

Sri Gaudiya Darshan

(THE DEVOTIONAL OFFERING OF SRI CHAITANYA SARASWAT MATH, NABADWIP)

Founded by Srila B. R. Sridhar Maharaj & edited by Srila B. S. Govinda Maharaj

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Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math Road

Kolerganj, P.O.Nabadwip,

Dist.Nadia, W.Bengal,

PIN-741302, India

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The Devotional Newsletter of Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math, Nabadwip

Winter Edition 1994

The festival has begun

In response to the Special Invitation extended to the devotees, the guest-houses of Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math were filled for the Sri Vyasa-puja Festival of Srila Guru Maharaj, Srila Bhakti Raksak Sridhar Dev-Goswami Maharaj. This celebration marked his 100th Auspicious Advent Day and thus inaugurated the year-long Worldwide Centenary Festival of Srila Guru

Maharaj lasting until the 100th Anniversary of his Advent, next year.

Attended by exalted Godbrothers of Srila Guru Maharaj, the festival included a strong representation from the various Maths locally, including no less than fifteen devotees from Sri Chaitanya Math, established by Srila Bhakti Siddhanta Saraswati Thakur as the main Temple of his mission.



All Glory to Sri Guru & Gaurāṅga



The Year-Long Worldwide Centenary Festival of

His Divine Grace Ananta-śrī-vibhūṣita pramaharisa-kula-chūrāmaṇi Jagad-Guru

ŚRĪ ŚRĪLA BHAKTI RAKṢAK ŚRĪDHAR DEV-GOSWĀMĪ MAHĀRĀJ

FOUNDER-PRESIDENT-ĀCHĀRYYA OF Śrī Chaitanya Sāraswat Math International

ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ 28th Oct 1994 - 1995 ॐ ॐ ॐ ॐ

The Centenary banner designed by Prabhu Jai Kṛṣṇa, London

Sripat Hapaniya

Sripat Hapaniya was host to further celebrations on 29th October when everyone except the minimum 'crew' from Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math came to give their respectful remembrance to the glories of Srila Guru Maharaj at this, his Place of Appearance.

Sripad Sagar Maharaj related the pastime of Srila Guru Maharaj identifying the place of his Appearance, and that this very location is now the residence of the Temple's Deities: Sri Sri Guru Gaurāṅga-Radha-Gopinathjiu.

Several relatives of Srila Guru Maharaj participated in the programme, and all were very satisfied to receive the legendary maha-prasadam.

Sripat Hapaniya takes its name (meaning Sweet Water) from the uncommonly sweet water of the green coconuts growing there. To many this tranquil, tropical village appears as heaven itself, though we are given guidance that in fact where Srila Guru Maharaj first came to this world is non-different from Varsana, the place of Srimati Radharani's childhood pastimes.

From whatever angle, Hapaniya is sweet to the extreme, and its transcendental gift of our Srila Guru Maharaj is the most valuable treasure. Especially at this Centenary time, may we pray for the grace of Srila Guru Maharaj and this, his special Place of Appearance.

Centennial Memorial Hall

Plans have been drawn up and are currently being processed for the construction in the Math compound of a Centennial Memorial Hall in honour of Srila Guru Maharaj. Having four storeys, the hall is expected to house a collection of Srila Guru Maharaj's holy paraphernalia. Amongst other facilities it is proposed to have several rooms upstairs to alleviate the pressure for accommodation of pilgrims.

December Sri Vyasapuja

With many devotees already expressing their desire to attend the Sri Vyasapuja of Srila Govinda Maharaj on December 20th this year, discussions have been aired concerning the Brahmanpara building project in honour of Srila Sridhar Maharaj's favourite 'son', Srila Govinda Dev-Goswami Maharaj as part of the Centenary Celebrations. Brahmanpara is the holy Appearance Place of Srila Govinda Maharaj and is located close to Hapaniya and about 28 km from Nabadwip. This festival will mark the beginning of an annual pilgrimage there by the devotees of the Math.

Western kitchen now open

Inauguration of the new kitchen facilities took place with the arrival from the West of the first devotees for the recent festivals. This kitchen is run by the Westerners so as to carefully keep in good health the pilgrims from abroad.

Holy Visit to Brahmanpara

A pilgrimage to Srila Govinda Maharaj's Holy Appearance Place

BY PRABHU MOHANANANDA ADHIKARI

This year after our usual Gaura-purnima festivities Srila Guru Maharaj gave Rasabdhī Prabhu and myself permission to visit Brahmanpara, Srila Guru Maharaj's (Srila Govinda Dev-Goswami Maharaj's) Abirbhava-sṭhāna or birthplace. We were guided by Sripad Damodar Maharaj.

From Nabadwip the journey to Brahmanpara consists of a one and a half hour bus ride to Kusumgram followed by a forty minute Jeep ride on a dirt road to Brahmanpara.

When we arrived there we were greeted by Dhananjay Prabhu accompanied by an enthusiastic crowd of locals. As the Jeep was unable to proceed directly within the village, we walked while chanting along the way.

Deity worship

Sripad Damodar Maharaj had earlier acquired a small parcel of land to make a building as home to Srila Guru Maharaj's household Deities of Sri Sri Radha-Gopinathjiu. These Deities are presently nearby and they continue to be worshipped by Srila Guru Maharaj's family.

Sripad Damodar Maharaj led a procession of locals along with Dhananjay Prabhu who played the mrdanga and Rasabdhī Prabhu who played karatals. The parikrama included visits to the original Tulasi Mandir constructed by Srila Guru Maharaj's earthly father, Nitaipada; then to Sri Radha Gopinathjiu, along the road to the Kali Mandir. From there we went to pay our dandavats to Sri Radha-Madan-Mohan followed by a visit to Sri Mahadev Mandir, before returning to the Tulasi Mandir.

Along the parikrama route the locals came from their houses and joined with us. The women poured water to cool our feet, the young boys chanted and danced, and some of the men folk paid their dandavats nearby while others joined with us. The population of the entire area was aware of our presence and all showed their appreciation.

Speeches in praise

On completion of the parikrama Sripad Damodar Maharaj gave an inspiring and sober discourse describing the glories of Brahmanpara and its fame as the birth-place of our dear Srila Guru Maharaj. Rasabdhī Prabhu then gave a rousing speech explaining the glories of Srila Guru Maharaj and the place of his Appearance. Urging the locals to consider the value of their birth and birth-place he went on to invite all of them to come to the Math in Nabadwip.

