a devotee. Focus on that and not their weaknesses or their faults." Those words of yours has helped me to overlook the faults of a devotee and actually appreciate them for their good qualities and how hard they work for this mission.

The other year, I made a conscious decision to give up studying the Pada Padma course and to be just a listener due to being involved in working for Krsna, own sadhana/services. In order to cram everything in within a day I reduced the sleeping hours between three to four hours per most nights. As a result it had a negative impact on the health. It was evident that the studies was taking up too much of the time. I emailed you with the decision I had made. You responded by saying: "Krsna is so merciful. He will shower you with blessings for all your efforts in devotional service."

This just shows the highest level of kindness that you freely distribute. I feel very blessed and extremely fortunate to have met you, to be under your shelter as well as being accepted as your disciple.

Last year I had the honour of your association in Vrindavan parikrama in November for

twelve days. If one day of your association resulted in a feeling of blissfulness, then words cannot express how I felt after the twelfth day of your association.

What struck me during the parikrama were your words of wisdom about wanting us develop the spirit of Vrindavan, by developing the mood of the residents of Vraja, where Lord Krsna is always at the centre of their lives. You wanted us to bring in that Vrindavan consciousness into our lives through devotional service by always trying to please Krsna through you. I meditate on doing this and find ways or ideas that are aimed on pleasing you both. One way I can please you both is by preaching. I find that preaching through prasada to be positively reciprocated. I encourage those who are visiting the temple to eat the maha prasada, by telling how special prasada is and the good feeling one develops after having eaten maha, such as it purifies the heart and mind. I often encourage the visitors at the temple to come to our Sunday feast program to eat prasada which tastes out of this world. In this way they can also get the association of devotees, and do some seva.

Let me be that instrument within this dear spiritual master's hands. Let him endlessly stretch and knead this instrument into shape so that it can become a useful instrument at all times and serve him eternally.

Let me offer all of the services that I do to you dear Guru Maharaja, with a hope that you accepts these meagre attempts of services that are done at your lotus feet via this means. For I am not qualified to serve, which is why I have taken a human birth in this world. Please take all the mercy and blessings that I have or received. After all everything I have belongs to you. May this day, the day of your appearance, be very auspicious and filled with lots of blessings, goodwill, mercy, spiritual strength and good health. I pray to Lord Nrsimhadeva to always look after you, to make you feel warm at all times, give you plenty of vitamin D and to never make you poorly ever again.

Your insignificant servant and unworthy eternal spiritual daughter,
Harsarani Devi Dasi

HEMAN RAMPHUL

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Srila Gurudeva,

I would like to wish you a very happy Vyasa-puja.

Gurudeva, you are such an exalted soul that just by your presence, you are able to attract many souls to our Krsna conscious movement and where else is the best example to testify this other than Mauritius. Each word you utter is a song. Your kirtans and bhajans are beyond this creation, your classes are heart touching, especially Caitanya Caritamrta.

Gurudeva, by your mercy, I am taking forward this message of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu and trying to spread this around East London through Bhati Vriksha. I am very fortunate to be a Bhakti Vriksha servant leader and would seek your blessings so that I can continue with this service without any hindrance.

I sincerely pray to Sri Sri Radha Londonisvara, Sri Sri Jagannath Baladeva Subhadra, Sri Sri Radha Gokulananda and Sri Sri Sita Rama, Laxman and Hanuman to always keep you in good health, protect you from all corners. Keep spreading the message of Godhead as well as making our Kadamba Kanana Swami family grow bigger to help you in your preaching.

All glories to you.

Your insignificant servant,

Heman

(London)



BEARING FRUIT

ONE CAN BE VERY LEARNED IN PHILOSOPHY AND INTELLECTUALLY EXPLAIN IT VERY EXPERTLY BUT WITHIN ONE'S HEART ONE MAY NOT BE PEACEFUL. THE SENSES ARE SO STRONG THAT EVEN ONE WHO IS LEARNED IS WEAK AND STRUGGLING. BUT WHEN ONE TAKES SHELTER OF THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER, THEN THESE INSTRUCTIONS BEGIN TO FLOURISH WITHIN ONE'S HEART AND ONE IS ACTUALLY PROTECTED; THEN THIS KNOWLEDGE BECOMES FULL OF FRUITS.

INDRABHATTA DASA & GOKULA TARUNI DEVI DAS

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All Glories to His Divine Grace A C Bhaktivedanta Srila Prabhupada.

We have been waiting for this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude for the love and kindness you showered upon us in gracing our functions with your presence. We have such fond memories of those occasions and they became very much a part of our conversations during family gatherings. Now we realise that your services will be required in New York for four months in the year. That may mean less frequent visits to our part of the world. However, we are not disheartened by the thought as we believe that there will be bright sunshine where shadows were trying to gain a foothold.

We are ever aware, Maharaja, how little we have achieved, but the desire to do much more is always a part of our lives. However, we cannot, with confidence, say that we will succeed. Kindly pardon us for our inadequacies and may we measure up to your expectations in the future.

Your servants,

Indrabhatta Dasa & Gokula Taruni Devi Dasi

INDUKANTI RAI DASI

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to your lotus feet.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

One year has passed so quickly. Last year I was lucky enough to be there with you and my god family and celebrate your Vyasa-puja. As you said, 'It was very purifying'. I felt ashamed, foolish and sad that I did not put more time and energy into my offering. I felt like I do so much, but actually so little to really deeply connect with you and Srila Prabhupada.

My offering is not philosophical or poetic. It is more emotional expression of my crazy mind and innocent heart wishing to serve you better.

Since last year I start writing to you more often (like a journal) without sending you all my worries and thoughts. Still expressing it on a paper and feeling grateful to have you as my spiritual teacher and my guide.

Sometimes I wonder, how can you have so much love for us?

How can you have so much mercy for us?

How can you have so much compassion for us?

How can you be so connected to Srila Prabhupada and Krsna every moment?

How can you manage to not criticize a devotee who has done some nonsense?

Why is it so hard to give ourselves fully to Krsna and his devotees?

How can I attain that selfless love that I am always reading about?

How do you do it dear Gurudeva?

I look at you, admire you. I think how can I be like you - my biggest idol. You seem to deal with problems with lightness. You are deeply rooted by your faith and dedication to Prabhupada. There is no airplane, and no earthquake that can shake up those roots. You are flying all over the world but staying strong and stable. Always chanting and talking about Krsna. Your sadhana is like a trunk of the tree holding your faith together with your contact to the outside world. And your branches they are just everywhere. Everywhere around the globe. You sing, write, preach, travel to reach everyone. To take care of us, to inspire us and to keep us going, because there is not much time. You are like the beautiful tree that I can sit under and feel its shade as a protection but also inspiration and nourishment.

Dear Gurudeva, please forgive me for not putting this relationship on first place. Forgive me for not putting Krsna always on first place. Please give me your blessings, give me shelter un-

der your lotus feet so I can always stay connected to you.

Dear Gurudeva, I want to wake up every morning and give my full dandavat to your lotus feet. I want to think every morning how I am your servant and how my life is fully in your hands. I am praying to stay connected and be empowered by you at every second.

At the beginning of this guru-disciple relationship I was regretting for being a woman. I know many do. I regretted for being in this body in this life and not being able to serve you closer and to be more in your association.

Today I know it has nothing to do with physical. Today I just pray to always think of you and offer you my words, my service, love and my life.

Today I pray to be your disciple deeply in heart. Not just in body. Thank you for being so amazing, so merciful, smiling and inspiring. Thank you for accepting me again.

Always your servant,
Indukanti Rai Dasi

JAGADISA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

I want to express my deep gratitude that you accepted me as your disciple. Even I am not qualified, you showered your mercy on me and gave initiation. Now there is hope for my spiritual life.

I was inspired by your approach to management issues, thank you for giving us advise. I hope very much that I could follow your instructions in a way that you are pleased.

Your insignificant servant,
Jagadisa Dasa

JAGANNATHA SUTA DASA

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

tatra bhāgavatān dharmān
śikṣed gurv-ātma-daivataḥ
amāyānūvṛtṭyā yais
tuṣyed ātmātma-do hariḥ

“Accepting the bona fide spiritual master as one’s life and soul and worshipable deity, the disciple should learn from him the process of pure devotional service. The Supreme Personality of Godhead, Hari, the soul of all souls, is inclined to give Himself to His pure devotees. Therefore, the disciple should learn from the spiritual master to serve the Lord without duplicity and in such a faithful and favorable way that the Supreme Lord, being satisfied, will offer Himself to the faithful disciple.” (SB 11.3.22).

How can we learn to serve the Lord if we are not humble? You are saying: “How one can only be humble if he is grateful.” (Kadamba Kanana Swami, April 2012, Zurich, Switzerland, Sri-mad Bhagavatam 1.5.34). Gratefulness comes from realising the greatness of the gifts that one has recieved. True value of a gift is in its engagement.

“There are many thousands of authorized engagements,” (SB 11.3.22), as Srila Prabhupada puts it. They are headed by hearing and chanting in the association of devotees. “By hearing the sound vibration of the Srimad Bhagavatam as it is one becomes free from the desire for sense gratification and mental speculation and makes him happy and satisfied in the service of Lord Kṛṣṇa,” (SB 11.3.22).

You told us that when one is free from this duplicity in the heart, when he can chant Kṛṣṇa’s name in pure love and with great ecstasy. “How he is so simple, so thoroughly honest and pure. There is no pretence, no duplicity on his side.” (Kadamba Kanana Swami, Japa Talk, 23 May 2010).

One should work earnestly to free oneself from any tinge of sense gratification and mental speculation and carry out the orders of his bona fide spiritual master with a loving heart. By always remembering the exalted position of the bona fide spiritual master, the disciple will achieve shelter at the lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa.

Thank you for giving me this invaluable opportunity and I hope that oneday I will that one day I will have what is needed to carry out your orders.

Your servant,

Jagannatha Suta Dasa

JAI NITAI DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Precious moments:

Whenever you associate with us, we feel very blessed. These moments are precious, full of mercy and happiness. Precious, of course, because you are our Guru, a representative of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and as such you shower us with mercy and bliss. Also because you are a wonderful servant of Krsna, your whole personality is dedicated to the service of the Lord and is therefore so wonderful. You serve out of conviction, with dedication and joy. That makes being with you a pleasure and some of that joy, determination and dedication affects us. We are thankful for the moments you share with us, in lectures, kirtans and by giving your association.

I noticed that two things are very important for you. One is that devotees are happy in Krsna consciousness and the other that the mission of Lord Caitanya is spread far and wide. That is what you embody and show by your example - happiness in devotional service and giving yourself for the sankirtan mission. A deep and steady happiness based on service and love for Krsna is what you show, not disturbed by the ups and downs of the material world. Since your heart is given to Krsna, pleasing Krsna is your focus and the challenges of the material world do not seem to affect this deeply-rooted happiness. You see through the dynamics of material nature, keeping your vision focused on the spiritual world. You want us to get that same vision, to reject the illusions of the material happiness and become absorbed in the glories of Krsna. By listening to your bhajans, lectures and by your interaction with us we receive new strength and realisations for that mission to overcome maya.

Thank you for being so active and so accessible, and pushing us forward in Krsna consciousness.

You are very kind, learned and absorbed in the scriptures, a thinker with great humour, creative and organised, a manager, a leader on so many levels, a great musician with all your heart, not only a rocking one, but with many facets, also heart-melting and sweet. We look up to you and you come down to us, to lift us up.

You are our master, but a master who likes to treat us as friends, who gives us guidance like a friend, instructions to grow, and boundaries to stay safe on the path back to Godhead. You yourself are fixed in transcendence, living the example of engaging all of one's talents in Krsna's service and helping us to do the same. With a lot of kindness and patience you encourage us to overcome our lower nature and use our karma for the service of the Lord, guru mukha padma vakya, cittete koriya aikya – may our consciousness be purified by words from your lotus mouth.

I have the desire to dedicate my life to your words and instructions, to dedicate it to spreading the Krsna consciousness movement and to be a servant of the vaishnavas. Being this, as well as being a good disciple is obviously a big leap away, still my hope is to become more and more qualified to be an instrument of you.

Your servant,
Jai Nitai Dasa

JAY RADHIKA DEVI DASI

My Most Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to you.

All glories to hi holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

We cannot be here where we are today, without their mercy. Every single day we are depending on their causeless mercy. Every day I am praying to become a better servant of the servant of them, because this is the essence of our being. I am realizing that it is not at all easy to be the right example for my children on their respective path towards Sri Krsna. Children are our mirrors so we should be all the time very careful how we are acting.

Sometimes I am not sure if I am moving towards Krsna, and children show me the answer truly in the mirror of their self. I must say that to bring Krsna conscious children up is not at all an easy thing. But it is the best instruction I had ever got. I thank you very much from the deep of my heart for this instruction.

I thank Krsna that He allows me to take care about the bhakti plants in a different shapes.

We will see what is our bhakti in the process of taking care of the tulasi plant which we had received. I thank to Sri Krsna for his mercy, without it even the straw of grass can not move.

And without causeless mercy of ones Guru we also can not. Thank you very much for your mercy.

Your insignificant servant,

Jay Radhika Devi Dasi

JAYA KESAVA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine
namas te sarasvate deve gaura-vani-pracarine
nirvisesa- sunyavadi-pascatya desa tarine

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my respectful obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

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.

If one can please a pure devotee of the Lord, such action means immediate satisfaction of the Lord, even though such a person is not officially qualified to receive the mercy of the Lord.

(Srila Prabhupada, Letter to Yeager, December 20, 1970)

The essence of spiritual life is to please the spiritual master. And the main feature of the spiritual master is jīva-doyā, it is sympathetic to conditioned living entities, a characteristic feature of a pure devotee.

This is the spiritual master's mission that gives people a holy name and transcendental knowledge and takes responsibility for bringing them back home to God.

SB Canto 6: "Prescribed Duties for Mankind 6.5.22 Narada Muni Cursed by Prajapati Daksha:

svara-brahmaṇi nirbhāta-
hṛṣīkeśa-padāmbuje
akhaṇḍaṁ cittam āveśya
lokān anucaran muniḥ

The seven musical notes -- sha, ri, ga, ma, pa, dha and ni -- are used in musical instruments, but originally they come from the Sama Veda. The great sage Narada vibrates sounds describ-

ing the pastimes of the Supreme Lord. By such transcendental vibrations, such as Hare Krsna, Hare Krsna, Krsna Krsna, Hare Hare/ Hare Rama, Hare Rama, Rama Rama, Hare Hare, he fixes his mind at the lotus feet of the Lord. Thus he directly perceives Hrishikesa, the master of the senses. After delivering the Haryasvas, Narada Muni continued traveling throughout the planetary systems, his mind always fixed at the lotus feet of the Lord.'

The goodness of the great sage Narada Muni is described herewith. He always chants about the pastimes of the Lord and delivers the fallen souls back to Godhead. In this regard, Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura has sung:

narada-muni, bajaya vina,
'radhika-ramana'-name
nama amani, udita haya,
bhakata-gita-same

amiya-dhara, varishe ghana,
sravana-yugale giya
bhakata-jana, saghane nace,
bhariya apana hiya

madhuri-pura, asaba pasi',
mataya jagata-jane
keha va kande, keha va nace,
keha mate mane mane

panca-vadana, narade dhari',
premera saghana rola
kamalasana, naciya bale,
'bola bola hari bola'

sahasranana, parama-sukhe,
'hari hari' bali' gaya
nama-prabhava, matila visva,
nama-rasa sabe paya

sri-krishna-nama, rasane sphuri',
pura'la amara asa
sri-rupa-pade, yacaye iha,
bhaktivinoda dasa

The purport of this song is that Narada Muni, the great soul, plays a stringed instrument called a vina, vibrating the sound radhika-ramana, which is another name for Krsna. As soon as he strokes the strings, all the devotees begin responding, making a very beautiful vibration. Accompanied by the stringed instrument, the singing seems like a shower of nectar, and all the devotees dance in ecstasy to the fullest extent of their satisfaction. While dancing, they appear madly intoxicated with ecstasy, as if drinking the beverage called madhuri-pura. Some of them cry, some of them dance, and some of them, although unable to dance publicly, dance within their hearts. Lord Siva embraces Narada Muni and begins talking in an ecstatic voice, and seeing Lord Siva dancing with Narada, Lord Brahma also joins, saying, "All of you kindly chant 'Hari bol! Hari bol!'" "The King of heaven, Indra, also gradually joins with great satisfaction and begins dancing and chanting "Hari bol! Hari bol!" In this way, by the influence of the transcendental vibration of the holy name of God, the whole universe becomes ecstatic. Bhaktivinoda Thakura says, "When the universe becomes ecstatic, my desire is satisfied. I therefore pray unto the lotus feet of Rupa Gosvami that this chanting of harer nama [Adi 17.21] may go on nicely like this.

Lord Brahma is the Guru of Narada Muni, who is the guru of Vyasadeva, and Vyasadeva is the Guru of Madhvacarya. Thus the Gaudiya-Madhva-sampradaya is in the disciplic succession from Narada Muni. The members of this disciplic succession -- in other words, the members of the Krsna consciousness movement -- should follow in the footsteps of Narada Muni by chanting the transcendental vibration Hare Krsna, Hare Krsna, Krsna Krsna, Hare Hare/ Hare Rama, Hare Rama, Rama Rama, Hare Hare. They should go everywhere to deliver the fallen souls by vibrating the Hare Krsna mantra and the instructions of Bhagavad-gita, Srimad-Bhagavatam and Caitanya-caritamrita. That will please the Supreme Personality of Godhead. One can spiritually advance if one actually follows the instructions of Narada Muni. If one pleases Narada Muni, then the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Hrishikesa, is also pleased (yasya prasada bhagavat-prasadah **). The immediate spiritual master is the representative of Narada Muni; there is no difference between the instructions of Narada Muni and those of the present spiritual master. Both Narada Muni and the present spiritual master speak the same teachings of Krsna, who says in Bhasavad-gita (18.65-66):

man-mana bhava mad-bhakto
mad-yaji mam namaskuru
mam evaishyasi satyam te
pratijane priyo 'si me

"Always think of Me and become My devotee. Worship Me and offer your homage unto Me. Thus you will come to Me without fail. I promise you this because you are My very dear friend."

sarva-dharman parityajya
mam ekam saranam vraja
aham tvam sarva-papebhyo
mokshayishyami ma sucah

“Abandon all varieties of religion and just surrender unto Me. I shall deliver you from all sinful reaction. Do not fear,”(B.g.18.66).

You are exactly like Narada Muni, and this verse and its meaning describes your properties exactly. You are still singing the glory of the Supreme Lord and his name, qualities and so on. It puts you on this exalted position of a pure devotee and exactly as he describes this verse and meaning when you save into your ‘stringed instrument’ devotees immediately dance in ecstasy and sing the holy name of the Lord. And just as Srila Prabhupada describes it in meaning, you travel around the world and preach the glory of the Lord to all conditioned souls. You risk your precious life for the good of the conditioned souls, and that is exactly what makes you very dear to Lord Sri Krsna Caitanya and the entire guru-parampara.

You are indeed the person Bhāgavata, living the teaching of Bhāgavatam. And that is why you are fully qualified to give shelter to others. Because anyone can achieve the highest perfection of life.

I pray repeatedly and worship to take refuge at your noble lotus feet. A pure devotee is able to free the whole universe, so I am pretty sure it is right to take shelter at your lotus feet. Although I am a big fool, I have a bad character and no prerequisites for spiritual life. Yet I believe that through your grace I can be saved and continue with my childish efforts to assist you in your devotional service to the Lord, and one day become your truly qualified servant

I am very grateful for all the grace you have already shown me because I am still here.

Your eternal debtor.
Jaya Kesava Dasa

JAYADEVA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

In 2001(or 2002) I had the opportunity to pick you up from the Munich airport to drive you to Nrsimha Ksetra. Since than, every time we met, it was like meeting a good friend, familiar, warm, open. In the meantime, I thought that I am not able to be part of your mission in serving your spiritual master so sincerely and kept some distance. But like a spiritual father you were always interested in my well being and you encouraged me to get back on track. Thank you for accepting me.

Your humble and insignificant servant,

Jayadeva Dasa

(Berlin)

JAYANTI DEVI DASI

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances on this auspicious day of your Vyasa-puja.

All glories to your lotus feet.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Praphupada.

Pure devotees dedicate their life to Krsna consciousness and to service for Krsna and his devotees. You are such a pure devotee. You are giving mercy to everybody, you are always interested in people around you. Travelling all the time around the globe. People expecting great kirtans, inspiring lectures and help in every direction, asking for advice in material and spiritual questions. You are giving all your energy.

You are my ever well-wisher and every moment with the spiritual master is so precious. I have so many of these precious moments with you. I remember my first visit in Vraja where I got the opportunity to do some service for you. So I helped by preparing your breakfast and we could also stay in your room while you took your breakfast and we could listen to you. I was sitting there like a little shy squirrel too reserved to say anything. Or when Giriraja and you came to our place in Leipzig and stayed in our flat. All this private and inspiring moments are kept deep in my heart. Vaikuntha must be like that.

Or when you tried to save my marriage. I could feel how painful this situation was also for you, not only for me. And I felt so embarrassed to annoy you with such problems. But it was self-evident for you.

