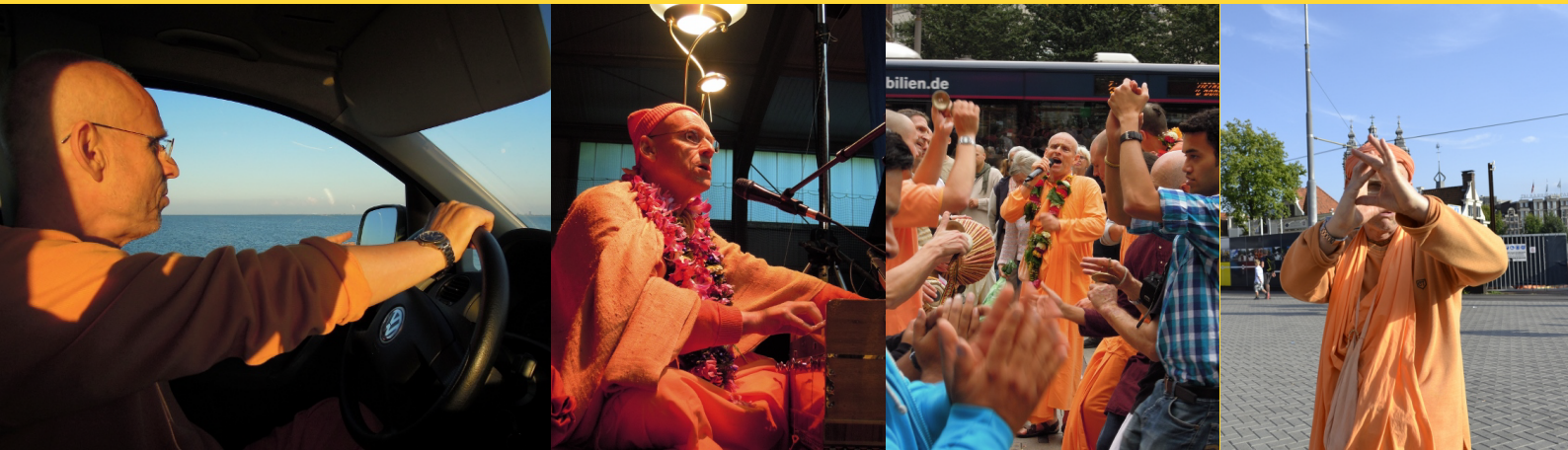




His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami
Vyasa Puja
2013







‘ The spiritual master is to be honored as much as the Supreme Lord, because he is the most confidential servitor of the Lord. This is acknowledged in all revealed scriptures and followed by all authorities. Therefore I offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual master, who is a bonafide representative of Sri Hari [Kṛṣṇa]. ’



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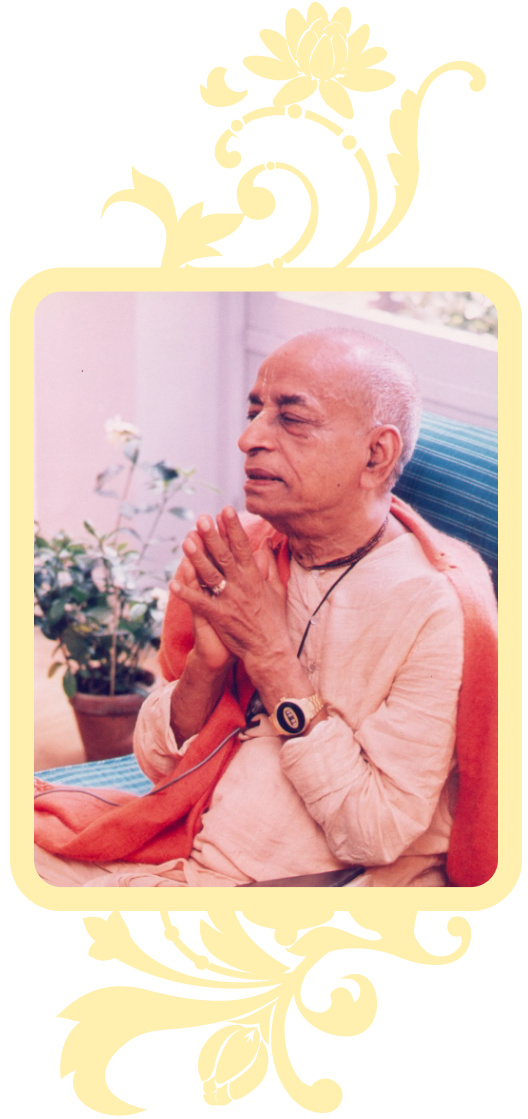


“On My Order...”

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 mām 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.

{ “ You simply advise people to follow Kṛṣṇa's instruction. Then you become guru. ” }

Kadamba Kānana Swami offering to Śrīla Prabhupāda 2012

Dear Śrīla Prabhupāda,

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

It is amazing to observe the growth of
Lord Caitanya's wish-fulfilling desire tree.

Recently I was in Tompkins Square Park,
New York. The city council has put a sign
on the tree where you stood and held
public kīrtana. The sign reads "Hare
Krishna Tree," and off to the side there is
another sign, reading "A.C. Bhaktivedanta
Swami Prabhupada, the founder of the
Hare Krishna movement, began his public
chanting under this tree." As I stood under
the tree, a young man of about twenty
came up to me and asked, "What would I
have to do to become a monk." I could see
how you have invested that place with
your mercy. And the fact that I could be
there and appreciate all of that, instead of
being lost in the material wilderness,
means that I have been a
recipient of your mercy.

Your movement has grown to enormous
proportions all over the world, and in
India especially Kṛṣṇa consciousness is
booming. Through you the branches of
the Caitanya tree have spread everywhere.
Those branches that very carefully follow
your teachings will flourish and produce
wonderful fruits, and those branches that
are not serious in following you will dry
up or break due to foolish independence.

Through you I have come to explore the
amazing world of bhakti, and as I learn
more about our tradition, practices, and
philosophy, more about the spiritual
world, about Kṛṣṇa's rāsa-līlā and so many
other exalted topics, I realize that I am a
dwarf. No matter how learned, how
experienced, how powerful I have become
or will become, I know that success or
failure in spiritual life simply depends on
very carefully serving your lotus feet.
There is nothing else.

Hoping to remain dedicated to you and to
increase my
service in quantity and purity,

Your servant,
Kadamba Kānana Swami



The Meaning of Sri Vyasa Puja.

By Vibhu Caitanya dāsa

*tabe nityānanda-gosānira vyāsa-pūjana
nityānandāveśe kaila muṣala dhāraṇa*

Nityananda Prabhu then arranged to offer Vyasa Puja, or worship of the spiritual master, to Lord Sri Gaurasundara. But Lord Caitanya carried the plowlike weapon called musala in the ecstasy of being Nityananda Prabhu (Cc. Adi17.16)

Srila Prabhupada writes in the purport, “By the order of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, Nityananda Prabhu arranged for the Vyasa Puja of the Lord on the night of the full moon. He arranged for the Vyasa Puja, or guru puja through the agency of Vyāsadeva. Since Vyāsadeva is the original guru (spiritual master) of all who follow the Vedic principles, worship of the spiritual master is called Vyasa Puja.”

On the day of the Vyasa-puja of the spiritual master, He is worshipped and glorified as the bona fide representative of Srila Vyasadeva. By trying to please the spiritual master we get his blessings and the blessings of the entire disciplic succession.

*mad-bhakta-pūjābhyadhikā
sarva-bhūteṣu man-matiḥ*

Krsna said to Udhava, “The worship offered to My Bhakta, My dear devotee, is better than worship offered directly to me.” (SB. 11.19.20-24)

The spiritual master is a direct representative of God and it is stated by Srila Prabhupada that the spiritual master should be treated as good as God. By sincerely trying to follow the instructions of the spiritual master, a disciple can perfect his life.

In 1966 Hayagriva Das helped Srila Prabhupada begin the temple at 26 2nd Avenue. Dr. Mishra was helping Srila Prabhupada, and although he didn’t have the same philosophy as Srila Prabhupada, still Srila Prabhupada loved him. One day Hayagriva was sleeping, in the garden of Dr. Mishra’s residence, called Ananda Ashram, and he had a dream. He saw Krsna speaking Bhagavad-gita to Arjuna and suddenly he saw Srila Prabhupada speaking Bhagavad-gita to him (Hayagriva). He woke up and ran to Srila Prabhupada’s little room and he told Srila Prabhupada about his dream and that his realization was that Krsna speaking to Arjuna and Srila Prabhupada speaking to him is non-different, they are identical. He said “I am just as fortunate as Arjuna to be hearing from you as he was from

Krsna,” and Srila Prabhupada replied “You have understood perfectly! It is absolutely non-different! If I speak Bhagavad-gita to you, it is non-different from Krsna speaking to Arjuna and you are hearing from Krsna, that is parampara.

{ Krsna said to Udhava, “The worship offered to My Bhakta, My dear devotee, is better than worship offered directly to me.” (SB. 11.19.20-24) }



“He who has given me the gift of transcendental vision is my lord, birth after birth. By his mercy divine knowledge is revealed within the heart, bestowing prema-bhakti and destroying ignorance. The Vedic scriptures sing of his character.”

Brahmananda Das was once asked if it is true that they took the statement “The Spiritual Master is as good as God,” literally, and if they had made a mistake by doing this. Brahmananda replied “Yes, we have made a mistake with this statement. Srila Prabhupada was not as good as God but Srila Prabhupada was better as no one else had come to the Lower East Side to save us!”

This is the extent to which the spiritual master goes. He travels the world, from East to West, from the North to the South or via ether or internet, trying to reach us all and make sure that we do our part to stay eternally connected to the pure “expressway” of our disciplic succession, all the way back to Godhead. Let us take advantage of what good fortune our spiritual master has created.

The spiritual master although not obliged, comes down to the material world to save the living entity from this state of suffering. He gives the living entity entrance into not only the top most place

in the spiritual realm where there is no more suffering, but gives the living entity direct connection to Krsna via the unbroken disciplic succession. We will be saved if we connect to a bona fide representative of Krsna. But why should this worship and gratitude be given on just one day. For all those lifetimes that we have been away from Krsna, we should sincerely try to make an effort to glorify and give our lives to the spiritual master every minute, everyday and eternally. It is by His grace that we can cross over the ocean of material suffering. Or why should we only glorify the spiritual master when he visits our particular country and is physically present before us? The spiritual master exists both in vapu and vani, in His form and His instruction. We owe it to Him for saving us! Let us make our every thought and action a tribute of service to our spiritual master.

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



Ādi Keśava Dāsa

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

Dear Guru Maharaj,

During your last visit to Vrindavan we observed the Vyasa Puja of Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur during which many senior vaisnavas spoke his glories. There were many amazing things mentioned about Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur. One of the nicest things was that most of the glorifications concluded that Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur had a most glorious disciple our Srila Prabhupada. Whenever we speak of Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur we naturally also remember Srila Prabhupada as the intimate disciple who fulfilled the orders of his spiritual master.

One time I was thinking how amazing it would be to be personally present before Srila Prabhupada and Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur. I am sure many Prabhupada disciples have also desired darshan and association of their param guru. In this regard myself, and my dear god family are all most fortunate and blessed with this unique divine arrangement that we are able to have darshan of you our beloved guru maharaj and our most revered param guru Srila Jayadvaita Swami. He is grave, following the strict path of renunciation, highly learned in the siddhanta and always speaks the Vedic truths in an uncompromising way. He is simha guru and without a doubt a Vaikuntha man. Srila Prabhupada said that his disciples were sent by his Guru Maharaj to assist him in preaching in the western world.

It is great mercy that I am under your shelter; you are the brilliant diamond reflecting the qualities of your Guru Maharaj, Srila Prabhupada, Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur and the entire parampara.

By constantly hearing you chant the Holy Names I feel the mood of surrender awakening inside me impelling me to avoid the offences through careful and attentive japa.

Your discussions on the Caitanya Caritamṛta have brought the life and teachings of Mahāprabhu and His associates to the foreground. This has sparked eagerness within me to want to hear more about our glorious gaudiya tradition.

One time during a seminar you related a story of Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur when he was giving a lecture in Assam and suddenly there was a flood. Fortunately they were on higher ground so they were not affected. As the flood continued he began to lecture about the destruction of the material world. He mentioned that in desperate moments the most important belongings we should carry with us is the Bhagavad Gita, Srimad Bhagavatam and Caitanya Caritamṛta. If that load is too heavy to carry then we can give up the Bhagavad Gita and if it is still too heavy then the Srimad Bhagavatam may be given up but never let go of the Caitanya Caritamṛta as it is the essence of all. So it is you who is that personality who holds the Caitanya Caritamṛta close to you not just in your hands but you are carrying Sri Caitanya Caritamṛta in your heart completely absorbed not matter what the external circumstances may be.

In one way our ISKCON society is the continuation of Sri Caitanya Caritamṛta. Srila Prabhupada has reestablished the movement of Caitanya Mahāprabhu. As a dynamic and empowered preacher you are living the Caitanya Caritamṛta from one situation to another and from one country to another spreading the glories of the Holy Name.

I am always seeking your blessings and aspiring to remain the sweeper of the floor of Srila Prabhupada's House.

Your dull headed and weak disciple
Ādi Keśava Dāsa

{ By constantly hearing you chant the Holy Names I feel the mood of surrender awakening inside me impelling me to avoid the offences through careful and attentive japa. }



Ādikartā Dāsa

*nama om visnu-pādāya krsna presthāya
bhū-tale
srimate kadamba kánana svámin iti námine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya krsna-presthāya
bhū-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita svámin iti námine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya krsna-presthāya
bhū-tale
srimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti námine*

*namas te sárasvate deve
gaura-vānī-pracārīne
nirvisesa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-desa-tārīne*

Lieber Guru Maharaja,
Nehmen Sie bitte meine achtungsvollen
Ehrerbietungen im Staub Ihrer
Lotosfüßen an. Alle Ehre sei an Ihrer
Heiligkeit. Alle Ehre sei an Sri Gauranga.
Alle Ehre sei an Ihrem Guru Maharaja HH
Srla Guru Dasa Jayadvaita Swami. Alle
Ehre sei an Srla Prabhupada. Es ist bald
ein Jahr vorbei gegangen und schon
haben wir vor uns eine äußerst
glückverheißende Begebenheit. Denn am
Ende April des 2013 Jahres, findet die
Vyysa-puja unseres spirituellen Meisters
Srla Guru Maharaja Ihren statt. So
möchte ich bei dieser Gelegenheit ein paar
Zeilen als Offering zu schreiben. Tag
täglich kann ich zu wissen bekommen,
dass mein spiritueller Meister zu mir
Seine grundlose Güte ununterbrochen
behält.

Das gibt mir die Kraft mit meiner
Bemühung, sich zu der spirituellen Ebene
allmählich zu nähern, weiter
fortzufahren. Man kann stets bemerken,
wie glückverheißend der Weg ist, den
nicht nur mir, sondern auch vielen

anderen, unser Srla Guru Maharaja durch
sein Leben als echter acarya, der
spirituelle Meister der allen, zeigt. Es ist
vielleicht nicht so sehr wichtig, wenn
man sich nur um unseren eigenen
spirituellen Fortschritt kümmert. Das ist
sehr egoistisch. Vielmehr solle man die
spirituelle Erkenntnis weiter verbreiten.
Immer mehr wird in Allgemeinen
auffällig, dass die menschliche
Gesellschaft ohne eines mündest geringen
spirituellen Bewusstseins ihren Weg Berg
ab geht. Es gibt eine Menge von
Beispielen, einer davon ist sehr
ausredend. Einst hatte ich die
Gelegenheit auf den Facebook eines der
Gottgeweihten ein äußerst trauriges
Filmdokument zu sehen. Man dachte
bisher, dass man sich sehr gut bewusst
sein mag, wie falsch es ist, das Fleisch als
Nahrung zu sich nehmen, ganz zu
schweigen davon noch dazu die Kühe aus
diesen, oder jeden anderen Grund zu
töten. Doch man hatte fast keine Ahnung,
wie dies in Wirklichkeit zu Ausführung
kommt. Die Filmhersteller brachten das
Dokument zu äußerst naturhaftem
Ausdruck. Als man so etwas gesehen
hatte, wundert man sich seit der Zeit
jeden Tag neu, dass noch am nächsten
Morgen überhaupt die Sonne auf den
hellblauen Himmel aufgeht.

Vor kurzen fürchtete die Menschheit vor
den Ende der Welt. Doch sie ist furchtlos
über ihren häufigen, möglichst
abscheulichen Taten. Es gibt so viel
Gewalt unter der Gesellschaft. Aufgrund
so tiefer Erfahrung, die einem die
Hersteller des Dokuments vermittelten,
muss man sagen - kein Wunder. Umso
mehr darf man merken, wie sehr es für
jedes Lebewesen in der menschlichen
Form, äußerst nötig ist, sich die echten

Fragen nach den eigenen Sinn des Lebens selbst zu stellen. O mein Meister, Sie haben für jeden Mensch unterschiedslos die beste mögliche Antwort. Wenn er mit Aufrichtigkeit Ihnen nur zuhören wird, da bekommt er zweifellos die Möglichkeit auch unter anderen sogar mit so unvorstellbar abscheulichen Taten, deren man in den Dokumenten als Zeuge geworden war, aufzuhören. „Jeder sucht natürlich nach der Wahrheit, denn Sie ist nicht nur die Herrlichste, aber auch die Berühmteste, Machtvollste, die Reichteste und voller aller Entsagung und Erkenntnis“, sagte einst Srila Prabhupada. O mein Lehrer, Sie als echter Vortreter dieser Höchsten Absoluten Wahrheit, derselben, die ein jeder trotz seiner Unwissenheit ununterbrochen sucht, Sie sind durch Ihre grundlose Barmherzigkeit immer bereit allen Menschen bei ihren Suchen behilflich zu sein. So kann allmählich die ganze Gesellschaft ihre wahnsinnigen Taten aufgeben und ihren Weg der tatsächlichen Richtung nach, wieder auftreten.

Mit größter Dankbarkeit und äußerst demütigtest sollen die Lotosfüße des unseren spirituellen Meisters, Srila Guru Maharaja, ununterbrochen verehrt werden sein und daher verneige ich mich stets erneut vor Ihnen und bringe Ihnen, mit herzlichen Glückwunsch bei der Gelegenheit Ihrer Vyasa-puja, meine achtungsvollen Ehrerbietungen dar.

In Ihren Dienst Ihr ewiger Schuldner und
unansehnlicher Schüler
Ādikartā Dāsa



Aditi Devi Dāsī

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami

Please accept my obeisances at your divine lotus feet. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to Jayadvaita Swami and all glories to you, Maharaj.

Wishing you well on your 60th Vyasa Puja. May you always be a pillar of strength to your disciples. May the Supreme Lord Shri Krishna grant you good health and lots of strength to preach. I don't have the strength to approach you directly but I can approach you through those who know how to serve you.

Maharaj, you have touched the hearts of so many devotees with your ongoing kirtan. It is so soothing. It reminds me of how Srimati Radharani listened to Shri Krishna playing his flute on the fifth note. But Maharaj, you do need to take rest at some point!
Success or failure in spiritual life depends on serving your lotus feet. I pray to the Lord to allow me to dedicate myself to my service the best I can.

You are always my Guru.

Your servant
Aditi Devi Dāsī

{ Maharaj, you have touched the hearts of so many devotees with your ongoing kirtan. It is so soothing. It reminds me of how Srimati Radharani listened to Shri Krishna playing his flute on the fifth note. }

(Bhaktin) Anamarija

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances at the dust of your lotus feet.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to H.H. Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to you.

I heard a story how Srila Prabhupada came one time to Tokyo, where Bhurijan Prabhu was preaching. And one morning in the temple Srila Prabhupada said to a few of the devotees who were there that, 'today is a Vyasa puja of your Guru Maharaja and you should say some words of praise.' And disciples would stand up one after another and praise Srila Prabhupada.

So these devotees didn't really have much time to think of what to say to praise Srila Prabhupada unlike myself. But still I feel incapable to compose a meaningful offering of praise.

I can only repeat and meditate on what great personalities like Srila Visvanatha Cakravarti Thakur, Srila Narottama dasa Thakur and Srila Bhaktivinod Thakur had written.
You are flooded with oceans of mercy and I'm receiving this mercy even without asking when I'm connected to you through meditation, by taking the shelter of your lotus feet.
I'm becoming more and more amazed by the mystery of spiritual relationship through letter exchange.

I see the influence of your blessings as my current life situations are being transformed.
Your kindness is the object of my worship. You have been organizing a Queensday Harinam in Amsterdam for over a decade, chanting the holy name among the crowd.

Singing and dancing in ecstasy you are pleased and satisfied with sankirtana movement of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu, trying to give to everyone the love of God. It is so wonderful and inspiring.

Thank you for amazing kirtans which enable one to sit still. Your enthusiastic appearance and your mood of lightness of living brings a peace and feeling of security in life.

Thank you for your wonderful, inspirational educative and with your authentic sense of humour enriched lectures, through which I'm learning how to become Krsna's devotee.
You are constantly giving me shelter despite of all of my impediments.
Attachment to your lotus feet is matchless, it fulfills all desires.

I bow down to your lotus feet by which pure devotional service can be attained.
By your endless grace I can even leap over the ocean of material suffering.
My only wish is to constantly hear the words from your lotus mouth which are purifying my heart and consciousness.
You open my darkened eyes, by you, ignorance is destroyed.
You are my lord and my master.
You are so merciful to me. You give me all help, you give me strength.
Your mercy is all that I'm made of.
I offer my respectful obeisances unto your lotus feet.
I wish you good health, may Krsna protects you always.
In attempt to serve you,

(Bhaktin) Anamarija



Ananya Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

It's difficult to express in a few sentences
my respect and gratitude to you. I'll never
stop thanking you for everything you did
for me, that you accepted me as your
disciple almost at the end of my life so I
can worship and admire you.

I love your lectures and ecstatic kirtans
which bring us devotees to a boiling point
and caress our soul. My beloved spiritual
master, not only on the day of your
appearance I wish you that Krsna grants
you a good health and satisfaction so that
you won't be suffering your present
problems on your preaching tour. I wish
you that we, your disciples, please you by
our service to Krsna so you'll be satisfied
with us and we can continue to enjoy
your presence.

Thank you for everything from the core of
my heart!
Ananya Devi Dāsī

I'll never stop thanking you for everything you did
for me, that you accepted me as your disciple
almost at the end of my life so I can worship and
admire you.



Anasūyā Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my obeisances at your divine, lotus feet. All glories to you, His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja, Srila Prabhupada, and the Lord of all our hearts, Sri Gauranga.

This year in Mayapur dhama, you spoke of Sri Gauranga's activities on the altar, explaining that He is bringing endless devotees before Him to chant the Holy name and that many more will come. You rightly said that the temple room is not large enough for Him, and not at all befitting of His glorious position.

As you spoke, it was as if Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu was smiling and dancing upon the altar, His golden arms outstretched, in transcendental anxiety to take leave and enter His new abode, so even more devotees can come and chant and dance with Him.

And, during your evening kirtan, Guru Maharaja, what you said proved true. There were all the devotees, crammed into every corner, some sitting and some dancing, but all blissfully absorbed. With eyes closed they drank the nectar of the Holy Name, and with limbs momentarily flailing in front of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, they caught wave upon wave of the tumultuous devotion coming from your chanting.

I don't know who you are, Guru Maharaja, but I am convinced that you have some special association with Sri

Caitanya Mahaprabhu and His eternal, dancing associate Lord Nityananda, for when you speak and chant, waves of ecstasy fill the room. And, of your followers that I have met, those most dear to you also seem to live only for Sri Caitanya's mercy, and then only that which is lovingly given from your hands.

Indeed, it is only by the mercy of one's spiritual master that anyone can relish the pastimes of Kṛṣṇa in true love. Thus Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura sings: "*Guru deva! kabe tava karuna prakase, sri gauangan - lila, hoya nitya tattva, hari hari boli goudrum kananae, bhoribo darsane ase, Gurudeve!*" Lord Gauranga's pastimes are eternal realities. I wait the day when, with the firm faith manifested by your mercy, I will wander through the groves of Goudrama chanting "Hari Hari!", and hoping to behold those pastimes.

And, even the great sage Narada Muni, the transcendental spaceman, only became attracted to Kṛṣṇa by the kind mercy of His devotees who, after fully relishing Kṛṣṇa Prema on their plates and in their hearts, they offered the boy their remnants. Thus he gratefully acknowledged, "O Vyasadeva, in that association, and by the mercy of those great Vedantists, I could hear them describe the attractive activities of Lord Kṛṣṇa and thus listening attentively, my taste for hearing about the Personality of Godhead increased at every step".

I don't know who you are, Guru Maharaja, but I am convinced that you have some special association with Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu and His eternal, dancing associate Lord Nityananda, for when you speak and chant, waves of ecstasy fill the room.

Guru Maharaja, I am aware that I am not qualified to receive your mercy, but this does not stop me from wanting it because I know that you are the only one who can save me. You yourself know the discrepancies of my character. Indeed, my body, consciousness and precarious state of my heart clearly communicate my residence in the material world. Yet still you give me shelter, and still the mercy lovingly comes, and this is pulling me out of maya.

Once you told me that with initiation one has one foot placed in the spiritual world, and the other in the material world, and that gradually both feet come to be in the spiritual world. Another time you wrote that this Krsna consciousness movement is an “ocean of mercy”. Thank you, Guru Maharaja, for accepting me as your disciple, and opening the doors of Lord Caitanya’s mercy. May I genuinely understand what this means.

Thank you Guru Maharaja, for keeping me on the path of Krsna consciousness with your mercy and care. Some say that the guru-disciple relationship spans many lifetimes. I am an inexperienced disciple, and am not always sure how to please you, but I am definitely sure that I am eternally indebted and grateful to you and sincerely pray to serve you.

Thank you Guru Maharaja, for saving me when no one else could.

Thank you for offering your mercy and spreading freely the nectar of the Holy Name.

Thank you for chastising me to grow up.

Please may I always take shelter at your lotus feet. Please may I always be humbled by your mercy. And please may I serve you more and more and more. Happy appearance day, Guru Maharaja! Gauranga!

Your disciple,
Anasūyā Devi Dāsī



Dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All Glories to Srila Prabhupada and
Jayadvaita Swami!
All Glories to You!

I'm happy that the auspicious time of Your Vyasa-puja has come again and it is my greatest pleasure to take the opportunity to offer You my best wishes from the depths of my heart. Please be always in good health and shape while You tirelessly continue in Your preaching activities on such exhausting constant travels. It is for me an amazing example of immense determination and loving dedication to Your dear spiritual master Jayadvaita Maharaj, Srila Prabhupada, Lord Gauranga and His mission. I wish I was able in this lifetime to accomplish at least a tiny fragment of devotional service which You perform.

Another year has passed and I'm just contemplating how fast the time is running. It reminds me of the urgency of taking the spiritual life very seriously. Actually it is the only thing which really matters.

"Don't waste a single moment. This should be your life's policy.
Avyartha-kalatvam [Cc. *Madhya* 23.18-19].
Rupa Gosvami advises an advanced devotee should always look "Whether my time is wasted?"

Avyartha-kalatvam. *Vyarthā* means useless. So that is, that should be one of the, mean, target of devotees, that "Whether I am wasting my time?" Don't waste your time. Always pour in the activities of the Lord, Kṛṣṇa. Always, twenty-four hours. *Kirtaniyah sada harih* [Cc. *Ādi* 17.31], Caitanya Mahāprabhu says. *Sada*. *Sada* means always, twenty-four hours." (Srila Prabhupada, lecture on SB 2.3.20-21, Los Angeles, June 17, 1972)

When I look at Your day to day life I don't see any single moment wasted. All Your activities are completely focused on Kṛṣṇa. You simply serve and glorify the Lord by Your every deed and this way You are tirelessly holding the torch for us and shedding the light on our path. Your deeply touching lectures are my daily inspiration crushing my misconceptions little by little. Hearing You singing makes me realize how lucky we are that we have the opportunity to become again and again infected with a portion of Your ecstasy from chanting the Holy Name in Your rocking and emotionally felt kirtans. Floating on its waves allows one to forget himself and glorify the Lord with at least slight reflection of Your contagious enthusiasm and feelings.

When I look at Your day to day life I don't see any single moment wasted. All Your activities are completely focused on Kṛṣṇa.

Despite all this I remain such a fool so much attached to this material world and body. Instead of simplifying my life and intensifying sadhana and service it seems I'm going to entangle further in family life for next years. I pray it won't be too distracting and that I will be able to stay closely engaged in this sankirtan movement. I highly appreciate with deep gratitude that although I commit mistakes and make wrong decisions, You are irregardless so merciful, forgiving and patient with me.

I didn't deserve it but still You've saved me. Dear Guru Maharaj, thank you for giving me the chance, accepting me under Your shelter and allowing me to become the member of this wonderful spiritual family with so many amazing brothers and sisters and You as loving father. Interestingly enough, not only that You act as our kind and tolerant father, but in addition by contours and expressions of Your face You even truly remind me my biological father, who already passed away. Moreover, the year, month and even the day of Your appearance is exactly the same as my mother's birth. It's a nice coincidence symbolizing to me the combination of fatherly protection and motherly affection with which you take care of Your disciples.

There is so much to thank you for. What can I offer you back? How can I repay You this unrepayable debt? Without Your mercy and blessings I cannot do anything.

"Actually you are correct, it is not possible for the disciple to repay the debt to the spiritual master. Therefore the disciple remains eternally indebted to the spiritual master and continually works in such a way that the spiritual master may become pleased upon him for such sincere services rendered. Always follow the four principles, take prasadam, and above all chant your sixteen rounds a day, and thus you will make steady advancement in devotional service. Continue to preach this movement all over the world and thus you will become happy and you will make others happy also." (Srila Prabhupada's letter to Mantrini devi dasi, 29th July, 1976)

Dear Guru Maharaj, please bless me that I never forget Krsna and that I acquire the ability not to waste time for useless things but to concentrate always fully on Krsna conscious activities. I beg You for the opportunity to stay in the association of the devotees constantly engaged in the mission of Lord Caitanya by serving Vaisnavas, You and Srila Prabhupada and helping with spreading Gauranga's mercy among suffering beings.

I wish I found the way how to make our relationship meaningful.

Your humble servant,
Antardvīp Dāsa





Arundhatī Devi Dāsī & (Bhakta) Istvan

My dear Guru Maharaja!

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

I am very grateful that I have the possibility to write for you this Vyasa Puja offering. Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu said: „I am the only gardener. How many places can I go? How many fruits can I pick and distribute? It would be certainly a very laborious task to pick the fruits and distribute them alone, and still I suspect that some would receive them and others would not. Therefore I order every man within this universe to accept this Krishna consciousness movement and distribute it everywhere... (Cc. Adi 9.34-36, 40) Since a while now, this verse of Lord Caitanya has been in my meditation. It is so nicely to see how enthusiastically you distribute since so many years Lord Caitanya's fruit all over the world... You spread the delicate fruit of the WHOLY NAME in your Bhajans and Kirtans with such a transcendental power, that everybody, who has the possibility to hear it, is immediately jumping up on a higher level of spiritual life. The mood of Tama-Guna is just kicked out... Your glorification of the WHOLY NAME is so full of transcendental bliss that my heart is just jumping in big joy!!!

Even though my service is small and appears insignificant, I quiet often feel overburdened with it and find myself having difficulty chanting my Japa in the right time and as well struggling with the reading of Srila Prabhupada's books. But when I listen to your lectures and read about your travelling and preaching on the blog, even your health is not good, I feel on the one side embarrassed that I am not doing better and on the other side I am so thankful that you give me shelter, even I am not qualified.

The congregation in Gothenburg is very small and unfortunately it is not so easy to just close the restaurant and join the devotees on ecstatic festivals outside of Sweden. Hopefully, with your mercy my husband and I will be able to have more association with devotees and Swamis than this recent year.

I really hope that I can give a little contribution to your enthusiastic preaching mission and support you and satisfy you with my little service.

Your insignificant servant
Arundhatī Devi Dāsī & (Bhakta) Istvan





Bahulāśva Dāsa

Please accept my humble obeisances
 All glories too Srila Prabhupada
 All glories too Jayadvaita Swami
 All glories to Kadamba Kanana Swami

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa presthāya
 bhū-tale
 śrimate kadamba kānana svāmin iti nāmine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya
 bhū-tale
 guru dasa jayadvaita svāmin iti nāmine*

Dear Guru Maharaj.

This year I felt to reflect on my year since last Vyasa Puja from the positive side. When I was reading the earlier offerings I felt they were a lot about struggle.

We had a visit in January from our GBC representative Pragosh Prabhu, and we were talking of the issues that always are there in material life, in our case the efforts for the Govindas restaurant and the managing for the Temple, but as he said to us, It's a glorious struggle.

And as It's said In S.B 1.2.7 By rendering devotional service unto the Personality of Godhead, Śrī Kṛṣṇa, one immediately acquires causeless knowledge and detachment from the world. And further in the text, bhakti cult is meant for realization of the positive form. When the positive form is realized, the negative forms are automatically eliminated. Therefore, with the development of the bhakti cult, with the application of the positive service to the positive form, one naturally becomes detached from inferior things, and he becomes attached to superior things.

So I have felt there is actually the key to continue, we will have these realizations and gradually also more and more detachments from this world, and it's so nice when it can be replaced with the positive attachment for devotional service instead.

Of course being positive in devotional service you are my guru, my teacher. You have awakened that in me .Certainly It wasn't there from the beginning.

Maharaj, you have empowered me to keep on with devotional service and to stay in the association of the devotees in Prabhupadas family. You have done so although my conditioning always has felt like an obstacle. Actually by your grace you have removed that feeling that I can't.

So please bless me that I will continue that for the rest of my life.

Your servant
 Bahulāśva Dāsa





Bali Mardan Dāsa

Dear Guru maharaj,

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

I was born in ignorance, then my spiritual master saved me and opened my eyes with the torchlight of knowledge. I offer my respectful obeisances unto him.

When you came to Leicester on the auspicious appearance day of Advaita Acarya you once again opened my eyes and heart with your blissful Kirtan. It had everyone jumping and dancing with a thirst for nectar which your kirtans gave. The vibes that come from the maha mantra were simply enlightening as I once again arose from the stresses of this material world. How can words describe how thankful and appreciative I am of your energy as you spread the holy and magical words of Lord Krishna.

Your classes and lectures help me focus and make me feel as though I am there, laughing and enjoying with the other devotees. They remind me daily of the joys of Krishna consciousness as your stories are always humorous.

My son Darpan has grown up listening to your wise words, as you help us to understand the teachings of Srila Prabhupada. He always enjoys your blissful kirtans and his love for the holy name has grown. We long await the Birmingham 24 hour Kirtan and look forward to seeing you soon.

Your servant
Bali Mardan Dāsa



Arjuna Dāsa

Hare Krishna Guru Maharaja,

bitte akzeptiere meine demütigen
Ehrerbietungen. Alle Ehre sei Srila
Prabhupada, alle Ehre sei H.H. Jayadvaita
Maharaja und alle Ehre sei Dir.

Ich freue mich, dass ich in meinen
täglichen Gebeten bei Dir und Krishna
Zuflucht finde. Du bist eine sehr große
Inspiration für mich. Auch wenn wir uns
nicht oft persönlich sehen, bedeutest Du
mir sehr viel. Ich bin glücklich, Dich als
meinen spirituellen Meister zu haben.

Ich weiß, dass Krishna das höchste Ziel ist
und ich versuche mein bestes, Deinen
Anweisungen zu folgen. Ich denke, dass
alles immer besser wird.

Ich danke Dir für alles, was Du für mich
getan hast. Mit meiner Einweihung, hast
Du mir das größte Geschenk gemacht.

Ich bin bedingt, aber der Heilige Name
gibt mir spirituelle Kraft und Hoffnung.

Bitte verzeihe mir, dass ich Dir zurzeit
nicht so dienen kann, wie ich sollte. Ich
würde gerne mehr tun im
Krishna-Bewusstsein.

Ich gebe nicht auf!!!

Danke Dir, dass Du da bist!!!

Dein ewiger Diener Arjuna Dāsa

{ Ich danke Dir für alles, was Du für mich
getan hast. Mit meiner Einweihung, hast
Du mir das größte Geschenk gemacht. }



Batu Gopāla Dāsa

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my dandavats, all glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami Maharaja and to Srila Prabhupadaji Maharaja.

Writing an offering is always a painful thing for me because of many factors like me not being inclined to writing/reading, my laziness to surrender, my lack of service attitude and my ever crazy mind. But I always try and make an effort to write it as I remember one of your talks where you are explaining that Vyasa-puja is not a big birthday party with a lot of cake and over-eating of prasadam, but it's the day when we must revive our vows and make new efforts of surrendering oneself to the Guru. So in the same mood I'm trying to write an offering, renewing and reviving my vows.

It is said in a poem/bhajana by Srila Premanada Dasa Thakura, "*uttama adhama, kichu na bachilo, yaciya dileka kola...*" of when Mahaprabhu Sri Caitanyadeva and Nityananda Prabhu did not discriminate while giving mercy, they did not care for who is deaf, dumb, blind, crippled, crooked, rouges, thieves etc, all got the mercy. Similarly, when I compare myself to my god-brothers like Adi kesava and Svayam Bhagavan and many others and then I can see how you in the line of Mahaprabhu Sri Caitanyadeva and Nityananda Prabhu did not discriminate while giving mercy to me who you know properly as "chalu gopal" hehe.

