



Founder-Acharya: His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

[illegible]

11/11/11

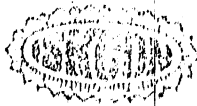
The happenings in ISKCON in the last one year beginning from the New Vrindavan GBC meetings till now are like the Trinavarta storm and we are all left wondering, " Where is Krishna P" " Where is Krishna ? " As usual, Trinavarta must die and Krishna must reappear with doubled charm and beauty. But the fact remains that we are still in the middle of the storm, and it appears that Srila Prabhupada's universal house may be blown away.

However, if you look at the positive side, finally the biggest boil on ISKCON's body, Lord Bhagawan is busted. The independent brahmana party is proved right and blind followers of blind leaders are proved wrong. Our initial euphoria of we told you so is over and we are all faced with the grim situation of rectifying our leadership filled with hypocrisy and motivation. Just as some scientist makes experiments and when expected results come, becomes encouraged in his research, after nine years of experiments after the disappearance of our beloved Srila Prabhupada, now is a good opportunity to assess this period, distinguish clearly right from wrong, spiritual from material and divine from mundane; overhaul ISKCON; rejuvenate it and march ahead with full enthusiasm and vigour to conquer the world for Srila Prabhupada.

The biggest problem is "Society, friendship and Love" within our leadership. Friends in the executive club must be protected at the cost of principles. Procedure and ~~max~~ popul has taken priority over even an obvious principle.

Just last year the entire Acharya block, the six most powerful, Tamal Krishna Goswami, Bhagavan, Jayapataka Swami, Rameshwar, Harikesh Swami, and Hridayananda Goswami vehemently supported Bhavananda. They did not even put a single restriction on him like he should stay in the temple every single day of his life and attend morning & evening programs, in the association of good devotees, & go on Harinam, or active preaching program and give up his bad association and unusual lifestyle etc. Nothing. They let him go unchanged. In other words, no serious consideration of fall down from sannyas. As one of them told us " This is Kaliyuga. We can't chop down our men for some fall downs. As if ^{to become} becoming a simple and humble vaishanava and not have big positions & titles is some kind of punishment - chopping down. No one would think of kicking Bhavananda out of ISKCON. We all know he is Prabhupada's son and he is sick and he needs medicine, not more poison - name, fame, profit, adoration & distinction. The medicine is humility, give up false prestige and take humble service. The heart is so contaminated, so deeply attached that even after gross fall down, he does not want to give up worship and adoration - on the same level as Srila Prabhupada - blind imitation. No shame, no remorse, no guilt. Shameless politics and our biggest leaders supported. Vox Populi. So, where are they ?

...2/-



International Society For Krishna Consciousness

Founder-Acharya His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

M-119, Greater Kailash I, New Delhi - 110048. Phones : 6412058, 6419701

:: 2 ::

C. No.

Dated.....

We were saying to ourselves, either they are already fallen or desiring to fall and invoke the same mercy for themselves. Sure enough Rameshwar got caught and Bhagawan popped out. How much and how long can you fool Krishna and vaishnavas ? There have been all kinds of talks about many others. The way they shielded Bhavananda there is no reason not to believe them. But, we are ready to tolerate them till they also finally can no longer bear the burden of their overpowering anarthas, the natural consequences of their serious offenses to Prabhupada and Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.

Certainly we do not enjoy the fact that all our senior Godbrothers, whom we worshipped for so long, on whom Srila Prabhupada put so much faith, who did so much service to the mission have become so hollow and fallen that they lost a simple and primary quality of a devotee - straightforwardness - saintly behaviour. Rather, they got involved in party spirit and politics. We do not want to be skeptical upstarts calling everyone names, but we do want to present the bare facts however unpalatable they look, even at the cost of displeasing these men for a while. We beg their forgiveness for opening our hearts out and speaking out. They have driven so many men away and out of ISKCON, that this little attack on them will simply release them of the burden of their past sin. Our anguish is that all these have shaken-up. The confidence of senior men, many of whom have become very very pessimistic. The general downward trend is seen almost everywhere. As Srila Prabhupada pointed out in junior Haridas Story. "The Vaishnava movement is demoralized."

