

# Love is . . . a pair of gurus bickering

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Two gurus preaching love and brotherhood were squabbling in the city today.

One accused the other of sending his men along to disrupt his public meeting last night.

The other accused the first of misleading advertising and of deliberately upstaging his own meeting tonight.

His Divine Grace Bhavananda Goswami, formerly a film director named Charles Baets, gave a lecture on reincarnation last night.

He claims that followers of the other guru tried to prevent him from speaking, and accused him of deceiving the public.

Jagat Guru Siddhaswarupananda Goswami Prabhupada, formerly Chris Butler of Hawaii, is also speaking on reincarnation tonight.

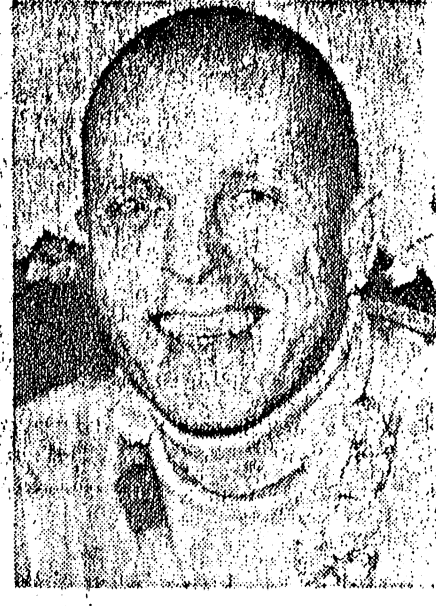
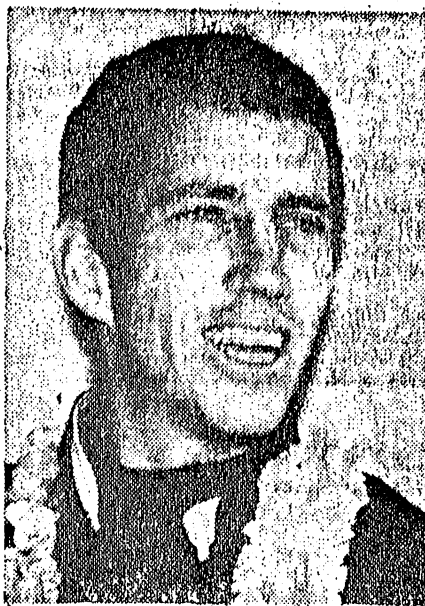
He says that people saw a newspaper ad placed by the other group, and many people had come along thinking it was really him (Jagat Guru).

One of his followers, Paramahansa Das, said that he had gone to the meeting last night and asked him why he was trying to cheat the people of Christchurch through his advertising.

"The audience applauded his question," claims Jagat Guru. "That is the public's reaction to this type of business.

"One man had come from 30 miles out of town to what he thought was my engagement."

Bhavananda Goswami, who



Jagat Guru (left) and Bhavananda Goswami . . . accusations.

is one of the 11 world leaders of the Hare Krishna Movement, says he does not know why the other group is so paranoid about them.

The "free-floating paranoia" of the other group was not a healthy sign, he said. It was the same kind of paranoia that the cult of Jim Jones in Guyana had fallen into.

"We are organized, and they preach from their organization that organization is not good," he says, sitting on a flower-bedecked couch in his motel room, laughing.

"Simply contradictions," he says, laughing again.

Jagat Guru accuses the Hare Krishna movement of having deviated from the

true path of Vishnu. Hare Krishna has these 11 appointed world leaders, but there are no limits to the number of gurus, or teachers. Anyone who is master of his senses and a lover of God can become a guru, he said.

But Hare Krishna was only a minor thing, just a nuisance, he said. The real danger to the health of the people comes from the teachers who claim that they are God and that all people can become God.

This was the kind of thing preached by Jim Jones, he said.

Both gurus are Americans, both are on world lecture

tours, and both claim to follow the path of Krishna, God.

Bhavananda Goswami was a film director in Los Angeles when he first heard the call in 1969. He is now resident at the headquarters of the world Hare Krishna Movement in Mayapur, India.

Jagat Guru, 30, was raised in a Socialist family in Hawaii, and was converted in 1971. He is currently involved in a law suit against a newspaper and television station in Hawaii, who continued to describe him as part of the Hare Krishna movement.