Once HH Mahanidhi Swami was also explaining the meaning of "puspanjali" to which he said that it's actually not the flowers or the petals that we are offering but, it's the heart that we are supposed to offer. A heart full of gratitude and service attitude. So that is what I am trying to do all these years, to offer the best quality service at your lotus feet and will continue to do the same.

Sometimes we both have a difference of opinion, at least managerially and maybe I have offended you but I sincerely beg for forgiveness. Thanks a lot for everything that you have done for me and will be doing.

Your servant,
Batu Gopāla Dāsa





Bhadra Balarām Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaj

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila
Prabhupada
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaj
All glories to you Maharaj

Firstly I would like to wish you a very
very Happy Birthday.

Hmmmm.....

I've known you for a good few years, and
in that time:

You have spiritually blossomed me and
materially humbled me.

I personally fell:

You are freed from material existence,
even managed to somehow control your
senses,
always in the mood of goodness,
you are in constant remembrance of
Krishna,
and the knower of the Vedas,
selflessly sacrificed your life for Krishna,

You are a saint.
The father of mankind.
The celestial singer & musician amongst
the Demigods.

And Sac_Cid_ Anada
Eternal, blissful & full of knowledge.

Full of compassion & kindness A golden
heart so rare.

And most of all you are my Guru, father,
and my saviour birth after birth , and for
that I'm forever indebted to you.

Maharaj I would like to take this moment
to thank you very very much for all that
you have done for me.

Your most fallen servant

Bhadra Balarām Dāsa (South Africa)



Bhaktijana Dāsa

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

Dear Guru Maharaja,

We are truly sorry that we cannot celebrate this remarkable day in your presence and in the association of our whole spiritual family.

Please, accept at least a few lines.

I am realizing, from what and how you teach us, that you must be drowning in something what people in general are lacking and what possess only a tiny handful of people in the form of a few drops.

These scarce goods is the higher spiritual taste. The taste, that you have received and which you have been fulfilled with. Otherwise, there is no other way how to explain this: that you tirelessly, a day after a day, a year after a year, fight against the illusion and that you try to liberate not only your disciples but also everybody you come in contact with.

It looks like you are drinking from the never- drying- out spring of this taste. From the spring that consists of many mineral substances like mercy, patience, tolerance and compassion. This spring seems to cause that you are bulletproof, that the material arrows in the form of indifference, selfishness or laziness are not able to hurt you.

On the contrary, the more of these arrows you see among the people, the more your determination to serve you spiritual master is growing. With this, your bullet proofness is increasing and increasing and your determination is growing to such heavenly heights that a common man is getting dizzy from this.

Maybe that is why the materialistic people cannot understand the greatness of a pure devotee. And the demons only enviously defame these pure persons in order to lower their greatness and fame.

These springs comes to the surface in the secret, magic forest called Vrindavana. In the forest where entry is permitted to only those who are sincere. Insincere people , at the attempt to enter this forest, are deceived and suddenly they appear somewhere, far away from that incredible place.

I am honoured that I can be a disciple of such a spiritual master, who is one of a few, who can enter such places. The proof of this, for me, is the above - mentioned firmness which is coming from the higher taste. I am happy that I am so fortunate that I can listen to a genuine follower of Srila Prabhupada.

Even though, I am not able to follow everything that you are teaching us, I still enormously appreciate and value this.

All glories to your desire to please Krishna and all His servants.

At your lotus feet your servant
Bhaktijana Dāsa





Bharadvāja Dāsa

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Please accept my respectful obeisance in the dust of Your lotus feet. All glories to Your divine grace.

All glories to His divine grace Jay Advaita Swami. All glories to the most merciful Srila Prabhupada.

Today's day at the occasion of celebration of an anniversary of Your Vyasa Puja I would like to express my thanks for Your limitless mercy and patience with Your effort to save us from a repeated cycle of birth and death in a material world. You offer to us a way to reach eternal life full of cognition and endless bliss in our eternal home in the association of Sri Krishna. Your mercy we will never be able to pay back. Still I entreat you to be merciful in the future and lead us the way of greatly Bhakti Yoga.

Let me please also in this all-fortunate day offer to Your lotus feet results of all my good acting, for which I'm inspiring with Your guiding light. Please give us Your blessing by the dust of Your lotus feet to never depart from the way of devotional service which You mercifully show us by your life.

For all this I'd like to thank You. I pay my respectful obeisance to You. I wish You a very good health and endless Krishna's mercy with a spreading a mission of Sri Caitanya.

All glories to Your divine grace! All glories to Your honest followers! All glories to the sankirtan movement of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu!

Your negligible servant of a servant
Bharadvāja Dāsa



Br̥hat-mṛdaṅga Dāsa

This world is crazy
and my mind is wild
my consciousness just like a little child.
With no education
or self-control,
what would happen to this bewildered soul?
Looking for happiness
where it naught to be found
no teacher, no master to give solid ground
I never ever knew
how truth would appear
or how it would look if it were to be here
But I knew I would know
if I had finally found it
that it was the truth, completely legit
Low and behold
the devotees arrived
and fed me Prasad into overdrive
I knew this was it
I knew it was real
It was something to experience
It was something to feel
In the very same manner
when I found this way,
Your Holiness Appeared in my heart and stayed
The first time we met
I knew deep within
You are someone that can free me from sin
I knew You would be
my Spiritual Master
I wanted it to happen “faster, faster!”
I knew this was it
I knew it was real
It was something to experience
It was something to feel

You empower my thoughts
You empower my mind
You empower me to serve Kṛṣṇa divine
You empower me to overcome
my ticks and my flaws
You make it possible
to go down on all fours

Without You I'm nothing
a rag in the street
No service, no bhakti
a being obsolete
No way to progress
no way to begin
this transformation
deep, deep within
Nothing else,
but Your mercy alone
gives me a chance to go back Home
To get out of maya
and finally be free
and assume my real, true identity

I know this is it
I know this is real
It is something to experience
It is something to feel
Please accept my obeisances
at Your Lotus Feet
Thank You for keeping me
in Your heart's nice warm seat
I will always be in debt
and can never repay
what You do for me
every single day

*Namo om Vishnu padaya Kṛṣṇa prestaya
bhutale
srimate Kadamba Kanana svamin iti
namine*

With love
Your eternal servant
Br̥hat-mṛdaṅga Dāsa





Campakalatā Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna ,

Maharaja Swami Kadamba Kanana,

All Glories to Srila Prabhupada,

Please do accept my gratitude, for giving
your shelter to me.

For being there as my Guru Maharaja
somewhere on this planet.

You do travel so fast, no one understands.
But you do understand every-one.

Thank you,
for the opportunity's you give me,
and for your trust and confidences.

Hare Krishna
Hare Krishna,
Krishna Krishna,
Hare Hare,
Hare Rama,
Hare Rama,
Rama Rama
Hare Hare.

Campakalatā Devi Dāsī

{ You do travel so fast, no one understands.
But you do understand every-one. }



Candraśekhara Dāsa

Hare Kṛṣṇa Dear Guru Maharaja

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

Best wishes on your Vyasa Puja. It is certainly an auspicious time because we get to celebrate the glorious life of one who has fully dedicated His life to serving Śrīla Prabhupada's movement.

For me you are a pillar of strength and an emblem of all things pure. I am fortunate enough to regularly hear lectures from your travels. And these lectures give hope, enthusiasm and strength to persevere in Spiritual life. They hold me by the hand and help me get through the struggles presented by this world and obstacles offered by my mind and senses.

When I look at your good example I become increasingly aware of my limitations in practicing spiritual life and my lack of discipline. So I ask, how do you do it? How do you stay so firm, fixed, disciplined, undeterred and compromised? Whereas I struggle with these very fundamental things, they come so naturally to you. I know that there is hope. You have mentioned in a lecture in Pretoria that the things that are dear to the master will with time become dear to the servant who serves the master properly. My bad character can only be transformed by making the goal of my life to serve you. My only worry is that I am afraid of my limited capabilities in serving you. My great fear is that you will ask me something that I will struggle to do. Oh Kṛṣṇa! Please help me serve this Great Personality to the best of my ability? When will the day come when I am fully surrendered to your instructions?

Another amazing quality is your fearlessness and that has become particularly important to me. You are not afraid to speak the truth, however tough the truth may be. You are also not afraid to publically show that you are a devotee of Kṛṣṇa. Your qualities are like gems and I want to follow in your example.

There are times when I am affected by the distance I feel from you. But that is my fault since I have been measuring our connection through physical contact. You have mentioned many times that there are three types of relationships a Spiritual Master can have with His disciples, the bird with direct care, the fish keeping a watchful eye out, and the tortoise meditating on the wellbeing of the young. I know that due to your strenuous travels and increasing amount of disciples you can't adopt the bird approach too often but I'm beginning to feel that it is less important to categorically define our relationship into bird, fish or tortoise. I should be grateful that you have accepted me and that I have a relationship with you. This relationship has saved me from so much of unnecessary trouble and has given me a great opportunity to rediscover who I really am.

Thank you for being my well-wisher. Thank you for the troubles you go through in keeping us on the straight path. I pray to Kṛṣṇa that in all my dealings I may represent you adequately.

Your grateful servant
Candraśekhara Dāsa (Sasolburg, South Africa)





(Bhakta) Claus

Hare Krsna dear, adored Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Your Guru Maharaja His
Holiness Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to His Divine Grace A.C.
Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada!

You are distributing divine mercy by
authentically preaching
Krsna-Consciousness. Words fail me to
properly express my heartfelt thanks.
Please accept the following attempt and
kindly forgive me my offenses.

You immediately said to me that You are
my friend in our very first Darshan about
5 Years ago. This impressed me very
much and I felt accepted. Out of my
impurity I doubted if we know each other
well enough for a friendship. Eventually I
understood that, in contrast with You, I
don't know what friendship is.

You asked me at another incident, why I
remain staying at the door instead of
coming in. Because of insecurity I
answered "Because I'm stupid". You
directly answered to that: "I know! –
Than you must pray to Krsna that he may
give you intelligence.". That way you gave
me real bliss. Joyful I realized Your
spontaneity and clearness in Your
Krsna-consciousness. Eventually I
humbly pray to Krsna, that he may give
me true intelligence.

You never met Srila Prabhupada while he
was walking on this planet physically. Yet
You are his enthusiastic servant, obliged
and loyal to him. One part of Your service
appears to teach us by example how we
can serve the mission of Sri
Krsna-Caitanya Mahaprabhu authorized
while following the instructions of Srila
Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada by
putting them unadulterated, humble and
devoted into action.

You inspire me to serve and follow You,
because of many desirable qualities in
Your Personality You display in Your
Krsna-conscious service. For instance You
are personal, understanding, gentle, strict,
serious, patient, merciful, learned,
experienced, and simple, detached,
determined, musical, absorbed in the holy
name, humorous and humble.

śiṣyas te 'haṁ śādhi mām tvām prapannam

Praying and endeavor to be a servant and
one of Your qualified disciples
Grateful Your servant
Bhakta Claus





(Bhakta) Csabha

Dear Gurudeva,

It is not easy to write this offernig. I don't want to be any ordinary but I am not yet mature and qualified enough to write something unique.

Before I met you I had been praying to find you. However, my health problems were needed to be sure that you are the person I have been looking for. I said to myself that it was all the same who my spiritual master was, and as long as I served him nicely, he would be contented with my service. Now I know that it was a big mistake. It is important that the spiritual master not only gives instructions concerning one's spiritual advancement but also engages the senses. When I see you, something throbs in my throat and I want to see you all the time. When you speak or sing, it feels as if a ray of the sun caressed me. When I eat, I think how merciful you are to send me maha sweets. Whenever I think of you, I remember, I plan and I cry. I just cannot imagine life without you! You are there in my happiness as you are the one who has helped me reach it and you are there in my sadness as you are the consolation and shelter. I offer my obeisances to your lotus feet not because it is the etiquette but because you are the source of my happiness. You are giving your mercy to a swindler like me as your graciousness doesn't know any boundaries. I wish you good health and fulfilment of your desires on your appearance day.

All glories to You, may your Name be chanted in all the three worlds!

Your insignificant servant,
Bhakta Csaba (Hungary)





Damodara das

Dear Guru Maharaja

Please accept my obeisances at the dust of your lotus feet.

All glories to your Divine Grace

All glories to JayaAdwaita Swami

All glories to Prabhupada.

On this auspicious day of your divine appearance in this world, please accept my sincere gratitude.

Thank you very much for being very merciful to me and other fallen souls. You are undoubtedly pure servant of Lord Chaitanya. No one is able to estimate the extent of your mercy. It is said that wherever Harinama party takes passes, that place is changed for good. Nobody can count a number of Harinama parties that you were part of. It is also said when one hears the Holy Names of Krishna, appreciating it or not, one gets purified. Nobody is able to count number of souls that have listened to your Kirtan. At one occasion, I was driving with friends and I played your Kirtan CD. They liked the music and asked for a copy of the CD. This shows that the potency of your singing can purify everyone.



I have been lazy lately as I have not done much service. I still have not developed a taste for any particular service and I am still searching. I am hoping to be involved with preaching in Central Africa someday.

On this auspicious day, I pray that I may have the fortune serve you.

Your unworthy servant,

Damodara das



(Bhakta) Danca

Hare Krishna dear Gurumaharaj!

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

I wish You that Your health will be from now only better and that you regain the strength so that you might for a long time be igniting the lights of knowledge in darkened human minds, showing to seekers the right direction back home, back to Godhead, and by Your ecstatic kirtans crushing their hearts of stone and blowing up again the fire of love of Krishna in them.

With humility and gratitude for Your mercy and everything,

Bhakta Danca (Neratovice CZECH REPUBLIC)



 (Bhakta) Dean Smith

Hare Krishna Guru Maharaj,

And a very happy 60th Appearance Day.
You are truly an inspiration to all who
meet you...your wisdom, knowledge, wit,
and guidance brings happiness wherever
you travel..may your day be showered
with blessings!

Dean Smith





Dharmānanda Dāsa

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami

I wish you all the best on your special day. When I see you my soul sparkles like a star in the spiritual sky. What you have taught me has rekindled my spiritual life toward our eternal father Krishna. Once again thank you – you are a superstar!

With love, your loving son,

Dharmānanda Dāsa (Adelaide, Australia)





Doyāl Govinda Dāsa

Hare Krishna dear Maharaja,

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

It is very inspiring seeing Your great determination in preaching the message of Lord Caitanya Maharaprabhu or following in the footsteps of Srila Prabhupada respectively. It is tremendous how You are able to be personal available for each and every devotee who asks for help. But You are also available for the devotees in general, just recently the whole world was connected to the Kirtan Mela at Sri Dhama Mayapur and yes, still You have so much energy for the explosion within the explosion while doing bhajans.

The greatest experience for me from last Vyasa-Puja till now was actually not directly with You but during the Vyasa-Puja of HH Jayadvaita Maharaja.

Receiving the mercy so that I could be part of the celebration at Mayapur I realized how much appreciation, acknowledgement and satisfaction Jayadvaita Maharaja expressed for You. Mostly He was praising You and this shows how much You have done and if He is satisfied, Srila Prabhupada is satisfied and if Srila Prabhupada is satisfied, Krishna or Lord Caitanya is satisfied. My ability of seeing all the wonderful preaching You are doing is quiet restricted but as I saw how Jayadvaita Swami talks about You, I have understood how special You and Your activities are.

Sorry, that I do not present a philosophical offering to You but at least I tried to express my gratitude for Your service and mercy. Thank You for giving me and all my godsisters and godbrothers the opportunity of serving Srila Prabhupada and Krishna and hopefully one day I can follow in Your footsteps.

Your servant
Doyāl Govinda Dāsa





(Bhaktin) Elisha

All glories to Srila Prabhupada
All glories to Jayavaita Maharaja
All glories to you

I offer my humble obeisances to you, and
bow down to your lotus feet.

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Wishing you a fantastic Vyasa Puja day!
Hope you are in good spirits. I hope you
continue to converting people into
Krishna Consciousness for many years to
come, and that Krishna gives you the
energy to carry on with your travelling
globally.

Hope you come to Leicester very soon.
Look forward to serving you!

Your servant
(Bhaktin) Elisha (daughter of Harsarani
devi dasi)





(Bhaktin) Eurika

Hare Krishna
 Please accept my humble obeisances.
 All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
 All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita
 Swami Maharaja
 All glories, to you, Your Holiness,
 Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaja

Dear Maharaja,

All glories to you, Maharaja, on this most
 auspicious 60th appearance day!

Radhastami 2012, Durban

I remember we were watching the “chota”
 deities been taken out onto the moat. To
 get a closer view, you had come up to the
 side bar, next to where I stood. I was
 apprehensive, even to breathe, but at the
 same time, I knew that I was being
 purified, standing in the shadow of a pure
 devotee of Krishna. I then, realized and
 felt the strength of a spiritual master,
 purifying everything with a glance. I
 could feel how absorbed you were in the
 ceremony, intently watching, protectively,
 over our dear deities. I could feel the
 heaviness of the guru, who is always
 situated firmly at the Lotus feet of
 Krishna. Nevertheless, in my struggle to
 behave like a devotee, and maybe breathe
 at the same time, the facilitating devotee
 handed you a rose. You immediately took
 darshan, turned and handed this
 prasadam to me. My world stood still.

Up to that point had never ever felt that I
 was aspiring to be your disciple. I felt I
 would never be accepted. As you handed
 me this, you smiled, nodded, bringing me
 in to this kingdom of Srila Prabhupada's.
 Your mercy has no bounds.

Becoming attached

Most trying was when you were in poor
 health. I recall, ironing Srila Prabhupada's
 cloth at the library at Sri Sri Radha
 Radhanath. Only a door separated me
 from your Holiness. What an austere
 experience! At times, I just wanted to go
 in and offer what ever it was that you
 needed. Just to make everything ok.
 When you had left South Africa, I
 received a text from a devotee, “Did you
 get the email about Maharaj?”

My heart stopped. Fear took over me. My
 Spiritual Master, are you ok? These
 thoughts raced through my mind. I was
 lost. Panic set in. I gathered up the
 courage to see what this notice was about,
 fortunately all was well. I realized my
 attachment to your Holiness. It was then
 that I realized that every instruction is
 eternal and that every endeavor made in
 Krishna Consciousness is empowered by
 the mercy of the Guru. I realized the
 urgency to follow your instructions.

Firmly Fixed

I recently visited a hospital. I was
 surrounded by death, disease, old age. I
 realized how fortunate I am to be in the
 presence of your Holiness. I realized that
 the Guru, the bona fide Guru will lead,
 forth right his disciples and diminish any
 fear at the time of death. He will guide
 his disciple every step of the way, and
 carry the disciple. The Guru, your
 Holiness, is firmly fixed, under any
 circumstance. But the success of this
 relationship is dependant upon the
 disciple to surrender and have complete
 faith in Guru. It is my surrender to you.

Maharaja, I have not performed any fire sacrifice. I have not taken any vows. But I endeavor to follow your instructions, direct or indirect: “chant, read, do something practical for Krishna”. Your message never changes. You encourage and inspire continuously. You are patient, to no end. You so kindly have guided me, such a rotten individual, and patiently waited for me to mature in this movement, never giving up on me. You remind me to always think of Krishna, and never forget him. For this, I am forever indebted.

You are the servant of the servant of Srila Prabhupada. You are the representative of Krishna. All glories, all glories, all glories to you, Your Holiness, on your 60th appearance day!

I sincerely pray to Srimati Radharani, for your complete health and wellbeing. Please forgive me for any offenses I may have caused.

A fallen, forever aspiring soul,
Eurika (South Africa)





(Bhakta) Frantisek Stichauer

Hare Krishna

I want to thank you for everything

You are you my real friend. I feel that through your kirtan, lecture and your personal instruction. Your opinion and help is unique and revolutionary. I like that. Photos and movies from Our harinam sankirtan traveling party you can see on our website:

www.krishnastreetfestival.com

This is our main offering for you

Thank you very much

Sorry for my bad English

(Bhakta) Frantisek Stichauer





Gauravāṇī Dāsī

My dearest Guru Maharaj
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 the fallen souls. His mercy turns the dumb into eloquent speakers and enables the lame to cross mountains."

You know me best and in your association. I can see if I am off or I do maybe some progress... As you told me soo many times that life is not easy, as much as we try to do some preaching, try to be more KC ourselves and do more things for Srila Prabhupad and Krishna that much is closer and stronger Kali with his guns (envy, hatred, strife, misunderstanding) and that my heart breaking.

I am sometimes just finding myself completely stuck like in the middle of the sea, or totally lost in the dark and I cant see.

I need your light, your protection(guiding, balance sheet, enthusiasm...) because without you I am only useless human being, a rascal.

Dear Guru Maharaj, I am fortunate to be your disciple and have you in my life but also soo unfortunate that I am not a good disciple and I am such a rascal. I hope that maybe one day I will be and you'll be proud of me.

Thank you for everything and specially that you are always here for me, you love me as I am and you always giving light in my life, only what can I say, "you are the best"

Hare Krishna
your rascal daughter
Gauravāṇī Dāsī



 Girivaradhārī Dāsa,
Prema Mayī Devi Dāsī,
Manhar & Nimai

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa presthāya
bhū-tale
śrimate kadamba kānana svāmin iti nāmine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya
bhū-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita svāmin iti nāmine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya
bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine*

*namas te sārāsvate deve
gaura-vānī-pracārīne
nirvīṣesa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-desa-tārīne*

Dearest Guru Maharaj,

On this auspicious day of your Vyasa Puja, we offer you our humble obeisances. Thank you for being so kind to us and we really believe that under your shelter and guidance we will go back to Godhead in this lifetime.

Firstly we feel so bad that we couldn't be part of the Vyasapuja this year in Radhadesh. With so many devotees from South Africa attending this festival, we really feel sad that we could not attend. Hopefully we will plan it for the following

We regularly hear your lectures and kirtans, and they are so amazing. Thank you to the KKS blog website for constantly keeping us updated with your amazing spiritual activities. One of my favourite kirtan is whilst you were in South Africa, Capetown on the 31 Dec 2012. When I heard this kirtan for the first time (Hare Krishna Mahamantra bhajan), it actually brought tears of joy in my eyes. For the first time I felt that I don't belong in this material world. As you have many times mentioned in your classes that by constantly hearing the holy names one become purified and you become more inclined towards Krishna consciousness. This really works in practical life. Your lectures have so much deeper meanings and I simply glorify how amazing is Srila Kadamba kānana Swami. Thank you to Srila Jayadvaita Swami for empowering you in serving Lord Krishna.

Once I asked you, how to advance in Spiritual life, and you mentioned that I should start reading Srila Prabhupada books. I have never been inclined in reading books. So at the start I was a bit hesitant. But I have now started reading Srila Prabhupada books and Srimad Bhagavatam. And they have so much in depth knowledge and it really changes your thinking and motivates you to read more and more.

I want to share a special moment we had with you. I still remember before our initiation, we (myself and my wife) met you in London. We were trying to find our way to the Radha- Krishna temple by analysing the Tube map and which route to take. We saw two stationary trains heading in the same direction. And one was about to leave. For some reason we didn't board that train. Whilst we were waiting to board the other train, we saw you coming towards us. It was so nice to see you and finally felt that now we will never get lost,jai.

Afterwards, I thought everything happens for the good. We were meant to meet you. We left together to the temple. By this time I had thrown the map since you knew which station to get off. After leaving you at the brahamachari room, and taking darshan of the deities, we went down to the Govindas restaurant to have some prasadam. After a little while we saw you leaving for japa walk and you waved at us. We also left shortly thereafter to buy some souvenirs. So I think we came back to temple after one and half hours and thought of having some cake. And suddenly we saw you next to our table and said you are still eating jai!!!

We would like to thank you once again.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada! All glories to Jayadvaita Swami! All glories to Srila Kadamba Kanana Swami!!

Your humble servants
Girivaradhārī Dāsa, Prema Mayī Devi
Dāsī, Manhar & Nimai (Pretoria, South Africa)





Gītā Govinda Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada, all glories to Gurudas Jayadvaita Swami, all glories to you dearmost Guru Maharaj.

*Yasha prasada bhagavat-prasado
yashaprasadam na gatih kuto 'pi
dhyayan stuvams tasya yasas tri-sandhyam
vande guro sri-caranaravindam*

This verse in particular from the Sri Sri Guru-astakam from the first time I heard it, affected me very deep, without even knowing the meaning of it.

By the grace of the spiritual master one obtains the mercy of Sri Krsna. This means no spiritual progress without the grace of the spiritual master. Actually not everyone is fortunate to get an opportunity to associate with a bonafide spiritual master by the grace of Krsna. Meeting, associating with, serving and receiving the causeless mercy of a bonafide spiritual master is therefore the greatest fortune.

In "The Spiritual Master And The Disciple," based on the teachings of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, his disciples refer to the Cc Madhya 19.151:

*Brahmanda bhramite kona bhagyavan jiva
guru-krsna-pradade paye bhakti-lata bija*

"Out of many millions wandering living entities, one who is very fortunate gets an opportunity to associate with a bonafide 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".

This means that we, devotees, are undoubtedly very fortunate by getting the chance from Lord Krsna to meet a bonafide spiritual master, in our case His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaj. When I met You Guru Maharaj. I on the one hand was not aware of this fact, I mean of being so fortunate. On the other hand the question arose in me "How dare I make Krsna (the most merciful) wait so long for me". This realization really shook me up. When I put the first steps into this movement I really thought that if I just study the scriptures seriously and practice them in a sincere way, the connection with Krsna could be made easily. Actually at that time I did not understand the real meaning and necessity of having a Guru. Till I read the following in "The Spiritual Master and the Disciple", page 24 - 25: "Therefore in the Mukanda Upanisad (3.2.3.) it is said, *nayam atma pravacanena labhyat na medhaya na bahuna srutena*: one cannot become self-realized simply by having an academic education, by presenting lectures in an erudite way (*pravacanena labhyah*), or by being an intelligent scientist who discovers many wonderful things. One cannot understand Krsna unless one is graced by the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Only one who has surrendered to a pure devotee of Krsna and taken the dust of his lotus feet can understand Krsna... One must take shelter of a self-realized spiritual master, not a materially educated scholar of politician. One must take shelter of a *niskincana*, a person engaged in devotional service and free from material contamination. That is the way to return home, back to the Godhead".

This realization I reckon is very important for all of us, and in essential is the root of spiritual life. Spiritual progress is not a matter of having a Guru, but having faith in Guru unconditionally, and of course also in Krsna! From this essential point of view I have started my gradual progress under the instructions of Your Divine Grace. And only by Your mercy I am where I am now in my day to day struggle to become a worthy servant of You.

Guru Maharaj, it is only You who were able to connect me to Lord Krsna. You are my Lord birth after birth. These are not empty words. I know that for me the real truth of these words are still hidden but by Krsna's mercy I am more and more feeling Your shelter, by receiving and following Your instructions, by your approach of every living entity with a softhearted attitude and last but not least by your enormous patience with this fallen soul, still living in dualities. Your softness, Your love for Guru and Gauranga melts my stonelike heart and because You love Your disciples so much, I pray that I may never disappoint You. Like a student always wants to make his teacher proud. Even when You are not always physical present while - in the footsteps of Srila Prabhupada - travelling all over the world for the sake of preaching and bringing our movement further, even then You are still near, while carrying Guru (and Krsna) in my heart. I hope one day my love for You will be full and complete.

The way You seriously and sincerely keep continuing kirtans which lead us to ecstasy and thus bring us back to the past times of Caitanya Mahaprabhu, Your unlimited love and service to Sri Guru and Gauranga by spreading sankirtana all over the world, your courage to continue lectures and kirtans during hard times regarding your recovery, show how much You care for Your devotees. Satisfying them through storm and rain, even in painful situations, is for the sake of the pleasure of Sri Krsna - Your only aim on this material platform.

To me personally it means that your deep and sincere respect for Srila Prabhupada, your unconditional love and faith in Krsna, Your enthusiasm and inspiration are the flames which empower me and make me continue my path of Krsna consciousness in a very sincere way to achieve my ultimate destiny: back to Godhead.

How can I thank you dearest Gurdeva for changing my life and bringing me back to the essence of life namely my position as a servant of a servant of a servant of Sri Krsna.

May Your Giriraj continue to bestow His unlimited mercy upon You!

My most warm greetings (also from both my daughters Aarti and Kirti Kumari devi dasi)

Your not yet qualified servant

Gītā Govinda Devi Dāsī





Godruma Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances unto Your Lotusfeet.

All glories to You.

All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Now a year has past since You generously initiated me and with this gave me entrance to the spiritual realm. I am so grateful for that - now my life has a meaning!

So causeless, so unlimited is Your mercy that You are giving in every moment to everyone of Your disciples, not keeping anything for You. We can be very sure about this, this permanent stream of mercy You are shedding on our heads.

In my case I see more and more that there can be no reason for this. Every time when You're giving me Your precious association, I can very clearly see how dumb and still immature I am. Having not the proper understanding and attitude, yet what it means to be Your disciple, I'm committing one offense after another against Your Lotusfeet and I am getting aware of it just when You are long gone. Please forgive me. It is so stupid and again embarrassing thinking about the moments with You when I'm not at all able to relate to Your warmly, kind and bright shining well wishing attitude towards me. I'm a fool thinking myself being advanced. And You are just tolerating me and keeping on giving me all I need to serve You and the mission of Caitanya Mahaprabhu which is so dear to You.

Now I would like to finally accept this gift. Please bless me with the intelligence to do so, for that I can be a real disciple not merely a crippled mercy case. Also would I like to be able to stay fixed in my devotional service, always remembering Your causeless mercy and fulfilling all my promises and maybe more I gave to You in front of the vaisnavas and Krishna so that You will be free from suffering any reactions.

Godruma Dāsa





Gokulesh Dāsa

*nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya
bhu-tale
srimate kadamba kanana svaminn iti
namine*

Dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisances at
Your lotus feet
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Sripad Jayadvaita Swami
Maharaj.
All glories to You on this most auspicious
day.

I am standing at the edge of the ocean of
Your qualities, trying to describe the
inconceivable depth of your boundless
mercy and kindness. Please forgive my
inability to adequately glorify You on
Your 60th Vyasa Puja celebration and
accept these broken words.

Seva Samyuta and I have been visiting a
devotee at the Groote Schuur hospital this
past week. It is such a place of physical,
mental and emotional suffering. Of
course, it is a microcosm of the material
world – just stark in its reality. The truth
there is plain to see – that no conditioned
soul can escape the inevitability of disease
and death. I found myself wishing that
You were physically present with us to
bless those patients.

Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu said, "A first
class Vaisnava is he whose very presence
makes others chant the Holy Name of
Krsna." (CC. Madhya-lila 16.74).

Srila Prabhupada elaborates in the
purport, "Such a maha-bhagavata
Vaishnava has the transcendental eyes to
see who is sleeping under the spell of
maya, and he engages himself in
awakening sleeping conditioned beings by
spreading the knowledge of Krishna
consciousness. He opens eyes that are
closed by forgetfulness of Krishna. Thus
the living entity is liberated from the
dullness of material energy and is engaged
fully in the service of the Lord.. He thinks
that everyone is competent to accept
Krishna consciousness if the chance is
provided."

Guru Maharaj, by Your very presence, let
alone Your words and deeds You are
uplifting us from a miserable existence.
How can we ever repay You?

During a recent trip to Cape Town, You
were kindly encouraging us to strive to
achieve perfection in this very life. You
humbly pointed to Yourself as an example
of how to make advancement through
sadhana bhakti. You asked us not to view
Your example as something unattainably
rare or to consider it unrealistic for us to
achieve. That mentality would be a
disservice to the devotees – You pointed
out.

Thank you for Your encouragement that
touches us in such a real and human way.
Thank you for understanding and
dispelling our doubts with Your kindness
and generosity.

Recently I heard the following from HH Radhanath Swami Maharaj, “A devotee seeing other devotees getting blessed, seeing other devotees being empowered, seeing other devotees joyful, that should be our happiness. That is a Vaishnava, that is the standard of Vaishnava.”

Guru Maharaj, You are such a vaisnava; free from envy, encouraging us beyond our material abilities, showing us real happiness. How is it possible to ever repay You?

You wrote in a Vyasa Puja offering to Srila Prabhupada in 2009, “Every day, by your mercy, I am changing a little bit, as if you are slowly chiseling a devotee out of a block of stone.” Guru Maharaj, you are doing the very same to us ... transforming our hearts, bit by bit.

On this day, I am praying to constantly remember You and Your wonderful example and activities. I am praying that You beat some understanding and realisation of Your mercy into my dull brain. I am praying to one day be of some service to You.

Je prasade pure sarva asa

Your servant,
Gokulesh Dāsa (Cape Town – South Africa)





Gopālī Dāsī

My dearest, most beloved Guru Maharaja,

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

Again time of this wonderful festival, time of your Vyasa Puja is here, when we get the chance to reveal thoughts and feelings we have been hiding in our hearts the whole year. I believe offering is not just a matter of sitting down and writing something nice, trying to compose something which deeply touches your heart. I believe whole year, every day, all activities, austerities, endeavours and service we perform should culminate into a fruit we are trying to present you on this special day. I believe every moment of our life should be an offering to you.

My good husband Paramesvar lately told me how once you had told him: “If I did not protect you, you would not survive all these years.” I feel fear when I imagine what could have happened to us if you did not stand by us. Our spiritual seed could have been heavily damaged. I am also thinking about how much we are built out of your mercy. How fragile I am. How little power I have. What would I be without you? Often I contemplate on the fact, as you explain in your lectures, that we are devotees thanks to merciful glance of Lord Caitanya. The change in our heart is not because of our own piety but because Lord Caitanya mercifully smiled at us. And yes, with time I realize more and more how much this is true. How helpless I am. How I cannot do anything if Krishna does not blow the sakti into me. My dear Guru Maharaj, thank you so much for protecting our devotional

creeper all these years. Thank you so much for mercifully smiling at us. Thank you so much for keeping an eye on us and leading us with your instructions, lectures and spotless example. Thank you so much for giving me back my real life. Thank you for leading me from this dark place of materialism, full of forgetfulness of Krishna, into world of light, happiness, world of remembrance of our Lord. I feel sad when I realize I have actually done nothing substantial for you. I am living as a parasite, trying to nourish my spiritual life from your energy. When will I be able to serve selflessly? When will I forget about getting and think only of giving?

Thank you so much for initiating this unqualified soul. Although scriptures are full of examples of importance of guru, I do not understand its full meaning. Bhakti-rasamrita-sindhu claims guru to be essential for execution of any other limbs of devotional service. Without taking shelter of a bonafide spiritual master, receiving initiation, inquiring him about instructions and serving him, we cannot really enter deeply into any other of remaining 61 angas. I am not yet able to fully appreciate the gift you are offering me. Gift of connecting me to Krsna. Thank you for building this bridge.

What is particularly important to me in your example is your purity. Even in devotional service one can become attached to being glorified, one can consider himself being an important devotee, one can easily think he is more advanced than others. We have seen such examples through the history of many

religious traditions. It is not so hard to fall prey to such feelings generated by false ego. I very much pray that I never be too distracted by such impurities and be able to walk in your footsteps towards pure devotional service. Even though you are one of the main pillars of contemporary ISKCON, of mission Srila Prabhupada established, of mercy that is carried like relay from Lord Caitanya, you keep humble attitude and focus on spiritual energy and service to Krishna. Thank you for creating this example of purity that we can always look at, even in our moments of weakness.

Though there are other people I take advice from as well, somehow in my heart I feel that the connection with you is the strongest. I cannot really say why. Somebody could say it is sentimental, but just a bare look into your eyes builds strong faith in me. Your eyes are not restless as eyes of materialist. In your eyes I see depth, truth, determination to serve Krsna, kindness and purity.

I hope I will be able to carry some of the light you are carrying and with loving and kind approach give it to others. I hope I will be able to show my love to you by treating my godsiblings kindly, by serving Krishna selflessly and by loving His creation.

Though my mind is not yet Vrindavana, I pray one day it will be transformed. I may be too bold but do I have any other option than to beg you: "Will you please place your lotus feet there?" I would deem that your full mercy."

Your servant,
Gopālī Dāsī





Gopīnāthācārya Dāsa

There is so much to praise, but the simplest truth is this:

In a world where all men deem themselves and only themselves divine, and endlessly pursue passing pleasures, you do not strive to strive towards such things, but through serving a kind and uncompromising ascetic sage, seek refuge only at Govinda's feet, while you tirelessly forgo comfort to give the light of wisdom and grace you have received to those less fortunate, like this undeserving disciple, who strayed far into murky woods and is now incessantly assailed by ghosts of envy, anger, and greed, while wounded by the fiends delusion, pride, and lust. There is nothing more wondrous than this.

Gopīnāthācārya Dāsa





Gour Mohan Dāsa

Dear Kadamba Kanana Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your holy lotus feet.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaj.
All glories to You, the saviour of the fallen souls.

You have already passed 60 years in your transcendental body and have thereby given the world an opportunity to associate with Your Holiness. From your mouth there is a never ending flow of transcendental nectarine Krishna-Katha and Krishna-Kirtan, with which you inundate us fallen souls and give us a glimpse of the spiritual world. Every step that you put, every word that you speak, every thought that you have, every movement that you do is solely meant for the glorification of Krishna and to inspire us, your humble servants, to do same. Anyone with a little intelligence can see this very clearly.

