Śrī Vyāsa-pūjā

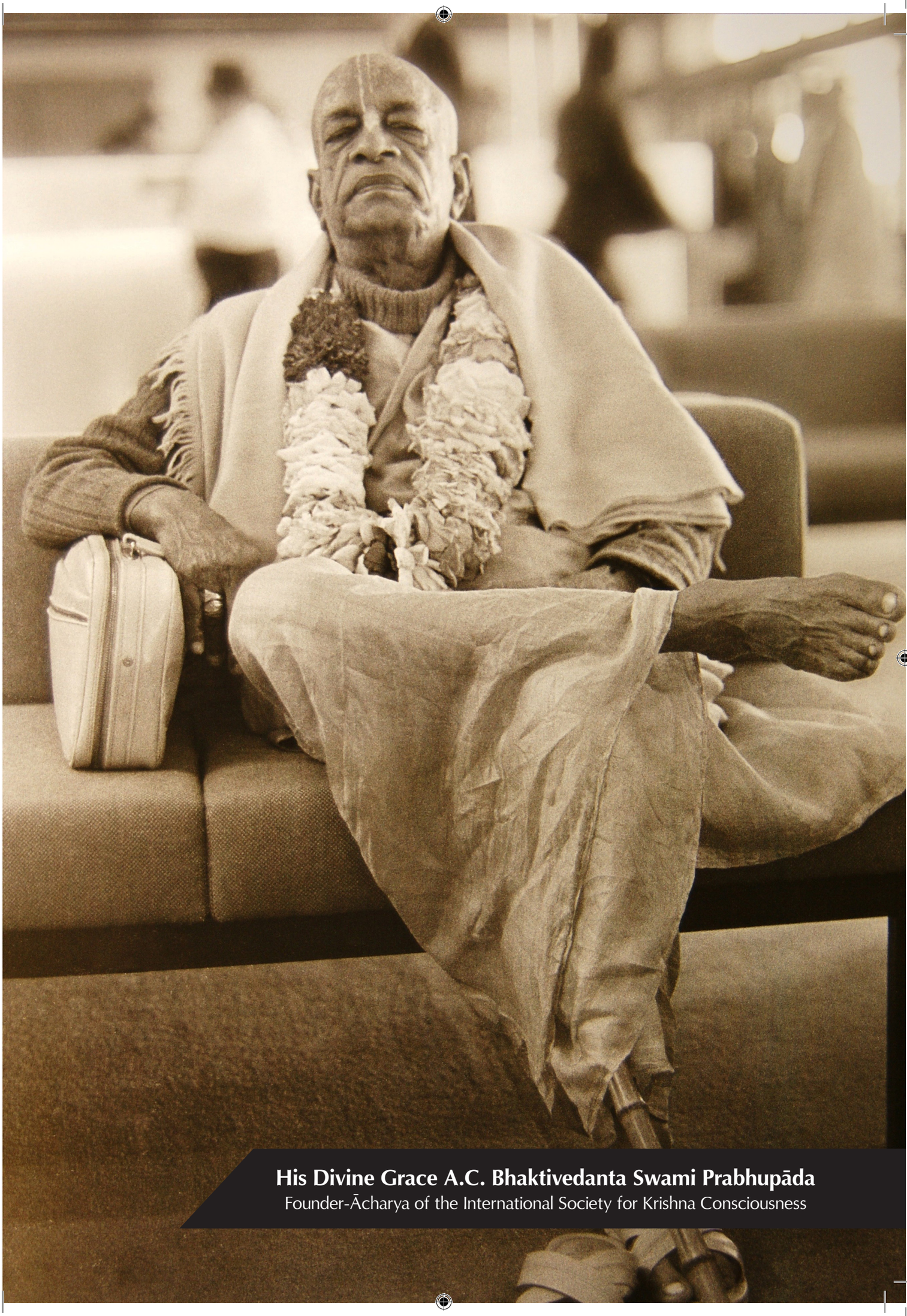
April 2015

The Appearance Day of Our Beloved Spiritual Master

His Holiness Kadamba Kānana Swami

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His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda
Founder-Ācharya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness

"On My Order…"

His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda,
Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 3.25.32, Bombay, December 2, 1974

Guru means who follows the predecessor, authorized predecessor. He is guru. Not that everyone is guru. So therefore we have to follow the superior order. Then we become guru, not that by cheating others we become guru. No. That is cheater. That is not teacher. Guru means who is following the superior order. The superior order is Kṛṣṇa or His representative. So Caitanya Mahāprabhu is Kṛṣṇa. He is ordering, āmāra ājñāya, "By My order," guru hañā, "you become guru." "Sir, it is very difficult to become guru. I have no education. I have no culture. I am not born in a very high family. I am very low." A devotee always thinks like that. He never thinks that "I have become very great man." Just like Caitanya-caritāmṛta, author of, he says, purīṣera kīṭa haite muñi se laghiṣṭha [Cc. Ādi 5.205]. Purīṣa, purīṣa means stool, and there are worms in the stool. So Caitanya-caritāmṛta author is saying that "I am lower than the worms in the stool." That is Vaiṣṇava conception. Tṛṇād api sunīcena. He is very humble. He never says, "Oh, I am the Supreme. I have become God." A most rascal, foolish. So that is not... Therefore we have to follow. If we actually want to become guru, there is necessity of many thousands of gurus to teach this cheated public. But how to become guru? That is... Caitanya Mahāprabhu says, āmāra ājñāya: "By My order." "What is Your order, Sir?" Yāre dekha, tāre kaha 'kṛṣṇa'-upadeśa [Cc. Madhya 7.128]. Then you become guru. You simply advise people to follow Kṛṣṇa's instruction. Then you become guru.

So that is our mission. This Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement is that we are simply trying to convince people what Kṛṣṇa has said, that's all. We are not manufacturing anything. So that is our business. Kṛṣṇa says, man-manā bhava mad-bhakto mad-yājī māṁ namaskuru [Bg. 18.65]. We are training our disciples "Just always think of Kṛṣṇa, chant Hare Kṛṣṇa, and become Kṛṣṇa's devotee, offer Him prasādam, dress Him nicely." Man-manā bhava mad-bhakto mad-yājī: "Worship Me." Worship Kṛṣṇa, the same thing. Kṛṣṇa says, "Worship Me"; we are saying, "Worship Kṛṣṇa." Kṛṣṇa says, "Surrender unto Me"; we are saying, "Surrender to Kṛṣṇa." So we have no difficulty. To become a guru there is no difficulty, provided we repeat the same thing as Kṛṣṇa says. And if you say something more or less, then you are not a guru. Very simple thing. Very simple thing.

Meaning of Vyas Puja

Ter Kadamba Dāsa

Vyasa Puja day of the spiritual master is the most important day in the year of a disciple. This day is even more important than the appearance day of the Lord Himself, because without guru we would have no way of approaching the Lord. Srila Prabhupada writes in the introduction to Nectar of Devotion, that all our activities of service to the Supreme Lord Sri Krishna, must be directed by the spiritual master, who is the direct representative of Krishna in disciplic succession. From the day of initiation by the spiritual master, the connection between Krishna and the person engaged in the process of Krishna consciousness is established, and without the initiation that connection is never made. So in this way we can understand, that we are cent percent dependent on the mercy and guidence of the spiritual master.

We must never think of the relationship with our spiritual master as material in any way. We are not celebrating the birth of the spiritual master's material body. We are celebrating the soul of the spiritual master entering this world of suffering to deliver us from our own false egos.
Srila Prabhupada explains in eighth Canto, third chapter of Srimad Bhagavatam, that to think the body of the spiritual master is made of material elements is offensive. Material means something we think of as separate from Krishna, and spiritual means it is connected with Krishna. Thus we can understand that the body of the spiritual master is directly spiritual.

Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu has given 64 principles a devotee must follow in order to advance in devotional service. The list begins as follows: (1) To accept a bona fide spiritual master. (2) To become initiated by the spiritual master. (3) To engage oneself in the service of the spiritual master. (4) To receive instructions from the spiritual master and inquire about advancing on the path of devotional service. (5) To follow in the footsteps of previous ācāryas and follow the directions given by the spiritual master. So the five most primary principles for a devotee relates to the surrender and service to the bona fide spiritual master. Only then are we advised to give up everything for the satisfaction of Kṛṣṇa., to accept anything for the satisfaction of Kṛṣṇa., to live in a place where Kṛṣṇa. is present, and so on. Without the bona fide spiritual master, these activities relating to Krishna are meaningless, because how can we understand what is to be done and what is not to be done? In this age of quarrel and hypocracy especially, nobody is qualified. Only by the causeless mercy and rigid guidence of guru do we stand any real chance of connecting with Krishna.

For devotees there are six main tattvas - elements of reality. There is the Panca Tattva, represented by Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu and His associates, and the sixth tattva is guru. Guru tattva is considered the most difficult of all to understand, because the position of guru is dependent of our own position as disciples. From the moment we take shelter of the pure devotee and begin the process of purification, until we transcend the modes of material nature and engage in

devotional service on the liberated platform, culminating in love of God, prema, the active principle in all stages is the mercy of our guru, acting in accordance with our specific needs at any given time. So how can anyone fully comrehend the glories of the spiritual master? It is not possible. But that is not a problem. If we devote our lives to the service of our spiritual master, sincerely, at whatever capacity we are capable of, we will undoubtedly attain the highest perfection.

This is why Vyasa Puja day is the most important day of the year. Today represents the working principle in every aspect of our spiritual lives. Today we have the opportunity to come together and perform service exclusively directed at the pleasure of our beloved spiritual master His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami. We should consider this the greatest honour in all the three worlds, because it allows us perfection, by transcending the mundane sphere and placing us as particles of dust at the lotus feet of Sri Krishna in Goloka Vrindavan. Hare Krishna.

Kadamba Kānana Swami Offering to Srila Prabhupada 2014

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Your Divine Grace!

śriyaḥ kāntāḥ kāntaḥ parama-puruṣaḥ kalpa-taravo
drumā bhūmiś cintāmaṇi-gaṇa-mayī toyam amṛtam
kathā gānaṁ nāṭyaṁ gamanam api vaṁśī priya-sakhī
cid-ānandaṁ jyotiḥ param api tad āsvādyam api ca

The blissful spiritual world, where Kṛṣṇa resides with His eternal associates—the gopīs, who are all goddesses of fortune, and the other residents of Vṛndāvana—where the trees are wish-fulfilling trees, where the land is made of touchstone, where even the water is nectar, where every word is a song and every step a dance, an expression of love—there you had your residence. Then, out of unlimited compassion you came down to the material world, and by your amazing purity we, the dull, wooden dolls of this abode of ignorance, started to dance for Kṛṣṇa in your hands.

We didn't really know Kṛṣṇa, but you convinced us that He is God, first of all by your own incredible dedication to Him, by basing everything you said on scripture, and by using logical arguments. And simultaneously you melted our hearts with prasadam and kīrtana. Then you engaged us in service, and now we pray to remain puppets in your hands eternally. There is one more thing I would like add. Recently I read a quote that impressed me: "When a man is old, he has to do more than when he was young." I can see the logic: in old age we are running out of time, and there is still so much to be done.

Anyway, you did exactly that: in your maturity you brought to the West the fruits of a lifetime dedicated to Kṛṣṇa, of being a disciple of a great spiritual master. You were the great lover of Kṛṣṇa, the wise grandfatherly person with the perfect human touch. You were the expert manager. You sang with a strong and melodious voice and were an expert mṛdaṅga player and an excellent cook. You were the perfect leader, with all the necessary experience, and in the process you just transcended old age.

Now it is our turn, as we begin to feel the weight of years. "When a man is old, he has to do more than when he was young." Now I pray for strength, especially strength of mind. May I overcome weakness of purpose and just dance and dance, like an instrument in your hands.

Your servant,
Kadamba Kānana Swami

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Advaita Siṁha Dāsa

My Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Shrila Prabhupada.
All glories to Shrila Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you Guru Maharaja.

Mukham karoti vacalam pangum langhayate girim
yat-kripa tam aham vande shri-gurum dina-taranam

For a long time I meditated on this offering to honour you on this auspicious day.
But fool that I am, I cannot find proper words to glorify you.

First of all I simply want to thank you so much for accepting me fallen soul as your disciple in this great family of Dasa. For so many years I was looking for deeper knowledge in my spiritual life but could not find it. Somehow or other our Lord Nityananda decided to shower me rascal with his causeless mercy by sending me one of your servants Gour Mohan Prabhu to give me a book that changed my whole life.

So that was the day when your mercy came to me even though you did not know me.
After my initiation you told me that I should meditate on giving mercy to the people on the street, not just books, and I found out that the best way to do that is to meditate on you. Because for me you are Gauranga's and Nityananda's manifestation of mercy.

You also told me that I have to find out how and why Krishna is all-attractive. To find out how he is all-attractive will probably take my whole lifetime but through your association I can at least understand it a little bit more and more. Also through you as a pure representative of Sri Krishna and through the vaishnavas I can see how wonderful Krishna is. And because this movement is not different from Krishna it is also all-attractive like him.

Thank you Guru Maharaja for giving me shelter at your lotus feet and for show me the way back to Godhead. Now it is my turn to repay you and Shrila Prabhupada as good as I can, by giving my best to serve and please Krishna. I will give my best not to fail you.

Hare Krishna,
The aspiring servant of your servant,
Advaita Siṁha Dāsa

Ādikartā Dāsa

Nama om visnu-pádáya krsna prestháya bhú-tale
śrímate kadamba kánana svámin iti námine

nama om visnu-pádáya krsna-prestháya bhú-tale
guru dása jayadvaita svámin iti námine

nama om visnu-pádáya krsna-prestháya bhú-tale
śrímate bhaktivedánta-svámin iti námine

namas te sárasvate deve gaura-váni-pracárine
nirviśesa-śúnyavádi-páścátya-deśa-tárine.

Lieber Guru Maharaja,

Nehmen Sie bitte meine achtungsvollen Ehrerbietungen im Staub Ihren LotosfūḻLen an. Alle Ehre sei an Ihrer Heiligkeit. Alle Ehre sei an Sri Gauranga. Alle Ehre sei an Ihrem Guru Maharaja HH Srila Guru Dasa Jayadvaita Swami. Alle Ehre sei an Srila Prabhupada.

Heute, dank Ihrer Grundlosen Barmherzigkeit, der Barmherzigkeit meines spirituellen Meisters Srila Guru Maharaja Kadamba Kanana Swami, kann mein Offering zu Offenbarung gebracht werden, denn es findet Ihre Vyasa-puja den statt. Diese āuḻerst glūckverheiḻende Begebenheit ist dauerhaft ein fūr alle Mal ein Feiertag fūr die ganze Welt.

Man kann kaum genūgend zum Ausdruck bringen, wie sehr bedeutend fūr das ganze Weltall die, auf dieser Erde, Anwesenheit eines echten spirituellen Meisters eigentlich ist. Man wird sich dessen unter anderem noch viel mehr bewusst in Zusammenhang mit der aktuellen Entwicklung der allgemeinen Beziehungen unter der ganzen Menschen Gesellschaft. So ein echter spiritueller Meister nimmt aber auf solche Umstände, ab wohl es mit sich bestimmte verschiedene allmählich zunehmende Gefährlichkeit fūr Ihm Selbst bringen kann, keine Rūcksicht. Er setzt ununterbrochen mit den Krishna Bewusstsein, unter allen Lebewessen, zu verbreiten fort, denn Er Sich bewusst Ist, das es immer mehr, fūr die Rettung der ganzen Menschheit und auch ein jeden Lebewesen persṭnlich, āuḻerst nṭtig ist. Die fast gesamte Menschheit in ihrer Unwissenheit, wendet sich den zunehmend sinnlosen Taten, die teilweise mit der unbegreiflich groḻen Straffālligkeit, die sich oft hinter den Gott Glauben versteckt, zu.
Ein echter spiritueller Meister macht ein jedem, der mit Ihm in die Gesellschaft auch nur fūr ein Augenblick zusammen gefūhrt wird, allmählich die Augen auf, viel mehr er folgt dem von Ihm vorgestellten Anweisungen nach. Auch ein jedes Lebewessen in Person kann durch das nachfolgen der Anweisungen des echten spirituellen Meisters, sogar ihres Bewusstsein Gottes erwecken.
Die gesamte Menschen Gesellschaft kann so aus der Schlussfolgerungsgesicht, durch die Gesellschaft mit einem echtem spirituellen Meister und das nachfolgen Seiner Anweisungen, endgūltig die falsche Richtung ihrer Taten aufgeben und ein Weg zur tatsāchlichen Vollkommenheit auftreten.
So glūckverheiḻend ist die bloḻe Gegenwart eines reinen Gottgeweihten.

Om ajnána-timirándhasya jnánánjana-śalákayá
caksur unmílítam yena tasmai śrí-gurave namaha

Ich bin in der dunkelsten Unwissenheit geboren und mein spiritueller Meister ṭffnete mir die Augen mit einer Fackel der Erkenntnis. Ich bringe Ihm meine achtungsvolle Ehrerbietungen dar.

O mein Meister, lieber Guru Maharaja, Sie sind als echter Vertreter Krishnas ein unbegrenzter Ozean der grundlosen Barmherzigkeit, die direkt von der Krishnas stammt und daher kann Ich wahrnehmen, dass Sie zu mir trotz meiner Unansehnlichkeit, ununterbrochen Ihre Güte im Schatten Ihren LotosfūḷLen āuḷLern.

vande ´ham śrí-guroh śrí-yuta-pada-kamalam śrí-gurún vaisnavámś ca
śrí-rúpam ságrajátam saha-gana-raghunáthánvitam tam sa jívam
sádvaitam sávadhútam parijana-sahitam krsna-caitanya-devam
śrí-rádhá-krsna-pádán saha-gana-lalitá-śrí-viśákhánvitámś ca

Ehrerbietungsvoll neige Ich mich dem LotosfūḷLen meines spirituellen Meisters und allen anderem Lehrern auf dem Weg des Hingebungsvollen Dienstes. Hochachtungsvoll neige Ich mich allem Vaisnavas und dem sechs Goswámís, śríla Rúpa Goswámí, śríla Sanátana Goswámí, Raghunátha dás Goswámí, und Ihren Gefährten, gesamt mit Jíva Goswámí. Ich bringe meine achtungsvollen Ehrerbietungen śrí Advaita Áśárya, śrí Nityananda Prabhu, śrí Caitanya Maháprabhu, und allem Seinem Geweihten an der Spitze mit śrívás Thákur dar. Voller Achtung neige Ich mich dem LotosfūḷLen des Herrn Krsna und śrímatí Rádhárání und allen Gopís, die mit Lalita und Viśákha angefürt werden.

Mit grṭḶter Dankbarkeit und voller Demut, mṭchte Ich Ihre LotosfūḷLe, die LotosfūḷLe meines spirituellen Meisters, Srila Guru Maharaja Kadamba Kanana Swami, ununterbrochen verehren und auch daher neige ich mich Ihnen stets erneut und bringe Ihnen, mit herzlichen Glückwunsch auch bei der Gelegenheit Ihrer Vyasa-puja, meine achtungsvolle Ehrerbietungen dar.

In Ihren Dienst Ihr ewiger Schuldner und unansehnlicher Schüller
Ādikartā Dāsa

Aditi Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your divine lotus feet.

All glories to your divine grace.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Maharaja, wishing you well on your 62th Vyasa-puja! May you always be a pillar of strength to your disciples. May Lord Sri Krishna grant you good health and lots of bhakti to preach under the instructions of Srila Prabhupada.

I do not have much direct contact with you, Maharaja but whenever I see you, I feel so glad that I have a friend, a father that I can always talk to. I remember meeting you in the Holy Dham Mayapur in December. I felt so happy to see you there especially since I had travelled from so far.

Thank you for always being there for us. In success or failure, I always want to be sincere to you, and serving at your lotus feet. Thank you for putting me on the Iskcon map.

Please, Maharaja you must look after your health.

Your servant,
Aditi Devi Dāsī

Aniyora Devi Dāsī and Yasoda Dulal Dāsa

namah oṁ viṣṇupādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣthāya bhūtale
śrīmate kadamba kānana-swāmin iti nāmine

namaḥ oṁ viṣṇupādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣthāya bhūtale
gurudasa jayādvaita-swāmin iti nāmine

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept our humble obeisances. Allow us to write some words of appreciation of your Holiness here in this offering.

A year has passed from the last Vyasa-puja and The Kings Day in Amsterdam. After the harinam you were excited by the masses of people dancing under the bridge in Wondel Park. It was you and your desire and your purity who made them dance. As Srila Prabhupada did it in the 60s and 70s, you as a sincere follower in the footsteps of Srila Prabhupada make masses of people dance. Similarly, at Radhadesh Mellows this year in January, when you started leading the kirtan, it did not even take five minutes till devotees started dancing. Although you always say that you believe in the strength of the Holy Name, it is also you and your devotion that make everybody dance. We know one boy who saw you leading kirtan before he knew devotees, and he told us that even he did not know what you are singing, he felt it is something very special and powerful. And when he met the devotees and got to know he should accept a spiritual master and after he met you personally, the choice was clear.

We have been with you for a few times this year and even in this little time we could see how easily you enchant and encourage devotees so that they feel inspired in devotional service and even decide that you lead them in their spiritual life as their initiating spiritual master. Your everlasting enthusiasm and self-lessness are always exemplary and impressive. Despite health problems that do not allow you even to sleep, you go on as if nothing was going on and even with better results. You are 'Gudakesha,' the one who conquered sleep. Your selflessness is seen every time when you are willing to talk to devotees even when your body causes you pain and you should rest.
The most important thing for us is that when we are with you and consult our problems with you, you give us advice and it works in our life, it is practically appliable. And we really feel the blessing of your guidance.

Once one devotee asked you what she should do to make you happy. You answered her she should stay a devotee, a happy devotee. She said it would be difficult and you replied it was not easy to make a spiritual master happy. So, although we know it was not direct instruction for us, we hope that if we say that we are happy in devotional service and your wise guidance helps us, it will make you happy and satisfied. We will try to please you by the service to you and to other devotees.

We are very thankful for accepting us as your disciples, for your kindness and compassion, your time you give us even we don´t deserve it.

Your servants,
Aniyora Devi Dāsī and Yasoda Dulal Dāsa



Antardvīp Dāsa

My dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja!
All glories to you!

On the occasion of your Vyasa-puja please let me offer you my poor attempt to glorify you and to express my deepest gratitude for everything you have done and what you are ceaselessly and tirelessly doing for me, for our wonderful God-family and for all fallen living beings in this world. May your health is always perfect so that you can further spread the glory of the Holy Name all around the world without limits and deliver countless conditioned souls lost in ignorance.

Simply by your presence one becomes purified. Simply by listening to your singing the Holy name one gets uplifted and inspired. Simply by hearing your lectures one understands more and more about vaishnava philosophy, about spiritual life and about nobleness of the movement we are part of. And simply by following your instructions one is protected from traps of the material energy and attains the perfection of life. By your mercy one is saved from the blazing fire of confusion fuelled by illusion of enjoyment in this temporary mortal world of misery and starts his way back to our eternal home in spiritual sky.

Although I do not deserve it, you saved me. You did not ask whether I want it or not, because I was so fallen that I was not even able to understand what this saving means. You simply compassionately came into my life and gave me your unconditioned mercy. You accepted me with all the impurities in my heart, with all the offenses I had done before and I am still doing. Without You I would be fully drowned in Maya. I'm still drowning in Maya, but now I've got life ring which you thrown to me, safely protecting me from sinking completely under the surface.

How Srila Prabhupada writes in his purport to Srimad Bhagavatam (canto11, chapter,19 verse 40-45) "Our actual friend in life is the bona fide spiritual master, who saves us from all dangers."

I will never forget our highway drive from Nava Nandagram last year when I collapsed and fell unconscious in the car. I do not know what exactly was going on there. But I know that when I came back to my senses you were next to me, gravely and powerfully chanting. I felt your love and concern. You were caring and worried of me so much. Like you always do. Maybe I was meant to leave my body then and Yamadutas were stopped only by your presence and japa. I have no idea. But whatever happened there, I knew you saved me again. And you are saving me constantly. Day after day.

Thank you, my dear Guru Maharaja that you are here. Thank you for all your austerities you undergo because of us. Thank you for any opportunity to serve in this amazing movement. I can never stop thanking you.

I beg you to never let me leave the association of devotees. Please allow me to somehow assist you in the mission of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. I just want to hold on to your lotus feet and do what I can.

You're grateful,
Antardvīp (hopefully one day real) Dāsa

Arati Devi Dāsī

Hare Krsna dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you.

I would like to thank you with all my heart for accepting me as your disciple and giving me initiation. Thank you again and again, it still feels like an explosion of happiness and gratitude, just like on the day of initiation one year ago.

I am constantly asking myself how is it possible that I have received so much mercy from you even though I am so far from ideal disciple and have really poor qualifications. Thank you so much for the trust and kindness, for understanding my foolish excuses, material problems and needs, which sometimes completely cover my truly self and devotional service. Thank you for being so simple, so accessible, but at the same time so serious about the service and standards. You are living example of devotion and dedication to your Guru and Srila Prabhupada, and I pray that one day I will be able to show at least one percent of that dedication to you. I love your kirtans, your lectures, your humour and your tireless energy for following Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu's mission.

In the years to come, my only hope is that I will have a chance to serve you more.

Always your servant,
Arati Devi Dāsī

Arcita Devi Dāsī

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

I offer these obeisances to you again and again. It is okay if you don't accept them as I will never stop offering them. Jai Srila Prabhupada! All glories to him and his disciples, and his disciples' disciples! It is because of his causeless mercy that I can take shelter of you.

On this truly auspicious day, your appearance day, I wish to share with you my gratitude and endless love through these meager words. Please forgive me for not expressing to you using words that You so deserve.

From you, Grace always radiates.
From you, Sri Mahaprabhu's mercy emanates.

The strength within your voice connects us to the Lord within our hearts.
This transcendental sound you offer us attracts even the Gandharvas.

To witness your focus and precision of your Kirtan offering is a blessing to receive.
Through this mercy you offer, I can learn how to attract the conditioned souls towards Sri Gaurahari.

I was but a squeak when you took me under your angelic wing.
Yet now, through your harinama initiation, I can scream, I can bellow, I can fly with you when I sing! You once expressed to me 'Kirtan every step of the way...the fashion of the day.'
Oh when will I sing and dance eternally on your way?

I miss our serendipitous meetings in Sri Dham Mayapur, only through your mercy was I to enter in to the Holy Dhama. Watching the excitement on your face when you would greet the deities was enough to burst this heart. After initiation you said,'Well now you are stuck with me.' But I never want to give you up! Is eternity even long enough?

All glories to you, dear Gurudeva. Please have mercy on me so that one day I may be able to properly serve you.

Your disciple,
Arcita Devi Dāsī

Ananda Vrindavan Dāsī

Dear Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisance. All glories to Srila Prabhupad, Jayadvaita Maharaj, Bhakti-tirtha Maharaj and Yourself!

Happy appearance day!

Please let me share the following joke that I heard recently and thought it can be pretty much applied to your appearance in my life.

Three women die and go to heaven on the same day. They are waiting at the gate when St. Peter arrives and greets them, "Welcome to Heaven, ladies. There is only one rule here in Heaven and it is don't step on the ducks." The women each look at each other confusingly. St. Peter opens the gate and sure enough there are thousands of tiny ducks covering the ground.
The first woman goes in, lasts a week as she steps on a duck. St. Peter appears out of nowhere with the ugliest man she has ever seen and handcuffs them together. He says, "This is your consequence for stepping on a duck. You must be stuck with this man for all eternity," and disappears.

The second woman goes for a month and finally steps on a duck. The same thing happens again. St. Peter arrives with the ugliest man she has ever seen, handcuffs them together, explains what has happened and leaves.

The third woman goes on for years and years, walking with barely lifting her feet from the ground and never steps on a duck. Suddenly, St. Peter pops up out of nowhere with the most gorgeous man she has ever seen. He handcuffs them together, and without saying a word, leaves. The woman looks up at the man and says, "Gee, I wonder what I did to deserve you!" He slowly looks down at her and says, "I don't know what you did, but I stepped on a duck!"

Dear Maharaj, thank you for consciously and out of unreserved mercy ‘stepping on the duck’, and agreeing to be bond forever to a person now full of conditionings and mistakes. Still, you believe in people so much and you believe in the potency of bhakti so absolutely, therefore you are patient with me and everybody else. You agreed to personally train me, and be there for me.

Your faith in the rare mercy of Caitanya’s movement is something most sacred for me, and it just brings life out of dead men.

On this day, I beg you just one thing. See, although I am to give, at least for birthdays, again I keep asking from you, but this time as I have heard from my Gurudev, Bhakti-tirtha Swami, praying to Lord Nityananda. I beg you that with that same mercifulness with which you have given me so many treasures: sharp lectures, heart moving kirtans, wonderful disciples that give me their love and support, humorous approach to life, personal training and association, delivering my Gurudev’s loving presence and care for me, carrying holy name and distributing Gaura’s mood of just profusely pouring out bhakti (gaura kripamritam prapti) – as I am still stubborn and unaware of what the diamonds are and thus very ungrateful, I beg you that with that same unconditional mercy with which you have given me all these gifts, please just once again extend your mercy and teach me how to become properly grateful. If I can be just honest and grateful, you and my Gurudev would be able to do so much more through me. Now, I am not so useful therefore I am left with this prayer to you. Please let my life be used properly in the service. I am to grow further and now I feel that time has come to move on in going deeper in my relationship and commitment to you. I am sorry that this offering is not as sweet and does not have so much loving words as it should, but you know that you are my light, my oasis, my beacon. I owe you a life.

Your aspiring servant,
Ananda Vrindavan Dāsī

Dear Gurumaharaja, please accept my most humble obeisances. All glories to you and all glories to Jayadvaita Swami! On the auspicious event of your Vyasa Puja I got very inspired by the purport of Srila Prabhuphada in SBV 1.20.22

I made an attempt to paint a picture for your pleasure. Unfortunately I am not the best painter. With this picture I wanted to stress out the point that my whole life is like this burning forest fire. The longer I am your disciple I realise that there is no other way than just satisfy you by serving the Lord Sri Krishna. All other ways are useless. Last year I had two reversals, which showed me clear, that there was no other way than just trust in you and Krishna.

I really hope you are satisfied with my attempt to distribute now since three yours Prasadam in Govindas Gothenborg in Sweden.

Your disciple Arundhati d.d.

SBV 1.7.22 Purport of Srila Prabhupada

Material existence is something like a blazing fire in the forest,



which can be extinguished by the mercy of the Lord Sri Krsna.



The spiritual master is the mercy representative of the Lord.



Therefore, a person burning in the flames of material existence may receive the rains of mercy of the Lord through the transparent medium of the self-realized spiritual master.



The spiritual master, by his words, can penetrate into the heart of the suffering person and inject knowledge transcendental, which alone can extinguish the fire of material existence.



Bahulāśva Dāsa

Please accept my humble obesiances.

nama om vishnu padaya krishna-prestaya bhu-thale
srimate kadamba kanana swami iti namine

nama om vishnu padaya krishna-prestaya bhu-thale
gurudas jayadvaita swami iti namine.

All glories too Srila Prabhupada.
All glories too Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Kadamba Kanana Swami

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Since last year I changed my ashram, for god and bad, but now I have regulated life with prasadam, much more service, reading and chanting. Even if I did this before as well, now we can support each other. My wife is much more eager than me to do service. So I am thankful to her because she keeps me engaged. We are now more engaged in taking care of some of the chores on Sunday feasts. And we often taking care of and bathing Pancha Tattva at Brahmakund.

It is also so nice that we can read together. We read Srimad Bhagavatam every night before we go to sleep, and that opens my eyes so I can see what is important, and what we should focus on. I`m trying to see with my ears, through Bhagavatam. Otherwise we are just in illusion, seeing with our limited senses and intelligence.

Next thing besides my sadhana is how to surrender to Krishna and guru. I do not know why I hold on so much to this temporary body and mind. I know that the soul can only be satisfied in relation with Krishna. The real happiness comes from service that is pleasing to guru, and by that pleasing Krishna. But you have to purify your desire so that they also are pleasing to Guru and Krishna.
Our desire is changing when we read and chant properly, and in the association of devotees our ego and pride will be reduced, otherwise we cannot stay in their association. Why is our ego so important for us? It only stands in the way, blocking us from our truth self. We have to take the purification seriously otherwise we will suffer in the association. Guru can take that away. That is his biggest gift. But we protest, because it hurts, and because we are attached to this idea of whom we are.

So Guru is our doctor who removes our obstacles, who can free us from this illusion that we can be happy with a temporary body, with a false ego. How is it possible to be happy with something false? This selfish ego who always thinking how to please its own senses. This is like watering the leaves instead of the root. Yes, I admit I am still sick, because of attachment to materiel happiness But we can be enthusiastic because we have a doctor and we have the medicine, and we can see that the medicine works, slowly, it works. It is not like western medicine, painkillers who just take away the pain for the moment, rather it is like ayurvedic treatment, and it goes to the root of the problem.

So with that we can go on because we have the best treatment, we just have to be patient and chant and be happy.

