

THIRTEEN POINTS TO SAVE ISKCON

The following thirteen points have been proposed for the purpose of increasing the glorification of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Lord Krsna.

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IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

1. Because of a grave crisis now existing within ISKCON, any discussions regarding preaching strategy must be set aside in deference to this crisis. We are now confronting a situation in which the spiritual purity of Srila Prabhupada's ISKCON is being compromised. Consequently, the desire to promote and preach Krsna Consciousness is waning in a growing number of Vaisnavas.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

2. The GBC should focus primarily on the world as a whole, setting aside individual zonal considerations as secondary issues, and work in a collegial/consensus manner to arrive at decisions with all other GBC members. Each GBC member must be dedicated to maintaining and raising the spiritual standards of ISKCON and all its members and should refrain from direct day-to-day, "hands-on" managerial duties. He should concentrate on providing spiritual vision and fresh challenges to all devotees and give everyone as much responsibility as possible. He should act principally in a brahminical/advisory capacity. He should provide spiritual inspiration for spreading the Krsna consciousness movement all over the world. The GBC members must be among the most spiritually advanced devotees in the movement.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

3. Zonal decisions should be made by a board of directors consisting of temple presidents, regional secretaries, and the local GBC member. On this board, the GBC member shall have no vote, acting principally as an advisor.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

4. Each year, the temple presidents and regional secretaries in each zone shall take a vote of confidence/no-confidence for their local GBC member. If the vote is one of no-confidence, the GBC board will review the position of the GBC member in question in consultation with the temple presidents and regional secretaries with a view to rectifying the problem. If the GBC and the local leaders are not able to correct the situation, the GBC body, in consultation with the local leaders, should appoint a new GBC member for the region. They should also consider the suitability of that GBC member to remain on the GBC body.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

5. Each year, all initiated members in good standing of each temple will hold a vote of confidence/no-confidence for the temple president and regional secretary. If the vote is one of no-confidence, the GBC members, in consultation with the temple devotees, will appoint a new president/regional secretary.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

6. It is recognized that any qualified disciple within ISKCON, after the disappearance of his spiritual master, has the right to initiate, provided he receives the blessings of the GBC or a special body appointed by the GBC for this purpose.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

7. Any devotee who initiates should not occupy a position involving "hands-on" management.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

8. ISKCON should recognize that a devotee can be a guru without giving diksa, thus recognizing the equal status of the diksa and siksa gurus.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

9. Gurus should be able to initiate anywhere in the world irrespective of zonal boundaries with the cooperation of local leaders.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

10. In each temple, in addition to the Vyasasana of Srila Prabhupada, ISKCON's Founder-acarya, there will be only one Vyasasana for any speaker of Srimad Bhagavatam, Bhagavad-gita, Caitanya Caritamrta, etc. Pictures of all gurus who have disciples in a given temple will be placed at the base of Srila Prabhupada's Vyasasana.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

11. The pujari shall put the picture of his guru on the Guru-Gauranga altar only when he is performing puja or arotika at that particular time. The pujari will remove this picture after the arotika. The only disciplic succession pictures that will appear on the main/central altar shall be those of Srila Prabhupada, Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati, Srila Gaura Kisore das Babaji and Srila Bhaktivinode Thakur.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

12. Vyasapuja for each guru will be celebrated on only one day in the year, on his appearance day. All temples will celebrate his gurupuja on the same day. The guru will participate in this ceremony in only one temple each year.

IT IS PROPOSED THAT:

13. Gurupuja for the Founder-acarya shall be the only daily gurupuja.