Rasabdhī Prabhu also asked for volunteers to assist Sripad Damodar Maharaj to build and complete the Mandir in Brahmanpara. Many immediately volunteered their services.

The programme ended with the local villagers playing mrdangas and karatals, and chanting.

A grand feast

We then proceeded to Sri Dhananjay Prabhu's house where much prasadam had been prepared by many ladies headed by his wife. Our visit to Brahmanpara was totally unannounced, but within 2 hours a grand feast was prepared. We took prasadam heartily and drank what must be the sweetest tasting water in India. We then rested

in thatched huts and spoke to the locals in order to learn some more history of our Guru Maharaj.

We heard from the local school teacher how Srila Guru Maharaj left home to join the Math when he was just a teenager, and he never again returned. He also told us how he used to walk or sometimes run the three miles to school.

After feasting, resting and discussing, we headed off to Kusumgram. The jeep failed to return so, like our Guru Maharaj in earlier years, we had to hike the three miles to his former school located by the main road. This took place at 2 o'clock on an extremely hot afternoon. Expending so much energy we all especially appreciated having had the noon-time feast.

Finally we reached the school, and after looking around we boarded a bus back to Nabadwip. On returning we were greeted by Srila Guru Maharaj and the other devotees in their usual warm and loving way.

A lovely day

It was a lovely day for all of us and we prayed to the Deities and our Guru Maharaj that we may have mercy and blessings to return again one day soon.

This year after Srila Guru Maharaj's Sri Vyasapuja (20th December) we expect to lead a further — and larger — parikrama party to Brahmanpara. In the meantime some small construction work is in progress which is hoped to be finished in time for December as part of the Centenary Celebrations in honour of Srila Param-Guru, Srila Sridhar Dev-Goswami Maharaj. I cannot think of a better way to honour him than by glorifying his favourite 'son,' disciple, and rightful inheritor of all his qualities, gifts and more: our beloved Srila Guru Maharaj, Srila Bhakti Sundar Govinda Dev-Goswami Maharaj.

All glories to our beloved Srila Guru Maharaj!

All glories to our beloved Srila Param-Guru Maharaj!
Gaurapremanandi!

Govardhan pilgrimage

No sooner had the dust settled from the travelling, decorating, parikramas, prasad distribution and other festival activities than the devotees again packed their bags, this time in preparation for a pilgrimage to Govardhan. By train, taxi, Jeep and truck, the main group left the Math on the last day of October, staying one night in our Dum Dum Park Temple before departing by train early next morning.

Some days after returning from his recent world tour, Srila Govinda Maharaj expressed his wish for this parikrama to take place and to establish it as an annual event. This is also the time of Sri Govardhan Puja and Sri Annakut Mahotsav, which always follows soon after Srila Guru Maharaj's Vyasa-puja. This year it was on 4th November.

Haridwar and Rishikesh

Included on this year's Karttik pilgrimage is a visit to Haridwar and Rishikesh.

While visiting the West, Srila Govinda Maharaj met a gentleman keen to sponsor him opening an ashram in this area. Srila Maharaj is enthusiastic, so Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math may presently have a centre for preaching and for accommodating the devotees visiting these holy places in the foothills of the Himalayas.

Centenary Biography

Via the hand of Sripad Bhakti Ananda Sagar Maharaj the much treasured biography of Srila Guru Maharaj, Srila Bhakti Raksak Sridhar Dev-Goswami Maharaj, has manifested in time for the inauguration of his Centenary Year. The book *Srila Guru Maharaj — His Divine Pastimes & Precepts in Brief*, is a wonderful portrayal of his Divine Life.

It is compiled from Srila Guru Maharaj's own words, as well as personal accounts from his associates, headed by Srila Govinda Maharaj.

To quote the author: "May the Glories of Srila Guru Maharaj eternally delight the ears and hearts of the devotees of the Supreme Lord."

Deities' installation in Calcutta

Shortly before Srila Maharaj left for Brazil in June, he presided over the installation of the Deities, Sri Sri Guru-Gauranga-Radha-Madana-mohan and Giridharjiu, and the all-auspicious inauguration of Their new Temple in Dum Dum Park, Calcutta. The festival was held on the 30th Madhusudan, 26th Jaystha, Friday 10th June 1994. Reportedly the sankirtan procession was led by 108 mrdangas. We're waiting to see the videos...

The front of the Temple has been tastefully sculptured and painted by the same artist who made the designs on Srila Guru Maharaj's Samadhi Mandir and who also sculptured the Nath Mandir's diorama in Nabadwip.

Due to the clay soil the engineers have advised that some time be allowed for the foundations to settle before adding the dome.

A surprise awaits all who are used to the humble bungalow that used to serve as the ashram there. In it's place now stands a large Nath Mandir which is currently under construction. The ceiling of the ground floor is so high as to afford an uninterrupted view from the road of the front of the Temple.

Exercise and grazing

The cows now have pastures new. During Srila Govinda Maharaj's recent world tour a tall compound wall was erected around the Temple's field opposite the northern side entrance to the Math. To complete the work, an iron gate has just been installed as well as a large bamboo shelter to give shade from the hot sun.

Our cows, bull and calves joyfully have the freedom of this field for the first time. Sharing it with the turmeric crop they somehow know which is the crop and which is their fodder...




A big WELCOME!

to all the new initiates joining the family of
Srila Govinda Maharaj. He has many times expressed, and
probably directly to you, that he is carrying out the order of his
Srila Guru Maharaj to distribute the seeds he has inherited.

You are greatly fortunate, and all Vaisnavas join to wish
that your careful cultivation of that supreme creeper will bring you all success.

Welcome, indeed, to the family...

Fifth World Tour

(June to September 1994)

Broadcasting far and wide the glories of Sri Guru & Gauranga

Returning in mid-September Srila Govinda Maharaj completed his longest tour abroad to date. His Divine Grace spent a full three months of continuous travelling, preaching and harmonising the various devotional communities. Some brief glimpses of his tour follow:

Brazil:

After transiting through London, Brazil was the first stop on the tour and a large number of devotees and aspiring devotees greeted Srila Maharaj. Srila Swami Maharaj Prabhupada never himself visited Brazil, so it was a greatly thirsting population who drank the nectar distributed so freely by Srila Maharaj. Sripad Bhuvan Mohan Prabhu made wonderful arrangements despite the tremendous financial strain. With the assistance of other leading devotees locally three houses were rented on the outskirts of Sao Paulo.