Now we know what Prabhupada meant by "It is better to be a humble devotee than a charlatan leader." Haridas Thakur and Rupa Sanatana are the real leaders of the vaishnavas. Gourkishore das Babaji didn't publish books and build temples and yet he attained Vipralambha Bhava. Materially he was illiterate, and yet the most learned Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Goswami Maharaj took shelter at his feet. We just can't ignore the standard process. Humility is the crest jewel of all qualities. Simplicity, austerity, truthfulness and mercy embody an exalted vaishnava. Such a great soul with complete control of the 6 pushings can make true disciples. They are certainly not dime a dozen. Pure devotional service is extremely rare-sudurlabha. Having witnessed such a rare gem, Srila Prabhupada, so closely, we were shocked and stunned when ISKCON gurus put themselves up on the same level as Prabhupada and started imitating Srila Prabhupada. But they had all the power and following. So, with serious doubts, we all went along. The real standard of humility as exhibited by Shri. Chaitanya Mahaprabhu is that even if one envious Ramachandra Puri criticizes, He gives it a serious consideration, makes changes. Here many sincere Vaishnavas had doubts, but our leaders instead of sympathising with them, smashed them with all the power at their command.

.....3/-

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Hare Krishna

Hare Rama Hare Rama Hare Rama Hare Rama

The excuse that " We were inexperienced, we didn't know" does not stand. Because there were people in the very beginning who protested, doubted and debated. We must know one thing. Lord Krishna is most merciful. He is not so ungrateful that after 15-20 years of service, He will kick out His devotee. It is only when the anarthas and offenses side of the scale is heavier than the devotional service side that one falls down miserably. At the 1986 GBC meeting the climax of hypocrisy was to take place. It exposed each of our leaders in his true light. They officially perpetrated hypocrisy in the Gaudiya Vaishnava Sampradaya. A fallen sannyasi is vanatasi, one who eats his own vomit. Not only that, but a regular addicted homosexual with a long, almost continuous history of such incidences was voted in by our leaders who boasted big big results. Only persons who opposed were humble GBC's who were not in the elitist club. Tamal Krishna Goswami, who was opposed to Bhavananda till two weeks before Mayapur and who was the main hope for reformation got bought over cheaply by a luxurious apartment in Mayapur and society, friendship and love, within the Society. He could not afford to oppose Bhagawan, Rameshwar and Bhavananda even if it meant opposing Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and the whole parampara. Our great scholar Hridayananda Goswami flaunted all philosophical principles when he gave a sentimental rap to the so called Presidents meeting, fixed and stage managed by the blind followers of Bhagawan & Co. " Bhavananda is Prabupada's son and we must protest him. " as if all of us who have been serving Prabhupada without being GBC or Guru are not Prabhupada's sons, as if protection in devotional service means GBCship or Guruship. What to speak of the super gang offour? Jayapataka Swami. Harikesh Swami, Bhagawan & Rameshwar? These great souls think that they are born with right to rule, by hook or by crook. Prabhavishnu Swami is of course a simple vaishnava who having served a bad master for so long had lost spiritual discrimination, and mysterious 8th man was certainly under heavy pressure for his own ulterior motives. The biggest frustration of all was of course Satsvarupa Maharaj who is respected by one and all as a great brahmana and advanced vaishnava who is said to have abstained from voting. Like Bhishmadev, he witnessed the raping of ISKCON without a protest. May be he should make up for his mistake by going to Australia and cleaning up the place. Australians, if they are sincere should not protest at all as Satvarup Maharaj is a loyal ISKCON Brahmana respected by one and all. We are certainly proud of the Pandava party of 6 who opposed the decision, who have been somehow or other spared by Lord Krishna from contamination of the heart. Let us pin all our hopes on these men, to raise our GBC from the dead.

We all went back to our temples with our hearts broken and hopes shattered having given Lord Chaitanya a wonderful gift of a fagget Guru in his parampara on his 500th appearance day. We were absolutely convinced our leaders were destroying ISKCON. Even a child in the material world could see what our great leaders could not see.

