

July 9th, 1977



To All G.B.C., and Temple Presidents

Dear Maharajas and Prabhus,

Please accept my humble obeisances at your feet. "Recently when all of the GBC members were with His Divine Grace in Vrindavana, Srila Prabhupad indicated that soon He would appoint some of His senior disciples to act as "rittik" - representative of the acarya, for the purpose of performing initiations, both first initiation and second initiation. His Divine Grace has so far given a list of eleven disciples who will act in that capacity:"

His Holiness Kirtanananda Swami\
His Holiness Satsvarupa das Gosvami\
His Holiness Jayapataka Swami\
His Holiness Tamal Krsna Gosvami\
His Holiness Hrdayananda Gosvami\
His Holiness Bhavananda Gosvami\
His Holiness Hamsadutta Swami
His Holiness Ramesvara Swami\
His Holiness Harikesa Swami\
His Grace Bhagavan das Adhikari\
His Grace Jayatirtha das Adhikari\
His Grace Jayatirtha das Adhikari

In the past Temple Presidents have written to Srila Prabhupad recommending a particular devotee's initiation. Now that Srila Prabhupad has named these representatives, Temple Presidents may henceforward send recommendation for first and second initiation to whichever of these eleven representatives are nearest their temple. After considering the recommendation, these representatives may accept the devotee as an initiated disciple of Srila Prabhupad by giving a spiritual name, or in the case of second initiation, by chanting on the Gayatri thread, just as Srila Prabhupad has done. The newly initiated devotees are disciples of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupad, the above eleven senior devotees acting as His representative. After the Temple President receives a letter from these representatives giving the spiritual name or the thread, he can perform the fire yajna in the temple as was being done before. The name of a newly initiated disciple should be sent by the representative who has accepted him or her to Srila Prabhupad, to be included in His Divine Grace's "Initiated Disciples" book.

Hoping this finds you all well.

Your servant,

Tamal Krsna Gosvami

Tamal Krsna Gosvami
Secretary to Srila Prabhupad

Approved