Even though you are on such a transcendental plane beyond the realm of our insignificant perception of our senses, we can clearly perceive that the activities of your body are slowing down. And yet still you try to increase ever more your service to Krishna. In the Cc. 3.4.191 it is stated, “The body of a devotee is never material. It is transcendental, full of spiritual bliss.” This is just another pastime of yours in order to give your disciples an opportunity to serve you intimately. In your service to Krishna you always went “full speed” not considering your physical condition, as your Holiness

once revealed to me confidentially. And now it is our, your humble disciples, duty to go full speed! Not listening to our mind, who is constantly telling us: “Oooh dear fellow don’t be too fanatic, just relax and enjoy Krishna Consciousness. You have a guru, you don’t have to worry.” My humble desire is not be another burden in your life, but to be of great help in your service to Krishna. This is my bold statement. May they tell me “You proud fool how can you help your guru?” My answer will be: “I want to be a transparent medium totally acting according to the instructions of my spiritual master. So I am not helping Him, but He is kindly acting through me by His transcendental instructions.” This attempt of mine is just like a child who wants to help his father carrying heavy loads. The father gives him a bunch of carrots to acknowledge his sons attempt and the child thinks “Oh, I am of such big help to my father”.

By your kind mercy you are engaging me in the most sublime activity of book distribution and am thus able to distribute a few books here and there. To offer you the scores is also just like when the father has birthday the son asks for pocket money, and buys with the father’s money a present for his father.

But still, in both above mentioned examples the father is pleased with his son. So also I hope that you are pleased with my childlike attempts to serve you. But as you said in a lecture in Simhachalam, “Sometimes my disciples ask me, ‘Are you pleased by my service?’ And I may smile and say ‘Yes,’ but my heart may not agree and I cannot command my heart. So you have to win my heart” When hearing this I made a vow: By hook or crook I will somehow or other steal your heart, even if I will have to try for lifetimes. I don’t care. This is my only and sole goal which I carry on my head like a jewel. And one day, a glorious day, a perfect day, the best of all days I will succeed and then the purpose of my very existence will be fulfilled and if I fail to do so I shall rot in this material world forever!

Your disciple
Gour Mohan Dāsa





Govinda Dāsa

My dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my deepest obeisances. I'm bowing down to your lotus feet.

From memories of my life, I was reared as a Christian for the first 22 years. Next 22 years I was concerned with mysticism, healthy nutrition, hatha-yoga and I had the impersonal concept of creation. I was very much attracted to India and to books about India.

When I was 42 years old I got to know Prabhupada's books. They really drew my attention. I felt they had a wonderful strength. Gradually I became attached to Lord Krishna as to infinitely merciful Personality. I'm very very grateful to Prabhupada and to you, that you took me under your protecting wings. I have a boundless dependence upon you and in my almost 64 years I will try to always only please you and don't make any troubles, and to serve you and your servants.

To the future I wish you a strong health and inspiring vitality. Your kirtans are heavenly... One more time I'm bowing down deeply. Thank you many times for your boundless mercy which you show me. I endlessly thank also for the spiritual name you have given me.

Your trivial servant with big optimism about future.

Govinda Dāsa





Guna Mani Nitāi Dāsī

My dear Guru Maharaja,

Bliss is your entourage;
My father, friend and guru,
A relationship that's true.

'To take me back to Godhead', so you
have vowed:
Tears of joy I secretly shed; at your feet I
bowed,
Overwhelmed with gratitude:
I am yours, in loving servitude.
The yajna had its impact:
Now we've made a pact;
Now I won't go back;
Now I can't be slack.
Regret that spin? Why should I?
To a life of sin, I wave goodbye!
With your grin, my heart you tie;
My faith you win, my doubts thus die.
'To preach' is your instruction,
'In speech, ... and in action',
I long to surrender,
All wrong torn asunder.
Your chastisement is rose,
No need to cry or be morose.
Your encouragement is prose,
Indeed like a sun that rose.
You are present when I fall,
You are present when I crawl;
You are present through it all,
You represent the Supersoul.
From the swamp of material life, you
picked me up;
From the storm of miserable strife, you
propped me up.
To ever repay you, how can I?
To never disobey you, I shall try!
Oh Kadamba Kanana Swami,
Commander in Prabhupada's army;
Modern day Paramahansa,
Kirtan is your eternal rasa.
You allow my blind eyes to see,
I follow you in rapt ecstasy.
Grown * mainly * by thy * mercy,
Guna * Mani * Nitai * Dasi.



Guṇḍicā Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja

Please accept my most humble and sincere obeisances.

All glories to Your divine lotus feet.
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to this most auspicious and special Vyasa-puja.

While writing this offering, I realise how much more there is to be grateful for but first and foremost, somehow by the mercy of Gauranga, my heart softened and opened up enough to see that You are the right choice, the first right choice I've ever made in this lifetime and it certainly is my most humbling and the most significant experience in this lifetime.

There are no words to glorify you, Maharaja. A mere 'Thank You' just doesn't seem enough but I do Thank You eternally. My only desire is that I will learn to please You and to remain loyal to your mission, take Your instructions and serve the devotees as I am a mere servant and have no other position than this.

The glorification, devotion and pure love for Kṛṣṇa in Maharaja's voice during kirtan penetrate the very core of my heart and my soul is in ecstasy. This is divinity!

Maharaja, You are my only hope. I am so fallen, lost and degraded. I am praying for your kindness that You can drag me towards Kṛṣṇa. I hope to see the bigger picture but also know that just being at Your lotus feet, the blinkers will slowly be removed from my sight.

You truly are a pure, divine, great soul and my heart swells with good pride.

A most blessed and Happy Appearance Day to You, my dear Guru Maharaja.

Your lowliest and very insignificant disciple and servant of the servants of the many servants,

Guṇḍicā Devi Dāsī



Dearest Guru Maharaja

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

My offering is based upon inspiration I gained from your visit to England earlier this year, 2013. I would like to point out the most poignant memories I had with you, and describe some of the things I learnt.

At Puskar Prabhu's home, I felt the need for your personal association. Despite you being naturally very busy, I walked towards your room. You looked at me and to my surprise, you welcomed me in and encouraged me to sit next to your Govardhana sila. You put on a kirtan and devotional slide show on your i-Pad and passed it to me. You said: "This will keep you sweet"

Dearest Guru Maharaja, you know exactly what is going on in my heart. You are so accommodating, personal, caring and always ready to make everyone at ease. By your association you are keeping everyone "sweet". All glories unto you.

After you initiated Dean to Devananda Prabhu, I encouraged him to sit next to you and take your association. I stood next to him. You then began to joke about how I must have pulled him into the temple and forced him in. You then said to both of us:

"Gurudasa gets people to chant. He is shameless and would ask anyone anything".

Dearest Guru Maharaja, you are so encouraging to your disciples. I take your encouragement also as very valuable instructions. You expertly engage one's strengths and nature to increase Lord Chaitanya's sankirtana movement. All glories unto you.

Just before Hina Mataji was to take initiation (to become Harasarani Devi Dasi), you glorified her for the personal service she is doing for your website. Despite the fact that I had lazily given up that personal service over two years ago, you mentioned that I had been the one who had initially inspired her to do this service.

Dearest Guru Maharaja, you are fully appreciative of whatever little service devotees do. You never forget the services devotees have previously rendered, therefore you are so magnanimous. You are so humble, tolerant and considerate. All glories unto you.

After the Maha Kirtan in Leicester, you sat down for prasadam with some younger devotees. You inspired them, made them laugh, and I sat nearby on my own. Internally, I was envious and felt I was being ignored. These feelings grew more and more. You then looked at me from the corner of your eye and threw a flower from your garland straight on my lap, and then carried on talking to the devotees. This gesture made me so pleased and happy.

Dearest Guru Maharaja, you are inspiring everyone you meet. You are the well-wisher of everyone, but due to being blinded by ignorance, I sometimes forget this fact. You tolerate my mad mind and keep me going. You are so kind that you do not give up on your disciples and you do your very best to keep everyone enlivened. All glories unto you.

On the dining table at Puskar Prabhu's house, I kept discussing and justifying my various services at the temple. You looked me in the eye and directly said "If you really want to please me, distribute Srila Prabhupada's books".

Dearest Guru Maharaja, thank you for instructing this stubborn fool. You know exactly what the disciple is capable of, and what he is not. You know exactly what will keep the disciples inspired and you are fully aware of what is needed for this movement. You are completely sold out to Srila Prabhupada. I pray that I can be one of your limbs; this will be my perfection. All glories unto you.

Simply by remembering my own interactions with you, I can glorify you so much. However, even that would not scratch the surface of your inexhaustible glories.

Dearest Guru Maharaja, thank you for everything.

Your aspiring servant and disciple
Gurudāsa





Haṁsa Avatar Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisance onto
Your lotus feet.

All glories to You Divine Grace.

All glories to His Divine Grace Jayadvaita
Swami.

All glories to His Holiness Srila
Prabhupada.

All glories to all the Vaisnavas.

*tava kathāmṛtaṁ tapta-jīvanam
kavibhir īditaṁ kalmaṣāpaham
śravaṇa-maṅgalaṁ śrīmad-ātataṁ
bhuvi gṛṇanti ye bhūridā janāḥ*

My Lord, the nectar of Your words and
the descriptions of Your activities are the
life and soul of those who are always
aggrieved in this material world. These
narrations are transmitted by exalted
personalities, and they eradicate all sinful
reactions. Whoever hears these narrations
attains all good fortune. These narrations
are broadcast all over the world and are
filled with spiritual power. Those who
spread the message of Godhead are
certainly the most munificent welfare
workers.

Thank God like every year, according to
this verse, on this very auspicious day for
the whole world, I can here this way offer
You a few words. Like every year, thank
God, I can rack my brain what to say.
There is a lot because of Your unlimited
mercy and glory. Therefore at first I want
to say, I'm sorry for the offenses I've done
and will do.



So I want to thank You for Your graceful
munificent work, which You make us the
most fortunate souls through devotional
service, You giving us roles in the
pastimes of the Lord Gaurāṅga and His
association. We were born without any
verve without any ambition to serve,
deeply absorbed in material conditions.
We have played still the same boring
drama still the same repetition changing
just according to our karma. Life after life,
birth after birth, husband or wife, don't
understand, human or plant, when does it
ends? Deeply absorbed in this status due
to lust, envy and greed, we don't know
our eternal focus, helpless without true
love we need. Even more drowning in
material conditions we don't know our
situation. Then You came singing and
dancing, spreading the fame and beauty of
the Supreme and their company, teaching
the duty of a soul.

For eternity I am dive in dark depth of
ignorance without any glance of hope, full
of fear where to go and what to do, but
You're so dear and gave me rope, whip
me out to the light. This way You have
shown me the most valuable treasure with
which nothing can measure. During the
whole history of this material world the
living beings are searching for that jewel
which is in this "golden" age so much
accessible.

What then can I offer to You? So I would
like to promise here that at least I will be
more sincere to You. I would like to offer
You my heart and ask if I can still be a
part of Your divine family.

Thank You for Your kind care and love.
Wish You mercy of all Vaisnavas
everywhere.

Your trying to be servant of Your servant,

Haṁsa Avatar Dāsa



Harṣarānī Devi Dāsī

All glories to the Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Srila Jayavaita Maharaja.
All glories to Kadamba Kanana Swami.

Please accept my humble obeisances. I
bow down to your lotus feet endlessly. I
take shelter at the dust of your lotus feet,

Dear Kadamba Kanana Maharaja,

A very happy Vyajasa Puja day to you!
Today is a most auspicious day, your
Vyajas Puja day. A day for remembering
your appearance in this planet. Somehow
I cannot imagine life without you. My
daily life is filled with thoughts of you.

*‘tṛṇād api sunīcena
taror api sahiṣṇunā
amāninā mānadena
kīrtanīyaḥ sadā hariḥ’
(Sistastikam, verse 3)*

‘One should chant the holy name of the
Lord in a humble state of mind, thinking
oneself lower than the straw in the street;
one should be more tolerant than a tree,
devoid of all sense of false prestige, and
should be ready to offer all respect to
others. In such a state of mind one can
chant the holy name of the Lord
constantly’. (Sistastikam, verse 3
translation).

Again and again you stress to us from
your lectures about chanting with taste
and the importance of chanting all our
rounds especially in the early morning,
due to you fully knowing the higher taste
and the powers of the ‘Maha mantra’
which gains Kṛṣṇa’s attention especially
when it is chanted without any offences.
Your love for the holy name just oozes
out from your lectures and especially
kirtans! It is very clear to see that you are
very close to the Supreme Personality of
Godhead.

You show great signs of respect to all
living entities, moving and non moving.
You are such a shining example which
exemplifies the characteristics of a most
tolerant and humblest extraordinary
personality, which is very inspirational
and truly amazing to witness this steady
minded sage!

It is you who have made this spiritual
journey within Krishna Consciousness
very exciting and invigorating, with new
twists and adventures with every turn.
How can spiritual life be dull? It's
evermore fresh and new with Kṛṣṇa, Srila
Prabhupada and you. It amazes me to see
that you still retain your spiritual energy
despite having health problems,
reminding us that ‘we are not this body,’
and that you are completely detached
from your bodily needs by displaying
signs of positivity and helpfulness, even
though you are in great pain at best of
times. The suffering of the deep pain that
your material body is going through
remains hidden to us all, due to you not
showing us any visible symptoms of pain
or suffering, which seems to remain
deeply within your heart. Hence,
externally there are no signs of weakness
or frailty.

I wish I had the power to take all your
health problems away, so that you could
eat as many cream cakes and puris filled
with cream as you like! But I don’t think
that you would want to eat them, even if
you were given the choice, since the taste
you have for the holy name is very sweet
and far more sweeter and relishable than
any other cream cakes or sweet products,
which are just tasteless and not very sweet
or satisfying for the soul.

*‘cakhu-dān dilo jei,
janme janme prabhu sei,
divya jñān hrde prokāśito
prema-bhakti jāhā hoite,
avidyā vināśa jāte,
vede gāy jāhāra carito’*

(Guru Vandana Verse 3)

‘He opens my darkened eyes and fills my heart with transcendental knowledge. He is my Lord birth after birth. From him ecstatic prema emanates; by him ignorance is destroyed. The Vedic scriptures sing of his character.’ (Guru Vandana Verse 3, translation).

It was not so long ago when you came to Leicester, and it was wonderful to see you again after such a long time. The most auspicious day was that Sunday when you accepted me as your spiritual daughter. I thank you a million times for accepting me and taking me under your wing as a member of your spiritual family. I really don’t deserve this, but you are evermore merciful, very sweet and kind. I didn’t want the weekend to end, if only it could have been as long as the night of Brahma! I didn’t feel that I was very attentive towards you and feel ashamed to say it. I wanted to serve you personally but was unable to do so. I felt so saddened by that. At times, I felt speechless in your presence, and didn’t feel that I had utilised my time with you at the best of my capabilities. I really do hope to make the most of it for when I see you the next time.

You have taken the time out to spend some time with me, for which I am eternally grateful for. Even my own material father didn’t make any time for me when he was alive! I had never experienced what it was like to have a father, since he was never around. You are like the father figure that I had always wanted and craved for, and at last Kṛṣṇa has made my wish come true! You have been very supportive towards me over the year and I feel totally indebted to you. I do not know how I can repay you. You have given me so much, but I don’t have much to give, but to be faithful towards you, to please you, to do my best in following your instructions, and try to become a more useful instrument, rather than a useless one.

You are the evermore well wisher and a personal servant of Kṛṣṇa. A very extraordinary personality who is aspiring us all continuously through your spiritual knowledge and saintly characteristics. I hope to remain fixated at your lotus feet and carry the dust from your lotus feet onto my head for protection and shelter. May Kṛṣṇa always remain by your side and protect you like He has always done so in the past!

Your aspiring servant/instrument &
spiritual daughter

Harṣarāṇī Devi Dāsī





Hemāṅga Caitanya Dāsa & Smita Kṛṣṇa Devi Dāsī

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

*namo om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya
bhu-tale
srimate jayadvaita -swamin iti namine*

*namo om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya
bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-swamin iti namine*

Dear Srila Gurudev,

Please accept our humble obeisances at
your lotus feet,
All glories to Srila Prabhupada and all the
Vaisnavas

Every day when it comes to chanting my
rounds, it feels like I have to chant my
rounds, but when it came to write
offering of gratitude for your vyasapuja
day, my mind jumped and said “Yes, I
want to write an offering to my dear Srila
Gurudev”. Your glorification is
non-different then the glorification of
Krishna. I remember, when you
personally handed the book “Words of
Public Hermit”, you signed it and wrote
there: “Eagerness to serve Hari, Guru and
Vaisanava is the key to success”. Although
our attempts are important, but actually
that “Eagerness” to serve Hari, Guru and
Vaisanava, comes from the mercy of
spiritual master only.

Today in the morning, when I was reading
this verse from Bhagavat Gita (9.14),

*satatam kīrtayanto mām
yatantaś ca dr̥ḍha-vratāḥ
namasyantaś ca mām bhaktyā
nitya-yuktā upāsate*

In the purport, Srila Prabhupada writes
that “symptoms of Mahatma are that he is
always engaged in chanting the glories of
the Supreme Lord Krishna, and he has no
other business”.

When I read this, immediately you
appeared in my mind, yes, you are such a
mahatma, for you are always chanting the
glories of the Lord’s name, form, His
qualities and pastimes. Another synonym
of the word “mahatma”, Srila prabhupada
explains, is “Sadhu” whose symptoms are
that he is tolerant, merciful and friendly
to all living entities (SB 3.25.21). To me,
you are embodiment of these qualities
and this is why you have satisfied your
spiritual master His Holiness Jayadvaita
Swami.

We have personally seen it so many times,
in so many ways, you exhibiting these
qualities again and again – even while
taking your breakfast in the morning,
even sacrificing your rest time, you are
always talking to devotees, encouraging
them, guiding them in their spiritual
journey, being merciful to all.

Even in 2011, when you flew from South Africa to Sydney to conduct 'faith retreat,' you only arrived a day before and that also after the intense weekend preaching event in South Africa. You had very little time to rest. There was 10 hours time difference and the weekend retreat was fully packed up with different programmes, including series of lectures in the morning and afternoon with only little break, but you kept on going as normal. Not only that, on Saturday evening, after dinner prasadam, there was no scheduled programme but you did the most amazing kirtan event with a slideshow of your favourite deities of Sri Sri Radha Syamasunder. You sang sweet bhajans till late night, it was totally mind blowing. You always give more than 100% in whatever you do. Standing at the back amongst the devotees, I remember myself thinking there is no way you could do this unless you are personally blessed by Lord Nityananda. You tolerate long flights, time differences from wherever you fly, and what not only to glorify Krishna and to help devotees, you take all the troubles

On 14th Feb in Simhachalam, in Srimad Bhagavatam class, you spoke about how spiritual master is precious and rare personality. You said that a spiritual master is not often found in the world and it's not a very common thing and one must look at the credits that he has with Krishna. Also you mentioned in one of the classes, that all the good things will come out by taking the holy name. Your words have become a meditation for me. This gift of the holy name that you have given us, can never be repaid. You are teaching us how not to look at the vaisnavas with the inclination to find faults, but only to glorify their services what they have done, in essence, to become nidosā darsi.

Guru Maharaj, please grant us your mercy so that we can develop all the good qualities for your satisfaction. We desire to take your shelter again and again, asking for your causeless mercy because only by doing so, we will be able to selflessly serve the mission of Srila Prabhupada.

We beg to remain your humble servants
always,
Hemāṅga Caitanya Dāsa & Smita Kṛṣṇa
Devi Dāsī





(Bhakta) Hemant Bhaga

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaj

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to HH Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Your Divine Grace.

Who can Understand
Who can understand the heart and mind
of a Sannyasi
Taking on all that austerities,
Constantly different places and faces,
The goal – to take us back home,
Sometimes with no voice at all.

The class, always inspirational and witty
The Kirtan, a glimpse into the spiritual
world
The blog truly beneficial.

What can one offer Thee
On this glorious occasion?
My kind sentiments fall short
Nevertheless with humility
I thank Thee.

Your servant
Bhakta Hemant Bhaga (Benoni, South
Africa)





Ikṣvāku Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my dandavats at your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

On this auspicious day of your appearance, I would like to offer a few words of appreciation and glorification.

Even if one wonders for many millions of years, from the time of creation until the time of annihilation, one cannot get free from the path of material existence unless one receives shelter at the lotus feet of a pure devotee.

A student is to be considered perfected when he understands the identity of the holly name and the Supreme Lord.

Unless one is under the shelter of a realized spiritual master, his understanding of the Supreme is simply foolishness.

Guru Maharaja, years of your selfless service to your spiritual master, Srila Prabhupada, many individual devotees and the conditioned souls seems to fructified in your personality, decorating you with extraordinary realization, devotion, wisdom, mercy, strength and enthusiasm. You travel around the world sharing these gifts, spreading the glories of the devotional service. The religious principles are established in the character and activities of a saintly person.

You made a bridge by which I could connect myself with you and Krishna. How can I ever repay this debt. Anyone who thinks that he can repay this debt to the guru is described as a vinoda patram, a joker. A joker's activities simply arouse laughter and a person who tries to repay the spiritual master become a laughing stock, because it is not possible to repay such debt.

Your servant
Ikṣvāku Dāsa





Indrabhatta Dāsa & Gokula Taruṇī Devi Dāsī

Our dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

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

All glories to your Divine Grace, Maharaj.

It is once again time to ponder about the impact that you, Maharaj, have had on our lives. Thank you, Maharaj, for having helped us to find the way to the glorious world of Srila Prabhupada and the path home, back to Godhead. Life throws so many challenges at us that at times we are trapped in a maze, at times at a cul-de-sac and at times on the wrong side of the road.

For so many years of our lives, we have been travelling but without really getting anywhere. Our lives revolved around everything that gratified our senses. We worked hard so that we could be more comfortable; so that those we loved would be better off than we have been; so that we could find peace of mind in this material world. In coming to Krishna Consciousness, however, the pendulum moved from bodily concerns to a spiritual well-being; from illusion to reality and from the temporary to the eternal.



It would, however, be somewhat of an exaggeration to intimate that we had not been God conscious. We had the good fortune of having been born in pious families; families that read, explained and lived by the precepts of our scriptures. Actually, this up-bringing formed the very foundation from which we could travel further. At the same time, while we made attempts at being good and doing good. The real world of Krishna Consciousness lay well beyond our reach until you, Maharaj, came into our lives. You kindly and gently guided us to the highway that led to real peace and to real happiness. The scale has now tilted firmly in favour of Krishna Consciousness. We are convinced that this is the open road leading us back to Godhead. For this, Maharaj, we shall always be grateful to you.

We must admit though, that we have not as yet surrendered unconditionally to the Supreme Lord. We have not become completely detached from those who are dear to us. We also realise that time is not exactly in our favour and we need to make concerted efforts to get our priorities right; to remember Krishna always and never to forget Him.

Finally, Maharaj, on this auspicious occasion we pray that above all else, Lord Krishna would bless you with good health so that you could once again enchant the devotees with your melodious kirtans, especially during Ratha Yatras around the world.

Indrabhatta Dāsa & Gokula Taruṇī Devi Dāsī



Jāhnavī Devi Dāsī & Mukunda Mādhava Dāsa

Dear Srila Gurudeva!

please accept our humblest obeisances at
Your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja!
All glories to You dear Gurudeva!

You know how I do not like to write
letters. That is my conditioning and I am
not qualified at all to somehow praise
You, because one can understand real
glory of a pure devotee only when he
himself becomes a pure devotee. However
it is a duty of a disciple to glorify his
spiritual master. At the same time I would
like to please You by such an imperfect
trial.

Actually You deserve great appreciation of
everybody, because You are very dear to
Your spiritual master Jayadvaita Maharaja,
to Srila Prabhupada and to whole
parampara, very dear to Lord Caitanya
Mahaprabhu and to Sri Krisna because of
Your diligent and selfless preaching of
Krsna consciousness in whole world. By
Your instructions and examples You
constantly save us from under the
influence of maya and lead us in our
spiritual lives and therefore we are
eternally indebted to You. Your personal
and merciful approach to Your spiritual
children is astonishing and wonderful and
it binds us and inspires us to become
better disciples and to try to serve You
more and more. Without Your association
and instructions we would be like
orphans without their father and mother.

Therefore You are dearer to us than our
parents and dearests friends.

Dear Guru Maharaja, please forgive me
my clownish way of expressing my
gratitude, but I mean it sincerely.

We wish you many good disciples that
will please you more than us and much
spiritual strength in Your preaching of
Krsna consciousness.

Your eternal servants,
Jāhnavī Devi Dāsī & Mukunda Mādhava
Dāsa





Janamajaya Dāsa

Dear Gurudev,

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

With all my heart I thank you for the mercy you are providing me. That you are giving me happiness and the light into my life (not only to mine). Every day I thank Krsna for what He's doing for me, I pray that He engages me in devotional service to vaisnavas and yourself. Every day I think about the instructions you gave me and I try to fulfill them and I pray to Krsna for the strength to follow what I promised you. I was nobody and you gave me new life, holy name and service to the devotees – the most sublime thing in all three worlds. Today I'm sitting in sankirtana van and I'm writing an offering for your Vyasa Puja and I'm trying to express my thanks. I pray to Krsna everytime I'm going to the street that he would empower me and bless me that I could distribute as much books as possible and this way I could please you. The life without spiritual master is empty and worthless, the attachment to the lotus feet of bona fide spiritual master fulfills all desires. Dear Gurudev, please be with us here for long time, bring me out of the depth of ignorance and take me to Srila Prabhupada.

Your eternal disciple
Janamajaya Dāsa





Jananivāsa Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Srila Prabhupada, His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja and all glories to you!

I am sitting in front of my computer, almost blank, hardly any thoughts or words in praise of you come to my mind. One should think that after over two years of travel with you, words are just flowing from my mouth like waves. That shows my character. It is said: Lava-matra sadhu sange sarva-siddhi haya. Through a fraction of a second of association with a pure devotee one can attain all perfections. I had days, weeks, months even years of association with you but still my devotion is weak, my determination flickering and my purity lacking. However you are patient, tolerant, encouraging and you are mercifully giving me chance by chance to advance in spiritual life. You literally take me by the hand and guide me on my way closer to Kṛṣṇa. Where would I be without you? Even with you, even in almost constant association of a pure devotee of the Lord, my mind draws me away from Kṛṣṇa so many times. I'm just like a child in the shopping centre, running left and right for any opportunity to find interesting things that might increase the joy in life, whereas you, knowing me to be sick, are just like the father who takes me by the hand and determinately guides me beyond all my attachments, straight to the pharmacy. In fact you are an expert doctor yourself prescribing perfect medicine for all those sincere patients willing to follow your advice.

Recently, I spent two months in Sydney, Australia in order to collect for my tickets. It was a unique experience in itself because it was the first time in my spiritual life that I lived without a mangala arati, without a temple, even without devotional clothes most of the day. I was collecting Laksmi in a city, fully centered on sense gratification. The first two weeks I went strong, still being charged up from the visit in Vrndavana, but then my batteries slowly ran out. This experience showed me where I'm at in terms of spiritual strength, having to lean on what I had learned so far. You were in contact with me via BBM and so we chatted from time to time. It is said that to appreciate someone really, one has to experience separation and this was proven right by our communication in these days. Every single word I read from you gave me so much strength. I was asking you how to handle all this direct maya and you answered: "You've entered the mouth of Agasura, now it's time to remember Krsna!" With these and many more encouraging words, all worries were gone and I continued with my service.

Now that I'm back in direct service to you, it sometimes is difficult to always appreciate you as you deserve. Mukunda Datta Prabhu told me that even pujaris serving the deities in Vrndavana, because of familiarity, may start taking the Supreme Lord Himself cheap. Being too close and familiar to you I sometimes lose sight of the full picture. In this way I commit so many offenses both unknowingly and out of passion and pure ignorance. But thinking of me as your servant, kindly forgive those. Let my normal condition be service, let my movement be centered on your satisfaction, let my thoughts dwell in your glorious character and let my words not be tainted by envy or sourness but instead be gentle and cheerful. As a child can be in good hope that one day it will walk expertly, supported by the help and guidance of his parents, so I am in good hope that one day, through your mercy, I will be able to put my conditioned nature aside and just serve you fully, with all my heart.

For now I remain your fallible servant,
Jananivāsa Dāsa





(Bhakta) Jaro (New Ekacakra)

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

I met you for the first time when you were lecturing in one Slovak town.

I consider myself to be very fortunate person when I realize that I had the chance to come there and receive the mercy you were distributing there. On that program all the people were completely fascinated and I was one of them. Whole room was completely charged and I could not understand what was going on. I did not know why such an atmosphere is there. Now I understand it was your mercy that was expanding through whole room. It was one of the most important days in my life. I got my first japa from devotees and I also spent a night in the temple. Now I understand that all this was your mercy.

I am deeply thankful to you that thanks to you I could get out of deep ignorance I was living in. I was full of impersonalism and I was coming to a point when nothing really mattered to me. Thanks to your mercy now I can look at it like if it was a bad dream.

Again I thank you from the depth of my heart. Please accept my humble obeisances.

Your eternal tiny servant,
Bh. Jaro (New Ekacakra)



(Bhakta) Jaro (Modra)

Dear Gurudeva,

Please let me touch Your lotus feet
with my head and to pay my obeisances
to Jayadvaita Swami as well.
Please let me express my desire
for Your health .

What is happening in the world around
us,
has nothing to do with fairy-tales.
However Srila Prabhupada convinced me
about the fact
of which I had been only dreaming before
that reality is magically beautiful ..
though!

I begged Him to help me
somehow to return there, back Home,
and suddenly I found myself at Your lotus
feet
among Your dedicated disciples ..

I am certainly a heavy burden for You,
but definitely I will do everything
to express my gratitude
for Your self-sacrifice ..

..because

only one thing among of all
that went through my hands is real ..
..Your helping hand
that You are giving me ..

only one desire of all I am a subject of
and it is not a desire after illusion ..
..it is a desire to please Your heart ..

only one fear of all fears
that trouble me
is giving sense ..
.. fear that I disappoint You ..

only one drug of all I have tried
is not pulling me down to hell ,
but exactly opposite ..
Your lectures full of kindness
and instructions to serve Krsna ..

along with kirtans
they strengthen my will
to become and constantly be
your servant ..

only in one point I can tell future ..
.. that You never leave us ..

Your servant
Bhakta Jaro from Modra





Jayalalitā Devī Dāsī

My dear Guru Maharaj

Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita.

All glories to You dear Gurudev on this most festive and auspicious day of your Vyasa Puja.

Although I wish I was there with you in Radhadesh on Your Vyasa Puja day, I am writing this offering while you are asleep in the next room. How fortunate I am that I get the opportunity to serve you so much, and yet I am such a delinquent that I try to tempt you with ice cream and cake, scold you about your health and subject you to watching cartoons with Tara. But I guess that is the role of a grandfather, a father, a friend and a patient, all of which you fulfil so lovingly.

I've known you for more than a decade and our relationship has had its ups and downs, but Gurudev you have always been my guide and i am ever grateful for those conversations and bbm's to check and rectify my moral and spiritual compasses. Your constant reminders and your impeccable example of how to serve Srila Prabhupada's mission are the cornerstones of my devotional life. That, coupled with the opportunity we now have to serve and associate with HH Jayadvaita Swami in BBT Africa, makes me feel even closer to Srila Prabhupada and I have double the mercy available to me. Also I have the reassurance that if you don't eat the sweets, I know HH Jayadvaita Maharaj and Jnanivasa will have the biscuits and tarts.

I humbly apologise for being so over protective of you, but I remember your words when I asked you for shelter: "All the other swamis have a one, and now I also have one. You are my first 'doctor disciple'!" Although I cannot practically treat you, I still appreciate you asking for my opinion and for your indulgences when I tell you what to do. Suffering of the material body and death are a part of my day, everyday, and when faced with the thought of your bodily sufferings, affection and fear makes me want to increase our time with you in every way I can, hence I scold you about over exerting yourself.

It's been so long since i put pen to paper to tell you how I feel, normally you are just around the corner, or an email or message away. Also, i've never felt that we have been far away even when you are on the other side of the world. But today there are I few things I would like to do. Firstly ask for apologies for my offences to you, and then to recommit myself as a disciple. I've tried to live my life in a way that is righteous. Although I might have veered from the path a few times, since meeting you i've always thought what would Guru Maharaj think of what i am doing. It has progressed to what will Krsna think of what I am doing and no matter what I am doing, or what someone is doing to me, I have the realisation the Krsna loves me and He wants me back in Goloka Vrndavan, so He sent HH Kadamba Kanana Swami to be my spiritual master and to take me back to the spiritual world.

I'm sorry that I haven't offered enough glorification, but words are not enough to convey my appreciation, and adjectives not enough to describe you and the mercy that you have not only shown me, but thousands around the world. How fortunate and blessed we all are to call ourselves your disciples, to have you as our well-wisher and friend, to be a part of this wonderful family that you have created and to be Krsna conscious. Thank you for everything you've done for me and for Tara, for your tolerance and care, your advice and your blessings. I sincerely pray that Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu continues to empower you in your preaching service and like Srila Prabhupada, you remain a lion in the coming years.

Your unqualified servant, daughter and
doctor
Jayalalitā Devī Dāsī





Jay Keśava Dāsa

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

*nama om vishnu-padaya
krishna-preshtaya bhu-tale
gurudasa jayadvaita
swamin iti namine*

*nama om vishnu-padaya
krishna-preshtaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta
swamin iti namine*

*namaste saraswati deve
gaura-vani-pracharine
nirvishesha-shunyavadi
pashchatya-desha-tarine*

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

I'm very grateful and eternally
indebited for it, that you kindly accepted
me as your student in spite of my
imperfections.

Spiritual master is really personification
of compassion of Supreme Lord. In spite
of our imperfections, you make yagna and
kindly accepted us as your students.

You are really merciful!

I pray in order to still stay your
outspoken and humble student, still
selecting shelter unto your lotus feet, life
after life.

My heart isn't pure, but I believe that in
your mercy I make some spiritual
progress and on the end of my life I can
be ready go to home, back to Godhead.

This is not possible without your mercy!
Life whoever can't be successful with your
mercy!

Spiritual master is greatest wellwisher of
all living beings, because he save living
being from cycle of birth and death.
You are this spiritual master!

I want to be still your humble servant in
spite of my imperfections, by which only
your mercy can be removed.

It is very heavily satisfyingly described
glories of spiritual master, but one is sure.
Spiritual master is most famous person,
because he leads living beings back to
home, back to Godhead and therefore he
is also very dear to Supreme Lord. And
therefore I still desire take his mercy.

Who make aparadha's unto spiritual
master, he is lost and nobody know what
happens with him.

Please give me power to still keep your
lotus feet. That is only and really shelter
in the tree planetary systems.

I have no intelligent and not good
qualities, but I believe in power, your
mercy. In power, your mercy all my
imperfections can be removed.

All glories to His Holliness Kadamba
Kanana Swami, because he takes shelter
unto lotus feet of Lord Krishna and he is
very dear for Him.

8) By the mercy of the spiritual master
one receives the benediction of Kṛṣṇa.
Without the grace of the spiritual master,
one cannot make any advancement.
Therefore, I should always remember and
praise the spiritual master. At least three
times a day I should offer my respectful
obeisances unto the lotus feet of my
spiritual master.

Still desire become your really servant

Jay Keśava Dāsa





Jay Keśavi Dāsī

My dearest Gurudeva,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All Glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All Glories to You on this most auspicious
day of Your 60th Vyasa Puja!

During the autumn season in Vrindavan, the rain washes away the accumulated dirt and the grounds become cleansed and purified. It is a season of transformation, where the breeze is cooling and where one is mesmerised by beauty all around.

“Before the rainfall, the whole surface of the globe becomes almost depleted of all kinds of energies and appears very lean. After the rainfall, the whole surface of the earth becomes green with vegetation and appears to be very healthy and strong.” (Krsna Book; A description of Autumn in Vrindavan)

Before Your Grace appeared before me, my heart was dull and dried up like a deserted wasteland. Aimlessly I walked around, running after mirages claiming to quench my thirst. Then, like a long-awaited rainfall, You appeared in my life and showered me with Your blessings of mercy. Oh, how I rejoiced over these drops of mercy.

“The clouds’ downpour is so sufficient that the rains even fall on rocks and hills and on the oceans and seas, where there is no need for water.” (Krsna Book; A description of Autumn in Vrindavan)

Guru is an infinite ocean of mercy. You shower Your grace upon us all, whether worthy or unworthy. I certainly feel most unworthy of the unlimited charity and affectionate care You have bestowed upon me. I know You to be aware of my foolish behaviours, as Guru sees straight through the heart of the disciple, yet You overlook it all and continue to carry me on the path of Bhakti. Thus, to me, You are the embodiment of pure kindness and compassion. Inspired by Your great character, I aim to lead a life of purity, truthfulness and simplicity.

“In the rainy season, when the clouds appear for the first time, the peacocks dance with joy upon seeing them.” (Krsna Book; A description of autumn in Vrindavan).

As you also appeared in my life, my soul danced jubilantly, finally knowing what its true purpose is. Now having Your association, it is in constant bliss. How much I was longing to hear about this transcendental knowledge, about The Absolute Truth. I can think of no other relationship in this world, greater than that which I have with You.