With Srila Maharaj's blessings, a Deity of Sriman Mahaprabhu was installed accompanied by a large fire sacrifice.

Brazil is a place where the Mission of Srila Govinda Maharaj can explode and bring many newcomers. Srila Govinda Maharaj expressed his wish that all the devotees there be given encouragement to help Sripad Bhuvan Mohan Prabhu in his service towards this goal.

Ecuador:

The hospitality and sacrificial mood of Sripad Raja Rama Prabhu and Revati Didi was unlimited. Many devotees

received Harinama initiation, several of whom had made the long journey on winding mountain roads from Colombia — a country which itself has great potential for expanding Krishna consciousness.

During this, the first visit by Srila Maharaj to Ecuador, Raja Ram Prabhu officially signed over the newly constructed ashram to Srila Govinda Maharaj.

Venezuela:

The devotees of Venezuela headed by Sripad Harikirtan Prabhu are a constant magnet for drawing Srila Govinda Maharaj to South America, and especially to their country where the brahmacharis and grihasta devotees of Caracas again joyfully received Srila Maharaj and his entourage.

The enthusiastic kirtans so much attracted Srila Maharaj that he commented that their kirtans surpass even those of Nabadwip. A fine certificate indeed.

Srila Maharaj was interviewed on national television and became quite a celebrity. Thereafter he received constant phone calls and visitors from all sections of society enquiring about the goal of life.

Needless to say, Srila Maharaj's generous presence gave everyone great enthusiasm.

Mexico:

The Mexicans were really superb with their arrangements for the dignitaries. A grand reception and professionally

organised programmes were the rule of the day where every effort was made for the full success of the preaching tour there. The programmes there were the most outstanding on the whole tour. Srila Maharaj was extended traditional Mexican hospitality as well as personal servants for the full duration of his stay.

Headed by Sripad Bhakti Kusum Ashram Maharaj the Mexican devotees excelled. Dinners and lectures were held, and Srila Govinda Maharaj's discourses were simultaneously translated into their native Spanish language by Sri Pramana Prabhu and transmitted to headphones for all who wished. Also a big screen was used, thus Srila Maharaj could be seen clearly by everyone.

In particular Sripad Bhaku Mohan Sajjan Maharaj was accompanied by very devoted and well trained brahmacharis. Their conduct is an example for us all.

California:

From the warm welcome of the Latin American devotees, Srila Maharaj continued north to another warm welcome on the U.S.A. West Coast. The devotees of the Santa Cruz Ashram have huge responsibilities for the upkeep of the Math, but, over and above bare maintenance, they are renovating and developing the buildings and land with great enthusiasm. Many devotees are making much sacrifice in order to ensure their devotional centre is a success. One such devotee is Hasyapriya Prabhu who with his entire family has moved from his comfortable house into a simple caravan on the Math's land so they all can render as much service as possible.

Srila Govinda Maharaj has made repeated visits to California, and this time was a similar success for all.

Detroit:

In and around Detroit is a community of very sincere and dedicated professional persons who are helping to give a very respectable image to Krishna con-

sciousness in the area. They hold regular gatherings and participate in various programmes including educating youth in devotional service to Krishna.

This was the first time Srila Maharaj visited Detroit. Sripad Suresh Durham Prabhu headed the local community in receiving Srila Maharaj and his entourage.

New Jersey:

This was the second time Srila Govinda Maharaj has visited the East Coast, and, as earlier, many good souls came for initiation including an ever-increasing number from the Russian community there. Sripad Bhakti Kanan Giri Maharaj was the principal host and other respectable sannyasis and Gurus also met with Srila Maharaj and extended invitations.

Germany:

Srila Govinda Maharaj visited both the Eastern and Western sections of Berlin where he and his entourage were received by Sri Premaniddhi Prabhu heading the German devotees. In fact Berlin proved to be a focussing point for devotees from all over Europe including Czech Republic, Holland and Belgium.

Srila Govinda Maharaj and his tour party were accommodated very nicely, and, in an enterprising manner, the many visitors were housed in large colourful tents. Several devotees were initiated and all received much nourishment for their spiritual journey.

Hungary:

Accompanied from Berlin by Sripad Ananta Krishna Prabhu, Srila Maharaj's host from Hungary, Srila Govinda Maharaj was soon addressing a gathering of respectable citizens drawn to enquire about Krishna consciousness by the publicity and energy of Ananta Krishna Prabhu. Through founding a book club for this purpose, he distributed 30,000 invitations and drew

together many people inclined to think deeper about life.

While there, Srila Govinda Maharaj was given an introduction to Hungary's own traditions and history when he was shown around some of Budapest's memorials and a museum.

Ireland:

The Emerald Isle is a land where many fairy tales are set. This time, though, the fable came true when Srila Govinda Maharaj gave audience to several sincere seekers. Indicating the reality of the fabulous land of selfless service, Srila Maharaj gave everyone the opportunity to progress towards that goal.

Sripad Bhakti Suarup Tridandi Maharaj, despite poor health, looked after Srila Maharaj and his tour group throughout their stay. One place on their itinerary was the home — and Temple — of Sri Veni Madhava Prabhu in the countryside of County Cork. Inspired by Srila Maharaj's visit and the enthusiasm of his fellow countrymen Veni Madhava Prabhu has resolved to make a purpose-built Temple adjoining his house.

London:

Sripad Bhakti Ananda Sagar Maharaj accompanied Srila Govinda Maharaj throughout the whole of the tour from London back to London. Having first-hand experience of Srila Maharaj's tour arrangements, it was his turn to head the reception of Srila Maharaj at the London branch of Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math. Several programmes were held including a television interview and functions with the influential Indian community.

During Sripad Sagar Maharaj's own absence from London due to the tour, the devotees headed by Jai Krishna Prabhu and Udharan Prabhu maintained well the Temple and devotional activities there. In an enterprising effort to overcome the constant financial burden they have begun to generate funds by designing and printing high quality

advertising banners. To ensure the auspiciousness of their venture, their beginning was marked by producing a large colour banner broadcasting the Centenary Year of Srila Guru Maharaj. They happily donated this to Srila Govinda Maharaj.