Your servant,
Bahulāśva Dāsa

Bali Mardan Dāsa & Bhakta Darpan

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada

We had an amazing time when you came to Leicester this year. Unfortunately I did not get the opportunity to serve you directly due to other services, but I know that you appreciate us serving the temple. I managed to go to the Crawley retreat to get more association. Your amazing kirtans and classes are always a great inspiration. Now I hope I will take that instruction and change my character into a humble loving devotee. This year you also inspired me to do book distribution, so I hope I will continue to do that.

Sometimes I find it difficult to practice spiritual life, but your talks give me a ray of hope and relieve my stress. Now I know that I have to read Srila Prabhupada's books, help ISKCON Leicester and spread the message to others. I pray for your blessings to do this – the spiritual master is an ocean of mercy, and without the spiritual master one can make very little progress. We look forward to seeing you in June.

Your servant,
Bali Mardan Dāsa & Bhakta Darpan

Bharadvāja Dāsa

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Please accept my most reverent dandavats into a dust of your lotus feet.

All glories to your spiritual master Jayadvaita Swami.
The most reverent obeisances to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

On this very auspicious day of your advent to this world I would like to express my thanks and gratitude for your causeless mercy, which you have endowed me. You have kindly allowed me to take shelter in a shadow of your lotus feet. I am deeply beholden to you for the sacrifice that you undergo to give to such a mleccha as me the most valuable knowledge of Krishna and of our relation to him.
The knowledge by which we can eternally abandon this material existence and assume our original state in spiritual world as perpetual servants of Krishna. I notify that I will never be able to pay back this debt to you, at least minutely. Please accept my devotional service although since it is very imperfect and please excuse my offences that I still commit.

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami, let me be henceforth and constantly engaged in this wonderful preaching mission. I wish you to receive never-ending Krishna´s mercy, in a good health, during spreading knowledge of Lord Caitanya all over the world. Please accept once more my and many times my deepest obeisances. All glories to your sincere followers.

Servant of Your servant,
Bharadvāja Dāsa

Bhuvanapujita Radhika Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swamiji,

Please accept my humble obeisances!!

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!!
All glories to Guru and Gauranga!!

I thoroughly enjoy reading your blogs daily. It energizes me to be steady in my Krishna conscious journey. Thank you for enlightening me. Please bless me on this auspicious day so that I can serve Guru and Gauranga to the fullest.

Your humble servant,

Bhuvanapujita Radhika Devi Dāsī
Disciple of His Holiness Jayapataka Maharaja

Bṛhat-mṛdaṅga Dāsa

Dear Srila Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Thank you for your unlimited kindness and shelter. I pray that I may one day develop real appreciation for you by humbly following seriously your instructions and, in doing so, take the pure devotional service that you are trying to give me. I am so foolish that I do not recognise my great fortune of coming into contact with Srila Prabhupada, but thanks to you, I have some connection to him and I have faith that you will take me to him without fail. All I need to do is follow you. Your greatness is that you are a soul fully surrendered to Srila Prabhupada and that through your humble service you have become so empowered, that you can elevate anyone to the pure platform.

I pray that I may develop purity, so I may please you through humble service and also become empowered to spread this mission of Mahaprabhu everywhere and constantly glorify you by being a living testament of your dedication to Prabhupada.

With love
Your servant,
Bṛhat-mṛdaṅga Dāsa

Candraśekhara Dāsa

Om ajnana-timirandhasya jnananjana-salakaya
caksur unmilitam yena tasmai sri-gurave namah

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you

For really valuable things one has to pay a hefty price. After a few years of practicing as a devotee the extent of this hefty price is sinking in. Sometimes I feel as if the price is too much. Sometimes I feel as if I'm losing out on life when I see the world around me. Not everything I see around me glitters with hope. I do at times see the dissatisfaction that material life offers. I wish I could see this all the time. I guess living my life with deep unshaken spiritual convictions will take some determined effort. Determined effort to nurture these convictions and have them become the foundations of my life. Failure is the stepping stone to success and so I take strength in these words.

I take strength too from you, from your life. Growing up in a rich family in Holland you could have taken shelter in the best "comforts" the world had to offer. But you chose otherwise and that is something I think about often. You could have had practically anything, it was all gifted to you but you searched out something else. You found Krsna and you have stuck with Him. And so I think, "Because you have chosen Krsna, then there must be something there."I don't see what you see in Krsna, I do not even know much about Krsna, but because you have chosen Krsna and have stuck with Him, this gives me motivation to follow in your footsteps.

And so when I'm tempted by the world's allurements I try to remember you, your choices, and your life. Spiritual life is going to be a struggle, I have made peace with that. But I pray it evolves into a sweet struggle.

Thank You for allowing me to be a part of your life, please allow me to always be a part of your life because this is my saving grace.

Your grateful servant and son,
Candraśekhara Dāsa

Caitanya-līlā Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna Guru Maharaja,

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

I have been praying that I can possible manage to make a humble attempt to glorify your existence in my life, which otherwise will be without so much value and use, if I hadn't been fortunate enough and blessed by the mercy of Krishna to put me in contact with his devotees. Understand what is the real purpose of this human form of life is our main goal as we learn from the scriptures, awake our spiritual identities and stablish our broken relationship with Krishna, but putting it into practice can be such a difficult task with all the unnecessary luggage present in our hearts in the form of anarthas and material desires, the result of our incalculable spent time in this material world. Our minds can also play a good role, trying to deviate us from this goal, but at least we learn from the scriptures that we haven't been the only ones with this kind of problem, and the Lord being very merciful, send us great souls like you to make our process of understanding this fact much easier by teaching us with your example, by giving us instructions and by filling our life with inspiration and in this way, keep striving for perfection.

Thank you for being so kind and friendly every time that you have come and visit us at Melbourne temple, and also for emphasizing that one can be in constant association with the spiritual master if one is following his instructions. I myself still struggle understanding the difference between 'vani and vapu,' I guess it is because of my still strong and present identification with my material body, but hopefully it will become less and less the most I can be fortunate to keep spending my life surrounded by devotees.

I beg for your blessing and mercy every day of my life, so that I do not become deviated of the real and most valuable path in this existence, devotional service to the Supreme Lord and his devotees, please pray for me that I can purify my mind, my words, my body and finally my heart, because only in that way I may become of use as an instrument trying to assist you fulfilling your Guru Maharaja's instructions, Srila Prabhupada's instruction and finally Lord Caitanya's instructions.
Thanks for accepting me as your disciple and give me the opportunity to be part of this amazing family called ISKCON.

Your aspiring servant,
Caitanya-līlā Devi Dāsī

Campakalatā Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna,

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

The last day
The very very last moment.
To tell my Guru Maharaja how he lives in my
heart and how I love to see him.
And how I don't like to hear how weak is his health.
That worries me a lot.
Didn't want to tell this,
but have to do,
because it's like this.

Guru Maharaja Kadamba Kanana Swami gives me
over 25 years inspiration, and trust in the Way to Lord Krishna.
He was the very first one, very long time ago,
who made me consider, although I didn't know how
to make Lord Krishna the goal and center of my live.
It was and has not been always that easy, but am so happy,
to write this down; on this very last moment.
Am very grateful, Kadamba Kanana Swami he has been there for me.
Thank you, thank you, and thank you.

Hare Krishna,
Campakalatā Devi Dāsī
(Gouda, Holland)

Candrabhānu Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

I am glad that I can dive once more into the mediation about you, dear Guru Maharaja. Even though I often meditate about you, how you preach the Bhagavata Dharma, this very day, the day of your birth, dips me into the thoughts about spiritual master. Without this we cannot make an advancement, 'sākṣād dharitvena samasta-śāstrair uktas tathā.' Spiritual master should be worshiped in the same way as the Supreme Lord, because he is his most confidential servant.

Your importance in this material world being so great that until today I am not aware of it, so I ask you for mercy and forgiveness. I am such fool. I understand nothing and only think I have is you, spiritual master and holy name. Despite that I am so unfortunate that it does not attract me sufficiently. Please, I offer you my obeisances my dear spiritual master. I belong to you only. All my possessions and family belong to you. Though I know nothing, I will serve you and holy name, because I feel it out thusly through all my disgusting materialistic life and I will continue to do so. I ask you for blessing to continue to do so. I am nothing. I am only atom. Please allow this atom to continue to serve you.

I wish you continuous strength for preaching Bhagavata Dharma and I wish you health. It is beautiful to watch videos and pictures of you, how you preach to others about importance of holy name and transience of this world. Thank you very much for everything.

Your most fallen disciple, always paying obeisances in dandavats,
Candrabhānu Dāsa



"I like to sing and I realise that this singing is giving me positive energy and this is what we have to look for... Anything that is done for Krsna, a simple thing, some worship for Krsna."

Citta Hari Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
And all glories to His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.

I am glad to take part in your Vyasa-puja again. When I was at Sacinandana Swami's Vyasa-puja this year, I got a lot of inspiration there. By his association and his lectures, Sacinandana Swami helped me a lot to better comprehend my relationship to you. In that way, my desire to serve you with all my heart with what I'm doing became stronger. Every day, I think about you and I try to master the daily challenges in following the path of bhakti-yoga as a sacrifice to your lotus feet. In this daily practice, I feel your mercy, and the mercy of the Vaishnavas and Radha-Krsna. It is very wonderful to be happy in Krishna consciousness and I am preparing myself for living a life where every day is filled up with devotional service from dawn till dusk. I wish you good health, that you may execute your mission without disturbances and that you may please your adored Guru Maharaja.

I remain, deeply grateful.
Your servant,
Citta Hari Dāsa

Dahani Devi Dāsī

PERFECT DAY

I dream of a perfect day:
First, we cook for you
And my chapattis are just right -
just as you love them.

Then, we take a feast ourselves
and get ready for harinama.
Whole river of devotees
fills the streets -
my family, my dear friends,
countless godbrothers and godsisters.
And, of course, you at the front,
Dear Guru Maharaja.

The sun is shining gently
After the rain has washed the streets
preparing them for the devotees' dance.

The rainbow is in the sky.
The scent of fragrant flowers
is spreading through the air.
Mixed with the smell of incense sticks
tilaka and chandan,
it reminds of something
out of this world.
And we all chant and dance,
people dance with us,
they sing with us.

They honour the prasadam we distribute
for all to their full satisfaction.
And I am sure all the demigods are watching
and participating, too,
although I cannot see them.
Who would have missed that?

And you are so happy
seeing the devotees chant attentively,
respectfully, joyfully.
And we have only one goal –
to do it all again the next day.

Dear Gurudeva,
Thank you deeply
for giving me such an opportunity -
to dream the most wonderful dream of all!

Your servant,
Dahani Devi Dāsī

Devānanda Dāsa

Happy appearance day Guru Maharaja,

May you be showered with blessings.

Your humble servant,
Devānanda Dāsa

Dharmānanda Dāsa

This is to wish my dear father a happy Vyasa-puja day. And all the best and thanking you for being there for me when I needed you most. You are the rainbow of spiritual knowledge, the spiritual father of my internal bliss and showing me the desire trees of sweet offerings to get the nectar of love, also to show me where there is transcendental bliss of spiritual life. I wish you well on your special day and may Lord Krsna give you more strength to spread his holy name at every corner of the globe.

Haribol and love from your only son,
Dharmānanda Dāsa

Dhṛṣṭadyumna Dāsa and Līlāsukhā Devi Dāsī

Hare Krsna dear Gurudeva,
Please accept our humble obeisances.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Few days ago I was reading your verdict on the occasion of appearance day of Lord Nityananda, how he is the symbol of kindness and positive attitude. How to connect and approach everyone to come closer to this sublime movement for Krishna consciousness. It is obvious that you are personification of this kind mood and great preacher of mercy. It is very rare to meet pure devotee of Lord Sri Krishna in this world.

'Brahmanda bhramite kona Bhagyavan jiva Guru Krishna -Prasade paya Bhakti lata – bija.'
(C.C. Madhya lila 19.151).

I was sure from the first moment that I saw you, that I was searching you on my path to knowledge. Pure and bona fide spiritual master having unreally kind heart, equipped with tolerance of a father, never ending ocean of knowledge of the Absolute. I admire how you are able to apply teachings of scriptures in reality of this age. My desire is to please you some day. I remember of our meeting in Sridham Mayapur, when I was asking for permission to become your disciple. It was in 2009. You suggested to have a fruit in your hand - ripend fruit of Vedic knowledge. My part was to show more eagerness to have it. Unfortunately I do not know yet what kind of treasure you bring to me.

On this favourable day of Your Vyasa-puja I beg you for a drop of your mercy for my wife and for me. Thank you for keeping me alive. Thank you Guru Maharaja that you send her on my way .She is great inspiration for me, attracting a lot of people to Krishna. She is so kind and tolerant. Thank you for your rare association and causless mercy upon us.

We wish you all the best, limitless showers of Krishna's mercy and good health.
ALL GLORIES TO YOU GURUDEVA

Your servants,
Dhṛṣṭadyumna Dāsa and Līlāsukhā Devi Dāsī

Doyāl Govinda Dāsa

Hare Krishna dear Maharaja,
Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja.

I am looking forward meeting you in 2015 at your Vyasa-puja celebration. I feel very grateful being a part of this community. It is a wonderful experience having you there with all your disciples because I am very much looking forward seeing all of them too.

Here one can already see that you serve your spiritual master and Srila Prabhupada. His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja asked you that you go ahead and accept many disciples and Srila Prabhupada sent out the message, that one should learn the philosophy of Krishna consciousness and act as a spiritual master. By doing this you show how dedicated you are in that mission and I like to convey my deepest gratitude.

Furthermore, it is obvious how you follow Srila Prabhupada's footsteps because you mentioned an event during Srila Prabhupada's presence. He was in a series of lectures and on the recordings it was obvious that Srila Prabhupada got ill with a cold, so devotees asked him not to travel so that he can recover. But his answer was simple, if he does not travel who will come and uplift them. So if you do not travel, who will come and uplift us? I am sure so many devotees asked you and told you that you should not travel so much, and I guess the sequence changed a bit, but still you fly from one continent to the other and to the next and after this come back, probably from Summer time in Australia to a typical German Winter at the German farm, Simhachalam. You care for us!
I pray that I, as your disciple, can also care for you, that those deep words you speak for example at the Vyasa-puja reach my heart, so that I can engage in the mission of Srila Prabhupada and that this demon in my heart vanishes.

An important helper I have in my wife Tattvavati Devi Dasi because she is very good in getting the essence, and in last year's Vyasa-puja lecture there were three main parts you asked what your disciples shall do that she figured out. First we shall always stick to Srila Prabhupada: He is the founder Acharya of this movement, so he is the base for our spiritual life. By his mercy we are here and know about Krishna and Lord Caitanya. So by this we are indebted to him and we have to concentrate on his message.

Second we shall keep it simple. The more we make our life complicate the more we get entangled in the material world or energy respectively. If we simply stick to the program of chanting, hearing and association we can progress easier in spiritual life and third we shall take responsibility. Here we can show our dedication and repay our debts to you and Srila Prabhupada and also contribute to the mission. As far as I see my god brothers and god sisters, they are all very enthusiastic, in helping you and the mission, which is your credit.

Finally, you spoke in the lecture at the Bhaktivedanta Manor that you see only one way how this movement can advance, by generosity. By your power we can be empowered being more generous so that we can flood the world with Krishna consciousness as Lord Caitanya flooded the town of Prayag with love of Godhead. This is the most powerful energy in the world but due to bad influences our minds are full of doubts and suspiciousness, but generosity can conquer these doubts. If we do not consider what is there for us, but simply distribute the mercy and not stick to our conditioning of fruitive activities.

Your disciple and servant,
Doyāl Govinda Dāsa

Dwarkadīśa Dāsa

Dear Gurudeva,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada and to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you.

Your spiritual life is my aim (more a long-term goal, to be realistic) - my drive, fuel and my guideline.

For me, spiritual life is still an experience according to time, place and circumstances. Not in the good sense that I can adjust in relation to my environment, but that I am so much dependent on outside factors. Difficulties, challenges, and disturbances I can experience it on the streets while approaching the people to give them Srila Prabhupada's books. Often I react to their behaviour with my own shortcomings. My thirst for approval, recognition or respect makes me sad and reflecting on it makes me eager for spiritual progress. I am looking forward for the day when I will be kind to everyone and equipoised in all circumstances.

But one thing is certain, one thing is safe - your devotion to Krishna and mercy upon your disciples. So I have trust in your guidance, I enjoy witnessing your exemplary behaviour. I find solace remembering your character, it gives me so much inspiration thinking of your blooming Krishna consciousness.

That is strong – Guru – very heavy and unshakable. So I just pray for my ability to receive. For a higher level of acceptance, because everything is there, I just miss it so often and play around.
I am just a foolish child, stretching out the hands to my merciful master - for seva.

Your eternal servant,
Dwarkadīśa Dāsa

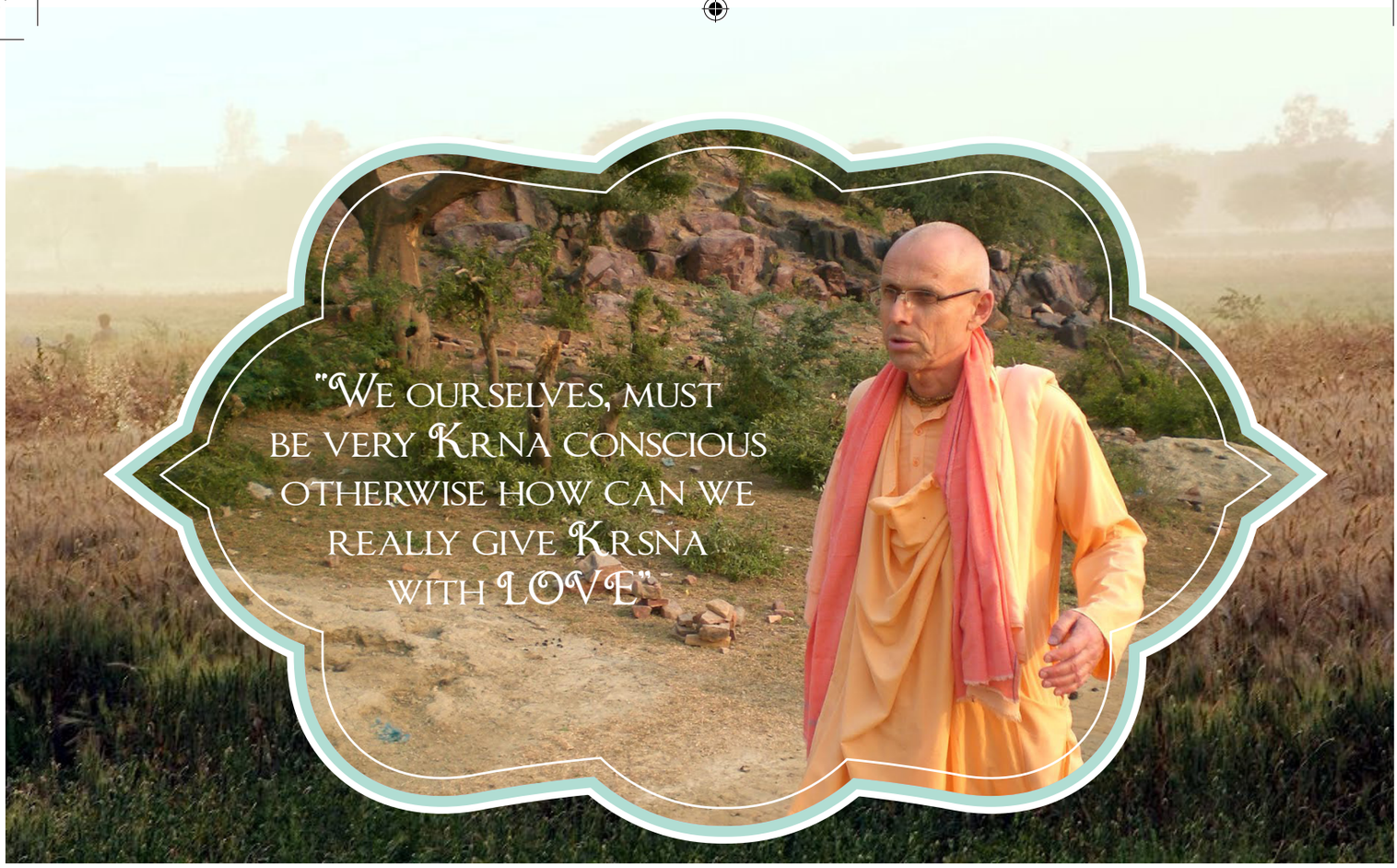
Elisha, Bhaktin

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to you.

Dear Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,

I offer my humble obeisance to you on this auspicious day. I bow down to your lotus feet. I would like to thank you for coming the Leicester. I really appreciated you taking the time out to spend it with us. I enjoyed your association. I do hope that your health improves, and I look forward to seeing you in Leicester soon.

Your Servant,
Elisha Patel (daughter of Harsarani Devi Dasi)



Ganesh, Bhakta

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obesiences.
All glories to SrilaPrabhupada.

As I reflect on the meaning of spiritual master the following thoughts came. A spiritual master is one who encourages us in devotional service, who guides us from nescience to knowledge, who tells us the meaning of love of God and connect us to the paramapara. One who is the finest sculptor and knows how to carve the best character of a disciple, who chastises us to bring out the best and who loves us because now he is our father. One who holds the hand of the kid and teaches him how to walk on the tight rope of Vaishnavism in Kali yuga.

A spiritual master is one who gives the hope not to be hopeless assuring they will take you back, back to Godhead. While I was reflectively cherishing everything I have been given, all a disciple could possibly get from spiritual master and was thanking Lord Nityananda for being so merciful to send you to save my life, the thought pondered, 'What am I doing to show any gratitude to my spiritual master, who reminded me that Srila Prabhupada was the most challenging personality and we should also challenge ourselves to leave our comfort zone and do something to be an instrument in his mission.'

However, when I think about it I find myself way too insufficient to do anything. I realize that I have no intelligence, nor the courage, however I have the faith that if you would use me in rendering some service to Srila Prabhupada then you will bring out the best of me. So this humble and menial servant of yours is asking for your blessings and requesting to please keep me at your lotus feet eternally.

Your Servant,
Bhakta Ganesh

Gauravāṇī Dāsī

Hare Krishna dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to your beloved Guru Maharaja His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you.

Bowing down at the dust of your lotus feet.

I was wondering what to write at this auspicious day of your Vyasa-puja day. I wanted to sing a song for you which describes how I see your heart-melted attitude in relationship between guru and disciple but I am not a good singer. I was thinking to write a poem but I am better singer then poem writer.

I heard that at appearance day holy personalities are most kind and special merciful. I do not want to ask even for that because you are super kind and super merciful always and not just at day of your Vyasa-puja. You showering us with mercy of Lord Gauranga in every word, in every kirtan and of course in every step you do :) Since it is mine 10th Vyasa-puja, what we officially started to celebrate, I am just happy to have your personal association and some little seva, that means a lot to me.

In my life I met so many people, and everyone was trying had from me somebody else and I heard just what I do wrong what I have to change, and of course all my bad qualities (I heard like a thousand times) and now if I really think deeply in what I am good, I have to think really long and still I cannot find some of those qualities for which you can be proud of. But then I was really deeply thinking and I realize that I am handy or skilled in some things and all are connected with mercy or power you gave me.

You helped me be closer in my relationship with Srila Prabhupada and you inspired me to do sankirtan and distribute some Prabhupada`s books to the people in Czech streets, and take care of who was inspired. Some of them are now initiated devotees, you inspired me to do deity worship and I loved to be on the altar with Radha Gopinatha or Lord Jagannatha, Lord Baladeva and Lady Subhadra or with Gaura Nitai or just be in the kitchen and cook for them.

Now I am a mum, I learn another lessons of life, it is a never ending story. And honestly, mostly I loved my personal seva for you. In those years I think it has been 13 years already. I have so many sweet memories, some are super nice, some funny and of course also some heavy when I almost cry on ocean of tears.

I am glad to have you in my life, you changed me into better person. You always deal with me frankly and without gloves, and like that I can be myself and just be happy in Krishna consciousness. Still a lot of work to do. But what to do? I am such a rascal I learn from my mistakes, but I try to be on the right way in right train.

You know all that and you still did not break stick over me, you are always so kind and merciful to me and tolerate me. You are simply and deeply my best Guru Maharaja, my best well-wisher, my best father and best friend.

Your eternal servant,
Gauravāṇī Dāsī

Girivaradhārī Dāsa, Prema Mayi, Manhar and Nimai

Hare Krishna,

Please accept our offerings for our dearest Guru Maharaja!
****

nama om visnu-pádáya krsna prestháya bhú-tale srímate kadamba kánana svámin iti námine
nama om visnu-pádáya krsna-prestháya bhú-tale guru dasa jayadvaita svámin iti námine
nama om visnu-pádáya krsna-prestháya bhú-tale srímate bhaktivedánta-svámin iti námine
namas te sárasvate deve gaura-váni-pracárine nirvisesa-súnyavádi-páscátya-desa-tárine

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

On this auspicious day of your Vyasa-puja, we offer you our humble obeisances. We always pray that you always continue to serve Lord Krishna and always keep on inspiring us in spiritual activities.
We love listening to your wonderful kirtans which are sung in various melodies. They are just out of this world. Every time I listen to a new kirtan, I say this is one of the best I have ever heard with tears of joy in my eyes. And then I hear another one which is even better. Each are unique in its own kind.

Before I would listen to some karmi songs, but now it's only Krishna bhajans. Just as they say once you get the taste of higher source, you want to quit the lower sources. And what to talk about your lectures. These lectures are just amazing!! They guide us and keep us fixed on the spiritual path whilst in your absence in South Africa. I remember at the Durban 2014 Rath Yatra, you did a kirtan on stage and with the beautiful sound vibrations emanating from Mrdanga and harmonium, the audience enjoyed it so much that they started to dance and did not want it to end. After the kirtan, you quoted such beautiful words, that the sounds vibrations from the musical instruments have no meaning if the holy names of Krishna is not there. This really touched my heart.

I remember at the time of my initiation in 2010, you mentioned that chanting of the Maha Mantra is the essence of spiritual growth. At the beginning, I sometimes used to struggle to find time to finish my rounds but used to manage it somehow with your mercy. Recently at the Midrand temple we have started a social chat group, "Perfect Japa Perfect Life," where a number of devotees have to report on daily basis about the attentiveness of chanting, also start and finish times of their Japa rounds. This has helped me a lot in my chanting. It really feels great to finish majority of the rounds earlier in morning. So it is very true what you always mention in your lectures that right association is very important, and by having the association of devotees anything is achievable.

We would like to thank you once again. Thank you for being our Guru Maharaja. We feel so blessed to have you as our Guru. Only with your mercy this was possible, else we would have been left in the mode of ignorance. All glories to Srila Prabhupada! All glories to Jayadvaita Swami! All glories to Srila Kadamba Kanana Swami!!

Your humble servants,
Girivaradhari Dāsa, Prema Mayi, Manhar and Nimai
(Pretoria, South Africa)

Gītā Govinda Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to you.

Brahmande bharamite kona bhagyavan jiva
guru-krsna-prasade paya bhakti-lata-bija.
(Caitanya Caritamrta,Madhya Lila 19.151)

"Out of many millions of living entities wandering throughout the universe, one who is very fortunate gets an opportunity to associate with a bona fide spiritual master by the grace of Krsna. By the mercy of both Krsna and the spiritual master, such a person receives the seed of the creeper of devotional service".

Yes, how fortunate I am that this bhakti lata bija, the seed of devotional service was awakened by you, by your mercy, by Krsna's mercy. Receiving the bhakti lata bija is wonderful and great but it also appeals to the responsibility of the devotee. Yes, after receiving the seed, it becomes more than bloody serious. In "Watering the seed" the author Giriraj Swami emphasises that when a person receives the seed of devotional service, he should take care of it by becoming a gardener and sowing the seed in his heart. If he waters the seed gradually by the process of hearing and chanting, the seed will begin to sprout.

It is impossible to water the seed without the instructions from the spiritual master, without his association. Considering the Guru as your example in this regard must not be underestimated. Watching Guru's behaviour, trying to act in the same way without trying to imitate him, will certainly develop divine qualities in a devotee's life, qualities of a pure devotee, Guru Maharaja's qualities. And so the seed will sprout into beautiful lotus flowers surrounding Srimati Radharani's lotus feet.

Guru Maharaja's divine qualities are innumerable. It is impossible to describe them fully and in extend. For a detailed description of the qualities, for the sake of time, I won't refer to sastras. One thing is for sure, under all circumstances, whether it is hot or cold stormy weather, in good or bad health, Guru Maharaja will always find a way to please the devotees and shower his mercy upon them.

We are all aware that Maharaja's health condition is not the best in the last years, more-over sometimes it seems to become worse and worse. Still Maharaja is going on, no way to stop Him from kirtan, preaching and travelling, to favour the devotees with His association. Srila Prabhupada's mission cannot afford any delay, every second counts, no time to waste, that's Gurus attitude!

Watching Guru's behaviour is encouraging and inspiring. It stops one to lament when confronted with obstacles or suffering and considering that an excuse not to do service. I remember Maharaja's wonderful kirtan twice this year at the Mellows in extremely cold Radhadesh, even while his neck was covered with a neck collar I tried to somehow express my gratitude for his amazing performance and even though everyone was so ecstatic He Himself felt it could have been much better. That is Guru and his reflection of humility.

Every breath in His life is for the pleasure of devotees, of His spiritual master, Srila Prabhupada, Krishna, and still for Him it is never enough, even while tortured by pain. After Radhadesh, Maharaja visited the Netherlands, Amsterdam Temple. Still the neck problems, still a lot of pain in the body, still cold weather, and yes still going strong. Maharaja led Sunday feast on Nityananda's
Appearance Day, including a fantastic lecture, ecstatic kirtan for hours during the abishekh, joyful

Karuna Nitai Gaura Chandra showering all of us with so much blessings, blessings only by the mercy of Guru Maharaja. It seemed like Maharaja could not stop the wonderful kirtan by the wish of the controlling beautiful deities.

I remember a similar situation last year in Vrindavan, when we went for a parikrama with Maharaja and visited Nrsimhadeva temple. What happened was incredible. Maharaja gave an extremely powerful kirtan for hours and hours in front of the Lord, the pujari was totally overwhelmed, the devotees were not dancing anymore, but flying completely in ecstasy, loosing their minds, totally absorbed in Nrsimhadeva's presence there, which everyone could feel. Even the local people who were watching us with big eyes considered us to come from another planet. Guru Maharaja, I never felt the Lord's presence so strong in our midst, more-over I was so overwhelmed, just like the pujari, for the Lord did not allow you to stop with favouring Him as well as all of us.
At that moment my conviction that Maharaja must be a saintly person grew, and the desire in me to obtain his qualities became stronger and stronger.

Back to your stay in Amsterdam, still suffering with the neck problems, you were confronted with the fact that a special devotee from Amsterdam, Arati was about to leave her body, and without hesitation in the terrible cold weather you took the train to Den Bosch. Three days later she left her body. It really was a hard week for Maharaja. But for the pleasure of the devotees he still was going on, continuing preaching on the following Sunday feast, again with an ecstatic kirtan, meanwhile working on the incredible Mayapur project in his room. Never ever stopping from doing service, no pain can stop him. Pain? You mean purification. That is our Guru Maharaja! No price is too high in the service of Prabhupada!!!!!

Gurudev, I remember you mentioning your spiritual master, dear Jayadvaita Maharaja, a first class man. Indeed definitely! By his example, by his mercy and by your countless divine qualities you also became a first class man. My only wish and hope is that by following your instructions, by taking you as my example, by looking at your behaviour, one day the bhakti lata bija will begin to sprout and favour me with some of your divine qualities and enable me to come a little bit closer to your lotus feet.

Thank you Guru Maharaja for having so much patience with me, for keeping me inspired, for having faith in me that I will never ever leave this path of bhakti yoga and remain under your guidance. How fortunate I am to have you as my spiritual master birth after birth. Thanks Srila Prabhupada for connecting me to this Guru Maharaja on my way back to Godhead. And please Gurudeva forgive me for once while cooking for you, some chapatti's were not cooked and also try to forget the dhal I made for you once, which was so thick that you poured your glass with ginger tea into it.

Your most indebted servant,
Gītā Govinda Devi Dāsī

Godruma Dāsa

Hare Krishna dear Guru Maharaja, dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,
Please accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet.

All glories to you.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
And all glories to Srila Prabhupada!

You are the supreme shelter because you make me work for Krishna. You give me confidence and all what is required to be able to stay in the community of the Vaishnavas. You are a real desire-tree, and your fruits are always hanging low enough for us your disciples to pick them up. The fruits are so tasty, and you give them in abundance. There is no passive time with you, you are always giving us more service, more bliss, more confidence, and more faith to serve the devotees, Srila Prabhupada, and Sri Krishna. It is the highest service. It is what really makes one alive.
And you do this in a way that even a wretched and dumb fool as I am can understand it to be the best thing to do.

You are always fully engaged in devotion to Krishna and you never seem to be fatigued or agitated. Every time I see you, either personally or from afar you are completely absorbed and fulfilled in the service to Krishna. You are preoccupied in giving the mercy to all of us with full hands.
Never before I saw any person like you, a person who is so energetically and joyfully convinced of his way of living.