You did name giving yagna to my beloved son Madhura Nitai. He was crying the whole time so I did not get much out of it. But I felt so blessed that this little soul gets so much of your mercy. Later you said to somebody that you did this only once and you will never do it again. Of course, it is not the duty of the spiritual master to do name giving yagnas. But you did it for us and I am so grateful.

My love grew so much with those experiences. My love grew so much through this whole god family. Friendships will take us much further. I gain so good and deep relationships with my god siblings. This is the greatest treasure for me, to meet all those inspiring souls because of you.

You are my Guru, you are my father and you are my friend. You are the light of my life. I thank Krsna from the bottom of my heart for giving me such a magnificent spiritual master. Thank you for having faith in me no matter how weak I am. Thank you for giving me shelter and for giving me the chance to purify myself. I love you so much for the amazing person you

are. Thank you for being such a strong and leading example.

Please keep me close to your lotus feet, I need your mercy. With lots of appreciation

Your fortunate servant,
Jayanti Devi Dasi

JHULAN DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

It was incredible to spend time with you in Vrindavan.

Thank you for giving us vision to see Vrindavan.

When I think of Vrindavan, you are always there in my thought.

You shared so much realisations with us,

When I sat there listening,

Sometimes I felt like you cooked all the preparations for us,

Set up tables for us, and even took spoon for us to feed.

You were giving us Krsna so loving and kind way.

The more I grow in devotional service,

I notice how much sacrifice and devotion

It takes to get the realisations.

When I saw you dealing with troubles for our trip,

I also saw your life of dedication to Prabhupada.

It was something really beautiful.

When I feel weak, I recall your example.

Somehow it gives me strength to continue to serve.
You brought us to Vrindavan from all over the world.
It is so amazing to see all the different personalities
Took shelter under the same father.
We make a joke,
that somehow we can recognise your disciples.
We have something in common.
I guess you know what I meant.
You have power to get people together indeed.
When we were at the dinner table in Brisbane
with other disciples and one old devotee couple
You said "This is a family."
That really touched me.
I feel like you were giving us a big hug
with huge feeling of acceptance.
I am unbelievably ungrateful,
I take your association for granted in your presence.
Now I regret in distance.
What word is enough to contain my gratitude.
Somehow I expressed my feeling towards your mercy.
Thank you for all your mercy to this unqualified one.
And thanks to Krsna for sending you to my life.

Your servant,
Jhulan Devi Dasi

KALAVATI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Hare Krsna Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

When I met you for a first time face to face and I had a chance to talk to you. I did not want to become your disciple at that moment. You told me that it does not matter; we will be friends and then we will see. Fortunately it has not lasted for long and you became my spiritual master. What is great is that you never stopped being a friend. Only that one, who wishes the best to the other person and does not hesitate to do whatever for this purpose (even if it is not appreciated) can be called a friend.

Why do I talk about this? I am not an example of a good disciple. Poor sadhana, often a bad japa rounds and a little reading. Simply my Krsna consciousness is not at all elevated. Even when I do not give up and I believe to be better, it is you who leads me toward the improvement. I am lazy to do it but you push me, by your lectures, your behaviour and attitude. You push me to live with my vows and you push me to go to Kingsday.

The last one is something for what I want to thank you especially because my mind and body always protested against such a strain. So many hours, so many kilometres, so many chanting. After all they stopped with protesting because so many hours, so many kilometres and most importantly so many chanting disarm everyone. Even my mind and body gave up and so my intelligence does not need to fight for what is the best for me. Finally all the tools worked and harinam became to be sweet and attractive.

It is your credit, you and your harinam which made it all happen. Every year you take us into that strange city full of strange drunk people and what else can one do than to stay with harinam. And to not suffer, one has to really take shelter of the holy name. When one succeeds then it's blissfulness, without pain, without wishes and without constraints. Maybe it is a little

bit of a selfish point of view, I know we are there for the people, and it is a mission, but within us something is also happening, and it changed me.

Thank you for pushing me in this way. Thank you for this chance to use the experience everywhere and everytime, chanting in the harinam, like if there's no other way, to be only here and now and dance and chant. Thanks to you no one can take me this experience. Even if I cannot experience it all the time, I do not give up and by the time I will understand that this is better than anything else.

Thank you.

Your servant,

Kalavati Devi Dasi

KALINDI NIVASINI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Hare Krsna Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

It is five years ago, I was fortunate to have met you. Slowly the meaning of Guru-disciple relationship is unfolding. To mention one, I have learnt that I always stay a fool before you.

There are years I had lots of your association but in your absence I felt distant. This year I met you about three times shortly, but it seems like you are just next to me.

I am deeply humbled by your genuine care.

I hope I can do something in service to Srila Prabhupada that will make you smile. That is my meditation, Hare Krsna.

Your aspiring servant,

Kalindi Nivasini Devi Dasi

KARTHIK BOLLU

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Austerities in Vrindavan are not ordinary, for three or four days. Maharaja used to do service completely absorbed. After service each and every word makes deep impact on his consciousness. Year after year Maharaja's service attitude to please his superiors is astonishing. Maharaja's kirtans are heart touching. Thank you. Jai Prabhupada.

Your servant,

Karthik Bollu

KASTURI MANJARI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

I would like to express my feelings by a recent dream I had.

I dreamt of meeting you somewhere during a program, there were more devotees. I was talking to you about health. I felt self-confident and cool, and you were pretty disinterested. But after a while one mataji came in and you immediately welcomed the devotee in a very enthusiastic way. I could see that you were really pleased with this devotee. At that moment I could feel very strongly on how much I am falling short. How I do not do anything that would really please you. I started to cry rivers of tears, now feeling absolutely useless and childish. You started to speak to us, all the devotees assembled there, by saying that you have been coming to this world life after life to deliver us, but we are so dull and careless and do not take Krsna consciousness seriously, we are not afraid of maya. Then you turned to me and said that if I did not have a wrong conception of me and mine then I would not have to cry.

Well, what to say, Gurudev? Under a polished mask I am a difficult case. It all could be so simple because the process is so simple. You are showing us the way, helping us, motivating us, doing everything, again, and we are failing again. At least I can say there is some little effort from my side. Very small compared to your effort, but still, it is there.

I wish that your face would one day brighten up by being pleased with me. That would be the greatest success of my life.

Thank You for everything, Hare Krsna.

Your childish servant,

Kasturi Manjari Devi Dasi

KAVERI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

All glories to you on this all auspicious day of your Vyasa-puja.

Thank you for the big inspiration in Krsna consciousness. Thank you that you teach us how to act correctly, how to live in Krsna consciousness and how to practice in the right way.

Thank you that you travel all over the world and spread the process of singing the holy name.

Thank you that you bring light into our lives. Thanks to you I can live in association of devotees. Thanks to your mercy I am able to distribute Srila Prabhupada's books and prasadam to other people. Thanks to you I have more trust in Srila Prabhupada's instructions. Thank you for giving us a great example and that you allow us to assist you in service to Srila Prabhupada and Krsna.

Thank you that you inspire us in deity worship. Thank you that you teach us how to go deeper and be more joyful in devotional service. Thank you Guru Maharaja that I can be engaged in mission of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu. Thank you that I have got good Krsna consciousness husband with whom we can try to please you. Thank you for your tolerance, patience, mercy on our way back home to Krsna.

I beg I could become your eternal servant.

Your insignificant servant,

Kaveri Devi Dasi



ASSIMILATED THROUGH REALISATION

IT IS SAID THAT TRANSCENDENTAL KNOWLEDGE MUST BE ASSIMILATED THROUGH REALISATION. IT MUST BE REALISED AND PUT INTO PRACTICE. THIS COMES FROM FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER, AND ALSO LOOKING FOR HIS SHELTER AND DIRECTION. WE CANNOT JUST EXPECT THAT IT WILL BE ALWAYS SIMPLY BROUGHT TO US. WHEN IN DOUBT, WE MUST IMMEDIATELY TURN TO OUR SPIRITUAL MASTER FOR GUIDANCE. WHEN SRI CAITANYA MAHAPRABHU WAS CHANTING THE HOLY NAME, HE CAME BEFORE HIS SPIRITUAL MASTER AND SAID, "WHAT KIND OF MANTRA HAVE YOUR GIVEN ME? THIS CHANTING HAS MADE ME MAD!"

THE SPIRITUAL MASTER BEGAN TO JUMP IN THE AIR IN GREAT PLEASURE AND SAID, "WONDERFUL! WONDERFUL! WONDERFUL! YOU ARE VERY FORTUNATE! YOU ARE VERY FORTUNATE! THIS IS VERY RARE, VERY RARE. THIS IS ACTUALLY THE PURPOSE OF THIS CHANTING, THAT IT WILL MAKE YOU MAD." THE POINT IS THAT SRI CAINTANYA MAHARAPRABHU, AS A DISCIPLE, WAS TAKING SHELTER OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER AND HE WAS ASKING FOR DIRECTION; HE WAS NOT JUST WAITING FOR INSTRUCTIOS, BUT ACTIVELY SEEKING THEM.

KAVITA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Although sitting here in Vrindavana dham I still do not have enough spiritual understanding to write a proper Vyasa-puja offering.

Few days ago we invite to our apartment our dear god brother Sutapa Prabhu for lunch. I started to complain, that I cannot see and feel Vrindavana dham properly. That I can see just year to year more noise, more garbage, more aggressive animals, more pushy Hindus and so on. Sutapa Prabhu explained to me, that in scriptures it is written, that Vrindavana dham will become more and more covered in due course of time. It is also for material minded people, not to come here for sense gratification, and that it is not only about karmis, but also material minded devotees.

At that time I got it. It is not about circumstances in Vrindavana, but it is about me. That is why I cannot find enough inspiration here. It is not only about Vrindavana. It is about my life, anger, lust, false ego - I can realise all of it in my usual day.

The only hope is your couseless mercy, which can help me to make any spiritual advancement. More of your lectures (listening properly) searching for your presence and direct service to you.

yasya prasada bhagavat-prasado
yasyaprasadan na gatih kuto' pi

We often used to say: "Maya caught me", but we are the one who hold maya. The decision is only on us, whether we are controlled by maya or Krsna. Yesterday Prithu Prabhu quoted Sacinandana Swami: "We must do the best and Krsna will do the rest". I wish I could chant

my rounds the best I can. To follow your orders the best I can. To serve you the best I can and because I do not.

So here I am back at your lotus feet, begging for kindly removing the black cloud of ignorance, that is permanently covering me even in times, which seems to be my “ups.” You are my only hope - the only sense of my life. Thank you for all your prayers and mercy constantly showering on us.

Your servant,
Kavita Devi Dasi

KESAVA BHARTI DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Hare Krsna Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Last year when I went to Vrindavan, I was really amazed to see the mood of the devotees when it came to taking darshan of the Lord, attending mangala aarti, taking care of the devotees and glorifying Srila Prabhupada every morning with the Guruvastakam prayers. These devotees' happiness lies in seeing all opulence given to the Lord and taking care of other devotees. All these devotees live simply and they do not try to get opulence for their own sense gratification.

I was struggling to understand this mood caused in my mind, I kept thinking how I can increase my wealth, my opulence and my comforts rather than thinking of trying to serve the Lord more opulently with all my heart. Spending time with all these devotees in the dham actually changed my heart. And since I have gotten back I have tried to actually develop this mood by fixing my morning program with mangala aarti at home, reading from Bhagavatam

and listening to lectures given by Srila Prabhupada and yourself Guru Maharaja.

I have been also praying that somehow or the other I can continue doing the service of cooking prasada, distributing books and harinam. In the last three to four years we have been doing harinam in Sandton and there has been an amazing change in people's consciousness. People used to walk past us with grave faces but now people are actually smiling at us, dancing with us and they are also asking more questions about what we are doing. Towards the end of the year we did harinam almost every day which was the highlight of my year, because we went to new places and many more devotees came. The realisation that I had from doing harinam and books was that if we want to remain enthusiastic in Krsna consciousness, we should chant with those people that come into contact with the holy names for the first time as they are chanting without offences and they are enthusiastic.

Now that I have been in the movement for quite some time, I have noticed that there is a need for devotee care in our society. My desire is to actually set up devotee care here in Gauteng in 2019 but I am scared to do this because I know that it is not going to be easy. I am not sure how to set this up but I have faith that by your mercy somehow I will develop the required intelligence and mood to be able to do this.

Reflecting over the last few years in my Krsna consciousness, I have been realising more and more how much I am dependent on you to make advancement in Krsna consciousness. My only qualification is that I am trying to become your servant by trying to help you serve your Guru Maharaja and Srila Prabhupada in any way possible. Please forgive me for any shortcomings and I pray that I can always remain your servant eternally.

Your insignificant servant,
Kesava Bharati Dasa

KOMAL PAREKH

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Thank you for giving us your time as well as inspiring and encouraging us all to further in our spiritual lives by giving us words of wisdom. There are times were I may not feel like I want to be kind to others or feel that I am not sincere in my actions in life, but when I hear your lectures, it always helps me to think about the purpose of why we are here in this world.

You always give us real advice which helps in life in general. When devotees ask which Guru I am inspired by and I mention your name, they all so “He is so amazing”. They say “I love his kirtans and the fact that he is so real”. You’ve been through so many struggles yet you are carrying on, this shows true humility and real love for Krsna.

Thank you for travelling far to make the time to come to Crawley to give classes. All the devotees there are so inspired.

Your aspiring servant,

Komal Parekh

KRISHNA KIRTAN DASA

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

This year we celebrate fifty years of the Hare Krsna's in London. Our reflections are drawn to the pioneers of the yatra, pushing themselves to do something extraordinary for their master - Srila Prabhupada. We try to commemorate those enthusiastic times by trying to push on this movement for the next fifty years. To do something wonderful again.

As your sixty fifth birthday approaches - I reflect on your contribution to me and the world. You belong on the same altar as those pioneers, who embarked on the labour of love to do something extraordinary for their mission and master. Your commitment, vision and sense of adventure have taken you around the world more times than your passport can display - yet you do not tire. It is amazing to witness your body get old and weak whilst your spirit and hunger to serve Guru and Gauranga outgrow physical limits.

The latest chapter in your labour of love for Guru have seen you set up office across the pond, where it all started for Srila Prabhupada, your Guru Maharaja, and even our movement.

As you work and sing in the cold winter of New York to assist in the re-development of the Brooklyn project - you bring warmth and hope into the hearts of your disciples. Witnessing your example of selfless service for your superiors and compassion to the conditioned souls as an offering to your spiritual master - provides a remarkable reminder of the level of discipline and devotion a disciple requires to cultivate.

Srila Jayadvaita Swami just told me that faith is transferred like an electrical current from one advanced sympathetic devotee unto another seeking sympathetic devotee [ref. Srila BhaktiVinod Thakur]. It was a powerful moment as he gazed into my heart through my eyes. As I tried to look onto that gaze for as long as possible - I soon began to see you besides him.

I am not sure how many more years Krsna will keep you in our association, or me in yours - but I pray on this auspicious occasion of Vyasa-puja - may I develop humility to become a sympathetic seeking devotee, from which I will be empowered to undergo the labour of love to make a contribution to our movement.

Forever your son, charged or not charged,

Krishna Kirtan Dasa

KRSNARUPA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dearest Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances at the dust of your lotus feet.
All glories to your divine grace.
All glories to your transcendental Vyasa-puja.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Guru Maharaja, let me wish you a warm and loving Vyasa-puja on the occasion of your holy and transcendental appearance day.
On this day, I intensely pray to Sri Sri Radha Madhava, Sri Sri Panca tattva, Sri Sri Nrisimhadev, Sri Sri Jagannath, Subhadra and Baladeva to remove all the obstacle that come in your service to Srila Prabhupada and spreading the sankirtan mission and always keep you healthy. I am most fallen and have no qualification to glorify your divine grace. Please Guru Maharaja, accept me as your insignificant dasi. As you care and love us all. Let your compassion and mercy befall on me. Give me your causeless mercy.

Thank you Guru Maharaja.

Your servant,
Krsnarupa Devi Dasi

LEKHASRAVANTI DEVI DASI

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

yasya prasadaḥ bhagavat-prasado
yasya prasadan na gatiḥ kuto 'pi
dhyāyaṁ stuvāms tasya yasaḥ tri-saṁdhyam
vande guroḥ śrī-carana-ravindam

So often I wonder how I have deserved to be allowed to call you my spiritual master. One year ago you gave me shelter at your lotus feet and accepted me as your disciple - me the most fallen of all.

It does not come naturally to me to find the right words because none of my words would ever be able to express how grateful I am that you gave me shelter, protection, and instructions.

It was an exciting year, a lot has happened and you have shown me time and again that you are my well-wishing friend. How can I ever make up for it? I brought along many “problems” into our guru-disciple relationship, and over and over you have told me that everything is fine.

In Vrindavan, you showered me with your mercy and initiated me. Me until this day I cannot comprehend how I deserved that.

Every day I am thankful once more for your contagious enthusiasm, for your bhajans that remind me every single time why I go out onto the streets to bring people closer to Kṛṣṇa consciousness, for your instructions and lectures that give me the best access to and understanding of Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Your sincerity, determination and humour are very inspiring and catching. Your unlimited talents are an asset for Caitanya Mahāprabhu's movement. Everywhere in the world we can find people who are inspired by you and your way of preaching. How wonderful it is to be part of the god family of Kāṁba Kāṇa Swami.

I am also eternally indebted for all the service that I could perform for you, even if I can never totally satisfy you, I will continue making an effort. With your blessings I will try to preach continuously and better, and will always think of putting Kṛṣṇa into the center of my life.

Dear Guru Maharaja, I will always need your mercy to improve my steadiness and earnestness in devotional service. I wish you all the very best and I promise that I try every day to become a sincere devotee and to dedicate my life to the mission wholeheartedly. Thank you for accepting and welcoming me, and that you have given your blessings to my new family.

Your servant,
Lekhasravanti Devi Dasi

LILA KAMALA DEVI DASI

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to you.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

I always wanted to write an offering for your Vyasa-puja but was never sure how to do it as I am not very good at expressing my feelings. This year I am giving it a try.

Thank you for every instruction I received from you personally, through books or lectures and for answering my questions even when I do not ask them as it happened once in Ljubljana. I had some questions and wanted to ask for the darshan that day. It was just before the morning class, you were coming down the stairs saying to someone that you have changed your mind and chose a different verse for the lecture. I was listening to the lecture in complete astonishment as literally all the questions I had, you have answered in it.

Thank you for every kirtan that always touches my heart so deeply to the point of tears rolling down my face. Thank you for inspiring me and bringing me closer to Krsna. Most of all thank you for having such a big heart full of love and care for all of us. I can feel it constantly, like some kind of protection blanket covering me, no matter what the circumstances. It is giving me strength in difficult times. It feels like I have known you forever.

Now I can fully understand what devotees meant by telling me that once I found my Guru I will know it in my heart. I am so grateful it is you.

With love, your eternal servant,
Lila Kamala Devi Dasi

LOCAN DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

An appeal to the monkey sitting on the temple bell.

Oh messenger of our,”sweeter than honey “King Rama, be kind and help me to find the Lord’s lotus feet. They measured the three worlds and pushed King Bali down to Sutala. Our Lord traveled from Panchavati to Lanka in a frenzy of love searching for Sita-Devi , that same Lord grazed vrajas cows not accepting any shoes. Are those feet not tired? Good that our mother Laxmi never leaves her service. Oh friend you can recognise these feet still bearing the kum-kum powder from the vrndavan damsels breasts.

Oh,”stronger than thunder” Hanuman be kind and help me to find our Govinda’s, “elephant trunk like,” legs.

They are covered with yellow silk, his knees gave a hard time to King Kamsas wrestlers. Mad-havas thighs defeating a million cupids stole the hearts of how many chaste girls?

Oh, “mountain caring,” Hanuman be kind and help me to find our Padmanabha’s belly . This belly still bears the marks of the ropes his mother used to bind him to the mortar. On that belly is a “lotus-like,” navel from that lotus another lotus sprout giving birth to the world’s creator.

Oh,”deliverer of King Rama’s ring,” Hanuman be kind and help me to find our Raghava’s chest. The chest which the goddess of fortune never leaves and bears Brigu Muni’s footprint and a bee humming forest flower garland also. The beauty of this chest is at fault of destroying hundreds chaste girl’s households.

Oh, “swallower of the sun,” Hanuman be kind and help me to find our Srinivasa’s hands.

These hands gave relive to Akrura, they straightened Kupja’s back and broke the sacrificial bow. They drilled into Hiranyas chest severed Lanka’s king’s ten heads and held the reins of

Kunti's son's chariot. You can recognise them holding conch and discs.

Oh, "resident of Arjuna's chariot flag," Hanuman be kind and help me to find our Mukunda's lotus face. This face bears eyes that witnesses everything. Still he could not see who is Vali and who is Sughriva? Gopala drank the breast milk of slim waisted Yashoda as well as the life of ugly Putana. His bimba red lips plays the flute causing bambo-armed damsels to blush. Madhusudana spoke teasing words to Dvarika's Queen Rukmini hearing it her fan slipped out of her hands and she lost balance. Good he caught her with his four hands. Black Curly hair beautifies Kesava's face. Sharp shaped earrings reflect on his pink cheeks. Please find that Lord Narasimha who is like a swan swimming in the lake of Laxmi Devi's mind and do not tell me he already resides in my heart.