A sannyasi is supposed to be a philosopher, upholder of transcendental knowledge and purity. But our sannyasi Gurus cashed in their austerity and priti for profit, adoration and distinction - labha, puja and pratishtha. Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu explained to Srila Rupa Goswami; " Kutinati, Jiyahimsana, nisiddhacharana, labha, puja, pratishthadi covered over that like the sons of Kubera, Nalakuvera and Manigriva, their intoxication with power and puja made them ignore the fact that all the saints like Narada in our parampara were watching their blunders and crying shame; shame: As Srila Rupa Goswami explains: sruti smriti puranadi pancharatra vidhim vina, eikanti ka herer bhaktir utpadayaiva kalpate" " Devotional service without reference to Shruti, smriti & Puranas is simply a disturbance in the society. We saw all our leader naked in broad daylight devoid of spiritual knowledge & discrimination. How can we blame the Aussies? If in New Vrindavan we had taken a strong stand unitedly and ask Bhavananda to stepdown, everything would have been saved. Now they have seen the weakness of the GBC. They have seen dishunity and politics, so they felt they could get away.

Once and for good the influence of Bhavananda has to be removed from Australia by a strong united action of our movement. Other Australian leaders should be given strong spiritual association of simple saintly devotees like Satswarupa Das Goswami or Pancha Dravida Swami or Jagadish Goswami or Mukunda Maharaj. Their nonsense should not be glorified by making one of them an assistant GBC. It is like giving a national honour to a murderer.

Having seen very adverse and hostile mood of ordinary devotees in their respective zones, our leaders finally woke-up and removed Bhavananda & Rameshwar from their positions in Son Diego. It is very depressing that Bhavananda instead of bowing down to the will of Vaishnavas remains in a defiant mood and thinks he can get away with anything. This is so shameful using Guruship to increase material strength and power. That is why he has to be put down. Eventhough it is late, it is never too late. If we do not act now, we will never be able to function as a family, as a limited movement. To save the movement, Srila Prabhupada threw out 4 sanyasis in 1970. Whether we gain anything or loose, truth and purity has to prevail. Honesty is the best policy. " Of the non-existent there is no duration, of the existent there is no cession. Let us have faith in Sadhu, Shashtra & Guru, and we can never loose. If somebody is deviating whether he is our father, brother or son he has to be rejected. Bhavananda's falldown has already been exposed on the most popular TV show in Australia. The worse is yet to come.

Already Mayapur is losing all support & goodwill from the important Calcutta members. One member who has donated more than ten million Rupees in the past is completely burnt out. The Samadhi is standstill while Bhavananda spends 15 to 20 lakhs on his luxurious apartment. The collection in Calcutta has gone down and one devotee said they have difficulty feeding the devotees in Mayapur. So many senior devotees are frustrated with the inaction of our leadership and good dvotees will go away and only weak ones will remain. In Australia one good devotee Jayadharma Das a truthful Brahmana who sacrificed his position power and comforts for speaking out is practically ignored by everyone living in exile waiting for mercy and justice from our leaders.

The situation in Mayapur is very critical. Jayapataka Swami, one of the most expert politicians in ISKCON did not go to the meeting in San Diego and denounced the meeting. On his way to Australia he stopped by Bombay and started saying the N. American GBC meeting was bogus and was going to Australia to support Bhavananda. We brought up a lot of issues with him especially about such and such sanyasi falling down with such & such lady. Such and such man amassing so much wialth and property, stolen from ISKCON funds. So he replied; this is heresay. Vaishnava aparadha. What is the proof? Where is the evidence? This Maharaj never leaves Mayapur except for once in a month", and he went on defending this fallen sanniyasi who is till today wearing saffron. We then said you are the one who is the GBC there, and you should gather the proofs. Why should you ask us? Have you ever investigated? Then his own disciple, his secretary Dayaram Prabhu, who was present during the whole conversation, could not keep silence. He said, " Acharyapada, everyone knows this Maharaj goes in his car to this lady, and send the driver for a few hours and stays with the lady alone. The driver himself is going around telling everybody. Everybody in Mayapur knows this. " So Jayapataka Swami was shocked. He did not know what to say. He started laughing. He went to Australia and we heard reports that he really did a good acting job. He would meet devotee there and ask him " whose disciple are you? When the reply came, " Vishnupada's, he would yell out; " oh you are the most fortunate man in the world. Your life is successful. I am purified by your association etc. Then he would embrace the man. " Jayapataka Swami knowingly encourages Bhavananda's position, even when he knows practically the whole movement feels Bhavananda is a dead weight in ISKCON now. Because of his own spiritual weakness he supports weak people every where so that he may remain in control.

