

TO ALL ISKCON DEVOTEES:

The Governing Body Commission of ISKCON has passed a strongly worded resolution expelling Kirtanananda Swami from the International Society for Krishna Consciousness and has issued a notice of non-participation forbidding him to participate in the functions of ISKCON. Although the resolution states many reasons for this action, it is necessary to clearly delineate guidelines for the future dealings between ISKCON and Kirtanananda Swami, New Vrindavan, and the persons that choose to remain with Kirtanananda Swami. The GBC is fully aware of the gravity of its action and wants it clearly understood that this decision was made only after due consideration over an extended period of time, and only after all other reasonable courses of action proved fruitless.

As Kirtanananda Swami is now expelled from ISKCON, he is no longer permitted to enter any ISKCON temple in pursuance of the notice of non-participation. Kirtanananda Swami as a spiritual authority will no longer be permitted to speak his views at any ISKCON temple. Kirtanananda Swami or any temple following his authority must immediately desist from using the name ISKCON, The International Society for Krishna Consciousness, or the Hare Krishna Movement. ISKCON devotees or any devotees previously under Kirtanananda Swami's authority who still remain confused about Kirtanananda Swami's preaching shall be given ample opportunity to discuss their doubts with senior devotees. Temple authorities should however use their discretion to ensure that the temple atmosphere is protected while such discussions are going on.

New Vrindavan and the other temples in Kirtanananda Swami's former zone are ISKCON temples. The leaders and devotees at these temples are formally instructed to establish a direct relationship with the GBC body and to no longer associate with Kirtanananda Swami. The GBC body understands the difficulties involved in such a step, but it is willing to offer its full support and openly discuss how to carry on the various preaching programs under GBC auspices. The GBC body feels very strongly that, as diksa and shiksa disciples of Srila Prabhupada, every ISKCON devotee has an absolute obligation to submit himself or herself to this directive, and it looks forward to this happening.

We humbly pray at the lotus feet of Lord Krishna and Srila Prabhupada that Kirtanananda Swami will be rectified and thereby be readmitted into his spiritual family.

Issued by the G.B.C.

March 16, 1987

Resolution of the ISKCON Governing Body Commission (GBC) dated Monday Mar 16, 1987, 1:30 PM:

1. Whereas Kirtanananda Swami , by his words and deeds has systematically obscured and minimized His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada's pre-eminent position as the Founder-Acarya of ISKCON;
2. Whereas Kirtanananda Swami in word and deed rejects the Governing Body Commission as the ultimate managing authority in ISKCON, and by so doing is dismantling Srila Prabhupada's vision of unity;
3. Whereas Kirtanananda Swami is, in defiance of GBC policy and over the GBC's protest, establishing in North America, India, and Malaysia, temples and institutions controlled by himself alone, thus creating a movement separate from ISKCON;
4. Whereas in word and deed, Kirtanananda Swami, while acting independently of ISKCON authority, systematically misrepresents ISKCON to the public, the media, and the government, and thereby brings ISKCON into jeopardy;
5. Whereas, as indicated by GBC investigations, numerous, serious illegal acts have occurred within his jurisdiction;

The ISKCON GBC hereby expels Kirtanananda Swami from ISKCON and thereby removes all his rights and responsibilities related to ISKCON. The ISKCON GBC further issues a notice of non-participation forbidding Kirtanananda Swami to participate in the functions of ISKCON.