Bombay:

No-doubt tired, but with an inexhaustible spirit for distributing mercy, Srila Maharaj returned to India by landing in Bombay. The Bombay devotees organised by Sunil Krishna Prabhu received Srila Maharaj and introduced several newcomers eager to take his shelter. Though his stay was very short, Srila Maharaj was so impressed with their sincerity — and their growing numbers — that he reiterated his wish that a regular gathering place be established so the devotees may gain the nourishment of regular association together.

Returning home:

On his return to Calcutta, all the devotees here were greatly pleased to welcome Srila Govinda Maharaj. Although it would be well over a week before he would return to Nabadwip, his warm presence nearby already gave reassurance and shelter.

When Srila Maharaj finally returned to Nabadwip he was greeted with garlands, banners, decorations and loud congregational chanting, and a large arch covered with auspicious leaves and decorations was also constructed over the road outside the Math.

After offering obeisances to Srila Guru Maharaj and to the Deities, Srila Maharaj immediately addressed a spontaneous gathering in the Nath Mandir of devotees and residents of the Dham. Srila Govinda Maharaj glowed. His entourage glowed. And all received light by their illumination. Thus was the joyful completion of this great sacrifice of Srila Govinda Dev-Goswami Maharaj's fifth world tour for the satisfaction of Sri Guru and Gauranga.

Hospital Tour of Srila Gurudeva

**BY PRABHU
MOHANANANDA ADHIKARI**

For those familiar with Calcutta and its environment, the thought of going to hospital, or staying in one, would be a sufficient injection to spur on speedy recovery. The preconceived vision of over-stressed, under-funded hospitals in Calcutta is one of nurses in off-white uniforms turned almost black by dust, wards decaying under the sheer weight of numbers, and blood on the corridor floors and walls.

You can just imagine, then, how surprising it was for us all to find quite the opposite when we went to the Belle Vue Nursing Home to visit our Srila Guru Maharaj. The atmosphere was the same as in any modern hospital in the West. Everything was squeaky clean with the nurses all trained and highly qualified. Many of the doctors and nurses here have been on duty in the West at one time or another.

Dr. Banerjee, the surgeon who treated Srila Guru Maharaj, recently returned from 10 years practising in London. He is well honed in allopathy, and he is a single, pious man in his mid-forties and

versed in Vaisnava philosophy.

On Monday 25th April at 9 a.m. the preparations began for Srila Guru Maharaj going to the operation theatre. He was in the theatre for almost 2 hours after which he was wheeled immediately to his room. Thereafter nurses attended him day and night for the remainder of his stay.

Flowers and cards came from all quarters of the world and during the permitted visiting hours devotees came twice a day with offerings, respects and prayers for Guru Maharaj's quick recovery. Not to miss an opportunity to introduce Krishna consciousness, while visiting the hospital two of the lady devotees, Janaki Didi and Braja Mohini Didi, as well as two of the men, myself and Gopal Prabhu, distributed the Math's books and our *Sri Sauriya Barshan* newspapers.

Many of the nurses and other staff came to offer their respect to Srila Guru Maharaj. They happily talked with the devotees and received our publications. Throughout Srila Guru Maharaj's entire stay there, all the staff went out of their way to accommodate our every need and more.

Dr. Banerjee daily checked Srila Guru Maharaj's progress and kept all the anxious devotees well informed. Within one week Srila Guru Maharaj was discharged from the hospital and he was happy to be 'home' at our Dum Dum Park ashram. Before leaving the hospital he gave his obeisances to the Deity of Lord Vishnu being duly worshipped at the hospital entrance.

The doctor regularly came to the ashram to visit Srila Guru Maharaj and within a few days he removed the last of the stitches. He gave reassurance that Srila Guru Maharaj's recovery was progressing satisfactorily, and by his expert assistance Srila Guru Maharaj was presently able to start on his next world tour.

With Srila Guru Maharaj's successful recovery devotees all over the world are so joyful that he was able to travel to the West so they could spend time with him and be able to personally serve him. We all are much indebted to the services of one and all at the hospital, who, by the grace of Param-Guru Maharaj and Krishna, brought relief to Guru Maharaj — and relief to the whole world.

Srila Gurudeva's arrival in Mexico

BY SUNDARI DEVI DASI

Fascinated by the first visit of Srila Govinda Maharaj to Mexico, all devotees, families and guests were waiting and praying to have again the most valuable presence of our dearmost Gurudeva, who fulfilled our necessities and dissipated our many doubts on this journey to Krishna consciousness.

The physical presence of a Guru in this age of Kali is so important, even more so if he is such a genuine and pure Master like Srila Govinda Maharaj. He has been empowered by his beloved Spiritual Masters Srila Sridhar Maharaj

and Srila Swami Maharaj to preach and give spiritual strength to everybody who has even a little interest for Krishna.

Through the excellent service of Srila Bhakti Kusum Ashram Swami we had once more the great chance to make some seva for our dear Guru Maharaj. Due to the nice service of many devotees in Mexico City this time we had many services and considerations from the government. Nice arrangements were made to receive Srila Govinda Maharaj at the airport. Several distinguished personalities from the government and police were there, along with many devotees anxious to meet our

Gurudeva again.

Reporters had the opportunity to interview him on arrival at the airport. Among their many questions was an enquiry as to Govinda Maharaj's opinion about the elections that were soon to take place in Mexico. He said he would pray to have elections in peace and calm. As a pure devotee he also desired for a good environment for everyone, whether devotees or not.

In Srila Gurudeva's special heart-warming way he thereby set the tone for a most wonderful stay with the devotees and friends in our country of Mexico.



World Diary

News in brief from other Centres
not visited this time on the Tour

Italy:

Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Sridhar Sangha of Italy is drawing the devotional nature of more and more souls with several programmes centred around the land one hour drive from Rome. One family recently donated a new estate car to the Sangha, and others are also giving much energy to the programmes.

On the land now stands a three roomed open-style gazebo where congregational chanting takes place.

Srila Govinda Maharaj has already given his holy approval of plans presented to him by Sripad Bhakti Madhura Ban Maharaj for a Temple and devotees' accommodation there.

The land produces fruits such as grapes, figs and olives, though the recent hot summer reduced some of the crops. Cultivation is assisted by water pumped from a well on the property. Sunk to a depth of 100 metres, it is the only fully functioning well in the area.