In South America he supported Jagajivan and literally therew out Prabhupada-nanda Swami. So this is what we are dealing with. How can any intelligent devotee be inspired by such leaders? We can only attract and keep pschco-fants and sentimental people if we do not exhibit spiritual wisdom and purity atleast at the top level.

In Shrila Prabhupada's presence he was all in all. All the rest of us were children whether GBC's or Sannyasis or not. Therefore he kept encouraging even fallen people. But now these leaders have assumed the role of Prabhupada, the acharya, the father. They must observe the strictest Standards. They must win confidence of devotees not by manipulating numbers, but by exemplary behaviour. And somehow if someone is deficient, he should step down and make room for new people. It is all devotional service whether as a Guru or as a potwasher. If one can not do the job properly, Someone else can do it. The leaders must be above suspicious. Lord Ramachandra banished innocent mother Sita to the forest just to inspire confidence in his subjects; whereas our leaders want to cover up their falldowns and hide it under the rug. Maya is very expert. She has been giving us money and men and book distribution figures while everything within is rotting away. A cancerous tumour has grown in ISKCON, but it is not yet too late to remove it. This is the best time to do it by mature thoughtful discussion without becoming perfect through regular channels of austerity, purity, and regulated devotional service, how can we benefit those who take our whelter? What is the use of this no. of men in Australia and other places who do not even have knowledge to distinguish hypocracy from spiritual life? Srila Prabhupada was not interested in increasing the no. of neophytes. He was more interested in a few moons. Srila Prabhupada said 'Purity is the force. Even if there is a slight deviation, we become an apa sampradaya, or bogus line. Once we were discussing with Srila Prabhupada about the falldown of Pushti marga the vallbhacharya vaishnava sect, as the government had raided one of their herediary Gurus and found almost 10 million Rs. una counted money and ahundred bottles of foreign liquor. Srila Prabhupada said "It is rotten from the root. Vallabhacharya took sannyas and then went back to family life." Even though he was a great learned Vedic brahmana, still his parampara is nearly lost. So what to speak of our falldowns which are much more serious than his?

The Highest principle in our line is humility. Thinking ourselves lower than a blade of grass. How can one who wants to sit on a big seat in front of his god brothers, dieties and guru cultivate humility? Obviously he think he is better than all. Sri Chaitanya despises such a man and smashes his pride like hie did in the case of Vallabha Bhatta. In the name og encouraging the disciples, we clamour for prestige, adoration and distinction. The dsiciples will accept anything the Guru says. And again the Guru in ISKCON is not the same as in traditional. Diksha guru is just one of the many Gurus that the candidate meets. Sometimes the initiating guru has not even met the prospective disciple till the date of initiation, whereas the disciple has been trained by other ISKCON vaishnavas. Traditionally, Hari Bhakti vilas says that a candidate should hear regularly from the Guru everyday for one year. Then after mature deliberation he should select the spiritual master. In ISKCON, the disciple hears so many vaishnavas who strengthen his faith. But the bogus system introduced by us has attached a candidate only to the diksha guru and not to the siksha Guru who are equal and identical do manifestations of the Lord. In fact, so many diksha guru have fallen down, but still the disciples are serving Prabhupada's mission because of the siksha Gurus in ISKCON. There, in such circumstances the initiator should not claim exclusive proprietorship of the disciple but rather consider himself the servant of the servant of his godbrothers. But imitating Prabhupada, who was the sole founder-acharya of ISKCON the most powerful paramahansa preacher the world has ever seen, is a breach of spiritual humility which fosters profit, adoration and distinction,