You are an example how, after hours of hard work and not much sleep (weak health included), you wake up early and just continue with the glorification of the Lord with full speed and even bigger enthusiasm. What an energy! However your energy is not a passionate one, like that of the materialists. Everything you do is meant to attract Krishna. No rush, but determination. No haste, but eagerness. No passion, but compassion.

Everything you do has deeper meaning. You are teaching me how to do my service better, for the attraction of Krishna, without the sense of false prestige, simple and pure. Therefore you are like the cooling moon, which frees my mind from the worldly social pressure, to please no one else than Krishna. Krishna is never interested in our facade because he knows our real desires - no use of hiding.

You are also teaching me to never hide my desires, to be honest. You teach me to be authentic and only accept what is real, because you yourself are so authentic and real. No artificiality, nothing shallow, no nonsense, only the truth. Whenever I think of this quality of yours my mind is completely calm, and I know there is a hope to be saved from the attacks of the mind and heaps of shortcomings.

Before I joined ISKCON I would have gone to the mountains far away from the people to seek shelter in the forest - but I found no peace. My mind followed me and kept bothering me. No place in the world can be more attractive to me than to be with you and await your instructions. I am like a dog sitting next to its master, hoping to get an opportunity to do something to please him.
We sing to you every morning: “My only wish is to have my consciousness purified by the words emanating from your lotus mouth. Attachment to your lotus feet is the perfection that fulfils all the desires.” You said, "Even if you stay on the farm and help there you will always stay a preacher." I could not figure out how this should work, but now after some time I feel again this great urge to go out and distribute some mercy and invite people to our events.

This feeling is something really new. Before I came to the movement I was doing a similar job like I am doing now. But this now is different because I do it on your order and for the welfare of all. I never had the urge to do anything for the welfare of all - animals are thinking differently.
Only by your causeless grace this has changed. From this I can understand that you are also the only reason for this change. Somehow you instilled some drops of preaching ecstasy in me, and because you did this you also know that I will always have something to share. Without you I would not have any mercy to distribute, and also no good qualities. I pray to your lotus feet that I can be able to always remember this and always remember to give out the mercy somehow or other.

A thing which also struck me is that during the precious moments of your most valuable association is that you always give hints, or even specific advices regarding our services.

And often it happens that I cannot really understand what do you mean because there seem to be too much of a time gap in between what you predict or what you instruct, and what is in reality happening at that moment. But by the time when we have to serve you again in separation all of your statements begin to make more and more sense. It is like you predicted the future and helped us to overcome our anxieties due to so much ignorance.

You really open our eyes and fill our hearts with transcendental (and practical) knowledge. Simply awesome! Please bless me that as soon as possible I can really satisfy you with the service you have gracefully given to me. Thank you thousand times for everything you gave to me, and thank you that you are still investing your energy in this somewhat hopeless case.

Your eternally indebted dog called,
Godruma Dāsa

Gopālī Devi Dāsī

Hare Krsna my dear Guru Maharaja,

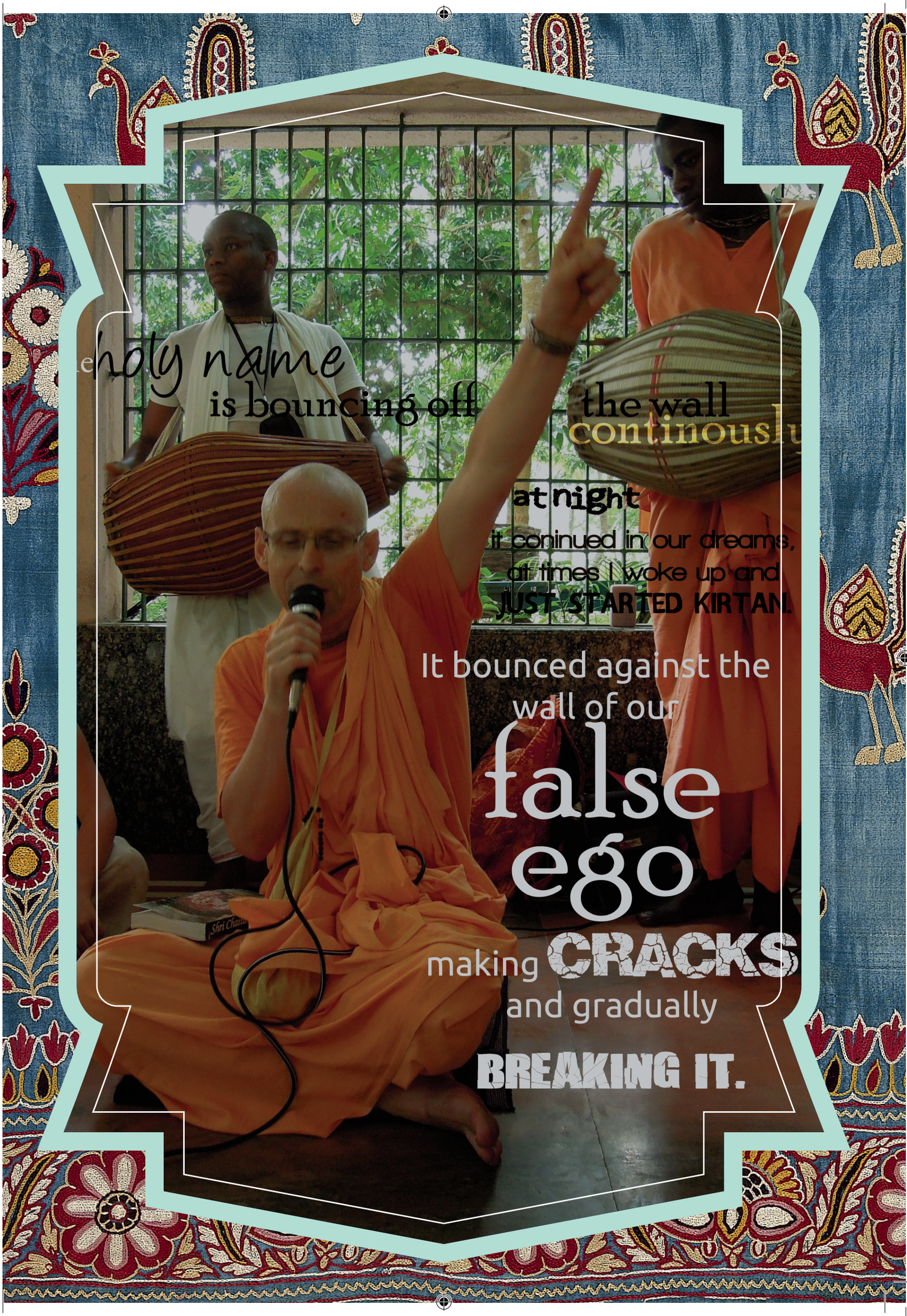
Please accept my sincere and humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

How much I crave to write an offering of love and gratitude that would be a suitable tribute to your kindness and glory. But this soul proved to be too ignorant and stone-hearted to deserve to understand your greatness. May Krsna drive all sincerity and love out of my heart to make this simple offering worth of entering your ears and pleasing your heart.
This material world is a kind of a dark valley where its inhabitants live lives filled with shallow happiness that takes turns with suffering, dissatisfaction and emptiness. Over time we got used to it and considered it to be real life. But one day a messenger came and he told us that beyond our valley there was another kingdom; kingdom full of joy, love and deep satisfaction. He told us the King of that bright kingdom had sent him to bring us to His beautiful place. Some of us believed his words and agreed to go with him. The messenger made us to take vows to protect us on the way through obscure forests of our own hearts. On the way many things happened, some returned to their valley, others stumbled or even fell. The messenger carefully kept an eye on every member of his group and offered support and nourishment to those who got weak and guidance to those who got bewildered.

What is the glory of one who pleases Krsna so much that he grants him this confidential task of being his messenger and guide of other aspirants for God's love? What is the glory of one who was chosen to freely spread his glories? What is the glory of one who gave up everything for being worth of performing this confidential task? I am already amazed when I see your material qualifications, so how could I appraise the spiritual ones? Still, what I can clearly see is that you mastered the magic of touching and melting people's hearts.
Although I by far miss the standard of a good disciple I beg you to keep me under your shelter despite my childishness, immaturity, mistakes and low qualities. I pray for getting unflinching devotion to you as your mercy is my only hope for transformation and deliverance.

Your servant,
Gopālī Devi Dāsī


holy name
is bouncing off
the wall
continuously
at night
it coninued in our dreams,
at times I woke up and
JUST STARTED KIRTAN.
It bounced against the
wall of our
false
ego
making CRACKS
and gradually
BREAKING IT.

Gour Mohan Dāsa

Please accept my humble obeisances revered Guru Maharaja,

All glories to our sampradaya.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to your Holiness.

Your deeds in Krishna´s service are talked of throughout the whole world; from South Africa to America to Australia and even to the Bavarian Forest. Your steady push forward is what keeps your disciple going. Your deep love for Krishna´s name, pastime and tirtha which you express in your lectures is awe strucking.

When your voice full of deep understanding and conviction enters my ears I feel the urge to serve Krishna more. When you enter the room people are immediately reminded of Krishna. Being always absorbed what option does Krishna have but to comply with your wishes? Being an intimate servant of his and surrendering all you have to him, he is taking care of you. Observing this care of Krishna for his staunch devotee is very amazing. You have caught Krishna with all that you have done for him.

Seeing this I feel honoured to be your disciple. Another year has passed and looking back I am thinking 'Was everything I did to the satisfaction of my Guru?' And I see lot of things that could definitively have been done better. May I live up to your expectations? My desires were to be the super pure devotee, the best of all. But just now my only desire is to be a devotee, just a real devotee; no stars and glitter. May all my actions and desires be in accordance with your's. As your disciple it is my duty and great happiness to offer my whole life unto your lotus feet.

But one desire I do have: May I witness a time when throughout the world the devotees are highly esteemed for their unrivalled philosophy and character by state, university and folk! Falling at your feet and praying.

Your disciple,
Gour Mohan Dāsa

Govardhaneśvarī Devī Dāsī

Hare Krishna lieber Guru Maharaja,

bitte akzeptiere meine demütigen Ehrenerbietungen. Alle Ehre sei Srila Prabhupada, sowie Deinem Guru Jayadvaita Maharaja und Dir.

Letztes Jahr hast Du gemahnt: „Wenn ihr die Dienste für Krishna nicht erfüllen kṭnnt, so organisiert ihr euer Leben falsch! Ihr müsst es besser planen!" Ich bin sehr ruhig bei den Lesungen und stelle selten eine Frage, aber ich bin ein guter Zuhṭrer. Du bist Vorbild, wo mich solche Worte tief bewegen. Ich fühlte mich ertappt und persṭnlich angesprochen. Und wenn es nicht ganz optimal läuft, fällt mir diese Aussage wieder ein. Menschen durch ein gutes Vorbild mitreiḷen? Eigentlich wollte ich weiterhin Feste bei mir zu

Hause geben, wollte, aber.

Ein neuer Altar wartet derzeitig auf seine Einweihung. Gern hätte ich Dich zu seiner Einweihung dabei. Er ist toll geworden und wunderbar angepasst an das Zimmer. Ich fühle mich wohl in diesem Tempelraum, der tatsächlich einem solchen mehr gleicht, als einem Wohnzimmer. Grund genug wieder Feste bei mir zu geben, und ich werde mich darum bemühen.

Mit dem Dienst an Krishna im vergangenen Jahr bin ich mit mir selbst nicht zufrieden. Das Ziel vor Augen, aber auch andere Wege beschritten. So kann ich nur daran arbeiten, es in Zukunft besser zu gestalten.

Für alle gegebenen Inspirationen, IdeenansttḶe und Lehren ein groḶes Dankeschṇ an dich.

Deine Dienerin,
Govardhaneśvarī Devī Dāsī

Guna Mani Nitāi Dāsī

Every year we are given this opportunity To strengthen our god family's unity To remember your fame and glory To sing and praise your life story

My dear Guru Maharaja,

Without you life is but a mirage

You are the representative of Baladev
And your mission: the fallen, you save
Lion-like, heroic, humorous and brave
You rescue many from the materialistic grave.

Like Srila Prabhupada, soft yet grave
Our false ego, layer by layer you shave
Gaura's names in our hearts you engrave
With your moving kirtan, that sweet wave.

Your instructions show us the way
Following them keeps illusion at bay
Otherwise to sin we fall prey
Our existence turns gloomy and grey.

Rain, wind or sun, come what may
Your words are like a golden ray
In the sky of our heart, night and day
Guiding us when we fall astray.

And much more is there to say
Yet, even were I to speak all day

I shall not end today
What more is there to say?

Pleading and begging I pray
At your sacred feet may I stay?
My debt to you I can never repay
Please always send your mercy my way.

I depend on your mercy,

Guna Mani Nitāi Dāsī

Gundica Devi Dāsī

Hare Krsna,

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

I offer my eternal gratitude and well wishes on Your Vyasa-puja and always. I sincerely pray that Lord Krsna bestows his continuous mercy and blessings, so that Maharaja may continue with this amazing service of inspiring, teaching, guiding and spreading love to all humans who are fortunate to hear the Sound through the power of kirtan.

Thank you for the very special voice message, it touched my soul! It certainly was the best surprise ever! Maharaja is so kind and gracious always and no words can fully express the appreciation and gratitude in my heart.

Your undeserving but very grateful disciple,

Gundica Devi Dāsī
(Port Elizabeth, South Africa)

Gurudāsa

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

All glories to you.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to His Divine Grace A.C Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.

Please accept my humble obeisances.
Please accept my humble offering.
Billion and eight dandavats.

Week or so ago, I was feeling down.
I was mumbling along, going through the motions, during morning programme.
One devotee was singing Guru Puja.
When he sang this one verse;

“sri-guru karuna-sindhu, adhama janara bandhu,”

A flood gate of realisation hit me.....”Bandhu!”
I danced in ecstasy repeating to myself; “Bandhu! Bandhu! Bandhu!”
It hit me clean:
“My Spiritual Master is my friend.”
“A friend that is rescuing me from the time immemorial wilderness.
A friend that is encouraging me even when I’m an embarrassment.
A friend that is investing in me, ignoring the headaches and nightmares I give.
A friend that has took the responsibility for my eternal life.
Kadamba Kanana Swami is my Friend.”

I want to write more but my words are generally empty and my actions also.
But today I promise;

“I will act as one of your limbs with a clenched fist,
I will try search out and like a block of bricks knock out;
mayavadi, impersonal, atheistic philosophy down on the ground.
I will die trying.”

Your servant and friend,
Gurudāsa

Haṁsa Avatar Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humblest obeisances.

All glories to Your Divine Grace.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prahbupada.
All glories to all vaishnavas.

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

Last year I heard a wonderful story of Indradyumna Maharaja from the time when he served in Paris. Devotees in temple made a competition in books distribution. Who will win he will be able to make an abhishek to the lotus feed of Srila Prabhupada. Indradyumna Swami and his friend Bhugarbha Prabhu told together that they must win. During three months they used to go to underground in the morning before sun rise and distributed the whole day till sun set. They eat and took rest just in the underground, they did not see the sun during that three months. This way they won the race and did the abhishek.

They got a big funnel with water and large bowl for caranamrta. At the time they finished washing the lotus feed of His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada, they looked at each other and then ran as fast as they can with the bowl full of nectar to a small office room. Maharaja quickly locked the door therefore nobody of devotees following them could get in. Devotees behind the door flailed and begged even for a drop of the nectar. In spite of this Indradyumna Swami with his accomplice without any compassion drank the whole bowl of the divine juice.

This gives me proof how sweet are amorous relations between Guru and disciple. You Guru Maharaja are the perfect example of this pure relation, pure love. You now travel more than 18 years all over the world, and we know you still will, just to fulfil desire of your spiritual master and other Vaishnavas, to spread love of Godhead. Before that you had made so much service in many ISKCON projects. All of this, and more, you risk your life just for love you have to your Gurudev.

Thank you dear Guru, now I quite understand how it is. How spiritual master gives us the pure love of God, by showing, 'Here it is, just take it, it looks like this.' You are the living Bhagavatam, that is your greatest mercy, even a moment of your association (personal or in lectures) gives the highest benefit. Every time you come to give us darshan to Czech and do a kirtan it culminates in total ecstasy, that everyone can easy see what is to be mad for Krishna. Even walls in Govindas are sweating that the floor is wet by the love of Godhead.

Thank you, that you are so much kind to me, that you give me the most valuable jewel for free, chance to engage in the pure devotional service. Nowadays I am deeply immersed in a family life, but sometimes by the mercy of the Supreme Lord I go out on a street and chant with the devotees, give a book, or prasadam to someone or whatever other service. Thus I can see this gives me the true life. So thank you for saving me, an insignificant soul.

Thank you for giving me a chance to serve you personally and that you gently and patiently accept that very imperfect service. Thank you that you are so kind to me generally. I hope and want to be, by your great mercy, your better devotee. I honestly pray to have at least a small drop of your faith and love to your Guru.

Your small servant,
Haṁsa Avatar Dāsa

Harivilasa Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

A couple of years ago, your Vyasa-puja celebration in Durban was attended by His Holiness Indradyumna Maharaja, who took the opportunity to glorify your wonderful personality and your contribution to Srila Prabhupada's movement. Naturally, you glorified him in return, emphasising one quality of Indradyumna Maharaja that you found most attractive - his magnanimity.

You even stated that if there is one quality that could attract your mercy, then it is being magnanimous. For all your disciples, this is of great importance. In June/July 2014 I had the great fortune of travelling with you as your servant, and I realized a very important thing - you are quite difficult to please. You are very generous and forgiving, and willingly accept any services rendered. However, for you to be genuinely pleased in heart is not cheap. If the Guru is not genuinely pleased, there can be no ultimate success. But by being magnanimous, it seems that success becomes possible.

According to the learned assembly of wikipedians, "magnanimity (derived from the Latin roots magna, great, and animus, mind) is the virtue of being great of mind and heart. It encompasses, usually, a refusal to be petty, a willingness to face danger, and actions for noble purposes."

Being magnanimous means being great hearted. A great heart is a noble heart, a heart spacious enough to accommodate the needs and desires of others, a heart that does not shrivel up when challenged. In Bhagavad-Gita, (chapter15, verse 20, purport) Srila Prabhupada states, "While one is performing devotional service in the association of pure devotees, the most important thing one has to surmount is weakness of the heart." Weakness of heart is giving petty desires more importance than noble desires. A weak heart is a heart that contracts when put under pressure that closes up when faced with the need to sacrifice personal comfort, forcing us to say, "No, I cannot do this. This is not reasonable and this not possible for me." As you openly give us the secret for really pleasing you, you also give us all we need to become magnanimous - your personal example.

Over the world, devotees are struggling. Different devotees are struggling on different levels - some struggling just to come on the human platform. Others struggling with doubts. Some are struggling to maintain their enthusiasm now that the initial excitement of spiritual life has receded. Many are struggling to maintain good relationships with other devotees. Others are struggling with the heavy burden of spiritual responsibility as leaders. They are on different levels, but almost everyone is struggling.

You are a refuge for the struggling. While travelling with you, I saw so many Vaishnava eager to receive your association. You help us rise above the weakness of heart by sweeping us up in your personal ecstasy, or by directly pointing out our stupidity, challenging us to change, to see that the struggle is caused by ourselves! You give us new energy and new hope. You are a refuge from this struggle, because you yourself are not struggling with the struggle - you are fixed, heavy at the lotus feet of Krsna, fully convinced that merely by serving Krsna all auspiciousness will result. And you perform that service with great enthusiasm and eagerness, showing that it does indeed make us happy. It is not unreasonable, it is glorious!

Devotees are seeking your refuge wherever you go. And everywhere they are clamouring for you - for your time, your energy and your very life. And you give, unceasingly. You liberally give them your attention, without resenting their demands. All you keep is just enough time and energy to worship Krsna, and become absorbed in the wonderful qualities of Him and His pure devotees.

"It is said that great personalities almost always accept voluntary suffering because of the suffering of people in general. This is considered the highest method of worshiping the Supreme Personality of Godhead, who is present in everyone's heart." (Srimad Bhagavatam 8.7.44).

Thank you Maharaja, for giving us everything. You have given us the challenge of trying to give pleasure to a noble heart - a heart that can only be pleased by becoming noble oneself. You have shown us what

needs to be done - voluntarily taking up personal inconvenience for the sake of helping others. And you have shown us the result - a pure existence that is blissful, inspiring and a refuge for all.

And you are willing to fly all over the world with a 61 year old body, to personally come see us and remind us of what we so easily forget! I humbly ask you for the mercy to do my part, and hopefully one day, you will think of me as someone who has strived to have a great heart.

All glories unto you on this auspicious day.
Your disciple
Harivilasa Dāsa

Harṣarāṇī Devi Dāsī

om ajnana-timirandhasya jnananjana-salakaya
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 obeisance unto him.'

All glories to Srila Prabhupada
All glories to you
I bow down to your lotus feet endlessly and take shelter there.

Dear Maharaja,

On this auspicious day, for your pleasure, I would like to start off this Vyasa Puja offering with a quote on the blog from Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura which I found to be very interesting. The quote states:

'There is no work as auspicious as serving the spiritual master. Of all worship, the worship of the Supreme Personality of Godhead is the greatest. But the worship of the lotus feet of the spiritual master is even greater than the worship of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Unless this is firmly realized we cannot understand what saintly association means; we cannot understand what the shelter of a spiritual master means; we cannot understand that we are dependent and he is our maintainer. If we take shelter of the lotus feet of the spiritual master, we can become free from illusion, fear and distress. If we wholeheartedly beg for his mercy without any deceit then the spiritual master bestows all auspiciousness upon us.'

It is quoted in the Brahma Samhita prayers Chapter 5, verse 38, and 'premāñjana-cchurita-bhakti-vilo-canena, that only a person whose eyes are smeared with the ointment of love can see the beautiful form of Sri Krsna.' For me you are the nitya-siddha who is constantly thinking of the Lord no matter what external environment you may be subjected to. An extraordinary personality dressed in a human body to distract us all from Yoga Maya. You have come here in this material world to entice us all into going back to Godhead, by emanating the air with wonderful and marvellous pastimes of Lord Hari and his associates. As I recall you once said to me, that, 'Every day in the spiritual world is like a festival.' Reminding me of the Ratha Yatra festival where not only Lord Jagannatha, is swaying due to being intoxicated but we too who are there are heavily intoxicated with the chanting of the holy name and the

loud penetrating and beating sounds of the kettledrums and conch shells.

I remember your visit the UK in January earlier this year for the initiation ceremony in Leicester. You had most of us going wild with ecstatic dancing, when you were singing in the kirtan. As your voice echoed throughout the temple walls it felt like the temple was rocking too. I would not have been surprised if Lord Jagannatha, Lady Subhadra and Lord Baladeva were also dancing ecstatically too, upstairs in their bedroom.

I wish to be eternally attached to your lotus feet which carry around the pure dust from Vraja. I once heard you refer yourself as a little old man, but I view you as an amazing personality who has the capabilities of making us stick to Krishna consciousness like bees swarming around the pots of honey that are overflowing with the sweetest and thickest honey. And once we get stuck in that honey pot of Krishna consciousness then there is no escaping or even forgetting the sweetest taste of the nectar that was emanating from that pot.

It is explained in the Nectar of Devotion, that 'No work should be done by any man except in relationship to Krsna.' This is something you have explained to us repetitively that we must fill our heart with devotional service to the Lord and his devotees, so that there is no space left in the heart for sense gratification. In addition to this Tamal Krsna Goswami also quotes in Sri Vrndavan Mahimamrita lectures, 'Let the material seeds be fried in the hot flames of bhakti.' It is originally through you that I had developed the taste to be engaged in devotional service. I hope that I may never lose this taste ever again.

Just like the wishful filling desire trees, you are heavily laden with the fruits of wisdom and freely go around distributing generously the ripened fruits of mercy and blessings so that we can all become enriched with spiritual wealth. Thank you for teaching us how to be kind to all living entities moving and non-moving. Thank you for advising us to see good in others and not to pay attention to their faults. But purely just to focus on their good points, along with pointing out to us to take any criticisms as the Lord's mercy in order to help us to improve ourselves.

I like the saying of "We are born alone and we die alone." I often recall this saying. For me it is not of a great importance to be in a material relationship, since when we die, we are not going to take our families with us, unlike Dhruva Maharaja did when it was time for him to leave this planet – he took his mother with him on the spiritual plane. But for us it is completely different. As you have said in a lecture that, 'We must put Lord Krsna in the forefront and at the centre of our lives.' Our material family and relations cannot take us back to godhead but you have the one way tickets for boarding onto the spiritual plane which takes us back to the final destination - Goloka Vrndavan and Vaikuntha. So in my opinion with your kind mercy and blessings the Lord can make our spiritual dreams come true, for which no other material relationships can supersede this. After all you have often emphasised that we are not alone since Lord Krsna is always with us. It is very comforting to know this, especially for someone in my circumstances.

You bring to life the teachings from the Bhagavad-Gita, where it is explained that the body is just a dress, like a covering, since we are all eternal spiritual souls. So I question whether there is a need to heavily decorate this dress with lots of colourful jewels and nice ornaments, when instead we should be spending valuable time on cultivating devotional service, because within a split second the body could be shattered into millions of fragmental pieces by the mere penetrating glance of the Lord, culminating the end of this identity and so called life that was filled with temporary measures of happiness and distresses. You have often stressed how life is very short, and that we should take this movement of Krishna consciousness very seriously. You have also emphasised the powers of the Bhagavad-Gita, and how vital it is to be regularly reading it on a daily basis, although this is something I am still struggling on sometimes due to lack of time. Thank you Maharaja for showing us how to develop love and appreciation for Srila Prabhupada and his books, and the vitality of reading Prabhupada's books. Thank you for spoon feeding us with spiritual knowledge, where each spoonful is

heavily laden with endless rasas that are forever fresh and intoxicating for the senses and nourishing us both externally and internally.

You mould us into shape, and pull us beyond our limits, so that we can rise towards perfection. Although you may not be in regular contact with most of us, your absence helps us to develop further so that we can become spiritually strong, and by using all the facilities around us for the service of Krsna and Guru. Nothing can be attained without you. We need you always in our lives. This life would be so dull and boring without you since you make spiritual life very vibrant and exciting. You are the main reason as to why I am still in Krishna consciousness, along with my faith and love for the Lord.

On this most joyous and auspicious day I hope that overall your health improves and that Lord Hari generously bestows you with lots of endless mercy and blessings.

Your spiritual daughter and your servant,
Harṣarāṇī Devi Dāsī

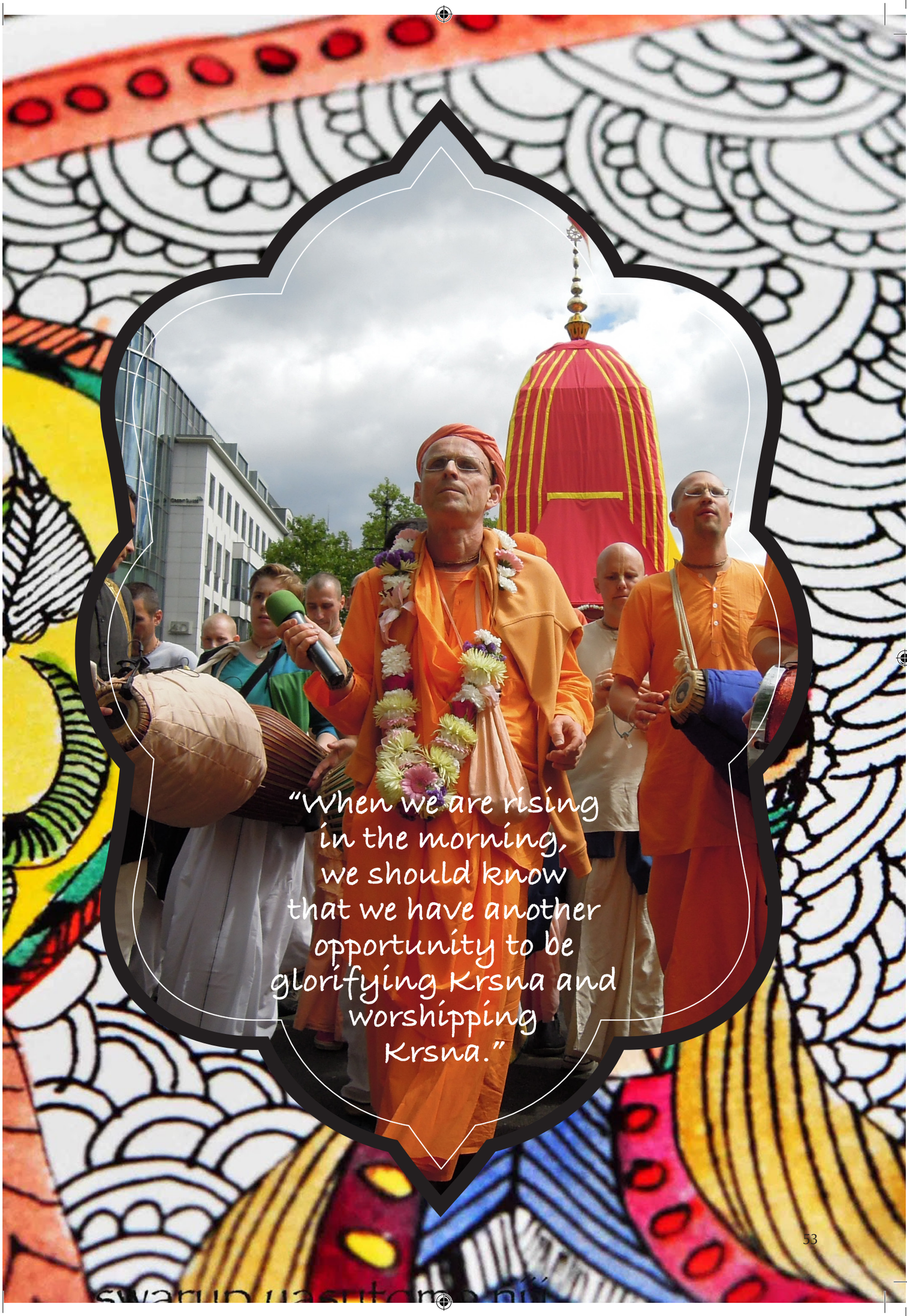
Indrabhatta Dāsa and Gokula Taruṇī Devi Dāsī

Our dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept our humble obeissances at your lotus feet.

All glories to his Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.
All glories to Your Divine Grace, Maharaja.

This auspicious day has such a profound effect on our lives. It serves as a beacon which invites us to look deep within ourselves. It is a time for serious introspection and a time to search for honest answers. When we do so we realise that we have made some progress; we have for instance, offered some service at the temple (and continue to do so whenever the need arises). We have conducted weekly classes on the Mahabharata and a significant part of the day is spent on Krishna conscious activity. Be that as it may, this is also a time to examine the quality of our service. It is a time to revitalize our enthusiasm and commitment in all that we do. In this regard we realise that we cannot really do enough for Lord Krishna! This desire to please the Lord as much as we can is certainly the best thing that could have happened to us especially in the twilight of our lives. How different our lives would have been had it not been for Krishna consciousness! How empty, sterile and meaningless would the fruits of our actions have been!

Thank you Maharaja, for saving us and thank you for helping us along the path back to Godhead.
May this Vyasa-puja, like the previous ones, be a resounding success.


"When we are rising
in the morning,
we should know
that we have another
opportunity to be
glorifying Krsna and
worshipping
Krsna."

Indumati Devi Dāsi

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

I would like to thank you for your spiritual guidance, even though I am so incompetent, spiritually lazy and ineffectual. I desire so much to be immersed in Krsna consciousness 24 hours a day. But my stupid uncontrolled mind, which constantly tries to squeeze some more enjoyment from the material world, is constantly trying to stop me and I am unhappy every day that my desire still is not fulfilled.

Death can come in any moment and I am really not ready to leave this body with my thoughts fixed on Krsna. Without your mercy I do not have a slightest chance to make it. Please propose this worthless living being, even tough she doesnt deserve it at all.

Your fallen servant,
Indumati Devi Dāsi

Jalakeli Devi Dāsī

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to Gurudeva!