Janardana's ears hear the prayers of Brahma, Siva and Indra. They hear the Vedic chanting of the brahmins and the cries of separation of his mothers and lovers whose hearts he likes to break. Even this prayer, which only devotees of the Lord of Simachalam can understand, is heard by him too. Those who read it will get Locan Dasa as a slave and teach him devotion to Sacis golden son.

Your servant,

Locan Dasa

MADANALASA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna Dear Gurudeva,

When I think about that possibility that I can write something about your glories and verbalize my gratitude and appreciation, this soul naturally becomes happy because her real nature is to glorify pure devotees of the Lord. It is especially nectarean to try to glorify you, by whose love and service Lord Gaura is controlled. Still you are so unselfish that you want to share this love, this bhakti to all the jivas on the planet.

Thank you Gurudeva for every opportunity of seva that you are mercifully giving so that we can become real servants. By your mercy there is a chance for us to sing and chant the holy name. Thank you for giving me that mercy that I could walk on the holy land of Vrindavana with sounds of your melodious and devotional kirtans and your wonderful descriptions of Gaura and Kṛṣṇa's lilas.

When I think, is there any hope for this soul that she one day can serve Lord Gaura? I just remember you and I know and I can see that with your mercy even this is possible.

In lack of finding the words to describe your qualities I will end with the words of His Divine Grace Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura about the spiritual master: "By the spiritual master's grace, my mentality of false proprietorship is destroyed. The spiritual master is Krsna's potency. He plants Vedic knowledge in our hearts, makes us feel lower than the straw in the street, makes us more tolerant than a tree, removes our desire to be respected, teaches us to offer others our respect, and empowers us to always glorify the Supreme Lord and everything in relation to Him. The spiritual master alone is capable of delivering us from the clutches of maya."

Your servant,

Madanalasa Devi Dasi

MADHAVALI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

First of all I am happy that this is finally the moment when I can give at least something to you instead of continuously taking so much. This year there was a huge change in my life. It had started with initiation and related bunch of commitments (of course it is not just about the four regulative principles and minimum rounds of japa, there is much more). The change will continue and speed up after the birth of my son this summer. Please let me offer you all I can put into bringing up a good vaishnava and to lead him to love Krsna and association with the devotees.

Besides all these parental duties I would like to do something extra for you, Guru Maharaja, and for Srila Prabhupada as well. Probably it will not be easy mainly in the beginning, because I am just not this type of person - I would not buy anything on the street what promises a huge revolution in my life. Mainly from your recent lectures mixed with various situation I got in last weeks or months I am convinced to do more in books distribution. I know there will be a lot of tapasya in form of brush-offs or lack of interest, but anyway I will go for it. If there is at least one person who opens the book and starts to read with all sincerity, it is worth it.

This year probably I will not be able to be an active member of Prague Ratha Yatra team as it is in the time where I will probably give birth, but if there is a chance to inspire someone (while walking with baby-carriage or on the playground) then I am ready to have some books always with me.

I would like to thank you for all the mercy and inspiration I can receive in your association, no matter if it is a lecture digital, in person or on blogs. I am happy for all the people who have your association all around the world.

Your humble servant,

Madhavali Devi Dasi

MADHU PANDIT DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami,

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna Dear Guru Maharaja,

Again a new year in devotional service come near the time of Vyasa-puja, the time of celebrating our brave spiritual master, our saviour and true well-wisher. It is also time of balancing and contemplating of your spiritual activities in last year. Did we make any spiritual progress? Did we please our spiritual master and Sri Krsna? Really pleased him? Not only that he is ok with our offerings to him, but is he really pleased? And if we did not quite fully satisfy him, what change will we make in our lives so that we will fully satisfy our Guru and Krsna in the next year?

The last year I really tried, to fulfil your personal instruction, that you gave me years and years ago. I am trying to wear this instruction as precious gem on my head all the time. You said to me that you want me to be an exemplary devotee. You want me to become an example for devotees. And I am meditating about your instructions year after year and I can see more how big this instruction really was. Because it is nothing less than trying to uplift yourself on the level of acharya, the one who teaches all other by his own example, like you are truly representing this quality to us. So in this light I am condemned to fail. But it in no means decrease my constant endeavour to fulfil your instruction. To deal in all circumstances in daily life like if you would personally stay behind me and personally overseeing everything.

My dear Guru Maharaja, your all dealings with devotees, and even more, dealing with all living beings, your personal example how one should serve one's own spiritual master and how to act according to spiritual masters desire, all this and much more assure me that you are perfect servant of His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. Like this you are the brilliant example for us,

your disciples how we should mold our lives according to spiritual masters' desire. Therefore, I want to assure you that, mainly because of your mercy and for you and Srila Prabhupada, I am still trying to engage myself in ISKCON under the guidance of senior devotees. I am trying to be an exemplary devotee, to inspire devotees in Krsna consciousness as much as I can. I know that you said trying means not doing it. But I am really trying my dear Guru Maharaja. All this is only because of your inspiration and your blessings. I thank you very much for all that you are for us.

Yours insignificant disciple,
Madhu Pandit Dasa

MAHA MAN DASA

My Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
And all glories to your Vyasa-puja.

Thank you very much for accepting me as your disciple and for the initiation at the Sankirtan festival 2018 at Simhachalam.

It was a long journey until I received the initiation. That you have initiated me is really the best example of how great your mercy even in difficult cases is.

I hope that I can become a true devoted disciple who behaves impeccably and with whom you can be happy. I have not yet developed this humble and devoted attitude. Unfortunately I can not yet worship you with the required devoted words or express my gratitude for you in an appropriate way.

Since the initiation I feel a lot of spiritual power, steadiness and mercy. I feel much more connected with the disciplic succession in our Gaudiya Vaishnava Sampradaya. I am very happy and thankful!

Thank you very much for being so merciful to me that you allow me to be your disciple, that I may hear your lectures, that I may take part in your kirtans, that I may have your association, and that you accept my poorly service.

Your servant,
Maha Man Dasa

MAITHILI DEVI DASI

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Fifteen years ago who was I? What was I? What was my life like? Scary to even think of it. I knew Krsna yes. I had a picture of him on my altar, but only gave him milk and fruits once a year on Janmashtami until one day I came across the powerful acarya Srila Prabhupada, yes I got to know him and from there my vision opened up.

Then seven years later I met his representative, who helped me and is still helping me now with my spiritual journey. Maharaja, you accepted me with your two opened arms. You never for a second thought the type of disciple you were taking on. Yes you were fearless, but me I was fearful. You took away those fears I had with your compassionate heart. You made me see the real true spiritual life.

I enjoy every day that you have given me and whatever I do on a daily basis I offer it to you. You are so lovingly not even thinking twice to take it up to your spiritual master, Prabhupada and all the way up to Krsna. I sometimes think that your life is a risk, but your heart is as soft as butter, that you are prepared to do anything for your disciples. I salute you for that. I am deeply indebted to you Maharaja.

On this most auspicious day of your Vyasa-puja, I take this opportunity and pray that Krsna will keep you fit, so that you may see many more Vyasa-puja's.

I pray that you would keep me under your shelter years to come.

Your servant,

Maithili Devi Dasi

MARTIN BLAHUTA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Spiritual Master,

Thank you, that you accepted me as your disciple. It has fulfilled my long-term wish.

For long time I was praying to Krsna that he send me Guru, so that he could help me overcome all obstacles on the way to accepting me and I could be qualified to serve him properly. In the purport to Sri Isopanisad in mantra eighteen Srila Prabhupada writes that Krsna leads his devotees as Caitya-guru from the heart and as Guru, sadhu, sastra from outside. In this way, devotee is protected from all sides. By your grace now I can safely continue in my spiritual life.

One who performs listening about Krsna and glorifying Krsna he gradually gets rid of all the doubts. He can attain the ultimate goal of life, deliverance from the birth and death cycle. To one, who have faith in instructions of Guru, all final meanings of Vedas are revealed.

All problems of life are solved simply by surrendering to Krsna and acting on his instructions. We are living on the dangerous ocean of material existence and our human body is like proper ship, Guru is like captain of the ship and the favourable devotional activities are like favourable winds.

When one has this fortune and meets a pure devotee, he can plant the seed of bhakti to his heart. Only by bhakti, which we put into all of our activities, we can do devotional progress and that can stop our suffering.

I admire your commitment to the mission of Srila Prabhupada. How much you doing for others, how you travel fearlessly and preach Krsna consciousness to people. That much people can receive this grace and this is big inspiration for me. I am not good servant, my mind is restless, my intelligence cannot convince my mind and senses to do maximum for sadhana and good spiritual life. Please be patient with me.

Your poor servant,

Martin Blahuta

MARTINA FRANIC

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Very dear to Krsna and very dear to my heart Guru Maharaja,

When I think of what to say to you, the only thing that is coming from my heart is thank you.

Thank you for all the mercy to that you are giving us.

Thank you for all the knowledge. Thank you for reminding us on Krsna.

Thank you for the example how to live a life remembering Krsna all the time.

Your words are going deep in my conscience and they are staying there and reminding me to be mindful and alert, to have Krsna in my mind and heart. Thank you to be with such a big heart full of Krsna for all of us.

Your humble servant of a servant,

Martina

MATANGA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to your transcendental service.

I was particularly blessed last year to serve you again and relish your personal association, for which I am very deeply grateful. I definitely do not deserve it. The mercy you are giving me is beyond my most wild imagination. Really, I do not know why I am receiving it, but it went like that. It was just like a fresh breeze for my tainted heart. I had the chance to know more about the glories of His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Maharaja, my spiritual father with which I am very proud of. So, at first, we started in Radhadesh. You were continuing your public hermit writing marathon and I had to be your personal servant for that session.

That resulted in sweet morning talks and late afternoon walks with the public hermit himself. What else do you need in life?! It was wonderful to learn from your personal example Guru Maharaja. Every time, I was able to observe your interactions with devotees in terms of vaishnava etiquette and Bhagavata philosophy. The silent moments were also very instructive and powerful. One day of those I had a desire to join you for a bit, in your adventures around Europe. Even though I was a little cheeky in asking you, for which I apologize, you still accepted. After your brief trip to the Brooklin temple we met again in London. I felt that the intensity was rising up at that time. Many wonderful pastimes in Krishna Kirtan |Prabhu and family's place until that day came. They were all trying to induce you to rest at home but that was impossible! You said "Forget it! I feel like in prison here! Let us go for harinam in Soho street!" We caught the tube together to reach out the heart of London and in that very same train I had the wonderful example of your broadminded preaching to the people. The guy that we randomly asked for directions started a chat with you and was very soon amused by your humble behaviour and deep knowledge about reality. Even up to the point that others were getting involved in the conversation. I was seeing you very effulgent and healthy. You were definitely in shape that day. When we reached the place, after a short warm up in front of

Radha Londonisvara's abode the Harinam Ruci brother joined us for a mega harinam in the center. It was explosive from the beginning. Everyone was dancing, jumping and chanting the maha mantra in great ecstasy. Many people were joining the dance, street artists were accompanying the flow. Vishnu Jana made a live video and the nectar continued spilling on the web reaching ten million plus views. It was huge and we had a lot of fun.

You gave everything that day and I was fascinated by your ability once again. After London we went to the Tabor near Prague to meet the Czech. It was a very refreshing experience to be in the association of all those great vaishnavas in that beautiful place and especially, to listen to your deep Caitanya caritamrta classes.

One day it became even too fresh. That was my coldest 1st of July (4 degrees). After that we went on a Vacanza in Italy. There were lots of pasta and olive oil as one would expect and the beautiful sravanam kirtanam festival in which you Maharaja were the superstar. After that, Fruska Goura retreat in Serbia. My God devotees were wild there as you were hinting to me. There was an informal atmosphere, crazy kirtans and wonderful prasadam. Then up to Leipzig and Berlin Ratha Yatra. After that the beautiful Swiss Alps and then finally back to Radhadesh.

For me this whole journey was like in one breath gone, very instructive and dynamic just how I like it. It was an amazing opportunity to meet many of my talented god brother and sister ji's which are all exalted vaishnavas raised by your expert guidance. Thank you also for all the chastisements and corrections which really helped me to become more aware of my situation. Thank you for sharing this priceless gift of letting me serve your lotus feet.

Thank you for your affection and support. This year I am definitely ready for more adventures and challenges which may contribute to your service and to that for Srila Prabhupada. Your instructions are the only solace in my life. Your life is a constant inspiration to my heart.

Again, thank you.

Your humble servant,
Matanga Dasa

MEENAKSHI SHARDA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Maharaja,

I am indebted to Krsna and you for accepting me as your disciple. I was always seeking for a Guru who is available for guidance. I had the fortune of having your darshan at the London Ratha Yatra in 2018 where I expressed my desire to be your disciple. We were standing in front of Jagannath, Baladeva and Subhadra's chariots and you were so merciful, that you accepted me and invited me to the disciple gathering. You are so kind that you give your precious time to speak to your disciples and develop a relationship with them. Just by talking to you all my problems seemed negligible.

Last time when I was going through some hurdles you helped me to look at my problems as Krsna's arrangement for my development. I am persevering because of you. You are tolerant, patient and very honest. You are very practical in your instructions and just like Krsna, you say this is what I think but you do what you think is right in your situation.

Maharaja, I seek your blessings to continue with my work and my service. Thank you for accepting me as your disciple.

Your servant,

Meenakshi

MERUMALA DEVI DASI & TAMOHARA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Saffron Dust and Monsoon Clouds

A plain, meaningless palette is what we used to see.

Yet Srila Prabhupada's movement and your mercy allowed us to break free.

Now you get to travel the world like Tintin in Tibet.

Your adventures are more meaningful since you carry no material debt.

While keeping a prayerful mood on your spiritual family; you often journey afar.

Your latest service is back where it all started, the Big Apple where so many dream of becoming a star.

Wish at times that we can be there for you to assist.

But our selfish motives take over and maya does persist.

I am sure it is not easy, yet you make it seem so effortless and cool,

You even changed the fate of this unwitting, colossal fool.

Time ticks on, no one gets away.

Since time is Lord Krsna, all we need to do is pray.

So on those dull days I will try to think of your orange hue like radiant saffron dust.

And the ultimate youth resembling monsoon clouds.

Because chanting His glories in this age is a must!

Your servants of the servant,

Merumala Devi Dasi & Tamohara Dasa

(South Africa)

MITRAVINDA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Maharaja,

The bearer of balance and peace. How can I express my infinitely deep love to you? When every time I meet you, all my so-called knowledge melts away. When your infinite mercy spreads perceptibly everywhere with a glance, you let all the seeds grow and thorns disappear. So what to do? How can I serve you? How can I express you my love as I wander around you?

My life seems to me as in a cloud, as in the morning with a small boat on the Yamuna, wrapped in the dense fog. Seeking, looking, but blind from pollution, and then, yes (finally), your loving transcendental voice: “Hare Krsna.” An awakening from the sinkin. Suddenly, the fog clears and yes we can see you, in front of us, as you drive and guide the kirtan and the fog disappears. But the sound vibration of your kirtan is preserved. Manifesting over the Yamuna, in us everywhere. You are always there, no doubt you stay on my hard disk in my heart, and never again will I forget you. In deep love.

Your eternal servant,

Mitravinda Devi Dasi



THE GREATEST TREASURE

THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER ARE
SHIROMANI, ARE LIKE JEWELS ON THE HEAD! THEY ARE
CARRIED LIKE A JEWEL, LIKE A GREAT TREASURE. WHATEVER
THE SPIRITUAL MASTER HAS SAID IS ALWAYS TO BE TAKEN
AS SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT.

NADIA MANI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Dvine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna Maharaja,

Searching for the right words, it is really true that you Maharaja have so much love for all of your disciples, yet we can imagine that. But at some point some of it does. You are like our spiritual father who guides us.

See you soon Maharaja.

Your servant,

Nadia Mani Devi Dasi

NAMA-RUPA DASI

Happy appearance day dear Guru Maharaja.

Hare Krsna.

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

I have always believed that mercy cannot be deserved, that it is a priceless gift. It has a way of bringing the desire in me to do something in return. You told me in one lecture that mercy can be attracted. That made me think of Damodhara lila where we learn that mother Yashoda made an endeavour and only after that she got the mercy to bind her Damodara.

In my life the mercy is always first even before I have any desire to make an endeavour. You give abundantly. You encourage me to grow and become independently thoughtful. You want me to become a pure devotee. You believe in me more than I believe in myself.

What did I do to attract such a mercy? Not much. Just being alive and being at the right place at the right time. "The devotees of the Lord are more kind than the Lord because they understand the purpose of the Lord. Consequently they undertake all kinds of risks, even to the point of approaching ignorant men to try to engage them in the acts of Krsna consciousness, which are absolutely necessary for the human being," (B.g. 3.29, purport).

What do I do to keep this mercy in my life? I have heard that here on Earth I have a chance to train and serve you and other devotees until I learn how to do pure devotional service. So, I am practicing in hope to do something to make you pleased, that you invested your energy and your precious time in me. Thank you for your patience and trust. Thank you for accepting my attempts to serve you.

Your servant and your mercy case,

Nama-rupa Dasi

NANDITA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Last year you gave me the mercy to receive initiation by which I am very grateful to you.

“Kṛṣṇa is prepared to bestow His mercy upon all living entities, and as soon as a living entity desires the Lord’s mercy, the Lord immediately gives him an opportunity to meet a bon-a-fide spiritual master. Such a fortunate person is fortified by both Kṛṣṇa and the spiritual master. He is helped from within by Kṛṣṇa and from without by the spiritual master. Both are prepared to help the sincere living being become free from material bondage.”

Reading this meaning of Srila Prabhupada, I can only think of how disqualified I am. But thanks to your example, and your enthusiasm for preaching I feel I can do more to help you and Srila Prabhupada - at least a grain of sand I can apportion with your instructions; Everything that you are doing in New York is amazing. You have so many qualities that are required for that kind of big preaching jobs. You are an example for me, I hope I can please you with my service.

Your servant,

Nandita Devi Dasi

NAVADVIPA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine
om ajnana-timirandhasya jnananjana-sala-kaya
caksur unmilitam yena tasmai sri-gurave namah

I was born in the darkest region of ignorance, and you with the torchlight of knowledge enlightened my way, towards the realization of the topmost treasures of life.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

“On this earth planet the best place is Bharata-varsa. In Bharata-varsa the best district is Mathura Puri. In Mathura Puri the best place is Vrndavana forest. In Vrndavana forest the best place is along the shore of the Yamuna. On the shore of the Yamuna the best place is the arena of the rasa-dance. The rasa-dance arena is filled with dust that touched the two feet of Lord Krsna, the lover of the gopis. The great sage Narada worships those particles of dust with all his heart.” (Lalita Madhava, verse 148).

I am very thankful to you, that you introduced me this world. The relationship between guru and disciple is irreversible. The disciple cannot repay his debt to the spiritual master.

Therefore, I only pray by words of Narottama dasa from Sri Prema Bhakti-Candrika:

“Take the teachings from the lotus mouth of the spiritual master one with your heart, and do not desire anything else. Attachment to the lotus feet of the spiritual master is the best means of spiritual advancement. By his mercy all desires for spiritual perfection are fulfilled.” (1.2)

“Fix your mind at the lotus feet of the spiritual master and the devotees. According to their instructions, and the guidance of the sakhis, always live and serve Sri Radha-Krsna in Braja.” (8.13)

“I will always prayfully with desire, sing the amorous pastimes of Sri Sri Radha-Krsna in life or death. This is my only hope and nothing else do I want.” (8.14)

Thank you for everything.

Your humble servant,

Navadvipa Dasa

NAYANABHIRAM DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

om ajnana-timirandhasya jnananjana-sala-kaya
caksur unmilitam yena tasmai sri-gurave namah

“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.”

Happy Vyasa-puja Maharaja,

It is my great privilege and honour and my good fortune that I am blessed to have you as my spiritual master. It is said that even with all the wealth in the fourteen worlds one can never repay one's debt to one's Guru. So how can I ever repay your love? Your mercy? How? All I have is this life and service to you. I have nothing else to give. So may you always keep me in your service.

In the purport of Srimad Bhagavatam it is said, mahat-pāda-rajo-'bhiṣekam, which means to be blessed by the holy dust of the lotus feet of a mahat, a great devotee. (SB 3.22.6).

As stated in Bhagavad-gītā, mahātmānas tu: those who are great souls are under the spell of spiritual energy, and their symptom is that they fully engage in Krsna consciousness for the service of the Lord. Therefore they are called mahat. Unless one is fortunate enough to have the dust of the lotus feet of a mahatma on one's head, there is no possibility of perfection in spiritual life.

So it is like that and there I pray to always be at the dust of your feet. My head in the dust! In your service at your feet. I am just a conditioned soul floundering in the ocean of the material energy Barely keeping above water as wave after wave comes crashing down upon my head - looking to take me under.