Mauritius & South Africa:

These countries are both constantly in the forefront of Srila Govinda Maharaj's caring thoughts. Although Srila Maharaj

expressed his reluctance to travel abroad soon, he has repeatedly mentioned he feels the need to go to these two places. He had no sooner returned from his recent world tour when the phone rang with sincere offers for him to travel there.

Amongst the news from the region is the considerable progress with the Temple construction in Mauritius.

Malaysia:

Always eager for Srila Govinda Maharaj's grace and presence the devotees are continuously inviting Srila Maharaj to this optimistic South East Asian country. In the meantime Srila Govinda Maharaj is sending Sripad Sagar Maharaj who is expected to visit them directly after the current Govardhan parikramas.

Australia:

Given the instruction by Srila Govinda Maharaj to "try to keep all the devotees under one umbrella" Sri Mohanananda Prabhu is making that sincere attempt for the progress of Srila Govinda Maharaj's mission in Australia. With the combined effort of

the devotees, the construction of the 'umbrella' of their community hall is progressing well. It is made entirely of timber, and the roof has recently been put on. News has it that the roof is hand-crafted, and people are calling in just to look at the roof(!).

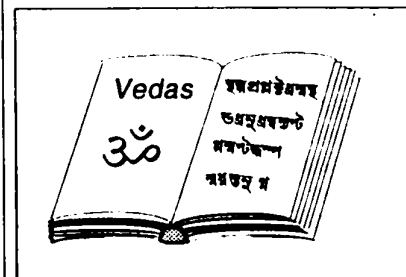
The sankirtan party is holding a Christmas marathon to help the flow of funds — and the flow of devotion.

Philippines:

The main centre for the Philippine devotees is now firmly established at the small but attractive house of Sri Gokulananda Prabhu. The official launching of this house as the main centre came this summer when Sripad Bhakti Madhura Ban Maharaj brought large Italian-framed pictures of Srila Govinda Maharaj, Srila Guru Maharaj and the Math's Deities.

By the invitation of the devotees, Sripad stayed in the Philippines for a full two months, during which time Gokulananda Prabhu gave his house to Srila Govinda Maharaj. Many good souls also received Srila Govinda Maharaj's connection through Sripad Ban Maharaj.

After reading the appeal in this year's Gaura-Purnima Edition of Sri Gaudiya Darshan, help came to the devotees of Manila with a donation by Ananta Krishna Prabhu from Hungary, of a full box of books for their preaching activities. Ananta Krishna Prabhu took time out from attending a book-fair in Hong Kong to fly to the Philippines, meet with the devotees and give them the books.



Local Diary

Substantial improvements to the Math's facilities

By the divine will of Srila Govinda Maharaj the emphasis this summer in Nabadwip has been on out-and-about activity around the Math. During his world tour the Western devotees staying here engaged in upgrading facilities and maintenance.

Some improvements may not be so noticeable, but, before being done, the necessity was clearly needed. This category included training wild wires in the Nath Mandir to go through conduit, arranging brighter lighting so devotees can read the words during evening bhajans, piping rain water away from the flower beds, etc.

Sripad Revatinath Prabhu supplied much of the technical know-how and practical ingenuity for many of these projects. While others were toying with a float, rope, pulley and lever system to serve as a water level indicator in one of the main tanks, Revatinath Prabhu solved the problem with a simple and effective alternative: a transparent pipe with a coloured float inside!

Local craftsmen contributed their own brand of practicality to the projects. To Westerners who are used to special tools for specific jobs, the make-do-with-what-you-have approach of the Indians is a lesson in itself.

One of the more obscure projects included linking two separate water supplies together so if one fails, the other takes the strain. It proved itself as soon as the festival rush began...

Some improvements, however, are immediately noticeable, and, by the comments of the devotees, unanimously appreciated. Such works include the complete redecoration of the Reception/Bookroom and the adjoining guest-rooms with their bathrooms; converting each bathroom in the men's

guesthouse so as to be more private and better ventilated; enlarging one upstairs guestroom and constructing its own adjoining bathroom; making a prototype bunk-bed; in the hall-way areas where devotees may stay, lockers have been constructed; shelving put in all rooms; showers installed, especially in the smaller bathrooms; separate sinks installed; much painting and electrical work including the installation of a 'road light' at the after-prasadam wash-up area, stairway and roof lighting in the Ladies' guesthouse, installation and earthing of electrical sockets, and illuminating the Nath Mandir diorama; as well as the usual round of maintenance, repairs and cleaning: polishing floors, gardening, making doors and windows fit, etc., etc.

Vehicles that work

Another area for attention was the loyal Ambassador car. It once rendered service to Srila Guru Maharaj by taking him to see the "Land of Nectar", thus reportedly earning it a place in the forthcoming museum of Srila Guru Maharaj's paraphernalia. Because the museum is not yet manifest, the car continues its service life following loyally in the parampara by transporting Srila Govinda Maharaj and his servitors.

To extend the Ambassador's devotional life it needed some extensive attention to keep going. Afterwards a recent driver in the competitive Calcutta free-for-all traffic reported the car to be the fastest in town. Independent analysis found the reason simply to be the loose nut behind the steering wheel...

Amongst the other mechanical conveyances, the hard-working Jeep received a new engine; the little air-

conditioned Padmini had a much needed suspension overhaul, and the 'modern antique' Royal Enfield motorcycle received its fair share of due maintenance and attention.

We did too much!

One difficulty in this world is that everything has a price. If it was in the West, no doubt all the work done would have come to several thousands of dollars. As it was we comfortably made it into four figures which caused considerable concern to Srila Maharaj. His careful consideration of each and every paisa (cent) is legendary — and indeed is the very reason so many devotees happily donate their hard earned wealth for his discerning use — but our prayer is that at the end of the day he may be pleased and finally consider the money well-spent.

Actually the upgrading was all carried out under the inspiration of Srila Maharaj's own comments on his previous returns from abroad that he wished to better reciprocate the hospitality he received in the West.

In fact we *know* he approves, furthermore Srila Maharaj seeing the austerities of the Westerners who are largely unaccustomed to the Indian environment, himself bought for their relief a fridge and an excellent quality electric water filter and purifier.

The resounding response from the devotees is that the improvements are greatly appreciated. If you think so, please don't be shy to give financial support — it *all* helps, it will help with what has already been done, and there is much more that still can be done.

Service transforming

With Srila Maharaj's return from the world tour, came a flood of devotees drawn to his holy association. Suddenly from the quiet but industrious days of summer the Math was transformed into a hive of active pilgrims. The daily classes for Westerners resumed at the Samadhi Mandir; the guestrooms

became filled, and the maintenance work stepped into the background to be replaced by direct service to the visiting Vaisnavas.