the weeds on the path of Bhakti. Shukadev Goswami says in the Bhagavatam: naital samacharej jatu manasapi hyanisvarah Vinasyat yacaran mandhyad rudrob-dhijam yathavisah " One should never imitate a great and powerful personality even within his mind, or else he shall be destroyed by his own foolishness as one who imitates Lord Siva drinking the ocean of poison ". Even if there is external purity but no humility than there is no internal spiritual purity. Austerity or external sannyas not the qualifications of purity. Kirtananda Swami is an example of external purity, but lack of humility. He is attached to praise and honour and hates criticism. He proudly declares to be no one and ridicules other vaishnavas. He talks of grass like humility, but trains disciples to criticize other devotees and creates duality in their minds. separatist mentality. He does not mind taking away his disciples from their respective temples without consulting the authorities who recommended those disciples to him. His style of expansion is to take a disciple away from his existing service and engage him somewhere else for his own project. He disobeys the order of Prabhupada by not recognising the collective management system of the GBC and keeping the movement united. He declares boldly, " I am the best. I will practically be the only acharya left pretty soon ". When we said " But Srila Prabhupada didn't appoint you or anyone else as " The Acharya " he wanted everyone to be one of the many. " He says; " He didn't say no one could emerge from them. " Then we said, " but not like this, by destroying ISKCON. You have to emerge within ISKCON, by your virtues, your purity and your preaching. " So he said: " If I destroy, I will raise the whole thing in 3 days. " He enjoys when the other acharyas fall. He predicts the next one to fall is so and so. He would like to see that ISKCON gets destroyed by fratricidal war. Then he would be the only one left. His obsession is to become the " World Acharya " which means opening up " New Vrindavan East ", west south etc. Separate Trusts from ISKCON, directly competing with ISKCON projects. He compares himself with Prabhupada and all other god-brothers who are not his men as Prabhupada's envious godbrothers, asara. He compares his books which are like 'BTG' articles with Srila Prabhupada's books which are the essence of the conclusions of the sastras and 12 Acharyas. Eventhough he never distributed Srila Prabhupada's books very much for all these years, he wants to print his own books in large quantities and wants to use ISKCON men given to him by ISKCON for distributing them. He calls himself the founder-acharya of New Vrindavan, even though the project started in Srila Prabhupada's time, under his guidance. In spite of wide spread resentment among godbrothers, he puts crown on Prabhupada and as if ridiculing all, now he has started putting crown on himself. We shall call him " Paundraka Prabhupada " : What to speak of murder controversy and " the dog controversy " A senior Prabhupada disciple saw with his own eyes the dog food packs that were used to feed his dog. It contains " meat ", probably beef. He refused to have darshan of Sri Sri Radha Rasabihariji deities without his dog. During his last stay, in Bombay he didn't go in the temple toom, and he claims to be an upholder of purity. This may sound heavily blasphemy, but we see it as a caution against imminent danger to Srila Prabhupada's mission. This is just to show that this Acharya intoxication is so dangerous, it can drive one practically crazy. Gross fall downs are easy to defeat, but the philosophical fall down is worse and much more dangerous. Both Narayan Maharaj and Puri Maharaj, well wishers of ISKCON say Kirtanananda Maharaj's deviation is worse than Bhavananda's. The deviation in Sadachar is papa, a sinful activity from which one can raise himself, but the deviation in principle is very offensive and very hard to overcome. Kirtanananda Maharaj thinks he can storm the gates of heaven with his big disneyland project and temples & palace & parks. What is the use of a Prabhupada palace if he wants to disobey Srila Prabhupada's order of " co-operating with each other after I leave. ". As Lord Kapila says in Srimad Bhagavatam; " Devotional service executed by a person who is envious proud, violent and angry, and who is a separatist, is considered to be in the mode of darkness. " (3.29.8).

Srila Prabhupada says in the purport; " one who approaches the supreme Lord to render devotional service but who is proud of his personality, envious of others, or vengeful, is the mode of anger. He thinks that he is the best devotee. Devotional service executed in this way is not pure; it is mixed and is of the lowest grade, tamasah. " Again " The worship of Deities in the temple by a separatist, with a motive for material enjoyment, fame & opulence is devotion in the mode of passion. " (3.29.9) when the so called devotee wants to become famous or opulent by utilising the mercy or grace of the Supreme Lord, he is in the mode of passion. Again S.B.3.29.21-24, Lord Kapila states: " If, without the preliminary knowledge of the omnipotence of the Lord, one simply attaches himself to the rituals in a temple, church or mosque, it is as if he were offering butter into ashes rather than into the fire. " " My dear mother, even if he worships with proper rituals and paraphernalia, a person who is ignorant of my presence in all living entities never pleases me by the worship of My Deities in the temple. ". So, worshipping the deity of Prabhupada, but dishonoring his words is just a lip service.