You are the transcendental boatman who can help us cross the ocean of material sufferings,

provided we follow you with full faith and determination. Those who are ready to accept your mercy will be the ones who will be able to go back home, I pray that I may always be ready and willing to accept again and again your mercy. Above the waves, on the boat! Crossing over! 'If one takes shelter of the lotus feet of a great soul, there is every possibility of one's also becoming a great soul.' (SB 3.22.6, purport).

I am always trying to imbibe your spirit and principles. You have set the standards and examples now it is our turn to step up and keep up. I have changed by your mercy, by definition something one is not worthy to receive and how my life has changed because of that. How it has changed. How far we have come and how far we still have to go - forever in your debt. As Satsvarupa Maharaja once said "Guru is not on the way to Krsna, Guru is the way to Krsna!"

I am in your service. As always praying to make you a proud spiritual father. Because who am I without your love?

Another mercy case.

Your servant,
Nayanabhiram Dasa

NEIL BOOKSELLER

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine
namas te sarasvate deve gaura-vani-pracarine
nirvisesa-sunyavadi-pascatya-desatarine

Hare Krsna My Dear Gurudeva,
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and all glories to you.

Before stepping into your shelter and coming into the association of devotees, I struggled with the idea of surrendering to someone, not just to a person, but also to the Supreme Personality of Godhead Himself. What did it even mean to surrender? It always appeared to be an extremely unrealistic and far-fetched process to me, and so I continued living in the darkest ignorance.

However, through your mercy and the mystical arrangements of Krsna, I met a disciple of yours in the snowy streets of Ljubljana, and it all began to change. Slowly, and at times painfully, I started to realise the error of my old ways and felt the urgent need to modify my behaviour, to adopt a more conscious lifestyle, for Krsna. However, I still appeared to struggle to live by such a life, even just adopting the four regulative principles and chanting the Hare Krsna Maha-mantra seemed difficult.

But then you awarded me with your shelter and through the treasures of your kirtans and lectures, I finally started to understand what Krsna consciousness was about, what the process of surrendering meant and how a lifelong commitment to someone is not necessarily so scary. So for that my Gurudev, I am eternally grateful to you.

You have always emphasised that the goal of this life is to use whatever skills and abilities we have for the service of Krsna, where even if it is not so easy, we must take control and engage our mind and senses in the regular and loving service of Krsna. You have provided me with so many jewels over the years, on how to cope with this double life of lawyer and devotee. You have mercifully gifted me with a practical understanding of how a strong foundation and reliance on Srila Prabhupada's teachings will assist me in combating even the most unfavourable things, and through that I will undergo an evolution of my consciousness whereby surrendering will occur naturally.

So as I come before you at your Vyasa-puja in Radhadesh, I am ready and willing to make a life-long commitment to you. A commitment that I will use this life in the loving service of Krsna. I beg you for your ongoing blessings that I can be successful in my endeavours.

yasya prasada bhagavat-prasado
yasyaprasadan na gatik kuto 'pi

I now realise that it is only through your shelter and the ongoing protection of Krsna that I will learn to accept the absolute truth and this is the only way I will be successful and happy in my journey back home to Godhead.

Thank you for assisting me in my commitment to my spiritual life, for being the most merciful and approachable spiritual master I could ever dream of having and for being our accessible representative of Krsna.

I can now also say to you without any fear, *siyas te 'ham sadhi mam tvam prapannam*.
I am your disciple and a soul who is learning to surrender. Please instruct me.

Eternally yours in service,
Neil Bookseller

NISKINCANA CAITANYA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Hare Krsna Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances. All Glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Krsna consciousness is getting more and more interesting, the longer I am in it. It is coming to a stage where the aspect of practical application of the philosophy in one's everyday life and implementing it in society is becoming more pertinent. It always was so, but there was still this feeling of living with the shastra in one's head and what is going on 'out there'.

Throughout your devotional 'career' (for want of a better word), you have expertly demonstrated how to amalgamate the inner life of one's practices with the demands of the wider world. You seem to do it so effortlessly, but of course you have given so much effort and dedication over the years that makes it seem so easy now.

You mentioned a few years ago to me of the need to employ 'cheshta rupa' in my devotional endeavours and not get sucked into the superficial romanticism of what I think devotional service means. It has been a few years since then, and my services, mentality and approach have very much aligned to that approach. At the same time, along with 'cheshta rupa', I feel there needs to be some implementation of some semblance of 'bhava rupa'. I do not mean in the spiritual sense; I am nowhere near that but more in the methodological sense. To bring a deepening of one's feeling and depth of focus in one's practices. Again, the exemplar for me of someone who is doing this beautifully is you.

I still seem to have the same blocks and weaknesses as before. They are unbelievable sticky. For me, particularly procrastination. With your guidance and blessings I actually know what I need to do in terms of my personal mission. It is just a matter of getting off my big behind and doing it. The funny thing is when I do get round to doing something with that aim in mind; it actually ends up being relishable and one gets in the zone. But the sustained focus needs to be there to do something substantial in that regard.

Classic excuses are thrown up by the mind. Having to tend to other services, managing this, doing that - the list goes on. Actually, most of the excuses are nonsense, it can be done if one possesses that 'Vyavasayatmika buddhih'. Again, I do not have to look far to see a living example, we have many in our movement and for me you are one of the prime examples. You seem to be wearing so many caps, so many roles and responsibilities.

When I talk to you on different topics, different services and different projects. You immerse yourself in the topic and project at hand. You speak with expertise on various different projects like you have immersed yourself solely in that enterprise to the neglect of everything else. And yet you reveal wisdom to that intensity on all the various topics I speak with you on. Whatever you do for Krsna and the movement, you give your full focus and depth of mind and intellect to that endeavour and then do the same for everything else.

I pray for your empowerment that I can also apply myself in such a manner. I am desperate, I feel like I need to really take my bhakti to the next level. I am thirty seven years old now and I no longer young and carefree. I need to grow up in my bhakti and really get serious about my mission.

You are amazing, I am nothing, I pray that you continue to pick me up and empower me so that one day I can please you, continue your mission and represent you as a qualified disciple.

Your insignificant servant,
Niskincana Caitanya Dasa

NRSIMHA CAITANYA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

I would like to thank for your kind and individual care that you give me. You know, that last year and a half was very difficult for me. I really hit the bottom. I was overwhelmed by my duties and services and I even stopped chanting. Miraculously I am still here breathing and somehow chanting again. It is only by your mercy that I survived.

You did not interfere directly into my life, you gave me a few simple hints (delegate, japa is more important than service etc.) and above all, you showed me extraordinary kindness.

When I wrote to you about how deep I had fallen I was afraid that you will be angry (which you maybe), but to me you were just so kind, and invited me to travel with you. Although, it was not possible for me to join you, the offer touched me deeply. When we met at Simhachalam you were very considerate, sympathetic, again showing how kind and merciful you are.

Dear Guru Maharaja, I do not have much to offer in return now, but I have one vision, a desire. During last Vyasa-puja you gave each of us a small book called Guru and disciple. You concluded the book by giving us a mission: To be strong individuals as devotees and to be famous by how kind we are to others. So I would like to imbibe that vision, to make it my goal of life. I would like to become that strong but kind devotee who will be a showcase of your mercy. Everywhere I would go I will say, yes, this is all by the mercy of my Guru Maharaja. Kadamba Kanana Swami is so great, that even I became a nice devotee. Thank you very much for your care and mercy dear Guru Maharaja!

Your humble stumbling servant,

Nrsimha Caitanya Dasa

OLENA BESKID

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Hare Krsna Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

This is my first offering, please forgive me for my awkwardness. High qualification of your numerous disciples makes me even a little bit jealous. So in this day I just want to thank you for guiding me, for elegant and gentle way how you do it. Your method is so wonderful that even my stone heart becomes softer. With you in my life, I (dry, tedious scientist) really start to believe in magic. You made me a believer! I have nothing to give you in return. I am a dog-poor. All I have is my false ego. Please take it today. I know, you look deeply into my heart and you see what I cannot see myself. You are the expansion of Paramatma. So all things that come into contact with you become pure. So, please, take my ego and build me up. I am praying to you for recovery of myself, of my selfishness.

I am your eternal debtor,

OLena

PARAMA KARUNA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

This year it will be the twentieth Janmashtami I will celebrate. When I have joined this movement I was full of hope and naive enthusiasm was my fuel. As years go by, they take man's naivety away, and that is actually very good. One should not stay naive. One should see things as they are. After all, we want to know the Absolute Truth, the ultimate reality.

During those almost twenty years I have learned, how unstable and unreliable the material existence is. In this world, there is nothing one can take shelter at. Everything is fallible and no matter how well premeditated our plans may be, the material energy can turn them into dust with a mere blink of an eye, with a mere snap of fingers. It is a world of vanity.

And that is because we are separated, we think to be separated, we want to be separated from Krsna, The Supreme Personality of Godhead, the only shelter for everyone. Krsna is everything and the existence of everything depends on him. Everything is a manifestation of his unlimited energies. Nothing is really separated from him. Yet in our present state of consciousness, we are unable to see him or understand him. How miserable are we? How hopeless?

It is the devotees' mercy that breaks this spell. Devotees know Krsna and naturally, they desire to give him to others. One moment of associating with such a saintly person is incomparably more valuable than any material achievement.

It is the parampara, the disciplic succession of devotees, through which everything auspicious comes to us. The absolute knowledge about who are we? Who is Krsna? And what is our relationship with him? Comes through this succession. The process of devotional service by which we can get in contact with him and divine mercy which helps us to understand the knowledge,

to execute the process and to do the progress - all that comes through devotees, through our spiritual masters.

For us, the foremost representative of our parampara is Srila Prabhupada. He is the one who brought the pure message, which was carefully handed down, from Guru to disciple, in the sampradaya beginning with Lord Brahma. Krsna Himself appeared in this succession as Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu and predicted the arrival of his Senapati Bhakta, who will spread Krsna consciousness in the way and to the extent never seen before. Srila Prabhupada delivered this message unaltered to the whole world and thus liberated it from impersonalism and voidism. By his example, he showed us how to execute devotional service. Following his footsteps is the certain way out of this miserable world, where none of us belongs. He leads us back home, back to Krsna.

One of the first disciples of His Divine Grace was His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami, your spiritual master. And I am very fortunate to be one of your disciples. As years go by, they take man's naivety and pride away. I'm now very much aware of my own incompetence and insignificance. The naivety has gone but not the hope. Although I am far from steadiness and my enthusiasm goes up and down I never lose the hope. How could I? A devotee of Krsna has accepted me as a disciple.

You are my spiritual master, my connection with the transcendental realm, the personification of Krsna's divine grace. You are the ocean of kindness and saviour of fallen souls. You are the ever flowing river of mercy and I am praying meekly for your favour. I am asking humbly for the shelter at your lotus feet because nothing else really matters.

Your servant,
Parama Karuna Dasa

PARJANYA DASA & ARCA MURTI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

We are humbled at the privilege submitting this Vyasadeva-puja offering. We are most thankful and overjoyed that by the divine mercy of the devotees, Guru, Gauranga and Lord Krsna you are in good health and high spirits. This has allowed you to continue serving ISKCON in such a glorious manner. Your enthusiasm, dedication and compassion are like a lighthouse guiding many back home back to Godhead. Like elsewhere, South Africa considers you an empowered devotee and leader in Srila Prabhupada's mission.

Our time spent with you during the Vrindavan parikram is most precious. The tour of the holy places, the devotee association, the kirtan and your insightful discourses are memorable moments. We long for more.

Our journey in Krsna consciousness is like riding a bicycle, to keep our balance, we got to keep moving. You certainly keep us moving. May you always be blessed.

His Holiness Kadamba Kananna Swami Maharaja kijai.

Your humble servants,

Parjanya Dasa & Arca Murti Devi Dasi

(Durban. RSA).

PATRIK FABIK

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you. A

ll glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna Dear Maharaja,

It can be called an unbelievable fortune if one can do what I am doing now in this moment, because now I am trying to write an offering to the spiritual master. What mercy it is when a living entity meets someone who knows the real meaning of life.

Currently most people of the world do not know that there is a need to search out a spiritual master. If there are some who search they often meet someone who cheats them. What fortune and mercy it is that I found someone who is so fixed in the process of self-realization. To find someone who teaches others about Absolute Truth. Someone who himself lives by what he is teaching.

I remembered one verse where Visvannatha Cakravarti Thakur compares the material world to a forest fire (Bhagavad-gita 4.2). Srila Prabhupada in this regard mentions that in the forest the fire sets even without someone consciously setting it. Similarly in the material world the problems arise without us trying for them. Although, we met in Germany in Simhachalam this year, thanks to your association I realized the second part of this verse where the spiritual master is compared to a cloud that extinguishes the fire.

O' dear Guru Maharaja, thank you for your association which is able to extinguish the fire of material existence that burns so much. Although various doubts arose in my mind, only one moment with you, or a lecture or even only few words are enough and I know I met a real spiritual master. In this letter I am trying to be really sincere and I am very thankful that I have the opportunity to serve such person.

Your servant,

Patrik

PREMALATA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dearest Godfather,

Thank you for all your efforts to guide me on my winding road back to Krsna. Thank you for being there always with me through your deep realized wisdom, through your merciful prayers, through your loving care.

With you I have no doubt, that I will survive this stormy period of my life and find again firm ground of spiritual happiness you gave me the day we met first time...

Your humble daughter,

Premalata Devi Dasi

PREMANJANA DASA & VAMSI GITA DEVI DAS

Our Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept our humble obeisance's at the dust of your lotus feet

All glories to you.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

The past year has really brought us closer to you and we have personally felt your mercy. From our last few meetings, your association has left us just wanting more of you. It is by your divine shelter and grace that we are still in this movement of Srila Prabhupada. We have drifted a few times but have always come back. This time Gurudeva our faith in the holy name has grown much stronger. Together as a family we are trying to practice Krsna consciousness. We try to have our own home programs and try to follow some sadhana. As parents we are trying to cultivate our girls be nice devotees and to co-operate within this movement.

We have found solace in your divine words - be it in a lecture or in your kirtan. The amazing way you preach Srila Prabhupada's message and always try to push this movement forward. We try to listen to a lecture given by your divine grace as often as possible, so we can always be connected to you. Your voice, your amazing message - ever humorous lectures are amazing and teach us so much. You give us a whole ocean of nectar and we are just beginning to swim in it. Why have we not realized this sooner? Why did we drift away? One thing for sure, no matter how far we may have gone, no matter how far away in the world you may be, Lord Krsna always keeps us connected. We have just failed to realize it. As you have said in a number of lectures that, you are our eternal father and you will take us back home, even if we seemed to have drifted.

Like Lord Krsna who gave Arjuna protection on the battlefield and was his ever well wisher. So do, you protect all your disciples against maya in this world. You teach us how to live by the grace of Krsna and that only by his mercy can we be his. You teach us how to keep the balance between spiritual life and material life. You say "Just add Krsna!" More books, more lectures, more kirtan and more prasadam. You teach us how to have faith and how Krsna's mercy is unlimited, and so is your mercy.

Our realization is that no matter how far apart we have grown, the time is now, to take shelter, to listen and to take your instruction and to make your desire our desire. Your vani is really what matters. The more we listen daily, the more attracted we will grow, the more our love will grow for the Lord. And the more we will want to serve Srila Prabhupada. The more

we will want to stay in Krsna consciousness and chant Hare Krsna.

To you Gurudeva, thank you for always loving us, for making time for us. For your unlimited faith and kindness, we are blessed by the best.

We look forward to your next visit and pray you always have safe travels.

Your most fallen servants,

Premanjana Dasa, Vamsi Gita Devi Dasi,

Bhaktilata Pandita & Vibhavari Kirtida

PURNA TATTVA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja

All glories to your service.

All glories to you. A

ll glories to Srila Prabhupada.

2018 was the heaviest year in my life. What I can say is the words you sent me during this horrible time: “Yes, only Krsna can give us shelter.” I realized this sentence fully. Nobody can help us, only Guru and Krsna. I would like to say, “Thank you so much my father.” You really helped me a lot. Dandavats and pranams.

Dear Gurudeva, with all my heart I wish you only the best. Again and again I want to pray my favourite prayer – “Let my ears listen to your lovely kirtan forever.”

Your servant,

Purna Tattva Dasa

PURNAHUTI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

I think many thoughts from my mind are just thoughts without understanding.

So I had a big offering for you dear Guru Maharaja but now I just want to write to you to thank you,

really for your shelter, for your mercy, and for giving us this peace of mind according for our spiritual advancement.

You are the one who always give me peace in the mind when I start to think about renunciation too much. So this offering is a relax offering because to become stronger takes time, to be really intelligent and to give up everything - what the soul does not need takes also sometimes. So first preaching and then bhajan. I am looking forward to have the same age as you and be so cool and friendly even with sudras and matajis. Because to become vaishnava in this body is really a challenge.

‘Harer náma harer náma.’ This Is for us, and trinadapi sunicena, you live according to those verses and I would like to follow in your lotus feet in every situation in my life. Please give me your blessings in any ashram. I will try to be good representative. In this is way how to overcome false ego to always chant and be humble. To cry for help.

I am crying for a little bit of this nectar and help.

Hare Krsna dear Gurudeva

Your servant,

Purnahuti Devi Dasi

RADHA PRIYA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Hare Krsna,

Few years back while I was wondering here and there for a Guru and was confused. I did not know what to do and then Krsna made an arrangement and sent you as my spiritual master. I am very lucky as you have given me shelter at your lotus feet, and accepted me as your disciple. Now because of your mercy and guidance my life is very peaceful and happy.

Your blissful and energetic kirtans and lectures give me strength and keep me motivated to engage in my devotional service with my house responsibilities. Please bless me so I can keep following your instructions and advance in my devotional service.

This is the first time I am writing Vyas-puja offering to you, so please forgive me for my mistakes and shortcomings.

Your humble servant,

Radha Priya Devi Dasi

(Australia)

RADHA RAMAN DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

It is my great fortune that I have this rare opportunity to glorify you on this auspicious day of your Vyasa-puja. It is because of your mercy and unconditional love that I am connected to you and Srila Prabhupada and some times I take it for granted.

I will never forget what you said to me a while ago that it is okay if I cannot do big things, just do a lot of little things and all that will add up to a big thing. Those words I hold very close to me and will never let go because it keeps me inspired to carry on.

You gave me your blessings to enter Vrindavan last year. When I entered Vrindavan I did not know what to say and how to react. I was told you really appreciate when the devotee sits on the mat for the parikramas so I jumped for that service, and knew I could some how handle it and not mess it up. I got really sick into the first few days of the parikram and had to see a doctor. The mats were getting lost and I was so embarrassed because I could not do one simple task.

I prayed to Krsna for two things to please allow me to get up every morning and attend mangal aarti and to do my service with full attention and responsibility. Few days into the parikram you said, "To get devotional service in Vrindavan one is very fortunate, and even carrying mats is devotional service." After that lecture almost every devotee picked a mat up and carried it to the next place we were visiting. I felt Krsna reciprocating with me and your mercy towards me. All I can say being in Srila Prabhupada Samadhi and seeing your face every morning was just special.

During the initiation ceremony you said Krsna looks at what we hold back, you looked at me and said how much book distribution means to you and we should get out of our fear. I came back home and during the December book marathon I was some how fortunate enough to

be apart of it and help distribute books. Again it is because of your mercy and that I am very grateful to you.

I beg for your blessings to take shelter of the noly name and the read Srila Prabhupada's books. Always try my best to assist you in your services and to your Guru Maharaja.

Thank you for everything you do for me.

Your servant,

Radha Raman Dasa

(Durban, South Africa)

RADHA VINODE NIRANJAN DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna,

A simple haiku to express my gratitude. Thank you, Guru Maharaja.

Never has this quote been more true.

This would not be possible without a spiritual master like you.

I am so grateful for the opportunities to serve you and Srila Prabhupada's mission.

I have faith that you will deliver me from this material condition.

With kirtans full of ecstasy.

And discourses that open my darkened eyes, so I can see,

Maharaja, you are truly an ocean of mercy.

I pray our most merciful Lord keeps you well.

So in your preaching activities you may excel.

Your struggling servant,

Radha Vinode Niranjana Devi Dasi



PRECIOUS MOMENTS

EVERY MOMENT WITH THE SPIRITUAL MASTER IS A PRECIOUS MOMENT EVEN IF NOTHING MUCH TRANSPIRES, EVEN IF NO BIG DRAMATIC STATEMENTS ARE MADE. ONE HAS TO CONTEMPLATE, “DID I HAVE THE RIGHT ATTITUDE? DID I REALLY TAKE THE PROPER POSITION OF A DISCIPLE?” THE DISCIPLE MUST FULLY MAKE HIMSELF AVAILABLE AS THE SERVANT OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER.

RADHADYUTI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Just as you are dedicating everyday to freely giving Krsna consciousness. I pray I may do the same.

Your instructions, teachings, mood, disciples, your every second is engulfed in growing this ISKCON movement and saving the conditioned soul. I pray that I can follow your example.

Your one-pointed focus is most inspiring. I pray that I may one day have such focus.

Your unshakeable faith in Srila Prabhupada and your Guru Maharaja is my saving grace. I pray that one day I shall have such faith.