{ As you also appeared in my life, my soul danced
jubilantly, finally knowing what its true purpose is. }

“The autumn season takes away the rolling of dark clouds in the sky as well as the polluted water. Filthy conditions on the ground also become cleansed.” (Kṛṣṇa Book; A description of Autumn in Vrindavan)

Now, learning the art of Bhakti from You, You are mercifully cleansing my heart which is continuously contaminated by the dirt of material life. By allowing me service to You, my heart becomes light and filled with an indescribable ecstasy. Oh Gurudeva, because of Your compassion, my heart which was previously saturated with the heavy burdens of material life has now become lifted.

The beauty of the autumn season in Vrindavan is quite indescribable, just as Your mercy upon me.

There is certainly no shelter in the world other than the Lotus Feet of my Guru.

Your servant,
Jay Keśavi Dāśī





Jay Nitāi Dāsa

Hare Krishna Guru Maharaja,

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

We hear you telling before you start your Kirtan: "Today I make it mellow, I don't have much energy". And five minutes later the kirtan is roaring and ecstasy is increasing, sometimes for hours. Your desire to glorify Krishna is very strong.

You tell: "I will travel less I have to take care of my health". Then we hear your schedule and cannot believe how you manage this. You do not go and sit in a secluded place and focus on your bhajan as your daily routine. But, you are always into preaching travelling all around the world.

Always humble in a giving mood, always friendly with pleasing humor, always making a sacrifice to take out time for us, You show us what it means to be Krishna conscious.

You exhibit your deep taste in Krishna consciousness which is obvious. You provide a transcendental perspective on whatever happens, and not being influenced by the modes of nature. You respect all living beings as servants of Lord Krishna and treat them on that level. Therefore being with you is like being in Vaikuntha, and anxieties and big problems become insignificant when we seek your shelter.

By listening to your lectures is an adventure; it gives inspiration and understanding of the depth of Krishna consciousness. The bhajans are full of enthusiasm, joy, love, sweet and melodious. We get a lot of strength and taste in spiritual life by listening to your glorifications unto Lord Krishna.

Considering this we realize how wonderful it is that you share your time with us and we pray to Lord Krishna that you may continue to bless the world with your presence. At the same time we understand that the vapu is limited to time and space. So we become thankful for your association and for every moment that you share your love for Krishna with us. These are our greatest moments in our lives. And even more wonderful: your blessings will never stop because we are eternally connected with you as our Guru and we are your disciples. Prabhupada said that there was not a moment when he was alone, his spiritual master was always with him. In the same way we can be always with you, if we become sincere servants. Let's not miss this precious opportunity. Let us glorify your greatness, understand your mood, follow your instructions, adopt your qualities, surrender to you, seek your guidance and become sincere servants to always be with you.

{ Always humble in a giving mood, always friendly with pleasing humor, always making a sacrifice to take out time for us, You show us what it means to be Krishna conscious. }

There are many shortcomings in our attempts, but you are giving us faith in our spiritual lives and taking us on the bhakti marga. Compassionate and with patience you tolerate all our misbehaviour and the stupid faults we make. You have more faith in us than we have on ourselves. Attached to material enjoyment, we didn't loose the faith in sex enjoyment and we realize that we are in maya. But we are confident that one day we will surrender to Krishna because of your faith in us. Inspired by your happiness in Krishna consciousness, you are our living example and show that Krishna prema is the highest goal in life. And, you lead us the way to that happiness. Your strong character & qualities give us much inspiration to overcome ignorance and be serious in devotional service.

So how can we ever thank you for all that we are getting from you? Everything we have is through your mercy. So let us use everything to please you. Lets satisfy you by not misusing Krishnas energy. Krishna provides everything and gives us the chance to use things in His service. And the bhakta is using everything to serve and glorify Krishna. What a wonderful sharing mood. That kind of loving exchange is a natural desire of every living being and the world is searching for this. Please give us the blessing that we take up this serving mood in our heart and share it with others.

When I first was seeking shelter at your lotus feet and ask to become your disciple you said: "I want my disciples to become pure devotees." It is so amazing that your desire is for our benefit. Material people have selfish motivations and want to engage others in their service. But your desire is to stop our suffering by becoming servants of Krishna. You yourself take up suffering to stop the suffering of us. What a great fortunate are we that we came in contact with you. Hopefully soon we accept your blessings by becoming free from suffering and understand the spiritual science. Then we can assist you in your mission and also bring good fortune into this world so that everyone will benefit.

After all, what can we do alone, what effect has our preaching, whats the value of our tiny dedication? Compared to your activities we are insignificant. Therefore our desire is to please you, to serve you in every way possible and assist your preaching. Sometimes I discover how I have the idea to impress you and hope to gain some respect in this way. And then I realize that you are giving me perfect shelter, so why shall I seek respect from you? When I accept your shelter my restlessness is over.

Your servant
Jay Nitāi Dāsa





Jay Rādhikā Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my most humble obeisances at Your lotus feet, all glories to Srila Prabhupada. I will never be able to repay my gratitude that i feel to You sufficently . Thank You so much that You do not reject such a rascal as I am and by Your mercy gave me a helping hand and this way You will lead me back home back to Godhead.

Please forgive me my presumption. I knew for sure that You are my Gurudev almost ten years ago, but by Your mercy and by the mercy of Krishna I can become Your disciple three years ago and ask for guidance in spiritual life. To the last of my life I will be a debtor. Thank You for opening my eyes. I used to be an egoist and still I am now somehow or other. I understand that fact by Your instruction that You gave to me. I am realizing more and more not only the depth of Your order, but also depth of Your lectures. I would like to take this instruction and make it a part of my life. I want to go deeper in the realm of neverending depth.

Your fallen servant
Jay Rādhikā Devi Dāsī





(Bhakta) Jeremy Pillay

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!



I have so many thoughts in my head right now and trying to get them out and into this letter makes me feel like an ant trying to move a mountain! If nothing else manages to come out, please at least accept my gratitude for the role you play in my life. I've been showered with your mercy and kindness ever since first seeing you. Your clear, in-depth and entertaining discourses on the vedic scriptures have created a thirst in me to try and read more. Your dedicated servitude to Srila Prabhupada has helped to nurture my faith in Srila Prabhupada. And the exemplary example you set has helped me to strive to remain faithful to the spiritual standards.

Even though our characters seem worlds apart, I try to always remember your words that "The spiritual master may be different from us, that's all right. We are not looking to develop the same nature as him, but the same level of dedication to serving Krsna."

Thank you for another year of blissful experiences and fond memories. You've over extended yourself time and time again to inspire and motivate us on our spiritual journeys and I pray for an unlimited dose of Krsna's mercy upon you.

Your aspiring servant,
Jeremy Pillay (Sasolburg, South Africa)



Kalāvatī Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna dear Guru Maharaja!

All glories to Srila Prabhupada, all glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja, all glories to You!

How does actually devotional service spread among us, the conditioned souls? How do we actually get the chance to serve God?

(CC Madhya 22.14-15)

*kāma-krodhera dāsa haṣā tāra lāthi khāya
bhramite bhramite yadi sādhu-vaidyā pāya
tānra upadeśa-mantre piśācī palāya
kṛṣṇa-bhakti pāya, tabe kṛṣṇa-nikata yāya*

So a conditioned soul becomes a servant of his lusty desires and when he doesn't satisfy them, he becomes a servant of anger, while the external energy, maya, is constantly kicking him. While wandering in the universe he can get a chance to meet a devoted doctor, whose instructions and mantras force away this witch, the external energy. In this way the living entity gets in contact with the devotional service to Lord Krishna by which he can come closer and closer to the Lord.



So a conditioned soul serves the witch maya, but as it is stated in this verse, there is someone who can cure us from her magic. Oftentimes we don't even search for the remedy, but He, the spiritual master, creates a kind of invisible stream of mercy of devotional service that is able to absorb the conditioned souls enchanted by the material energy and transform them into cooperative servants of God.

Your mercy, spiritual master, is so strong, that those who came in touch with it and accepted it are now different. They have changed and became the messengers of your mercy. It came to me, through your servant - a messenger - and my stone-like heart was conquered. By a humble but intense conviction of a person to whom you gave your mercy.

Thanks to this remedy that can destroy all the magic of the maya witch my transformation began from an enjoyer into a servant of Krishna. All glories to you, spiritual master, who by this magical stream awaken the desire to become a servant of the Supreme Lord.

Your humble servant
Kalāvatī Devi Dāsī



Kasturī mañjarī Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaj,

All glories to Srila Prabhupada, all glories to Srila Jayadvaita Maharaj, all glories to You, my eternal guide and beloved father.

Whenever there is time to write an offering to You, I am asking myself why am I unable to write an offering every day at least in my mind...contemplating about You is so uplifting and enlivening! Whenever I think about You, I can realize how unfortunate yet actually fortunate I am! I am a conditioned soul full of bad qualities, impure desires and with no qualifications and that is my misfortune, but because You are so merciful to everyone including me I am greatly fortunate! I listen to many of your recorded lectures and kirtans, I look at Your pictures or even I have Your personal association and in this way I relish Your vast wisdom and compassion and I take it as granted! What a shame! It is not granted at all, rather it is great and rare! When the day will come when I will take every word of Yours as a precious jewel, a jewel that is not so easily found in an ordinary cell phone when you push a button and you can listen to a lecture? In You there are indeed present

all good exemplary qualities of a great pure devotee of the Lord. What better model do we need to be taught? You are a personification of mercy and determination, of wisdom and compassion, You are a real kirtan avatar! If only I was able to really follow You, trying to please You on every step in my life...then my life would be perfect! Please give me one more chance, and one more and still one more, again and again! I am falling at every step, but because I see You in front of me, I rise again, I try again...I don't want to give up, never, You are keeping me alive. Thank You Gurumaharaj, thank You millions of times, I will never be able to express my gratitude enough and repay You, but I will never stop trying to do so!

Your neophyte servant
Kasturī mañjarī Devi Dāsī



{ In You there are indeed present all good exemplary qualities of a great pure devotee of the Lord. }





Kelī Lalitā Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

please accept my deepest obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada, to Jayadvaita Maharaja, all glories to You.

On this day, although I am not the most talented writer, via a few lines I would like to express my great thanks that I can be Your disciple.

Sometimes, when I realize how fortunate I am, that I happen to be in the association of devotees, that I could grow up there, I feel ashamed how little I am aware of that and how little I am able to truly appreciate this and that I take it for granted.

Some things we just take as completely natural and we do not realize at all what mercy we have got and we are telling ourselves that it is too difficult to surrender, to do the next step, move up a little bit of level higher. After all, it is easier to stay at one place and be where we are, but thanks to You I again get the taste to continue and to try to progress in the spiritual life. Your inspiring lectures and Your association always give me strength and taste.

Once, You were telling a story about Gopa-kumar, who was getting instructions from his spiritual master which he did not always understand properly, but because of his sincere following and surrendering to the instructions of the spiritual master, he started to internally understand what exactly he had to do and how to carry out these instructions correctly.

Only when a person takes the shelter at the instructions of the spiritual master, these instruction start to flourish in the heart and then the person is truly protected and after that this knowledge starts to give its fruit.

Therefore, all glories to You, Dear Gurumaharaja! I would like to thank You one more time for being so merciful and patient.

With all due respect
Your servant
Kelī Lalitā Devi Dāsī





Keśava Bhāratī Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaj,

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



This year I was extremely fortunate as I received shelter from you. I was in so much doubt about taking initiation that I finally decided to take the plunge and it's been the best thing I could have ever done. Since initiation I have been put through so many challenges but somehow I overcame them by your mercy. After initiation I realised that by becoming initiated doesn't mean that our problems go away but we get tested on how we deal with those problems because how we deal with the problems will show how much faith we have in Guru and Krishna. The only thing that kept me going through the difficulties was the instructions I had received from you, Guru Maharaj.

I want to thank you for allowing me to take shelter and giving me access to the parampara. This is the greatest gift that I have received in this life time because now I know what my purpose in this material world is. My goal now is to engage in as much service as possible, no matter the time, place or circumstance, cause this will ultimately please Shrila Prabhupada.

I pray to Lord Caitanya that I may assist Shrila Prabhupada to fulfil the instruction given by his Guru Maharaj to spread this chanting of the holy names to every town & village and by doing this I know that you will be pleased with me.

Your insignificant servant,
Keśava Bhāratī Dāsa



(Bhaktin) Klara

Hare Krishna Dear Maharaj!

Please accept my most humble obeisances
at Your lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami!

All glories to You!

(CC Adi 1.35, purport): "One should always remember that a person who is reluctant to accept a spiritual master and be initiated is sure to be baffled in his endeavor to go back to Godhead. One who is not properly initiated may present himself as a great devotee, but in fact he is sure to encounter many stumbling blocks on his path of progress toward spiritual realization, with the result that he must continue his term of material existence without relief. Such a helpless person is compared to a ship without a rudder, for such a ship can never reach its destination. It is imperative, therefore, that one accepts a spiritual master if he at all desires to gain the favor of the Lord. The service of the spiritual master is essential. If there is no chance to serve the spiritual master directly, a devotee should serve him by remembering his instructions. There is no difference between the spiritual master's instructions and the spiritual master himself. In his absence, therefore, his words of direction should be the pride of the disciple. If one thinks that he is above consulting anyone else, including a spiritual master, he is at once an offender at the lotus feet of the Lord. Such an offender can never go back to Godhead. It is imperative that a serious person accepts a bona fide spiritual master in terms of the sastric injunctions."



At last, after billions of lives in complete ignorance finally even I am beginning to realize more and more the importance of taking shelter of the spiritual master. Just a few years ago this topic was quite a lot theoretical for me, but in the course of approximately last year my desire to serve You and the need for being in Your uplifting association has grown more and more. I regret each and every another month, week and day when I'm not in Your personal association and "officially" the member of Your spiritual family, and I can hardly wait for that moment when it will change and my spiritual life will finally really start. Although unofficially, in my heart I belong to You from the beginning.

Step by step I'm starting to realize how immensely lucky I was when by the mercy of devotees, You and Srila Prabhupada I got the opportunity to engage at least a bit in this sankirtan movement of Lord Caitanya. Even though it is often quite difficult, in daily hard life it is great relief to know that Krishna arranges everything for our true benefit and that He really is our best friend. At the same time it is big commitment and responsibility for us to follow His and Your instructions with utmost care. Often this is not easy for me at all, but how Srila Prabhupada says in the purport to Bhagavad-Gita 17.2, this can be changed if one associates with a bonafide spiritual master and abides by his rules and the scriptures.

I wish I would one day by Your mercy qualify myself for being able to follow these instructions in such a way that You were satisfied with me and I could truly join Your spiritual family and this transcendental Krishna Consciousness movement.

Your silly and insignificant servant
Bhaktin Klara

Dear Guru Maharaja!

Please accept my humble obeisances!
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to Your Holiness!

Please hear my little story.

The Holy Treasure

The association with a spiritual master like you is highly rare and priceless. Whenever one has got the opportunity to meet you, one should make a special endeavor to serve you. Not a single moment should be wasted, it cannot be brought back even by the amount of gold and silver found in the whole universe. To miss this chance would be indeed much unlucky. Nothing can be even slightly compared to someone like you, who is seriously dedicated or rather supremely addicted, to execute the mission of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's sankirtan party to reclaim all fallen souls in Kali-Yuga.

The Bond Of Love

Developing and cultivating a relationship with the remarkable spiritual master is an ongoing process and not something that can be done. There are sometimes setbacks and sometimes golden hours, but the relationship cannot be broken under any circumstance. Hell or high water. It is similar to being married to someone. There is simply no question of a divorce or quitting the contract. The guru disciple relationship is heavy, immovable and at the same time an affectionate bondage to the lotus feet of Krishna.

The Pilgrimage Of Recovery

Going back to Godhead is actually an extreme superhuman project and takes maximum energy available from the sincere soul. It needs a full-hearted commitment, requires determination, patience and enthusiasm. And finally, the most important ingredient: The blessings of a Sadhu like you. But those blessings are not just falling from the sky. One has to earn them and conquer the heart of the Sadhu with sincere substantial service and outstanding sacrifice. The mountain won't come to Krishna Chaitanya Das, Krishna Chaitanya Das must go to the mountain. He must go on pilgrimage to the purified, effulgent mind of the Sadhu situated in the mountains of devotional service dedicated to Sri Krishna. The path is sometimes rough and cold, climbing up is very arduous, but it's million times worth the trouble! Compared to the endless suffering of so many lifetimes in the material world it is in fact a joyful walk. Or better: A dance!

The Humble Hero

Your devotional experience in your life is obviously very genuine, prosperous, ecstatic and sweet like nectar. You are truly a wishfulfilling desire tree, carrying rich and precious fruits of pure loving Krishna Consciousness. These fruits are marvellous, but simultaneously pretty grave, that they force you to humbly bend down to distribute these fruits amongst low and poor creatures like me. Although you are a diamond amongst crooked coal beds, you are not afraid of being infected, rather you show how to go from coal consciousness to the diamond consciousness by all means.

The Coal Mercy Case

What can I say, I'm certainly very fortunate and blessed to have met you, although I'm a foolish rascal. Whenever I try to purify myself, I feel like a piece of coal: I can rub the whole day, still it is black. But you have more trust in my immature devotion and it's success than I have myself while rubbing my coal-heart. When I'm experiencing resignation and defeat you are the steadfastly well wisher of my life, you are always looking merciful in my direction. You are fanning the tiny breakable spark within me, because you are spiritually empowered and a knower of the absolute truth. Therefore, I don't deserve it, but please continue to bless me with your instructions, with your example, with your generosity and kindness.

Thank You.

Your aspiring servant
Kṛṣṇa Caitanya Dāsa





Kṛṣṇa Gopāl Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisances unto
your Lotus feet.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to You.

I am so grateful maharaja that you have
accepted me as your disciple and that
you mercifully have given me shelter and
opportunity to serve you personally in the
very begining of our relationship.

Before I met you I couldn't understand
this whole science of Kṛṣṇa
Counsciousnes or what real Love is but
by associating with you everything got
new meaning and depth.

Maharaj, please accept my dandavats and
best wishes on this auspicious day.

I hope to meet you soon in the future.

Your faithfull servant,
Kṛṣṇa Gopāl Dāsa





Kṛṣṇa Kelī Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to your auspicious appearance day.

I still remember your instruction to me when I was going through difficult time. You wrote: "Not a blade of grass in this world moves without the will of Kṛṣṇa. So somehow or other Kṛṣṇa has placed you in the current situation and there is a lesson to learn".

From you I learn what tolerance is.
You always give me strength to face difficult situation whenever I'm weak.
From you I learn to always surrender unto Kṛṣṇa.
You taught me how to trust that Kṛṣṇa is always there for his devotees.
From you I learn never to quit.
You guided me that whenever troubles come to face it.

In Bhagavad-Gita, 3.21 Kṛṣṇa says:

"Whatever action a great man performs, common men follow. And whatever standards he sets by exemplary acts, all the world pursues."

You often stress the importance of trying to follow in the footsteps of the great mahajans. It is certainly not easy to follow in your footstep. I pray to get the spiritual strength to do some service that will please you and Srila Prabhupada.

Thank you for accepting me as your daughter. I feel so grateful to be counted as one of your children. I pray that one day I can prove to be a real daughter at heart and in action by following in your footstep.

Learning to become a servant,
Kṛṣṇa Kelī Devi Dāsī





Kṛṣṇa Kīrtan Dāsa

Dearest Srila Kadamba Kanana Swami Maharaj,

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

Sri Uddhava asks a brilliant question to Sri Krishna in the Srimad Bhagavatam 11.28.10-11:

“Since the living entity is pure spirit soul, innately full of perfect knowledge and bliss, and since the material body is a biochemical machine without knowledge or personal consciousness, who or what is actually experiencing the ignorance and anxiety of this material existence?”

The Supreme Personality of Godhead, Sri Uttamasloka Krishna, replies (Srimad Bhagavatam 11.28.17):

“Although the false ego has no factual basis, it is perceived in many forms — as the functions of the mind, speech, life air and bodily faculties. But with the sword of transcendental knowledge, sharpened by worship of a bona fide spiritual master, a sober sage will cut off this false identification and live in this world free from all material attachment.”

Srila Narottama Das Thakura has sung “*Guru mukha Padma vakya, cittete koriya aikya, ar na koriho mane asa,*” Make the teachings from the lotus mouth of the spiritual master one with my heart, and do not desire anything else.

You remind us how Srila Santana Goswami received all the instructions in Benares from his Lord and Master, Sri Gauracandra. But what specifically penetrated my consciousness was how Santana Goswami thereafter prayed to his master begging that all those instructions absorb into his heart. It is one thing hearing the jewels of instructions from the Guru; yet another level is to make them one’s life’s goal!-

Sri Krishna explains in Bhagavad Gita, 4.11:

“*ye yathā mām prapadyante
tāms tathaiva bhajāmy aham,*”

“As all surrender unto Me, I reward them accordingly”. Just like Krishna reciprocates fairly, so does the Guru. So I feel the responsibility lies with the disciple to surrender to Guru, and not passively to wait until the Guru causelessly bestows mercy upon the disciple. Indeed surrender is not enough in itself. Beyond surrender is the principle founded by Sri Caitanya Deva, namely mood of the Vrajavasis – CONQUERING GURU & KRISHNA. You carry the uncompromising spirit of our Srila Prabhupada, wherein you are setting the standard of pure devotional service in the mood of Sri Vrindavan, your eternal residence.

Your instructions are forcing me, out of gratitude and appreciation for all you have done for me, to try harder and harder to conquer your heart by my service in your mission. You have given me so many instructions and personal directions in my life so as to improve my situation to fight maya and serve Krishna better. Following in the footsteps of Santana Goswami, I humbly beg for these jewels to penetrate deeper into my heart, giving me more enthusiasm, determination and taste to try harder to conquer your merciful glance. If you accept me, then Srila Prabhupada will accept me based on your powerful prayer to him; and Srila Prabhupada has the key to the back door of the spiritual world.

Lastly I wish to seek your blessings as I start my journey into your beloved Sri Caitanya Caritamrita, starting on Gaura Purnima. You have explained that the best religious principle is to follow the yuga avatar's instructions. Thus, by your mercy, may I honestly and sincerely embrace all the relationships, pastimes and instructions. May Sri Sri Gaura Nitai and Their associates kindly accept me into Their caravan of causeless mercy en route back home, back to Godhead.

Begging to conquer your heart again and again,

Your Servant,
Kṛṣṇa Kīrtan Dāsa





Līlāsukhā Devī Dasī & Dhṛṣṭadyumna Dāsa

Hare Kṛṣṇa dear Gurudev,

Please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet, all glories to Jayadvaita swami and Srīla Prabhupada.

We would like to express our feelings at the most auspicious day of Your Vyasa Puja. For us, it is unique opportunity and greatest boon from Lord Krishna to have such a wonderful personality like You present in our miserly life of illusion. You are appearing through your extraordinary sweet kirtans, wise and deep instructions, exactly fit for each of us, you are coming closer when we are hopeless, hearing our cry. You see everything, nothing can be hidden from Your sight. If we look to the past we can see only dense darkness of unconquerable forest of gross and subtle material desires leading us to darkest regions of the universe...and in the middle of this we can hear Your kirtan and slowly awakening... It is only Your mercy and great compassion of Yours, it is Your austerity for all of us abominable and unworthy, that we are still alive and secure at Your lotus feet. Only Your attention and care for us is the reason that we can continue, otherwise we are lost for the kalpas and more. So please do not reject us. When will come the day that we can offer something valuable and real to You? We are used to take, but we should also give, at least try to. You are so pure and sincere, You are our father and best friend, we can be so close to You, You are so accessible, don't taking care of Your own health and comforts...this is worthy of glorification, only this. We are ready to exchange anything just for the drop of Your mercy. Thank You million times for everything.

All glories to Sri Sri Nitay Gouranga. All glories to Sri Vrindavan Dham, all glories to Raman Reti. All glories to Your most famous service dear Gurudeva. We wish You a lot of spiritual nectar and blessings of Srimati Radharani. We wish to meet You one day in the forest of Vrindavan and know for sure that it is You.

Your stubborn disciples
Līlāsukhā Devī Dasī & Dhṛṣṭadyumna
Dāsa





(Bhaktin) Lubomira

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

One devotee tried to console the Kadamba tree who was crying that Krisna did not even touch his shadow, “My dear Kadamba tree, don't be sad! As soon as Krsna defeats snake Kaliya in Yamuna he will come and fulfill your desire.”

Therefore we, your devoted disciples, are praying to our Lord Krsna that we may be touching Your shadow for a long time to come.

Your servant,
Bhaktin Lubomira





(Bhaktin) Lucia

Dear Guru Maharaj,

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

On this auspicious day of your
appearance in this world, I would like to
thank you for speaking to my heart and
making this most sublime philosophy
understandable to me. Since I met you,
you have been a constant source of
inspiration on my path of Krishna
Consciousness. I wish to thank you for
the strength, confidence and power that
you radiate into my being and I hope one
day I would be able to repay this
wonderful gift.

Your insignificant servant
Lucia





Madhukānta Dāsa

Hare Krishna dear Guru Maharaja!

All glories to Srila Prabhupada, all glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja, all glories to You!

*cakhu-dan dilo jei, janme janme prabhu sei
divya-jnan hrde prokasito
prema-bhakti jaha hoite, avidya vinasa jate
vede gay jahara carito*

A conditioned soul has his eyes blinded and therefore cannot see things in the right light. There are many things happening in our lives, many times very dramatic when we come into contact with the harsh reality of the material world. We encounter birth that is considered a happy event in this world, but which is accompanied by big suffering, we encounter disease that forces obstinate soul to stop in his pursuit of "happiness" and forces him to ask a question why there is something that prevents me from uninterruptedly going on in fulfilling my plans in my life. We encounter old age, when we finally come to death totally helplessly.

Every living being in the material world can perceive directly that nobody has the power to change the laws of the God's creation, even though many so called scientists, doctors and big "personalities" are trying to do so since time immemorial. Although we all see it - and we don't have to be a great philosopher - we remain blind in the same way as a man with cataract who cannot see in spite of having eyes. The eyes of such a man have the ability to see, but they are in a diseased condition and only a doctor can help him from his blindness.

We are used to use our eyes for looking at something very beautiful - the beauty of nature, sunrise, wonderful buildings, paintings of great artists, attractive forms of women and many other things. Yes, we can see innumerable beautiful things, but we are still blind and our real, spiritual sight is covered by a veil of material blindness.

A spiritual person is someone who sees things in the right light and cannot be cheated by the glitter of material energy. This glitter blinds conditioned living being who is suffering many distresses and therefore cannot see Krishna who is everywhere and behind everything.

Our spiritual master, there is nobody more happy than the one who was cured by a qualified doctor and being cured from the blindness he can see clearly. Even though I am suffering from such blindness I am extremely grateful to You for Your compassionate and patient endeavor to give our sight back to all of us and smear our blinded eyes with the ointment of love of God.

(Sri Brahma samhita 38)

*“premanjana-cchurita-bhakti-vilocanena
santah sadaiva hrdayesu vilokayanti
yam syamasundaram
acintya-guna-svarupam
govindam adi-purusam tam aham bhajami.”*

Your humble servant,
Madhukānta Dāsa





Madhu Paṇḍit Dāsa

Hare Krishna my dear Guru Maharaja!

All Glories to your Holiness.

All Glory to His Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja.

All glory to Srila Prabhupada and Guru parampara!

The year went quickly by and while meditating on your oncoming great Vyasa Puja festival I am asking myself again, did I please you at least a little bit, or was I again unsuccessful. The goal of life we can reach through pleasing our spiritual master. Every year I swear and wrote that I will do the best to be not a burden to you, but rather pleasing you. But every year I must admit, I failed. Something I did maybe well, but something I spoiled. I am often thinking how you once told us, that spiritual master is always looking behind disciple's shoulder. So you know about our good and bad deeds.

But you are merciful to all conditioned souls, and even more to your disciples. Thank you very much for your father-like, loving guidance, even if I did not please you. Like father does not accept the offence of the young son, you did not take so seriously the bad thing we did, rather you encourage us to do the best for pleasing Krishna here now and in the future, and you care for our eternal benefit.

You always see the better side of all the devotees, and like Nityananda prabhu accepts even the slightest attempt for devotional service to Lord Krishna, even if it is not worth it and it could harm you, you accept it. Your breath taking preaching all over the world, and at the same time caring for infinitesimal individuals remind us of Srila Prabhupada and his mood of personally caring for the devotees and at the same time preaching to the masses of fallen souls worldwide.

My Great Guru Maharaja, again and again thank you for your kindly guiding me towards the spiritual world, towards the endless chanting of Kṛṣṇa's holy Name, towards the endless blissful devotional service. I hope in the upcoming time you will get more and more pleasure from seeing your disciples spiritually growing and helping you to fulfill the great mission of Lord Caitanya.

Your insignificant servant
Madhu Paṇḍit Dāsa





Mahājana Dāsa

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

Dear Guru Maharaja,

I congratulate to your 60th birthday and I wish you a very good health, so that you may be able to distribute the holy name all over the world for the next 20 years.

I know you since 6 years and the main reason why I choose you as my spiritual master were due to your lectures. I really love to hear your lectures and I really think I understand a lot when you explain it. The main task of a spiritual master is that he can enlighten the disciple with spiritual knowledge. But when you explain this spiritual art, it is not simply knowledge, it is realized knowledge with a lot of experience. You gained this experience in all the years of service to your Guru Maharaja, Srila Prabhupada and Krishna.

I am very inspired from your example of a devotional live in Krishna consciousness. You joined the movement in young age and never left it. You did so much service in Vrindavan and other countries and you where always fixed to please you spiritual master and Srila Prabhupada. You show me from your own live, that if we go this spiritual path without making compromises and despite all obstacles on the way, that one really can achieve love to Krishna.

Always when I see you, you are engaged in one of the processes of devotional service and fix your mind on Krishna. You give everything for your service and your disciples. That wouldn't be possible if you did not have love for Krishna.

If I reflect myself in contrast to you, there is so much to do for me. I make compromises so often, just for the sake of my mind and of course, if I make a compromise I normally can not be engaged in the 9 processes of devotional service. I ask me how often do I chant sincerely from my heart, how often do I really remember Krishna? There is a lot to improve but when I see you and your exemplary life, then I am confident that if I just go on in my spiritual life and associate with the devotees, try to serve them and if I do some effort to distribute the holy name to other jivas, then I also will get, by your mercy, the present of love for Krishna.

I thank you so much for your association, your patience, and your blessings and I really hope someday I can be a worthy disciple of yours, and may be able to please you by some service I perform, even if it is a minor one.

Your servant,

Mahājana Dāsa





Mahā Lakṣmī Devi Dāsī

Haribol!

Please accept my obeisances.
All glories to Srīla Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami, Srī Guru
and Gaurāṅga.

In honour of our Spīritual Master I
wanted to share with you a part of a class
given by our Guru Maharaj in Spain
about,

Prabhupada's faith in the holy name.

The mercy of the pure devotee is very
powerful. In the Caitanya Caritamṛta, it is
mentioned that one of the pure devotees
of the Lord had the power to deliver the
entire universe. When we hear such a
statement we think, 'naah, this is an
exaggeration! How can one devotee
deliver the entire universe?' But when we
see Srīla Prabhupada then we understand,
'yes one devotee can deliver the entire
universe.' He made it practical, he made it
realistic...somehow or other we see the
holy name penetrated in people's hearts.
In January we were in New York and we
visited Tompkins Square Park and there is
the tree where Prabhupada stood and
chanted. The New York city council had

put a sign on the tree which says, 'Hare
Kṛṣṇa tree' and then on the side of the
park there is a sign which gives a bigger
explanation of how A.C Bhaktivedānta
Swami Prabhupada started this. So I was
standing under the tree for a moment and
saying a little prayer and out of nowhere
one boy came up and he says, 'You know,
I want to become a monk, what do I have
to do?' And guess what the answer was,
under that tree chant Hare Kṛṣṇa! So it is
a fact, chant Hare Kṛṣṇa and everything
will come. Prabhupada had this faith, that
simply by chanting Hare Kṛṣṇa this
movement would spread and Prabhupada
knew that they would somehow or other
receive the holy name and it will work in
their heart and in due cause of time they
will come back. Prabhupada knew that
the power of the holy name is very great.

Aspiring Servant
Mahā Lakṣmī Devi Dāsī





Maithilī Devī Dāsī

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to you on this most auspicious
day of your Vyasa Puja

You are an exceedingly powerful and
merciful spiritual master. You are able to
deliver and purify all living beings. You
are my brilliant leader who has shown me
the path of realisation. I feel secured and
sheltered by you.

I sometimes think of so many things but
when it is time to write an offering to you,
it becomes a last minute rush. How is it
that you are meant to be the center of my
life but you just seem to take the back
seat? You have an endless amount of
humility and patience.

I realised that it is the time of year where
we have to take stock of our spiritual life,
measure our efforts and ask ourselves,
“Did I really please my spiritual master?
Or have I just taken advantage of his
mercy without showing appreciation?” I
find myself guilty of this. At the same
time I’m trying to make an endeavour to
please you by, for example, distributing
Srila Prabhupada’s books. This is your
heart-felt passion, I wish I could do it
better.

On this very special day of yours, I hope
and pray that you would bestow your
special mercy on me and keep me at your
lotus feet, always.

Your servant
Maithilī Devī Dāsī





Maṇi Kuṇḍala Devi Dāśī

Hare Krishna dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisances, all glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Thanks to you, the mercy of spiritual master, I'm saved from cycle of lives and the causal ocean and suffering. You gave me the great chance to change my life and I will try hard to don't waste of the chances and your mercy and to do maximum of spiritual progress. You give us so much knowledge, protection and guidance only because you care about us. It's your mission which you promised to your spiritual master and he promised it to his spiritual master, Srila Prabhupada. In parampara is hidden a great strength and I'm glad I could be in it as a tiny particle, tiny servant at the end.

I'm sorry to say that sometimes I'm not aware of what I got. It's even sad and pitiful in which state is my consciousness situated. I must admit that every night before sleep, every morning after awakening, before and after 16 rounds japa everyday, before prasadam and anytime during giving obeisances in temple, I chant your pranama but often I'm not conscious during doing it. I'm only mechanically pattering.

During worshiping of Tulasi devi and Srila Prabhupada I observe how the proud is awakening in me. Where's my humble serving attitude? I should remember you and through all the parampara offer the paraphernalias to Tulasi devi and Srila Prabhupada.

When I pray, I pray directly to the Deities, when I give any promise, I give it in front of the Deities, when I consciously do any service, I do it for the pleasure of devotees and Deities. Somewhere in subconsciousness and in mind I have also you but why it's not on the first place? Maybe I'm missing more of your association and guidance... But I'm thankful for all your attention, which you're giving me. Only because of you I still continue further, I'm only sorry that I'm so ungrateful.

Thank you many times that you still so mercifully tolerate us and still steadily lead us further, even though we defend as little children.

Thank you many times,
Your servant
Maṇi Kuṇḍala Devi Dāśī





Mansi Ganga Devi Dāsī, Priya and Radhika

*nama om visnu-pādāya krsna presthāya
bhū-tale
srimate kadamba kánana svámin iti námine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya krsna-presthāya
bhū-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita svámin iti námine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya krsna-presthāya
bhū-tale
srimate bhaktivedānta-svámin iti námine*

*namas te sárasvate deve
gaura-vānī-pracárine
nirvisesa-súnyavādi-pāscátya-desa-tárine*

*Jai Shri Krishna Caitanya prabhu
Nityananda Shri advaita ghadadara Shrivasa
Adi Gaura Bhakta Vrinda.*

HARE KRISHNA HARE KRISHNA
KRISHNA KRISHNA HARE HARE HARE
RAMA HARE RAMA RAMA RAMA HARE
HARE.



Dearest Guru Mahraj,

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

Hope your health is getting better. It is sad to hear that you are not able to come and visit us in May at Melbourne. However, we all very eagerly awaiting for the darshan of your lotus feet. I pray to Krishna for the betterment of your health, and that with your blessings we can serve you and Krishna nicely.

Your servant, of the servant of the servant,

Mansi Ganga Devi Dāsī, Priya and
Radhika



Manu Dāsa

*Pratah sriman-navadvipe
dvi-netram dvi-bhujam gurum
varabhaya-pradam santam
smaret tan-nama-purvakam*

In the morning, one should remember the spiritual master as being situated in Sri Navadvipa, having two eyes and two arms, as being peaceful, and as bestowing all benediction and fearlessness upon chanting His name.

We would like to thank You dear Maharaja, for Your kindness that You gave us and You accepted us in Your holy association and also showed us Your mercy by giving us the greatest gift of all, Krishna consciousness. You told us that by chanting the Holy name we can gradually wake up our normal consciousness which is divine and by that way we can be better people and help other people too.

We would like also thank You for inspiration You showed us by presenting Krishna consciousness to everyone. We have seen Your preaching God consciousness all over the world, and we are so proud of You. We hope that You can continue Your great work for many years.

Your tiny little servants from Finland
Manu Dāsa and family cry out Your mercy
and send our obeisances to You.

Jaya om Visnupada Kadamba Kanana
Swami ki jaya!





(Bhaktin) Manuela Mrakavova

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my respectful obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada, His
Holiness Jayadvaita Maharaja, and Your
Divine Grace!!!