Daily news sheet

With Srila Maharaj's return came his other natural associates: guidance, and the distribution of nectar. To keep the visiting devotees informed, a news-sheet evolved. By the comments of the

devotees it was much appreciated and it proved very functional to ensure everyone was kept informed. Although the speed of gossip in West Bengal could probably reach the Guinness Book of Records, with the ever-growing Mission we cannot just assume everyone hears the news of the day.

Office reopens

With the emphasis throughout the

summer and autumn being on out-and-about service, the Math's administrative office was all but closed. Relocated three times during the redecoration and maintenance work, it simply kept up with the very basics such as the trickle of correspondence that arrived during Srila Maharaj's absence.

Now with a temporary 'home' in Srila Govinda Maharaj's own room in the guesthouse, the office has, despite the busy recent days and festivals, done some urgent duties including assisting in the production of the first copies of the book authored by Sripad Bhakti Ananda Sagar Maharaj: *Srila Guru Maharaj — His Divine Pastimes & Precepts in Brief*.

Fourteen copies of the book were presented to Srila Govinda Maharaj who in turn offered them to Srila Guru Maharaj on his recent Sri Vyasa Puja Day. The main run of books is now already completed.

Replies to letters

Everyone wants a personal reply from His Divine Grace Srila Govinda Maharaj, and no doubt that personal reply is present, but it exists in a more subtle plane. The reality is that since his return from abroad Srila Maharaj has had almost no time to reply to letters. By his personal, caring, careful nature it does generally take His Divine Grace considerable time to write a reply to a letter. He receives them all, but anyone spending even a few days at the Math can see how continuously busy Srila Maharaj is with attending to the devotees present and seeing to countless other varieties of devotional service to his Divine Master.

For many who would be due to receive a reply from the secretary, this *Sri Gaudiya Darshan* is your reply, in a general way bringing you much more than is possible individually.

There are indications that the office service may begin to hold a higher priority than at present. Until then, please don't mind if there has been any inconvenience. Srila Maharaj loves you all.



All up and running,

the water filter is now producing pure water to World Health Organisation standards! By Srila Govinda Maharaj's express wish the new water-purifier is in the charge of one devotee. Prabhu Ram Gopal has accepted the responsibility to ensure a supply of potable water (drinking water...) in each of the men's and ladies' guesthouses as well as for use by the cooks in the westerner's kitchen. It is expected that from tomorrow onwards drinking water will be available centrally in each of these places.

In the kitchen, salads should be washed in purified water.

The general water supply in the

men's guesthouse as from today will be looked after by Prabhu Ram Gopal. In this way he can carefully choose the times when there is less suspended matter so as not to clog up the filter. Therefore if you notice the water is getting low in the tank, please inform him.

The book-room

is now being looked after daily by Prabhu Jagadananda. His family returned to the States two days ago and he is now staying in the room directly behind the book-room.

And if you borrow anything please return it promptly. Other's may need it too!

Washing ceilings

is hazardous! It is necessary to ensure water does not enter the ceiling fans. Once in, it does not come out: look at the saucer shape of the bottom of the fan. This may cause major electrical problems, or the lower bearing may be ruined by sand and dirt washed in with the water.

Train tickets to

Nabadwip from Howrah (Calcutta) are now available from any window in the subway to the right of Platform 1 of Howrah Railway Station. Formerly tickets were only available at windows 6 or 7. Someone *does* deserves a word of congratulations.

Srila Govinda Maharaj spoke

with devotees over the phone yesterday morning and emphasised again the need for everyone to participate in receiving nicely the seventy or so guests coming tomorrow for lunch prasadam. Although Srila Maharaj is not expected to arrive today, we may pray for his holy association tomorrow. No doubt all the visiting pilgrims — not to speak of all the devotees here — would be nourished and fulfilled to have his presence.

Hare Kṛṣṇa Hare Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa Hare Hare, Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare

A sample of the daily *Today's Day* information sheet for the residents of the Math

Sri Gaudiya Darshan

Time nor tide waits for no man. And as time rushes by, the many service duties equally rush up needing attention. The ship of Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math is ever increasing its girth guiding souls across the vast ocean of material, exploiting conception. With more good souls boarding the ship practically daily, the crew have ever-increasing duties to serve them. As on any ship, such duties come in many forms thus opening up a wide spectrum of opportunities with the common ground of faithful service under guidance of the captain of the ship. Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math's captain is Srila Govinda Maharaj, and the general call of this edition of *Sri Gaudiya Darshan* is "Crew members needed!"

In recent times Sri Mohanananda Prabhu and his family deserve special mention for their brave attempt to face the challenge of service at the central Math. Prior to the recent world tour Mohanananda Prabhu stayed here for some months and was graced with much personal attention by Srila Govinda Maharaj. While in Nabadwip one of several things he achieved was getting the first newsletter version of *Sri Gaudiya Darshan* published. Indeed we gratefully acknowledge the contribution made through him by Mr Punjabi of Heera Travels, Calcutta, who financed the entire printing of that edition.

Now that Mohanananda Prabhu has returned to Australia, the duty has come to me by the expressed wish of Srila Govinda Maharaj to produce a further edition in this newsletter format. Available time has been the limiting factor for manifesting it sooner. However, with the ever-increasing family of Srila Guru Maharaj being extended through the grace of Srila Govinda Maharaj the prospect exists of the arrival of more participating devotees — and a better chance of more frequent publications...

Srila Govinda Maharaj has repeatedly expressed his wish to remain in India during this Centennial Year, thus giving more opportunity to the devotees worldwide to come here. Although Srila Maharaj has recently, by his divine will, expressed a possible need for him to travel, still we expect him to be predominantly here. And with him are naturally his entourage of devoted followers.

At any one time not everyone can have Srila Maharaj's direct association, therefore it is the purpose of this worldwide *Sri Gaudiya Darshan* and of our local Today's Day daily information sheet for the residents of the Math, to spread the message of Srila Govinda Maharaj and Srila Guru Maharaj, as well as news from the Math with glimpses of devotional activities around the world. In a world where devotional topics can be in all-too-short supply, this newsletter is for your nourishment.