Your love for Srimati Radharani and Krsna is so tangible. I pray I may develop this love in some lifetime. All I can offer you dear Guru Maharaja is determination to assist you in your preaching mission. Please bless me to distribute Srila Prabhupada's books, in that way I may be of some small assistance to you.

All glories to you dear Guru Maharaja on this auspicious occasion of your Vyasa-puja.

Your aspiring servant,

Radhadyuti Devi Dasi

(Durban, South Africa)

RADHAKANTA DASA

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisance at your lotus feet.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

daivī hy eṣā guṇa-mayī
mama māyā duratyayā
mām eva ye prapadyante
māyām etāṁ taranti te, (B.g. 7.14).

We foolishly decided to leave Lord Kṛṣṇa and look for our happiness in imitating his pastimes. As a result we are constantly pierced by Durgā's trident, consisting of three kinds of suffering. The verse from Bhagavad Gita speaks about surrendering to the Lord, but our problem is that for us Kṛṣṇa seems far away. Personally I cannot see his form. I cannot hear his voice and his instructions.

Recently I had some very difficult days in executing my duties in the temple and I was very un-inspired because I knew that the devotees will not even notice, what to say of appreciating my service. So I got lethargic and discouraged, but when I started to listen to one of your lectures, you just mentioned that Kṛṣṇa always appreciates our efforts, even if nobody else does. For me it was again the proof that the Lord acts through you.

Srila Prabhupada said in the lecture from Seattle on October 11, 1968:

"A person in full Kṛṣṇa consciousness acts by the dictation of Kṛṣṇa, and so Arjuna agreed to fight the battle of Kurukṣetra. In the beginning of Kṛṣṇa consciousness this dictation of the Lord is received through the transparent medium of the spiritual master. When one is sufficiently trained and acts with submissive faith and love for Kṛṣṇa under the direction of the bona fide spiritual master, the dovetailing process becomes more firm and accurate. At this stage (Kṛṣṇa) dictates from within. From without the devotee is helped by the spiritual master, the bona fide representative of Kṛṣṇa, and from within the Lord helps the devotee as caitya-guru, being seated within the heart of everyone."

You equip us for the battle with maya with:

- selfless care about us, your disciples
- instructions about philosophy

- expert advice how to apply the philosophy
- your exemplary behavior
- chastisement (when we go too far)
- appreciation of our service
- mercy and prayer

Few years ago I picked you up in the airport. While struggling to arrange your luggage so that it would fit in the trunk of the car, you with few movements of your hand hinted how it should be done. Embarrassed and with false humility I said, "Therefore I need the spiritual master." But you replied that, "The spiritual master we need more for spiritual matters." Sometimes I see that I can handle the material things quite well, but I cannot say that I am never influenced by maya, that I never forget Krsna and that I always felt spiritually strong.

Therefore, I am very thankful to the Lord, that he sent me such a spiritual master whose instructions, personal example and guidance are much needed light on the path back to God-head.

Your eternal servant,
Radhakanta Dasa

RAGAMAYI BHAKTI DEVI DASI

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you on this auspicious day.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

When I saw you last time you were going to fly to United States of America. You mentioned your Guru Maharaja wants you to go there and help him. You are teaching us by your own example how we should take up the order and mission of our spiritual master as are our life and soul, and how we should dedicate our life to fulfill what our spiritual master wants.

On this special day I pray to you to engage me in your service birth after birth. I hope I serve sincerely and somehow help you in your mission.

Your insignificant servant,
Ragamayi Bhakti Devi Dasi

RAI KISORI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Gurudeva,

Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

The relationship between the spiritual master and the disciple is the most important relationship in a disciple's life. Nothing can be greater than such a pure and eternal relationship. Your selfless nature is such an example to us. Out of your hectic schedule, you assiduously manage to please your spiritual master by carrying out his orders, making them your priority. In addition to taking out time to nourish your personal relationship with your disciples as well as serving the Lord by increasing the intensity of your own personal sadhna. Such are your divine teachings and instructions that are taught to us not only by your words but also by your actions.

By your mercy, I have been able to witness your sincere dedication and enthusiasm to propagate the divine teachings of Srila Prabhupada in the whole world. Please keep blessing me by using me as a tool in your endeavor to please Srila Prabhupada. Please keep showering your mercy upon me so that I may be constantly engaged in devotional service to the Lord and his devotees.

Happy Vyasa-puja dear Guru Maharaja. Praying to have your merciful association soon. All Glories to Sri Guru and Gauranga.

Trying to be your servant,

Rai Kisori Devi Dasi

RASA PARAYANA DASA

mukam karoti vacalam pangum langhayate girim
yat-krpa tam aham vande sri-gurum dina-taranam

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Once in Mayapur His Holiness Tamal Krishna Maharaja had an argument with Harikesa Prabhu over who should get the remnants of Srila Prabhupada's prasadam. As cook, Harikesa Prabhu resented Tamal Krishna Maharaja's acquisition of all the leftovers. Whist Tamal Krishna Maharaja argued that he was only taking what was left in the pots and not what was left on Prabhupada's plate. Thus the dispute. Prabhupada called them both onto the veranda. After hearing their arguments, he managed to resolve the issue to everyone's satisfaction. Prabhupada said that Harikesa should not have interrupted Tamal Krishna while he was eating. Respecting prasadam is a very important function, and there should be no disturbance. He gave his permission for Tamal Krishna to eat what was left in the pots, but also confirmed his desire that his prasadam be distributed. Then Prabhupada went on to explain that the vaishnava attitude in dealing with one another is one of humility. "Actually," Prabhupada said: "One has to be blessed by a devotee to become a devotee. And he who is the servant of the servant of the servant - one hundred times removed - is not worse than one who directly serves the Guru. If one thinks, 'Because I am direct servant, I am better than others,' then he is not a Vaishnava. To offer one's respects to Guru and not to his disciples, this is wrong. This is not Vaishnava. One has to be humble and try to serve all Vaishnavas - not some and not others." (Giriraj Swami, Vaishnava Compassion and Srila Prabhupada, 5 September 2000, Sri Vrindavan Dham, Khazakstan).

But the material consciousness of "use and abuse" where we use something or somebody and then throw them away is still very predominant within the heart. This makes very difficult for me to be obliged to and feel grateful to the ones who sacrificed for me and inspired me to take up practicing Krsna consciousness. They are still doing a lot so that my devotional life is maintained. By their mercy I was able to get so many other vaishnava's mercy including yours Maharaja.

On your Vyasa-puja day I pray unto you Guru Maharaja to please remove this dirty thing

within my heart of ungrateful behaviour towards devotees, which has made me blind to your abundant mercy that you have been showering upon me causelessly. By your grace I may consciously start cultivating an appreciative, respectful and service attitude unto all the vaishnavas which I hope will please you Guru Maharaja.

Thank you for everything.

Struggling to be your foolish disciple,

Rasa Parayana Dasa

(ISKCON Juhu)

RAVINDRA SVARUPA DAS & SRI JI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

We are very fortunate to have the opportunity to write to you on the auspicious day of your appearance. We are very fortunate first of all that you entered in our life and heart.

Often we think of where would we be without you, your disciples and your preaching centers. Gurudeva, you set the example of devotion to Sri Guru and Gauranga and we wish only to humbly try to follow this example.

We pray only to serve at your lotus feet birth after birth. Please grant us the benediction that this may be so. During the weekly seva in the Sri Krsna Dhaam and organization of Ratha Yatra in The Hague we feel your presence very strongly.

We love you, dear Guru Maharaja, very much. Please, always be healthy. Please allow us always to stay as your disciple and be at your lotus feet.

Your lowly servants,

Ravindra Svarupa Dasa & Sri Ji Devi Dasi

REVATI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Hare Krsna My Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to you.

All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Ahaṁ hare tava pādaika-mūla-
dāsānudāso bhavitāsmi bhūyaḥ
manaḥ smaretāsu-pater guṇāṁs te
grṇīta vāk karma karotu kāyaḥ, (SB 6.11.24)

Many years ago I found this verse spoken along with some others by Vṛtrasura and although these prayers were somehow beyond my level at this time I liked them and kept them in my collection of verses and songs.

In the course of time I completely forgot about them and only after this summer I collected some remaining less important stuff from Germany I came across the sheet with the verses again, and after so many years my understanding had changed. Reading the story of Vṛtrasura again I became somehow absorbed in his mood of suffering from seemingly endless separation and his longing to return to his original position. So I learnt the verses by heart and found a melody that expressed this mood. Somehow something happened inside of me.

Shortly after, while listening to one of your kirtans, looking at the photos of Krsna and Balarama in New Mayapur hanging at my wall and thinking of the time I spent in their service I became somehow emotional about my desire to serve them along with you in our eternal home. Suddenly, this verse had an even deeper meaning for me. There is not much I am able to do in your service here in this world I thought, being very sad about.

That was the moment where Balarama called me a fool. He reminded me of what I had learnt almost one year ago in Puri about Caitanya Mahaprabhu's kirtan. How we are serving Guru and Gauranga by chanting in kirtan. How this kirtan is a support of the service the gopis are

doing to console and please Srimati Radharani. How foolish I was. Meeting you in Leipzig, being in Vrindavan with you, chanting the holy name together with you for so many hours. I was indeed serving together with you. Unfortunately I was not really aware of this fact when I did it. Instead of this I just enjoyed it.

Even in separation, the connection with you is there. This I experienced a few days ago. I had just arrived in Puri for the retreat with Madhavananda prabhu. My room was cleaned. Everything was arranged and in order to feel a little bit like at home. For some time I had put one photo of you at the wall. It shows you with your bead bag in your hand and a broad smile. Then, when I had to go for registration I was a little bit late. So I was in a hurry and on my way down I suddenly remembered that I had not yet seen the temple deities here this day. Some inner voice told me it was not proper to just run away without at least paying obeisances. But then I thought I could very well do this later after returning. A few moments later I was laying on the ground, with full dandavat. It was a real big bang. I hurt my forehead, my arm and some ribs. It took me some time before I was able to get up. Some Indian guests were coming around the corner, but just passed by, without asking if I would need any help, which later I found somehow strange, because usually they react differently.

Next day when I came to the same spot again I understood why no-one had helped me and also why this had happened. From the spot where I had fallen one could see the entrance of the temple. So they might have thought I was paying obeisances there, and I understood that is exactly what I had done, though involuntarily. Krsna had helped me a little bit to behave properly.

You might ask how this is connected to you? This is the really funny part of the story. When I returned to my room with a heavy headache and a lot of other pain. I looked at your photo and it struck me how you were looking at me. For the first time I saw that your index finger was pointing at me and you were really laughing about me. Somehow in a kind way, but still your smiling eyes seemed to say: "You see, that's what happens if you do not listen. Did I not tell you, that Krsna will instruct you from within your heart."

There is some hope (against hope) inside of me that one day I will be able to fully discriminate between the foolish instructions my mind is giving and the good teachings coming from inside the heart, from paramatma/Krsna. Being your disciple, the disciple of such a great personality who is so patient, broadminded and compassionate, how could I give up this hope?

As far as I understood it is allowed to be greedy in Krsna consciousness. So if I am allowed to ask you for something, then I would like to ask for even four things:

1. Please pray for me that I will be able to understand Krsna's desire, to understand how I can serve him best.
2. Please bless me that my faith in the process Srila Prabhupada gave to us may become as strong as the faith you expressed in the talk with/about Rina.
3. There are almost too many points I wrote down during the parikramas in Vrindavan and Puri where I have to work on. So I beg you, please bless me that I will not lose courage, and get

stuck somewhere on my way back home.

4. Despite of knowing that whatever I am doing related to Krsna is serving you. I would be extremely happy in case there would be anything else I could do in your service.

Thank you for being my well-wishing friend, for tolerating my foolishness, for being so kind, broad-minded, for being connected with me and somehow present whenever I need it the most. Thank you for all the kirtans that you are doing wherever you go, for this wonderful opportunity of serving Lord Gauranga directly with you.

Unfortunately still a foolish nonsense-rascal, but nevertheless full of hope for some causeless mercy.

I remain your eternal servant,

Revati Devi Dasi

RUKMINI DEVI DASI

You tease me.

You smile and say something sarcastic.

You smash my ego.

Pieces of me shattered to small fragments.

And build me up again with the soft kindness,

Of a single word.

You give me tomorrow.

And expect it yesterday.

Ever impatient,

And yet you wait, without complaint.

For my conditioning to de-construct.

You change your mind, and then change it again.

And years later I'm still tongue tied.

But you know,

And seldom need explanations.

You push me, challenge me,

And keep challenging me.

There could be a rhino waiting around the corner.

Are you ready for the chase?

And I cannot resist.

An incompetent, half-baked hunter.
But you let me run.
Blue eyes of cold anger,
Sometimes haunt me
But never do you close the door.
Instead, you give me service,
And more service and more service.
Flooding the corners of doubt and ignorance.
Lifting my head to the Krishna Sun.
Above the horizon
"Can't you feel the sunshine?"
Question after question,
I lay down the greyness of my mind.
Answer after answer
You build faith.
Practical, poetic, sastric, clear and,
A divination,
Answering my heart.
Answering questions.
I did not know I was asking,
Perfect answers to imperfect questions.

You taunt me, tempt me.
*"You can also be in the inner circle,
If you align your mind and heart"*
An invitation to rise above,
And let go of the cobwebs.
I want to reach for your stars,
With my ankles still stuck in the mud.

And still you spin around me.
Weaving vivid colours,
Of HOPE.
Singing sweet mantras that say,
The spiritual world is not far away.
And I want to know your Krsna.
Taste what you are tasting,
Serve as you are serving,
But you are aloof in that world.

You turn to leave, and never look back.
Un-capture-able, always to be conquered,
And all I have is glimpsed invitation,
And service

You give me your words,
And I struggle to curb,
My “intelligence” that thinks:
With all this punctuation and tense,
Grammar and precise etiquette of words,
I can place,
*“The withered garland of logic
Around a miracle.”*
And I see you,
In a 66 year-old Superman suit,
Jetting to the corners of the earth.
To follow your gurus words.
Holding managerial mountains on your back.
(After you said you never would again!)
To please Prabhupada,
I see you, stepping on the head of death.

You tease me.
You taunt me and call me,
A new and clever name,
For every occasion.
Of my mishappenedness

Ms Butterfly - come out of your cocoon you need to change,
Rockmini - Stay solid. But will you ever move?
Rukmini Goswamini - tame your ego, stick to the basics.
I have incarnated from a village pumpkin to a lion to a pillar to.

Be bound to you,
I am bound to you.
“And if you hold on to the lotus feet of your spiritual master and I to mine then eventually we
will reach the spiritual world.”
Your servant,
Rukmini Devi Dasi

RUPA MANJARI DEVI DASI

Hare Krsna Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisance.
All glories to you Maharaja.
All glories to Srila Parama Guru Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

I do not know how to express my gratitude to you Guru Maharaja. Especially for being with us every moment, whatever might be the situation, you guided us through and took care of us. Four years back because of my health issues, all of sudden I had to be admitted in the hospital, which came unexpectedly. That was the first time I was all alone in the hospital, which was a terrible situation, especially leaving kids (one was six years and the other was just a few months) at home. Still, my younger son was drinking mother's milk. It was just your words that gave me lots of energy and mental strength. Just one week before joining in hospital, I heard your class which was about how to remember Krsna during the hospitalized period. Sudama Prabhu arranged twenty four hours kirtan in my room. Only your kirtan gave dhairya to me.

When I spoke with you, you were talking to me like my mother. Can still remember your advice and instructions:

“Rupa eat Chavan prash and go for a walk. Take urad dal soup. First take English medicines to recover and then take ayurvedic panchakarma treatment to detoxify and so on.”

I saw your motherly love upon me. I could not stop my tears now when I remember your care for us. I have full confidence Maharaja that you are always with us and listen to my words and reciprocates with me. Every day I share so many things with you and I get replies from you. You always guided us. Sudama Prabhu with his preaching activities has again built a new group of devotees who all feel like one family and, all take up services. This was possible only because of you Guru Maharaja. Though the devotees hail from different regions, families, we feel closeness like blood-related. This is just possible with your blessings. That we have a big vaishnava family.

Sri Vibhu gave few public performances which gave us access to more people to preach to. He is learning only because of your blessings and he is always inspired by your kirtans. Please bless our both kids that they can stay on track and continue to be part of Srila Prabhupada's wonderful movement. Please continue showering your blessings upon us Guru Maharaja.

Your servant,
Rupa Manjari Devi Dasi

SADBHUJA DASA

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

A year has passed, a challenging year, purifying and intense. You are the steady variable in my life and I am very grateful for this. In times where there is not much of a material base to stand on, it is so valuable to have this shelter and in those times Krsna is forcing to take it as well. Ending up in New York was not part of my plan but Krsna had another and I am sure that after some time I will understand why.

Being with you in New York I realized once more how much you have to deal with so many issues. Demands from the institution, from Jayadvaita Swami and from all of your disciples and devotees in general. An extremely intense and challenging life and situation. I am amazed how you handle all this. I try to help by massage, supporting your activities and not putting even more on your plate, although in the last years I was not fully successful with this.

In the last years to tried to reflect about my life quite a bit, also about Krsna consciousness and our movement. If Krsna consciousness is so natural to the living entity, why is it sometimes so artificially practised? Why sometimes it has the effect of impersonal behaviour and most obvious things are overlooked. I reflect about myself as well. Where are my blind spots? What conditioning is getting in the way to be a better person and devotee? Yes, I know that often you say forget about all this and just do service. But I realized to do the service I need to work on this, otherwise I do it in an artificial way. I want to understand all this on a more deeper level. I am glad that in you I find someone who is open, ready and able to understand what I share, discuss sometimes even argue.

Thank you for accepting me in your family. Thank you for yoriendship, guidance, example, for your patience and tolerance.

Your humbled servant,

Sadbhuja Dasa

SANATANA GOSWAMI DASA

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to your lotus feet.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

My best wishes on this most auspicious day of your appearance.

I want to express my deepest gratitude for accepting a fallen soul like me as your disciple. I have so many good memories to write about this year. In your initiation lecture you mentioned the initiation vows are like pearls which we need to plant and then water with devotional service. Somehow I have always remembered this. It gives me so much inspiration to do more and more service.

This year we were fortunate to be in your association more than once. This year was also our first Vrindavan parikrama with you. Guru Maharaja you shared your meditation at each and every place we visited. This was inspiring not only because we saw the dham through your eyes but also got to experience your mood in all the holy places. I especially remember your meditation at Surabhi Kunda where you said this is the place of forgiveness of our mistakes. You said life is not always sweet, we make mistakes, so we should be humble and take shelter of the devotees.

After program at Surabhi Kund, somehow we were walking side by side and I said “Guru Maharaja you were talking about forgiveness,” and even before I said a single word you looked at me and said “What did you do?” I was amazed how you saw right through me.

Guru Maharaja, you are a perfect example of Prabhupada’s finest warriors. Whatever battle you face, physical or emotional, you have emerged stronger and you are ready to battle again. Your conviction in Krsna, strong determination in spreading Prabhupadas message, and Guru Nishta are all exemplary qualities of a pure devotee that you constantly show.

I cannot wait to serve you again soon.

Your humble servant,

Sanatana Goswami Dasa

SANATANI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

In November I was so fortunate to take part in your Vrndavan parikrama. Just remembering these weeks make my cry of happiness. All the blessings you showered us with, I do not know how I ever can repay you. So much purification for me and you showered Kamala Gopi with kind words and mercy.

I especially remember when we went to Surabhi kundh next to Govardhana Hill.

You were speaking of the qualities of a Brahmana, "Cleanliness, tolerance and humility." You said humility again and looked me deep into my eyes. I felt it as a very deep personal instruction. After the lecture you walked passed me and looked at me with that smile of yours, this "You know I was talking about you." - Smile.

I told you I felt that you looked at me while you spoke of second initiation and humility. Your reply was, "Yes I did look at you Sanatani, I will never forget your second initiation that is one of a kind."

I think my second initiation (in Vrindavan 2012) was one of the most purifying situations in my whole life so far. Those who were there that day know what I mean.

In your presence I feel humbled, and that is not one of my strongest qualities, but rather one of the qualities I need to develop more of in my life. So I hope that I may join your parikramas yearly and develop my brahminical qualities more deeply, and to develop more friendships with my god family.

After Vrindavan, Gopi and I went to Mayapur, and here magic happened in my spiritual life. By the mercy of Nrshimhadev and the devotees, my intelligence rose above my emotions and I was able to make some very conscious choices for my spiritual life and future. I developed a deep connection with Sri Nrshimhadev and so many devotees in Mayapur. I send you mails after mails with questions and you replied promptly, I am so grateful for that.

Your mood shines through all your disciples, and I feel so blessed to have their association. It is like having a little piece of you. Thank you again for gathering all of us to celebrate you. It is the highlight of the year for many of us.

I am forever grateful to you, and I pray that I one day may make you proud with my preaching.

Your rascal servant,
Sanatani Devi Dasi

SANJAYA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine
namas te sarasvate deve gaura-vani-pracarine
nirvisesa-sunyavadi-pascatya-desa-tarine

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.
All glories to you.
All glories to Srila Jay Advaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Yearly we receive the instruction to write words in your glorification, and this instruction is a great blessing upon us. By considering your position as our spiritual father, and by considering our own position as your blessed spiritual children, our existence becomes meaningful. Existence is meaningful when we are situated in Truth. In the material world, we become situated in untruth. What is that untruth?