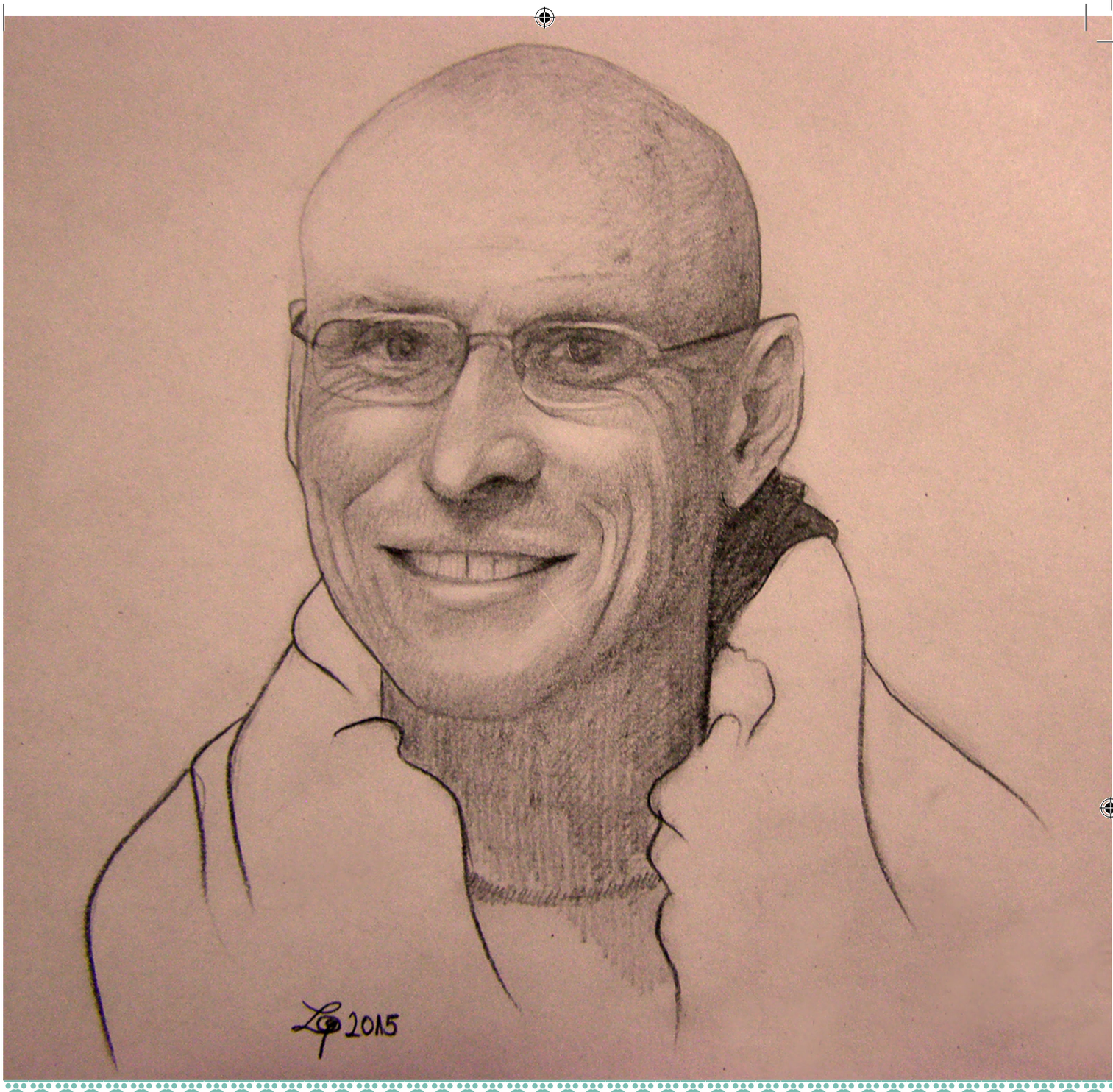
can you put at the same order my offering as I send you here in mail?

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 swamin iti namine

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

I am not custom to this things, not this page is enough to say what is on my heart...

On this occasion I would like to endlessly thanks to my Lord Krishna who gave me such spiritual master.
On looking you I see Lords face, through your words I hear Lord.
You, my Spiritual Master are representative of Lord now and here.
Real example of servant of the servants' servant.



I saw that with my own eyes in Holy dham (Mayapur), together with your spiritual master, you serve everyone and does not looked around who is who, who is where and who someone is. Yes, this is you!
You went out on streets of most fallen city (Amsterdam) armed with Holy Name in the moment when it is impossible, when lower gunas are the most strong, when everyone drop out all moral and accept the worst, drugs, alcohol and all that miseries.
You went out and preach to them, taking them out of worst darkness. Yes, you are that fearless of the fearlessness!
And if someone want to know how real vaishnava looks, he should look at your face.

As Bhaktivinoda Thakura said in Bhagavata":
"Such great souls are not like comet who come and disappear when his work is done. They are like suns who shine and gives the lights to generations who will come, inspiring them."

Your servant,
Jalakeli Devi Dāsī

Jana, Bhaktin

Dear Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Praphupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you!!!

I find it very difficult to put into words the gratitude and love I feel within my heart for now having you and Lord Krishna in my life. You know, I am not the person of big words and especially expressing myself.

Only by the mercy of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu we are here and you are distributing the nectar of Caitanya's mercy wherever you go to everybody.

You are my Guru and the Guru is always with the disciple, he is always there, if in presence or not. "A real leader is always inspiring and ecstatic", Praphupada said. And you are the best example. You are the best inspiration. You give so much compassion to the living entities by preaching constantly and by giving so much of your time.

It is very important for you to have a personal relationship with your disciples, but this is not easy with me. I am always too nervous, too excited and to shy. My heart is too much covered by the dust of material existence and I am too superficial. I have a lot of work to become a better devotee. But your mercy and kindness give me strength. Strength to clean my heart, to leave bad habits behind me.

Thank you so much for your wonderful example of Krishna consciousness. Thank you for your patience and thank you for being there for my husband and me. Kindly allow me to continue devotional service, so that I can please you and Krishna.

Seeking shelter at your lotus feet.
Your aspiring servant of your servant,

Jana
(From Leipzig)

Jasmina, Bhakin

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

I just want to say that I am so grateful for your mercy, beause you gave me shelter even if you did not know me so much. I feel blessed with your mercifulness and I hope I will justify the trust that you put in

me as your disciple.

I wish you all the best for your Vyasa-puja, and I hope you will continue to lead and inspiring us for devotional service for many, many years, so maybe we can develop love for lotus feet of Radha and Krishna one day. Hare Krishna.

Your servant
Jasmina, Bhakin

Jay Gopīnāth Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

Being in ignorance from time immemorial, due to my lusty desires, I suffered sometimes badly, the other time, being in even bigger ignorance, I thought I was enjoying a great happiness. Now when I see all those self-centred people in ignorance with their stone-like hearts, I feel sorry for them and I think how to tell them about Krishna and his devotees, give them prasadam or a book and so help them to again remember Krishna. Many times I wonder, 'Why don´t they want to take the biggest treasure?'

I know devotional service is the most wonderful process, giving the bliss from Krishna´s sweetness. But how could I ever give them devotion, if I don´t have any? Still being very lusty and in ignorance, my heart has not changed a lot. It is you who distributes the mercy, you give devotional service and the right example in the succession of spiritual masters. Guru Maharaja, I asked you to accept me as your servant because I can give a mercy only by taking it from you.

Last year when I came to Radhadesh to celebrate your Vyasa-puja, you showed me exactly how it goes. You was staying in front of the temple. I paid obeisances and haven´t seen you for many months I happily came closer. You was there patiently waiting and then you gave me a lot of Krishna´s mahaprasadam to my palms. Actually you was ready to give me more but I was not able to hold more than that. You was so happy while giving out the mercy, it seemed to me it is your most favourite thing to do.

I pray to be always granted to be your servant. It is the biggest fortune which could have happened to me.

With a big gratitude,
Jay Gopīnāth Devi Dāsī

nama om visnu padaya krsna presthaya bhutale
srimate kadamba kanana Ssamin iti namine

nama om visnu padaya krsna presthaya bhutale
guru dasa jayadvaita svamin iti namine

nama om visnu padaya krsna presthaya bhutale
srimate bhaktivedanta svamin iti namine

namas te sarasvate deve gaura-vani-pracarine
nirvisesa sunyavadi pascatya- desa- tarine

You said that Guru means heavy, because he does not move from his position. He is fixed only on Krishna and because he does not move even a fragment and always stays in the shadow of his lotus feet and the lotus feet of his spiritual master, he is very dear to Krishna. This is your position

“Narottama dasa explains this fact: chadiya-vaisnava-seva, nistara payeche keba. One cannot be liberated from material contamination without sincerely serving a devotee of Krsna,“ (Srimad Bhagavatam.10.1.69, the clause). You are this person. But I am foolish rascal. Therefore the perfection of life is to serve your lotus feet and try to describe your transcendental qualities. vaishnava are very noble persons.

Śríla Sarvabhauma Bhattacarya describes your qualities in this way,

Sarvabhauma sataka vers 39:

sankirtananda-rasa svarupa
prema-pradanaih khalu suddha-citta
sarve mahantah kila krsna-tulyah
samsara lokan paritarayanti

All the devotees of Sri Krsna Caitanya are great mahatmas. They are personification of the bliss of sankirtana and they are as good as Krsna. They deliver the fallen souls, who are burnt by three fold miseries, by giving them love of God. Guru Maharaja please save me, I need your mercy. I am a stupid rascal, please save me. Please give me the love of God.

Sarvabhauma sataka verse 46:

lokan samastan kali-durga-varidher
namna samuttarya svatah samarpitam
sri gauracandrair-hari vaisnavanam
namnas ca tattvam kathitam jane jane

Sri Gauracandra, by his own sweet will delivered the living entities tormented by Kali and drowning in the ocean of the material world, which is filled with formidable waves. Lord Gauranga gave those living entities the nectar of the holy name, and He clearly explained the glories of both the name and vaishnava.

And you are doing the same thing. Spiritual master is representative of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. He supplies the sweet will of the Supreme Lord by distributing the nectar of the holy name

and by describing the glories of the most merciful vaishnava.

Drowning in the ocean of the material world, which is filled with formidable waves I beg for the mercy. O Gurudev, having heard of the waves of your astonishing mercy, I long for receiving it.

Stupid rascal but I always praying about your mercy,
Jay Keśava Dāsa

Jay Nitāi Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Shrila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All Glories to your lotus feet.

I am very happy to have you as my Guru. I hope I can make steady progress to become a better disciple. You said that I am slow, and you are right, even as a child I was like that. Even though you are fast, you are there to guide me, driving cycles with your Yamaha around me. If I see the analogy of the caravan going back to Krishna, I must be somewhere in the end and it is just by your mercy that I can keep sight of the caravan. And from time to time you come back to me and the whole caravan stops to pick me up, just out of your causeless mercy. I understand, it is not an easy task to bring me back to Godhead. Maybe by your mercy I will change some day and I will also become more like a Yamaha.

To have you as my Guru is essential for me, because you give exactly the guidance I can understand and identify with. You are pointing to the goal and whenever I hear or meet you I get reminded of that goal: Going back to Godhead and surrender to Krishna. You point to that goal in your lectures, your bhajans, your example in Krishna consciousness, your instructions, in the exchanges with devotees, your whole personality is pointing to that goal and my many branched intelligence gets redirected through your guidance. Thank you for leading the way and being patient with me.

Last time you came to Amsterdam you made a visit to a devotee who was leaving her body. Even though you yourself needed to rest and recover from problems with your neck, you made a trip of more than six hours that day to visit her in the hospital. Afterwards, when you explained her situation to me it made a big impression on me. I hear from time to time of people leaving their body but mostly it does not make a big impression. But when you explained about her situation, you spoke with concern and compassion for her and in full understanding of the soul's nature being a servant of Krishna. After that I could understand a bit more how important it was that you made a visit to her in this moment to help her remember Krishna in this important and difficult moment of leaving the body. And a little bit more I can understand how serious this Krishna consciousness movement is and how serious this change of body is.

'Let us be serious about serious things,' that is what you said in one lecture in Mayapur. You are very serious and you have a lot of humour and fun in Krishna consciousness. You show that it is possible, be serious and have fun at the same time. Your surrender to Krishna makes it possible.

Thank you Guru Maharaja, for giving me inspiration and conviction in the process in bhakti yoga, by your humour and sincerity.

Your servant,
Jay Nitāi Dāsa

Jay Rādhikā Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my most humble obeisances by your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

I have a feeling that I am becoming your debtor more and more. Little more again you shifted with my false ego and made me happier in my heart. Also I have to express gratitude to one jiva named Abhimanju, who´s in my womb. He gave me the courage to make another step further to Krishna. Although Krishna sends us tests every moments for our purification, to do it personally with a prayer to Krishna is different. During the Sankirtan Festival on Simhachalam you spoke about the removing of anarthas and that there´s the best opportunity to pray to Lord Nrsimhadeva to kindly remove them from our heart. At first I said to myself, 'No, no, no, this could be painful.' But Abhimanju was telling me, that we cannot go back to Krishna without the removing of anarthas. But we want to go back to Krishna in this lifetime.

From your lectures I have always on my mind, that Krishna sends us only as much as we can carry, so there is no reason to be afraid. After getting the courage I prayed to Lord Nrsimhadeva to remove the anarthas, which restrain me to be closer to Krishna. Also I am praying for the higher taste and realizations, which are needed. Sometimes it looks like we are not going to manage it but Krishna would not send us any test which we couldn´t manage. So with the mercy of devotees, Guru and Krishna we can make everything. During writing of every offering I am realizing your mercifulness which you give to me and thanks to this I can go deeper in Krishna consciousness.

Your indebted servant,
Jay Rādhikā Devi Dāsī

Jhulan Devi Dāsī

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja,

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

It is very nice to write for you on this auspicious day
In your presence I feel so insignificant
My intelligence goes away



I want to please you but what can I say?
Hopefully this way I may please you.

Last year a big magic happened to me
I don't have eyes to see Krishna
So Krishna kindly sent you to me
By your vapu Krishna became real
Prabhupada came out of his books
And spoke to me through your mouth.

That moment you gave me the beads I was born again
I became Jhulan and a disciple of Kadamba Kanana Swami
I got new name and new identity
It was the best present in my life.

When I saw your eyes full of mercy
My eyes became full of tears
I deeply regretted
That I have never been this merciful to others
I don't think I deserve this

Krsna se tomara
Krsna dite paro
You have Krishna
And give me Krishna
How in this world could there is more than this?
And how fortunate I am
I just have to follow your instructions.

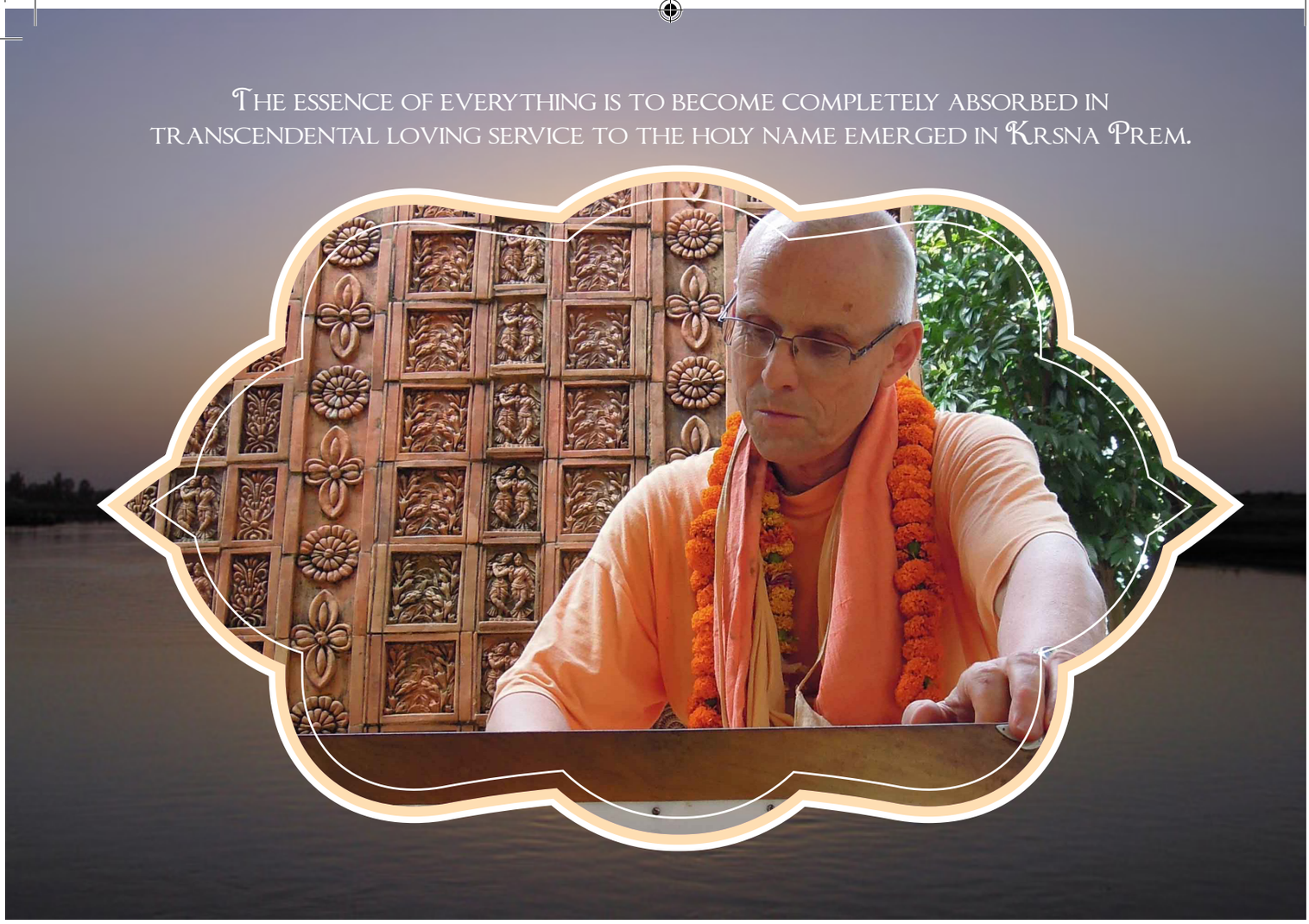
By your vani I get directions on my journey to go back to Krishna
There is the shop on the street
Just like you said,
'There is the school around the corner'
Just like you said,

'I have very long way to go,'
And I still don't see Krishna
But now I have a conviction
That I'm on the right way
Giving me a big relief and security.

Following your instructions is a freedom
I don't have to search here and there for solutions
I don't have to struggle for hopeless material achievement.

Thank you for coming across my life
Giving me Krishna and instructions
I pray to Krishna for your good health
Giving me strength and intelligence
To become a good servant of his servant.

Your servant,
Jhulan Devi Dāsī



Jñāna-Samudra Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to you, Maharaja!

Guru Maharaja, the past year has been spiritually very challenging. How I wish I could say that I got through all the challenges with flying colours and I'm now a stronger, more mature devotee; but that would be a lie. Not that I would put, "lying to the Spiritual Master," past me. I do not possess the virtuous qualities that you have – so who knows what this sinful wretch is capable of?

You radiate with the qualities of integrity, steadfastness, determination, and strong conviction and I pray that with whatever connection I have with you some of those qualities will slowly rub off onto me as well. Through everything you always remain a source of strength and I appreciate the loving encouragement and guidance you provide me with. I beg forgiveness for any negative reactions that may have come your way because of me. I am eternally indebted to you for all you are taking on because of me. Thank you for your sacrifice. Though my conviction is weak, by your mercy I pray it gets stronger each day and that I am able to rise above my challenges more often and move forward in a more positive way.

Your servant,
Jñāna-Samudra Dāsa

Kalāvatī Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my deepest obeisances.

All glories to you.
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Every year while I am writing the offering, I am resuming my relationship to you, to devotional service and to Krishna. It is not always a positive reflection, I´m sorry to say, because my effort to become the servant of Krishna is not always successful. But I every time pass it somehow and I try to go further, just continue. However few last years my annual recapitulation ends in minus and so I´m asking: What´s wrong with me? And I begin to be afraid that my battle to become a real devotee of Krishna will be unsuccessful in this lifetime.

Guru Maharaja, I do not want this offering to be only a talking about my problems, but on the other hand, because I think about it and I am in this situation, it forces me to go deeper, it forces me to be sincere to myself and to have different point of view to all that well-worn phrases such as, 'To take shelter by spiritual master. To surrender to him and to his instructions, to please him and to serve him.' This phrases are deep for those, who are looking for the depth in it. I think I would like to belong to such a group, even if I´m aware it is going be a long way. Yet it is a way on which I want to go in my life, because I know it leads to perfection, back to Godhead.

God, it is so simple, I say to myself sometimes, just accept it and do it, do the right thing, follow in such a way how Guru and Krishna want and everything will be fine. The problem is that I actually do not want it, otherwise where would be the problem, isn´t it? I believe this is the dilemma which everyone has to decide by himself, but I thank you dear Guru Maharaja for being here and for doing so many things for me, without all that my battle would be lost a long time ago. You accepted me and my vows and thanks to it you buoy me up.

You are the exemplary devotee and so you give me the chance to follow the person who goes to Krishna on the right way. You pull me like a little child who is distracted by many desires and patiently you lead me further. And it is just that patience and father´s kindness what break my hard heart full of desires. You give to all of your disciples the freedom, you do not judge us and you give us the space to be what we are. The only thing you really insist is that we should not waste our chance to go back home, back to Godhead. It is a big challenge, Guru Maharaja, and for its fulfilling it´s still a long way in my case, but I go for it. I count with it in my life and I only beg for your mercy to be able to achieve it. I know you are very generous and that actually it is up to me how I deal with your blessing. However, without your blessing my miserable effort would be nothing.

As same as the spring brings up the new taste and freshness, I want not only in this day to continue on my way to Godhead with new and bigger taste and with your blessing. It is a duty and commitment which I feel to have towards you.

Your servant,
Kalāvatī Devi Dāsī

Kasturī mañjarī Dāsī

Hare Krishna dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my most humble obeisances at your feet!

All glories to you.
All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

It seems that one of the most prominent characteristics of the material world is its changing nature. There is no stable point, there is no security. You cannot rely on anything. When I look at my life as a whole, I can see that so many things have changed, oh my God, so many, but still there is an axis around which everything rotates. There is a stable point, there is something I can count on, something that gives me comfort and assurance that after all, everything is fine. This unchangeable element is Krishna consciousness. Whatever happens, Krishna is always here and we know it! We never forget Him. Chanting is always there, reading, devotees, programs, harinams, prasadam, lectures... It seems all so automatic and natural, but I shouldn't forget it is only because of causeless mercy that I can have these things! It is only because of your mercy that linked me to the noble shining chain of disciplic succession. Such a noble succession and now I have access to it - is it at all possible for such a low creature? The only explanation can be that Srila Prabhupada as the saviour of the most fallen has sent you as his assistant to pick all the suffering ignorant souls and save them. So thank you so much for saving me!

I feel like a child who is safe and secure, because it can perceive his father's presence beside him. Daddy is here, he takes me by the hand, so I do not have to worry. I just follow my father and I have full faith that by following him, I will be fine, because he knows where he is going. He is a mature person, spiritually realized. Well the question is what my age is and what it should be? I'm nothing but a toddler, but for sure I will grow up, because this process is so powerful that it does not allow you to stay in your diapers forever!

So thank you so much for being such an exemplary and affectionate father and showing me the way. It means a lot to me, it means the most to me.

Your toddler servant,
Kasturī mañjarī Dāsī

Keśava Bhārati Dāsa

Hare Krishna Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to you Guru Maharaja.

This past year I have had so many realisations which have helped me to become a better devotee by your mercy. All this time I was in separation from your association but somehow by your mercy I was

able to listen to your classes while I was at work everyday. Through your lectures I feel my relationship with you growing and I can feel you presence in my life now every day.

One of the realisations I had was when I met you in the Pretoria temple just before a program and it was amazing how you could see right through me. I tried to give you an update on all the services that you have kindly have allowed me to engage in but I was hiding the fact that I have a desire to do kirtan as a service. My ego was made so small by your mercy at one initiation program where I was singing and it was really bad. I remember you telling me that I was not ready and that someone else should sing the final kirtan and ever since that day I did not speak to you about doing kirtan.

That statement has been my inspiration and since then I have practiced really hard to actually do this service for the Lord and that someday you asked me about doing kirtan as a service. Now I will always keep this close to my heart because it will remind me that without the mercy of my spiritual master there is no way that I can progress on the path of spiritual life.

Thank you so much for always reminding me of my position as the servant of the servant of the servant.

Your insignificant servant,
Keśava Bhārati Dāsa

Kody and Nicole

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept our humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to you on this auspicious day of your appearance!

Enthusiasm. Everywhere you go on your travels Guru Maharaja, you are spreading enthusiasm for Krishna consciousness. Not just enthusiasm for chanting the Holy Name, but also enthusiasm for reading and distributing Srila Prabhupada's books; enthusiasm for rendering devotional service and enthusiasm for rectifying our bad qualities. We thank you for this wonderful quality that you possess. We pray for the improvement of your health so that you may continue spreading this enthusiasm all over the world for as long as possible.

As we reflect on this past year, we realize that we have had so many opportunities to have your association more than ever before. You have given us your precious time and we really appreciate that. A year ago in Radhadesh, we felt great frustration with our material lives and thought that we were at a turning point, ready to give up our independence but a year later, as our frustration with material life grows evermore, we still have not given it up.

Birmingham 24 hour kirtan brought precious moments of your association that we had not previously had the good fortune to have. During our time in the UK, we got to meet with your disciples there and felt at home even though in a new place. We got to see yet again, the incredible service your disciples render unto you.

Kirtan Mela in Germany was such a blissful experience where, due to the kindness and support of your disciples, we had the opportunity to render some personal service to you which we have never had before. Thank you for your kindness in allowing us to do so. You are so merciful and approachable. These are two of your most attractive qualities. It was at Kirtan Mela that for the first time in a long time, we felt true happiness in Krsna consciousness. Guru Maharaja, you spent time with us and gave us a long darshan with you. We deeply felt your mercy and your wisdom.

Janmashtami at Krisnuv dvur was yet another unforgettable trip where we had the audacity to ask you to do a house program with us in South Africa. You immediately agreed to it without hesitation. We did not deserve this. Although it meant more opportunity to render personal service to you, we were not able to serve you well. We realized yet again that we are unworthy of being aspiring disciples yet you still continue to give us your causeless mercy.

It was very different to see you in Cape Town at the end of last year. You were so relaxed. We spoke to you in the most honest way that we ever have before but you did not make us feel worthless. You gave us the encouragement we needed. We have so much to learn, Guru Maharaja. We continue to pray that we can one day be devotees and render worthwhile service to you.

Your aspiring disciples,
Kody and Nicole

Kṛṣṇa Nāma Dāsa

My dear Guru Maharaja,

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

nama om vishnu-padaya
krishna-preshthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana
swamin iti namine

'I offer my respectful obeisances unto His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami, who is very dear to Lord Krishna, having taken shelter at His lotus feet.'

om ajnana-timirandhasya jnananjana-salakaya
cakshur unmilitam yena tasmai sri-gurave namah

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

My dear Guru Maharaja you are a true representative of the Supreme Lord Krishna and you are empowered by him to propagate his mission and save all the conditioned souls in this world. As it is said in Sri Chaitanya Caritamrta:

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

“The fundamental religious system in the Age of Kali is the chanting of the holy name of Kṛṣṇa. Unless empowered by Kṛṣṇa, one cannot propagate the saṅkīrtana movement.” (CC. Antya-lila, 7.11).

This is only a small proof that you are empowered by the Supreme Lord to preach Krishna consciousness all over the world. As you told me once you are blessed by the Lord to speak and sing and one can see that you are using all your blessings perfectly in the service of the Lord. You attract hundreds and thousands of people all around the world with your lectures and amazing kirtans which in my humble opinion are not from this material world but are coming directly from the spiritual world. However, this is only a small part of your unlimited glories my dear Guru Maharaja and one of yours most elevated qualities is your genuine humility. Even though you are situated on the highest platform of paramahamsa You are making yourself available to all your disciples, all devotees and everyone as well. Furthermore, the way you are associating with every one of us is truly amazing, because you are always so personal and you really care for everybody, no matter how insignificant one is.

Another great quality, which I really admire in you, is your strong faith and loyalty in your spiritual master. You have dedicated your life and soul to serving your spiritual master and you were ready to continue serving him even after facing death. Your courage and bravery are truly amazing and you are giving us a perfect example of how one should be firmly fixed and determined in going back to Godhead in this very life time.

Thank you Guru Maharaja for being here as our master, father and friend and for guiding us so expertly on our path back to Godhead. I bow down at your lotus feet millions of time in gratitude for your compassion and pray that I will satisfy You one day with my pitiful attempts.

Thank you.
Your insignificant servant,
Kṛṣṇa Nāma Dāsa

Klara, Bhaktin

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaj.a
All glories to you.

I would like to thank you very, very much that we could have relatively much of your personal association last year - that were the happiest moments in my life. Everything seems so clear and easy when you are here. Even if I have some questions or problems, when you come, everything disappears. I just forget what I wanted or what I thought before and I only want to do more service for you, Lord Krishna and vaishnavas. That is the power of a pure devotee and I’m surprised about it again and again,

even though I cannot see your real spiritual power with my limited vision. It is simply like, "As a cloud pours water on a forest fire to extinguish it, so the spiritual master delivers the materially afflicted world by extinguishing the blazing fire of material existence, "what more can I say?

Your kīrtans are simply wonderful. Everybody goes mad when you start to lead a rocking kīrtan. Your full Krishna consciousness helps us to try to think of Krishna much more. Your lectures are so inspiring, deep, practical, sometimes funny and full of knowledge. You are an endless source of wisdom. You are so kind, merciful, compassionate patient and without your mercy we cannot make any advancement.

I wish I could have at least one millionth of these amazing qualities which you have. I wish I could be a small grain of dust at your lotus feet. I wish I could be in your association all the time. I wish I could be able to glorify you in some nice way and I wish I could always remember you.

Thank you profusely for everything that you, our father, do for us – even if some of us still cannot fully appreciate it. Thank you.

Your servant of the servant,
Klara

Kyoko, Bhaktin

My dear His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja,

I would like to express my gratitude to you Maharaja, and your unlimited and striking transcendental qualities. They are precious jewels to the devotees. The most amazing and appreciated gift is your endless compassion to reach out to everyone, who comes at your lotus feet. You do not ask one's qualification, or position, but rather just accept it as your dedicated service for fallen souls.

Without having made strict and dedicated vows to serve for the pleasure of your Gurudev and Gauranga, no one would be able to serve in this way. Your humility touches everyone's heart and it encourages us all to become who we really are. Your kindness and compassion emanate from Sri Nitai Gauranga, you certainly have an overflowing of mercy from them, So much, that when you serve others in various ways such as ecstatic transcendental kirtan, preaching programmes, teaching sashtra, you are so generous to share what you have been given.

All these qualities are manifested from Srila Prabhupada, who was the most compassionate of all, and open to all who needed his shelter. You Majaraja carry on Srila Prabhupada's teachings through a most generous, loving and caring manner towards devotees. Without this inconceivable service, many of us would not have come so far in Krishna consciousness. Therefore, please accept my countless gratitude and appreciation to you, my dear Maharaja. Please, please accept my humble obeisances unto you. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. May you continue your merciful service to the devotees in this inconceivable way. May you always be in the transcendental sky with Sri Gauranga.

Hare Krsna,
Your tiny, aspiring servant of the servant of the servant,
Bhaktin Kyoko

Madhukānta Dāsa

Hare Krishna dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to you.
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

In the modern age it is a popular phenomenon to change the course of things through revolution. Just in the last century there were many of them and people always expect a change for the better, the removal of surpassed habits that are obstructing the progress, the overthrowing of ossified social structures and they want to place their idols on the post of corrupted, might-intoxicated leaders. Idols who have new ideas, leaders who promise a better tomorrow.

Time itself is the witness of these changes. From the history we can see that ideals, changes of social structures and leaders were defeated by the influence of time. What is the reason for a living being to try to make world a better place? It is the desire of the soul for eternity, bliss and knowledge. That is the nature of the spiritual world, but a person ignorant of our real identity as Krishna's servant is constantly trying to foolishly improve the situation in the material world. And the result is disappointment, disenchantment, dissatisfaction and another revolution.

Srila Prabhupada came to America in a time when many young people were longing for a change. The flower revolution started, young people did not want to live the lives of their parents, they were leaving their so called happy secured families, but they did not know what real change and revolution means. Srila Prabhupada, despite being an old man, perfectly personified the ideas of these people about what a real revolution and real life mean. Not a life they knew from their parents – find a good job, earn money, buy whatever you want and enjoy life – or so called pious life – be good, don't sin, give donations and everything will be forgiven to you, but an eternal life on a spiritual platform. Practical life providing blissful realizations which is also quite adventurous compared to the dull life of the materialists.

My dear Guru Maharaja, Srila Prabhupada spread the revolutionary movement of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu to the West and you are his perfect follower and revolutionary assistant. This movement is not an ordinary revolution of a material world lasting a few days, months or years, but it brings a long-term change in the lives of people suffering in the conditions of Kali yuga.
You are appealing to us, your followers, to change our lives in the mood of the revolutionary men, change lives of others and the face of the whole world. And that is a really big challenge, because it seems to be very natural and comfortable to be carried away by the current of the material energy – find a job, earn money, enjoy and do not care about a thing. It is better to live a life dedicated to a higher goal with spiritual ideals than a boring life according the above mentioned philosophy.

For me you are the personified example of a life according to bhagavata dharma and me, a conditioned living being subject to weaknesses and attractions of the material life, I need an example to follow. I do not know how I deserved Krishna's mercy, it is probably causeless, the mercy that I have the opportunity to follow in your footsteps. May I always be conscious of this mercy.

Thank you very much
Your humble servant,
Madhukānta Dāsa

Madhu Paṇḍit Dāsa

Hare Krishna my dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you.

