

RESOLUTION

The Governing Body Commission, in fulfilling its responsibilities to Srila Prabhupada to protect the purity of ISKCON, has to deliberate according to sastra and the instructions of Srila Prabhupada. It is imperative that ISKCON be protected from spiritual deviation and material contamination. In this regard, questions have come before the body as to when a spiritual master becomes unfit to be followed, when a disciple is freed from his vows to the spiritual master, and when he should take re-initiation from a bona fide spiritual master. In regard to disqualifications of a spiritual master, Srila Prabhupada states:

A Goswami, or the bona fide representative of Sri Vyasadeva, must be free from all kinds of vices. The four major vices of Kali-yuga are: 1) illicit connection with women, 2) animal slaughter, 3) intoxication 4) speculative gambling of all sorts. A Goswami must be free from all these vices before he can dare sit on the vyasasana. No one should be allowed to sit on the vyasasana who is not spotless in character and not free from the above mentioned vices.

(Srimad Bhagavatam 1.2.6, purport).

Further information as to when to reject a guru is quoted by Srila Prabhupada.

guror apyavaliptasya karyakaryam ajanatah
utpatha pratipannasya parityago vidhiyate.

Translation: A person attached to sense gratification or material enjoyment, bewildered or misled from his real spiritual duties and one who has left the strict path of devotional principles must be renounced even if he is the spiritual master.

(Mahabharata, Udyoga 179.25 +
quoted Srimad Bhagavatam 8.20
.1, purport)

The sastra th^u enjoins that a spiritual master must maintain faith in the instructions of the previous spiritual master and act accordingly . He must also follow the regulative principles of devotional service, instruct his disciples accordingly by authorised instructions from the revealed sastra and the previous acaryae. In addition, Srila Prabhupada has specifically instructed that a devotee must execute Krsna consciousness within ISKCON:

Transcendental devotional service cannot be be relishable without the association of devotees. We have therefore established the International Society for Krishna Consciousness. Anyone who is trying to be aloof from this Krsna Conscious society and yet engage in Krsna Consciousness is living in a great hallucination, for this is not possible.

(Srimad Bhagavatam 4.9.11, purport).

In this regard, Jayatirtha Maharaja has been found to be acting not as a bonafide spiritual master, and he has admitted to the same. He has disqualified himself by acting in the following ways:

- 1). By having lost faith in the instructions of Srila Prabhupada to work cooperatively within the ISKCON movement.
- 2). By having lost faith (as revealed by his practical acts) that one can achieve the highest perfection of life through exclusively practicing the teachings of Krsna consciousness as presented by Srila Prabhupada in this Krsna Consciousness movement.
- 3). By having broken regulative principles and vows of devotional service over a long period of time.
- 4). By having misled his disciples to leave the Krsna consciousness movement and by simultaneously leading them to establish faith in persons outside the Krsna consciousness movement against

- 4), the order of Srila Prabhupada and the advice of the Governing Body Commission.
- 5). By having refused to accept the program of rectification offered by the Governing Body Commission and by preaching against ISKCON.

Considering this extreme situation, the GBC has resolved that Jayatirtha Maharaja is not qualified at the present time to sit upon the vyasasana or to be followed as a bona fide spiritual master. Therefore, those devotees who have accepted initiation from him are authorized to accept re-initiation from another ISKCON initiating guru in whom they have faith, and they have faith, and they are recommended to do so. This has also been authorized by Jayatirtha Maharaja who has relinquished his disciples from all obligations to vows of initiation and who has said they could accept re-initiation from another ISKCON initiating guru.

Those disciples of Jayatirtha Maharaja who cannot yet place their faith in another spiritual master for initiation or who want to wait hoping for the future rectification and reinstatement of Jayatirtha Maharaja may accept another ISKCON guru as their siksa-guru and perform devotional service in ISKCON in that shelter, praying for the mercy of Krsna. Of course, in all cases they can depend on His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, the founder-acarya of ISKCON. If after a reasonable amount of time (six months to a year) Jayatirtha Maharaja doesn't accept to work cooperatively in ISKCON and follow tother programs of purification, then his remaining disciples would be advised not to wait for his rectification, but they should accept re-initiation as soon as possible.