With the prospect of Srila Maharaj staying in Nabadwip longer, we hope that we may have your direct company too. This is the general invitation to all faithful souls especially during this the Centenary Year of our dearmost Srila Guru Maharaj, Srila Bhakti Raksak Sridhar Dev-Goswami Maharaj.

In the meantime your own feedback concerning *Sri Gaudiya Darshan* is invited — and appreciated — along with articles and suggestions.

Please do participate. A ship runs smoothly by the polarised cooperation of all on board.

Praying for the causeless blessings of all the Vaisnavas,

— Mahananda dasa Bhakti Ranjan

Connection awaited

Sri Nabadwip Dham is not connected to the outside material world by telephone. But indications are that times may be changing.

Cyclists in Nabadwip town have been avoiding deep trenches dug to accommodate new cables, and everyone has been admiring the tall red and white pylon that, it is rumoured, will carry the necessary transmission and receiving dishes.

Even in the Math itself there are indications. The 1940's-style black phone with no dial — that needed repeated tapping of the receiver's rest to draw the attention of the operator — has been replaced by a push-button phone. The Math's phone number also suddenly grew from 2 digits to 5. But despite all the indications, the world is waiting...



Thus spake Srila Govinda Maharaj :-

In particular it is my intention that *Sri Gaudiya Darshan* will be a vehicle to keep devotees around the world connected together. They will get to know what each other are doing and especially they will hear from this central Math, the central source of guidance given by Srila Guru Mahārāj for us all. This is one form of association for the devotees through which everyone may feel some energy and enthusiasm in their spiritual service-journey to their bright destination.

A message to massage the devotees' hearts

PART OF AN INTERVIEW WITH HIS DIVINE GRACE
ŚRĪLA BHAKTI SUNDAR GOVINDA DEV GOSWAMI MAHARAJ

Devotee: Please give some words to the devotees around the world about remembering Kōladwīp, Nabadwīp and Śrī Chaitanya Śāraswat Maṭh.

Śrīla Govinda Mahārāj: Śrīla Guru Mahārāj organised this Śrī Chaitanya Śāraswat Maṭh for conditioned souls like ourselves, otherwise it was not necessary to organise a Maṭh. Also he did not want to make a mission; that is, he came with his Deity, Giridhārī — Girirāj-Govarddhan, and he himself worshipped Him with *Tulasī* and water.

The mission itself came as a blessing for us, and now Śrī Chaitanya Śāraswat Maṭh is a very wide mission. The definition of missionary work is that it is always doing good for others. We know that the only good thing is to practise Kṛṣṇa consciousness. In this mundane world that is the only light of life, the only elixir of life. All the Godbrothers and followers must be benefited if we can give proper honour to our mission and our missionary work. My friends, Godbrothers and followers are trying heart and soul, and I believe they will certainly get the mercy of Śrīman Nityānanda Prabhu and Mahāprabhu. Many of them are very exalted devotees in our *sampradāya*. I am always praising them, and it is necessary to give nourishment to the other devotees also.

The worshipable

There are classifications of devotees: first class, second class and general class. But all are worshipable, and when we can see it, we ourselves will be benefited. They are all connected with

Mahāprabhu and Kṛṣṇa consciousness, therefore if anyone will come in this line we shall give good nourishment to them. This *Śrī Śaṅkṛāya Bārāṇa* is one kind of nourishment and massage for the devotees' hearts. A heart massage. A message to massage.

Always the devotees are asking questions; that is they need to know something. And I believe whole-heartedly that the devotees want to hear news of the devotees and activities from this Maṭh. Sometimes when I am alone I try to consider why I cannot sleep at night, and what is it that Śrīla Guru Mahārāj requires of me.

Fruits to success

I do not want any sort of position but the chair of *Āchāryya* has come to me, and I must serve that chair. It was for this that Śrīla Guru Mahārāj protected me from a young age and cultivated me in my mind, and I must offer all the fruits to his lotus feet otherwise my life is useless. This is my feeling, and this is also the answer to why I am doing this.

With what I have I can continue very happily, and in one sense it is not necessary to think of many things. For example, world preaching especially in this age is very difficult, and I know it, but also I know that my Śrīla Guru Mahārāj needs it. It is *sevā* to him. There is no doubt that everybody shall die one day, so if we give too much attention for our health, it is not good for us. Actually we must give our attention for the service of Guru-Gaurāṅga, and if we leave this body through that service, it is very good. In fact there is no

higher good than that. In this regard we shall not forget the words of Śrīpād Goswāmī Mahārāj when he told Śrīpād Bon Mahārāj, "I want to die in harness."

Śrīpād Bon Mahārāj was a friend of Goswāmī Mahārāj and he suggested to Goswāmī Mahārāj, "Oh Goswāmī, you have spent your whole life preaching. Now you are old, so come and do some *bhajan*!"

Śrīpād Goswāmī Mahārāj was very angry and thought: "What I am doing is not *bhajan*? What are you thinking? This is my *bhajan*. I am serving Kṛṣṇa, serving Mahāprabhu and serving my Guru. This preaching is my *bhajan* but you think that to chant on beads in the jungle is *bhajan*." Though he thought this, Śrīpād Goswāmī simply replied in summary to Śrīpād Bon Mahārāj, "I want to die in harness."

Even the last moment

Śrīla Guru Mahārāj quoted this expression many times to me, and instructed me never to forget it: "I want to die in harness." Even the very last moment of our lifetime we shall not spend for any other purpose. We want to offer even that to our Gurudeva.

I am very happy to remember that, and whenever I am in very much difficulty I think that Kṛṣṇa wants to take my blood, and He will not spare even the last drop of blood. And if it is His wish, He will take it.

Actually I am very renounced by nature, and sometimes it would come in my mind that I shall leave everything. But suddenly I would be reminded that Śrīla Guru Mahārāj does not want me to do that. Seeing my renounced nature Śrīla Guru Mahārāj was very fearful. Until I finally took *sannyāsa*, Śrīla Guru Mahārāj did not make his final Will and Testament. A few days ago I read an earlier will. Perhaps he was very sick at that time, anyhow Śrīla Guru Mahārāj added in his own handwriting that now his health was very bad and he may die. He wrote that if Govinda Mahārāj will take *sannyāsa* he must be the *Āchāryya* here,

and he wrote that if he should pass away before Govinda Mahārāj takes *sannyāsa*, everyone will wait five years for him to take the renounced order of life. He will then take the *Āchāryya*'s position; but in the meantime none else will take that position of *Āchāryya* of Śrī Chaitanya Sāraswat Maṭh. Only if Govinda Mahārāj does not take *sannyāsa* within that five years will another be selected as *Āchāryya*. This was his instruction, and remembering how very eager Śrīla Guru Mahārāj was for me to take this service, if I shall not do this service then I must go to hell. Therefore I cannot leave the *sevā* of Śrī Chaitanya Sāraswat Maṭh. Until my death I cannot leave the service of his Deities, Devotees and *Maṭh*.