I cannot but start reciting your own words to express my thankfulness to you.
"For many lifetimes we have been passing through so many different bodies, because all these different lifetimes we have been in the bodily concept of life. And each time, we have taken the place of our birth very seriously. Each time we have great hopes, that we would be happy in this world. And life after life, our journey continues through the universe, until somehow or other this lifetime:

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

"…Out of many millions of wandering living entities, one who is very fortunate gets an opportunity to

associate with a bona fide spiritual master by the grace of Kṛṣṇa. By the mercy of both Kṛṣṇa and the spiritual master, such a person receives the seed of the creeper of devotional service."
(CC. Madhya-lila, 19.151)

Those words clearly explain how exceptional you are for all of us your disciples, spiritual children. You are truly as good as God. And for us you are the only one who could lead us back to Godhead. You truly are Srila Prabhupada's men and Lords Caitanya's beloved ambassador. You show us by your day by day example and all your life how to become a devotee, how to please spiritual master and Krishna, and how to become indeed happy by taking the serious things in life really seriously.

Although surely imperfectly, I am still trying to somehow follow your instructions and inspire others to do so also. My dear Guru Maharaja. I thank you from my deepest heart for all your life and energy by which you are guiding me to once become a devotee of Lord Krishna.

Your imperfect, slow and dull disciple,
Madhu Paṇḍit Dāsa

Mahibharta Dāsa

Om ajnana-timirandhasya jnanajana-salakaya
caksur unmilitam yena tasmai sri-gurave namah

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances on this wonderful occasion of Your Vyasa-puja!

All glories to Shrila Prabhupada!
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to you!

You set the example of:

A disciple, disciplined, fixed in unalloyed devotional service. A Spiritual Master, because of your quality being a real disciple. A gentleman, equal to everyone. Mild, polite, respectful and personal to everyone who seeks your association, a preacher, travelling all over the world, spreading the message of Krishna, forceful without any compromise. A sadhaka, a 24hours-vaishnava, always engaged in hearing and chanting. Humility, following the order of your spiritual master under all circumstances - A Rupanuga, following in the footsteps of the six Gosvamis, always absorbed in Krishna's' past times. A sanyasi, following strict your vows by seeking shelter in Krishna. A pujari, each and every offering with love, faith and devotion. A father, taking up indescribable responsibility for your disciples, your spiritual children - a friend, caring for others wellbeing. Surrender, by giving your life to Srila Prabhupada and his movement, being compassionate, by showering me constantly with causeless mercy since we met first time.

Thank you for being my ever well-wisher, my father, my friend, my spiritual master. Thank you for engaging me in your service. I hope that I am one day able to show some gratitude, by following your instructions you have given me over the past years.

Thank you for setting the example!
Your servant,
Mahibharta Dāsa

Maithilī Devī Dāsī

My dearest Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
And all glories to your lotus feet.

When I heard that the Vyasa-puja offering was due in a few days, I just thought, 'Oh my God so quick another year has come by and time seems to be flying.' I sometimes wonder if I have done anything good thus far for the last 10 years in Krishna consciousness, and then when my mind reflects on you my glorious spiritual master; I realize that having you in my life is the best thing that has ever happened to me. Having someone to guide me through the bushes of Kali yuga, practicing devotional services. Yet having so much material desire, who can accept a conditional soul like me? I sometimes wonder what type of a heart do you have, none other will do something like this, but you have done it, and still doing it, and still want to do it.

Hearing of Dhruva Maharaja's story in the 4th Canto of the Srimad Bhagavatam, he went to his spiritual master with such strong material desires. But Narada Muni still had so much compassion for him. Narada Muni was still prepared to give him the kingdom based on the practice of his devotional service. And I can boldly say that, have I not met my spiritual master, what would I have known about devotional service? Devotional service is the only thing that can take us back to Godhead, and by engaging in devotional service we become connected to Krishna.

I feel myself very fortunate to be in ISKCON. Having had so many ups and downs, I still always receive your mercy, with your great efforts to help awaken my sleeping soul. Guru Maharaja you are such a hero of this modern age, our guide in this kali age. Krishna is always with you and you are so open heartedly giving him to us, I am forever indebted to you. Guru Maharaja I hope that in my existence of entirety that I may appropriately give you a worthy praise, because I am so conditioned.

Please award me service at your lotus feet, for I desire nothing else.
Please allow me to eternally serve the servant of the servant.

Your servant,
Maithilī Devī Dāsī

Maṇi Kuṇḍala Devi Dāsī

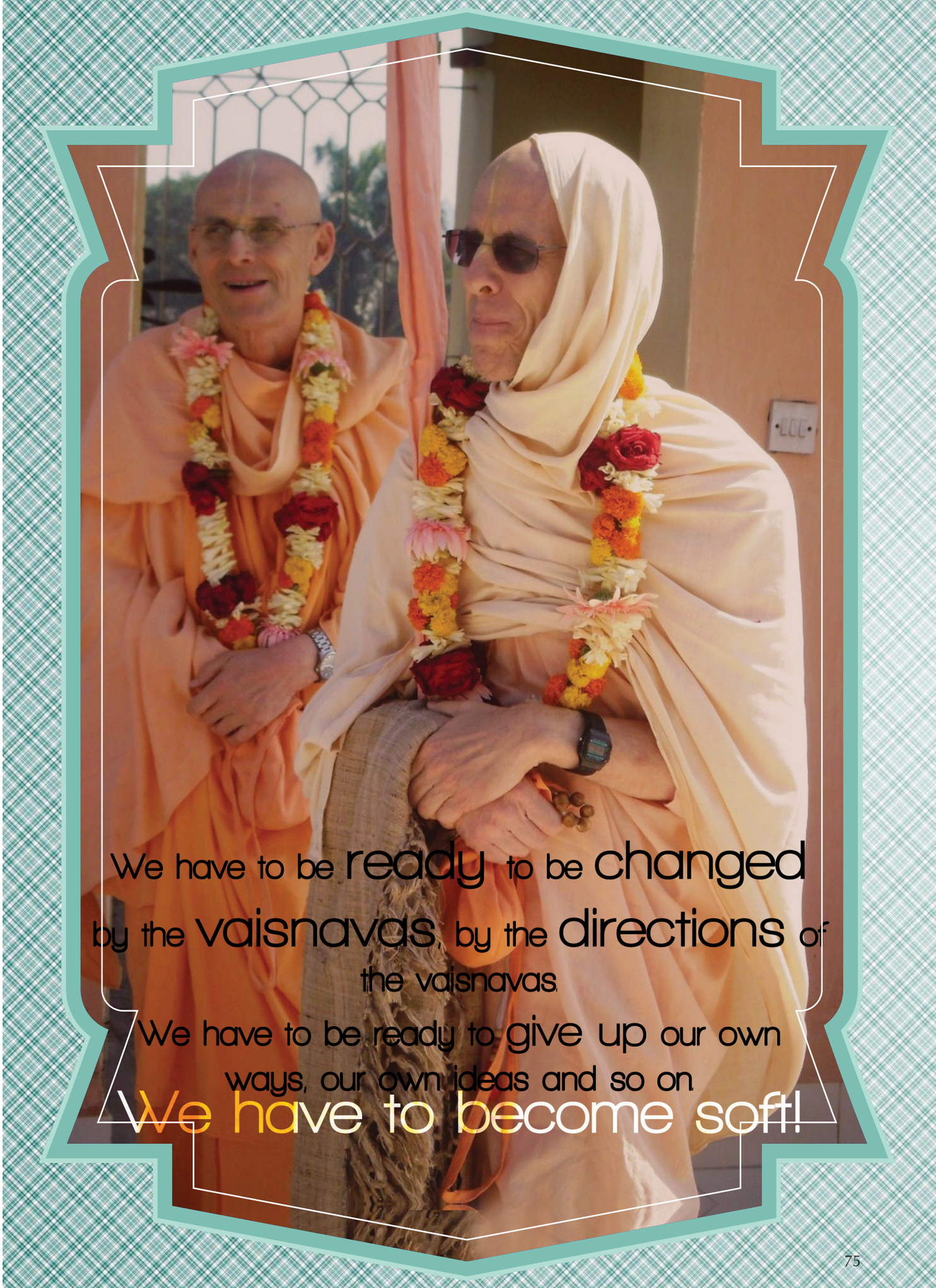
Hare Krsna dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances unto your lotus feet.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

One more year passed by, 365 days when we could serve Supreme Personality of Godhead, Sri Krsna. It's a great mercy that we got. Without Srila Prabhupada we would not have such mercy, neither amazing association of devotees, delicious prasadam, sankirtana, lectures, service to the deities and spiritual masters. So many opportunities, but we do not even get it every day. Sometimes we waste so much time because of unnecessary things, mental speculations, taking too much care of our needs and so on. Again one more day passes by and we do not even know how did that happen. Again we did not do anything for Krsna.
Dear spiritual master, I only pray, so you engage me in devotion service to Krsna and Srila Prabhupada every day and night. I do not want to waste my life with unnecessary things, I just want to serve you. Up to today I remind myself of the deepest experience I had with you and it was when I had to prepare our apartment in Postupice for your rest during the Janmashtami festival on the farm. My husband was at the hospital after car crash with bike. Fortunately nothing serious didn't happen to him. But he was going to clean up his things after he comes back from his trip. So when I got home and was planning to clean properly for you, at once I had much more things to clean than I expected. And I had only half a day for this, before your servant Madhupandit prabhu brings you from airport to our apartment. So I was cleaning like anything, moving furniture so it is the most perfect for you, so you can rest nicely. As the time goes by I see that there were so many imperfections, but that experience of cleaning that apartment for you will be with me forever.

Thank you very much for such a small gift. Please engage me with such nectarian service all the time and my life will be successful.

Your servant,
Maṇi Kuṇḍala Devi Dāsī



We have to be ready to be changed by the vaisnavas, by the directions of the vaisnavas.

We have to be ready to give up our own ways, our own ideas and so on.

We have to become soft!

Manjulali Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances to your lotus feet!
All glories to Your Divine Grace! All glories to Jayadvaita maharaja! All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

I am happy that we have again Your association! Please allow me to offer You this letter..

When Prahlada Maharaja offered his prayers to the Lord Nṛsiṁhadev, he had the opportunity to ask Him for anything. But Prahlada Maharaja said that he does not desire anything material. Rather he asked the Lord to grant him benection of a meeting with His pure devotee. So that he could always serve him as his honest servant.

This is really amazing! What does a pure devotee pray for when he meets personally with the Supreme Lord? Does he wish to get a nice service directly for the Lord? No, he rather wants to serve to the Lord's servant.

Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakur sings: tumi ta thákura, tomára kukura, baliyá jánaha more - Oh my lord, oh vaisnava, please consider me to be your dog.

These are the most intelligent people in the world, who's mood of thinking is such. I wish to have the same desire as these great personalities.

Listening to Your lectures is a real nectar. We can hear them almost anywhere, and for me it's always very encouraging and motivating. You are giving me valuable advice on how to serve better, how to have a better attitude, how we think about ourselves and how to think and how to look at certain things. And in this way You became absolutely indispensable adviser, friend and guru in my life.

When all other methods completely fail, then only a pure devotee, servant of the Lord can give us absolute and easy solution.

Material life is so horrible... The mind and senses disrupt us at every step. The mind is constantly defeated by lamentation, lust, anger, illusion and so-called enjoyment and suffering. The tendency of senses is to constantly cling to sense objects. While my true self, the soul is covered in this manner, I stay in this uncomfortable situation.

It is absolutely impossible to overcome this illusion by any material means. But if we engage ourself in chanting the Holy Names of Krishna under the guidance of such a wonderful spiritual master like You are, then all of this can be overcomed very easily and almost immediately. You are genuine representative of Srila Vyasadeva and with You nothing is impossible. All glories to Your lotus feet!

I desire to listen to Your instructions and constantly perform them. This is the greatest perfection of life and true happiness. Please give me Your mercy and empower me to carry out Your instructions.

I also wanted to thank You for the instructions that You have already given me. If it would be up to me, I would propably never act in the way You instructed me. Yet when I obeyed Your instructions with faith in Your words and scriptures, it brought me an amazing fruit.

Because of this experiance, my faith in Your instructions has been strengthened. When You instruct us You simultaneously give us blessing and power to fulfill Your orders properly. Although it would be normally for us impossible. And this is a great advantage of service to a pure devotee. :)

So, even when it will be difficult for me to fulfill some of Your orders, still I will do it. Maybe only then, I will develop greater detachment from the matter and greater attachment to Your instructions. :)

Guru Maharaja, I'm very happy, that I can be one of Your disciples! Thank You for everything, thank You for Your kind care, thank You for Your great patience and sincere interest in us.

I'm sorry that I don't serve You very well.
Once again, please accept my humble obeisances.

Your fallen servant
Manjulali Devi Dāsī

Manu Dāsa

Oh Dear Spiritual Master, please give us strength to understand your words, when you talk about Krishna the Supreme Lord. Hare Krishna Hare Rama are the Holy names and we can chant them over and over again. So we can feel the ecstasy and it is your mercy again.

Oh dear spiritual master, please give us strength to listen to your words, when you sing about Krishna the Supreme Lord. When we go to the temple room, we can see the Lord in his deity form. Krishna is present in his divine form and by your mercy we can know it for sure.

That is why we sing: Oh dear spiritual master please give us strength to see God in the deity form and bow down in front of Krishna the Supreme Lord. By your causeless mercy you have come to give us good advice to understand that the meaning of life is near to us, we have to only chant Hare Krishna.

So we can praise to you and sing. Oh dear spiritual master we are so lucky that you are here with us because you bring us near to Radha Krishna the Divine Couple from the spiritual world.

Your insignificant servants,
Manu Dāsa and his family sing

‘Hare Krishna Hare Krishna
Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama
Rama Rama Hare Hare.’

Marhura Mohan Dāsa, Puspa Gopala, baby Bhakti

Dear Maharaja,
Please accept our most humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami.
And all glories to you Gurudeva on this special day of your Vyasa-puja.

Another year has gone by so quickly and 2014 was filled with so many material challenges. So many ups and downs we go through to get through our daily lives as grahasthas performing our prescribed spiritual duties to the best of our abilities. Juggling a job, family responsibility, temple service, deity service, food for life and so many other things become overwhelming at times as a house holder and sometimes to strike a balance becomes frustrating because as soon as we try to improve one then another suffers.

This is how I was feeling in the beginning of last year that although I was involved in temple service and deity worship I felt so deeply that I could do more however my house holder responsibilities were taking its toll on me. My job was beginning to frustrate me as it was becoming more demanding and taking up 7 days a week. I was in a rut because I was very dependent on my job to take care of my family responsibility. I asked Krsna everyday to guide me so as I could increase my devotional service.

As the year progressed I suddenly started getting ill from about April things were getting from bad to worse and in July after numerous tests I was eventually diagnosed with final stage kidney disease. The news was quite a shock and although being devotees makes us stronger to handle these situations it is still hard to digest because of our material nature. I was immediately started on dialysis treatment.

When I told you Gurudeva about my predicament you really inspired me and your message is with me always. This I will share now with all your disciples:

[2014/07/31, 22:32] Kadamba Kanana Maharaja: Dear Mathura Mohan, thank you for your Krsna consciousness in such difficulty. Krsna notices such an attitude.
[2014/07/31, 22:37] Kadamba Kanana Maharaja: I know some devotees who live with dialysis and always remain positive. In your life there are these strong wake up calls, we can understand that Krsna wants you. You are not getting much of a happy material life. Yes serve Lord Jagannatha, fill your life with devotional service, then even the negative turns positive. "Even the negative turns positive," How true your blessings were.

Now about 6 months after being diagnosed with my disease I have realised this - my negative disease has turned my life into so much positivity. My hankering for more devotional service in my life and less material responsibilities has been fulfilled. I have applied for disability and would not have to worry about earning an income to sustain my family monthly as I would still be paid my salary. This will now give me so much more time to fill my days with so much devotional service and help with managing our grahastha run temple. Although I am afflicted by this material disease I have never been happier spiritually. This has been arranged by Lord Jagannatha, Lord Baldeva and Mother Subadhra the presiding deities of Ladysmith, South Africa as a debt to you Gurudeva so that your insignificant disciple gets the best of the worst situation to serve our Lordships and uphold your name. This is your mercy - the negative turning positive.

Thank you Gurudeva as once again you have magically improved our lives. Both Puspa Gopala and I are eternally grateful to you. Without Guru I am nothing, a ship without a rudder aimlessly afloat in this material ocean, but not me. Gurudev you have purchased this useless soul and made me your own. Washed away my sins and made them your own. How will I ever be grateful and repay this debt. Oh Krsna without this gift of guru I am nothing a ship without a rudder in this material ocean.

May you always be blessed on this day of your Vyasa-puja.
Gurudeva ki Jai
Srila Prabhupada ki Jai
Your eternal Servants,

Marhura Mohan Dāsa, Puspa Gopala and baby Bhakti

Matus, Bhakta

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

I would like to thank you for having the opportunity to listen to your lectures. They always help me to walk in the right direction on my spiritual path. Many times they lifted me above seemingly insurmountable obstacles. I would like to thank you for amazing kirtans, when I was listening to them for the first time in my life I experienced a drop of nectar coming from chanting of the Holy Names. Despite the fact that I personally met you only once you left inexpressible impression on me and a deep faith. I will never be able to repay it to you. Therefore I am your great debtor.

Thank you
Your servant,
Matus, Bhakta

Merudevī Dāsī

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Śríla Prabhupáda.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swámi.
All glories to you dear Gurudeva.

rahūgaṇaitat tapasā na yāti
na cejyayā nirvapaṇād gṛhād vā
na cchandasā naiva jalāgni-sūryair
vinā mahat-pāda-rajo-'bhiṣekam, (Šrimad Bhagavatam, 5.12.12)

Translation:

'My dear King Rahūgaṇa, unless one has the opportunity to smear his entire body with the dust of the

lotus feet of great devotees, one cannot realize the Absolute Truth. One cannot realize the Absolute Truth simply by observing celibacy [brahmacarya], strictly following the rules and regulations of householder life, leaving home as a vānaprastha, accepting sannyāsa, or undergoing severe penances in winter by keeping oneself submerged in water or surrounding oneself in summer by fire and the scorching heat of the sun. There are many other processes to understand the Absolute Truth, but the Absolute Truth is only revealed to one who has attained the mercy of a great devotee.'

Purport:

'Actual knowledge of transcendental bliss can be bestowed upon anyone by a pure devotee. Vedeṣu durlabham adurlabham ātma-bhaktau. One cannot attain the perfection of spiritual life simply by following the directions of the Vedas. One has to approach a pure devotee: anyābhilāṣitā-śūnyaṁ jñāna-karmādy-anāvṛtam. By the grace of such a devotee, one can understand the Absolute Truth, Kṛṣṇa, and one's relationship with Him. A materialistic person sometimes thinks that simply by executing pious activities and remaining at home one can understand the Absolute Truth. That is denied in this verse. Nor can one understand the Absolute Truth simply by observing the rules and regulations of brahmacarya (celibacy). One only has to serve the pure devotee. That will help one understand the Absolute Truth without fail.'

Dear Gurudeva, it is gospel truth confirmed by Maharaja Bharata. Any activity not related to the devotees of Lord Śri Krsna has no value. I am therefore very happy that Krsna has sent you to me dear Gurudeva. You are real gem in this universe. You shine like the sun and pleasantly cool like the moon. The holy name from your lips is sweet and also full of knowledge. Words that you say have deep, penetrating brightness and the necessary strength, because where Krsna is - there is always victory. And we know it only because you and your devoted service to your spiritual master, vaishnavas and the Supreme Lord Śri Krsna.

Your eternal servant,
Merudevī Dāsī

Merumālā Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my heartfelt obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to you!

They say in life that you should surround yourself with positive people. I think one of the reasons why we flock to you like bees to honey is that you allow us to be the crazy, spaced out bunch that we are,

so long as we offer the results to Kṛṣṇa. The master weaver takes the mistakes of his students and weaves them into the grand design. In a purport from Bhagavad-Gita, chapter 9, verse 28, Srila Prabhupada wrote, "Rupa Gosvami says that as long as we are in this material world we have to act; we cannot cease acting. Therefore if actions are performed and the fruits are given to Krishna, then that is called yukta-vairagya."

In his 2014 Vyasa-puja address, His Holiness Indradyumna Swami mentioned how it is possible for the Guru to take on the karma of many past lifetimes from a multitude of disciples. It reminded me that you are a selfless soul willing to accept devotees even though it comes with repercussions. Maharaja, I am quite useless and often shy away from speaking, yet you still take the time to talk to me and your concern for each of your disciples speaks volumes about your caring and kind hearted nature. It may be a thoughtful passing glance during your lecture or going out of your way to arrange maha on our birthdays but every gesture is a gift in itself which I wish to never take for granted.

Your instructions are so simple and straight forward that even a dull headed fool like me is able to understand. In September last year during a class at Sri Radha Radhanath, you clearly stated, "What is most pleasing to our spiritual masters is that in any given situation, and at any time that we should add

Kṛṣṇa and put Him in the forefront." It made me realise that whenever we may feel that life is unfair, we should take a page out of your book. Your zest for life is contagious and you are often smiling or leading the devotees in kirtan even though you may feel exhausted. Guru Maharaja, you never give up, you make the most of your time being fully engaged in Krishna consciousness and I truly admire your positive outlook and courage. There are no words to completely thank you but know that I remain forever indebted to you for bringing me closer to your lotus feet and for granting me devotional service. One thing I know for sure is that your mercy is abundant for those who are willing to grab hold tightly because once we are on board the mercy wave, there is no point looking back - you just brace yourself because you know there is another great splash of mercy ahead!

You once said that the level that we surrender to the spiritual master is the level that we get closer to

Lord Kṛṣṇa. What other hope then do I have other than to please you? I am filled with innumerable faults and imperfections yet I thank you for accepting me as your servant and allowing me your mercy. Please can you continue to bless me so I may be able to preach boldly, to have complete faith in the Holy Name and to remain firmly fixed at the dust of your Lotus Feet? We have your mercy and expert guidance, the support of a wonderful god family and instructions that are clear and concise. We have all the tools to go back to Godhead in this life time so what else will we ever need?

Srila Prabhupada said it perfectly that, "Krishna consciousness is so simple, you might just miss it." Guru Maharaja, may you see many more years ahead in excellent health and devotional service. I pray that you fulfil all the spiritual goals that you have set out to achieve. Happy Vyasa-puja!

Your servant of the servant,

Merumālā Devi Dāsī
(Durban, South Africa)

Mūrti Sevā Devi Dāsī

Dear Gurudeva!

Please accept my humble obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet.
All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to Giriraja Govinda!

A year ago it was my determined decision to glorify you not only with my words, but due to my insignificance I just have to keep resorting to my thoughts and tryings. Please accept these words as if I had done the greatest service to you that fills your heart with joy, because I am your most needy servant.

When I was a schoolgirl, I had two places where I had to go out of duty - school and church. Both buildings were in the immediate neighbourhood of my house. In the first one, the portraits of Marx, Engels and Lenin and the symbols of sickle and hammer and the red star decorated the colourless walls in every room. Under the oppression of that time's Soviet Union, not even the children were allowed to forget who is the master and whom to worship.

In the other building, there were colourful paintings and frescos, an altar stretching into the sky, and large statues of saints that towered over the faithful as protectors. For me, both these buildings felt severe and rigid, but still, something in the temple touched my heart and therefore I always went there gladly. Although my parents showed me a path, still I was growing up in a confused dichotomy, not knowing what is the truth and where to stand. The founder of Hungary, Saint Stephen was regarded by the people as the greatest saint. He was spreading Christianity with sword and fire and persecuted, even killed those who refused it. Other people who built hospitals, monasteries and temples, or those who hid away from the world and lived for austerities, were also declared saints. Yet other people made helping the poor their goal of life. They were declared saints too. All I could see out of all this was that murderers, pious helpers and renunciants might all be saints. This is a saint that is a saint, everyone is a saint. Who is a saint? I could not understand.

This is how I was beginning my adult life, disillusioned by the way religion and politics entangled into each other behind the curtains. By this time, Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu's movement has already reached Hungary, and eventually devotees could begin to distribute his mercy without fear. Somehow or other I also got a part of this mercy and I could begin to read Srila Prabhupada's books. I could find the answers in them.

The main characteristic of a saintly person is that he completely dedicated his life to the service of the Lord. He has risen over all material attachment. His happiness comes from the inside, from his relationship with the Lord.

You Gurudeva, are adorned with these rare transcendental qualities, along with humility, simplicity, compassion, forgiveness, patience, devotion, peacefulness, determination, selflessness and kindness. You gracefully direct these beautiful qualities towards others, thereby convincing the doubters, giving faith to the faithless, and strengthening the believers. No matter how much covered they are, they become able to see your wonderful qualities, because the character of a saintly person is not ordinary. Those pious souls who see you and are captured by your special qualities will become your followers. Those who do not want to see will get the strength of your saintliness as a gift, because by only hearing the Holy Names coming from your lotus lips, their spiritual life begins without them even knowing it. By seeing you, being courteous towards you, remembering your deeds and render any little service to you, their spiritual life starts and they will be purified.

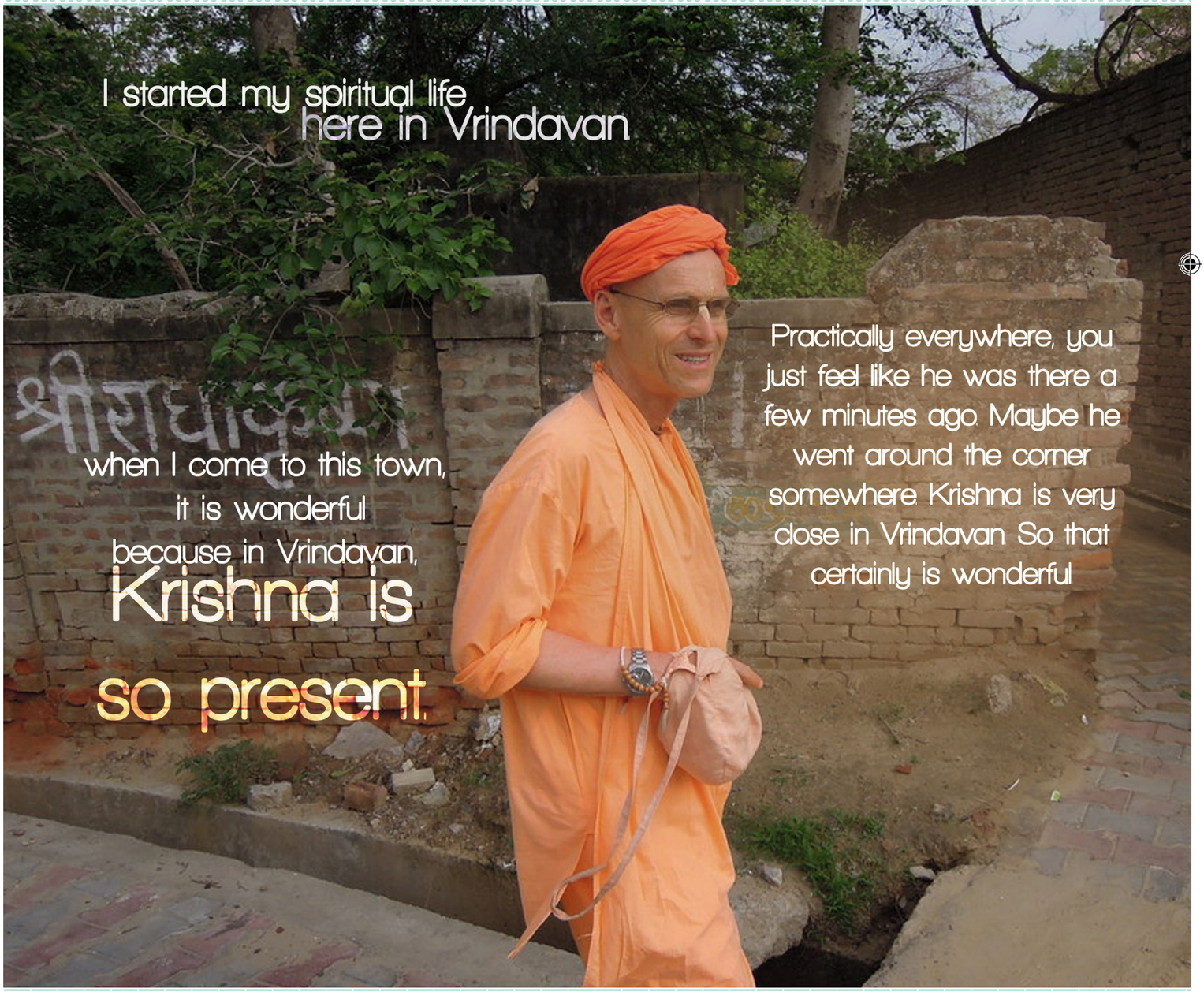
This is the strength of your saintliness, and this strength comes from your purity and complete devotion. Sword and fire, or royal birth, is just not enough for this. Those are very limited.

In the mood of my love and devotion, let me ever remember you, your pure body covered by fine new clothes, your forehead decorated by a nice tilaka, your neck embraced by a flower garland, me sitting at your lotus feet. This remembrance purifies my heart and brings me closer to Krishna, because he is always with his devotees. Therefore remembering the saintly persons means remembering the Lord too. Let me enjoy the safe shelter of a real saint. There is no other chance for my heart to get purified and to

one time becoming able to cross this pain filled material world, except by remembering you.

All glories to your transcendental qualities that enable you to turn the errant souls into devotees and bring them back to the lotus feet of the Lord. You are the most wonderful tool in His hands. All glories to you!

I wish that you be satisfied with me.
Your eternal servant,
Mūrti Sevā Devi Dāsī



Nadia Mani Devi Dāsī

Aanvaard mijn nederige eerbetuigingen.
Alle eer aan Srila Prabhupada.
Alle eer aan Jayadvaita Swami en.
Alle eer aan u Maharaj,

Hare Krsna Maharaja,

Ik wil u bedanken dat u altijd voor ons als uw Disciples klaar staat.. Ons uw zegens geeft en vooral de weg naar Krsna, de eeuwige woning te kunnen bereiken.

Ik weet dat ik door uw zegens Maharaj, mijn eigen Moeder daarnaartoe heb kunnen brengen, naar het eeuwige woning Goloka Vrndavan.

Ys,
Nadia Mani Devi Dāsī

Nāma-rūpa Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

Some years ago you told me that you see me as a vaishnavi, and even today I understand that on that vision only have Krsna accepted me. You are very dear to Lord Krsna and He is looking for ways to fulfil your visions and desires. In the same conversation you told me not to take material promises seriously. That is the secret of practicing the spiritual life.

Then you told me something I will never forget:" I want to be your friend!" That is my most precious gift. Your friendship! For a long time I was thinking how can I be your friend back? Friendship is among equals, and I am your servant. But then I read the quote from Japa Reform Notebook:

"When the spiritual master asks you to chant Hare Krsna, which he especially does at the time of your initiation that is an order different than is given to you by any other person in Krsna consciousness. His request that you chant Hare Krsna, when you take it up, forms the most intimate, personal relationship between yourself and your spiritual master, and yourself and Krsna in disciplic succession. This is the real link for your friendship and your dependence on his instruction."

To this day I am here because of your friendship, your vision and your protection against illusion. On these gifts I am building my daily activities. I bow my head in front of Lord Gauranga's lotus feet and I know He hears me because my offering is trough you who is Krsna prestaya- very dear to him, having taken shelter at his lotus feet.

Your servant and your mercy case,
Nāma-rūpa Devi Dāsī

Nandan, Bhakta

Dear Maharaja,

nama oṁ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭāya bhū-tale
śrīmate kadamba kanana swamin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracārine
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe

nama oṁ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭāya bhū-tale
śrīmate jayadvaita swamin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracārine
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe

nama oṁ viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭāya bhū-tale
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine
namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracārine
nirviśeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe

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

Hare Krishna and happy Vyasa-puja day!

I hope you are having a great time in Krishna consciousness and having fantastic experiences preaching across the globe. I was not fully sure whether to write a Vyasa-puja offering to you yet, primarily because I did not feel like I would have anything worthwhile to say to you. But also I felt like my relationship with you is still in its seedling form and needs to be developed more before I am in a position to write anything to you. Needless to say Sutapa Prabhu quickly dispelled my doubts on this issue and urged me to write something however unqualified I may feel. The emphasis being that one should never pass up any opportunity to render some service for the spiritual master no matter what.

It was wonderful spending time with you earlier this year Maharaja. I still remember that day in matchless gifts when you did that mesmerizing, synchronized kirtan with the audience. Truly amazing, like a transcendental orchestra. I also treasured the eclectic range of conversations we had in the car such as asking for your Krishna conscious perspective on various geopolitical issues all the way up to the characteristics, quirks and qualities of devotees from Vrindavana!

I am grateful for having the opportunity to serve you in January. In retrospect, I know I could have utilized the opportunity more effectively and should have been more enthusiastic to do more for you. Afterwards I realized that I was serving you in accordance with what I was comfortable and happy with. Whereas I should have been serving with your interests as my primary concern. Hopefully I can get some more chances in the future to rectify myself and be a better servant.
The brief time I was with you this year has already taught me a lot. I still have a dreamy side to me and I expected my interaction with you would be magical and dramatic from the start. But of course this was pure sentimentalism.