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

*nama om vishnu-padaya
krishna-preshthaya bhu-tale
gurudasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine*

*nama om vishnu-padaya
krishna-preshthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine*

*namas te sarasvate deve
gaura-vani-pracharine
nirvisesa-sunyavadi-pascatya-des-tarine*

Let me congratulate you and wish you all
the best in the occasion of the celebration
of Your appearance day. I pray to Krishna
to bless You.

When Your Divine Grace visits Czech
Republic, all devotees become enlivened
and their eyes start to shine with
happiness. Dear Guru Maharaja, it is
indeed true because by Your mercy our
lives start to make sense. It is great
benediction for us to meet a pure devotee
in this life. Because whenever such a pure
devotee comes, he brings Vrindavan with
him. You are so wise, calm in the mind
and freed from lust. We, who
continuously struggle with modes of the
material nature, should hear from you
with humility.



When You start to sing kirtan Your
transcendental voice filled with love for
Krishna purifies our hardened hearts and
by Your mercy we again start to be aware
of our constitutional position as Krishna's
servants. This is the greatest gift in the
world that one could ever give. Surely
You are the instrument of causeless mercy
of the Lord Chaitanya and the Lord
Nityananda.

You have dedicated Your whole life to
save souls who helplessly suffer drowning
in the ocean of their own ignorance.
Despite all obstacles, which You have
encountered in life, You are able to serve
Krishna with great humility and
breathtaking endurance! How can one so
much fallen as I am measure with You? I
only pray so that I can become one of
Your lucky servants and do some little
service for spreading of the sankirtan
movement of Lord Chaitanya.

Thank You very much for Your
accommodating gesture when You allowed
me to worship You. With smile on my
face, I remember the moment when
Mayapur asked You if I can pronounce
Your pranam mantra and You mercifully
and kindly answered, 'Of course.' Funny
is that I wasn't sharp enough to
understand what you spoke about.
Mayapur explained it to me later and I
could not believe it. I was moved to tears.
I really appreciate and value it, because
thanks to You my life has become
meaningful. Although I don't deserve it,
You gave me Your great mercy.

Thank You that You read this letter until
the end. Once again, please accept my
obeisances. Hare Krsna.

Your aspiring servant
Manuela Mrakavova.



(Bhaktin) Marina

Hare Krishna Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

Since days I asking my self, 'What can I
write? What makes you happy? And what
is important to write?'

I'm not holy like all of us, but I try to go
on the way to Krishna. It has given me
many new friends and many experiences
to be a devotee.

My family say, 'She is crazy,' but it doesn't
matter. My mother tries to understand it
sometimes and if I speak with her she tell
again, 'Oh I have eaten meat again!' But
the biggest surprise for me was she was
cooking for me a soup from cow in her
mind to make me happy with it. She saw
in my face, that she has made a big
mistake, and I explained to her again that
it is the worse that she has cooked meat,
and since than I've been hoping she
doesn't want cook for me again. She
wants to understand me and that is
important. She has began to go with God
again a little bit. For her sickness it is well
soon.

Short time for Sri Vyasa Puja last year I
got the first mail from KKS Blog. For me
it was the feeling if I would get mail from
your hand!



So I told Sadbuja Dasa in Amsterdam, 'I
got mails of you.' Sadbuja had big eyes
and was asking me, 'Is it true?' So I
explained him all. :) . For me it was one
of the important points since this time
and the most mails of it I can really enjoy.
No mail of it I deleted since this day.
They are inspiring me, help me, let me
smile and give me many things all days.

Very much Thank you, that you said yes
for my ask to be my guru. And thank you
very much that we could enjoy with you
some days last summer with you. Days
that will stay in nice remember of me.
You were more times in Leipzig,
Chemnitz and Berlin and the most of it I
could enjoy and took strength for the way
with Krishna.

I say Thank you Krishna that you sent us
a Guru like you.

My English is not so well and sometimes I
need more time to listen to your words in
lectures. But if I listen to it more times,
I understand the most of it.

Which means, thank you that you give all
what you are, to help devotees to help to
go on the way for Krishna.

Your fun, your laugh, your voice, your
words, your strength, all that invites me
again and again to go the next step. My
respect for your work is deep.

Thank you very much for all

Your servant
Marina

Param vijayate śrī-kṛṣṇa-saṅkīrtanam!

(Bhaktin) Marta

Dear Guru Maharaja!

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

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

All glories to Jayadvaita Swami.

All glories to Giriraja Govinda.

It is said that an elevated great soul can only be glorified by a similarly elevated person. This is the reason why I am in trouble now and due to my limits I have decided on calling for help of some words I read about the features of the mahatmas. Please accept my words too and your blessings have reached me, too. Let me please tell you how I see you from outside as I haven't yet know you from inside yet. In secret I do hope, however, that time will help since I long for your company all the time, for your teaching and instructing me.

“What is the real characteristics of the realized man is that he is far more harmonious being than anyone else. He lives in the unity of body and soul and it radiates from him at every moment. He sits, walks and speaks in another way and peace, certainty and occasionally serenity emanates from his being even if surrounded by chaos.

When you talk to him you can feel that he not only looks at you but pays attention to you from inside. In his company you calm down, his peacefulness grabs you and you feel stronger than you actually are. His personality can of course be thousands of varieties since every person wears a different sign of character. There is some sort of selflessness in him, not wanting to rule or gain success. When he speaks he does it with careful consideration, when doesn't, his silence is full of secrets. You can feel that he is just okay. What mahatmas have in common is their simplicity, naturalness. There lies an enormous abundance in this simplicity, though, and some kind of absolute sincerity in his naturalness. No pose, no pretending, he is always what is really is. As he doesn't disguise himself, his personality is truly reflected in his appearance. He doesn't have to control himself, so he does not repress or hide his real nature as there is no reason for him to act in another way than his real nature. He is well centered, he is led and controlled by his focus point of his soul. This control is not a self-discipline of a warrior but present abundant in serene security and strength. The king of his soul's country is excellent and is served by his subjects.” (Peter Müller).

Dear Guru Maharaja, this is how I see You! My desire is to know this strength and feelings that resulted in this appearance so that I could be a pure servant of Lord Krsna. Thank you for accepting me as a disciple thanks to your compassion. Understanding its significance and essence I am sure I cannot be grateful enough for your goodness. NOW I OWE YOU FOREVER! Nowadays, I more and more feel how much I have been missing you during the long years and I miss you now too, day by day. I think of you at least thousand times a day and how could I serve you.

On your birthday I wish you a lot of strength, health and many disciples who are following you. In mind, I am sprinkling tiny colorful flowers at your footsteps. All glories to You!

The most insignificant servant of yours
Bhaktin Marta (Hungary)





Mathurā Mohan Dāsa, Puspa Gopāl Devi Dāsī & Baby Bhakti

Hare Krishna,

Please accept our humble obeisances, all glories to Srila Prabhupada, all glories to Jayadvaita Swami, all glories to His Holiness Kadamba Kanana .

Our dear maharaj thank you for giving us the shelter of your lotus feet and allowing us, such fallen souls an opportunity to become your disciples. It's almost a year now since you have blessed us with initiation and a new life serving Srila Prabhupada. There are no words to describe the new joys we have found and tasted in the nectar of serving Srila Prabhupada's ISKCON.

Through your mercy we have tasted and are relishing devotional service. We serve our Mandir with genuine enthusiasm knowing that we are the representatives of His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami and every endeavour of ours must make our Guru Maharaj proud. Although we don't see you as much as we like to, you still pencil in our rural towns of

Ladysmith and Newcastle in your whirlwind tours of South Africa and give us your association. These times are precious to us and always make our hearts full of joy and happiness. We invite everyone we know to attend your programme so we can get to show you off and let people taste the nectar and mellow in your sweet Kirtan. Wow, people are amazed and blown away and as you would put it maharaj, become reinvigorated and we get to proudly say, 'That's our Maharaj.'

You have not only given us this brand new life but also, blessed our daughter with a beautiful name, Bhakti.

Thank you Maharaj, we are eternally grateful.

Your servants
Mathurā Mohan Dāsa, Puspa Gopāl Devi
Dāsī & Baby Bhakti





Matsya Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

I have been watching these days the Mayapur kirtan mela festival. So many great kirtan leaders, so many devotees, so many online viewers. We are all witnessing the great event of glorifying the holy names of the Lord, the miracle mercy of this age in the form of the ocean of transcendental love. And all the thoughts i developed while participating went in line with thoughts developed over the past few weeks. What i have been thinking lately is how greatly fortunate i am that you are in this world too. If only i could fully understand this good fortune.

Once a devotee told Srila Prabhupada how fortunate they are to have this movement and to be able to come to Kṛṣṇa consciousness. “Yes,” Srila Prabhupada replied, “I created your good fortune.” I have found this to be a very interesting revelation. It is surely by Srila Prabhupada’s mercy that now I know who Kṛṣṇa is and who Mahaprabhu is, and what sankirtana means. It would be wrong to think that I came to this movement by my own credit. No, the fact is that being born birth after birth in this black age means my heart is like a stone and I could not have any good fortune or credit or quality which would adequately qualify me to come to the holy name. Srila Prabhupada created my good fortune, but not only Srila Prabhupada. You created my good fortune, there is no doubt.

It has been about a year now since Kṛṣṇa formally accepted me following your recommendation. You stood up for me and that is surely my good fortune created by you, the miracle mercy. At that time I said something like ‘by the mercy of Srila Prabhupada’ and your prompt correction was, ‘Yes, and by my mercy as well and the whole guru-parampara’. So that is my position now, I’m simply made of mercy starting from you. And that mercy started flowing in at the time i first heard your lecture and at the first time you engaged me in kīrtan. In other words, the mercy started flowing in when, in the course of your travels around the globe, by my great fortune, you came into my karma, engaging everyone in sankirtana.

Just like Srila Narada Muni, you are traveling around glorifying the Supreme Lord, following the teachings of Lord Caitanya and spreading His movement the way He wants. Just like Nārada Muni who is playing his vina, you play harmonium and you chant about Hara and Kṛṣṇa, about Rāma, the unlimited enjoyment in real happiness, about Gīri Govardhan. And just like Brahmā in front of Nārada, everyone is dancing in ecstasy, knowing or not knowing what are you chanting about. If one is engaging in the activities of Lord Caitanya, than one is immediately in His pastimes. But if one is aware of Lord Caitanya’s pastimes, then

one is coming into the pastimes of Rādhā and Kṛṣṇa, because the presence is defined by consciousness. But either knowingly or unknowingly, devotees engaged in saṅkīrtana by you are dancing in ecstasy to the sweet mellows of your harmonium and that is the fact. Therefore, you are just like Nārada, you are his representative and Srila Prabhupada wrote, “When one meets Nārada or his representative, a spiritual master, one is freed from all anxiety brought about by ignorance” [SB 4.31.5p]. *Diṣṭyā no darśanam gataḥ*, by our good fortune we became your audience. By your mercy, the holy name of Sri Hari alone is becoming everything.

That eternal good fortune which you are giving freely to everyone is saṅkīrtana. Although one is benefited simply by looking at you, as per Kṛṣṇa’s conclusion, you are nevertheless loudly chanting the glories of the Lord’s activities, His names, His qualities, you are speaking about His form, His pastimes, His devotees, and this is called sankirtana. Hari-nama-sankirtana is *golokera prema-dhana*, it is the ocean of perfect kirtana! This perfect kirtana is your mercy. It is your mood and your message, sankirtana is your life. There is this verse in the *Śikṣāṣṭakam* which ends with Let the complete and perfect chanting of Kṛṣṇa’s holy name be victorious. In the purport to this verse I have found the possible explanation why you hold sankirtana in such a high esteem, because it is beyond my correct understanding:

“Proper japa chanting is possible only in the mind. Then the chanter will achieve the desired perfection. Chanting audibly with lip movements is kirtana; it is more effective than japa and brings about the greatest benefit to the hearer. Sankirtana means 'complete kirtana', for it is unnecessary to perform any other devotional activities if one performs saṅkīrtana. Partial or imperfect kirtana of Lord Kṛṣṇa’s holy name is not the same as sankirtana. Imperfect chanting of Kṛṣṇa’s name is unable to cause the optimum spiritual change in the living entities. This will lead them to doubt the potency of kirtana. Therefore, let the complete and perfect chanting of Kṛṣṇa’s holy name, or nama-sankirtana, be victorious.”

Looking back in time, I used to be very sinful. That was not a problem, pious or sinful, just like the two Lords went into that house, you have also readily come into my life. I am still sinful, and that is also not a problem. Mode of goodness and any other mode, the eternal good fortune of being able to offer my insignificant service is nevertheless factual. Lord Nityānanda brought Lord Caitanya to all the sinful. But that what is the fact, from now on has to be guarded carefully against offenses, otherwise Lord Caitanya can take the good fortune and leave forever. Lord Caitanya is Kṛṣṇa in the mood of Srimate Radharani and she wants to see some commitments! To loose this good fortune would be the greatest misfortune and the greatest failure. And following the line of logic, the worst

offense must be to disrespect the spiritual master, because if it is the spiritual master who bestowed the good fortune, than I am committed to follow in the spiritual master's footsteps and develop the taste for sankirtana. I'm obliged to carefully engage myself in the activities of Lord Caitanya. Answering the direct question how to increase our desire for sankirtana, Srila Prabhupada gave the timeless instruction for everyone to follow:

“By performing saṅkīrtana! Just like if a man drinks and if he drinks, drinks, then you become a drunkard. (laughter) Drink more and you become drunkard. Similarly, chant more and you become perfect chanter.”

But is that all that is required? Actually, by the mercy of Srila Prabhupada it is, but nevertheless I am taking, ‘No,’ as an answer, because although the presence is defined by the consciousness, in another way the consciousness is defined by the presence. In front of the screen these days, watching your chanting at the mela, I have again noticed the subtle ingredient which i have observed, by my great fortune, so many times in so many different occasions: in japa walks with you, sitting close in bhajans, in kirtans, during your discourses on Srimad Bhāgavatam, offering my truly insignificant assistance during your daily worship or listening your soft recitation of Gāyatrī mantra: your focus is on Kṛṣṇa. He is the focus by which you go around the globe giving nama-saṅkīrtana for free to everyone, and what is certainly significant is your deep presence in that, tivreṇa bhakti-yogena, the great force by which you are distributing the holy name.

And you taught us, “So like that we are into the ritual, but when we understand the essence of the ritual, [that] is when The Boss is satisfied.” [Melbourne, Oct 2011]

Let me please finish this humble offer by glorifying Śrīla Prabhupāda's focus on the focus, for my own benefit of focusing more on Kṛṣṇa and less on other things:

“A common man cannot rise to the topmost stage of spiritual perfection simply by following the rituals and religious principles. He has to take shelter of a bona fide spiritual master and work under his direction faithfully and sincerely; then he becomes perfect, without a doubt.” [SB 3.22.6p]

Dear Guru Maharaja, please continue bestowing your kind mercy more and more, and just as the father engages his small child, please you also engage me in your service.

Humbly, your servant
Matsya Dāsa





Māyāpur Chandradoya Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my respectful obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada, H.H.
Jayadvaita Maharaja and Your Divine
Grace!!!

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

*nama om vishnu-padaya
krishna-preshtaya bhu-tale
gurudasa jayadvaita-svamin iti namine .*

*nama om vishnu-padaya
krishna-preshtaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine .*

*namas te sarasvate deve
gaura-vani-pracharine
nirvisesa-sunyavadi-pascatya-desat-tarine*

Time is always in progress and our living
conditions change every day, every hour ,
every minute and every second. The
change occurs many times invisibly and
only an eye of detached observer who
doesn't see us for some time can perceive
it.

When I remember my life as a
brahmachari and compare it to what
happened after...I must admit that
brahmachari life is very simple, not
complicated and mostly focused just on
service for Krishna.

Grahastha life is very complex,
complicated and because one is always
pushed to earn money, that results in less
time for sadhana and preaching. No news
I guess. Your words just proved to be
truth for me and I gained some
realizations. Yet I must say that I don't
regret my change at all because all
troubles and mistakes helped me to learn
something substantial.

I learned also that external situation may
change yet there are things which will
always be here. It is the nature of an
external energy which is "asat" to be
temporary and on the contrary the nature
of spiritual energy is "sat" to be eternal.

Thus external material arrangements may
change yet we have always same Krishna,
same Guru, same Holy Name and same
vows. This is wonderful because we are
always linked with the spiritual world.
And it's just the matter of our "laukya"
desire to be Krishna conscious...

It's so easy to be in maya. Still one who
was seriously engaged himself in
devotional service will never forget it.

As confirmed in Srimad Bhagavatam
1.5.19:

*'na vai jano jātu kathaścanāvrajen
mukunda-sevy anyavad anga samsṛtim
smaran mukundānghry-upagūhanam
punarvihātum icchen na rasa-grahe janah'*

“My dear Vyāsa, even though a devotee of Lord Kṛṣṇa sometimes falls down somehow or other, he certainly does not undergo material existence like others [fruitive workers, etc.] because a person who has once relished the taste of the lotus feet of the Lord can do nothing but remember that ecstasy again and again.”

I went through very difficult period of my life when my marriage proved to be not functional. I never stopped chanting yet I became whimsical and associated with *asat sanga*. That resulted in less taste for hearing and chanting. I knew that I wanted to be Krishna conscious yet it was much more difficult to rise up again. It wasn't so easy as when I was a new enthusiastic bhakta who was ready to give up anything for Krishna to make spiritual advancement. At that time Krishna rewarded me by association of Sadhu Darshan prabhu who became my very good friend and teacher of Wing Chun Kung Fu. He taught me also how to make money in online marketing and encouraged me spiritually.



To not underestimate a power of a woman, my another siksha Guru became Bhaktin Manuela who inspired me by her sincere enthusiasm for Krishna Consciousness which new devotees have. Fortunately I got infected and I'm very much obliged to her. She makes me happy and I want to make her happy always too. Our mutual goal is now to please you by our service.

Dear Guru Maharaja, please let me thank you again that you have been always my best friend and well wisher in good times and bad times too. I pray to Krishna to be able to please you by my service and become your good disciple.

Your servant
Māyāpur Chandradoya Dāsa



(Bhaktin) Melissa Govender

Guru-Dakshina: Offering of the Heart

I was just a bewildered college student,
selfish and unintelligent to say the least.
Wishing to attend BYS that day just for
the sumptuous prasadam feast.
Little did I know just whom I would
meet,
An extraordinary, kind-hearted guru
who's humble and sweet!

But maya won the battle and it seemed
that my mind had swayed.
Watching from a distance as you sang
through the crowd at Ratha Yatra's.
Wishing I had stayed.

Until finally I reached a turning point.
Grabbing hold of the mercy that Srila
Prabhupada so freely bestows,
I sought shelter of a Spiritual Master,
To find the Vedic truth that he knows.

Sixty years on and so much you have
achieved,
Transcendental singing, preaching and
dancing,
I pray we may forever follow your lead.

Illuminating the path with your radiant
smile,
You danced through these karmic, hellish
streets,
And you danced into the hearts of us all,
guiding us all this while.

Eternally indebted to Srila Prabhupada
and your Guru Maharaja for sending you
to preach,
Eternally indebted to you for your
boundless energy, mercy, knowledge and
all that you teach.

*'Pāñce mili' luṭe prema, kare āsvādāna
Yata yata piye, tṛṣṇā bādhe anukṣaṇa.'*

Just as the Paṣca-Tattva plundered and
then drank from the storehouse of love of
God, distributing this mercy to everyone.

So too are you distributing this unlimited
nectar without discrimination just as the
great Acharya's before you have done.
A pillar of strength, you keep Srila
Prabhupada's ISKCON flag flying high,
A true General in Lord Caitanya's army,
this no one can deny.

Attacked by the waves of the three modes
of material nature afraid to fall,
Bewildered in this ocean of nescience.
Maharaja, you have saved so many souls
from drowning,
You put us back on track whenever we
steer off course; we just need to heed your
call.

As time ticks on this careless mind often
squanders each wasted breath,
Yet you remain our ever well wisher,
Freeing us from this awful cycle of birth,
old age, disease and death.

Oh when will I learn to let go with both
hands while hanging from the edge of that
roof?
You have taught us to have full faith in
Kṛṣṇa,
Taught us to just let go yet I remain so
faithless and aloof.

I'm learning to serve the lotus feet of
Radha Kṛṣṇa,
Praying to never leave Their side or to be
a part.
Maharaja, thank you for planting this
priceless seed of devotion in this heavy,
hard heart.

When a Kadamba flower is offered to
Lord Kṛṣṇa with love,
This tree spontaneously blooms in hopes
to serve the Lord again.
I wish my heart would blossom with the
same love and devotion to serve you, but
when?

The Guru speaks to the heart for that I
know is true,
Guru-dakshina,
I pray to someday offer this unworthy
heart back to you.

I will try to make the utmost best of the
times we shall meet,
May I never take you for granted and
always offer my heartfelt obeisances unto
your divine lotus feet.

Please may you forgive my innumerable
offences in this meager offering to you?

Your most fallen, aspiring servant of the
servant,
Melissa Govender





Mohinī śakti Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances unto
your lotus feet All Glories to Srila
Prabhupada All Glories to Jayadvaita
Swami

My first 20 years of devotional service I
just thought that Srila Prabhupada was all
that I needed. I read all his books and
chanted 16 rounds and followed the
principles. From the way I lived before
these rules and regulations, saved my life.



It wasn't until I started to go to Vrindavan
and participate at the Govardhana
reatreats, with HH Sacinandana Swami
and Bhurijana Prabhu, that I really wished
to find my spiritual master.

It was during that time, I met you at the
Almvik seminars, and I listen to your
lectures and joined your wonderful
kirtans, that it came clear to me, who I
wished to be my spiritual master.

The more I found about you, the more
interested I became. So many great
qualities I saw in you. First I thought you
were an American, because of the
English accent, then I learn that you
were born Dutch.

Then it became so familiar. I was many
times in Amsterdam in my early years,
that's where I got the magazine " Back to
Godhead" about 40 years ago.

I'm so happy to be your disciple I'm not
perfect but I do follow the principles and
chant 16 rounds every day.

I hope you will have a wonderful
birthday.

One more thing, I know how it feels to
turn 60, it's not so bad.

Your servant
Mohinī śakti Devi Dāsī

Nāma-rūpa Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances
All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

Happy appearance day dear Guru
Maharaja!

Thank you for this opportunity to glorify
you.

You often quote the verse from CC Adi
(8.15), "If you are indeed interested in
logic and argument, kindly apply it to the
mercy of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. If you
do so, you will find it to be strikingly
wonderful." This is how I feel when I
think of you and this process we are
following.

Amazing. Simply incomprehensible!

As Srila Bhaktisiddhantha Saraswati
wrote: "The baddha-jiva is extremely
insignificant; it is impossible for him to
realize the magnitude of Sri Guru."

I will never forget last summer when you
visited Sweden for Lord Balaram's
appearance day. You were completely
finished and I have never seen you like
that, so I told you: "Guru Maharaja,
everyone will be happy to learn that you
are resting and taking care of your
health." You replied: "I did not come here
to make you happy, I came here to give
you Krishna Consciousness".

Your heart is set on preaching. Your heart
is beating in the same rhythm like the
heart of Srila Prabhupada and the heart of
Lord Caitanya! There are no limits to how
you inspire and guide all of us. Whoever
comes in contact with you is given the
seed of bhakti- no questions asked. "That
is the beauty and mystery of the process
of bhakti-yoga. As the Lord's desire is

infallible because He is acyuta, similarly
the desires of the devotees in the
transcendental service of the Lord are also
acyuta, infallible." (SB 2.9.35.p) To my
surprise even I am being swept in that
wave and I can't help but be blissful. One
thing is certain: even if I do not
understand how deep and absolute this is-
I want to do whatever I can to assist you
and our Guru Parampara.

In one lecture you said how safe we are
with everything Srila Prabhupada gave us.
We do not have to screen it or read in
between the lines. He gave us pure
unalloyed bhakti. When I heard that it
was exactly describing my feeling about
you: Whatever you do, say, smile,
breathe, look at or write about is in line of
Srila Prabhupada.

Once you told about Srila Prabhupada
being happy and pirouetting while
exclaiming: "My Guru Maharaja made me
a diamond!"

Dear Guru Maharaja I know I am hoping
for something that is totally above my
limits and above my capacity. But still this
is my only hope to rise above this stale
and pretender life I am living . Today I
bravely and with confidence take this
chance. In spite of my screaming and
protesting mind I beg you to please make
me into whatever you desire.

Krishna has send me a genuine Guru,
now by your mercy I can become a
genuine disciple

Your servant and your mercy case
Nāma-rūpa Devi Dāsī





Narottama Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja!

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

Once in an article on the Blog, you told the story about a devotee who was in Vrindavan. That devotee said to the audience that he is here and he also will not leave because of three words that Srila Prabhupada wrote to him in a letter. That three words were “Your ever well-wisher”.

Recently I was in a difficult situation in my life and I could not find a solution to that problem for some weeks. The situation seemed to be hopeless and it seemed that it would not change. At one morning I thought that I look on Skype whether you are online. You were online and I took the opportunity to write to you asking your advice which you gave me. Later that day, the situation still seemed unchanging and then out of a sudden the whole situation changed. It was interesting to see that really from that point on I contacted you the situation totally changed. I wrote that day again to you, reporting that the situation had totally changed. I wrote to you that I consider that fact to be your good prayers and good wishes upon me.

The other day I heard a lecture. After that lecture I began to think about the instructions you gave me in my life. I thought about everything that you have told me. You said once that the words of the spiritual master are never casual. On that day I contemplated about all the good instructions you gave me about different aspects of my life. I then began to realize how much guidance you are actually giving me and how much your instructions are actually supporting me. Your help and good wishes in the form of your instructions are the foundation of my whole life and whatever I am making progress is actually because of your help.

On the day of my first initiation you asked me to get some staples for the staple machine. When I went out the door I did not know where to look. Then your voice came from your room saying that I should go to the Brahmachari Ashram in the small cupboard, in the drawer. I went there and went to the small cupboard. I opened the drawer and I saw like on a silver tablet the staples laying there. I realized at that moment, that if I just follow your guidelines I will be saved and everything will be good.

Oh Gurudeva, would I just be a better follower of yours!

Dear Guru Maharaja, I have given just a few examples of how you are “Our Ever well-wisher”. Definitely one could list much more.

When I was thinking about that concept, that the spiritual master is the “Ever well-wisher” and how you are “Our ever well-wisher” I was thinking how nice that is. Such an great mercy to be allowed to be the disciple of an Spiritual Master who is “Your ever well-wisher”.

Indeed you are “Our ever well-wisher”, always desiring the best for us in all aspects.

I am very grateful for that and I would like to thank you very much for all you did a do for me.

After all I would like to also take the opportunity to pray to you. Dear Guru Maharaja, please engage me in any way in your service so that I may be able to repay a little bit the depth I own to you. Please be merciful to me so that I may become a sincere and genuine servant of yours.

Thank you very much.
Your servant,
Narottama Dāsa





Navadvīpa Dāsa

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

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

Being not able to express my feelings by my own words, this insignificant soul tries to use the words of the other more exalted devotees to glorify you, dear Guru Maharaja. Please, forgive me for this imperfectness.

"Just try to learn the truth by approaching a spiritual master. Inquire from him submissively and render service unto him. The self-realized souls can impart knowledge unto you because they have seen the truth." (Bg. 4.34)

As fishes are caught by a fisherman in a net, as māyā binds the conditioned soul, so I have become caught by you, along with so many others who are your eternal servitors. I have become a recipient of your mercy, and in this way my life has become meaningful and effulgent.

I have received your mercy, that I know that I am an eternal servitor of the Lord, that Lord Caitanya has become my only refuge, that I am connected with Kṛṣṇa once again by vibrating His holy names.

Dear Guru Maharāja, you have given us the Caitanya-caritāmṛta as a precept to explain the sentiments of ecstatic separation as displayed by Mahāprabhu in his līlās.

By your association, by bhāgavata-saṅgata, we have the opportunity to become like swans, although we are but crows. With utmost compassion you have extended yourself to us, knowing no limits to personal sacrifice, to provide us with your most-loving association. This association is absolutely transforming!

We humbly offer our most respectful obeisances unto your two lotus feet. While offering dandavats, we fall before you in this way, straight like a stick, with a straw between our teeth, and beg for your mercy. You are the representative of Śrī Nityānanda Prabhu, the original spiritual master, and therefore you are very merciful. Your hand of mercy has touched our stonelike hearts and blessed our lives with ecstatic chanting and thoughts of Lord Caitanya. As the representative of Sri Caitanya Mahāprabhu, your mission is to deliver the fallen souls back to Godhead, and by your causeless mercy you have raised us up to the rank of Vaisnava. And now, our dear beloved spiritual master, your glorification is our foremost duty.

During the Bhakti-śāstri courses, it was very wonderful my being in Śrīdhām Māyāpur with you and many of your disciples. As we went on parikramas, how amazed the villagers were to see all of these Vaiṣṇavas trying to absorb themselves in caitanya-līlā.

These Navadvīpa dhāma parikramas on Saturdays were special highlights. The constant sādhu-saṅga, kṛṣṇa-kīrtana, and kṛṣṇa-kathā served to reveal the glories of the holy dhāma to everyone, so that everyone could concentrate on the holy name and pastimes of Lord Gaurāṅga.

Every time we visited another sacred site, I felt so fortunate to be somehow associated with such a great heritage. I became more and more amazed, reflecting on how merciful you are.

However, I must also admit how I felt simultaneously unfortunate that as we visited such places, I was not able to presently perceive the transcendental līlā. I was thinking, How is it that we can be so close (in the same exact environment of the Supreme Lord) and at the same time be so far away and to be so dull? You have given us everything, but it is due to our own contamination that we are lacking.

While taking Śrīla Jīva Gosvāmī on parikramā of Navadvīpa dhāma, Lord Nityānanda gave us the answer. Śrī Jīva inquired how it was (as he had just observed) that so many people engage in sinful acts in that holy place, despite the dhāma's power to deliver the soul from sinful reactions. The Lord replied that a person who has developed too much faith in the power of his own intelligence is empowered by māyā to reject the mercy of Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu—the most powerful thing—even if he is a resident of the holy dhāma. How does that work? Such prideful material intelligence distorts the hearing process. Lord Kapiladeva has explained that intelligence is the rationalizing feature of the subtle body. It is the intelligence that permits the embodied soul to apprehend or misapprehend things. (Bhagavatam 3.26.30)

His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupāda explains in his purports:

Doubt is one of the important functions of intelligence; blind acceptance of something does not give evidence of intelligence. Therefore the word saṁśaya is very important; in order to cultivate intelligence, one should be doubtful in the beginning. But doubting is not very favorable when information is received from the proper source. In Bhagavad-Gita the Lord says that doubting the words of the authority is the cause of destruction.

Persons with too much faith in their own intelligence thus rationalize their own mistakes, blame others for them, and in that way perpetuate their own faults. Such persons reject good advice and thus cannot own their own problems. Such unsubmissive persons commit the same mistakes again and again. Srila Prabhupāda, as the representative of Lord Nityānanda, therefore repeatedly warned us, “Don't be over-intelligent.”

His [the Supreme Lord's] existence can be realized by one who has the single qualification of submissiveness and who thereby becomes a surrendered soul. The development of submissiveness is the cause of proportionate spiritual realization, by which one can ultimately meet the Supreme Lord in person, as a man meets another man face to face. [Caitanya-caritāmṛta, Ādi-līlā 1.55 purport]

Although a devotee has surrendered to the Supreme Lord, until he is completely perfect in Kṛṣṇa consciousness he may maintain a slight inclination to enjoy the false happiness of this world. The Lord therefore creates a particular situation to eradicate this remaining enjoying spirit. This unhappiness suffered by a sincere devotee is not technically a karmic reaction; it is rather the Lord's special mercy for inducing His devotee to completely let go of the material world and return home, back to Godhead.

A sincere devotee earnestly desires to go back to the Lord's abode. Therefore he willingly accepts the Lord's merciful punishment and continues offering respects and obeisances to the Lord with his heart, words, and body. Such a bona fide servant of the Lord, considering all hardship a small price to pay for gaining the personal association of the Lord, certainly becomes a legitimate son of God. Just as one cannot approach the sun without becoming fire, one cannot approach the Supreme Pure, Lord Kṛṣṇa, without undergoing a rigid purificatory process, which may appear like suffering but which is in fact a curative treatment administered by the personal hand of the Lord. (Bhagavatam 10.14.8 purport)

Coming again to the point of pure devotional service, the Lord is describing the transcendental qualifications of a pure devotee in these two verses. A pure devotee is never disturbed in any circumstances. Nor is he envious of anyone. Nor does a devotee become his enemy's enemy; he thinks, "This person is acting as my enemy due to my own past misdeeds. So it is better to suffer than to protest." [Bhagavad-gītā 12.13–14, purport]

Dearest Guru Maharāja, please empower me to follow these timeless teachings. Please continue to administer the necessary treatment to purify this stone hard heart. Let me not deviate from proper Vaiṣṇava behavior on the plea of protecting you or our movement. Then, when my heart is sufficiently purified, please sit down there comfortably and allow me to serve you.

The qualifications of a bona fide spiritual master are mentioned in the Eleventh Canto of Śrīmad Bhāgavatam, with Sage Prabuddha addressing Mahārāja Nimi:

"My dear King, please know for certain that in the material world there is no happiness. It is simply a mistake to think that there is happiness here, because this place is full of nothing but miserable conditions. Any person who is seriously desirous of achieving real happiness must seek out a bona fide spiritual master and take shelter of him by initiation. The qualification of a spiritual master is that he must have realized the conclusion of the scriptures by deliberation and argument and thus be able to convince others of these conclusions. Such great personalities who have taken shelter of the Supreme Godhead, leaving aside all material considerations, are to be understood as bona fide spiritual masters. Everyone should try to find such a bona fide spiritual master in order to fulfill his mission of life, which is to transfer himself to the plane of spiritual bliss."

According to śāstra, one is very fortunate to come in contact with a bona fide spiritual master. After many, many lifetimes of pious activity one comes to the platform of Kṛṣṇa consciousness and is blessed by the Lord with a spiritual master to guide oneself on that path of pure devotional service. In the Caitanya-caritāmṛta it is stated, guru kṛṣṇa kṛpāya pāya bhakti-lata bīja:

"By the grace of guru one gets Kṛṣṇa, and by the grace of Kṛṣṇa one gets a bona fide guru."

Therefore Krishna Consciousness and advancement in spiritual life means staunch faith in both guru and Kṛṣṇa. One minus the other is not good for the devotee. One should never try to approach Kṛṣṇa directly. Anyone who talks of Kṛṣṇa without service to guru will not be successful on the path of pure devotional service. These above statements are confirmed by the Vedic śāstra, authorized ācāryas in the disciplic succession, by the supreme authority, the knower of all the Vedas, the Supreme Personality of Godhead Sri Krishna.

My dear Pārtha, one who claims to be My devotee is not so. Only a person who claims to be the devotee of My devotee is actually My devotee.

Citing the words of Śrīla Narottama dāsa Thākura, I offer my concluding prayers:

I am a very, very sinful person, durācāra. I have no Vaiṣṇava sadācāra. So how can I get the opportunity to serve a Vaiṣṇava guru? I am so weak that I have no strength to overcome māyā. Only the mercy of sādhu-guru is required. I have many faults; I have been committing many offenses. I am a very, very fallen soul. But you are adoṣa-darśī and patita udhāre. You are so merciful that you always excuse the offenses, and you have come here to deliver the fallen souls like me. This time, please shower your causeless mercy on me and deliver me, and thereby I will be able to render pleasing service to you; otherwise I have no other way.

With this prayer at your lotus feet I remain your eternal unworthy servant,

Navadvīpa Dāsa





Nayaṇābhirāma Dāsa

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa presthāya
bhū-tale
śrimate kadamba kānana svāmin iti nāmine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya
bhū-tale
guru dasa jayadvaita svāmin iti nāmine*

*nama om visnu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-presthāya
bhū-tale
śrimate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine*

*namas te sārāsvate deve
gaura-vānī-pracārīne
nirvīṣesa-sūnyavādi-pāścātya-desa-tārīne*

Dear Gurudeva,

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

on this auspicious day of your Vyasa puja,
I feel very blessed to have this rare
opportunity to be in the association of so
many godbrothers and godsisters, and to
have the good fortune to actually be here
with you Gurudeva on this auspicious day
Is a real blessing in its self.

I'd like to start with that famous sloka
from Sri Caitanya-Caritamṛta (22.54),

*‘sadhu-sanga, sadhu-sanga — sarva-sastre
kaya
lava-matra sadhu-sange sarva-siddhi haya,’*

“The verdict of all revealed scriptures is
that by even a moment’s association with
a pure devotee, one can attain all
success.”

I feel blessed and always increased Ruci or
taste from all the association I've had with
you Maharaja. The sloka is the purport in
its self, and I can't thank you enough for
the mercy you have shown to me.

Having your association has been the
guiding light in the dark tunnel of
material existence for me over the years,
and although many times I did not
follow, you have guided me now into a
room full of so many lights.

For that in its self, whatever I do I'll
always come up short paying you back.
You truly are the direct representation of
Lord Nityananda's mercy, or how else it
possible that I am here? I remember you
saying one time that you and another
Maharaja were both giving initiations on
the same day, and as you looked upon
the candidates for the other maharaja you
noticed how meticulous, proper and
scholarly and how very serious some
looked and how very proper the others
also looked like and then you looked over
at your candidates, and all of a sudden
there they were “The rogues gallery!” All
the ruffians, misfits, etc etc, laughing,
giggling, talking loudly, walking
around, some dressed like this some
dressed like that etc.