It is our illusory concept that there will be pleasure in our attempt to control and exploit the material energy. Bereft of spiritual education, we blindly serve the dictates of our senses, tolerating so much pain for so little enjoyment. Going here, going there, wandering through unlimited numbers of bodies, we devote ourselves to that illusory hope to gain pleasure in the concept that “I am this body.” And “This material world is meant for me”.

Only by mercy from above may we rise above that illusion.

Only by mercy from above we may become situated in Truth.

That mercy descends from truth itself, from Krsna, the Supreme Personality of Godhead himself, and exalted personalities like you can catch that mercy, and absorb that, and make it accessible to so many more to catch and absorb.

Due to our illusion though, we do not take. We do not catch and we do not absorb. That is our bad fortune. Just like a child does not want to go to school for the sake of playing, we do not want to take the struggle for Truth. We rather remain satisfied with a lot of pain for a little pleasure. But just like the parent will insist that his child goes to school, as our spiritual father you confront us with our illusion, and you describe for us the Truth.

You describe Krsna.

You describe Krsna's associates.

You describe his abode, Vrindavana.

You describe Krsna's character.

You very mercifully instruct us in how to relate to Krsna, through complete devotion in service for his pleasure. By relating to Krsna through devotional service, we become situated in Krsna, and in his pleasure.

Like this, becoming situated as eternal servants of Krsna and experiencing real pleasure in that situation of Truth, our existence becomes meaningful. All this is open to us, whenever we honestly and sincerely try to apply your instructions.

Thank you for being our spiritual father.

Your very insignificant disciple,

Sanjaya Dasa

SATARUPA DEVI DASI & SUKADEVA DASA

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept our humble obeisances.

All glories to you divine grace, on the auspicious day of your Vyasa-puja.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to AC Bhaktivedanta swami Srila Prabhupada.

We are very sorry that we cannot be with you on this occasion but we are praying to Krsna for your health. Guru Maharaja, I am so fortunate, sometimes I cannot believe I am in the altar of Sri Sri Radha-Londonisvara Jagannatha, Balarama and Subhadra offering aarti, I am filled with great humility, without your mercy I could not be there. I try and do all my best, with my little knowledge.

Guru Maharaja without you here we know, we want to see you more but we all remember you every, you are in our heart and mind with Krsna.

Guru Maharaja, it is difficult for me to put everything in writing, but my mind here is with you and Krsna.

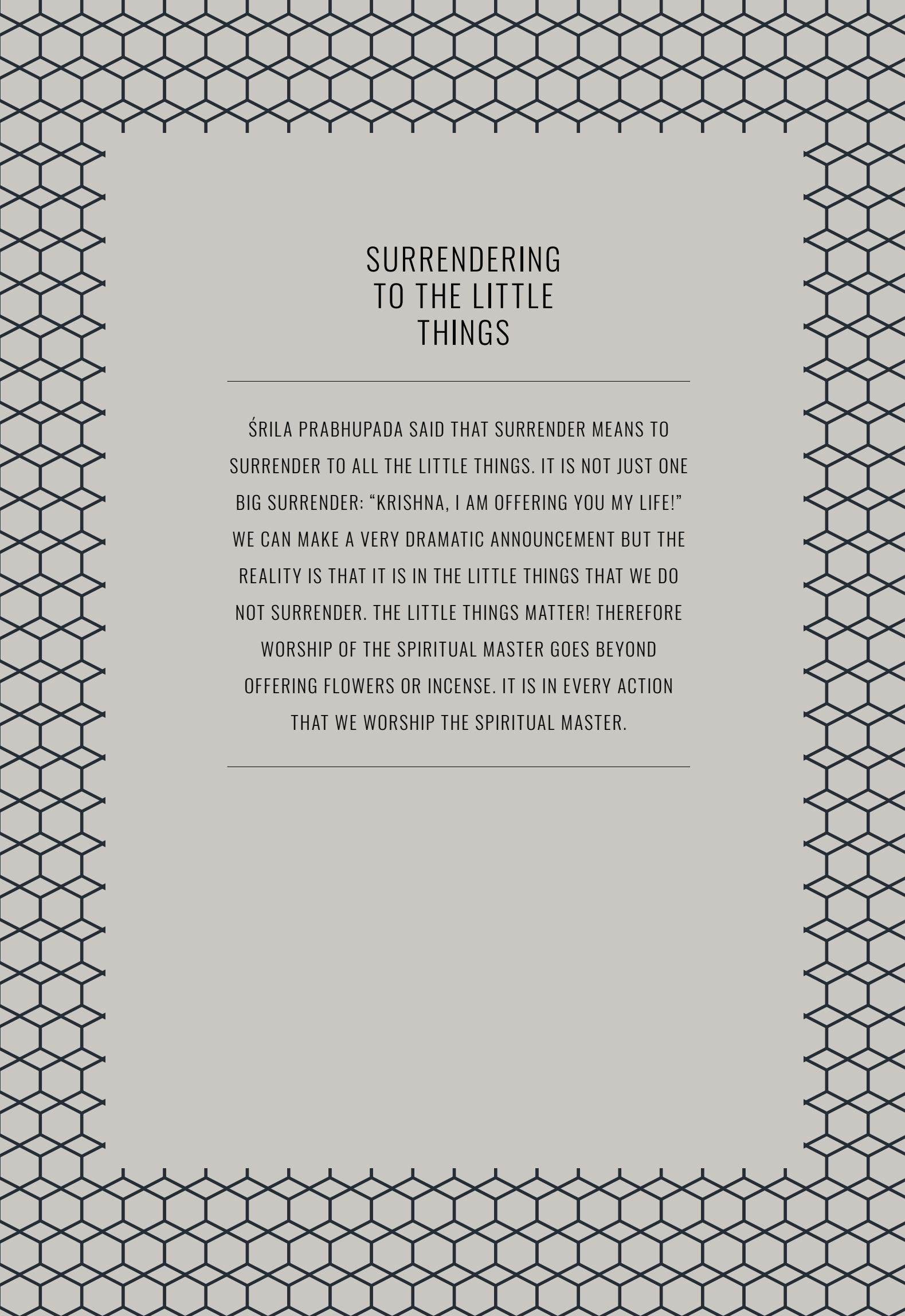
Meu amor para o senhor e Krsna e um so.

Your servants,

Sukadeva Dasa & Satarupa Devi Dasi

Parabens para o senhor desta data querida muitas felicidade e muitos anos de vida.





SURRENDERING TO THE LITTLE THINGS

ŚRILA PRABHUPADA SAID THAT SURRENDER MEANS TO SURRENDER TO ALL THE LITTLE THINGS. IT IS NOT JUST ONE BIG SURRENDER: “KRISHNA, I AM OFFERING YOU MY LIFE!” WE CAN MAKE A VERY DRAMATIC ANNOUNCEMENT BUT THE REALITY IS THAT IT IS IN THE LITTLE THINGS THAT WE DO NOT SURRENDER. THE LITTLE THINGS MATTER! THEREFORE WORSHIP OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER GOES BEYOND OFFERING FLOWERS OR INCENSE. IT IS IN EVERY ACTION THAT WE WORSHIP THE SPIRITUAL MASTER.

SATISH LALAY

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Another year has gone by another year has passed so fast it is going. Then I started to think and contemplate what I have done last year. Some service - some book distribution, prasadam distribution and that is it. Gurudeva feeling that I want to do more but, I do not have strength and mercy to be capable to do more. Looking and trying other devotees (senior or neophyte devotees) to inspire me and motivate me.

Last year I did the Disciple course in Suriname and met the devotees there. I went to Paramaribo where I was not there for so long but during my stay most of the time I resided in Nickerie. The devotees there working hard to establish Krsna consciousness by building a new temple, doing harinam, book distribution and they started food for life. I contributed where I could, and went on harinam. It was the same group that did the Disciple course with me. I had the fortune of having a very good Disciple course teacher and his wife Premanjana Prabhu and Subhadra Mataji. They are devotees of my course group. My course teacher and his wife motivated me and I got some inspiration out of it.

Gurudeva, in January this year, a devotee who I respected and was grateful to, had left his body. He took me to India for the first time. He took me in as a family member and let me travel with his family. He gave me something that I never can payback. He took me to Mayapur and Vrindavan dham, Radha-kund and Shyama-kund, which really jump started my spiritual life.

Gurudeva little by little I am slowly starting to realize that the time is now that we do not know when our time will come. Gurudeva you always said and reminded us of these points in your words and quotes. I will try to make more endeavour by your grace. I am grateful Gurudeva that I could express myself by giving this offering to you.

Your servant,

Satish

SATYARANI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Where does a disciple begin in trying to glorify the spiritual master? Of what we may see through unpurified vision and of what we cannot see is immeasurable.

If Krsna consciousness were merely a philosophical expression or a regulative exercise, who would really want to stay? So perhaps, rather we are convinced by something deeper beyond some intellectual contentment. Maybe despite our shortcomings, we are moved by the depth of purity and love the spiritual master has for the disciple. Maybe it is by his love that we become bound and services we would have said no to, become possible. We are able to do more than we thought we could. We simply try because maybe it would make you and Prabhupada happy.

Maybe yesterday was not enough so tomorrow has to be more. Maybe because we feel bound by the care of the spiritual master we could keep trying when we feel we fall short. Maybe we do not have to try to measure our value anymore. Maybe it is more of the value of the spiritual master and what is dear to him. Maybe it is not so much how much love we may not yet have, but maybe it is how much love the spiritual master has for us- that carries us. Maybe by the gradual deepening of our appreciation for him, we' will dedicate our every moment to him. One thing is certain, that some how he is always there in our lives and because of his love, we are connected to Krsna consciousness. It because of his love that somehow we are slowly appreciating that Krsna conscious is the truth which we have been searching for, that it is the essence of making ourselves complete.

For all that you have given in service and preaching, the greatest thing you ever give is yourself. I admire that quality the most because that is the greatest and hardest gift a person can give, to be completely transparent, tirelessly selfless, dependable, and thoroughly sound in intel-

ligence. These are rare qualities. Even beyond that, to give oneself is what makes a relationship the most fulfilling.

We can accumulate things, we can ask for favours yielding temporary results or we can hear some purely material advice but all these things are dim, next to the love the spiritual master gives, in an empty world. The spiritual master has our better interest, even when sometimes it is felt difficult. I see how everything you say has always benefited me. As your disciple I wish that I could be more and I wish that I could give you at least some joy for all that you have given to me. Even though I cannot measure all you have given to me.

You opened the doors to literatures that are alive and reciprocate with us, to whatever we need at that moment. Who could imagine such a thing? How is such a thing even possible? But such a seemingly simple thing, gives us the greatest conviction that my spiritual master is with me and Krsna also. Literature that progressively and systematically raises us from base levels to a platform of purity. Literature which is a genuine and a reliable friend.

Who can meet even a portion of the Srimad Bhagavatam without the hand of the spiritual master? Who can say, that the Bhagavatam is directly guiding us, without the mercy the Guru? What greater gift could there be than all the connections the spiritual master gives? Yet still I have so many shortcomings. What value is there in the things we may attempt independent of you? What moment of happiness could we tangibly experience without the spiritual master? There is no other reason to try anything, if not for the spiritual master. What value is there in anything other than his happiness? It seems that the spiritual master is the very life of a disciple. In your kindness you have patiently nurtured your disciples as a loving father. It is not possible to measure all that you have done for me. Although, my character as a disciple may not be a glorification of you because I am not yet fully surrendered, still I hope to become your servant and reflective of your merciful mood.

I admire that beyond words, your actions are reflective of good character and it is also instructive. There are so many unspoken lessons that can be there simply by seeing you and your interactions. To be selfless, thoughtful, generous, merciful, compassionate, clean, faithful, patient, considerate, friendly, polite, thoughtful, meditative, joyful, respectful, proactive, healthy, transparent, sincere, loyal, trustworthy, dependable, intelligent, naturally lovable and so surrendered.

Your mood, approach and depth of realizations is what makes you so real, there are no facades. There are many beautiful devotees and you are certainly one of them because you fully fulfil the pranam mantras to you, full of good qualities and completely surrendered to Krsna. Although I fall short and I am simply a pauper with no devotion to offer to you, somehow still - you are my greatest wealth. I wish that I may become your servant and I hope that you would be pleased with my small endeavors of service.

Praying to become your servant,
Satyarani Dasi

SESA DASA

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to your divine grace.

I want to thank you for all the help you have given me in my spiritual life. Within a world which is like a dangerous spider's web, you kindly encourage me to raise my spiritual bar and look below my narrow-minded, self-imposed barriers which glue me to this material world.

Whenever we are around you it truly feels like we are in the most exciting spiritual mafia, never knowing what's going to happen next, or whose material life you'll next kill. We read the pages of the Sri Caitanya-caritamrta, however, when in your association the words on the pages come to life and we enter a transcendental realm.

Through your example, we are endlessly taught to be real, honest and humble by never saying no to a service we can do that will help this movement be spread on. I am ever thankful to Krishna for bringing me to you and eternally indebted for everything you have done and given to me.

Even with unlimited opportunities that I can never repay you, however I'll never stop trying to serve you and follow in your footsteps.

Attempting to become your servant,

Sesa das

SNEHA BHAKTI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories onto the dust of your lotus feet.

Penning down my thoughts on your appearance day makes me realise that how unqualified I am to do so. Gurudeva, you had asked us to come and see you in Vrindavan. I had never been there and I am so fallen that I never desired to even go. You inspired us to come to Vrindavan and what a beautiful parikrama that was. Seeing Vrindavan through your eyes, hearing about Vrindavan through your mouth has created such a strong impact that now I miss being in Vrindavan. You say is correctly that Vrindavan is home.

Gurudeva, your kirtans are so beautiful. Sometimes I fail to understand, how you just in the middle of the crowd get into your meditative mode. Your kirtans are magical, sometimes I laugh, there are times when I dance, and then there are times when your voice just cuts through all the noise around me and it is then tears just roll down.

Gurudeva, your association is extraordinary. There are times when I forget everything, even my kids. You are so personal and you understand each one of us, how? You always give me what I desire and this is without even saying them to you. It scares me, sometimes because I do not know how you know them and sometimes because I feel I do not do enough justice to all the love that I get.

Gurudeva, as you majestically sat on the throne for our initiation, it gave me goose bumps. My first thoughts were, am I even worth it? Your beautiful class, splendid kirtans, you accepting our request of bringing Giriraj, adapting to the rains with no yajna so that we can be your friends and family, your personal touch at every stage taught me lessons for a lifetime. Thank you so much for everything, I mean it. I rest myself at your mercy. I surrender unto your lotus feet, I completely do.

Your servant,
Sneha Bhakti Dasi

SRUTI RUPA DEVI DASI

Dear Gurumaharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisance, all glories to Jayadvaita Maharaj, all glories to Srila Prabhupada.

I'd like to thank you for being very present element in my life. Since I'm affected by modes of nature unable to fully control myself, I'm very grateful you accepted me as a disciple. When going through difficulty (or even through positive period of life), there is strenght of your service, my commitment and relationship that keeps me going on. That's tangible proof of spiritual potency of Guru.

You are our spiritual anchor. Real and potent connection between two worlds, dualities and us and Krishna. I've committed to be your servant. I wouldn't be able get off some situation, carry on and serve without you offering the diskha and shelter.

My hope and daily effort is expand my service to you and work on state of my heart. I'm fully dependent on your potency to help me anihilate impurities. There's many of your disciples example of great qualities. All thanks to your sacrifice, visible and invisible, known and unknown.

Thank you very much dear Maharaj. In humble mood asking for your mercy.

Your servant,
Śruti rupa devi dasi

SUDAMA DASA

Please accept my humble obeisance.

All glories to you dear Guru Maharaja.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Another year went by swiftly. It is a pity I was not able to have your darshan for a long time. We could not join last year's Vyasa-puja celebration due to Rupa Manjari Devi Dasi's health situation. We could not take part in Vrindavana kartik yatra due to the kid's schooling. We also could not make it to Simhachalam festival due to our car break down on 30th December 2018. Nevertheless I, remember you more often than in the past. You are constantly pouring strength in us so that we are able to continue conducting:

- Online sessions, webinars – include “Ramayana4Me”, “Journey of Self Discovery”, “Systematic study of Srimad Bhagavad-gita.”

Through these online programs, I am able to reach out to the people who are living far from the temple or who are unable to visit the temple regularly. Now, almost all are chanting japa.

- Yoga sessions – which include teaching pranayama, but mainly speaking on Bhagavad-gita in simple terms

- Local preaching programs mainly to Indian communities in Dusseldorf and around book distribution during Damodara month and marathon time.

On the occasion of Diwali I got the chance to give a keynote speech in front of Consulate General of India, German local authorities and some other prominent people. In addition I made all the audience to light candles offered to Damodara Ji.

- Daily morning six o'clock to seven o'clock online japa, which is joined by the devotees attending those webinars.

- Important news to share: After a couple of interviews, Mother Dina Sharana (from the Governing Body Commission in Germany) gave me permission to preach in Germany. I can use the ISKCON logo in my flyers, public talks, and seminars.

- Bhakti Shastri: I am attending His Grace Vaidyanath Prabhu's Bhakti Shastri with the aim to strengthen philosophical understanding as well as fulfilling the requirements for the second Initiation.

- Conducting spiritual picnics with the online students, raising financial and service support to Koln temple.

We are praying to Lord Balarama to make it visible the dhama in/around Dusseldorf where we can set up a small center so that devotees can come together and participate in programs.

Kindly asking you to please request Lord Balarama to manifest in /around Dusseldorf so that we can invite Lord Krsna, Gaura Nitai and offer our heart felt services.

Sri Vibhu, now ten years old, is actively supporting us in our preaching activities. Please bless him so he stays focussed and becomes instrumental in Srila Prabhupada's mission, directly or indirectly.

Your blessings are our strength.

Your shelter is our blessings.

Your lotus feet is our shelter.

Our service at your lotus feet.

Kindly accept our service.

Rendered with or without quality kindly accept.

Wishing you happy appearance.

Your servant,

Sudama Dasa

SUKHAYANTI DEVI DASI

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Your Vyasa-puja celebration is coming closer and again I will not be able to attend it. I remember how years back you told me that you very much want all your disciples to come because this is an opportunity for us to come closer to each other as a spiritual family. Over the past eight years, life's circumstances and my own personal decisions have made it so that I am constantly far away from you. Our meetings are scarce and when I do get to see you, it is usually brief. None the less, each and every time is beyond special and the mercy and attention you give me is more than I deserve.

This makes me contemplate on the nature of the Guru, disciple relationship. In the beginning, when I joined, I got to see you so often. I would only listen to recordings of your classes and no one elses. I was extremely attached to your personal association. Now, with the undeniable distance, I had to learn to develop a different kind of relationship with you. I can no longer personally sit in your classes or kirtans, I cannot speak to you and writing emails is not some-

thing I tend to do because you always told me that you prefer the personal interaction over exchanging emails. You said that if you were to spend your time answering email, no one will get to see you. I understand that. Therefore, for personal guidance on things which I go through now, I need to turn to other devotees for advice. So now my relationship with you had to turn into a sort of meditative relationship, where I keep you with me, in my mind in every moment and in everything that I do.

I recall you explaining in your lectures the different kinds of relationships a spiritual master can have with his disciples. The last kind of relationship is that of the tortoise to his offspring, where the tortoise is far away from them but constantly meditates on them. The personal interaction does not exist, but the tortoise never stops thinking of them. While I am sure that you have me in your thoughts, I know that I have you in mine. I know that I keep going only because of your mercy and meditation on me as your disciple. At times I wonder why it is that I keep picking up those japa beads every morning and chant. There are times when I just do not have the energy or desire to do so, but you give me the strength through that unseen but ever existing flow of mercy. A connection that can never be broken. I see that now.

Even though over the years I have created relationships with other senior devotees and sought their guidance and instructions. You have always remained my only shelter. While I look at other devotees and feel appreciative of their help, I know that only you can actually save me. The personal guidance is not there anymore, but your shelter is ever strong. Nothing can break it.

I keep hoping to one day make you proud and happy with me. I keep trying to be the disciple you would like me to be. Until the holy name dances on my tongue. That I know I will only achieve through your mercy. So I wait for it while doing the best that I can.

Your servant,
Sukhayanti Devi Dasi

SUNIL SHARMA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna Guru Maharaja,

Dandavat Pranam.

First of all, thank you so much for giving us the shelter on 30th November, 2018 in Damodardesh. Guru Maharaja, your association is so loving that I can feel your presence around me every time I remember you. Your mercy is undescrivable. Guru Maharaja, it can not be the result of any amount of good karma that I would have done in all my past births instead it is the result of your causeless mercy on this really most fallen soul.

Guru Maharaja, kindly bless me so that I can serve you more with my words, body and mind selflessly.