You have showed me a very practical and realistic understanding of the Guru disciple relationship; even the instructions that you gave me were very simple and practical and I felt like that is exactly what I need. A no-nonsense practical approach to lay out a solid foundation for my spiritual progress. From a more practical platform one can develop a higher, truer sense of magic that is not just contrived or based on one's mental concoctions. Being with you has helped me to realize that I have to rely less

on my mind's deliberations and do more without always being on the mental platform. Simply taking that approach is itself a form of surrender. I feel very good that our relationship has finally taken off the ground this year and I pray that it grows and grows henceforth.

I am also glad to hear your neck has mended now and I am definitely looking forward to your Vyasa-puja in April and of course the legendary King's day parade. I will leave it here for now.

Maharaja, once again happy birthday!
Your aspiring servant and disciple,

Nandan
(February 2015)

Nandarani Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to you.

I am very happy and grateful that I can write this Vyasa-puja offering to you. I wish you always to be in good health while tirelessly continuing your preaching activities in the mission of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu on your continual travelling. You are truly representative of your spiritual master, Jayadvaita Maharaja, Srila Prabhupada, Lord Gauranga and his mission. You are bhagavata devotee. Bhagavata devotee is direct representative of Bhagavan, Supreme Personality of Godhead.

In your wonderful lectures you always emphasise the importance of studying sashtra, Srimad Bhagavatam and Bhagavad-Gita, "And by the constant hearing of the messages of the Bhagavad-Gita and later of Srimad Bhagavatam, one is assured herein by Srila Sukadeva Gosvami that he will reach the Personality of Godhead and render him transcendental loving service in the spiritual planet of the name Goloka-Vrndavan, which resembles huge lotus flower," (Srimad Bhagavatam, 2.2.37).

Your unbelievable kirtans are full of transcendental bliss by listening to it I become happy. Your personality and simplicity are wonderful, incomprehensible in this world of impersonalism and nihilism. Srila Bhakti Siddhanta Saraswati Thakura said, "If we take shelter of the lotus feet of the spiritual master, we can become free from illusion, fear and distress. If we wholeheartedly beg for his mercy without any deceit than the spiritual master bestows all auspiciousness upon us."

I am so thankful that you give me shelter even if I am not qualified. Thank you Guru Maharaja for saving me from claws of maya. Thank you for your blessings, your patience and your rain of mercy.

Please may I always take shelter at your lotus feet?
Your servant,
Nandarani Devi Dasi

Navadvīpa Dāsa

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

Dear Guru Mahârâja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

'What is night for all beings is the time of awakening for the self-controlled; and the time of awakening for all beings is night for the introspective sage,' (Bhagavad-Gita, 2.69).

The end of year is a very special period of time for me. Those days I use to be in a permanent oscillation between the seva in Krishna consciousness and the stressful hectic preparing of the annual reporting in the Bank.

To fix in transcendence (BG 2.55); to absorb the mind in Krishna consciousness (BG 6.30); to control the agitated mind (BG 17.16); and to bring bright day light to see things through the eyes of scripture; I tried to utilize every moment to adhere to Vanipedia - Srila Prabhupada's free online encyclopaedia - translating subtitles for video clips.

This focused my attention to the following quotes of Srila Prabhupada, that are very dear to me, because they always remind me of my fist hearing them in Mayapur in between the Bhakti Sashtri courses which you "specially arranged for me", when I did come in touch the ocean of your mercy I could hardly completely appreciated yet. Now I realize how a big debtor I am. I have no idea that there is a way how can I repay my debt to you.

The author of Bhakti-Rasamrta-Sindhu, Srila Rupa Gosvami, very humbly submits that he is just trying to spread Krishna consciousness all over the world, although he humbly thinks himself unfit for this work. That should be the attitude of all preachers of the Krishna consciousness movement, following in the footsteps of Srila Rupa Gosvami. We should never think of ourselves as great preachers, but should always consider that we are simply instrumental to the previous acaryas, and simply by following in their footsteps we may be able to do something for the benefit of suffering humanity. (Nectar of Devotion, Introduction)

"Being cultured, educated, very active and religious means developing natural love for Krsna." (Caitanya-Bhagavata, Antya-lila 3.44).

Everyone has dormant love for Krsna, and by culture and education that has to be awakened. That is the purpose of this Krsna consciousness movement. Once Lord Caitanya asked Sri Ramananda Raya what the best part of education was, and Ramananda Raya replied that the best part of education is advancement in Krishna consciousness. (SB 4.29.50, purport).

When a vaishnava sees that another vaishnava is a recipient of the Lord's mercy, he becomes very happy. Vaishnavas are not envious. If a vaishnava, by the mercy of the Lord, is empowered by him to distribute the Lord's holy name all over the world, other vaishnavas become very joyful, (CC Madhya-lila 1.218)

We are propagating the Krishna consciousness movement simply by following in the footsteps of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu. We may not be very well versed in the vedanta-sutra aphorisms and may not

understand their meaning, but we follow in the footsteps of the acaryas, and because of our strictly and obediently following in the footsteps of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu, it is to be understood that we know everything regarding the vedanta-sutra. (CC Madhya-lila 16.281 purport)

Thank you for everything.
Your humble servant,
Navadvīpa Dāsa

Nayaṇābhirāma Dāsa

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

namah om visnupadaya krsna-presthaya bhutale
gurudasa jayadvaita svamin iti namine

namah om visnupadaya krsna-presthaya bhutale
kadamba kanana swami iti namine

gaura-krpamrtam prapto
Vraja mayapure'pi yah
Prabhupada-priyo lokam
payayaty anivaritam

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances!

All glories to Srila Prabhupada and his mission!
All glories to Jayadvaita swami!
All glories to you!

So another year over and what have we done? I reflect upon the year and say to myself "Could I have done better?" Easily, but with that being said, in lot of ways I have done things worked harder been better and gone further than ever before! Going deeper and further and further and to places I've never been before, but at the same time I have been worse than ever, more slack, over confident and super lazy intelligent beyond where I have ever been. I have been neglectful of all my relationships taking a lot for granted. I have been dismissive of others and negative and at times full of anger and bottled up frustration burning inside ready to explode. And I know I must do better. For myself and for your service I know I must do better, get better and work on these impediments.

This birth is only a very short trip, flash in a pan, speck in time. Every moment is so valuable once it is lost it can never be regained again. So why waste opportunity right? Like sitting on a winning lottery ticket and being too afraid to cash it in. That is Krishna consciousness. The time is now!

And you show that day in and day out. Anyone who has spent time with you knows this. You are cent percent working for Krishna at every moment, not wasting a single second of this golden opportunity. It

is my good fortune that I have you as my spiritual master and beg of you but a drop of the mercy and nectar which you taste moment to moment.

I pray to always remain in your service.

Your humble servant,
Nayaṇābhirāma Dāsa

Nityā-mañjari Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

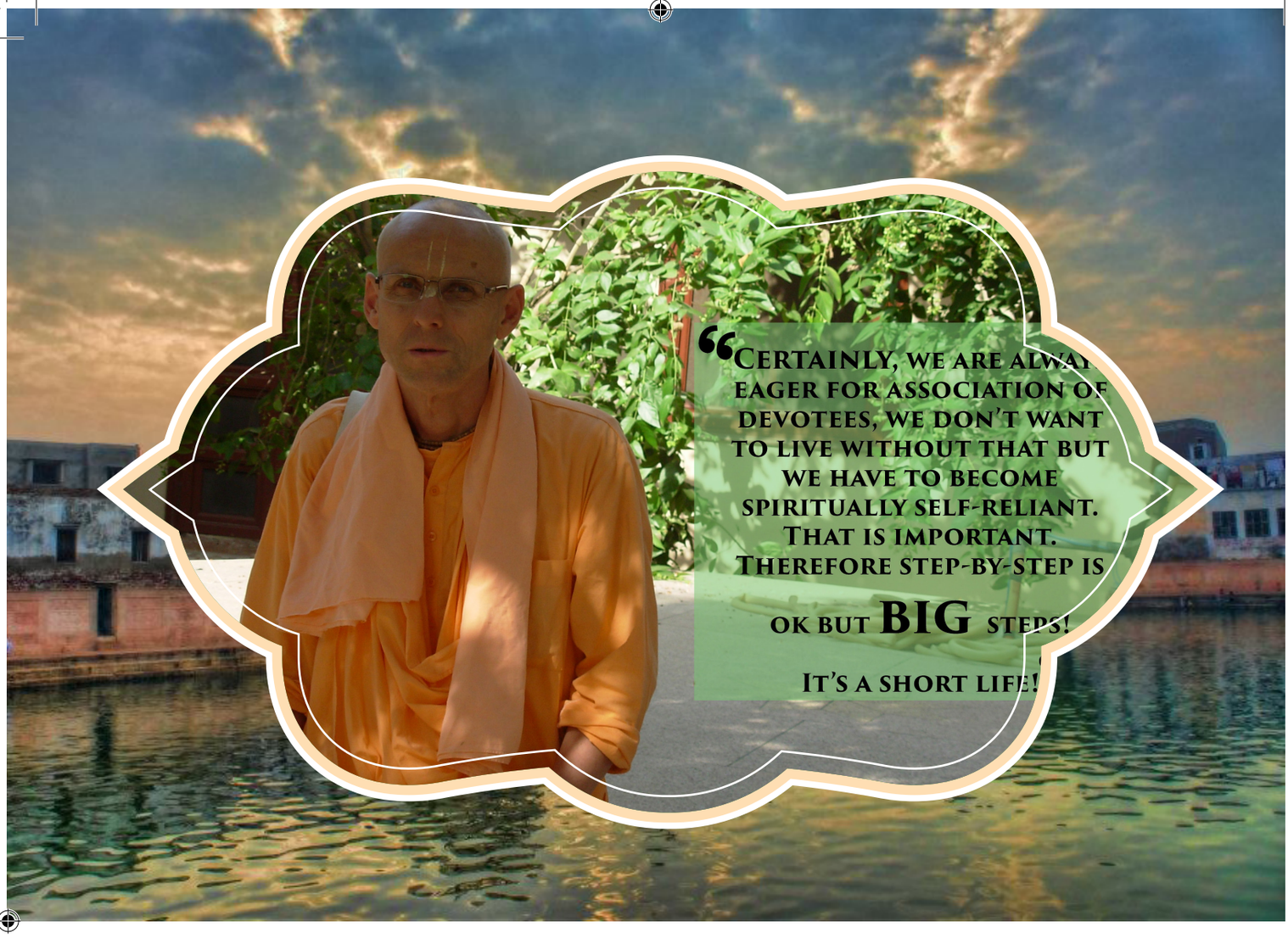
All glories to you.
All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

I want to thank you that you are always there, guiding us in the mood of Srila Prabhupada, seeing the good in us, tolerating, encouraging, and making us go on. Sometimes, when I am overwhelmed by the problems, just reading few inspiring words from you help me so much. You said, "The more service you do, the more you become a nice devotee. The spiritual master cares about how much service you do and how serious you are". Perhaps there is some hope for me (I hope). I want to become a serious devotee, and I want to do service. I want to chant the holy name. You once said that we should simply take up the mood of the faithful devotees of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu who totally believed that if one takes shelter of the Holy Name and simply glorifies Krishna - all success will be there.

Once you compared devotee´s spiritual life with German highways. There is a turtle lane, a middle lane and a Porsche lane. At times I think I am the one who is forever driving in the turtle lane. I dutifully do what I am supposed to, but somehow I feel I could and should do more. I would like to use the opportunity of the current change in my life to be more brave, to take bigger steps toward Krishna. As you said, "Become spiritually self-reliant". To live in a big, sinful city (as we will be moving there soon) will also open an opportunity to somehow or other give Krishna consciousness to the people who live there.

Reading Hari Sauri Prabhu´s 'Transcendental Diary,' I realized one more time that this is what Srila Prabhupada wanted the most: he wanted us to distribute his books and spread the message of Lord Caitanya. I would like to go more towards that direction. Please bless me to become more productive and useful servant of Srila Prabhupada´s movement, and not just stay a turtle forever.

Hoping to become your worthy disciple,
Nityā-mañjari Devi Dāsī



Nṛsiṁha Caitanya Dāsa

Hare Krsna dearest Guru Maharaja,

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

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Last years I had so much inspiration on what I would like to express in my offering. Maybe it was because I was mainly chanting on the streets all the time. I was practically experiencing the part "Always think of Krsna." Now I have to struggle to never forget Him. I have just a few points on my mind I would like to present:

Most people speak about being natural in a sense of not pushing oneself too much and even as a justification of their own laxness. But actually being a devotee and endeavouring to please Guru and Krsna is what it really means being natural. I pray for your mercy to be always pushed forward in Krsna's devotional service - the only natural state of being.

Just recently I read somewhere that genuine spiritual master can be recognized by how he changes his disciples. I see our beautiful spiritual family and how many devotees had grown up into angels who are willing to sacrifice their lives at your lotus feet. I pray for your mercy and mercy of my god siblings to

always remain under your kind care.

Dear Guru Maharaja, I am just lonely fish struggling at the dry sands of material desires. Sometimes waves of devotional service splash over me and I am able to breathe but then again I am hopelessly crying on the hot sand. What can I do by myself? I can play a big devotee but without your mercy I am just a farce. Although I know that your mercy is always available, seldom do I surrender enough to be able to grasp it. I pray to be able to finally give the scorching beach of lusty desires and swim in the transcendental ocean of devotional service under your guidance.

You said that there must be friendship between Guru and disciple. This year I could have done things which would have ruin our relationship. Although the attacks of lust are irresistible, you always stayed in my mind. And at the verge of calamity I thought, "What would my Guru Maharaja say to this? How could I ever come in front of him again?" I pray that under any circumstances I may always be situated at your lotus feet - the lotus feet of my best friend and well- wisher.

Your humble servant,
Nṛsiṁha Caitanya Dāsa

Padmanābha Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Thank you Guru Maharaja for being my spiritual master. I really could not do it with anyone else. Of course I theoretically could, perhaps, but I would not get as far. The relationship between Guru and disciple is a very personal one, just as the relationship between the self and Krishna.

Just like I once said to myself when standing in front of Radha Madhava in Mayapur, “Thank you Krishna for being God.” I say to you now, “Thank you for being my spiritual master.”
When I was in Mayapur, when I saw the Guru puja kirtan in full swing in front of Radha Madhava and everyone was twisting and twirling for their pleasure I thought, “Yeah it could be Shiva being Supreme, or Brahma, but it would not be as much fun as with Krishna.” I think now, “Yeah I could be the disciple of another Guru, but it would not be as fun and not as deep as with you.”

Now I have been with you for over ten years I come to realise, to some degree, what it means to be in it for the long run. After the initial first few years of 'Jaya Gurudeva' and 'Jaya Bliss Nectar' we come back to reality.

Some small merit might be there to our character that we can use in our service, very small, but much more we see our ugly, dark and weak sides and we know that our spiritual master knows them too. Then we start working through our issues through service and sadhana and we really are very lucky to have a spiritual master who is not only our teacher but also our understanding friend. Like a father who knows his son and knows what he is up to but loves him anyway.

Even though you have many sons and daughters to take care of, you also encourage us to take care of ourselves, to fly our own plane. Like no other you know that spiritual life means self-responsibility while relying on the mercy of Guru and Krishna. You yourself give a perfect example of how this is done and daily can we read this on your blog, hear this in your lectures or see this in your personal behaviour. Still, despite of that good example we do not always follow very well, at least I don't. Then you give your personal care, your personalised version of what it means to follow Guru and Krishna and you accept, encourage and forgive any mistakes or missteps. Go on and serve anyway. Do not worry if there is some mistake or fault, serve, serve and serve.

This must cost you a huge amount of energy and effort or at least you have sacrificed your whole life for guiding people like us. Because you understand each and every of your disciples and also many others who are not your disciples on a deep personal level you deeply take care and care for us. It is then we realise that Krishna made a very personal arrangement for us to come back to him.
Really, with someone else we could not do it. We might get on the way but we would not come as far.

I am praying for some mode of goodness in my life. I recognise I am performing a lot of my service, and sadhana, on a level of ignorance. I actually want to leave this darkness behind but often at least its shadow is around. As an offering to you this Vyasa-puja I would like to dedicate this year of 2015 to sattva, so I can serve you with less clouds in my mind and less rain when there is no need to get wet, less thunder when there is no need for noise and less cold when it could just be cosy. I am sure with your blessings I can make it a long way into the realm of goodness and meet you there.

Thank you Gurudeva and forgive me for my mistakes and missteps.
Your servant,

Padmanābha Dāsa
(Sydney, Australia)

Pañcajanya Dāsa

Dearest Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisance at your divine lotus feet, which have given shelter to this poor and fallen soul.

All glories to you my dear master.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami Maharaja.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Lord Caitanya's mission to deliver fallen conditioned souls in this dark-age is the most incredible, amazing and truly the greatest magnanimous display of love and compassion. Not only has Gauranga Mahaprabhu come to deliver us from material existence but he has come to bestow upon us the highest benediction of Vraja Prema. We can simply appreciate this mercy if we can try to understand our fallen nature- how much completely and utterly disqualified we are and yet our disqualification is our qualification to somehow cry and beg for that mercy. Like Narottama Dasa Thakur has sung,''mo sama patita prabhu na paibe ara,'' he is eager for the Lord's mercy, and so am I also eager for your mercy Guru Maharaja.

You are Gauranga Mahaprabhu's servant- directly taking up his order of becoming guru and delivering the entire world. You are so instrumental in pushing on this mission, the sankirtan movement, by putting yourself right in front. Inspiring and enlivening the devotees, you have been chanting loudly and continuously over the decades that nobody can deny that you're a dedicated and empowered servant of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. Because you are the servant of Gauranga Mahaprabhu, oh Vaishnava Thakur, you can also bestow upon us that which Mahaprabhu has come to mercifully give that most cherished and intensely coveted loving mellow to Sri Krishna in the moods of the damsels of Vraja.

I humbly and earnestly pray at your feet, oh master that you can be gracious to this undeserving fool desiring to rush in where angels fear to tread. But because we are hearing about the all-attractive Supreme Personality of Godhead from your divine grace, we cannot be blamed for naturally becoming attracted to him like bees attracted to lotuses. ''Krishna is yours. You have the power to give him to me,'' sings Bhaktivinoda Thakura. I am simply your servant hoping and praying for your graceful embrace. By your mercy and kindness we can certainly attain perfection in this very life. Eternally at the service of your lotus feet.

Your servant,
Pañcajanya Dāsa

Pañca Pāṇḍava Dāsa and Draupadi Devi Dāsī

Dear Srila Guru Maharaja,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Maharaja Prabhupada.
All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami Maharaja.
All glories unto you Srila Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja.

Our Heartfelt and sincere gratitiude unto you Gurudev for giving us shelter at your lotus feet, for allowing us the opportunity to serve The Lordships Sri Sri Jagannatha, Baladev and Subhadra Maharani. "Guru bina jnan nahi, Hari bina ananda nahi". Without spiritual master real knowledge is not possible as without Hari (Krsna) real bliss is not possible. Your words Maharaja alway resounds in our hearts, "Do something beyond duty". These words alone give us incredible energy to continue in our duties.

Thank you for these powerful words. All glories to Srila Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja.

Your servants,
Pancha Pandava Dāsa and Draupadi Devi Dāsī

Pārijāta Devi Dāsī

My dearest Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you.

I would like to write you, that I am so grateful, that I know you are around and that I may have your proximity in your lectures and never-ending amazing kirtans. It is really inspiring to feel your separation from Krishna and your big love for him.

You said in one lecture, that the most important for us, at the end of our life, will be actually, how much love we will have for Krishna. I hope, that I will listen and follow your lectures and instructions and that I will understand how much love for Krishna you have and how rare and deep this love - love of pure devotee actually is. Thank you for this inspiration and for this guiding towards the supreme goal.

Your very, very grateful servant,
Pārijāta Devi Dāsī

Patrik, Bhakta

Hare Krsna dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

When I write this offering I pray to Krsna to give me the right words to please you. Actually all I can do is to thank you. To thank for your limitless mercy of unfalteringly and incessantly preaching Krishna consciousness. This way you help countless people and I am one of them.

When I read your blog or listen to your lectures I am inspired to serve Krsna with deeper understanding and devotion. It is amazing with what easiness you explain various topics that personally touch each of us. You are a transcendental doctor that gives each patient a suitable medicine according to his diagnosis and conditioning. Sometimes I have the feeling that you say things that I want to hear and like them however in reality they are meant for further surrender to Krsna. You teach us how to discover our lost love to Sri Radha and Krsna. You are very successful in it. I pay hundreds of obeisances to you.

Your servant,
Bhakta. Patrik

Pradyumna Miśra Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to you!

I was just listening to the Kirtan Mela day 3, at home on my computer, where you were singing my favourite tune. I heard this tune the first time, last year in Mayapur in the community hall and this tune was so heart melting. So I thought nice, you are singing "my tune". I looked at the devotees. I saw many happy faces. I saw devotees praying deeply and I saw a lot of devotion.

But somehow my mind was agitated. I was starring motionless at the screen, with no understanding. With no emotion or any feelings in my heart. I only saw the surface like a picture or a film without meaning. A screen of people who are sitting or standing, heads who open and closing their mouth and bodies who are whipping left and right and raising their hands. I felt like a visitor, a person who is watching from outside but does not belong to that what he is seeing. I could not understand the inner meaning of all of that. What are they thinking? What are they feeling?

Then I ask myself, “Why can´t I pray? Why can I not enter the Holy Name? Why do I have no taste?”

Envy was the answer and pride. No willingness to surrender. No understanding and seeing no need, why I should take shelter in a prayer. Then I became sad, very sad and I felt pity for myself. And I felt lonely and very stupid. What I am proud of? What did I actually gain in my life, when I cannot take shelter in Krishna? Then I closed my eyes and I was looking for answers. I prayed that I also want to get some taste for the holy name like you have, like the devotees have. I also want to enter in the holy name and understand the meaning of it.

I became angry with myself, shouting to myself that I am such a rascal, being proud and envious. I said to you, that I am sorry and that I should just take shelter now and forget everything else and simple SURRENDER!

Then suddenly the sound and the light went out. The whole Kirtan Mela was dark. I thought, “Wow! The power of a prayer!” This was a clear sign and I started to smile. Then the light went on again and I started to listen. Listen with my heart to the sweet melodies. The sweet voice and the sweet holy name. Appreciation filled my heart and I also started to pray. I tried to listen very carefully and longing for shelter and mercy entered my mind. I closed my eyes and suddenly I felt like being at home. Like you said before the singing, that with the special mercy of Caitanya Mahaprabhu we can chant and hear the holy name, understanding the meaning and coming home again. Home to Mayapur.

Sometimes I am miles away, being lost somewhere and having no understanding. But sometimes by your mercy, by your association the curtain is lifted and I can see a climbs what it means to take shelter in Krishna. A place in the heart, a mind-set, a vision of something beyond this, cold and lonely network of material nature. But rarely am I seeking shelter of it. Hoping one day, I can be there always with you singing the glories of the Lord.

Thank you for everything, you gave me, I hope one day I can give you something back.

Your servant,
Pradyumna Miśra Dāsa

Pran Govinda Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

At the occasion of your appearance day, I am very happy I can wish you unstoppable torrents of spiritual inspiration in your pure devotional service, which sets the example how to fulfill the mission of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu and his Patita Pavana, his divine grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada according to the instructions of the spiritual master.

May this service together with your compassion for all conditioned souls makes you famous in all three worlds and your body remains reliable instrument for many more years.

Your thankful eternal disciple, servant and debtor,
Pran Govinda Dāsa
In the Holy Dham, 17.2.2015,

Prasuti Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

I take this special occasion of your Vyasa-puja to express my gratitude towards you. I feel myself very fortunate that you accepted me as one of your disciple, thank you Maharaja. The wonderful initiation ceremony that you performed for my husband and myself was the best thing that happen in my life last year, thank you.

Words will not be enough to thank you for that special gift you have given me. You have showered your blessings and by your mercy I am advancing slowly but surely on the way back to Godhead, thank you Maharaja. I do not feel that I am serving you as I should have but still you have accepted me, thank you for your trustfulness.

During your stay in Mayapur, I sometimes got the opportunity to cook for you. I am not a great cook but you have always accepted whatever I have offer you without any criticism, thank you Guru Maharaja for your humility. Thank you for being tolerant towards my children, especially Radhika who has been naughty while you came to visit us, you accepted her behaviour and even play with her. I was so touch by your reaction.

Thank you for having given shelter to my family in your lotus feet. Your lectures are always source of inspirations for me whenever I am going through difficult moments they are the best refuge for me to get my answers and to clear my doubts, thank you so much Guru Maharaja. I can feel more serenity, peace of mind and love for God while listening to your ecstatic kirtans and bhajans.

Thank you for letting me feel such devotional powers.

Thank you Guru Maharaja for the unique relation for being my spiritual master. Hope the Supreme Lord Krsna give me the opportunity to serve you and your disciples as you deserved.

Your servant,
Prasuti Devi Dasi
Mayapur February 2015

Pūrṇa Tattva Dāsa

My dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to you!

Last year was really wonderful year. I get1st initiation from you! I only may say it was the most important event in my life and you fulfilled my big dream to be initiated in front of Sri Sri Radha Gopinath, Sri Sri Gaura Nitai and Sri Sri Jagannatha Baladeva and Srimati Subhadra in Radhadesh. Thousand thanksgiving and obeisances to you! Thank you for your mercy that you received such a fallen soul like me.

Anyway I have to work and travel a lot and support family, I visited a lot of ISKCON temples around the world and I may have a darshan of Radha Krishna and Gaura Nitai deities and others and I might see how live other devotees in various Countries. Thank you for this mercy and benediction from you!!! Please more and more traveling. Krishna is wonderful!!!

When I had a material desires in the past I had several dreams, but now I have hundreds spiritual desires. One of this dream is to build a big palace in Vrindavan for all my god brothers and god sisters to come and stay in any period of the year. I know that this is an attack on rhinoceros as once said Srila Prabhupada, but you can imagine how it would be wonderful to serve to all my divine Family and live in Vrindavan!

My dear Guru Maharaja, always when I meet you, I scare that you leave me. Yes, I miss you a lot. I pray to your spiritual master and to Srila Prabhupada for your protection and help in your important devotional service. You are the benediction for all living beings who you meet during your trips. I pray to Srimati Radharani to be always favourably hung to you. I also pray to Krishna and Balarama for your health, protection and happy return to Vrindavan.

Your smallest humble happy servant,
Pūrṇa Tattva Dāsa

Puruṣottama-kṣetra Dāsa

Dear Gurudeva,

Arjuna argued by moral and religious principles but yet was not able to solve his dilemma without the help of spiritual master, Lord Sri Krishna. Our lamentation over wasted life without Krishna consciousness could be changed by humble hearing, questioning and service to you. It is hard to really understand the vedic literature but the disciple has to accept the instructions of his spiritual master as his lifelong mission. We can hear Bhagavad-Gita from you the same way as Arjuna heard it. Lord Krishna says what He wants, “Surrender to Me. “Everyone has to know Sri Krishna through Guru, not directly. The one, who has his hands and legs tied, cannot deliver himself alone. The one, who is not tied, can help.

You know the character of each of your disciples and you know how to lead us. The secret of Krishna consciousness is to renounce of the material concept of life. The way of religion is marked by the Supreme Lord, Sri Krishna. The disciple by his own effort in the association of authorities and spiritual master knows his position and with understanding of Bhagavad-Gita, as it is, he returns to his original consciousness, to Krishna consciousness. Concentrated to the instructions of the spiritual master, the disciple controls his senses and is determinate to constantly humbly serve to our Guru.

You are very kind to me.
Your worthless disciple,
Puruṣottama-kṣetra Dāsa

Rachel, Bhaktin

Dear Maharaja,

I would like to start with nice and inspiring story from Bhagavad- Gita, chapter 6, verse 24, in purport Srila Prabhupada tells the story about little sparrow who lost his eggs in the waves of the ocean. And how Garuda, who heard about his determination helped him. The sparrow achieved happiness trough the Garuda’s grace. This story describes our situation. I am a little sparrow, who lost his own happiness in the ocean of ignorance, and your grace is only thing, which can bring me this happiness back.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you especially for your devotion to the Holy Name, which almost from beginning is giving me a lot of inspiration, and got deep into my heart. Also, I want to thank you for the opportunity to associate with devotees, for doing devotional service, for difficult and also beautiful moments in which I feel your special protection and grace.

I also thank you, dear Maharaja, for inspiration from your words, from which one feels your uncommon and magic presence and your devotion to your spiritual master. You teach me by your example, by your mercy to other living beings, by your power to make them to laugh, to give them shelter at your lotus feet. It encourage me many times and gave me the strength to go on and inspired me to try to be better.

Dear Maharaja, I thank you again. Words are weak to describe it, and also I am not able to fully

realize how lucky I am that you exist. Please accept my deep and respectful obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

From heart.
Your servant,
Bhaktin. Rachel



Rādhādyuti Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna,
Dearest Guru Maharaja,

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

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

Guru Maharaja, you provide everything that I need - a connection to Srila Prabhupada, the confidence to look at Srimati Radharani and Krishna, the chance to serve Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu and the Panca Tattva.

You give me so much time, actually all of your time, because you are guiding me always. You are patient and tolerant of all my imperfections. You give me blessings. You give me the Holy Name. And despite all of this sacrifice, I still come back and knock on your door with begging bowl for mercy. And these blessings they fall endlessly upon me, like flowers from the Kadamba tree adorning the courtyard of my heart. But here, there are no seasons followed. The flowers of mercy shower me, and I find myself never wanting to move from this shelter. You are my Lord and Master lifetime after lifetime.

I recall my first verbal interaction with you, dear Guru Maharaja. I so proudly stated to you, "I took sick leave from work just to come to the class today". Your response was immediate, and cut me down to size in an instant, "Well, we are moving away from that now." I was stumped and did not expect that. In retrospect, more than five years later, I understand the gravity of the statement.

From that I understand that everyone should become as fortunate as I am, if not more.
From that statement you made, I understand that your mercy is that everyone has the mercy of Srila Prabhupada. So Guru Maharaja, as you once told me, "Certainly, if you have an opportunity to distribute books, go ahead." And this is what I will endeavour to do, with all my heart and soul. This is the breakthrough. Even though I am weak and cannot give mercy, but I can give others the chance to grab mercy.

Again, please bless me that I may be of some assistance to you in spreading the Holy Name.
All glories, all glories, all glories to you dear Guru Maharaja, on this most auspicious Vyasa-puja!

May your glories be spread throughout the three worlds!

Your aspiring servant,

Rādhādyuti Devi Dāsī
(South Africa)

Rādhā-kānta Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

"Hello Radhakanta, this is Kadamaba Kanana Swami. " Actually I am very fortunate. Somehow it is causeless mercy that every time you visit our Country I am allowed to have a lot of your association. You call my mobile number. Although I am not very good at cooking, sometimes I also have an opportunity to cook for you. Sometimes I can serve you as your driver. I can also be in your presence and listen to your insights on different topics, which helps me to mature in my understanding.

When I joined the movement, I had an idea of simple life with not very much responsibilities and

bothering. Putting it simply, I wanted to enjoy. After few years I mentioned to you that my service in the temple is for me really heavy. You told me, that it will get even more heavy, but Krsna will send me more strength. The instructions I received from you which I try to keep always in mind are disturbing my strong tendencies to tamo-guna and thus you force me to swim upstream against the current of material energy, which carries everyone further away from Krsna.

You know me better than I know myself. You see the soul under the thick layers of material coverings and help that soul to see the sun of Lord Krsna. A man tied with a rope cannot release himself. Somehow I am trying to understand that your efforts to untie me is for my benefit and therefore I should not resist.

Your kindness to me is unparalleled. Nobody has done for me so much in my life as you have. Although I deserve chastisement, you inspire me instead. Please forgive all my offenses.

Your eternal servant,
Rādhā-kānta Dāsa

Rāgalekha Devi Dāsī

Dearest Guru Maharaj

Please accept my obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories unto You!

Thank You, Guru Maharaj for being a source of shelter and for endlessly extending Yourself to uplift Your disciples. How rare it is to encounter such a generous soul! Thank You for preaching with so much conviction and encouraging us to never lose sight of our goal to return to Krsna. I am grateful to be connected to the parampara by an honourable personality as Yourself! The dedication and tolerance with which You have served in this movement has surely gained You the favour of Srila Prabhupada and Krsna, and You offer all of this to us. I remember the compassionate statement You made in an initiation lecture in Cape Town in April 2014, "On the strength of whatever service I have done, I pray that Krsna may accept your service! So my prayer is there, that Krsna will take you back to Godhead at the end of this life."

Having Your association for the last twelve years has dominated my life so much so that the previous twenty years have faded into oblivion! You influence every decision I have to make – sometimes I ask You personally, at other times You appear in a dream or it may be through a lecture, but at every step You are there, whether it is to celebrate a success or to pick up the pieces afterward.