And that's exactly right.

We are that.

And I am just that.

Without a doubt.

I joined on Srimati Sita Devi's Appearance Day and was initiated on Vijayadashami or Lord Rama's Victory day over Ravana.

So in this way I feel some connection to that Lila

I feel just like one of the monkeys or bears, more bear these days I guess in the army of Lord Ramachandra and you being like being Lord Rama our leader in the battle with the demoniac.

So although it wasn't the prettiest or conventional army with the expert leader at the helm they tasted victory against all odds. Such is the mercy of having the benediction of association with such a personality.

I know I have no real qualification or devotion, or any sincere desire to serve, or chant the holy names of Krishna, I'm full of anartha's like a dark cloud, and have no real saintly qualities, despite all of this, here I am like a monkey and you have accepted me despite all of these short comings into your army.

So ending I'll go back to the beginning

“The verdict of all revealed scriptures is that by even a moment's association with a pure devotee, one can attain all success.”

His Holiness Kadamba Kanana Swami Ki Jaya!

Your Eternal Servant,
Nayaṇābhirāma Dāsa



 (Bhaktin) Nicole

Dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to you on this most auspicious
day of your appearance.

Thank you, Maharaj, for your inspiring
lectures and blissful kirtans that serve to
continually renew my enthusiasm for
Krishna Consciousness. Your
thought-provoking words bring me so
many realizations and keep me motivated.
Maharaj, although I am so nervous to
approach you and even more undeserving
of speaking to you, your association
leaves my heart brimming. For all this, I
am indebted to you and I am at a loss as
to how I can ever repay you.

I pray that you will allow me to continue
to serve you always. I pray also for your
good health and that Lord Krishna will
always protect you.

Your aspiring servant,
Bhaktin Nicole
Pretoria





Nityā-mañjari Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

Being on the streets of various towns
around Simhachalam in the last few
months, I realized how far away people
are from Krishna, how far away are they
from their natural position as eternal
servants of the Lord. Their minds are
busy with everything else except
asking, 'What is the purpose of life?' At
least that is how it seems to me, otherwise
how could they not be interested in the
profound teachings of Bhagavad Gita.

When I see them, I think I am also one of
them, coming from the same background,
but somehow or other I got the mercy to
get to know Krishna Consciousness.
While living in a temple, every day I can
eat Maha prasadam, see the Deity and
drink charanamrita. This is amazing.

Since I associate with my mind on a
regular basis I know that I am neither
qualified nor advanced to deserve that,
therefore I assume that it must be mercy.
Mercy seems to me to be one of the main
topics you speak about. Unlimited
amount of it is there. We just have to step
under that shower of mercy and receive it.
I always like that you preach like this,
encouraging, giving hope to people. You
gave the example of the mercy cups, that
everybody has a little cup which grows by
sharing that mercy with others. This is so
true and uplifting. I am so happy that we
have you to support, encourage, and
empower us in that mercy-giving effort.

I am grateful to be connected to the Guru
parampara via you. You are a genuine
follower of Srila Prabhupada. To stay
faithful in this process given by Srila
Prabhupada and to follow his and your
orders is THE chance to make it even in
this lifetime. That is actually incredible.

We disciples chose to grab the life-savers
you are offering and I thought we should
all work hard to assist you in your
mission to bring us and so many others
back to Godhead. Let us all be
appreciative and sincerely follow the
principles, chant our rounds attentively,
use as much time as possible in our daily
life to serve you, to please you, to follow
your orders properly. We all know, you
do not expect us to be heroes, rather we
should serve whatever is within our
capacities. It is not always easy to stay on
the slippery path of Krishna
Consciousness, but today I meditate on
how much we are indebted to you, who
have selflessly given your life to engage us
in Krishna's service which is the ultimate
goal of life.

Trying to be your servant,
Nityā-mañjari Devi Dāsī





Nityānanda Dāsa

Hare Kṛṣṇa Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my respectful obeisances.
All glory to Srīla Prabhupada!
All glory to Srīla Jayadvaita Swami
Maharaja!
All glory to your good self, Srīla
Gurudeva!

One of the first things that struck me about yourself was your quality of being easily approachable. It seems you hold no reservations toward anyone. Knowing the strength of my own mind and false ego, and how conceited I am in their influence, I am impressed by your ability to see everyone equally.

When for the first time I participated in your kīrtana, I sat down in the back of the room and listened. You sang very nicely with varying embellishments, and I, being somewhat acquainted with singing, was trying to respond just as you sang it. Then you noticed, and spotted me! Suddenly you began to chant in increasingly complex variations, and although I struggled to keep up, my limited vocal range forced me to yield, and laughingly I bowed my head.

It was such a nice experience to have this reciprocation. It helped me to understand how different spiritual life is from material existence. I felt some private exchange had taken place, yet it had only enhanced the collective experience of the kīrtan. It was also an inspiring demonstration of “pāṇḍitaḥ sama-darsinaḥ,” how a great person sees everyone equally - even playing around with a new bhakta at such a time, when so many other more important personalities were present.

This is only one example of many such occasions, and it's this generosity of yours which I am most impressed by, and grateful for, Guru Maharaja. Knowing me to be no great scholar, nor a dynamic preacher, nor advanced in asceticism, you have given a common person like myself something simple to relate to - heartfelt acts of friendship. And at times when my feet seem to slip, uplifting association seems distant, my intelligence throws all philosophy to the wind, and my attraction for the bhakti process dries up, it is this relationship, the knowledge of my having a friend who counts on me to make an effort - not for him, but for myself - keeps me rising up again to try that narrow path once more.

So in this mood I submit this simple, but hopefully sincere meditation at your lotus feet (I yet maintain they are quite pleasant, and not cactacean at all), begging you to kindly retain me as your servant. I do more and more to assist, so please accept me as yours. I hope at some point to somehow be able to please you by my efforts.

To my spiritual master; my great friend,
Srīla Kāṇambā Kanana Swami Maharaja.

Your servant,
Nityānanda Dāsa Brahmachari





Nṛtya-gīta Devi Dāsī

Please accept my humble obeisance.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada, Jayadvaita
Swami and to You, my dear Guru
Maharaja.

I don't know what could I say to express
my gratefulness for you. There is always
the same conclusion: There is no words
for that.

Maharaja, You are such an incredible
personality. The spirit You carry around
with You makes us all want more
Krishna! You bring happiness and
ecstasy. We all know what such a great
service You do, but do I know anything
about the love You got? The real love.
The love that is behind of all You present.

Please, accept my clumsy little try out to
approach You in the mood of love. By
loving You even I might learn little by
little something about the real love. You
have given me so much and I wonder
when will be the time I can give You
something. All I can offer for You is my
love. I know it is not very much, but
please let me try.

Your servant
Nṛtya-gīta Devi Dāsī





Padmanābha Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaj,

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

Guru Maharaj, thank you for giving me the holy Name.

It is slowly having an effect, also on me. Who would have thought.

Happy appearance day, Guru Maharaj, have a good one in Amsterdam tomorrow, I'll try to follow it on television. They should crown you king. Hope the harinam party won't be distracted by the insignificance of the event that is happening tomorrow in Amsterdam.

Hope you can bless the newly crowned king with the holy Names so he can be a useful leader at least. Otherwise, like I said, they should crown you King, of the whole world though.

Thank you Maharaj for being patient with me, kind and understanding. I always think, 'Now you're going to kick me out', but every time we meet you're more kind to me.

Thank you, Maharaj for letting me be your disciple and be of some service. Thank you for giving me the holy Name.

Your servant,
Padmanābha Dāsa, Govinda Valley
Australia





Parama karuṇa Dāsa

My dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my respectful obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita
Maharaja.
All glories to you.

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

"By the mercy of the guru, even a dumb man can become the greatest orator, and even a lame man can cross mountains. I offer my respectful obeisances unto my spiritual master, the deliverer of the fallen souls."

By the mercy of The Lord one comes to association of spiritual master and by his mercy one attains Krishna. By the mercy of The Lord I got the shelter of your lotus feet. There is no other shelter than the lotus feet of spiritual master. Nowadays people are very much worried about so many things. They say that the future is not bright at all and they try to find shelter and security in all kinds of material things. I also sometimes start to think like that. And then I must again remind myself that I already have the best shelter. The most secure shelter in whole existence - the lotus feet of spiritual master and His mercy which brings me to Krishna.

Years go by and I understand more and more that the only valuable things we can get are association of devotees, devotional service and our relationship with our spiritual master.

Only by your mercy I can be engaged in the sankirtan mission and that is a wonderful thing. Nothing in this world can make us really happy and blissful. That can be only if we are engaged in devotional service, which means for us specifically the sankirtan mission. Spreading Krishna Consciousness is the right way how to please Srila Prabhupada and all his faithful followers. And I am really happy and blissful that I can be engaged like that. I am really thankful for that opportunity. In fact there is nothing more I can wish for.

I was desiring for so many things in my life. Some things I wished for were good some of them were bad. Some of them I got and some of them not. But all of them were ultimately useless. I still have so many desires in my heart, which cause me nothing but burning pain. But I already know for sure that all of them are insignificant and worthless. The only desire I want to evolve and become stronger is the desire to please you by my service.

Thank you very much for being my spiritual master, my well-wisher, my teacher, my mentor and respectable friend. Please give me your blessing so that I can be your worthy servant and disciple.

With great respect I pay my humble obeisances in the dust of your lotus feet again and again.

Your humble servant
Parama karuṇa Dāsa



Parameśvara Dāsa

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

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

The year passed so quickly and again I am standing in front of writing an offering. My literary abilities are limited, however an attempt to please such a great personality as you and your spiritual master and his spiritual master (Srila Prabhupada) is worth trying. Your successful endeavour to spread mission of your spiritual master fell on fertile soil... you are awakening frozen bhakti in our hearts... you are one of very expert gardeners of Lord Caitanya. Under your guidance we start to change... we are changing from individuals who think and act only according following thoughts: "I have to get MORE for MYSELF, get out of my way, because I am going here. You do not want? So I will FORCE you this way or other way... ME, ME, ME, ONLY ME..." Why do we want to get rid of this? GURU SAID: "Follow!!!" We are not blind followers, but we are exhausted by trying to exploit Krishna's lower and marginal energy for millions of lifetimes... why are we exhausted? We are not able to bear results of our sinful reign and we turn into ill, helpless, frustrated, fallen-apart, bankrupt GODS. One day, by

mercy of a Vaisnava we see ourselves in a mirror: "No, no, what monster is this? Please, saint, tell me how can I get out of this terrible state?" I was arrested in prison only once in my life, only for 18 hours, but I was counting every minute when I can get out of there. Few years ago I asked you what was the chance that I could get out of this temporary world and could return back home, into world where every step is a dance and every word is a song - into spiritual world. Your answer was that my chance was as big as is the mercy of my spiritual master.

Still I am in this material world, but your mercy is so vast that I understand it will be practically impossible to pay it back. You are a man of action and I am also trying to act. Act in such a way that everybody could point his finger towards me and say: "This is a disciple of Kadamba Kanana Maharaja. Look how nicely he spreads glory of his spiritual master."

Your debtor,

Parameśvara Dāsa





Pārijāta Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna My dearest Guru Maharaja,
my spiritual father,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada, all glories
to Jayadvaita swami, all glories all glories
to You.

It is to more and more difficult to write
something meaningful for me, because I
feel more and more complete useless and
not qualified to belaud your unique
qualities. May I am just simple woman
and I just can simply say I love you my
dear Gurumaharaja. You are like my
father, like my the best friend and than I
realize more and more the most hurt in
my life and is it, when I am separate from
you.

You are in my heart in my mind but
equally I feel more pain when I am not
with you. And beyond I realize that when
I see you, that you will after while again
away, I am crying inside me always.

Also when you will come in last time to
Prague I was sitting in my room I knew
you are here finally but I can not be with
you. Because also I have a woman body. I
was just crying. And then you will go
away again and again. I am sorry.
I am looking forward very much to
spiritual world, when we will be
everybody altogether, that it will be there
big fun, just bliss of our souls.



I try to understand this feelings, and I
just remember to seminar which was call
separation from spiritual master from
Madhavananda prabhu, from Govardhan
retreat, when he said that separation from
our spiritual master is same like
separation from Krishna and vice versa.
And than, that this magnifies our love to
You and to Krishna-all the time always to
be so close to you and then separation
from you. I pray just for this because I
perceive, that we have to go more and
more deeper in our Krishna
consciousness and feel more love to
Krishna and to every living beings.

Thank you so much Guru Maharaja for
every moment when I just see you and
that you are with me in my heart and
mind, also in my dreams when I can serve
you also there.

sadhu - sanga, sadhu - sanga
sarva - sastra - kaya
lava - matra sadhu - sange
sarva - siddhi haya
lava matra - it is enought only moment in
association of pure devotee, one can
achieve every success.

Thank you very much for service to you,
that I can serve to Sri Sri
NitaiNavadvipacandra and accepting their
very sweet and soft love and so that I
would be able distribute somehow their
mercy for your pleasure.

Thank you my beloved Gurumaharaja

Your humble servant
Pārijāta Devi Dāsī



(Bhakta) Petr Vanek

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Jayavaita Swami.
All glories to You on the 60th anniversary
of your appearance day.

I was a traveller throughout the universe
and I was looking for happiness in the
world of darkness. Instead of happiness I
found suffering and lamentation. Once I
could meet you by Your causeless mercy
and I could feel that sun entered into my
life. I was listening to you, watching you
and meditating about you. Your
knowledge and wisdom impressed me
very much. Your beautiful stories about
Vrindavan always make me very happy
and I could listen on and on and on and
never stop. So You planted the seed of
desire to go back to Vrindavan, back
Home, into my heart. Thanks to you I
found my lost home! Thanks to you I
found the real sense of human life!

Dear Maharaja, you are the light of my
life. You broke my heart and have
removed all the adverse things without
any compromise and I'm really happy
about it, even it looked very painful at the
beginning. Now I'm your servant and I'll
be happy when I can fulfill Your desires.
Now I'm your soldier and I will fulfill
your orders. Which of trillion living
beings has the chance to serve the
spiritual master like you?

*na dhanam na janam na sundarvm
kavitām vā jagad-īśa kāmāye
mama janmani janmanīśvare
bhavatād bhaktir ahaitukī tvayi*

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami, you have
allowed me to enter the door leading back
to Sri Krishna, back Home. I know that
those debt I can never repay to you. I can
only to promise you that I will follow
Your footsteps life after life. Even my
body will not able to move I want to pray
for service at your lotus feet.

All glories to your wonderful kirtans that
make me crazy for chanting of holy
names of Sri Krishna more and more!

All glories to Your preaching trips where
you give a chance to suffering living
beings to come back to Godhead and taste
the nectar of devotional service even in
this life.

All glories to your pilgrimage journeys,
because when we meet together, I may see
Vrindavan dham, even I'm thousands of
miles away.

I pray to Sri Krsna for Your good health
and protection. I pray to Sri Krsna for
happiness in your devotional service to
Your spiritual master Jayadvaita Swami,
Srila Prabhupada, Sri Sri Gaura Nitai,
Krsna and Balaram and Sri Sri Radha
Syamasundara.

Your humble servant
Petr





Pran Govinda Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my respectful obeisances.
All glories to Gurudasa Jayadvaita Swami
and to Srila Prabhupada.

It's difficult to seek still new words to
express the respect, admiration and faith
in you I received and which manifest in
my life by sincere and conscious
obeisances to you both in my mind and
on the altar, as well as by remembering
your association, your instructions and
your pure repetition of the Holy Name.

With every new listening of your every
lecture I always find new and new
inspiration how to sharpen my
intelligence more and to improve things I
do wrongly. You're my steadfast pillar in
life full of anarthas and I'm aware that the
only way how I can try to repay your
merciful effort is to please you by
fulfilling your instructions steadfastly. I
work on it but the effort and the result
can be judged by my Godbrothers and
Godsisters from the Czech yatra where I
try to contribute to your mission by my
service.

From the whole heart I wish you at the
occasion of your significant appearance
day that we, all of your disciples, by our
service to your mission, at least partially
compensate your effort stemming from
your immeasurable mercy shown by your
constant travel, repeating instructions
during darsans a lectures, tireless and
fresh kirtanas always showering us with
your spiritual moods and thus again and
again inspiring us to go on singing holy
names of Lord Krsna.

Let your ship in this material ocean in the
form of your body continues to serve you
for a long time and with its flag of your
exemplary devotional service to your
Guru Maharaja, Jayadvaita Swami, hoisted
can reach the pleasure and joy of Srila
Prabhupada a Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu
who undoubtedly always protect you on
your way.

Your eternally grateful servant,
Pran Govinda Dāsa





Premārṇava Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada!
All glories to Jayadvaita Swami!
All glories to your lotus feet!

You travel so much across the world tightly attached to your Guru Maharaja, tightly attached to Srila Prabhupada and to Lord Chaitanya. You take big responsibility as a teacher and give so much mercy to your disciples, you can bring them to the love of Krishna. You constantly and tirelessly go on in this business and all is very amazing.

“This Kali is a special Kali yuga. In one kalpa each yuga comes two thousand times. Chaitanya Mahaprabhu only comes once in kalpa. It is called dhanya-kali because Mahaprabhu himself came. Mahaprabhu does not come in other Kali yugas. In other Kali yugas one of plenary portions of Chaitanya comes but that expansion cannot give vraja-prema, love of Krishna. Those persons, who have taken birth in this age are very fortunate because Chaitanya Mahaprabhu gave this prema. To get this prema is perfection of human life.” (H.H. Gour Govinda Swami, 31.3.1989)

I really understand it is a miracle for us. Only once in a kalpa. It was five hundred years ago - very short time and less than fifty years ago His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada came to the West. It is very rare occasion. And how does it continue?

“The devotees of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, their servants and the servants of their servants, practice Mahaprabhu’s teachings in their life. If one is fortunate to serve them he may also get this prema and thereby attain the supreme perfection of human life.” (H.H. Gour Govinda Swami, 31.3.1989)

Dear Guru Maharaja, you give me the shelter, it is a big chance for me to serve you, to my godbrothers and godsisters, to devotees of ISKCON. I am very a fortunate person, please always correct me to improve my service.

Your humble servant
Premārṇava Dāsa





Puruṣottama-kṣetra Dāsa

All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to Gurudas Jayadvaita Swami.
All glories to Kadamba Kanana Swami.
All glories to devoted Vaisnavas.

Guru Maharaj, please accept my humble obeisances.

The apple tree gives its fruit to everybody. One who listens to your instructions, lectures and kirtans, he accepts to his heart your name and character. The gift is your personal care of your disciples. Everyone imagines Krishna differently – as an enemy or as beloved Lord. Not everyone is able to see and appreciate Krishna's present. Hare Krishna Mahamantra is sung by laundry maid or by boys who play football. Through our Guru we can get rid of material competition and with your image in our hearts will all our desires come true. Jiva jago! I have a great fortune that I found my Gurudeva. It's truly a miracle. Even of me, with my awkward karmic condition, is thanks to the higher taste getting to be a devotee.

All here ends with a disease, old age and death. The good news is that we don't have anything in common with it. Often it's a battle, soul with body – the body wants the matter, but the spiritual consciousness must win. The meditation of caterpillar for changing to be a butterfly is the faith to be in devotional service or thinking and planning how to serve you. Let's develop in our heart the good qualities and spiritual consciousness. Krishna's plan plus Guru's mission plus our commitment means coordinated desires.

One who understands that Krishna is the purest, the one could be purified of his own sinful activities. By dedication of life and soul for the service to spiritual master, brahmanas and vaishnavas is possible to please Lord Krishna. Krishna cannot forget about His devotee and reversely. I'm proud that you're so kind to your disciples that I could become your servant. In Amsterdam's square on a ferris wheel the living entities goes up and down. Our brothers and sisters out there, karmis – yet don't know about Krishna's family. Not even Krishna has a senses, He has the most perfect senses of all. Our interest is to dedicate everything to Lord Krishna. Guru is the representative of Lord Balarama, his instructions are the same as Krishna's instructions. Let's accept this fact into our lives. We, kids, thank you for your care and attention.

Kadamba Kanana Swami Ki Jay!
Puruṣottama-kṣetra Dāsa





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.

On this auspicious moment of the anniversary of your merciful appearance on this planet, please let me say few words. First of all as Sanatana Goswami submitted his “ke ami” before Lord Caitanya – also I did not know who I was before You cleared my vision. What could be greater blessing than that? As an experienced doctor helping the patient who is going mad of pain, you had patiently cleared all my doubts and insecurities.

Adau gurvasrayam, to accept a bona fide spiritual master is the beginning of spiritual life. It is the beginning of real life, full of excitement, new horizons, emotions, challenges and experiences. We were told by Srila Prabhupada that there is a necessity to serve the Supreme Lord. For one with less intelligence as myself there are a lot of questions how to fulfill this instruction correctly. Fortunately I was intelligent enough to take instructions from your words and behaviour which are light in the dark forest of my illusions.

gurudev

krpa-bindu diya koro ei dase

trnapekha ati hina

sakala-sahane bala diya koro

nija-mane sprha-hina

Several times you spoke about that you got a lot of mercy. Please give also a drop of it to me,
so that I have strength,
so that I could be humble,
so that I can please you.

I see Lord Krsna in Goloka Vrndavana engaged in pastimes with His devotees. There are you, pointing at this fallen soul (myself) rotting in the material world. Your words ask the Lord not to forget this jiva (although that jiva may be in forgetfulness of Him)...

Your insignificant servant
Rādhā-kānta Dāsa





Rāgalekhā Devi Dāsī

Dearest Guru Maharaj

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

The celebration of your Vyasa Puja is undoubtedly the highlight of the year! Everything about it is exciting. Even the painful visa application is tolerable, just to be present to honour you and share the occasion with the extended family.

Maharaj, you are the single person who has influenced my life the most. You are the embodiment of what this sankirtan movement is all about namely, magnanimity and compassion. Your love for the Holy Name is so deep! I have seen you lead kirtan for hours at a time; sometimes even solitary. You have purchased Krsna by your dedication and sincerity but you are not satisfied with just your own transcendental happiness. You have helped create community outreach projects to share this love and enthuse others. The depth of your compassion cannot be fathomed, even to the point of sometimes earning criticism. But you haven't backed down, you still offer this endless stream of mercy. You live up to the benevolent role of a spiritual master as an "ever well-wisher".

Accompanying the writing of a glorification to you, comes a personal reflection. I remember the day of our first encounter in Cape Town, 24 September 2003. Little did I know what its significance would be! I was around the devotees since 2000 and I thought that they were nice but still, I wanted to be "normal". I had met many elevated souls however hearing from you was different; you made it become meaningful when you said, "Always remember Krsna and never forget him." Somehow, from that day on I decided to rearrange my life. From the immature brat that I read about in my journals of fifteen years ago to the more sober person now, I have turned over a new leaf but the hard-heartedness hasn't changed.

I have been trained by a different school i.e. hard-knocks and no mercy! I never missed a deadline in twelve years at university; never have I been late for a meeting and currently, I do the work of two people. Being a product of this tyrannical regime does not aid my social development skills. But I am a work-in-progress! I acknowledge that I am different (strange and weird also applicable here) and my strengths are a weakness in other ways.

I had met many elevated souls however hearing from you was different; you made it become meaningful when you said, "Always remember Krsna and never forget him."

Recently, I was reminded again that humility is intrinsic to our spiritual development. Hopefully, one day it will become a natural attribute. You do help me along the way. On three occasions, you have given me verbal gems. In January 2010, on Nityananda's Appearance Day, you said to me, "You don't have to be intelligent to get a PhD." Then in February 2010, you said to me, "You don't know everything!" And in an email on 6 June 2012, after saying congratulations that I was graduating that week, you said, "Spiritually, nothing has changed. You are still a beggar." May these words be forever etched upon my heart and serve as a motivation for the remainder of my existence.

It takes a tremendous amount of willingness of the part of a disciple to do the necessary hard-work for authentic spiritual transformation to occur. I think about this transition in terms of chemistry. The conversion of graphite (carbon) to diamond requires exposure to extremely high temperature and pressure. Graphite undergoes changes in structure and physical properties to become diamond which is by far a stronger and more valuable material. Similarly, a disciple must endure the "frying out", cutting-and-polishing to become a sparkling diamond that is worthy of being offered to Kṛṣṇa. A disciple must also become strong enough to handle the challenges that comes with being alone in the world. With this understanding, may I remain undeviated by hurdles on this long journey to perfection.

I am grateful for this wonderful god-family. What a mixed bunch we are, coming from different cultural backgrounds but integrated by our commitment to you. What stalwart devotees walk amongst us! I feel enlivened by hearing of their revolutionary spirit and dutiful nature. Sadly, I don't have those qualities and cannot offer to you any amazing service like that. But ten years later, I am still here and will continue following you around whenever possible. I have a treasure box of memories of all the times spent with you during the annual retreats between 2005 and 2008; in India and Europe; and the many visits to South Africa. This is my true wealth!

Just saying "thank you" feels empty in trying to express my gratitude to you. I don't think I could fully grasp the extent of your blessings. Often, I wonder how and why some things are so easy for me; what did I do to deserve this courtesy, then I remember that a special soul out there is constantly offering prayers for my well-being. I pray that I can become worthy of it.

Your aspiring servant
Rāgalekhā Devi Dāsī





(Bhakta) Raimond & (Bhaktin) Samira

Please accept our humble obeisances.

All glories to Srila Prabhupada
All glories to Jayadvaita Maharaja
All glories to you, our beloved Kadamba
Kanana Maharaja!

Hare Krishna dearest Maharaja,

Daar zijn we weer, samen.

First we would like to say that we are very
happy that you are celebrating your 60th
birthday with us.

This year we finally finished the first part
of your instruction that you gave us at
New Vraja Mandala, years ago.

And although you were not physically
present, your voice singing the Maha
Mantra was present in Schiedam town
hall during our wedding ceremony. On
the big day we felt very close to you, as if
you were watching over our shoulder.
The fact that you give us your
instructions and blessings make us feel
very grateful.

Your birthday is for us always an extra
moment of awareness about our spiritual
life, as you know it is not very enlivening
at the moment. But we keep going
forward. And it is a special thing even to
have a spiritual life!

Every moment our admiration for you
increases. We are struck with awe and
inspired, when we see your endless efforts
as a spiritual teacher and father of such a
big family!

In spite of your health issues your energy
and spiritual life seems superhuman to us.

For us you are living proof of what
Krishna consciousness means, for us you
make Krishna consciousness very real.

Through your living example we can see
the strength you can get by the mercy of
the Lord.

We wish that we can someday get a
fraction of the taste you have for Krishna.
For us you are our life-travel-guide, our
example, our ever well wisher, our
spiritual father and we want to thank you
a thousand times, knowing that we can
never fully grasp the meaning of all these
things, you are for us. And knowing we
can never repay you for your endless
mercy and patience with us.

We are praying and doing the best we can,
that one day we can make you proud of
us.

With all our love and deep respect,

Your ever-trying- to be servants,

Raimond and Samira (Rotterdam,
Holland)





(Bhaktin) Reena Rathod

*om ajñāna-timirāndhasya
jnananjana-salākayā
caksur unmīlitam yena tasmai sri-gurave
namah*

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

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 apperance.

When I suffer in material world very
badly then your instructions always give
me strength to struggle in this world and
give me knowledge to take up Krishna
counsiousness more seriously.

I am very much insincere but under Your
shelter I will try to give my 100%.
I am very very thankful to You for giving
Your instructions on taking spiritual life
and chanting sincerely.
I never had a taste in my spiritual life
before but the time I have surrendered
myself unto Your lotusfeet life
has changed.

*mūkam karoti vācālam pangum langhayate
girim
yat-krpā tam aham vande sri-gurum
dina-tāranam*

“By the mercy of the guru, even a dumb
man can become the greatest orator and
even a lame man can cross mountains.”
I am very much dumb and fallen. Please
be merciful and give shelter at Your
lotusfeet.

Your servant,
Reena



Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble obeisances on this auspicious occasion!

All glories to Srila Prabhupada, all glories to Jaiadvaita Maharaja!

As I am writing this I am reflecting how every year around the time of your Vyasa Puja marks a significant point on my own spiritual path:

In 2009 at the Durban Ratha Yatra I was so attracted to the kirtan you were leading during the procession and attracted to the Holy Name as a result, I did not want to leave that cart – even when it arrived at the site. And I wasn't the only one. Were it not for the efficiency of the marshals, a whole group of us would have been crushed between two carts because nobody wanted to move away and make way for the stream of devotees and the next cart arriving – all of us were so attracted to the nectar of your chanting. At the same Ratha Yatra I witnessed how Bhakti Chaitanya Maharaja and Co. presented you with large cream covered cake in celebration of your upcoming Vyasa puja. Then I joined the pushing and shoving crowd of devotees all eager for a piece of that mercy! Although I didn't fully understand my good fortune at that time, I knew that I was dealing with something extraordinary and had this profound realization and a glimpse of what is meant by all this talk about not being the body but spirit soul - not dependent on anything material to experience the deepest of happiness and sense of complete satisfaction.

In 2010 I saw an invitation by the devotees from Phoenix for your Vyasa Puja celebrations at a house program there and by Krsna's kind arrangement I was able to attend. In my offering to you that year I mentioned how I was feeling like an imposter amongst so many sincere devotees who were serving you so nicely. And three years later I am having this sobering realization that nothing much has changed – I am still an imposter that somehow sneaked in here and thanks to your causeless mercy I am able to enjoy the association of such dedicated devotees. I also said: "I pray that I will become worthy one day so that by Krishna's arrangement I might be able to serve you as one of His worthy and humble servants" and once again, nothing much has changed.

In 2011 I managed to gather the courage to ask you if you would accept me as your aspiring disciple and you answered that you already did. Over the last 3 years I have made some attempt to reciprocate by serving you but I realize that I am very limited. In the meantime Krsna has given me quite a big test and I have this sinking feeling that I am not doing so well. I am still here but due to my nature I seem to get easily overwhelmed and distracted by things I perceive to be more important than they are. I find myself in a catch 22 where I am so concerned with survival in the material world, emotional healing and personal growth and less focused on ultimate spiritual realities and goals.

Last year I listened to your Vyasa Puja address a number of times and heard you encourage us to “stay close” and despite my best intention, I now find myself almost on the outside looking in – seeing so many dedicated devotees serving you with all their hearts and making you their top priority while I am crippled by circumstances and a perceived lack of time.

So I came here to be inspired by these devotees and hear their genuine glorification of you and their appreciation for the relationship that you share. I pray that it will help me re-assess what is most important, for strength to take responsibility for better focus and the quality of my sadhana.

All glories to your exalted example of selfless dedication and uninterrupted service!

May Krsna bless you on your appearance day and for the year ahead.

Your forever indebted and unworthy servant,
Remuṇā Devi Dasi



Revatī Devi Dāsī

Hare Kṛṣṇa, my dear Guru-Maharaja.

Please accept my most humble obeisances
in the dust of Your lotus feet.
All glories to Srīla Prabhupada, all glories
to Srīla Jayadvaita Maharaja.
All glories to You.

*miche mājā-vaṣe, saṁsāra-sāgare,
paḍiyāchilāma āmi karuṇā kariyā, diyā
pada-chāyā, āmāre tārile tumi*

“I was in the grip of illusion. I had fallen
into the ocean of birth and death. You
were merciful to me and gave me the
shade of Your feet. You rescued me.

*tomāra caraṇa-chāyā eka-mātra āśā jīvane
maraṇe mātra āmāra bharasā*

“The shade of Your feet is my only hope. I
may live or die, you are my only shelter.”
nāme ruci,

*jīve dayā, vaiṣṇave ullās dayā kari’ deha
more ohe kṛṣṇadāsa*

“O servant of Lord Kṛṣṇa, please be
merciful and give me attraction for the
holy name, mercy to all living entities and
happy association with the Vaiṣṇavas.

*tomāra kṛpāya, āmāra jihvāya, spuraka
jugala-nām, āmāra hṛdaye, jaguka śrī-
rādhā-śyām*

“Please be merciful and place the holy
names of the Divine Couple on my
tongue. Please place Śrī Śrī Rādhā-Śyāma
in my heart”.

These nice verses are from Jaiva Dharma
and I considered them to be quite
appropriate to express my own gratitude
towards You and my hope that by Your
mercy I might become more and more
fixed in my devotional service and able to
somehow or other serve and please You.

But what is my own endeavour compared
to what You are doing to satisfy Your
Spiritual Master, Srīla Prabhupada and
Lord Caitanya day by day?! I remember
one program in Wiesbaden, it was in
2004. On a really hot, thundery and
oppressive summer day You were coming
from a Pandava Sena-Retreat with long
kirtanas in Spain. Coming directly from
the airport You just “jumped” into the
program with a really great kirtana, gave a
fantastic class and after all of this You (of
course) led the Sundara aratik-kirtan
which ended with Nṛsimhaprayas so
powerful like I never heard before. Only
the photos showed how exhausted You
were at this time and I was wondering
how You could do this.

In Vrindavan last Kartika I took some
similar photos from You. It was just
before You left for Bombay, You were sick
but still You were celebrating
Govardhana-puja together with us. We
had such a nice kirtana and although
Your body was creating a lot of trouble to
You, You did not fail to serve all of us
personally with all the sweets from Gīri
Govardhana.

It’s simply amazing to see, how Kṛṣṇa is
again and again empowering You to
inspire so many people in general to come
a little bit closer, to become curious about
the secret behind Your seemingly
unlimited energy. And to inspire devotees
to follow Your footsteps and try to make
some extra endeavour.

Since some weeks I am receiving the Daily Newsletter from Your block and I was happy to hear that You slowed down a little bit. Still You are distributing so much mercy and nectar. And even if I am not able to listen to all Your classes or even to remember everything I read there – it gives me new inspiration every day.

At times i have some doubt and ask myself: “Is Guru-Maharaja really satisfied with me or is He considering me to be one of this hopeless cases, just tolerating my ideas in the hope that finally i will find out by myself what is wrong?”

I don’t want to fall prey to some traps of my mind. This mind can be very tricky. No wonder, it’s also one of Kāñḥās energies. And there are not all the time devotee around I could ask. But then I think, if I would do something really wrong, You would stop me, wouldn’t You? So, please, don’t be to tolerant with me. There is not so much time left for me any more and i wouldn’t like to “miss it” just because I am following some own ideas or speculations!!!

In Vrindavan last year You once gave a class on Bhagavat Gita one night. To be honest, I do not remember so much from this class, but one point I will never forget. It was about worms in our body and that they can be everywhere. Even in our brains one could find some specie, eating our brain! And so in some cases the reason why one has bad remembrance might be because there are already some holes in the brain. “He is talking about me!” That’s what I thought immediately and for a moment i became a little bit frustrated about myself. But then I remembered what Sacinandana Maharaja says, about the hole in the heart that we have to fill it up with Kṛṣṇa. And I decided not to worry about but to just fill up the vacuum in my brain with Kṛṣṇa whenever possible. And by the way: Perhaps Kṛṣṇa sent these worms to destroy all the nonsense stored in my brain, so I must not worry about!

Please bless me that Kṛṣṇa may fill up both of them: the one in the brain and the one in the heart. We are celebrating Your 60th birthday now. I think it’s the 11th Vyasa-Puja and every year one can see how the family is growing and growing. Still You are so personal with Your spiritual children, so nicely taking care of all of us. Please don’t forget to take care of yourself! All of us should think about how we can lighten Your burden, even if You don’t consider it as a burden. Where ever You come we should make sure that You can take enough rest, that there are not to many programs, that You can follow Your diet etc, etc. And where ever we are, more than before we should leave our “comfort zone” and think about what we can do, instead of just waiting for You to come and inspire everyone.

It’s our duty anyway, isn’t it? Even if one does not feel qualified, everyone has some special abilities and skills, let’s use them more than before in Your service! Like You said once: “No energy, no brain? Anyway use whatever is there in Kṛṣṇas service!”

With this in mind I am careful, to not somehow or other peacefully “retire” with my Kṛṣṇa and Balarama. There is still something more I do. And at least I can try! Dear Guru-Deva, please keep an eye on me, help me to become a real servant and an instrument instead of someone who is just satisfying the own desires under the pretext of devotional service. And whenever necessary, please correct me!!!

Your eternal servant
Revatī Devi Dāsī





(Bhakta) Rudy & (Bhaktin) Sila Ramsaran

Dear Maharaj,

*Om ajnana-timirandhasya jnananjan-
salakaya*

*Caksur unmilitam yena tasmai sri-gurave
namah*

"I offer my respectful obeisances unto my spiritual master, the deliverer of the fallen souls."

We offer our humble obeisances unto your lotus feet. We will be eternally grateful to you for showing us the correct path and saving us from the cycle of birth and death.

We still remember last year when we met you in The Hague and Amsterdam and that you spent a lot of time with us . On the most auspicious day of your appearance we beg that you please accept this offering as a humble attempt to somehow or other reciprocate with your causeless mercy. Furthermore, we beg that you kindly remove the black umbrella of ignorance that is presently covering us so that we can properly receive and follow your instruction and try and serve your lotus feet with ever-increasing purity, love and devotion.

On this auspicious day of your Vyasa Puja celebration, we offer our dandavat to the dust of your lotus feet. You approached us in our life while we were searching for a Guru. It is all because of the unlimited compassion that you have over a fallen conditioned soul like us.