Even though he is not the authority in Bombay Temple, he wants to grab the authority by using his disciples. He bluntly told Gopal Krishna Maharaj " Make me a co-GBC right now, or get out of this room " I will go to the Police, to the media, to the Karmis to clean up this place ". Just recently he asked his disciples to force the temple to call ishtagoshti or else call Life Members' meeting.

Undoubtedly he is the most powerful man. He has created wonder in New-Vrindaban. He is strong willed, charismatic and determined. But without the essential quality of humility all other qualities are like zeroes without one. The latest thing is he asked his disciples to rob a sankirtan bus and give him money. He behaves like a bull in the China shop. We don't despise him. Rather we appreciate that at least he is not into society, friendship and love. He did not falsely support Bhavananda. But instead of lending his strength to the movement at the weak movement, he seems to be exploiting it. So that he will become the most prominent person. Srila Prabhupada said in a letter " Negligence of regulative principle as well as so called spiritual advancement for self motivation are both dangerous. "

If Kirtanananda Maharaj can not strictly follow the discipline of ISKCON, then may be he should go on his own, officially disassociating from ISKCON. We wish him well and separate peacefully.

Srila Krsna Das Kaviraj states in Chaitanya Chantamrita.
Siddhanta baliya citte na kara alasa iha naite krsna tage sudrdha manasa
" A sincere student should not neglect the discussion of such conclusions considering them controversial for such discussions strong then the mind thus one mind becomes attacked to Sri Krsna ".

Let us discuss philosophy seriously once and for good. Let us have ishtagoshti like New Vrindavan and settle the issues with unbiased and detached mood. Tamal Krishna Maharaj boldly promised Srila Prabhupada on his disappearance day to do all the needful to rectify all the mistakes GBC made during his chairmanship. Infact he requested his godbrothers to push him, to become intolerent. He frankly admitted his mistakes and seemed determined to take lead in this ISKCON purification. Krishna is so kind. If we sincerely pray to him with repentent heart, we can forgive all our offences in a second. Let everyone come with a humble heart without prejudice or vengeance. Then surely we will move on much more enthusiastically than ever before. Let us not cast doom and become heartless. Srila Prabhupada and Krsna are in complete command And this movement must last for ten thousand years.

Radha Mahendran D.

We humbly submit the following proposals for consideration of all the senior Vaishnavas in ISKCON especially the GBC members:

1. Call Ishta gosthi of all Prabhupada disciple in good standing performing responsible devotional service in one of ISKCON temples. All the participants should be philosophically well versed and independent thinkers. Otherwise committed men can check the progress. Call this meeting before Mayapur festival in vrindavan as the atmosphere in Mayapur is too intimidating. Besides some heavy decision on Mayapur may be required to be made. So holding meeting in a neutral place is better.
2. Make an individual assessment of each GBC. Their own spiritual standing, their philosophical deviations, unstraightforward dealings as well as their preaching contributions may be discussed.
3. Bhavananda, Rameshwar, Bhagwan and Jagajivan may be removed from GBC. If Sundairupa Maharaj wants to resign, accept his resignation.
4. Kirtannananda Maharaj must follow GBC guidelines. Strictly, Putting all the properties in the names of Trustees as mentioned in Prabhupada's will and surrender to the collective will of assembled devotees on all issues for all times. He can always make his protest in the proper forums instead of public and give up his seperatist tendencies. If he refuses, he may also be removed from GBC body.
5. The Guru issue may be discussed thoroughly and one standard should be established which must be followed all over the world. No wishy washy policy of different standards in different zones.
6. 10 or more qualified devotees may be added on to the GBC body.
7. No more secret balloting in the GBC as it makes them unaccountable for their mistakes. Even in American Senate people are voted in or out according to their different stands on different issues.
8. For the present, the president's meeting may include only Prabhupada's disciples as most of the new disciples are committed to the opinion their Guru voices, thereby making the meeting impotent and ineffective as it happened last year.
9. Mayapur management may thoroughly be investigated, and necessary changes may be effected.
10. Besides regular BBT quotas, all temples may pledge atleast 1% of their total annual incomes to Prabhupada's Samadhi in Vrindavan so that construction will go on unhampered.