Living in Bloemfontein has been a good experience for me. The Afrikaners like me and I have grown to appreciate how cultured they are. More importantly, living in Bloemfontein makes me feel closer to Krsna as I have to apply everything I learnt in my Krsna Consciousness to survive. I have to depend on Krsna and He reciprocates so nicely! Your last visit here was in 2010. You promised to come again so I hope Your schedule will allow it to happen soon.

You mentioned feeling indebted that I helped You get in touch with Mahavirya Prabhu, by getting his phone number, but my indebtedness to You will always be greater!

In December, you said to me, "It is one short life. Just give it to Krsna. Don't get distracted!" I pray that I

have the strength to abide by this!

Please take care of Yourself.
Your aspiring servant,
Rāgalekha Devi Dāsī

Ravindra Svarupa Dāsa and Sri ji Devi Dāsī

Dear Srila Gurudeva,

nama om vishnu-padaya krishna-preshthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-svamin iti namine

Please accept our humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to you Gurudev on your most auspicious Vyasa-puja day !!!

After millions and billions of lifetimes of suffering within the cycle of birth and death, one's greatest good fortune is to receive the seed of pure Krishna bhakti planted within his heart through the process known as initiation. It takes birth after birth to receive the mercy of a spiritual master and finding a Guru. But in our case, Guru Maharaja, You found us hiding behind the tree of material desires and nurtured us with your spiritual guidance and love .

We want to thank you Guru Maharaj, for finding us out and bringing us to Krishna consciousness. So dedicated are you in fulfilling the instructions of Srila Prabhupada and Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu. There has not been any day that you do not think about fulfilling the mission of bringing Krishna consciousness to the whole world. Your constant travelling despite of health problems and your thirst to bring the Holy Names to everyone is priceless. Srila Gurudeva, we are so blessed to have your shelter with intense nurture and spiritual guidance that perhaps, even we cannot imagine how blessed we are.

Over the years we see how you have emerged as an empowered son of his divine grace Srila Prabhupada. Decade after decade you have carried the baton of the sankirtan mission.

Your servants,
Ravindra Svarupa Dāsa and Sri ji Devi Dāsī

Reena, Bhaktin

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All Glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you on this auspicious day of your appearance.

'Blessings of spiritual master changes the whole life.' I had heard this sentence very often but now I have felt it. First time when I met you during Kirtan Mela last year you blessed me and said 'May all the obstacles on the path of spiritual life be removed'. Yes, and that is happening with me now. You have changed my life completely. Along with spiritual life you drive material life of this fallen servant. Last year when you offered me help at material platform I was completely moved. I cried and cried just thinking how can fallen soul like me get such an amazing spiritual father? You remember even smallest update from me.

Besides this, once I wrote to you that I want my parents to visit to Mayapur in this life time at least once and within no time it was fulfilled. You blessed not only me but my entire family. I am very insincere. But on this auspicious day I beg, to engage me in service at your lotus feet birth after birth.

Your insignificant servant,
Reena

Remuna Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

On this auspicious occasion I am encouraged to reflect on the first time I became aware of my desire to have a spiritual master and the subsequent events that helped me understand a little better what that meant. I remember the first couple of times I met you and how I eventually connected the dots and realized that I wished you could be my spiritual master.

I remember following you around at Durban Ratha Yatra one year and I am grateful for how you patiently reciprocated. I appreciate how much you give of yourself to so many aspiring and initiated disciples. Recently I have noticed how you dive deep into the Holy Name during your kirtans as if you want to encourage your audience to do the same. It seems that your lectures are becoming shorter and your kirtans longer and more and more sweet every time.

It is with sadness that I reflect on how much I have started to take your presence for granted. I pray for the ability to stay enthusiastic and focused in spiritual life so that I will be able to take better advantage of your association. Thanks to you even a rascal like myself can appreciate the Holy Name and enjoy hearing about the pastimes and the glories of Lord Krishna, the acharyas and Srila Prabhupada.

Thank you Guru Maharaja for your mercy, your blessings, your kindness and for being the Guru who "Gets us." I hope that you will have a very good year and I will be able to please you in even just a small way.

Your fallen servant,
Remuna Devi Dāsī

Revatī Devi Dāsī

Hare Krsna my dear Guru Maharaja,

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

All the best to you for this auspicious day of the celebration of your Vyasa-puja. I am praying to Lord Nrsimhadeva, that he may protect you from all troubles and dangers in your tireless activities in order to distribute the wonderful mercy of Lord Caitanya to so many parts of the world.

It is said, there are two Bhagavatas we can meet in this world, one is the scripture Bhāgavata, the other one is the pure devotee absorbed in the mellows of loving devotion. You are not such a type of a pure devotee who exhibits his absorption to everyone. But your absorption is obvious, because you are untiringly engaged in saving us fallen souls from the clutches of Maya. If there is any taste for loving devotional service inside of your disciples, it's coming from you. Drop by drop you are giving us whatever we are able to digest. And sometimes, out of mercy, even a “little bit” more and we get a shower. No matter what our current condition may be, our heart is changing toward this loving devotional service and finally attract Krsna. That is the goal, the perfection of life.

You might present yourself in a humble way as a simple servant of your own Guru, of Srila Prabhupada, Sri Sri Gaura-Nitai and Radha and Krsna, which is indeed the mood of a pure devotee. Still, your qualities and the good example you are giving, do not leave any doubt, that you are one of those acaryas Krsna is talking about when He says to Sri Uddhava, “One should know the ācārya as myself and never disrespect him in any way.”

Your concern is one with the concern of the super soul - to show us the way back home. You are one with Krsna, one in desire. You are opening our eyes to understand our position and to see the path back home. And with this opening of our eyes your blessings are coming. Otherwise leaving behind the darkness of ignorance, we would not be able so see anything, blinded by the bright light of the eternal truth. But by your mercy one can understand so many things which are far beyond the own level of advancement.

So, how could I ever be able to verbally fully express my indebtedness and gratefulness towards you? The only way to do this is to follow your instructions and to serve you to the best of my abilities – even if it is only little what I can do.

I am so grateful for every moment of association with you. It's like Sacinandana Maharaja some times tells about the sage coming to the village, the villagers want him to solve all their problems but he is just performing kirtana with them all night. Everyone is in total bliss and forgets his problems. Next morning then, before his departure he is asking, “Any problems?” And the answer is, “No, everything is fine.” You are for sure such a sage. Meeting you, I usually forget most of the important things I wanted to ask you about. I am just happy in your presence and your classes are giving many answers to unspoken questions. And I am asking myself, “How could he know what was in my mind?”

Still, in some cases, after some time doubts are arising inside of me. Does this really apply to me? And then I do not know any more which one of your advises given in the classes I heard I should follow. But sometimes my doubts are removed. Like last year in May, somewhere in the East of Germany, I do not remember any more, but I can still see you sitting right in front of me. For some reason you were talking about palmistry, giving the example, that if the little finger is bend towards the ring finger, this is only good for merchants, because they are allowed to cheat sometimes. But for others it shows that one is not honest. While telling this, you showed your fingers – perfectly straight! And I looked at my hands

and had to check the impulse to hide them, this must be how I was born, now I changed. I tried to pacify myself. But then, some days later, in Zwickau during the kirtan day, I took some photos from you and checking them, I found, that on one of this photos you were looking directly at me – with such a serious, seemingly angry face. It hit my heart and I was thinking of my fingers and that perhaps I might not be really 100 % honest. In fact, I still had the tendency to bend the truth a little bit, or to hide certain things. That was my strategy to protect myself from trouble. Such a nonsense, how could I ever protect myself? And ultimately it h caused trouble then avoided them.

I understood: That is the next point Krsna wants me to work on! It was tough for a moment, but then I understood I had to do it anyway. And I remembered that along with the task Krsna is always giving the strength to do it. Finally I could even be happy about getting this chance to change a little bit. You see, your presence is very powerful.

Unfortunately sometimes I feel like being an acharya in the, 'International society for Krishna conscious sense gratification.' I feel like blinded and unable to understand what I see and experience. Should I ' follow my taste or not? I do not mind any more to be 'fool number one,' because this keeps my false ego in check. But still I do not want to waste my time and energy for anything that does not bring me closer to my goal. And this challenges my so called intelligence.

Therefore, without your blessings, your advices and instructions I would feel like the pilot high up in the sky, Srila Prabhupada was often talking about. Yes, I am the one who is responsible for my flight, but without guidance, where will my flight end?

So please, help me to come beyond the level of my blinded material eyes. Please pray for me to Srila Prabhupada and Krsna and Balarama that they make me understand how they want me to serve them and what should be my next step. Otherwise I might get lost in the forest of my personal 'Krishna conscious sense gratification.'

Last year I had such a dangerous nice situation, but then again, so many unexpected changes took place. To be honest (I have to be now), I was hopelessly attached to my new situation, everything was so perfect, especially because you had told me to do exactly this and then Krsna had arranged everything so nicely to make it easier for me. I was sure, I had to stay there for many years. And I really liked this idea. After many years of moving around here and there I felt like developing some new roots.

But then again, some changes and suddenly, after a few weeks only, it did not make sense any more to stay there in my perfect situation and before becoming sentimental about I decided to give it up as soon as possible, to spend six months in Vrindavan and after this to see how the situation would be. In this way my perfect situation lasted for four months only and half of this time I was not even there.

But it was a good decision, because it cut my attachment immediately (the wound however is still itching a little bit) and gave me the invaluable benefit of being in the Holy Dhama for such a long time. And then, in Mayapur, I understood why everything had to happen like this. You gave me liberation, and told me to settle somewhere for old age, or something like this. Immediately I thought of Vrindavan or Mayapur and you agreed.

How fortunate I am. Living in Mayapur will give me the rare opportunity to live in the Holy Dhama and receive the mercy of Lord Gauranga and his associates, to do my own bhajana, to have association with so many advanced devotees, to do service there according to my own capacity and last but for sure not least you will be there every year for a long period of time. Thank you so much for all this causeless mercy.

Your association is something I really need. Because I do not want to just land up somewhere, but in Goloka Vrindavana, in my eternal home. I do not want to be in the air for eternity, exposed to the

danger of forgetting the goal. I do not want to act like 'Little Red Riding Hood' and "pick flowers instead of going my way directly.

There are so many flowers on and around the path of devotional service, all of them are beautiful and we want to offer them to Krsna. But which ones does He want? While writing this it comes to my mind, "Go your way straight ahead and if you want to pick flowers, simply take those which are beside this straight way." And I feel like being directly connected with you. No, I do not just feel like this, I am always connected with you and I have full faith, you are the one who is taking care that I will not get lost.

The most difficult task I still have to face - I have to decide how to organize the next years of my life and accordingly to deal with the remnants of my household. More than ten years ago, it was just about a few items, you were asking me, "Why do you still have so many things?" And now, after having a household again it is even a little bit more. And I will have to discriminate what is my attachment and what reasonable economy?

Hopefully this is the last big change for the rest of my life, but I am not sure about, my experiences are telling a different tale. Will I ever come to rest in this world? But this world is not my home anyway, so what's the use of developing strong roots? Devotional service can be done everywhere.
Please forgive me when sometimes I do wrong steps. Even if I am not 'fool number one.' Very often I feel like being very close to this high position. You see, Krsna took away almost everything I might have been or become proud of in the past, but again I am somehow aspiring to become the best of something. But since Krsna is such an expert thief, there is hope that He will take away this as well.

Thank you for being my Guru. Thank you for all the advices, and thank you for all the answers you did not give to me, forcing me to find out about 'by myself.'

Your eternally indebted, a little bit foolish servant,
Revatī Devi Dāsī

Rohini Kumara Dāsa

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

My dearest Guru Maharaja,

You have lighted up my heart with the torch of wisdom and splendour and in that way you have made possible for me to see and recognize things in their right perspective.

In the beginning the flame was tiny and the only thing I saw was the heavy and dirty condition of my heart. I am still wandering in the middle of the jungle of ignorance watching its' huge trees and the luxuriantly growing grass. By protecting the small flame and feeding it gently I can make it grow. In this way I am able to carve out a little space of my own in the jungle. I am still standing confused here in the jungle watching the yellow eyes of ferocious beasts in the darkness. I know one thing; the only way out of here is you.

I have a little inkling that actually your torch is more like a light saber of love and you are proceeding in the jungle without obstacles; dancing, chanting and waving the sword very light-handed rescuing the souls captured by the tentacles of the jungle. It is my blindness to see only the darkness.

I owe you eternally - you are just dancing on the spiritual path. I can only humbly pray that by your grace I could someday help someone the way you have helped me. That I could somehow give what I have received from you.

Your servant,
Rohini Kumara Dāsa

Rukmiṇī Devi Dāsī

gaura kripamrtam prapto,
vraje mayapure pi ya
prabhupada-priya lokam
payayati anivaritam

Vrindavana and Mayapur, you served the holy land
Based on faith and love, a Prabhupada man
You gleaned the sweet nectar of Gaurangas mercy
And now you share it with all the world, ceaselessly.

My dear spiritual master,

Your faith stands beside me like a rock
I shout out that the process does not work
You don't budge.

I say I gave it my best shot and I am ready to walk away
You stand firm
I say even if it works for everyone else maybe it won't for me
You ignore my excuses. And throw the holy name back at me
And it hurts.

But today I am so grateful that you are the man that you are. I am grateful that you stand up for the scripture, for the acaryas, for the process of devotion. And most importantly, that you stand up to my excuses despite the number of times that I logically spell them out to myself in the mirror.
And without words, wordlessly, your example stands beside me. An immoveable testimony, and in front of it my words turn to dust. Faith, it is such a thing. I depend on your faith in this process. And more so, I depend on your faith in me.

How shall I serve you?

Boy, what haven't I tried and what haven't you suffered through? Ten years of salty soups, bitter juices, too rich or under spiced subhjis, crispy chapattis, false ego muffins and black avocados. Someone asked, "Will you iron Maharaja's cloth?" The thought crept into my head, "I never messed that up before." I banished it like screaming banshee. And then I burnt your kurta. And you told the whole of Vrindavana.

Okay, so I am not your average member of the feminine species. The world shouts out at me to wake up, get my act together and try to fit the mould. But you never did. You never tried to change me. You always saw what I could do as opposed to what I could not.

Yet I persist. Because to serve you personally means I get to be a little closer. These days I begin to realise that the most personal and intimate service to the spiritual master is service to the sankirtan mission. In the rare moment when my words reach foreign ears and effect a heart or when the Holy Name dances off smiling lips that never tasted them before, I am alive and closest to you.

Thank you for giving me Vrindavana, even if it was with reluctance.

Thank you for giving me devotional service. I am nothing and have nothing without it.

Thank you for giving me a wonderful life.

So many books with characters moulded on honour and valour, of noble warriors and heroes. Never, even in my wildest imagination, could I have ever come up with you. A noble man with might and kindness all rolled in one with a dash of humour spicing a butter-soft heart.

I see the teenage girl who walked up to your room proudly holding the baby blue hoodie that we received as book marathon gifts. You are packing your bags, heading out the door and look at me as if to ask, "And now?" With classic naivety I stick out the jacket still in its plastic and say, "Can you make it maha?" You look at me and ask, "How do I do that?" I am dumbfounded. I never thought about it before. And with the heart of a hero that sees my innocent intention behind the stupidity, you place your hands over the jacket as if summoning some mystic power and you touch your fingers to your forehead and gesture as if to say, "It is maha".

So much has changed. And I am not that teenage girl anymore although the stupidity lingers. And in so many ways over the years I have failed to be your faithful servant. But I clearly see how you (in as many ways if not more) made such an effort to conquer our hearts. And for no other reason but that, I am still here and I will not let go of the hope that someday I could be worthy.

I pray that for the intelligence to see that in the path of devotion there is always choice.
I pray for spiritual strength to make the right ones.

Thank you for being a worthy master.
Your servant,
Rukmiṇī Devi Dāsī



"We pray to Govardhana, that we may become a servant who can please Krsna.
Was also praying that my endeavours here, in going around Govardhana, that my disciples may be blessed with determination in their devotional service."

Rupa Mañjarī Devi Dāsī, Sri Vibhu, Sri Vibhava Krishna Dāsa & Sudama Dāsa

Dear beloved Guru Maharaja,

Please accept our most humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Sri Sri Guru and Gauranga.

Another year passed by in no time and it is time to express our sincere gratitude on this great auspicious day. We are unlimitedly fortunate to get connected to you, take shelter at your lotus feet and relish this unique relationship that is not blood related but soul related. It is far beyond the material conditioning. If we had not met you yet, our lives would have become hopelessly useless.

This year has been so much special filled with many events and incidents. Both in tough and good times you were supporting the whole family. We are indebted again and again to you. Time is passing and slipping from my hand like soft sand. I am getting caught in the tides of house-hold life rapidly. I am not sure if I am really fulfilling the responsibilities I have accepted.

My sadhana standards are not that impressive. Daily knowingly and unknowingly I am committing heaps of offenses, sins. Very less often realised my real position, which is to be a true servant and not hypocrite. Still, by your grace I am able to carry on with some menial services at home, temple, and congregation. It is just your strength with which I am able to lift the weight on my shoulders so far. It is just your extra ordinary qualities that kept us attracted to you. Year by year I am able to get a deeper understanding of you, your mood, your vision, your message, your instructions.

Father is proud of his children's achievements. We have not achieved anything that should make you think proud about us. I will get little more sincere and serve your instructions with more seriousness.

When Rupa Manjari was in hospital, she recollected your lecture describing the consciousness of devotee in hospital. That gave her right way of accepting things and act accordingly. She got so many realizations especially during that time. She could feel protected by the vaishnava blessings. She is humbly requesting you to bless her so that she does not get proud of that unexpected attention around her and to just always engage in the vaishnava seva.

On this great day, we want to remind ourselves that we are indebted to you more and more. We shall commit ourselves in your service. We make our focus to follow your valuable instructions. Kindly continue showering your mercy, pouring spiritual strength so that we can serve you and Srila Prabhupada's mission efficiently. Let this alone be our only object of attention.

We whole-heartedly pray our Sri Sri Vijaya Gauranga Doyal Nitai (Wonderful deities of Gauradesh), Sri Jagannatha, Baladeva Subhadra Maharani (our home deities) to bestow their merciful glance upon you and give you a very very long, peaceful, prosperous Krishna conscious life.

pada-kamalayor dāsa-dāsānudāsaḥ,

Rupa Manjari Devi Dasi, Sri Vibhu, Sri Vibhava Krishna Dasa,
& Sudama Dasa

Rūpa Vilāsa Dāsa

Hare Krsna dear Guru Maharaja,

Dandavats in the dust at your lotus feet.
Jay Srípad Jayadvaita Swami and Sríla Prabhupada.

Thank you for accepting me as your disciple, although I was not qualified.
Thank you for your patience and tolerance all those years.
Thank you for immense transcendental wisdom you sharing with us through your lectures tirelessly preaching all over the world.
Thank you for taking us to the spiritual realm through your rocking kirtans :-) and sometimes also soft bhajans.
Thank you for being source of spiritual inspiration and strength acting as genuine.
Thank you for saving me.

Feeling happy having such a wonderful spiritual master.

Aspiring to be your eternal servant,
Rūpa Vilāsa Dāsa

Ṣaḍbhuja Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to you.

Thank you so much for your patience with me. I am really grateful that you are so merciful to me. It is a proof that mercy is unconditional. In October we met in Mayapur, and I realised a bit of what you are doing. That time you had daily meetings (one of your favourite activities) about the Mayapur Development Project. Maybe there is no one else in ISKCON who can deal with such a task. It is hands on management, planning a whole city with whole infrastructure. You gave a whole folder of Information giving shape to the Mayapur project for hundreds of years to come. It was done with much better research work and relevant information than what the professional person did before!

And now you have to arrange that no one is agitated by this, but accepts it as the guidelines for the project, changing seats and responsibilities, so that qualified devotees get in the right position! When I was there you just had a whole week of meetings about the sewage systems. But you always kept yourself above the mundane plane, keeping the bigger vision and picture understanding that to put this plan in practice is after all dependent on a good team of people in the right places, and above all the mercy of Mahaprabhu. In the evenings then you gave home programs, inspiring the devotees, commenting “This is the real Mayapur Development.” I do not know many people who can stay so

detached and keep the bigger vision while confronted with such a huge challenge!

One devote suggested to you, “Why don’t you send him (meaning me) to USA?” Your answer stayed in my mind. “You cannot send this man anywhere. “ Meaning he does not listen to any advice right now.

Definitely I am not one of first class intelligence - have to experience the pain before I get the point. Anyway what to do? I am looking for a place in this world where I fit and also for a place in this movement where I fit. You said, “I always end up with disciples that do not fit in the general ISKCON!”

So for now I joined a whole team of this unfitting renegades and take shelter in harinam sankirtan. Likeminded people at last. Let’s see what Krishna has in stock for me this year. I hope there is a place for me at his lotus feet close to you.

Thank you so much for allowing me to worship Giriraja, he is saving me a lot!

Your humble servant,
Ṣaḍbhuja Dāsa

Sandra, Bhaktin

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

Please, let me thank you for accepting me as an aspiring disciple. When I saw you at Bhaktiloka for the first time I felt awe and reverence. I did not understand the lecture at all, but your kirtan was resounding in my ears for 2 more days. Since then I knew that I will always be happy to see you and spend time in your presence. Since that moment few years have passed and I am always happy to see you or hear about you from your disciples. I am very thankful to you, for them because they have brought many realisations to my life.

Spiritual life is not easy at all but the idea that I should stop it is very scary and painful. Therefore I am thankful for devotional service you gave me, for your transcendental advices which I try to apply to my life. My greatest desire is to serve your lotus feet in such a way that I could always please you.

Your servant,
Bhaktin Sandra

Shimal, Bhakta

Dear Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,

My most respectful obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to you.

Maharaja, this is the first time I am writing you an offering – I did not realise until now, as to how much of an effect you had on me since the beginning of my Krishna consciousness. So I would like to write about some of the times where you have inspired me.

I was first introduced to Krishna consciousness in 2006 and after being persuaded, I came on the Pandava Sena summer retreat to New Mayapur, France. I did not know you or anyone then. It was a surreal experience for me.

During the retreat, you spoke about how you came into Krishna consciousness, but I cannot remember the details now. After you led the most ecstatic kirtan I have ever heard. I started feeling something that I had never felt before! My cousin who also came on the trip and I, started calling you 'Rockstar Maharaja' (we couldn't remember your name). Sometime later you lead a Holy Name retreat in Leicester, United Kingdom – we saw you and felt so happy to see you. We knew the kirtans will be amazing! Which they were!

Eventually I started chanting 16 rounds but about a year later I stopped! However, one day, on the train back from work, I was listening to one of your kirtans and I started crying, my heart was churning. From that day I started again to chant 16 rounds again, until this day I have not stopped! So Maharaja thank you very much for the spark of inspiration you gave me all those many years ago.

Maharaja, there are many more encounters however I will end here. I thank you, with folded hands, again and again for your inspiration and rocking kirtans!

Your servant,
Bhakta Shimal
(London, United Kindgdom)

Shiv, Bhakta

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

mukam karoti vachalam
pangum langhayate girim
yat-kripa tam aham vande
shri-gurum dina-taranam

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

I reflect back to the summer one of last conversations we had in Radhadesh where I asked you about the letter Srila Prabhupada wrote expressing his desire to have personalities like the Six Goswamis residing at the Vrindavan temple. Although this conversation was quite short and straight forward, the depth behind your pure desire to become such a personality since the early days was heart denting!

During the summer I was amazed seeing your simple and sublime lifestyle. You would turn up at a retreat and within minutes be ready to share and give Krishna to others in the form of kirtans and katha putting aside all your personal needs, ready for the mission and others – such spontaneous loving desire you carry. I on the other hand was thoroughly ready to rest overcome by the lower mode.

In Radhadesh and Zurich you sang for hours on end eager to continue and danced with such ecstasy that we all developed the desire to deepen our Krishna consciousness and aspire for such ecstasy.

I see in your character someone with the realization to teach all, and you do this elegantly by your example of being a friend to all. You conquer hearts, leaving lifelong impressions. In your last trip to the United Kingdom I was blown away when you were in the Soho Street temple. There were such a diverse array of classes and people in the audience during that one day. You instantly figure everything out, knowing exactly what to say and how to convey Krishna to each person. Such is the great ability of the spiritual master, as he is not envious of anyone. Like a child with one pointed excited, enthusiastic attention to candy. You being the well-wisher of all become so enlivened at the thought of preaching and propagating this movement that you endlessly travelling from Sowetto to London to Australia, all over the globe to benefit others and in doing so become the dear friend of the gentle and ruffians.

Your missionary spirit and caring nature gives me the nurturing I sensitively require. I feel overly indebted to you for the high levels of trust and mercy you shed upon me. Only due to your encouragement and example am I able to gather some desire to become Krishna conscious.

Although I am yet to find that letter by Srila Prabhupada after much searching in, one sense it does not matter because when I read the 'Sad-Goswami Astakam,' by Srinivasa Acarya I am able to see my great, great fortune of having some association with you, a personality who full heartedly personifies the characteristics described in the Goswamis. You travel all over showering the mercy of Sri Vrindavan Dhama which you keep in the deepest regions of your heart.

Thank you for everything Maharaja. I endlessly bow down and beg to one day be of some use to you. Please help and keep me under your guiding wings.

Attempting to become your servant,
Bhakta Shiv

Shumeshri, Bhaktin

namo om visnu-padaya krsna presthaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana svamin iti namine

namo om visnu-padaya krsna presthaya bhu-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita swami iti namine

namo 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 Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja,

Hare Krishna Maharaja.
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories unto Srila Prabhupada.
All glories unto His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories unto you on this auspicious day of your appearance.

Please kindly accept this Sri Vyasa-puja offering. Please kindly excuse my offenses and the intangibility within this offering because it is not possible to express everything. Please kindly excuse my presentation, expression, immaturity, shallowness, lack of attachment to reading and chanting and my many, many presumptions. Dear master in one sense somehow it feels risky to be as honest as I have been, but my intention is to glorify you and share the beauty of your glory, which I have, by your mercy been able to see (although very imperfect) with those persons who are dear to you. Even if I am a fool, this fool is still yours if you desire. I humbly beg that you please kindly excuse my offenses. Dear master please do not be displeased with me.

All glories unto you always and on the auspicious day of your appearance. You have touched the hearts of so many people throughout the world. You are following, Srila Prabhupada, who brought with him the beauty of the sankirtan movement, he gave, gave and gave. You are also giving relief to whoever you meet, even if they do not know because your very presence is purifying! All glories unto Srila Prabhupada, All glories unto His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami Maharaja, All glories unto you!

Your beautiful kirtans, although we may not be able to appreciate the full depth, they are an inundation of the sweetness of the Holy Names because they are imbued with the purity of your love and devotion and the Holy Names reciprocation. Such beauty constantly captures and purifies, both my restless mind and impure heart. You are glorious, you are freely giving desire for the Holy Name within the hearts of all people who have the great fortune of hearing you. You are teaching me that within ones darkest hours, the Holy Name is our only shelter, it will save us from dangers of the cruel mind and it is the secret ecstasy of the heart. You have showered more blessings than I can count. All glories unto your love and devotion for the Holy Name!

Although you are a spiritual father it as though you are a spiritual mother also, because I wrote a simple letter to you and you came and picked me up. Just as a mother soothes away the crying of a child with her beautiful singing, although the child does not understand the words of her songs, the child simply becomes happy with the love and affection of the mother. In the same way, I may not understand the words or the deeper meaning of the Maha-mantra, but your love and affection through your singing

is always my safety. The mother raises the children slowly teaching them with fun songs. In the same way, although your kirtans are fun, you are actually teaching us so many lessons; to surrender to the will of the Holy Name and accept however They may reciprocate, to call out to Srimati Radharani and Lord Krishna with all our heart with everything - absolutely everything, to hear and listen to the Holy Name, to offer to Srimati Radharani and Krishna themselves because they are the highest offering and we do not possess anything to offer, to offer our love to them, to actually taste the Holy Name and to transcend this material world. My dear master, the recitation of your name sometimes evokes many feelings, mostly how you have saved me. So the Holy Names are beyond words. So in this small way you are allowing me to appreciate in a very small way a piece of Srila Prabhupada's purport on the Maha Mantra, "Genuine cry of a child for its mother."

Your sometimes succinct words are saturated with such depth that even though we may carry out your instruction imperfectly, it is your compassion that allows us to be saved - by your instructions, picture and acknowledgement of your constant presence - you have and always save one from the dangers within this world. All glories to your instruction!

In the kindness of your instruction to read Srila Prabhupada's books, although our position is such that we cannot fully understand, you are revealing Srila Prabhupada within the heart as the great authority and shelter. Who has given the world his love? Who fulfils the desire to accept wholeheartedly without the necessity of speculation? Because within the world, mainstream knowledge, within my own limited experience, propagates atheism and in its entirety, is a futile attempt to resolve the world's problems. But Srila Prabhupada presents the solution - the 'Truth' and is personally present, guiding and comforting the personal distress of the individual within his written word. It is by your grace that I have deepened my appreciation for Srila Prabhupada who has brought beauty to the whole world. Now I see a very small glimpse of Srila Prabhupada as a great personality who is like a nurturing great grandfather. So in a very small way I can appreciate "He built a house in which the whole world can live". All glories to your love offered to Srila Prabhupada!

Because by your shelter, although we cannot understand and ever fully appreciate, you are showing, within our capacity to understand, what seems like innumerable shelters ; the parampara - the vaishnavas, the parampara , Lord Krishna the Absolute, Srimati Radharani, Lord Caitanya, the Holy Names and again the vaishnavas. You always say, "Collect the blessings of the vaishnavas," in a very small way I can appreciate that because you are teaching that it is their blessing that opens so many opportunities on our spiritual path which we just cannot advance without. And the vaishnavas are such that even though you may not ask for anything, they will give, just like that they will give. All glories unto your shelter!

You are a mighty infallible worship able teacher, whose character is perfect, who can teach with silence, who has within my heart given and nurtured faith, is giving fearlessness and removing my false pride. My dear most spiritual master, you are my saviour and protector, you are teaching me to surrender without reservation and to aspire to become generous and give more and more although I falter. You are teaching me it is possible to become generous by first doing small things within our capacity and then slowly and gradually we will grow with patience. All glories unto you, you are an example of great strength and determination!

You are taking an expert fault finder because they are my faults and making that person aspire for s omething higher. Whatever beauty there may ever be in me is in actuality your own and the absence thereof is my inability to surrender to you.

My indebtedness to you is my greatest blessing, I simply pray that, I may somehow always attempt to repay this debt through devotional service although I am actually unable to reach so high with my ' secret' weakness of deeply rooted lust, greed and uncontrollable anger.

Simply I pray that I may obtain the purity of heart to become the servant of your servants because without them it was not and will not be possible to obtain your mercy. Sometimes simply seeing your disciples passing nearby, reminds me of you. I am also indebted to my very own sister for so many things because she is always up to date with where you are and time zones. Without the blogs, recordings, CDs, videos, house programs, books published, temple programs I would not know of you, this is all due to your servants. I am even indebted to persons who may seem like they are not devotes but they in a way are, those people who are the pilots and taxi drivers who bring you to us all. Thus I am indebted to so many people I do not even know. I am even indebted to those people who annoyed me with their teachings of godlessness because without them how would you show me how to appreciate Srila Prabhupada as a beautiful and inconceivable person. You are showing me that everyone imperfect and perfect are all teachers. I will certainly never have the brave heart of Queen Kunti or that of Draupadi but in a small way you are showing me the greater the risk, the greater the save - the higher the taste. All glories to the servants of the spiritual master who carry his mercy!

Because I cannot earn anything I possess nothing, everything is due to you, thank you for the blessing of such rare parents within this life out of millions and millions of births, who within this life first taught me the Maha-mantra, who have protected and sheltered me from the dangers of life and who have safely delivered me to the shelter of your lotus feet.

Dear master you are just too much, there are not enough words. There is still more but it still continuing and will continue so simply what can I say but, All Glories unto You!!!

If you permit master then by your desire I may be able to share the beauty of Srila Prabhupada's movement with others. All glories unto His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja, a beautiful spiritual master who is transforming the heart! All glories unto you Maharaja, you are indeed rare and precious! All glories unto the shelter of your lotus feet!

Aspiring to become your servant,
Shumeshri, Bhaktin

Simona, Bhaktin

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

In one song is written:
'My churches are all empty and I'm guilty every day but god gave me an angel anyway.'

My case is similar, but different in essence. My many empty churches is my character and heart where is no good qualities. I am guilty every day because of mistakes in each one step of my behaviour and decisions.
But Krishna did not give me an angel, beautiful Gandharva or someone with alluring body features. Krishna sent me spiritual master. I do not have big capacity to describe you, but I can try to serve you with endeavour and love. When I made mistakes then you encouraged me to go on. You gave me mercy and I was able to change.

Dear Guru Maharaja, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart. Let me change my broken, dirty heart and eternally assist you in your devotional service. I do not merit this, just let me assist you somehow, please.

Your poor servant,
Bhaktin Simona (Slovakia)

Sridhar Dāsa

To my very dear Guru Maharaja,

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories all glories to you Gurudev.

I would firstly like to wish you a very happy and blessed Vyasa-puja. May our very dear Lord always bless you and protect you.