We feel so much love coming from you and even though we are physically far, we feel closer to you than ever and we try to serve you here by serving devotees that live here.

There is nothing we can actually offer you that has any worth as you already possess pure Krishna-bhakti which is the only thing that is of any real value anyway. We know that any progress we make is solely the result of your causeless mercy and blessings.

The essence of all we are saying is "All glories to you, Srila Gurudeva". We hope that you continue to inundate the entire world with Krishna prema through your ecstatic preaching and kirtan as you have been doing.

Please let us know if there is any way we can be of service to you.

Your humble servants,
Rudy and Sila Ramsaran



Rukminī Devi Dāsi

In thick, dark ignorance and blind I was born
Warming rays of knowledge and love you shone.
Opening my eyes,
breathing life into dead senses, unto you I
offer my deepest obeisances

“What do I not see of mundane lust and greed, envy, politics and many sinful ways. Does it sway me? Sometimes. But not enough to shake me. I am fixed in my ways.”

Fixed, always absorbed. Day after day you remained shrouded by the walls of your room. Sometimes you would play a lecture of Prabhupada or the ceaseless CC. Often, it was just the steady flow of japa. Quiet evenings were the intimate property of sweet, solo kirtan. No one else was listening. No crowds applauding. Yet it was the same bottomless devotion; alone in your temple with only the walls bearing witness to your love.

“I don’t belong in this world,” you’ve written,” but I’m right here in the thick of it. I’m not hiding in a cave. I’m ready to deal with anyone.”

Yes, you are ready to deal with anyone and anything. However, when the circumstances allow, you’re alone with Krishna, just Krishna, and completely satisfied.

What did you do to achieve such natural adsorption? Did you spend ten years reading the Bhagavatam? Did you take vows to chant millions of names? Did you just throw yourself into a ton of service and one day you awoke with deep taste?

It seems like you “built it all in”. To bed at 8pm and up at 2am - japa all at one go and then mangal arathi - plenty of time to read. It was the whole morning program. After breakfast all hell would break loose. A full day of intense service ...and you would sneak in some reading in between. You were temple president in Vrindavana. It wasn’t that you had nothing to do. You gave your everything in service but you also built bhajan into the day. This example is my beacon. Although I consistently fail to live up to the principle, it is always there, reminding me of what I should strive for.

“Any questions?” you once asked.

“I always have a question.” I quirked

“That doesn’t mean I have to answer them.”

Silence.

“Ask,” you prod.

“Although I’m happily engaged in service, it’s difficult to really take time to go deep...”

“You can’t crash the gates heaven!”

I recognise the phrase, it’s the first words you ever wrote to me.

You look at Srila Prabhupada for a long moment.

“Just be a faithful servant, Rukmini”

It answered all questions - and it sliced right through me. I wasn’t a faithful servant. I had too much faith in my own ability and not enough in mercy. And I didn’t realise that the absolute essence of all my endeavours and all energy spent was merely to be a faithful servant - and nothing more.

Often I have wondered how a rebel could survive the rigidity of autocratic era, spirit unbroken....

Who am I now?
I joined a movement
did I.....?
I joined Prabhupada
Yes, I did!
I joined Lord Caitanya
Yes, I did!
Did I join ISKCON?
to some extent.
I am the property of my Spiritual Master
Yes, I am proud to say so

You not only survived that era, you flourished. All based on this principle of “just being a faithful servant.” I searched the Krishna Balarama temple in Vrindavan, hoping that the walls would whisper or the tiles would tell me the secrets of your devotion and finally I just asked you:

“As the servant of Srila Prabhupada the Dharma will be revealed to us. “, you wrote, “this has been my attitude in Vrindavana from the beginning...”

It is the attitude of a faithful servant. And what is the result of a lifetime of being a faithful servant? Conviction, impenetrable conviction that goes soul deep. Once you wrote on your website once that to maintain an ashram one doesn't require so much of cultivation as one does conviction. You said that conviction means that one thoroughly understands that this life is for going back to Godhead. I get bowled over every time I think of how you just boldly put Krishna first in your life, forsaking all else. And you did it without bitterness, but with nobility and with joy.

Pure bhakti is all I have faith in
May I never get lost
Please give me love of God
Today I pray to you for a drop of this conviction.

I like this poem. It's my favourite thing on kkswami.com. Often you say that you're not a writer. Well, I beg to differ. The words speak for themselves.

In your offering to Jayadvaita Swami you ended by saying, “Thank you for giving me a wonderful life.” It was gratitude grounded by experience and matured with time. Being green and feeble, I lack that depth but today I also want to say with all the honesty that I can muster, “Thank you, for giving me a wonderful life.”

Your daughter,
A hopeless case (in your own words, and by my actions),
Rukmiṇī Devi Dāsī





Rupa Mañjarī Devi Dāsī, Sudama Dāsa, Sri Vibhu

Our most dear beloved Guru Maharaj,

Please accept our most humble obeisance
at the dust of your lotus feet.

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

We would like to take this opportunity to
express our sincere gratitude on this great
auspicious day.

As days pass, we realise the importance of
you, and also our relationship.

You are growing old, but the way you
exercise your service, the way you have
totally dedicated your life to the mission,
even neglecting your health, inspires us
the best.

Without any doubt! If at all we are doing
even a single menial service it is just
because of the strength we get from you.

If at all we understand the meaning of
service attitude, it is just because of you.

You have caught our attention from the
day one we saw you and kept doing it
even till date. You kept us inspired by the
lively presence, ecstatic kirtans,
enlightening lectures. You simply capture
us always. Though the number of
occasions is less, but are most memorable
and energetic. Your love and instructions
surcharge us always. Every time we
approached with some questions you
would easily give us practical solutions.
We get immense relief.

We are fans of your sense of humour,
wonderful instructions, and beautiful
long lively & lovely kirtans. Your
personal care & relationship keeps you
our perfect role model in order to make
our life success. We are indebted to you
Maharaj.

On this great day, we want to remind
ourselves that we are indebted to you and
shall commit our lives at your service. We
remember your valuable instructions and
always follow them.

On this auspicious day, if we can give you
something, it is only our sincere
dandavats and promise to stick to our
vows.

Just Without you, we are afraid to
imagine our journey home, back to
Godhead. We whole-heartedly pray Lord
Krsna to bestow His unlimited mercy and
give you a very very long, peaceful,
prosperous Krsna conscious life.

Yours most fallen servants,
Rupa Mañjarī Devi Dāsī, Sudama Dāsa, Sri
Vibhu



Śaḍbhuja Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

One year has passed again. One year of
disappointment and tolerance on your
side, another year of immaturity and
shallowness on mine.

But still by the mercy of Gauranga
Mahaprabhu, Srila Prabhupada und You, I
keep on trying, to become a humble
servant, finally.

The more I learn to know You, I'm
amazed about your character. Normally
people, who get things going are not
known for being tolerant, but you are
both. Generally if one is fixed up, then
one is not so lenient with others, but you
are both. People, who are good in
something will use their capability, you
not necessarily.

Since you are so accessible, it's easy to
take your association lightly. Anyway it is
the level of exchange where we should get
to, sweet and intimate. That you deal like
this, even with your immature disciples
makes you even more glorious.

Manifesting the character of a real sadhu,
you dry to find your place in a society,
which is not always supportive. How the
world must look like from your
perspective, that's what I want to
understand more and more. In this way I
will be able to serve you one fine day.

Who can understand the mind of a
Vaishnava?

I would like to show my gratitude
towards you in offering this Bus project as
an offering to You and the Guru
parampara. It is meant for glorification of
the holy name and I'm begging for
blessings, so we might be able to touch
the hearts of everyone we meet on the
way.

Thank you for not letting me down, at
times, when others do. Thanks for not
giving up on me!

Your servant
Śaḍbhuja Dāsa



My dear Guru Maharaja,

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

Somehow I have been blessed with unlimited mercy. I don't know what I did to deserve it, but due to some special fortune you have given me shelter, the shelter that was long lost and very much needed and missed. For millions of lives I have been wandering through bodies and forms and finally I met you, my hope for going back to Krishna.

In October 2012 I was studying Bhakti Shastri with my husband in Vrndavan and by Radharanis mercy you came and spent 6 weeks with us in the Holy Dham. Eager as I am I was warned the first day "don't push, Sanatani, I need rest" It was hard... It was a great suffering for me to not knock on your door every day and have a small talk with you. By the mercy of Jananivas Prabhu, my husband and I got the service of making your breakfast, I had been bragging to Jananivas Prabhu that I FINALLY had learned how to make proper chapaties (in Finland I "tried" to make it, but it ended up like some hard flat bread, and your comment was: "nice crackers") I was not impressed by the amount prasadam you took, actually I became very worried, but you consoled me saying that you don't have a vegetable juice/chapatti breakfast, because it's what you love it the most, but because it's what your body needs to be able to heal. Jananivas Prabhu also blessed us with bringing maha back to our room, not just the breakfast, but also lunch and all the sweets he was given... It was one blessing after another in Vrndavan.

My husband and I had been praying for second initiation in Vrndavan during Kartik, and as you are an ocean of mercy

you gave us the opportunity to get even closer to Krishna by receiving the Gayatri Mantra from you in Vrndavan in Kartik. It was the most amazing day. Yajna in Srila Prabhupadas Samadhi and so many words of wisdom came from you and entered my heart. It is time to be a leader and when other feel weak, it is our responsibility to be strong and steady.

You taught me an important lesson that day. Never argue with what you say. Your words are highest, because you are my Guru Maharaj, my spiritual master, the one who has given me shelter and the one who will bring me back to Krishna. How do I dare to argue with you? You really showed me your authority that day and I felt smaller than a bug underneath a cows hoof. I was so embarrassed and I felt not worthy of all your mercy. Not everyone is so lucky to get such personal instructions from their Guru, I realized I was so fallen, and that is why you bestowed your mercy on me.

Just two days later I did it again, and you smashed me again, and you called me a rascal. Rascal, rascal, rascal... the words were spinning in my head. I am a rascal. Wow... that really crushed my self-image and parked me right back on my feet, realizing I am a very, very fallen and bad rascal disciple. I couldn't stop crying and you were trying to make me feel better with kind words and comfort. But at that moment I realized that I need to become a better servant and serve you how you like, not how I want to. It was a great wake-up call for me and I really saw how much you care for me and how much mercy you are showering me with. Guru means heavy, that I can vouch for, but Guru also means that one that brings you from darkness to light. And in Vrindavan I realized I had been walking around in darkness and then you came with a torch and showed me the path. I wrote a poem that second day:

Mercy

Mercy comes in different forms
Sometimes joyful,
Many times painful.
Anyway it's mercy.
And I do want mercy
– especially from my spiritual master.
He is an ocean of mercy.
His rising Leo comes out.
And it scratches a whole in my
identification.
And it bleeds,
It hurts,
It hurts more.
The wound is deep, deep into the bone.
I hope there will be a scar.
A deep scar.
One that does not heal,
But is there to remind me of the mercy I
was given.
Like a scar in the face,
Which one is always reminded of in the
mirror.
The sharp claws of my Gurus words
marks my soul
and awaken me from my sleeping state.
He is helping me to become a better
servant,
serving him, serving Krishna,
serving my husband and the devotees.
The claws scratch a hole.
So the air in my puffed up personality
- will diminish – slowly.
Painfully but slowly.
Bitter in the beginning
Nectar in the end.
There is no other choice
than to surrender to his mercy.
I am very fortunate to receive it.
So personal and close to my heart.

My dear Guru Maharaj,

In November I was again very fortunate to be invited to H.H. Jaiadvaita Maharaja's Vyasapuja in Mayapur. In his Vyasapuja-lecture he mentioned some really important points about the spiritual master that I found very inspiring, and it made me again reflect on my relationship with you.

First of all he said that the spiritual master is not an ordinary being, and we should never think he is. He is our link with Krishna, and we should see him as good as God.

Secondly he said that we should never neglect the instructions of the spiritual master and one should offer one's life and soul to them.

To try and go back to Godhead without a Spiritual master is like trying to sail a stone-boat.

He also explained how the spiritual master's instructions are our seeds of devotional service. The spiritual master engages his disciples in serving, chanting and following principles. The spiritual master is the one who distributes mercy and receives service.

But we should never think that the spiritual master is an ordinary person. He is all but ordinary. If it was not for you Maharaja, I don't know where I would have been. I owe you my life and soul. Please continue to engage me in service and please help me on my path of purification of my heart.

I pray to Krishna that I may make you happy with my service.

I am forever grateful for all your mercy.
Thank you.
Your rascal servant :)
Sanātani Devī Dāsī





Satyarāja Dāsa

Jaya Srila Prabhupada, Jaya Srila
Jayadwaita Swamiji, Jaya Gurudeva, Srila
Kadamba Kanana Swamiji.

Such a lowborn soul as my self, I come
from a poor background, I am black, from a
slum situation in South Africa, Soweto.
Lower to the lowest among all the sudra
society...amazingly enough I don't feel
like that any more, on the 18th 2011 of
september I received my Diksha, ever
since that sublime moment, I have no
fear, no hankering and no lamentation but
understanding divine and knowledge in
its pure form, that all comes From Sri
Kanai, the One who lifted Govardhana
Hill, I now know Sri Nimai of Nadia the
eternal Brother of Sri Nitai, absolute mercy
to all living entities. Ever since that divine
moment my heart is forever pumping
with joy and peace. Like the cows
surrounding Guru Maharaja on His way
to Vrindavan through the eternal
Prabhupada gateway. I am all satisfied, I
am one of the cows under Your shelter,
my Father, my Friend, My Dear
Gurudeva.

That Your Divine Mercy appeared in this
mortal substance is to the benefit of
wretched souls as me. I pray that I may
come to Bharata varsa and serve My
Beloved Guru Maharaja.

Thank you Master,
Satyarāja Dāsa
Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna
Krishna Hare Hare, Hare Rama Hare Rama
Rama Rama Hare Hare
Jaya Srila Kadamba Kanana Goswami
Maharaja. Radhe Radhe!!!





Sāvitṛī Devi Dāsī

Dear Kadamba Kanana Swami,

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

All glories to you, my eternal Spiritual master who kindly gave me the jewel of the holy name and who connected me with Jagat guru Srila Prabhupada and other acaryas, with the chain of Love that leads to Divine Couple. You are directly empowered by Gaurasundar Mahaprabhu who entered your heart just like he entered the heart of Rupa Goswami and empowered him to ascertain properly the conclusions of the truths. (CC Madhya 19.117). I pray for your unconditional vaisnava grace to always be engaged in your service.

525 yrs ago Krishna appeared in this world as Gaurasundara and brought the medicine for the suffering jivas in this age of Kali. He flooded the universe with the precious gift of prema (premamrtambho-nidhi) he gave what nobody gave before and that mercy is still flooding this world, putting out the fire of material life from the hearts of many.

On this day, by glorifying you I feel like glorifying the whole parampara and all devotees of the Lord who took up this mission of passing this mercy of Nitai Gaurasundara and expanding this glorious movement.

Although I can read about them, I can not understand these great personalities like Rupa and Sanatana Goswami...Narotama das Thakur, Srinivas Acarya, Syamananda Pandit, Sri Rasikananda, Bhaktivinod Thakur, Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur, embodied ocean of transcendental mercy Srila Prabhupada.

But just by associating with you I can get the glimpse of their love for the Lord and transcendental compassion for conditioned souls, because Maharaj, you imbued the mood of all them and you are emanating it from whole your being.

On this day I want to say that I am very grateful to you and very struck with wonder that I am given this wonderful opportunity to be part of this movement, which is like you have said once nothing else but one more page of Caitanya Caritamṛta.

I feel very grateful and indebted to you for being one leaf among other 244 leaves on branch of Lord Caitanya's tree which is presided by you Maharaja.

I know that I can never repay to you but I am ready to spend life after life in finding new ways how to be engaged in your service.

Thank you Maharaja for being such a wonderful vaisnava and all glories to your amazing service.

Your eternally indebted servant,
Sāvitṛī Devi Dāsī





Sevānandī Devi Dasi & Śrīdhara Dāsa

Dearest Gurudeva,

Please accept my most humble respectful
obeisance's onto Your lotus feet.

All glories To Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to His Holiness Jayadvaita
Swami.
All glories all glories onto Your most
wonderful Grace.

Please accept our best wishes on this most
glorious occasion of Your 60 birthday and
Vyasa Puja.

We are so overwhelmed and happy that
we have You in our lives Gurudeva. Every
single step that we have taken in our life,
You have been there to guide us and
support us. You have been more than a
Spiritual master, You have also been a
dear friend and a caring father. The rough
travels and long distance trips that You
take just to come and visit and inspire us.
This has touched our hearts greatly.

We pray to Krishna everyday to keep You
well and in Good health. And that You
may have many many many more years to
change many more lives like you have
changed ours.

We promise to try harder and harder
each day to become worthy disciples. And
to help You Gurudeva in your Mission to
spread Krsna consciousness and fulfill
Srila Prabhupada's dream.

Stuck for words to express our thanks
here's a small attempt.



Dear Gurudeva,

You have been there from the very start,
Took care of me, took care of my heart.
Thank you so much, for always believing
in me, you pulled me up from the raging
sea.

Thank you for your dedication,
Teaching us about salvation.
Bringing us closer to the Lord,
Is the most beautiful award.
Thank you for leading the path to the
light, You taught us, that our faith is our
sight.

Each day we come to learn,
How by chanting our karma will burn.
I appreciate everything that you do,
You always helpful and thoughtful too.
From the beginning, you've been there for
me, When I needed you, you stood strong
like a tree

You always stressed to me that
there's just one simple, yet important
rule.

The chanting Hare Krsna,
is my spiritual fuel.
From your heart, you gave me advice,
most Important to me, beyond any price.
When I needed help, you took the time,
You never gave up, no matter the climb.
Thank you so much, for showing me the
way, I simply don't know, how I could
repay.

Your smile has always been very kind,
You challenged me to expand my mind.
Obstacles I faced, in me you believe,
You always told me, I could achieve.
Thank you for teaching me how to live,
How to love Krsna, and to forgive.
Thank you so much for being my light,
Because of you, my future is now bright.
How could I ever thank you enough?
You stood by me, when times were really
rough.

Comfort I felt, I truly did need,
I appreciate your every kind deed.

With love
Your Servants,
Sevānandī Devi Dasi & Śrīdhara Dāsa
(Ladysmith, South Africa)



Sevā Samyuta Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada.
All glories to HH Jayadvaita Maharaj.
All glories to you, dear Guru Maharaj.

Happy Appearance day!

There are so many reasons to be joyous on this very auspicious day. Your influence in my life has changed my outlook and given me hope that even I can become a servant of the Lord under your expert guidance.

Time and time again you speak of the importance of devotee association and how we should always realize that that the relationship is more important than the issue at hand because devotees are so rare and special.

Even more rare and special are the PURE devotees of the Lord.

HH Giriraja Swami said something in a lecture on the Nectar of Devotion that made me meditate on the the importance of the Spiritual Master. He said that it is more beneficial to associate with someone who has associated with the Lord than associating with the Lord directly because we may see the Lord but we may not recognize Him and we may not serve Him. But if we associate with a devotee, he can tell us Who the Lord is, who I am, what is my relationship with the Lord and how to serve Him. Therefore we get more benefit by associating with a devotee than by associating with the Lord.

HH Purnacandra Goswami also narrated a pastime on the benefit of a MOMENTS association with a pure devotee :
Ambarisha Maharaja had a brother who was a great demon. He was lamenting about the sorry state of his brother when Narada Muni appeared and asked what was wrong. Narada Muni then visited the demon brother, offered his obeisances and very humbly begged him to take shelter of the Holy Name. This enraged the demon and he raised his sword to kill Narada who then ran away. Narada again approached the demon and told him to ask the Yamadutas at his time of death :
"What is the benefit of a moments association with a pure devotee? " The demon once again chased Narada away by threatening to kill him. When the demon eventually passed, he was dragged away by the Yamadutas. But when he stood in front of Lord Yamaraja, he remembered the words of Narada Muni and asked his question. Lord Yamaraja was shocked that such a sinful demon could ask such an elevated question. Lord Yamaraja answered that even he did not full understand the answer to this question so he took the demon to his superior, Lord Brahma. When Lord Brahma was asked the question, he gave some answers but could not say what the ultimate benefit was so Lord Brahma recommended that they approach Lord Shiva with the question. Lord Shiva could also not answer completely so he advised they approach Lord Narayana Himself and ask Him. So they all travelled to Visnuloka and approached Lord Visnu with the question. Lord Visnu smiled and said that once you come to His abode, you could never go back to the material world again and that because the demon was brought to Visnuloka to ask this question, he automatically became an eternal associate of the Lord. So one who associates with a pure devotee, even for a moment, attains all perfection, attains the Lord's abode and becomes His eternal associate.

Instead of just a MOMENT, dear Guru Maharaja, you bless us with endless hours of association. Besides travelling around the world to give your personal association to us, you make yourself so available through your lectures, your writings and of course, your kirtans. In a dark world filled with misery, disease and distress, you are like a beacon of light, hope and love that draws us to the shelter of your lotus feet. I pray that I never stray from the path that you have set out for me. I am eternally grateful for all your mercy. Thank you, dear Guru Maharaj for making me a part of your family.

Your servant and daughter
Sevā Samyuta Devi Dāsī



(Bhaktin) Suan Mui ng

Dear Your Holiness

Kadamba 渴达八

Kanana 渴娜娜

Swami 灵性老□

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

It is always so amazing to watch you
talking and leading the kirtans. I always
wonder how do you maintain giving out
so much positive energy and mercy to
everyone?

Your reply was to 'Preach'.

Whenever I thought of you, first thing
that came in my mind: 'Quit your job &
Open a Centre in China, and rely
everything on Krsna.' (spoken in 2011
Vyasa Puja lecture)



Your disciples represent you, and I feel
very fortunate to get to know a glimpse of
you through their actions and speech.

Swamiji you are such a wonderful,
inspiring, encouraging, forgiving, heavy,
graceful, exciting, funny, generous,
determined, motivated, influential
Manager, tolerant, patient, affectionate,
sweet, and a very nice gentleman Father.

I know nothing and thank you very much
for your mercy. Thank you so much for
all your sacrifice to save us from the
material ocean.

Hope you get well soon. We need you so
much.

yours sincerely
suan mui ng
(feel ashamed and unqualified to sign off
as your servant)



Sukhayanti Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances.

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

I am not a great writer, nor do I have a list of slokas ready to glorify the spiritual master and the virtues of devotional service. I cannot tell great stories about the service I have done this last year nor great promises for the year to come.

I would like to offer so much but am afraid I can only live up to so little. I would like to make you proud and to be a good example for others.

I carry you in my heart wherever I go. Before doing anything, I first pray for your mercy that I may do it in a pleasing way for Krishna. When I do an error, I think how you will be displeased and try to mend my ways. I know that even though I am physically far away from you I am not forgotten by you. You are my link to Krishna.

This year again, I will not be there for your vyasa puja celebration. I hope that you will accept this small offering I am sending you.

This coming year I would like to try harder to serve Krishna, to chant better rounds and to read more from the SB. I want to always keep the preaching mission of Sri Caitanya mahaprabhu as my main goal in life and to try and find ways to engage in that service.

When I look at all you have done and all the hardships you have gone through, when I hear of the health problems you have been having lately and of how you need to take more rest, I realize once again how much you have sacrificed by taking up this service. I realize how much you keep on sacrificing everyday for us, your disciples. We take it for granted, we take you for granted. Your example teaches me what I should be doing in my own devotional life. It teaches me what it means to be a devotee of the Lord, and even though I fall short in many ways, your examples reminds me that I have to try and come up to that standard.

Please forgive me for not being able to be much more than this.

Your servant
Sukhayanti Devi Dāsī



To our dearest His Holiness Kadamba
Kanana Swami,

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

*vande 'ham sri-guroh
sri-yuta-pada-kamalam
sri-gurun vaisnavams ca*

“To show them special mercy, I, dwelling
in their hearts, destroy with the shining
lamp of knowledge the darkness born of
ignorance.” (B.g.10.11)

With this offering maybe a drop of
gratitude can be given to you. While in
comparison to the insurmountable debt I
owe, for all that you have so selflessly
given unto me. It gives me hope to know
that you are always showering the
blessings of Lord Caitanya on us
conditioned souls.

Your attachment and commitment to
spreading Caitanya-lila is one I aspire to
have. Hearing your glories of the Panca -
tattva daily entices my spiritual thirst for
knowledge. It is this thirst that motivates
me to continue getting to know Kṛṣṇa is
his unlimited pastimes. In a class you
once quoted how transcendental sound is
sabde- or essential, as essential as bathing
is “*śābde pare ca niṣṇātam*” bathing in
transcendental sound. So I have taken to
your advice and bathe in the sounds of
your classes daily.

It is not often that you hear those 3
special words your “ever-well-wisher”. It
is this deep connection of sincerity that
even Kṛṣṇa Himself displays on the
battlefield of Kurusetra to Arjuna, one
that I know keeps me going at times, that
someone is not trying to cheat you, but

has your best interest in mind. To know at
least one person is genuine through and
through.

For as you yourself have said, “In material
life we are a chapatti” and it’s true!
Bhoga-tyaga we are eternally unhappily
switching sides while burning on each.

“The thoughts of My pure devotees dwell
in Me, their lives are fully devoted to My
service, and they derive great satisfaction
and bliss from always enlightening one
another and conversing about Me.
”(B.g.10.9)

Resembling a mirror, it is unveiling,
revealing, unraveling as to be seen clearer,
the endearing, and quite fervent
commitment and dedication to remaining
servant of the servant by serving a plate of
salvation.

As the embodiment of
Srila Prabhupada’s mission.
You are devotion in motion.
Like the sweet waves of the milk ocean.
Fearlessly deciding to conquer
all of our own personal inner-monsters.
The weapons you chose to exploit,
oddly enough,
were love of God,
and freedom of choice.
Now I strain to explain what seems to
remain is only the nectar of His Holy
name!

Aspiring to always be in your service,

Sundarī Dāsī Sherreitt





Surabhi Devi Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaj,

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

Now almost one year has passed since my initiation. So many things happened in my life in the last year, from living in Leipzig city, to now being here in Jandelsbrunn in the middle of the countryside!

All the way I recognise that the Lord gave me opportunities which helped me to move forward in my spiritual life and develop more and more a service attitude.

Devotional service is that thing which can save our life so that we can become more and more attached to Krishna and more and more detached from the material world or material enjoyment.

There is so much I have to do and the spiritual way of life is not always a simple walk. I'm so thankful that I have this opportunity to give my life something real with a sense of purpose and that you are guiding me.

I want to thank you for your kindness, for your patience and for your very personal instructions which I needed to move forward on my path.

You are really an ocean of mercy, always engaged in service and even when you are not in good health you just continue in Lord Chaitanya's mission. There is so much more to say, but it is impossible for me to pack all these thoughts in a few sentences.

Your servant
Surabhi Devi Dāsī





Sūrya Nārāyaṇa Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaj,

Receive mine deep pleasantries, all glories to Srila Praphupada. All glories to You, dear Guru and all glories to all Gurus of ISKCON. Without you would be a empty life and alone. Thanks of your grace mob sense of Krishna, which is for our soul so much needed, because soul without contact from Krishna is unfortunate. Therefore, thank you, keep in touch with Krisna and our life for the right direction. Hare Kriṣṇa.

Your eternal servant
Sūrya Nārāyaṇa Dāsa





Sutapā Dāsa

Dear Maharaja,

Please accept my humble obeisances
All glories to Srila Prabhupada



You are a hardcore missionary, but also a thoughtful, contemplative and internal renunciate. You can connect with the rich and wealthy life members, and simultaneously inspire the ruffians in city centre. You can give a thought-provoking, penetrating and highly philosophical discourse, and then go and lead a mad harinam in great abandon and ecstasy. You are bold and direct, but simultaneously embody deep humility and compassion. You command a deep sense of respect and authority, but always remain personal, human, friendly and approachable. You are a deep and profound thinker, but simultaneously a practical and streetwise manager. You know the art of making Krishna consciousness accessible and relevant, while maintaining strict chastity and loyalty to the parampara.

Your unique spiritual personality never fails to capture my imagination.

I'm not quite sure how, but I have received the inconceivable good fortune of being your formally initiated disciple. Krishna is very kind. How can I express my gratitude? Placing myself under your care and guidance, I hope to offer some service in this life to make you smile,

Begging to remain at your transcendental disposal,
Sutapā Dāsa

Śveta Gaṅgā Dāsī

*om ajnana-timirandasya
jnananjnana-salakaya
caksur unmilitam yena
tasmai sri-gurave namah*

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

My dear Guru Maharaja,

On this special day of your Vyasa Puja. I
offer my most respectful obeisances at
your lotus feet. Happy appearance day
Guru Maharaja! I am so grateful to be
able to celebrate this day with you.

Please forgive my attempt to glorify you, I
have no qualities to do so, but I pray that
you accept what I can offer you.

You are my inspiration
You are my well wisher
You are my teacher
You are my father
You are my friend

I cannot do this on my own, it is only by
your mercy that I am here. Thank you.

Your servant,
Śveta Gaṅgā Dāsī



Ter Kadamba Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja,

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

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

Separation

For more than a year I was deprived of your association. During this time I took on new services, I grew as a devotee, and through this time I was always thinking of you. Where are you? What are you doing? When will I see you again? What would you think if you saw me right now? The separation from you spawned a subtle frustration; a nagging in my mind. Then suddenly I got word that you were coming to Mayapur.

Association

I see you come out from the airport. I throw my hands in the air, my life airs are pushing intensely on the lump of dead matter that is my body. My spiritual master is here, my spiritual master is here! Garlands are given, dandavats are paid, my heart melts. This is real, tangible mercy. No more vipralambha nonsense. This is the nectar!



You give generously of yourself. We talk about philosophy, the highest peaks in Denmark and Holland, and everything in-between. You lead kirtan at the Kirtan Mela and make thousands of devotees sing and dance for Panca Tattva, and I am swept away in the tidal wave of your love of God. You give class and I am moved to my core and my motivation for serving Radha Madhava reaches new heights. I see you shower your mercy on new devotees who approach you, and I see what you do to them. They are transformed: there is a new light in their eyes. It is the same light I see in all my God-brothers and God-sisters. They are happy.

I am pacified. My mind is at ease, my thinking is clearer. And slowly, discretely, unnoticed, the end of your stay has drawn nearer. My association with you, for now, is reaching its conclusion. The end is coming.

In the middle of the night you drive off. You travel far away, to a place I have never been, where you meet people I have never met, and you give them blessings like you give me blessings. Such is the life of the public hermit: intense, amazing, strange and wonderful.

And now, again, I meditate upon you. When will I see you again?

I profusely bow my head and beg for your blessings, again and again, that my forehead will never leave the dust at your lotus feet.

Your servant,
Ter Kadamba Dāsa



Uddhava Dāsa & Viśākhā Devi Dāsī

Please accept our humble obeisances,

All glories to HH Kadamba Kanana Swami
All glories to HH Jayadvaita Swami
All glories to Srila Prabhupada

Staying connected is the most important. That is what you said when we asked for initiation. Staying connected to the temple. With devotees. With service. And this has made me stay so far. But it should be more of a mechanical process you say during classes. Krishna will step forward when we show determination. I saw you once in Mayapur, running to do some service for your guru maharaja. This touched my heart deeply. It was a timeless moment.

Such determination has only one source. Staying connected. You reach out to Krishna by taking responsibility. By organizing festivals, supporting temples and by taking disciples back to Godhead. These things cannot be done without faith and determination. Haridas Thakur kept chanting without being disturbed and I have seen when meeting you that you have that same faith. Once you set a goal you will not stop until it has been reached.

We hope we were of any importance to your preaching efforts this year. If not then we hope we were of any importance to those who are serving you. We will make an effort to set a goal to serve you more and more.

Your servants
Uddhava Dāsa & Viśākhā Devi Dāsī





Upananda Dāsa

Hare Krsna Guru Maharaja

bitte akzeptiere meine
respektvollen,achtungsvollen
Ehrerbietungen

zu Deinem Transzendentalen
Erscheinungstag

alle Ehre sei Jayadvaita und Srila
Prabhupada

Der Tag an dem Du in dieser Welt Geburt
nahmst ist ein Glückverheißender Tag für
das ganze Universum,denn Deine
Anwesenheit läutert jeden Ort und macht
selbst einen unreinen Ort zu einen
reinen Pilgerort. Nur eine Sekunde in
Deiner Gemeinschaft kann jeden von
allen Sünden befreien. Du hast Dich
meiner erbarmt und gewährst mir
Zuflucht unter Deinen Lotusfüßen.Einen
solchen Gottgeweihten zu treffen wird als
großes Glück beschrieben.Durch dein
Erscheinen bekam ich die Möglichkeit bei
einem Spirituellen Meister Zuflucht zu
suchen.Gemeinschaft mit Dir ist so
wunderbar.Das erkenne ich in
Gesprächen, Bhajans und Lectures mit
Dir.Bitte lass mir auch weiterhin Deine
grundlose Barmherzigkeit zuteil werden,
so das ich mich Dir noch mehr hingeben
kann.Bitte sehe mich als Deinen ewigen
Diener an.Vielen Dank für Deine Güte,
Gnade und Barmherzigkeit

Dein Diener Upananda Dasa





Vaibhavi Devi Dāsī

Hare Krishna the dearest, sweetest,
kindest and the most merciful Guru
Maharaj.

Please accept my most humble and
deepest obeisances. Srila Prabhupada Ki
jay!

I'm forever your debtor! I beg for
forgiveness because I'm a rascal and I
commit the mistakes by which you suffer!
May the day of my enlightenment will
come that I could pay by the pure and
loving service for everything you do for
me. I know that in the hardest times your
body suffers instead of me and my mind
in those times is going crazy. But Guru
Maharaj, you always bring the light,
warm, love and leading to my soul and
my heart doesn't stop to beat and thanks
to that I realize what a treasure you are.

I wish I would live how you want, I wish
that every tear of mine would be full of
pure love and I could in my mind wash
your lotus feet by them.

If wouldn't be you, it already wouldn't be
me either. Thank you for everything you
do for me and I please that I could forever
serve to your lotus feet from which you
constantly send the dust to our naughty
heads. Thank you for your gratuitous love
which fills my heart with happiness and
my soul with bliss.

Your servant
Vaibhavi Devi Dāsī





Vāsudeva Dāsa

Dear Guru Mahārāja,

Please accept my daṇḍavats. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

*athāham amarācāryam
agādha-dhiṣaṇam dvijam
prasādayiṣye niśaṭhaḥ
śīrṣṇā tac-caraṇam spṛśan*

King Indra said, “Therefore with great frankness and without duplicity I shall now bow my head at the lotus feet of Bṛhaspati, the spiritual master of the demigods. Because he is in the mode of goodness, he is fully aware of all knowledge and is the best of the brāhmaṇas. Now I shall touch his lotus feet and offer my obeisances unto him to try to satisfy him.”

Purport: Coming to his senses, King Indra realized that he was not a very sincere disciple of his spiritual master, Bṛhaspati. Therefore he decided that henceforward he would be niśaṭha, nonduplicitous. Niśaṭhaḥ śīrṣṇa-tac-caraṇam spṛśan: he decided to touch his head to the feet of his spiritual master. [SB 6.7.15]

Indra's words resonate with me. How many times have I taken you too lightly? As I am writing this offering, my hypocrisy becomes evident. I find myself again empty handed, and worse, empty hearted.

How I wish I could offer you a full plate with the lush offerings of my achievements.

Even more so, I wish I could offer a heart full with bhakti, gratitude, faith, dedication and eagerness to serve.

But I find myself with meager offerings, and a miserly heart. It kills me to face the darkness of my insincerity, again.

Rays of Hope

Guru and Kṛṣṇa are unlimitedly merciful. Although distant at times, they never leave us. They want us to reach out sincerely, from the depth of the heart, without duplicity.

In sincere endeavor I find you.

Many years ago, when we had just met, you told me that your home is Vṛndāvana. You even showed your passport to prove it! So the first time I went to Vṛndāvana, I asked you for advice. You told me to live and eat simply, and make a special effort to hear and chant, following in the footsteps of the Gosvāmīs. I faithfully followed you advice, and became attached to Vṛndāvana. I developed faith in you, the holy dhāma, and the holy life.

Last Kārttika was an opportunity for me to reconnect to you, the dhāma and the sādhu-life. It was life-giving.

As we spoke one evening, you revealed to me that your health was worse than ever. You could even pass away if not careful. I left your room that evening in anxiety. "What if he would pass away tonight, and we would never speak again?"

Then Kṛṣṇa gave me an insight.

You have repeatedly said that, for you,
the Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma Mandir is the holiest
place in Vṛndāvana.

That night I felt that the Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma
Mandir is your eternal home. If you
would pass away, I could always find you
here, in the dust of this dhāma, and in the
pure life of the sādhu you have you so
early on impressed upon me. These
thoughts gave me solace.

Now, back in the West, as I am feeling
spiritually destitute, these thoughts are
again giving me rays of hope. In life or
death, I can always connect to you
through a dedicated life of pure
devotional service. This heart-connection
I crave for more than anything else. It just
takes a little sincere endeavor.

In gratitude I remain,

Your insignificant servant,
Vāsudeva Dāsa





Vasumān Dāsa

Dear Guru Maharaja!

Please accept my humble obeisances at
Your lotus feet.