Your fallen servant,

Sunil Sharma

SUTAPA DASA

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur once said:

“I don’t read the book, I read the author. I first check whether the author is authentic. Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura trained me in proofreading, so I always look for what is right or wrong. But I am not a proof-reader of the press only; I am a proof-reader of the world. I proofread men; I proofread religions. I dissect their faults and try to correct them.” (Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur)

For me, you are the transcendental proof-reader. Without your intervention, the story of my life would be pretty dull. Proof-readers cut out the waffle. They edit down long paragraphs into a few short lines. They identify the essence, preserve the substance, and throw the rest by the wayside. You do the same in my life. I can talk it up and hype it big, but in front of you, all the superficiality is exposed. Your presence reveals the degree of genuine sincerity, selflessness and sacrifice in my spiritual life. You help me to see where I am really at.

Proof-readers flag-up errors. They spot typos and grammar issues. They fix the faults to ensure a smooth read. I make mistakes all the time, and you skilfully reveal them before they become problematic. You can spot the dangerous attitudes, bad decisions, false assumptions and potential pitfalls. You’re one step ahead of the game, clearing the obstacles and ironing out the issues.

Proof-readers bring potency. They help convey the message with maximum impact and clarity. Your years of experience, deep spiritual insight and street-wise eye detects the most efficient, effective and powerful way to move forward in spiritual life. You challenge me to think out of the box, question my *modus operandi*, and bring out the best.

You have given me the plot, I am trying to write the narrative, but remain ever-dependent on you to expertly proofread it. Chop and change as you wish. I hope the story of my life will turn out according to your desire. Thank you for your unlimited encouragement and constant guidance. Without it I am lost.

I beg to remain, your servant,

Sutapa Dasa

SUVARNA RUPA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

You are responsible for all of the good fortune in my life.

I am trying every day to offer all my services to you.

I remember you often. Your lectures, your kirtanas and kartik parikramas in Vrindavan.

Slowly you are lighting up my cold and cynical heart.

Gradually I am aligning my desires with yours.

It is a confusing and frustrating path sometimes.

Alone, I cannot fight my way out of this cocoon of material conditioning.

But you are so expert and so sensitive.

You understand exactly what we each need to get hooked on devotional service.

And break through our barriers and weaknesses.

With your guidance, we can achieve so much more than we could have imagined.

Thank you Guru Maharaja for everything.

I wish I knew how to serve you more.

I owe you everything.

Your grateful servant,

Suvarna Rupa Devi Dasi

TADIYA DEVI DASI

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Thank you for being merciful, kind, inspiring, friendly, helpful, motivating, generous, real and open. Thank you for flooding the world with knowledge and enthusiasm about Lord Caitanya's movement. Thank you for letting me join your group of initiated disciples and melting our hearts with your visits and conversations.

All the best to you on your wonderful Vyasa-puja Day.

Your servant,

Tadiya Devi Dasi

TAMALA KRSNA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

On this auspicious day of your Vyas-puja I would like to thank you for giving me the chance to be part of Lord Caitanya's sankirtan movement. Every time you visit our small Island I get the chance to learn many things through your wonderful kirtans and lectures. I especially got very inspired to take up the service of distributing Srila Prabhupada books because every time I hear you I can only take on one conclusion, that is: We must in many ways possible preach this Krsna consciousness movement everywhere through book distribution, harinam, festivals and so on.

All these services are not possible to do without your shelter. After many lifetimes one gets the shelter of a bona-fide spiritual master by the mercy of Krsna, Only by the mercy of taking your shelter I am able to be an instrument to please Srila Prabhupada and the whole parampara. You already named Mauritius as Kirtan Island. I will do my best to serve in any way to make it happen for your pleasure.

By your mercy Guru Maharaja, I have been able to participate for the 2018 Kadamba Kanana Swami's Braj Parikrama which was a wonderful experience because you were personally guiding us and giving us so much nectar by going to different holy places in Braj. I felt your mercy during the parikrama. You shared so many stories about Radha and Krsna which was so wonderful. Thank you very much for having mercy on such a fallen soul like me. Please bless me so that I can always engage in pleasing you and the whole parampara.

Your insignificant servant,

Tamala Krsna Dasa (Mauricius)

TANDAVINI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Srila Gurudeva,

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

“According to their karma, all living entities are wandering throughout the entire universe. Some of them are being elevated to the upper planetary systems, and some are going down into the lower planetary systems. Out of many millions of wandering living entities, one who is very fortunate gets an opportunity to associate with a bona fide spiritual master by the grace of Kṛṣṇa. By the mercy of both Kṛṣṇa and the spiritual master, such a person receives the seed of the creeper of devotional service.” (Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta, Madhya-līla, 19.151).

My most beloved Srila Gurudeva, you are the pivotal point of my life. Your pleasure is the pivotal purpose of my life, and your causeless mercy is the pivotal sustaining pillar of my whole existence. Except you, there is no one to whom I can offer my heart fully and be certain that it will not be broken. You alone are worthy of my love and worship. You alone can satisfy all of my desires.

But, still, I am the most lowly and unhappy pest crawling in the lap of mayadevi, because I have not done a darn thing to make you proud and happy.

When you came to Dubai for the kirtan mela, there were so many flaws in our services and we feel our service towards you was not upto the standards of ideal service. When I begged forgiveness at your lotus feet, you just shrugged it off as if nothing had happened. When my Prabhu met you in the kirtan mela, I was really surprised when you told him about me, “She is doing good.” Gurudeva, your words meant the world to me. In just those three words, I felt as if I would never ever want anything else in my life again and all my desires were fulfilled.

Sometimes I feel, “I do not deserve this special mercy”. Now that I am captured by your mercy,

I pray at to the dust of your lotus feet, that I become a good instrument in your hands and become a sold out slave of your Divine Grace. Your mercy is most important to me than anything else. How can I understand Krsna or Srila Prabhupada, without your blessings and guidance?

I do not know how my future is going to be as we are moving to Qatar, I do not know in what circumstances I will be put. But I know that you are always with me, I do not fear anything. I wish to serve you and please you through whatever service you desire to give me.

Aspiring to be worthy servant.

Your insignificant spiritual daughter,
Tandavini Devi Dasi

TANUMADHYA DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to you. All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Kadamba Kanana Guru Maharaja,

By trying to find, in the hazy remembrance, anything of significance that has happened in the past year, it is actually the speed with which time flies that stands out. ‘What have I done with this precious time?’ A mantra inevitably on the mind of those who have reached my age. On the other hand, for a person relatively new to Krsna consciousness, in comparison to others of the same age, the mantra is: “What must I do with the remainder of my life?”

In the last parikrama lecture in Adi Badrinatha, you have mentioned the “Pumping up of the slow leaking tyre,” which to some extent, we can all relate too. Thank you, Maharaja, for giving such a clear dissection on the cause of this leaking tyre and giving the remedy of how to fix it, also pointing out the absolute need to. It is our faith that is leaking to all sorts of other things. We think it might make us happy or might help us in doing our duties that make us lose steam. We then occasionally increase our devotional activities to feel better – to pump up the tyre. You were clear that this is not spiritual life, this pumping up of the leaking tyre. We need

to fix the leak and the remedy lies in our conviction and our cultivation. It is such a profound remedy and applies to all aspects of life. It explains so clearly why people cannot stick to their resolutions or why they feel uninspired after a while; doing something and then dropping out. To be convinced we need knowledge, and to gain knowledge we need to read and hear, but also cultivate what we know and learn. So, if we cultivate with the purpose of becoming more convinced, we will be more convinced in our cultivation. All that is required is the right mindset and that comes from a deep desire.

That brings me to the second aspect for which I am deeply grateful. Just the other day I saw the following poster in a classroom:

Mercy: not receiving something
that is due to you
Grace: receiving something that is
not due to you

I looked up the words in a dictionary and was surprised that the wording on the poster was not just a clever way of presenting the two concepts. The meanings according to the dictionary are:

Mercy: Compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm.

Grace: (in Christian belief) the free and unmerited favour of God, as manifested in the salvation of sinners and the bestowal of blessings.

It just struck me that I never really thought of it this way, and at the same time could add to it that it not only refers to the 'bad things' we do not want but actually deserve but also the 'good things' we do want but do not deserve.

For us in Krsna consciousness it also means that the mercy and the grace of our spiritual master includes not getting the 'good' of our karma and also still getting some of the 'bad.' Just as an impetus for us to move forward in spiritual life.

Therefore, Guru Maharaja, I can report that it is by your grace and mercy alone that my faith is growing, that my conviction is getting stronger and that my cultivation is becoming steady. It is with renewed desire and complete dependence that I pray for continuous undeserved grace and mercy.

It is in my limited capacity that I also pray for unlimited blessings to come your way. In Sri-mad Bhagavatam (1:15:8 in the purport) Srila Praphupada explains: "The process is that by the grace of the devotee the mercy of the Lord is obtained, and by the mercy of the Lord a chance to serve the Lord's devotee is obtained". May you have a wonderful year in service to your Guru Maharaja.

Your always-dependent disciple and servant,
Tanumadhya Dasi

TIRUMALA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine
namas te sarasvate deve gaura-vani-pracarine
nirvisesa-sunyavadi-pascatya-desat-tarine

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most respectful obeisances at the dust of your merciful lotus feet millions and millions of times.

All glories to you dear Guru Maharaja on this auspicious day of your Vyasa-puja.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami Maharaja.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Oh, dear Guru Maharaja, your causeless mercy, deep compassion and kindness are but a few of your amazing qualities. You have so many disciples and I always find it touching that you are able to shower each one of us with such unconditional love. I always feel so moved to hear about the amazing exchanges that my god brothers and sisters have had with you. It increases my appreciation for you to hear about your generosity and warmth.

So, I thought that it would be nice to write about my most special experience with you, in which you really moved my hard heart and which I cherish above all others. I felt that it was a very good idea until I realised what a difficult task it would be to choose such an experience amongst so many special moments in the association of a devotee whose heart is immeasurably large.

Would it be when:

You send me a message to let me know how dramatically the DHL man burst into the temple room, right in the middle of the Srimad Bhagavatam class to deliver my Vyasa-puja offering to you. You tell me that it was very impressive, and it brings a big smile to my face to think that you enjoyed the drama.

Or would it be when:

You smile when all the frogs jump out of your gift bag when I make you a present for you to thank you for changing me from a frog into a servant of the devotees. You smile and call me an ex-frog. You say, "All glories to your creativity!" even though you know that you are the inspi-

ration behind everything that I do.

Or would it be when:

You smile and still accept the garland I made for you even though you are about to leave. I had forgotten to give it to you during the program because I was so happy to see you again.

Or would it be when:

You smile when you see the red carpet and say, "I have been to many homes, but no one has ever got a red carpet for me." When you leave, you tell us how you do not need anyone to love you because you care about loving Krsna. I childishly reply, "Ahhh, but I love you!" You look at the red carpet, smile again and say, "I can see that."

Or would it be when:

You are having a meeting with the temple president and tell him that artists are usually moody and then turn around, look directly at me and with a smile say, "Oops."

Or would it be when:

You smile and look at the extra maha in your hand and then look at me. And then look at the extra maha and then look at me again. Then I childishly laugh and come hopping and skipping for more sweets from the hands of my very dear spiritual father.

Or would it be when:

You explain to me in a very serious tone, how I should gather enough snow to make big snowballs and then throw it at all my friends. You smile and tell everyone how I wanted there to be snow everywhere and then ask me if I am having fun in the snow.

Or would it be when:

You personally go to the Samadhi of Srila Visvanatha Cakravati Thakur and pull out a flower from the garland inside, and then say, "Tiru! Here, it's for you." Then you say, "Oh, I almost forgot!" You smile and empty the maha flowers from your beadbag and give them to me.

Or would it be when:

You smile and say, "Thank you" when I come out of the bus to tell you that I am happy that we are stuck in Badrinath for hours because we are with you. Then I say, "I was also happy the day that we could not find the bus after leaving Govardhana Hill because we were with you." You smile again and say, "Thank you."

Or would it be when:

You send me a message saying, "No. That button is too feminine. I just want an ordinary button

and the maha button separately,” In response to a message I had sent you to play a joke on you to tell you that I was replacing the button that fell off your top with a pretty maha button. I reply to tell you that I was only joking and show you a picture of your mended top. You reply, “Thanks for the jokes. Grrrr.” You later laugh when I give you the maha button and smile and say, “You cheated me. You rascal.”

Or would it be when:

You look around your room to give me maha while you are packing to leave. Then you find a stone and say, “I do not know what this is, but you are the lady of stones, so it is for you.” Then you tell the other disciples in the room how I stick every gem I can find onto the offerings I make for you and smile.

Or would it be when:

You shout, “Watch out for the cow!” when I excitedly run to greet you when I see you for the first time in Vrindavan. I tell you that I have an offering for you. You smile and say, “An offering. Of course, you do.”

Or would it be when:

You smile when I excitedly run into a glass window at the airport from the eagerness to see you again. I wave my childish board in your face which says, “Guru Maharaja” on it, just to make sure we find you. You start to laugh.

Or would it be when:

You smile and look at the large ice cream in my hands and say, “Hmmm looks yum!” when I greedily go directly to Govindas straight after the parikrama.

Or would it be when:

You hold a knife in your hand and ask me, “So, you are avoiding me. Or am I wrong?” I am not sure if I should run away to safety but then realise that the lotus feet of my spiritual master is the safest place in the universe. I stare at the pocket knife. Then you take out a piece of saffron cloth. You cut a very generous sized piece and say, “Touch it to your head.” You tell me that is maha from Srila Prabhupada himself. Then you say, “Now this is the most precious gift you have received.” But then you still look around and say, “Now, what else do I have for you?”

Or would it be when:

You walk very calmly to the boarding gate with your servant when everyone is already ready to board the airplane. You smile when you see me. Instead of reciprocating with a smile and obeisances, I run to you forgetting to even greet you. I childishly fold my arms because I am upset. I try not to cry from the anxiety and say, “You are late! I was so worried!” You smile and instead

of chastising me, you comfort me by saying, “Ohhh it is ok, I am here now.”

Or would it be when:

You ask, “Are you not supposed to be in Johannesburg?” When I come to Durban just for your class. I say, “Oh, I had no choice but to come Guru Maharaja. I had to bring some Back to God-head magazines for the Temple.” You smile and then say, “Oh really? And is that the only reason?”

Or would it be when:

You smile and say, “I am surprised, but I am also not surprised.” When I pitch up in Cape Town in an attempt to surprise you at the program.

Or would it be when:

You say, “Because she is Tirumala and I am Guru Maharaja!” In response to a devotee asking me why I would want to drive all the way to the New Castle Ratha Yatra.

Or would it be when:

You say, “Where is Tirumala? You have her number? Give her a call. She should be here, strange,” when I am late for a program and you know that something is wrong. I felt touched to hear the recording and hear you ask after me. I remember how you smiled when I arrived. Little did I know at the time that you were concerned about me being late.

So, all these precious moments come to my mind. But there is one thing that is common among all of them which is the most precious and most cherishable above all else. It is when you smile, and I know that you are happy.

Sometimes I think about what an important Vaishnava you are. You sit in important meetings with other very senior devotees. You are a spiritual master, a leader. Once when you were in Mayapur, you told me that you were in meetings all day. I thought how lucky everyone in the meetings were to be able to have you there with them. But these days I think that no one else, except your disciples get to have these very special experiences with you. And to see you acting as a loving, caring father, who constantly showers his sons and daughters with such love and affection.

I would not trade being your disciple for anything. I only hope that I may always please you through all the service that you have kindly blessed me with and in that way always make you smile.

With all my love.

Your eternal servant and daughter forever and ever,
Tirumala Devi Dasi

TULSI DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Lately I started reading your book “Guru and disciple”. I liked it very much, but I could not go very deeply into it. But then with Bhakta Feri and Bhakti Svetli we decided to translate and print the book in Bulgarian, and when I started translating it (means reading it more carefully) the book amazed me. You shared so deep and profound insides for the Guru-disciple relationship. You explained how this relationship is something we have to develop, how it is not based only on our own and reverence, but rather on firm friendship. How it is based on the basis of scripture. You also explain how the Guru is an eternal well-wisher of the disciple and the disciple should try to grasp the mood of the Guru and try to satisfy him.

In this book you also give very clear vision for your disciples and how they can satisfy you.

You want to see that we are making Krsna the priority in our life. He should be the most important person for us and everything else should be secondary. You want us to become independently thoughtful, strong personalities. You want us to have a plan for our life, “How can we become Krsna conscious? How can we help this mission?” You want from us to develop good qualities, to be kind and helpful. You want from your disciples to be like one family. To be ready to help each other, to support each other in difficult moments. You are also asking from us to grow up in our spiritual life, so that we can support this movement, to discover our role, to find out how exactly we can contribute to this movement. Lastly you are asking us to go back together to Krsna, to the spiritual world, and not be distracted by the petty little things of this world!

It is not easy to fulfil all this. It is a life time task. And I can say: “I will try”. But I know you will say, as you have told me many times: “Trying is not enough” So then that means: “Yes we have to do it” This is our only way to progress spiritually, to satisfy you!

As Srila Prabhupada is saying in one of his purports in Bhagavad Gita: "Satisfaction of the realised spiritual master is the secret of advancement of spiritual life" (Bg 4.34, purport).
On this special day of your appearance please give us your mercy so that we can satisfy you with our endeavours.

Kadamba Kanana Maharaja ki jaya.
Jayadvaita Maharaja ki jaya.
Srila Prabhupada ki jaya.

Your servant,
Tulsi Dasa

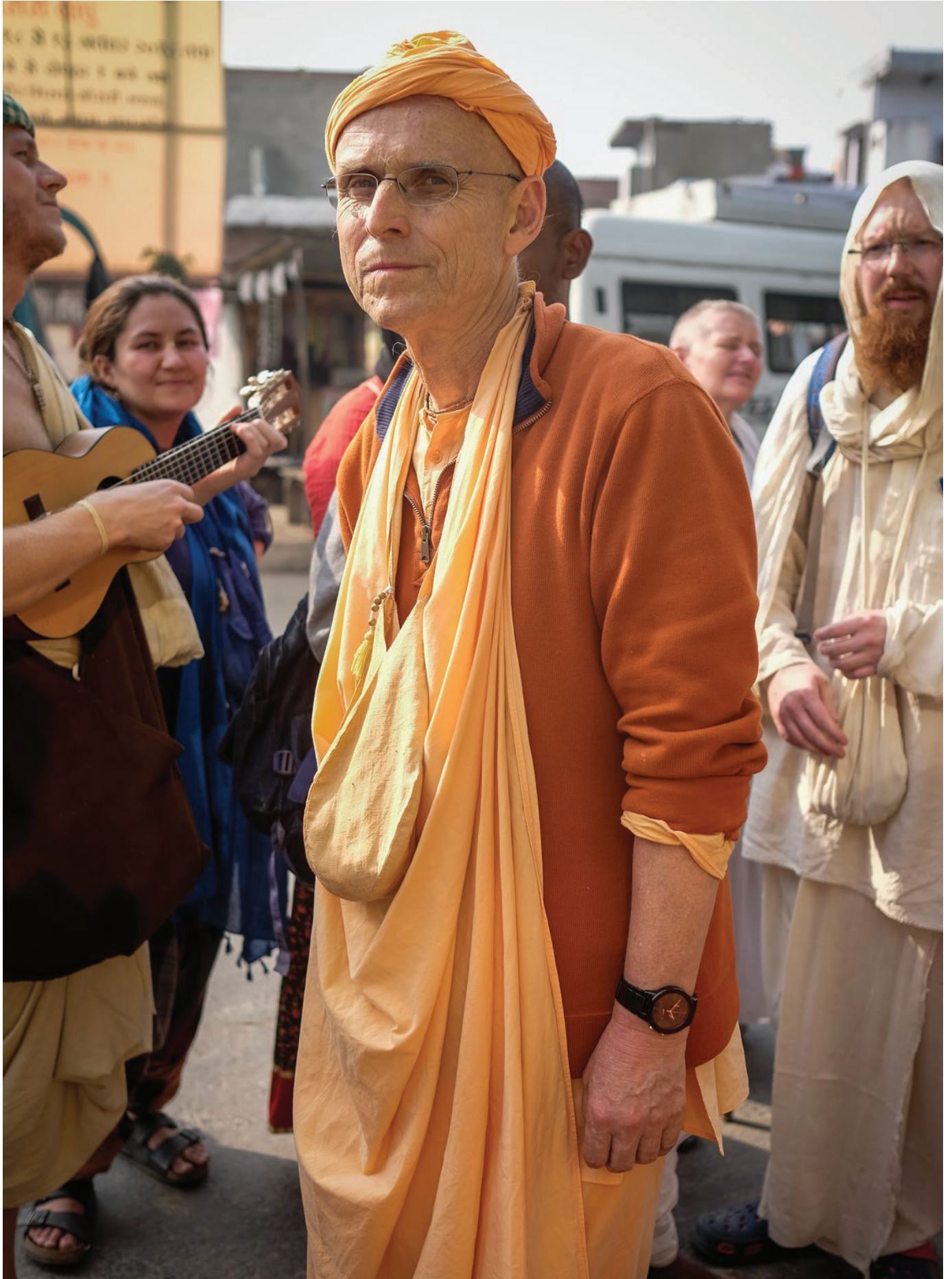
TUNGABHADRA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Bitte akzeptiere meine demütigen Ehrerbietungen.
Alle Ehre sei Dir und Deinem Seva.
Alle Ehre sei Seiner Heiligkeit Jayadvaita Swami.
Alle Ehre sei Seiner göttlichen Gnade Srila Prabhupada.