Maharaja on this auspicious day I would like to thank you for all that you have done for me, for guiding me through my troubles, always giving me the best advice - more especially always keeping my spiritual life alive. You have always embraced me with the most welcoming smiles even though I am never worthy of them. I desire very deeply to please you Gurudev, and I hope that with your mercy and blessing, as well as with the association of the vaishnavas this desire will become a reality.

Maharaja, thank you for making the time to come to our little town and giving us, your disciples a chance to serve you. Thank you for inspiring me in many ways, your dynamic and ever potent kirtans have been to the rescue on many occasions. Just by listening to your kirtans I feel your powerful presence and you are never missed. Never was there a day that I was down and out or just having what I would call a bad day and simply by listening to your sweet voice, I feel better and a smile is sure to follow.

Gurudev the little time that I get to spend with you is appreciated and your time is valued, thank you Maharaja. I may say thank you many, many times but I know that it will never be enough, my dearest Gurudev I consider you a man in a million, a man second to none, one who can fearlessly take Srila Prabhupada's mission forward, we all know that he is looking down at you and proudly smiling at his you, for all that you do.

Gurudev, as much as I thank you for your endless mercy, on this special day of your Vyasa-puja, please Gurudev I beg for forgiveness, and ask for even a little blessing.

To the king of kirtan, I would like to say
Thank you for changing my life.

Your servant,
Sridhar Dāsa
(Ladysmith)

Sūrya Nārāyaṇa Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

When I was accepted among your students, so I opened the way to the most wonderful family, what I could will.This family is your reflection and direct you, so I always feel that I am with you and it fills me with peace. When joy and I decided Guru whom I choose, I looked at pupils and I did right. Now see ever more clearly that the choice was correct.I do not thank you enough for my experiene. Thank you from my all heart.

Your eternal servant,
Sūrya Nārāyaṇa Dāsa

Sukhayanti Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja

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

I would like to offer to you all that I have; my endeavours to perform service, my struggles, my doubts, my moment of happiness, my reading or lack of it, my chanting, my desires to become a better devotee, my material desires, the good, the bad. May you take it all and do with it as you please. May one day only that which is beneficial for executing devotional service remain and may all the rest dissolve, by your mercy.

On your Vyasa-puja day, I pray that I may somehow or other always remain under the shelter of your lotus feet and that I may always be engaged in Krishna's service. Please accept the little that I have to offer even if it is full with flaws and shortcomings. And just allow me to somehow or other always remain connected with Krishna.

Your servant,
Sukhayanti Devi Dāsī

Sukumari Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my most humble obeisances unto your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to you.

This year I tried to write a poem for your pleasure:

Lost I felt, but truth revealed
By this connection
Your strength, service and authority
Such blessing, great opportunity.

You are true magnanimity
Your acceptance and constant prayers
Truly save me
This connection which always will be.

By your grace gifted
With memories so precious
Exalted vaishnavas and holy places
Refreshment for the soul
Too precious to regret
Despite all struggle, suffering and pain.

Giving all you have and all you are
Your personal example
Makes me want to do better
Makes me do better.

Patient endeavour over time
That I do trust
Bringing change for the better
In sadhana, service and association.

This seeming punishment
A benediction in fact
Krishna's absolute mercy
Accepted and appreciated to progress
Maybe unexpected answer
To daily prayer in fact.

A price must be paid
I gladly accept mine
Although a difficult trial
Remaining here I will.

Many changes and opportunities lost
Taking ages to understand, accept and adjust
Hope you find it in your heart to forgive
Falling short and not doing my best.

I beg for your blessing
Every moment to use
Wisely in service to you

To honour and give meaning
To all your endeavours and prayers
To keep me here.

Your disciple,
Sukumari Devi Dāsī

Sutapā Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

As time moves on, my understanding of what it means to be a worthy disciple is getting clearer. In a recent class you summed it up with a wonderful statement -"We have to become the property of a pure devotee." That really hit me – what a challenge.

Property of the guru

First I thought becoming a disciple was the vow to follow 4 regulative principles, chant 16 rounds and be loyal to the standards set by Srila Prabhupada. Over time, it occurred to me that a real disciple is also looking to expand his devotional service and really take significant responsibility for the preaching mission. Later, you advanced my understanding when you made the statement, "A vaishnava is not just what he does, but who he is." I realised a fitting disciple should be going deep and developing saintly character as well. Then that statement this year took the expectation to another level. The topmost disciple feels himself to be entirely owned by the guru. In that complete chastity and surrender to the spiritual master everything else in our spiritual life is automatically perfected. So becoming a worthy disciple - what I thought was fairly straightforward, is actually a rare achievement.

So now I am wondering how much I have become your property. Srila Bhakti Siddhanta Saraswati Thakura once chastised one of his disciples who, though engaged in vigorous preaching and significant responsibilities in the mission, was maintaining an independent spirit. He scolded him with strong words, "Although you are doing so much service you have not understood. You have not understood that you are mine."

Praying to one day become your sold-out property, and begging to remain in your transcendental service,

Sutapā Dāsa

Tamalini Dāsī

My dear Gurudev,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to your divine grace.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to the lotus feet of Srila Prabhupada.

Srila Visvanatha Cakravarti Thakura, in his Gurvastakam prayers states that the Guru is as good as God (yasya prasadad bhagavat prasada…).These words leave a resonating effect in the heart of the disciple. I am mesmerized with every thought that bears fruit from these beautiful and spiritually awakening words. Guru/God, what a powerful concept, what an amazing reality Gurudev!!! How wonderful for myself that I have taken shelter of such a personality. In you Gurudev, I see testimony of Srila Visvanatha Cakravati Thakura's statement. You are my Guru/God because you instruct me in many ways how to stay on the spiritual path, always pointing in the direction of Lord Krishna, his abode, his loving devotees and all that is wonderful - the spiritual reality.

As I sit, meditating on you, meditating further on this concept of Guru/God; I feel a surge of happiness at the thought of having found you in this lifetime. Or maybe, it is you that has found me! The relationship between a Guru and disciple is a beautiful wonder and beyond my total comprehension as with everything of a spiritual nature. Whatever it is, whether it is I, that has found you or you that has found me or a combination of both added with a touch of the Lord's mercy. For whatever and all that it is, I am and always will be grateful for having met you and for being sheltered by your lotus feet.

Another thought that has captured my attention as a Vyasa-puja meditation is the concept of servant and Guru. How wonderful it is that you Gurudev fit the description of these seemingly diametrically opposite functions at the same time. You are a Guru and teacher to myself and all your disciples, yet at the same time you yourself are a disciple and student of your spiritual master His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami. You are a leader, you lead by example that which the scriptures instruct us to follow. Yet, still, at the same time you are a follower of the very same scriptures. You are an exponent of the teachings of Lord Chaitanya and the Six Goswamis and a devoted follower of those very same teachings. You Gurudev, are a servant and a Guru. You are serving all persons you meet by pointing them in the direction of Krishna. In your capacity as Guru, you serve all those who have taken shelter of you by tirelessly giving off yourself to inspire us to go deeper in our spiritual practices. I marvel at this thought! How extraordinary! How wonderful you are Gurudev!!

All persons on the spiritual path are cognizant of the dire and crucial role the spiritual preceptor plays in the advancement of one's spirituality. Submission to the lotus feet of the spiritual master, aurally receiving and following the orders of the Guru, as enunciated in the Bhagavad-Gita are key components to attaining success in spiritual life. For the earnest spiritual practitioner who seeks the association and shelter of the lotus feet of Sri Guru and, Krishna gives mercy by which to attain Sri Guru and Sri Guru in turn gives mercy by which to attain Lord Krishna, his abode and all that is beautiful. I cannot claim to fully understand the interrelatedness or interconnectedness of the relationship between Guru and Krishna. The intricate subtleties are beyond my comprehension.

The one thing that I can appreciate that comes from both the Supreme Lord and Sri Guru is mercy. It is for this mercy that I am ever so grateful Gurudev. You have been so kind and merciful to me by accepting me as your disciple and by continuously pointing me in the direction of Krishna. Gurudev, your valuable association, your lectures, your kirtans, your consistent and whole-hearted spiritual practices, your very presence, everything about you points in the direction of Krishna.

My minuscule understanding of sashtra, along with my meagre attempts to perform a little service are supported and carried by your mercy.

Thank you for keeping me safely enveloped in your mercy Gurudev.

Always praying for your mercy.
I remain your eternal servant,
Tamalini Dāsī

Ter Kadamba Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to Jayadvaita Swami. All glories to you.

With considerable risk of burdening you with my incompetence, I hereby submit my offering to you on this your most auspicious vyasa-puja day.

We hear the human form is compared to a boat, that can take us across the vast ocean of material suffering. Without a qualified captain however, what use is the vessel? I have no knowledge of where I am supposed to be going, so it is my great fortune to have taken shelter of, and found solace in you as my spiritual master. All glories to you captain.

Initially surrendering the illusory sense of independence comes with great difficulty. For so many lifetimes, tirelesly, I have attempted to manipulating the material elements for my own benefit. Maybe this will make me happy, maybe that. If only I change this detail, or maybe that one. But with determined spiritual practice realization comes, that only surrender to guru will grant the liberation for which the soul craves.

And then, slowly slowly, as I grow spiritually, the state of surrender becomes less akward. I adapt. The mind accepts. A new and real identity of servant rather than master is cultivated. Rather than thinking "what do I want?", the thought becomes "what can I give? What would Maharaja want? Rather than things I should be doing, spiritual life becomes an inspiration, a meditation, a mood. I am by no means there yet, but I will be one day, of this I have no doubt.

This last year I feel our relationship has deepened substantially. Increased responsibility is there, and along with that increased commitment is required. In a short time you have taken me further than I ever imagined, so I will go where you tell me. I have full faith you will lead me back to Godhead. Hare Krishna Maharaja.

I pray to remain in your service.

Your servant,
Ter Kadamba Dāsa

Thirusha Pentiah, Bhaktin

To my beloved spiritual master, Kadamba Kanana Swami,

namo on visnu-padaya krsna-prestaya bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana swami iti namine

namo on visnu-padaya krsna-prestaya bhu-tale
gurudasa jayadvaita swami iti namine

namo on visnu-padaya krsna-prestaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

Please accept my most humble obeisances at the dust of your beautiful lotus feet millions of times.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadavaita Maharaja.
All glories unto your Holiness on this auspicious day of your Vyasa-Puja.

Dear Maharaja, please accept my humble attempt to capture my deep appreciation to you on this glorious day of your appearance. Although I have come to accept that I cannot fully capture my gratitude and sincere feeling of indebtedness to you for your selfless mercy, please kindly accept this meagre offering. I have come to accept that words will never fully encapsulate the beauty that you have shown me.

With kindness, saturated with love, you so generously spread the beauty of the Holy Name and transform the hearts of so many including my own. Your sobering words are constant reminders of reality and the sweetness thereof. You are showering so many with such hope and inspiration in a world that is otherwise bleak. Although I stumble and sometimes fall painfully, I am grateful knowing that I fall at the shelter your merciful lotus feet. It is to those beautiful lotus feet that I offer my respectful obeisances and pray that I may one day worship with some purity so that I may, with your blessing, be of some service to you in your mission to your spiritual master.

Maharaja, thank you.
Aspiring to be your humble servant,
Thirusha Pentiah

Tulsi Dāsa

nama om visnu padaya krsna prestaya bhu tale
Srimate kadamba kanana swamin iti namine

nama om visnu padaya krsna prestaya bhu tale
guru dasa jayadvaita svamin iti namine

nama om visnu padaya krsna prestaya bhu tale
srimate bhaktivedanta svamin iti namine

namas te sarasvate deve goura vani pracarine
nirvisesa sunyavadi pascatya desa tarine

Dear Gurudeva,

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

It is very difficult to understand the position of the Spiritual Master. It is so because apparently he is one of us, walking amongst us, joking with us and so on. However the Spiritual Master is completely different from the ordinary humans. Why? Because he is living in complete union with God. He does not have a separate existence from the Lord. This is his qualification to become pure via media of the mercy of Krsna.

In your personality, dear Gurudeva, I found the bona fide representative of guru-parampara. As once Jayadvaita Maharaja said about you, "He is very qualified person." I was attracted by your spiritual qualities. You are always giving me proper guidance how to continue on the path of bhakti, how to be properly engaged according to time, place and circumstance.

This year when I was leaving Mayapur and you gave me your blessing for successful preaching, I said, "Well, you will decide later whether I am preaching or just wasting my time."
You said, "It is very simple, preaching means to make devotees and to keep the devotees."
So simple and at the same time sublime explanation.

I do not know how exactly it is working but always when I am close to you my enthusiasm for devotional service increases more and more. When I am away it is back to normal again.
I had the great fortune to see how dedicated you are to the desire and mission of your Spiritual Master. As Srila Visvanatha Cakravarti Thakura says in his commentary to the vyavasayatmika buddhir verse, "One should make the mission of the Spiritual Master his life and soul." I can see that you have accomplished this.

Please bless me so that I can also understand your heart and your desires and to make them the essence of my life.

Your servant,
Tulsi Dāsa

Uddhava Dāsa, Visakha Devi Dāsī

Please accept our humble obeisances,

All glories to His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Asaya. Without this spiritual will be difficult. You mentioned during a morning class that spiritual life is not easy or difficult. What tips the scale between both is Asaya, or determination. With it spiritual life

will be easy. Material life throws many challenges at us, death, disease and many other. And we have a choice on how to deal with it.

I have seen you deal with those inconveniences in an amazing way. Walking with a stick, bend over like a 80 year old man. But still you are ready at mangala arati. And during the Radhadesh mellows your extensive travelling attacked your health again. But you were there again at mangala arati and even singing your heart out at the mellows.

Concerned devotees stressed you to take it easy and not take up more responsibilities. But you waved it away. You once said that you rather "die in battle" during a Ratha Yatra, then to fade away while sleeping. That is determination. That is why spiritual life is easy for you. That is why Krishna is kind and bestows you with the spiritual energy to cope with life's challenges. So material life returns to its rightful place, in the background. So Krishna is first and foremost on your mind. We take shelter by your example.

Your servants,
Uddhava Dasa and Visakha Devi Dasi.

Vaibhavi Devi Dāsī

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to you Guru Maharaja!

Please accept my humble obeisances!

I am not worthwhile to express your purity of your being here among us. I am forever indebted to you for your tolerance and steady desire to get us back to Krishna and what more - you cure us from our morbid disease due to which we have lost Krishna´s association.

Thank you for your constant leading which helps me more and more to realize my true position in the relationship with Krishna. You are the real gift who brings relief of pain called desire - desire to be in separation from Krishna. It is an illusion which dazes our free will and then you are pulling us out of that misery. In all of that you are in constant workload to distribute Krishna to everybody, for Krishna´s pleasure.

Thanks to you and Krishna we can again return to our pure nature, to be the servant of Krishna.
All glories to you, all glories to you, and all glories to you!!!

Forever your servant, who desires to repay you all you have ever done for me by staying in my natural position of pure servant of Lord Krishna.

Vaibhavi Devi Dāsī

Vaishnava Dāsa

Lieber Kadamba Kanana Swami,

alle Ehre sei dir, lieber Guru-Maharaj!
Alle Ehre sei dir und deinem spirituellen Meister, Jayadvaita Swami!
Alle Ehre sei Seiner gṭttlichen Gnade A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada!

Alle Ehre sei allen vaishnava-Geweihten des Herrn in Vergangenheit, Gegenwart und Zukunft und in den zehn Himmelsrichtungen!

vancha-kalpatarubhyash cha
kripa-sindhubhya eva cha
patitanam pavanebhyo
vaishnavebhyo namo namaha

Wer durch tiefen Schnee wandern muss, z. B. in Alaska oder Sibirien, tut gut daran den FuḶspuren vorangegangener Wanderer zu folgen. Alleine und auf eigenen Pfaden bliebt man schnell im hohen Schnee stecken.

In gleicher Weise wandern die intelligenten Meister in den FuḶspuren ihrer Lehrer, und die Fährte, die diese Weisen angelegt haben, fūhrt zurūck nach Hause. Ob durch die Eiswūsten Grṭnlands, die Sandwūsten Afrikas oder die tiefen Wālder des materiellen Daseins, wo überall Insekten und wilde Tiere lauern – auf dem Pfad des Gurus ist man sicher. Alle Ehre sei dir, der du der Kenner dessen bist, was zu tun ist und was man lassen soll. Gepriesen seien deine LotusfūḶe und deine Spuren im Sand der Zeit. Der Boden, auf dem du stehst ist immer heiliger Boden. Gepriesen sei diese Erde und all jene, die begierig sind, sich den Staub deiner FūḶe aufs Haupt streuen. Allein dieser Staub kann alle Mūdigkeit auf dem Weg vertreiben.

Niemand, nein niemand lebt lange genug um alles selbst herauszufinden, und weil sich über die absolute Wahrheit in Person, die Hṭchste Persṭnlichkeit Gottes Sri Krishna, sogar Brahma und die Halbgṭtter im Unklaren sind, folgen die Weisen immer den FuḶspuren vorangegangener Meister. Krishna empfiehlt, einem solchen Lehrer zu folgen, der die Wahrheit gesehen hat. Ja, du und die wahren Brahmanen sehen die Wahrheit überall. Alle Ehre sei Dir und deinen Augen, die überall nur Sri Krishna sehen. Du bist wie Srimati Radharani, die überall nur Sri Krishna sieht. Alle Ehre sei Dir!

Nun sind im Kali-Yuga die Menschen allgemein geneigt ihren eigenen Weg zu gehen, was dazu fūhrt, dass sie nur schwer oder gar nicht vorwārts zu kommen, sich verirren oder sich einfach im Kreise drehen. Aus reiner Barmherzigkeit bist du deshalb bestāndig auf Reisen, um all jene zu finden, die den Weg zurūck suchen. Alle Ehre sei dir, der du die Barmherzigkeit in Person bist. Alle Ehre sei Dir, der Du in den ewigen Spielen von Sri Nityananda und Sri Caitanya mitwirkst.

Die Meister lesen die Spuren, welche Gebiete zu suchen und welche zu meiden sind. Das ist auf ihre Erfahrung, Ihre Entschlossenheit das Ziel zu erreichen und auf die Barmherzigkeit Sri Krishnas zurūckzufūhren. Dieses transzendentale Wissen und diese Barmherzigkeit reichst du, lieber Guru-Maharaj an deine Schūler weiter. In dir, lieber Guru-Maharaj gibt es keine selbstischen Motive. Ja, das ist Deine Liebe, dass alles, was Du tust, wie ein unendlicher Strom des Gebens ist – nur um die Welt und Deine Schūler zu lehren. Alle Ehre sei Dir, dem Ozean der Barmherzigkeit. Du leitest uns direkt, durch Anweisungen und indirekt durch dein Vorbild. Ja, der Guru ist so barmherzig, dass er sogar mehrmals in die materielle Welt zurūckkehrt, um all seine Schūler zurūckzubringen. So frage ich mich, wie oft du wohl schon zurūckgekehrt bist, um die Verirrten zu finden? Wie oft?

Ort, Zeit und Anzahl, all das lṭst sich in dir auf, einem Vertrauten in den ewigen Spielen der Sankirtan-Bewegung, einem Bewohner der spirituellen Welt, hier sichtbar und fern ab jeder materieller Konzepte und Bezeichnungen. Alle Ehre sei Dir, lieber Guru-Maharaja.

“Wo ist Krishna, wo ist Krishna!“ Diese Welt ist ein Ort, an dem Krishna nicht direkt sichtbar ist, aber du hast Ihn gesehen. Wenn wir Dir folgen, werden wir Ihn auch sehen – das ist sicher, und deshalb bist Du die grṭḶte Zuflucht. Alle Ehre sei Dir! So erreichen wir unser Ziel – in Deinen Spuren und in den FuḶspuren bis hinauf zu Brahma selbst. Danke, lieber Guru-Maharaja!

Dein wie ein Hund hinter-her-trottender Schüler Vaishnava Dāsa

Vanessa, Bhaktin

Dear Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to you!
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

A few years ago, during my first stay in Sri Vrindavan Dhama granted me Sri Krishna unexpected mercy. After an arrangement of the Lord, I stood at that time before Sri Sri Gaura Nitai and offered my obeisances. You were there to start a kirtan. I did not know you until this time. Unsuspecting, I stood there. After some time I was suddenly sucked into something that I can describe only with pure bliss. As if struck by a hammer, I stood there, bereft of my self-control and cried a waterfall of tears. It was such an indescribable far out situation - I had never experienced before. I was blowing away with waves of joy which are sent by your presence. Better than any drug in this universe! This feeling has increased until I have felt that it's needed only one drop more and my heart will explode out of joy. I thought that had must be done by your mercy. Srila Prabhupada opened my heart that I could be able to receive a drop of Guru Kripa.

At home again, I had begun to dream of you. If I heard a lecture from you, you very often spoke about topics which are ongoing in my life and you always hit the nerve. Then, with your spiritual clearness and heart-touching kirtans, you melt my heart - gradually I felt inspired to serve you. Thenceforward it was clear for me: you are the torchlight of knowledge, who has opened my eyes, which are blinded by darkness of ignorance. It felt like an eternity but with great help and support of some of your disciples I was encouraged and enabled to overcome my mental disorder and ask you for shelter at your lotus feet. I cannot pay with words but I am endless grateful for their sincere support - I know, without, I would have been lost.

I am feeling deep gratitude, that, out of your causeless mercy, you give me eternal shelter.
At the end, all what I can offer you from the core of my heart, is my conviction and firm faith in you Maharaja. That only you can bring me back home, back to Godhead. Thank you!
I hope it works and you can use it ;-) If it doesn't fit, please let me know and I will change!
Thank you guys for your nice seva - I appreciate it very much! Haribol!

Your servant,
Vanessa

Vasumān Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,
Please accept my humble obeisance in the shade of your lotus feet.

All glories to Jayadvaita swami!
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

nama om visnu padhaya krisna- presthaja bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana-swamin iti namine

nama om visnu-padhaya krisna presthaya bhutale
srimate gurudas jayadvaita svamin iti namine

On this most auspicious day of your appearance I would like to thank you for your kindness to lead me in my spiritual life.

Srila Prabhupada said in the Letter to Devanada, (27 Sept 1967) 'Krishna consciousness means staunch faith both in Guru and Krsna. One minus the other is not good for the devotee. So your faith in the principles of devotion to Guru will certainly help you more and more Krsna. Do not ever try to approach Krsna directly. Anyone who talks to Krsna without service to Guru will not be successful. So your faith in the Guru and Krsna simultaneously will help your to become crowned with success in the progressive march in Krishna consciousness.'

In my life I learnt to trust people the way they are dealing. So that means when they say something they have to follow. Your are the personality I have developed the staunch faith. Because every word you say is absolutely right and full of experience. The way you are living is a pure example of it. It is unbelievable from where you get your energy to preach Krishna consciousness. By your lecture everyone is inspired for devotional service. Kirtans and bhajans are so nectarian that one can fly dancing. When someone approach you for advice either spiritual or material your are giving practical answers that can help.

Guru Maharaja, you are so generous to me I use every day to read the part from the lectures which are giving by you all around the world and believe me and I feel like I was present there. But not only this also I find the answers to a lot of my questions which are running in my mind. You are giving me transcendental knowledge. This is our weapon and the spiritual strength to hold this weapon and to find with the enemy. And who is the enemy? Lust, anger, greed, pride, envy, doubt, sleep, hunger, thirst, fear, etc. We must vanquish these enemies and give the weapon and give the weapon of transcendental knowledge to others.

Guru Maharaja, please keep on this mood of preaching and be blessed by Sri Krsna and Srila Prabhupada to continue and inspire me in the devotion service.

Your humble servant,
Vasumān Dāsa

Vedant Pandya, Bhakta

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,
Please accept my humble obeicences.

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

On your appearance day I just want to thank you for simply appearing on this planet to assist Srila Prabhupada in his mission to save conditioned souls like me and others in rather deluded situations of life.

I apologise I have not been persistent or annoying with my multiple emails like when I was 19 years old. I have simply grown to understand respect that my dear spiritual master is busy carrying out Lord Caitanya's mercy and in that spirit to become satisfied, and my anxieties die as my heart warms up when I hear your activities via your blog or the internet in general.

My dear spiritual master, I am very humbled by your merciful mood due to recently one of your aspiring servants "Divyesh Prabhu," told me you were asking about me. It brings joy that in your family of disciples and non-disciples no one is insignificant. You always open your heart out and give everyone the time to associate with yourself which is mercy overload at times I feel.

I write this letter praying that Lord Krishna and Srimati Radharani always keep you protected from any form of danger or anxiety as you have saved and are responsible for the spiritual wellbeing of so many souls.

I would like to thank you that despite moving back home to Uganda where association is a bit weak, I may not have friends to interact with at all (both spiritual and friends in general) I do want to assure you of one thing. Maharaja your mercy has made me realise the best friend in the whole world, and they made a surprise trip with me all the way from Birmingham to Kampala. Yes, Lord Jagannatha and his siblings came just to look after me. And with your mercy my reading and chanting had only got stronger as I feel separation from the devotees in England.

I may have off days, but I pick myself up and this I thank you for. I can finally see how each time you blessed me, nothing happened right away. The blessings had to ripen into a juicy fruit before the blessings could explode into a shower of mercy raining down on me whether times are good or bad.

This I have you to thank for and I shall always be indebted to you no matter how many books I distribute or how many harinams I go on.

Rest assured, I am well and even though I should be giving you something on this auspicious day, I have something to ask from you. Please grant me a blessing so my mind may focus on the goal of taking shelter under your lotus feet. I do not feel ready yet, but now, I know I have to in one way or another get Lord Krsna's mercy. So please bless me, so I may be able to serve you in a greater capacity and truly be able to call you "Guru Maharaja."

In your service eternally,
Your aspiring spiritual son,
Vedant Pandya

Vidura Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

Fist at all I would like to thank you Maharaja for making us your disciples - my wife and myself.
I have known you first Maharaja through your lectures more than as kirtan leader, at the beginning. These lectures were a mixture of knowledge, humour and simplicity in my opinion. I had the pleasure to meet you at Mayapur during the Bhakti Sashtri course for which one you were the teacher. And to know you a little better and then we were able to see each other in Belgium and India. To end up with initiation in December 2014. One day in one of your lectures you said you did not do lots of things in your life modest as always but you try to be a good devotee, it touched me.

Dear Maharaja, you possess the qualities that I admire. On a spiritual level your knowledge of the Vedas, Srimad Bhagavatam, the Bhagavad- Gita and lot of other books and texts; your expertise in the kirtans, and materially you know a lot about the culture of the Countries you had visited. Such as India where you spent over fifteen years, the language skills six or seven languages you know including Hindi and Bengali; your skills in management and project management that maybe few devotees know. It will be too long to summarize your qualities Maharaja but more than anything Maharaja it is your modesty and your proximity to the devotees and disciples I like the most and the way that you show us how to become a good devotee besides your strict sadhana.

Sometimes you came take prasadam at home and afterwards we realized that maybe we made mistakes but your tolerance that you did not tell us anything about the mistakes we have committed. Recently when we met I learnt about your health problems, it made me hurt and if I could help you in any way I would have done it, my 'Indian ' education sometimes prevents me from showing my emotions.

All this to tell you dear Guru Maharaja that I am pleased to be your disciple and hope to have the opportunity to serve you better in the future.

Your humble servant,
Vidura Dāsa
(Mayapur, February 2015)

Virabhadra Dāsa

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

Dear Srila Gurudev,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Srila Jaiadvaita Swami.
All glories to your lotus feet.

It seems to me that writing a Vyasa-puja offering is certainly one of the most difficult things to do. However, it is an opportunity and an honour for us disciples to glorify our beloved spiritual master who has been so merciful to us and taken us under the shelter of his lotus feet.

A few months ago while listening to one of your lectures, you were saying how Srila Jayadvaita Maharaja asked you to accept disciples and you asked him why you should accept many disciples since he has just a few? Srila Jayadvaita Swami responded by saying "You are meant for trouble, I am not."

When I heard this I immediately thought to myself, "That's me", the trouble that Maharaja was speaking about. I know the mischief I have made prior to practicing Krishna consciousness and I would not even accept me as a disciple. But Guru Maharaja you are so merciful that you have agreed to look past all those sinful activities and take on the huge task of trying to make us worthy candidates for offering at the lotus feet of His Divine Grace our beloved Srila Prabhupada.

Last year on the 26 of December in Cape Town I received my spiritual birth from you. This is a day that I will never forget as I was officially one of your children, but it was also a day that I accepted a massive responsibility, and that is to please you and make you proud of the trouble that you have accepted as a disciple. Gurudev, the days leading up to initiation, you gave many lectures and it really seemed as if whatever you said was being said directly to me. However, there was one Srimad-Bhagavatam lecture, given on the morning of initiation day, that stands out for me and in this lecture you mentioned these words, "The more service you do, the more you become a nice devotee. So do not dwell on these material things, just dwell on service!"

Guru Maharaja I am trying to do as much service as possible, any service, but trying to increase hari-nama sankirtan. On this day of your Vyasa-puja I humbly beg your mercy so that I may continue in my efforts with enthusiasm in spreading the mission of Srila Prabhupada and Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. I also ask that Gurudev also guide me and the rest of our god family to the lotus feet of Srila Prabhupada by your personal instructions.

Thank you for your kind mercy.
Your insignificant servant,
Virabhadra Dāsa

Visvambar Caitanya Dāsa

Dear Gurumaharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Jai Advaita Swami and all glories to Srila Prabhupda.

I have finally come across the passage where Lord Caitanya expresses His apprehension of the name Visvambara, and concludes that He can only be doing his name justice by freely and vehemently giving out Krsna Prema, in my first time reading of the CC.

For me simply doing justice to the fact I am your disciple, seems a humongous task, as I really should be on my 3rd reading of the CC and have read many other books by now. What to speak of the grandiose name of being the servant of Visvambara Caitanya, how will I ever live up to this name.

Being born the day before Gaura-Purnima my parents also had high expectations, at least I felt so.

Nevertheless I am not disheartened, I am currently reading Lilamrta with my wife since I have never read it yet. I have had a rather late realization that my marriage or my ashram is the basis from which I may be able to perform devotional service, and since I have been acting accordingly things have been going slightly better.
On this birthday of yours, I feel more than the previous 4 that I have attended that I want to please you, be it mere pebbles that I am contributing, rather than the mountains I intended to move for you. For I am resemble more a spider than Hanuman.
You kindly bent down to pick up this frail spider, protect it and gave it (me) such personal service as massaging you even when really you didn't want or need a massage. All the while treating me like a commander in your army.
Please bless me to be able to constantly remember your kindness and thus never stray from the path towards pleasing you.

your disciple,
Visvambar Caitanya Dāsa

Yogeśvara Dāsa

When I turn back in time I realise I cannot see far anymore and then it appears as if everything happened too fast. I took very seriously Srila Prabhupada's words about the necessity to serve devotees of Krsna and to accept a bona-fide spiritual master. I even managed to develop desire to do all necessary, and in that period I observed it is not me who has the reins in one's hands. It appeared as an observable miracle as if all was happening to me in a surgery room while I was under anaesthesia.

Since I have made a vow of devotion at your lotus feet, dear Gurudev, two years passed. I know for sure I have already resuscitated from the narcosis. Strengthening of internal attitude and desire to become a servant of all who desire to serve Krsna is a sign that the surgery was successful, the patient survived and now it is my turn to repay the operation you had done on me. Perhaps each of your disciples would like to be your close servant or friend, at least I know I would like to be for sure, and for sure it is possible for everyone because your presence is so attractive. To reach a state of Krsna consciousness that is close to yours is very attractive.

Years ago in Maths I was taught about the absolute value of certain number. Absolute value of word friend is perhaps Krsna. Perception of myself kind of disappears and I rather perceive the object of my love based on service and friendship as most important. When I leave the clouds and sink back to my ego then I realise I tangibly feel the love full of friendship and servitor ship. Unfortunately, yet only to my stomach.

In the Nectar of Instruction, (pp. vii–viii) it is written, "In all spiritual affairs, one's first duty is to control his mind and senses. Unless one controls his mind and senses, one cannot make any advancement in

spiritual life. ''If it were possible I would undergo another surgery of consciousness to be able to fulfil this instruction. But I know it is not possible therefore I wish you a lot of Krsna's mercy, that we all can be constantly inspired by you and more and more attracted to you.

Your eternal servant,
Yogeśvara Dāsa

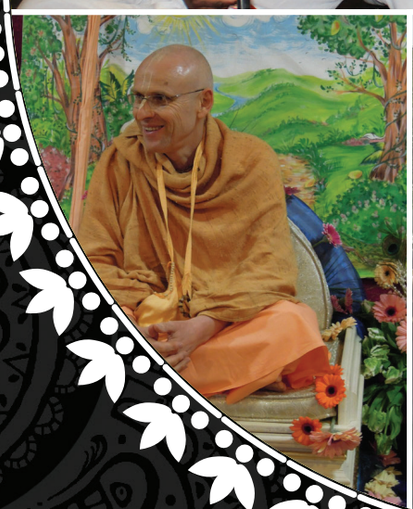


He lives forever by his divine instructions and the follower lives with him


HAPPY VYASA PUJA
from your dear disciples

His Holiness
Kadamba Kānana Swami







Vyāsa-pūjā
2015