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

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

Dear Guru Maharaja, thank you very much for your compassion towards me. A person like You is very rare. Although You are not direct Srila Prabhupada's disciple You are acting like his first class follower. I know it is not so easy. I'm just thinking about Your activities, how You are traveling every day to different places. I can compare You to Narada Muni who doesn't stay at one place more than three days. This is very amazing. In my life I do not see too often a personality who actually lives what he preaches. Besides other things You are a great example for me in this regard. It is so wonderful that You do not make any compromises with philosophy of Krsna consciousness and always preach about the basic regulative principles.

Your kirtans and bajans give so much inspiration. Once in Prague's Govinda's restaurant we had to close all the windows and doors because of the neighbors and it was the middle of June, very hot that time. It was so hot that condensed water was pouring everywhere, from the windows, from the mirrors, from the floor and from the devotees too. It was like in the sauna and with time we started expecting that You would stop so we could have a fresh air. And at the end when You stopped and everybody was happy to have a swallow of air, You said: "I've started and I cannot stop. What to do?" And You started again with a sweet singing of the Holy Name. I know You are used to sing at Ratha Yatra festival in South Africa and that it is very hot there too, but at least there is some air. In this room was no air and there were one hundred of devotees and regardless You were singing non-stop.

Dear Guru Maharaja, thank You very much for everything. Your qualities are so great that even if I had Brahma's head it would be not enough to describe them.

I wish You a lot of health and please continue inspiring in the same mood.

Your servant
Vasumān Dāsa





Viṣṇupriyā Devī Dāsī

Dear Guru Maharaja,

*namah om vishnupadaya krishna-presthaya
bhu-tale srimate kadamba kanana svamin
iti namine namah om vishnupadaya
krishna-presthaya bhu-tale gurudasa
jayadvaita svamin iti namine namah om
vishnupadaya krishna-presthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta svamin iti namine
namaste sarasvati devi gaura vani pracarine
nirvivesa sunyavadi pascatyā desa tarine*

This year, since last Vyasa Puja seemed to be so unbelievably long.

Finally, this beautiful day is here, day full of beautiful kirtans and lectures, which are like balm for our aching soul, soul that is craving after spiritual wealth of sastras left here by Srila Prabhupada. We are very fortunate because by your mercy we can know them better and better.

Dear Gurudev, you are our bright side and our saviour in this material world which is causing us quite great suffering. If you and Krishna were not here our lives would have other direction. You are a light-house in this dark ocean of suffering. Without its help we could not survive.

Dear Guru Maharaja, your lectures full of instructions and knowledge are giving me much strength and energy. They are helping me not to stagnate but to continue step by step.

Most dear Gurudev, I have great admiration and respect for you, I admire the way how resolute you are in tolerating your current health problems.

You are a great example for me. It is a big sacrifice and mercy as well that you are undergoing these troubles for the most fallen souls.

Guru Mahraja, to me you are a well of knowledge, and I take its water again and again and still it is full of your love and wisdom which you are distributing in handfulls.

On the day of your Vyasa Puja I, from depth of my heart, wish you all the best, good health, so you can give us, materially entangled, your wisdom and knowledge about Krishna for as long as possible.

We will try to take advantage of this opportunity in form of your mercy, which is coming from Krishna through you.

With respect and obeisances to your lotus feet,
your faithful servant,
Viṣṇupriyā Devī Dāsī





Yamunā Devi Dāsī

Dear Gurudeva,

Hare Krsna,
Please accept my humble obeisances.
All glories to Srila Prabhupada
All glories to Srila Jayadvaita Swami
All glories to You

Writing offering to you is the only way
where I can express my gratitude for
having you as my Spiritual Master.

In every of my fault I can see how caring
and tolerant you are.

You are like a wish fulfilling tree. I had
desire to be close to you, to have your
personal association and doing service
close to you.

And you gave me lot of opportunities,
even I don't deserve it. I am so grateful for
that.

Because of lack of intelligence I cant see
that Krsna and Srila Prabhupada are
merciful to me. All I can see is that you
are so merciful to me. Allowing me to be
happy individual fool. You are teaching
me with your patience and love. Thank
you Gurudeva for not being heavy with
me although I deserve it.



When I look at your life I can see that you
had courage to do changes in your life.
You had intelligence to do it in right way.
I am praying to you Srila Gurudeva that
you give me your blessings to have
courage and intelligence to change my
life. To change it in life of service to Srila
Prabhupada, like you did. I am so happy
that you are Srila Prabhupada's soldier,
and that you are teaching us to become
one.

You know that I am not learned and that I
don't know the philosophy, but you also
know that I have lot of energy, that I am
practical person and that I love to do
service. Last year you allowed us to be
whole week with you in Mursko Središće
and Ljubljana, after that week I had
realization that I can do much more when
I am in your association. My japa was
better and my faith was stronger. Please
give me more opportunities to be in your
personal association, because that is my
big attachment. The joy I feel when I am
jumping in your Kirtan is the joy I want
to feel in every moment in my life. Joy of
being servant of the soldier of Srila
Prabhupada

Dear Gurudeva please keep me in your
prayers and engage me in your service.

And please give me intelligence to see you
in every point of my life, no matter where
you are.

Hare Krsna,
Your grateful servant
Yamunā Devi Dāsī



Yaśomatī Devī Dāsī

My dear Spiritual Master,

Please allow me to offer my obeisance at Your lotus feet.

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

The Spiritual Master is so important in a disciple's life that every morning the devotees around the world begin the day with remembering the glories of the Spiritual Master. Indeed we are all grateful that by the mercy of the Guru one is given again the chance to start a new day of devotional service.

Meditating on my relationship to Your Grace, I came to the conclusion that in a temporary world of disillusion, hypocrisy and suffering there is one saving truth: the relation with the spiritual master. It is like a wish fulfilling tree that grows up in the middle of the desert. The seed of the tree is the love of Godhead that the spiritual master plants into the heart of the disciple, the rain is the devotional service executed to the lotus feet of the spiritual master. The protecting shade is the imparted knowledge and the love that the spiritual master has for his disciple. The bigger the eagerness and the sincerity of the disciple, the higher the tree grows, until it reaches the lotus feet of Lord Mukunda where, under the direction of the Guru, one eternally executes devotional service.

My dear Spiritual Master, everything that I think I know, every little thing that I can do in my devotional service, the strength to carry on in the middle of every crisis are due only to your kindness, forgiveness and to the help of the transcendental knowledge that you so magnanimously give. The sacrifice that you perform in order to bring all of us to Krishna is so great and I consider myself eternally indebted to You. I know that even if we do not have your personal association so often, you are always present in our lives through your lectures, your ecstatic kirtans and the prayers that You offer to Lord Govinda for us, your disciples.

I was told once that by the mercy of Krishna one gets a guru and by the mercy of the guru one gets Krishna. How lucky are we, the disciples, situated in the middle of such an affluence of mercy! And how lucky we are to be the servants of such an ocean of mercy as Your Goodness! The sacrifice that you make in order to spread the mission of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu all over the world is indeed a proof of love of Godhead and compassion for the fallen souls of Kali Yuga. The way that you serve your Spiritual Master is an example for all of us. Your love for Srila Prabhupada emanates from every project that you supervise.

Kindly, allow me to be eternally engaged in Your service. It is the only thing that really pleases Lord Krishna.

Meditating upon your Lotus feet one
verse comes up in my mind:

‘The spiritual master is to be honored as
much as the Supreme Lord, because he is
the most confidential servitor of the Lord.
This is acknowledged in all revealed
scriptures and followed by all authorities.
Therefore I offer my respectful obeisances
unto the lotus feet of such a spiritual
master, who is a bonafide representative
of Sri Hari [Kṛṣṇa]’

Your humble servant.
Yaśomatī Devi Dāsī (Stockholm)





Yudhisthira das

My dear Gurumaharaja,

All glories to Jayatvaita Maharaja

All glories to Srila Prabhupada

A true story:

A brahmachari went door to door begging alms. He came to the house of one family. As the man came to the door, the brahmachari ask him to kindly give a donation. The man became annoyed, went into the house and came back with a handful of ash, which he threw into the begging cloth of the brahmachari, who went from that place. Upon returning to the temple, the brahmachari immediately went to the pujari, offered him the ash and said: "This ash was given to me as a donation by one man, please use it for the service of polishing the deity (ash is traditionally used for this purpose) on the altar." The pujari agreed.

At some later date the brahmachari was again out begging alms and he came upon the same house, and as he went there the same man opened with his wife. Seeing the brahmachari they both offered their obeisances asking forgiveness for their offence. Due to their offering, although given with a hard heart, being engaged in the service of Krishna, they had become purified.

My dear Gurumaharaja, I am such a hardhearted person, but by your kind mercy you have enabled me to somehow be engaged in the mission of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu. You are an officer in His army. You assess the threat and evaluate the strategy. In this age of Kali, there is an emergency and a lack of purity and faith. So at this time, you give out rank to people of less qualification, as you need someone to lead the charge. So by your order, I have become empowered to do something, clearly beyond my capacity. For this I am truly grateful, for I would not have had the chance otherwise. If you desire it, please find some way to engage me in this Sankirtana movement.

Still your aspiring servant,

Yudhisthira das



Kadamba Kanana Swami in Czech Republic

By Gopālī Dāsī

After Guru Maharaj took sannyas in 1997 he stayed for some time in Radhadesh. As he was walking a car with devotees stopped by. The driver was a Czech devotee heading to Czech. He asked Guru Maharaj where he was going. Guru Maharaja said he did not have a fixed plan yet so the driver offered him a ride to Czech. Guru Maharaja agreed. Thus Czech Republic had the honour to enter into history as one of the first countries visited by Guru Maharaja after his sannyas initiation. It has now become one of his important destinations. This was the first time Guru Maharaja visited Czech farm. After this trip Guru Maharaja started to visit Czech Republic regularly, not only the farm, but also Prague temple, the centre in Lutotin and Nove Sady where one of his first disciples, Pada Pankaja lived with his wife Palika.

In 1999 Guru Maharaja visited the Czech summer camp which became one of his regular destinations each year. Hundreds of devotees got the chance to listen to his enchanting bhajans, rocking kirtans and listen to his deep lectures. Some of them became confident this is the guru they want to follow and thus in the summer of 2003 Guru Maharaja initiated his first Czech disciples Ananya devi, Madhu Kanta, Mayapur Chandrodya and Parama Karuna.

Guru Maharaja keeps visiting Czech Republic several times a year, giving

public lectures, lectures at the temple, leading harinams through the beautiful city of Prague, visiting the summer camp, advising his disciples and leading wonderful kirtans at Prague Ratha Yatra.

Currently there are 43 initiated disciples (Ananya devi dasi, Madhu Kanta das, Parama Karuna das, Mayapur Chandrodya das, Pada Pankaja das, Palika devi dasi, Tapan Misra das, Krsna Smaranam das, Laksmi devi dasi, Ramakeli devi dasi, Gauravani devi dasi, Bhaktijana das, Padyavali devi dasi, Varsana devi dasi, Chandra Bhanu das, Indumati devi dasi, Bharadvaja das, Yadukulesvara das, Rupa Vilas das, Pariksit das, Purusottama Ksetra das, Radha-kanta das, Parijata devi dasi, Madhusudhana das, Premalata devi dasi, Adikarta das, Lilasukha dasi, Gaura Karuna das, Hamsa Avatar das, Kalavati devi dasi, Kasturi Manjari devi dasi, Keli Lalita devi dasi, Madhupandit das, Manikundala devi dasi, Loka Saksi das, Pran Govinda das, Janamejaya Dasa, Jay Radhika Devi Dasi, Sveta Varaha Dasa, Antardvipa Dasa, Vaibhavi Devi Dasi, Govinda Dasa and Surya Narayana Dasa) and several aspiring disciples.

Many of his Czech disciples are wonderful preachers, first-class pujaris, brave book distributors, excellent cooks and exemplary servants and by their loving service they spread the mission of their guru to the residents of Czech Republic.



Kadamba Kanana Swami in Slovakia

By Gopālī Dāsī

Because Guru Maharaja was preaching in Czech Republic for several years, naturally many Slovak devotees got to know him, especially during the Czech Summer Camp. Slovakia is a country bordering with Czech republic, the language is very similar, and for a few decades these two countries were one country called Czechoslovakia. Guru Maharaja resisted entering Slovakia for some time. In 2005, a few Slovak devotees (Jahnavi, Mukunda Madhava, Paramesvara, Yamunacarya and Merudevi) approached him for initiation. On Radhastami 2005 Guru Maharaja told Paramesvara: “I already have so many countries. I was really trying not to get entangled in Slovakia. But what can I do? Too many jivas are calling me there.”

Guru Maharaja first arrived in Slovakia at the beginning of 2006. For a few days he visited centre in Bratislava where many devotees approached him with gifts like scarves, thick pants, wool socks, hats etc. The thermometer showed minus 20. With a questionmark in his eyes he looked at all these gifts: “Well I think they are preparing me for New Ekacakra.” New Ekacakra is a farm community in eastern Slovakia, that sometimes can get very cold. But the heart of devotees there are very warm and they were eagerly waiting for his visit. Mukunda Madhava and Jahnavi who live on this farm have dedicated their lives to caring for the 12 cows there. They do not hesitate to lovingly take care of them day after day, year after year, even though those cows are not giving milk.

After this first visit Guru Maharaja started to visit Slovakia regularly, he paid a few visits to New Ekacakra and a few visits to centre in Bratislava where his disciples Yamunacarya and Tukaram, stalwart book distributors, have offered their lives to book distribution and temple life.

However most of his visits lead to Modra and the house of his disciples Paramesvar and Gopali who have organized public programs in their house for several years. Actually it was Guru Maharaja who came up with the idea they should start these programs and strongly supported them. Under his guidance they organized over 100 public programs often counting more than 70 guests, with famous preachers and disciples of Srila Prabhupada like Bhaktivaibhava Swami, Hari Sauri Prabhu, Smita Krisna Swami, Kavicandra Swami, Janananda Swami, Mahadyuti Prabhu, Braja Bihari Prabhu, Prithu Prabhu, Vaiyasaki prabhu, Gurudas Prabhu, Manidhara Prabhu, Hare Krsna Prabhu, Urmila Prabhu, Narayani Prabhu and others.

A few months ago a new preaching centre, Bhaktiloka, was opened in Bratislava under the care of Paramesvara and other devotees. On opening of this centre Guru Maharaja said, “This Bhaktiloka is a place from where one can go to spiritual world,” thus blessing this new-born centre. Bhaktiloka is constantly packed with dozens of people and newcomers eager to learn more about Krisna.

Currently, the number of initiated disciples in Slovakia counts 12: Jahnavi, Mukunda Madhava, Merudevi, Yamunacarya, Paramesvara, Gopali, Tukarama, Navadvipa, Dhristhadyumna, Seva Kunja, Visnupriya and Premarnava. Aspiring disciples are: Bh. Jaro sr., Bh. Jaro jr., Bhn. Alica, Bh. Jozef, Bh. Jakub, Bhn. Danka and bhn. Lubka. All these disciples have deep love for Guru Maharaja and work hard to please him, cooperate among each other and push preaching activities so other Slovak people can taste the nectar of Krsna consciousness.



Kadamba Kanana Swami in Radhadesh

By Viśvambhara Caitanya dāsa

Kadamba Kanana Swami has been inspiring the devotees of Radhadesh, the growing educational centered community located in Belgium, for more than 30 years. In the same way the changing seasons of the Belgian landscape are a marker of the passing of time, Maharaj's holistic enthusiasm for Lord Caitanya's movement continues to make a lasting impression on the lives of the Benelux yatra devotees.

I have gathered this information about Maharaj's service at Radhadesh from the long time temple president, Hrdaya Caitanya dasa.

Kadamba Kanana Swami had been based in Vrindavan. However in the winter of 1980, a few months after Hrdaya Caitanya himself had joined ISKCON, he came to the Benelux to take care of his wife's health and stayed four months doing pujari service in Radhadesh. He had spent a lot of time in Vrindavan; then and still one of the most vibrant centers of ISKCON, the home of Srila Prabhupada, and a place where the international flavor of Krishna consciousness is tasted. Maharaj would bring to the devotees of Radhadesh information of Srila Prabhupada's pastimes having had a lot of association with devotees who were intimately connected with His Divine Grace. It should be noted that this was before the time of the launching of Prabhupada memories and diary books, making such stories extra special. Also this association of senior devotees in the holy dham provided him a much broader

and mature understanding of Krishna consciousness than most of the devotees in Radhadesh. Sometimes devotees would try to inspire him to stay in Radhadesh, because there was a need of pujaris.

However it was clear that he was determined to go back to Vrindavana and that he wanted to serve Srila Prabhupada's mission in that way. In a way it seemed Radhadesh was a too isolated of a project for his nature. Nevertheless Maharaj kept coming to Radhadesh throughout the years that followed, but sometimes with long intervals between his visits.

More recently, after having taken sannyasa, he has been steadily supporting the Radhadesh Summer festival events that take place every year during the last weekend of July. Kadamba Kanana Swami was also an inspiration to the very successful 24 hour kirtan, Radhadesh Mellows and actively participates in this festival. Also he has been supporting the Bhaktivedanta College, which is one of the crown jewels of the Deities at Radhadesh, Radha Gopinatha. He has supported the college by both teaching steadily and by promoting the college by inspiring students and if necessary sponsoring students financially. Two years ago Maharaja gave shelter to a third of the Bhaktivedanta College students by giving them initiation. He also has one disciple among the College staff, such as Professor Gopinatha Acarya das, from Oxford University. Everyone in the Radhadesh community appreciates his stimulating lectures, and exuberant kirtans.

Kadamba Kanana Swami has also been holding his vyasa-puja in Radhadesh for several consecutive years. For Maharaja the cherry on his birthday cake is the “Queen’s Day” Harinaam in Amsterdam, held with an increasing number of enthusiastic devotees. At present we are counting more than 300 attendees. Radhadesh and Kadamba Kanana Swami have had a long-term relationship, seeing each other through different phases of their lives. I hope this relationship with Radhadesh continues.

On behalf of the Radhadesh community we would like to wish you a happy 60th birthday. Thank you Kadamba Kanana Swami for being our ever well wisher.



Kadamba Kanana Swami in South Africa

By Rāgalekhā Devi Dāsī

Kadamba Kanana Swami is received in South Africa with genuine love and hospitality. As a prominent guest at festivals all over the country, to lead kirtans and inspire people by sharing his comprehensive knowledge of Vedic literature, he is undoubtedly part of the yatra. Apart from this, Maharaj has participated in several devotee retreats, presented numerous seminars and performed managerial duties over the years. A special service that he has adopted since 2010 is the book marathon where he spends the whole month of December traveling around the country, encouraging devotees to distribute Srila Prabhupada's books. He also distributes books himself; sometimes from the vyasasana and at other times, on the street. Having invested so much energy into preaching in South Africa has yielded sixty-seven initiated disciples to date. Devotees feel blessed that he spends up to three months of the year in the country; that is a quarter of a year! The history of his association with South Africa goes back a long time and a part of it is shared here.

It was in 1995 when it all began. Maharaj's first stop was in Hillbrow. This inner-city residential neighbourhood of Johannesburg; well-known for its high levels of unemployment, poverty and crime; was the location of the temple then. It was the early days of the post-apartheid era however the suffering and oppression from the previous regime was still evident. This made a lasting impression on Maharaj and validates his current day preaching efforts.

His poor health was the reason for his initial journey down south as Jayadvaita Swami recommended that he consult an Ayurvedic doctor in Durban. Maharaj required six months of treatment and during this time, he stayed at the Sri Sri Radha Radhanatha (SSRR) temple. As he was not in the sannyasa ashram, the accommodation provided to him was in a block of flats that is attached to kitchen where prasadam for the resident devotees is prepared. It took some time to acclimatize to the new environment. Maharaj has spoken of his experiences, "One day, I looked out of my window and I saw a lion right in front of my window... painted on the back of a bus! And there were all these taxis coming around the bend with the bass so loud that the windows in my room were shaking all day."

A very low blood pressure was one of his health concerns. As a result of this condition, seeing a shiny or glittering object, like a simple door knob for example, caused dizziness. Now, to those who haven't seen the temple room at SSRR, here is a brief description. You enter by crossing a castle like moat. Gold-tipped steeples and a silver roof add glamour on the outside. The inside is adorned with gold-tinted windows, multiple crystal chandeliers and gold statuettes! The overhead ceiling frescoes portray the pastimes of Krsna while additional gold-plating adds to its overall beauty. For Maharaj, entering the temple room felt like seeing the brahmajyoti! It almost took him out!

A young bhakta was spending his school holiday at the temple and stayed in the room next to Maharaj. He had a harmonium so they connected in that way. That bhakta is now Ranchor Das and he became the first disciple ever to be initiated by Maharaj.

Maharaj has said about South Africa, “The devotees were very kind to me. They supported me and had gone all out, giving me all facility although I had never done anything for the yatra. That impressed me! So I felt indebted and at the same time, I felt that I should also do something for the people. Only in the last three weeks of my stay, I did some preaching but I knew one thing for sure, I was coming back!” And he did. Subsequently, Maharaj has come every year. He shares common ground with the local people in other ways than just devotion to Krsna.

When it comes to the Indians, in a way he is more Indian than the Indians in South Africa, as he stayed longer in India, so he knows more about India. He speaks Hindi and Bengali, and most of them here do not. The same applies to the Afrikaners, the white population, who have their roots in Holland and obviously, Maharaj has a stronger Dutch heritage than them. When it comes to the blacks, they understand each other through music. So, he is an interesting person for the different communities. In this way, Maharaj fits well in South Africa. It has become somewhat of a home away from home, away from the holy dhama which he considers to be his real home.

Maharaj has placed an emphasis on African preaching. A temple was opened many years ago in Church Street, Pretoria. It was a favourable area as it was open to the public and not racially designated. It just happened that the temple started to attract many African students who came to have a good time. The preaching took-off. Maharaj noticed the potential there early and decided to ride the wave as well. It was during his second visit to South Africa that his involvement with African preaching began. However, he realized early that getting involved with African devotees was not just about preaching philosophy to them but he had to also deal with their social situation which added a whole new dimension to it. Sometimes it happens that he has to provide pastoral care. As most African devotees are still in their first generation of existence in Iskcon, there is a lack of role-models for them.

There are many African disciples now. Over the years, Maharaj has helped various individuals by sending them to India so they could get the mercy of the holy dhama. Up until this day, Maharaj is still the support behind Pretoria temple. In 2004, his official Vyasa Puja celebration was held there. He is also involved in other African areas in the country, like Soweto, Umlazi, Mafikeng and Hammanskraal.

It was an unfortunate circumstance that led to Maharaj coming to South Africa however it developed into a great fortune for this yatra that he did come. We are grateful for all the time that he has given us and look forward to his continued support for years to come.



Kadamba Kanana Swami in Germany

By Kṛṣṇa Caitanya Dāsa

Kadamba Kanana Swami is one of the three leading sannyas-gurus in the German yatra for a period over the last 10 years. Besides Sacinandana Swami and Bhakti Busana Swami who are pretty frequently visiting, preaching and initiating disciples in Germany, he is the third in that row of important spiritual leaders. There are of course more gurus and prominent Vaisnavas involved in the development of Germany, but these three are the most prominent ones.

Maharaja grew up with a little German language in his youth, so he is able to relate to the German people in his own charming way, adorned with his slight foreign, Dutch accent. Not to be the master of German language, but quite enough to deliver Prabhupada's message, and that's what counts.

After his sannyas initiation, he first started visiting the Czech Republic, and later, while shuttling between Prague and Amsterdam, some German cities sneaked in, and the relationship with the German yatra started.

After prominent leaders left the movement in Europe, Germany especially was in a spiritual disorder and is still recovering only slowly from these disturbances that affected the whole yatra and many devotees lives. To come here and keep devotees inspired over a long period requires serious dedication and commitment, which we can see manifest in his firm and uninterrupted attendance

of major festivities in the German yatra throughout the years. Last Christmas was the first time that Maharaja couldn't come for the annual Prabhupada marathon sankirtan festival, which he always visited. It didn't matter, hell or high water, he was there. It was strange, to not have his wonderful association last time. He wrote a letter of deep apology, separation and sadness to all the devotees that he couldn't come, because of his health.

And can you imagine any Ratha Yatra without him? May it be Berlin, Leipzig, Heidelberg, Hamburg, Cologne and Munich. Nrsimha Caturdasi festival, recently Kirtana Mela started, the Winter Sankirtan festival and several visits during the year. He spends at least 1-2 months a year in Germany. In the last 5 years the devotees started also to organize an annual Sadhana Retreat where Maharaja dedicates valuable time to his disciples and friends in a saxony greenforest for spiritual recreation. He creates a mood of servitude and cooperation combined with enthusiasm mixed with relaxation and dressed in creativity to stimulate our eternal relationship with Krishna. At the same time there is strong purposefulness in his dealings with his disciples in Germany.

Since 2003, when he started to accept disciples, he initiated 33 devotees, who are more or less directly connected with the German yatra, most of whom are still active in devotional service.

And those relationships have not always been easy, but although there must be more inspiring countries for him to preach, he is still investing so much energy. He travels up and down to spend time with us and most of us experience him as a true friend, who gives himself quite casual, although he appears totally aloof from the material world and is in spite of hassles and troubles absorbed in Krishna at all times and circumstances. For his personal caring in Germany we are very grateful and unlimitedly indebted to him and hope that we will be able to uphold his example in our minds and hearts and follow that, what he has set up as an ideal life in Krishna Consciousness.

Of course, his Kirtans are in another special category and one of his assets. Energetic, Elastic & Ecstatic. Kadamba Kanana Swami eben!



Kadamba Kanana Swami in Australia (Melbourne)

By Guna Mani Nitāi Dāsī

All of what is related below are excerpts from Maharaja's classes given in Melbourne over the years:

HH Kadamba Kanana Maharaja often relates how he has a long history with Melbourne, Australia. It was somewhere in the early 80's when Maharaja came here for the first time. He had contracted a disease in India and had gone exorbitantly skinny. Bhavananda Prabhu who was the GBC for Australia at the time instructed him to go to Melbourne to recover. Upon arriving at Melbourne Mahaprabhu Mandir, Maharaja noted that the pigeons here were twice as big as their Indian counterparts; he took it as a sure sign that he will bulk up in Melbourne. Balarama Prabhu (ACBSP) was the Temple President at the time; he warmly welcomed Maharaja and his former wife, Isani Mataji, into his office. Balarama Prabhu as a benevolent host offered \$100 to Maharaja to spend in Myers Shopping Complex, "to buy something for your wife" he said.

The next day Maharaja was called in the TP's office once again but this time to settle the accounts: "So, how are you intending to pay back for all the money we've spent on you" Balarama Prabhu asked, as it appeared that both their plane tickets were paid by the Melbourne Temple. From there Maharaja had to join the Temple crew and go on Sankirtan: selling paintings! His sankirtan partner was Jnana Samudra Prabhu (ACBSP) who was a fixed up sankirtan devotee. Apparently Jnana Prabhu gave Maharaja a hard time, getting on his case if Maharaja hadn't completed his 16 rounds before going out on Sankirtan. Jnana Prabhu once declared to Maharaja: "You haven't

chanted your 16 rounds before going out! Well you will never be a Sankirtan devotee, never be a Sankirtan devotee!

Kurma Prabhu (ACBSP) our famous Hare Krishna chef was in charge of cooking breakfast at the time which meant puris, halava and the whole feast first thing in the morning. Maharaja remembered how often they would drive off to go on Sankirtan but had to stop by the nearby park for a nap to digest the sumptuous prasadam.

On their Sankirtan expedition, Jnana Samudra Prabhu once brought Maharaja to Laverton, a suburb where slaughter houses are predominant. Maharaja recalls seeing a chicken on the fence of the slaughter house and crying out to it: "Fly, chicken, fly! Escape while you can!" There were huge saucepans in there, Maharaja told us, where they put all the heads, legs and other rejected parts of the slaughtered animals, they boil them to the max and they use what comes out as glycerin in soaps and other cosmetics! But the owner of that slaughter house did buy a painting off Maharaja who wasn't sure whether he wanted to accept the blood-smeared money.

Another of these Sankirtan expeditions lead Maharaja selling paintings in a brothel! After a whole day of collections, his Sankirtan partner concluded that it would be the only business that would still be open at midnight! "It was one of those occasions where you sweat profusely; I wouldn't do it again and I wouldn't recommend it to anyone", Maharaja recollects.



After some time at the Temple, Maharaja felt that the atmosphere where everything and everyone is on a roster was somewhat restrictive: “roster fodder”, as he would call it. So he went to New Nandagram Farm, the Melbourne Temple’s countryside property. There Maharaja experienced a culture shock: after coming from Vrindavana where one is a “Prabhu” and has “lotus feet”, at the farm he would get asked: “Hey mate, move your HOOOF!”

All round Maharaja did about a year in Melbourne. After taking sannyasa Maharaja started to visit down- under once again and he likes here he says; “it’s a bit far but what to do!”

Maharaja’s main engagements when he visits Melbourne nowadays are his Friday-night-fever rocking-harinamas, conducting insightful weekend-seminars, inspiring Melbourne’s numerous Bhakti Vriksha groups and lending his angelic voice as well his profound wisdom to Krishna Fest. As Maharaja would say: what’s a visit to Melbourne without Krishna Fest!



Following in the footsteps of Lord Nityananda and Lord Caitanya and Their love for dramas, Maharaja has always encouraged us to organise plays and enact the pastimes of the Lord and his devotees. The last cultural show we had, with Maharaja as the guest of honour and chief speaker, was a real success and Maharaja has inspired us to do many more of these congregational gatherings which reinforce Krishna as being the centre of our lives.

Now our godfamily in Australia counts 25 members including initiated disciples, those having taken shelter as well as those aspiring for Maharaja. On behalf of his ever-growing Melbournian family, I wish our beloved Guru Maharaja as most pompous 60th birthday. He remains forever young and vibrant in our hearts.



Kadamba Kanana Swami in Australia (Sydney)

By Hemāṅga Caitanya Dāsa & Smita Kṛṣṇa Devi Dāśī

Sydney is home to beautiful deities of “Sri Sri Radha Gopinath” which Srila Prabhupada personally installed. It’s surrounded with beautiful harbour and when golden like rays of sun shines on its water, it reminds us of the transcendental path that Krishna’s pure devotees take to travel around the globe. That path is effulgent and it’s studded with millions of beautiful gems and diamonds. That path is glorious and its worthy of worship, I have my eyes fixed on this path that offers spiritual bliss.

His Holiness Kadamaba Kanana Swami has been connected with Australia for around 30 years. Though it’s very far from, anywhere you choose to fly, Maharaja considered it, as he describes, one of his homes, and visits Australia regularly. First time he came to Australia in 1983/84 and stayed here for 1 year. During that time he rendered lot of service as sankirtan devotee in Australia. Mostly he spent his time in Melbourne and Victoria region, but also travelled to other parts of Australia.

Then after Sannyasa, he started regularly coming to Australia, especially since 2001. Whenever he comes to Australia, he spends most of his time in Sydney and Melbourne, and sometimes, if he has few days extra, he also makes short visits to Canberra, Brisbane and New Govardhan farm (close to Gold Coast). Initially maharaj used to come every year during Christmas time to Sydney, which we call it as “Summer festival” for devotees. From 25th Dec till 1st of Jan, from morning to evening, it was a 7 day festival. Maharaj would come every year and give many SB classes, city and beach long harinams, kirtan nights just to name a few and inspired many devotees over the years.

Later on when he started giving more time in other countries during Christmas, he shifted his Australian schedule little bit and started coming during Feb/Mar. In the last few years, as more and more programs came up, maharaj, very kindly started giving 2 more weeks to Australia every year and now he is been coming here twice a year – once in Feb/Mar and once in Sep/Oct. Maharaj Sydney preaching activities can be summarised as follows:

Ratha Yatra

Out of 3 Jagannath Rath Yatra’s in Sydney, the major one is in the downtown Sydney city, which takes place during March. Maharaj attends Ratha yatra every year. Hundreds of devotees and thousands of Sydney city people attends this Ratha Yatra festival and watch the big eyes - Lord of the Universe “Jagannath” pass by in the main streets of Sydney city with rocking kirtan of Maharaj, all the way from Hyde Park till Darling Harbour. Maharaj has been a great inspiration for many devotees to come and join the Rath Yatra, while Maharaj is leading the Rath Yatra.

Govinda’s Lotus Room Program

Govinda’s has been a well established preaching centre in the heart of Sydney city for last 30 years or so. Initially this was the temple for the presiding deities of Sydney - Sri Sri Radha Gopinath, before they moved to their current residence at North Sydney and Govinda’s got converted as a big preaching centre, where not only there is a big prasadam restaurant but also a Floor dedicated to preaching activities – like programs on meditative kirtans, guided meditation



evenings, workshops, vegetarian cooking classes and Bhagavad-Gita courses. HH has been visiting this centre almost in all of his visits and been a very famous person amongst many local Australians who come to Lotus room to hear his kirtan and classes. Maharaj is continuously inspiring many local Australian people to take up spiritual life through his wonderful kirtans and thought provoking classes at Govindas.

Sydney Retreats

As Sydney yatra is growing, and it was difficult for maharaj to reach out to all the devotees in his short 5-7 days visit, maharaj started the concept of weekend retreat, where all the devotees can come together at one place and without worrying about any other thing, just concentrate on spiritual subject matter for that weekend. It's been very successful. So far, maharaj has done 3 annual retreats in Sydney continuously: 2010 – “SADHANA” Retreat; 2011 – “Faith” Retreat and last year 2012 – “Living with Vows” Retreat. Number of devotees attending Maharaj retreat, is been growing every year. Last year around 145 devotees attended the retreat, which included devotees from Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Canberra. Maharaj fills up the retreat with series of lectures, presentations, long ecstatic kirtans, interviews, Parikramas etc. Even new devotees experience about these retreats, have been very amazing and inspiring to them in their spiritual life.

Cronulla Yoga School Program

In south Sydney, maharaj has been a great source of inspiration for the students of Cronulla Yoga school, which is owned by devotees. Devotees here teach yoga, not only for the body but for soul as well, and

maharaj works as a great inspiration for them to take their spiritual life one level up. He usually does a full hour of meditative bhajans, followed by a down to earth talk, generally establishing Vedic culture as being a very natural and effective approach to a life of goodness and spirituality.

Hall Programs

Maharaj also does Hall programs, in North and West of Sydney. He is famous here for his long soul stirring kirtans and his deep classes presented in a humorous way.

Temple Programs

Besides regular morning and evening programs at temple, if he is in Sydney on a Sunday evening, he often gives Sunday Feast class at temple. The temple room is packed up to listen class from maharaj, followed by most wonderful 7 pm Aarti with his ecstatic kirtans, which sometimes lasts upto 9:30 pm.

Festival of India/ Janamastami Programs

For many years, maharaj came during Festival of India/Janamastami programs. Thousands of local Australians come through these festivals, and maharaj gave classes, QA sessions and lead wonderful kirtans, specially end of festival “Maha kirtan” where maharaj would go at full-steam and practically make every single one standing there, dance in kirtan of Lord of our hearts – Sri Krishna on the most auspicious occasion of His appearance.

In a nutshell, Maharaj has been very close to the heart of Sydney devotees, where under the divine shelter of Sri Sri Radha Gopinath and Srila Prabhupad, maharaj is playing a very vital role in making this yatra bigger and stronger. We hope to get maharaj personal association more and more for many many years to come.





“ We can understand that every devotee has a particular role to play. We are not all stereotypes, all walking the same, in the line and not stepping out, and saying Hare Krsna all in the same way. No, we are all individuals who have a role to play and a contribution to make. That is what we are meant for. That is the higher plan. ”

“ Not only are we meant to engage in devotional service and follow the four regulative principles, but we are also meant to develop qualities of saintliness. It's not only about what we do... it is also about who we are. That we must also become very noble personalities ”



“

Let us be conscious of the need of spiritual nourishment. Let us not think that we can go on automatic pilot in spiritual life, but let us make a conscious effort to be well nourished, and let us nourish others, by becoming vaisnavas of noble character, and then I guarantee you that the path back to Godhead will be successful! It will be successful!

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Preaching doesn't just mean to run out of the door with flapping cloth to deliver as many conditioned souls as possible but preaching also means to go in depth. One needs to be deep then one's preaching is more potent.

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A vaisnava has to be someone with a heart. Not just someone who chants so many rounds or someone who chants so many slokas or one who is getting up really early when the whole world still sleeps- that's wonderful- but if that person, despite all these wonderful things doesn't have a heart, then he's not a complete vaisnava because a vaisnava has a heart.

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We have to make our spiritual life 'amrta keli' - so we have to make it more thick and we have to boil it down even more. First the quantity, such as - more time with the devotees, more service, more chanting, more kirtan. Then improve the quality - try to become a real servant! Try and really bow down to the dust of the feet of the vaishnavas! In that way we can gradually get the taste - that's the trick. So it's not cheap!

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Our main problem is that we are contaminated with material selfishness. We think about ourselves: 'What am I getting?' Instead of 'What am I giving?'. This is the point. In Krishna Consciousness the essence is to give, and if we preoccupy ourselves from morning till night with giving then we will conquer our mind, our senses and we will be totally inspired in the service of the Lord! This is our aim; this is our objective; this is our meditation.

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As soon as one acts on the order of the spiritual master ...wherever one is... everything is transcendental. One can do anything in this world and when it has the blessings of the spiritual master ... it is transcendental!

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