Lieber Gurudeva,
ein Gedicht von mir für Dich
Seit dem ich das erste mal vom spirituellen meister in Prabhupada's Bücher las, vor langer
Zeit,
wusste ich es war so weit,
ich brauche einen spirituellen meister,
den nur er vertreibt meine zerstörerischen Geister.
Traurig und verloren wanderte ich umher
und dachte die gibst sowieso nicht mehr.
Doch als ich in Prahlada Narasimha's Tempel kam,
wurde mein Herz wider warm,

die sagten mit dort, es gibts sie noch reichlich,
ja sogar eine Vielzahl, auch einen für dich.
Eingeschüchtert und verwirrt wanderte ich umher
und dachte, mich akzeptiert sowieso keine mehr.
Und dieses Hare Kṛṣṇa singen viel mir auch sehr schwer.
Doch als mir eines Tages so extatischer Kirtan zu Ohren kam,
wurde mein Herz ganz warm.
Ein Vortrag noch am selben Tag,
ja von enthusiastischster feinsten Sorte ganz wie ich es mag.
Welch außergewöhnliche Persönlichkeit ist es die mir so viel Kraft, Segen und Freude spende?
dachte ich während ich schon den 108 Blog Beitrag durchschlenderte,
-da kam in meinen Herz die größte Wende.
Endlich, das ist der Beginn, vom bedingten Daseins Ende.
Es ist niemand anderes, als mein lieber großer spirituelle meister.
His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami ki jay.
Sankirtan yajna ki jay.
Guru disciple relationship ki jay.
Vyasa-puja 2019 ki jay.
Danke für alles lieber Maharaja,
deine ewige Dienerin,
Tungabhadra Devi Dasi



CHASTITY OF THE DISCIPLE

CHASTITY IS ESSENTIAL. IT IS SAID THAT DISCIPLES SHOULD BE TOTALLY CHASTE, TOTALLY DEDICATED AND FOCUSED ON THE SPIRITUAL MASTER.

A DISCIPLE MUST TRY TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE SPIRITUAL MASTER IS A PERSON WHO IS FUNCTIONING ON A VERY ELEVATED, EXALTED PLATFORM AND THAT THEREFORE, THE CONSIDERATIONS OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER ARE TAKING PLACE ON A MUCH MORE REFINED AND ELEVATED LEVEL THAT OUR OWN. OUR OWN THINKING IS HAPPENING ON THE GROSS PLATFORM; OUR THINKING TAKES PLACE IN THE DIFFERNT MOODS AND MODES. THE SENTIMENTS AND THOUGHTS OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER ARE OF MUCH HIGHER LEVEL OF REFINEMENT THAT OURS AND THEREFORE WE SHOULD TRY AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO CAPTURE AND PENETRATE INTO THE MOOD OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER. THE MOOD OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER IS THE SUM TOTAL OF HIS WAY OF THINKING AND HIS WAY OF DEALING. IT IS NOT JUST THE WAY IN WHICH HE SAYS THINGS BUT ALSO HOW HE SAYS IT AND HOW HE DOES IT. ONE MUST NOT ONLY HEAR THE WORDS BUT ONE MUST ALSO SEE HOW THE SPIRITUAL MASTER ACTS. A DISCIPLE WHO IS CHASTE TRIES TO ABSORB THE MOOD OF THE SPIRITUAL MASTER NOT BY IMITATING BUT BY TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THE NATURE OF THAT MOOD. HE TRIES TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE SPIRITUAL MASTER IS EXPRESSING TRNAD API SUNCENA (SIKSASTAKAM 3), HOW HE IS FULLY EXPRESSING HUMILITY, HOW HE IS EXPRESSING TOLERANCE, HOW HE GIVES RESPECT TO THE OTHERS AND HOW HE MANIFESTS VAISNAVA QUALITIES.

UDDHAVA DASA & VISAKHA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to you.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

We underestimate our time. We underestimate your energy, specially the mrdanga players. And we underestimate the power of chanting the holy name. Such feelings do not seem to exist in your being. You clearly know what Srila Prabhupada has given us and the power behind it. And you try to, kindly, convince our poor minds to share the same conviction. Arjuna thought that controlling the mind is harder than controlling the wind. But, like you, he had the support of Krsna who gave him the power of understanding. And that is evident in your life as you showcase a supernatural energy we cannot keep up with. It is undoubtedly very difficult to curb the restless mind, but it is possible by suitable practice and by detachment. But he whose mind is controlled and who strives by appropriate means is assured of success. And you're an excellent example of this, being convinced by your spiritual master, and stressing to convince your disciples along the way. You are on the fast lane. Please drag us with you and never let us underestimate the process of Krsna consciousness.

Your servants,
Uddhava Dasa & Visakha Devi Dasi

URUGAYA DASA

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Gurudeva,

It seems like no matter what, you are always there for me, and I am sure I am not alone in feeling this way. It is interesting because really, I am meant to be your servant and serving you, but it seems like it is you that is making the sacrifice for me, constantly.

You are an inspiration, a father, a friend and for some reason you care. I wish I could appreciate the depth of our relationship and what you have given and done for me. It is inconceivable.

I heard you say that a great person is one who sacrifices for others. They are selfless because they see that each living entity has a divine connection. I can see this in your activities. Your behaviour amazes me. You seem to have time for everyone and you put others before you on the way to Kṛṣṇa. You are a gentleman, demonstrating how one should behave in this body and in this world, and your kirtans rock.

I can see how you have surrendered to the desires of your beloved Gurudeva, and that you have pure devotional faith in his instructions. May I also develop this pure devotional *śraddhā* in your words. If it were not for you, I would not have remained in Kṛṣṇa consciousness, at least not to the degree in the great association and situation that I am in now. Everything I have I owe to you. Actually everything I have you own, although I do not behave like that.

I have a long way to go, but I think you will never give up on me, therefore, I know I am doing okay.

I really like this quote. It is not relevant per se, but I think you will like it too. It's Śrīla Viśvanātha Cakravartī's invocation to Srimad Bhagavatam, Canto 10, Chapter 87, verse 1:

mama ratna-vaṇig-bhāvaṁ
ratnāny aparicinvataḥ
hasantu santo jihremi
na sva-svānta-vinoda-kṛt

"The saintly devotees may laugh at me for becoming a jewel merchant though I know nothing about precious jewels. But I feel no shame, for at least I may entertain them."

Your servant,

Urugaya Dasa

UTTARA DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

I would like to start by explaining to his Holiness that, before initiation, the Lord has been so merciful to me in my life, as I have had the opportunity of practicing in the movement for a total of thirty five years. Life's trials and tribulations has also played a big role in enabling me to realise that time is very short and I have been very inspired to take the next step. Then I got showered with more mercy to have the honour and privilege of taking shelter of His Holiness, and of that, I am very pleased.

It was not difficult to incorporate my spiritual duties alongside with day to day activities (in the material world), But rather it has given me a new found strength, great joy and a piece of mind. However, I have to be honest that I seldom experience difficulty when health ailments get in the way. Never the less I still strive to fulfil my duties by the mercy of the Lord.

I am very pleased to advise to His Holiness that I am partaking in devotional service, which also brings to me a great love of joy, By the lord mercy of the lord my respective and humble duties include aiding and assisting at the Benoni namahatta as well as my personal favourite of Raj Bhoga at the mercy of the Lordships Sri Gaura Nitai from ISKCON Lenasia, I find that the all of the devotees are humble, kind as well as possess a strong motivational drive to please the Lord, and I could not ask for better.

Based on the fact that I do not see His Holiness often, I still pray to Lord Sri Krsna and Srimati Radharani to grant you, good well being, strength and protection for Gurudeva.

Look forward to seeing Gurudev soon. All glories and repeated respects to Gurudeva.

Your humble servant,

Uttara Devi Dasi

VAIBHAVI DEVI DASI

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna Dear Guru Maharaja,

You are like a river full of honey-sweet mercy and by your power you drift us back on the right way home to Krsna. Thank You for Your unlimited mercy, thank You for not give it up with me and thank You for giving me a chance again.

May I become your pure and awaken servant. I cannot live without your love to Krsna. I am eternally your servant and I wish to please you every day. May this becomes a reality and not only my poor dream. May you be pleased with me. May I be your wish-fulfilling tree and serve your every wish.

Faithfully yours,

Vaibhavi Devi Dasi

VASUMAN DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to you.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

On this wonderful day one is inclined to strike a balance. I have almost nothing which I can offer you. All of my attempts to engage in devotional service are possible only because of your desire to help me escape from my deep ignorance. I am recollecting again and again your wonderful kirtans. Their nectarian taste can push even the most confirmed materialist to glorify purely the holy name of Krsna.

It reminds me a song Sri Sri Guruvastakam: Mahaprabhu kirtana nrtya gita
Vaditra madym manaso rasena.

What to speak about your wonderful lectures. Your pure transcendental words are secure protections against maya. The more I hear them, the more I want to hear, and every time your lectures are more interesting.

I have also a great experience in the way how you deal with devotees, your meek heart, to help in their devotional path. You are a wonderful person. You deal with me in such a mood that I feel myself then inspired to serve Krsna and the mission of Srila Prabhupada.

May Lord Krsna bless you a long life and great health to continue to inspire us.

Your servant,
Vasuman Dasa

VIPINA VIHARI DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna,

Maharaja is one of the pioneer, to extend Bhakti Yoga all over the world. Through media we can see work of His Holiness. In this age of Kali he is able to attract people in general is a great achievement. In this way he have been fulfilling the words of Gauranga Mahaprabhu, “prithivite achhe yato nagar adi grama sarbatro prachar hoibe mora naam.” By watching His work it reminds us of our responsibility as an Indian, as Mahaprabhu said, “Bharat bhumite janma hailo jaro jivan sarthok karo parah upkar.”

Thank you Maharaja. Wishing you another year of extension in your life. May Krsna and Radharani help you to inspire us in this way.

Your servant,

Vipina Vihari Dasa

(Sri Radhakunda dham)

VYASA KRSNA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

Sometimes I wonder if ever I am worthy even of the tiniest drop of mercy that you shower causelessly upon me. Still, I continue to beg you for your mercy so that I can fulfil your dream of doing something significant to carry forward the legacy of Srila Prabhupada. I pray to you that I should never become slack in devotional service and please grant me the opportunity to serve you always. I am yours, your property, and I beg you to use me in whichever way that may be helpful to you.

Dear Gurudev, thank you for giving me shelter in spite of all my flaws and thank you for being so compassionate. Your mercy is all that I am made of. Without you, I am nothing. Please help me to continue to strive in spiritual life and please guide me always. I pray to have your divine physical association soon.

Trying to be your servant,

Vyasa Krsna Dasa

YASASVINI DEVI DASI

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

My orange light

Sometimes day looks like night

And I am sinking deep in the ocean of nescience, with no hope on the sight.

Where to? What to do? I wander around until I find one moment of peace in heart,

When I see my orange light.

Sometimes days are clear and bright.

And I feel ready to fight.

Against maya, against my mind.

Against the lust which makes me blind.

In those moments even more I feel grateful to my orange light.

And that light in my life is you my dear Guru Maharaja

Why is orange, I wonder now?

Maybe because you are from Netherland.

Maybe because of my uncontrolled mind.

Or maybe because my temperature is thirty nine.

Anyway, what to do now?

I am sending this so called poem as offering tonight.

As usual, I am waiting dead line.

My dear Guru Maharaja,

I am made of your mercy and I owe all my strength to you

Please keep lighting my life with your beautiful, bright, golden orange light.

Your servant,

Yasasvini Devi Dasi

YASODA DULAL DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Dear Guru Maharaja,

The auspicious event of your Vyasa-puja has come and I would like to write some words of appreciation as an offering to you. We do not see each other very much and we have a chance to talk to each other even less but I can feel your presence, help, kindness and blessings in form of your books and instructions every day.

I was wondering for a long time about the quality of a relationship between the spiritual master and his disciple and how I can improve it. As you say, it is not easy being a disciple and it requires a lot of work because the goal is the transformation of the heart. Since the long distance separates us, I did not know what to do to make our relationship closer and deeper. My initial idea was that how can I improve and work on our relationship when I am not in a situation that I can serve you personally. Then I thought that I could start serving you and make you satisfied at least by following your instructions. However, I quickly realised that some of these instructions I was not able to follow and they became my lifelong mission.

Fortunately, you gave us a wonderful gift on your last Vyasa-puja festival: Guru and disciple book. That was and is a saving grace for me because you give us a chance to understand what Guru and disciple relationship is about. You write: "That if we feel that spiritual master doesn't give us many instructions, he wants us to follow the principles and chant sixteen rounds, study Bhagavad-gita and Srimad Bhagavatam, he also wants us to be kind, merciful and respectful to the vaishnavas." I deeply appreciate these, "jewels on the disciples head", as you write and I consider them very important and will follow them, since you say that, "The essence of surrender is surrendering to the little things." This is what I have been focusing on in the last two years.

Last few months I have been thinking of how to perform the next thing you consider very im-

portant – special endeavour. You do not want us to copy your personality, rather you want us to develop our personality and use it in Krsna’s service and embrace your mood. Now I deeply want to make that special endeavour that is so pleasing for you and is also the key to spiritual progress. A part of this special effort is that I try to work on myself hard and become the best version of myself.

You say that: “The spiritual master is also nourished when he sees the disciple flourishing and doing so many wonderful things. That is what gives him life”. That requires a strong individual. This is what I like the most about the book and I completely embrace it. “To be strong in integrity, strong in character, to be someone who lives by his word.” And the one who cultivates the qualities you consider the most important - kindness and humility. You say almost at the end of the book that “I cannot tell you what your contribution should be. All I can say is let it be a contribution in terms of the gifts Krsna has given you.” This is what I want to promise you at the end of this offering. I will soon uncover my potential and gifts and make you happy by contributing in terms of gifts that Krsna has given me.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you for being the example in many ways. The previous offering of mine were an attempt to appreciate the innumerable qualities you possess but I omitted to mention one of them and that is faith. You had to face and encounter many difficulties and calamities in your life. You have seen many failures and fall downs of your disciples but you did not give in at all and you still go on. This is what inspires me the most about your personality: You are the faith personified and I am proud to be a disciple of one of those rare glorious persons who “began faithfully, who carried on faithfully and then still went on faithfully until the end.

Your servant,
Yasoda Dulal Dasa

YASODHA DEVI DASI

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna
Krisha Krisna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama
Rama Rama Hare Hare

Dear honourable and Respectable Maharaja,

Please accept this letter as an offering from your servant Yasodha Devi Dasi.

I pray to Bhagavan Sri Krsna for your good health and wellbeing. I plead to Lord Sri Krsna that he gives you a long and healthy life so that you can continue to preach and teach the message, instructions of Krsna and clarify spiritual doubts in the hearts of many insignificant individuals like me.

I am presently residing in Bangalore, along with my younger son Sabarish. Here I am attending and serving at the Bhakti Vriksha classes on Saturdays every week, and regularly visiting Lakshmi Narasimha ISKCON temple and nearby Vishnu temple. My elder son Tamal Govinda Dasa is in Norway and practising his Krsna consciousness sincerely. I pray to Lord Krsna that at least during this year I get an opportunity to get your darshan in person and seek your blessings.

As I had promised you during my initiation, I am sincerely keeping my vows of strictly following four regulative principles and chanting of sixteen rounds of Hare Krsna maha-mantra every day. I am trying to study Prabhupada's smaller books and Bhagavad Darshan (Back to Godhead) magazine in Tamil regularly. Recently, Caitanya Caritamrta book has been published in Tamil language in ISKCON Chennai. We have invited the books at our home in Chennai. I beg your blessings so that only by your mercy, I would be able to study Caitanya Caritamrta sincerely and be able to remember at least a little of what I study in Srila Prabhupada's books.

I also listen every day to the discourses of Srimad Bhagavatam and Bhagavad-gita lectures in Tamil language from Sri Ramanuja Sampradhaya acharya Sri Velukkudi Krishnan Swami and through this I am able to sustain in my bhakti. I seek your blessings, spiritual shelter to me and my two sons Tamal Govinda Das and Sabarish so that we can grow in our bhakti. We also pray to Sri Krsna that we get the good fortune of meeting you in person sometime soon. With kind regards.

Your servant,
Yasodha Devi Dasi

YOGESH VASDEV

Hare Krsna Maharaja,
My humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

May I start by thanking our Lord Krsna for giving you Maharaja to us conditioned souls to show us the way to recognise our constitutional position and find our way back to Krsna. We are so fortunate that you took the path you did and gave us the precious jewels from vaishnava lineage. Your path had considerable obstacles on the way, but these proved insignificant because you are always with Krsna and Krsna is always with you.

The way you share the essence of scriptures with us is wonderfully simple and incisive. Your approachability even for ignorant people like me is a matchless gift from Krsna. Your association has driven away my confusion and ignorance. You have shown the beginning of the path to spirituality and Krsna.

For Renu and I, you are always in our heart and our guide towards Krsna. Our Vrindavana yatra with you are an enduring inspiration.

Thank you for your priceless mercy and your association.
May Krsna facilitate this for many others like me.

Prabhupada ki jai.
Kadamba Kanana maharaj ki jai.
Anant koti Vasihnava ki jai
Yogesh

YUDHISTHIRA DASA

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine
nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

Hare Krsna My Dear Guru Maharaja,

Life as a devotee of Lord Krsna is truly an adventure. In the words from the Cambridge Dictionary: “Adventure – an unusual, exiting and possibly dangerous activity, such as a trip or an experience”. I find this to be quite fitting to my own personal experience of a living entity striving to participate in the sankirtan movement of Lord Caitanya.

It is very unusual, like nothing anyone has ever done, or tired for. When I tell people, colleagues, old friends, or strangers, they become quite astounded. Hare Krsna, really? I remember my mother’s expression when I first told her about Krsna: “Oh, no, you’re not becoming a monk, are you?” I told her not to worry, she would have her grandchildren. Later, she would actually come to respect my life choice, and even get the chance herself to come to Vrindavan in her later years. She would often tell me after: “I dream to one day go back to that place. Sitting under the tree, I would just listen to the wonderful singing all day.” I pray that she might one day be invited back, in this life or after.

It is very exciting, like something you never would have thought could happen to you. I am reading in the Srimad Bhagavatam all the amazing information about the creation and beyond, and I am astounded by the magical backdrop of the universe. Our dear Srila Prabhupada, who, as the messenger and commander in chief of Lord Gauranga, is the conveyer of all this information. He writes as if he has seen it with his own eyes, or has been present in the assembly at different monumental moments. He may or may not have been, but in connection to this, I was recently attending a dinner party. The discussion came to the topic of our universe, and everyone expressed their opinions on the matter. Knowing me to be a devotee the host inquired into my opinion. So I tried my best to recall the description of the Bhagavatam; of the egg shaped universe, half filled with water; the gigantic Garbodaksayi visnu and the lotus

from His belly sprouting Lord Brahma, the universal architect; and everyone was amazed and asked: “Do you actually believe this?” My answer? I told them the truth. I said: “I do not really know, but I trust the person who gives the information.” That feeling of being let in on the secret, the *raja ghuyam*, is such an exhilarating feeling. Such amazing good fortune!

It is possibly dangerous, oh yes life is. To be a devotee, is to live an informed life. You know everything. You know the hazards of material life. I have read the fifth Canto. I have heard the stories of great misfortunes and cataclysms of the demons. I am a demon, so I am at risk. I tread a very thin line in devotional service. You are my anchor, dear Guru Maharaja. Without our exchanges and your personal example, I would be truly lost in the maze of rules and prohibitions, inhibitions, ayurveda, astrology, Prabhupada era versus. post Prabhupada era, incredible India, different devotees, the material world, relationships and the mind most of all. How crazy I really am, with this wonderful movement of Lord Caitanya right in front of my nose, yet how far away I am from any real engagement. Then I see you, and all the tests you pass, and I become inspired to try harder. To try to become someone you can depend on, if nothing else, then for honesty. It is the experience of Krsna consciousness that keeps us going. If it was dry, we would never continue. Not in kali-yuga. The trip is the all in all. At least it is for me.

My prayer is simply this:

“May I always remain a servant in this movement. May I always worship my god family. May I always see the benefit of engagement in devotional service. May I always remain positively inclined towards the vaishnavas. May I never lose sight of your instructions.”

You told me at my initiation, ten years ago this year: “Yudhisthira Maharaja never told a lie!” I said: “Maharaja, I am in trouble already.” Smiling, you said: “We say from now.”

Your aspiring servant always,
Yudhisthira Dasa

TRIBE YASYA DEVE PARA BHAKTIR
YATHA DEVE TATHA GURAU
TASYAITE KATHITA HY ARTHAH
PRAKASANTE MAHATMANAH CA

“ONLY UNTO THOSE GREAT SOULS
WHO HAVE IMPLICIT FAITH IN BOTH
THE LORD AND THE SPIRITUAL
MASTER ARE ALL THE IMPORTS OF
VEDIC KNOWLEDGE AUTOMATICALLY
REVEALED.”

(SVETASVATARA UPANISAD 6.23)