In this way I am continuing, and now devotees are coming and inviting me all over the world. I know there is so much difficulty to go there, but for the service to Śrīla Guru Mahārāj I must accept their invitations. I still have life in my body, so until death I shall try in this line of service.

Feast, not fast

BY

OUR CALENDAR'S TRANSLATOR

Amavasya is not a fasting day for us, nor is purnima. The Vaisnava Calendar published from the Maṭh is a translation of the Bengali Vaisnava Calendar which includes the mention of fasting on amavasyas (dark moon days) and purnimas (full moon days). Our Bengali Calendar is referred to by many traditional brahmanas, many of whom fast on these days primarily for health reasons.

For us amavasya is a special day each month to remember Śrīla Guru Maharaj, for His Divine Grace disappeared from this world on such a day.

In Śrī Chaitanya Saraswat Maṭh special preparations that Śrīla Guru Maharaj liked are made, and offered to him each amavasya. The assembled devotees respectfully honour that mahaprasad in his holy remembrance.

Vaisnava Calendar

December 1994

- 8 Kṛṣṇa-daśami
- 9 Kṛṣṇa-ekādaśī. Fast
- 10 Kṛṣṇa-dvādaśī. Ekādaśī pāraṇ by 9:42 am. Disappearance of Śrīla Narahari Sarkār Thākura and Śrīla Kāliyā Kṛṣṇa dās.
- 11 Kṛṣṇa-trayodaśī. Disappearance of Śrīla Sāraṅga Thākura
- 12 Kṛṣṇa-caturdāśī
- 13 Amāvasyā. Disappearance of Śrīla Jagavandhu Bhakti Rāṇjan.
- 21 Gaura-aṣṭami. Disappearance of Śrīla Madhusūdan dās Bābājī Mahārāj.
- 22 Gaura-navamī. Appearance of Tridaṇḍī Swāmī Śrīmad Bhakti Kamal Madhusūdan Mahārāj.
- 23 Gaura-daśami. Disappearance of Tridaṇḍī Swāmī Śrīmad Bhakti Kusum Śramaṇ Mahārāj
- 24 Gaura-ekādaśī. Moksadā Ekādaśī. Fast
- 25 Gaura-dvādaśī. Ekādaśī pāraṇ by 9:51 am
- 27 Gaura-caturdāśī. Appearance of Śrī Śrī Nitāi Chaitanya Deities at Śrī Puri Dhām, Śrī Chaitanya Sāraswat Maṭh.
- 28 Pūrṇimā. Pūrṇimā fast. Disappearance of Tridaṇḍī Swāmī Śrīmad Bhakti Pradip Tīrtha Mahārāj.
- 20 Kṛṣṇa-dvītiyā. Exalted Appearance Festival of our Glorious **Āchāryya-dev OM VIṢṆUPĀD PARAMAHAMSA PARIVRĀ-JAKĀCHĀRYYA ŚRĪ ŚRĪLA BHAKTI SUNDAR GOVINDA DEV-GOSWĀMĪ MAHĀRĀJ.**

January 1995

- 1 Kṛṣṇa-caturthī. Disappearance Festival of Śrī Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Saraswatī Goswāmī Thākura the founder Āchāryya of the Universal Śrī Chaitanya Maṭh and Śrī Gauḍīya Maṭh.
- 7 Kṛṣṇa-daśami
- 8 Kṛṣṇa-ekādaśī. Saphalā Ekādaśī. Fast. Disappearance of Śrīla Devānanda Paṇḍit and Śrīmad Bhakti Prakāś Aranya Mahārāj.
- 9 Kṛṣṇa-dvādaśī. Ekādaśī pāraṇ by 8:05 am. Disappearance of Śrīpād Bhakti Bhūdeva Śrautī Mahārāj.
- 10 Kṛṣṇa-trayodaśī. Disappearance of Śrīla Maheś Paṇḍit and Śrīla Uddhāraṇ dās Thākura.
- 11 Amāvasyā. Fast
- 12 Gaura-pratipad. Appearance of Śrīla Locana dās Thākura.
- 14 Gaura-trītiyā. Disappearance of Śrīla Jīva Goswāmī Prabhu and Śrīla Jagadīś Paṇḍit.
- 15 Remembrance Festival of Sannyāsa Līlā of Śrīman Mahāprabhu
- 22 Gaura-daśami
- 23 Gaura-ekādaśī. Putradā Ekādaśī. Fast
- 24 Gaura-dvādaśī. Ekādaśī pāraṇ by 10:00 am
- 26 Gaura-caturdāśī
- 27 Pūrṇimā. Fast. Puṣyābhīṣeka Yātrā of Śrī Kṛṣṇa.
- 30 Kṛṣṇa-trītiyā. Appearance of Śrīla Gopāla Bhaṭṭa Goswāmī Prabhu. Disappearance of Śrīla Rāmachandra Kavīrāja.
- 31 Kṛṣṇa-caturthī. Disappearance of Śrīpād Yādavendu Bhakti Candanera.

All Glories to Śrī Guru and Gaurāṅga

SHRI CHAITANYA SARASWAT MATH

Founder-Āchāryya — His Divine Grace Śrī Śrīla Bhakti Rakṣak Śrīdhar Dev-Goswāmi Mahārāj

President-Āchāryya — His Divine Grace Śrī Śrīla Bhakti Sundar Govinda Dev-Goswāmi Mahārāj

KOLERGANJ, P.O. NABADWIP,
District NADIA, W.BENGAL,
PIN 741302, INDIA

Reference:

My Dear Vasudev Kṛṣṇa Prabhu,

Please accept my blessings in remembrance of my Divine Master. I am happy to receive your letter with news of the devotees and Śrīla Guru Maharāj's divine mission in Malaysia. I am always remembering you and all the devotees there, and I am praying to Śrīla Guru Maharāj that he look after you all.

After hearing carefully all your news, I am now giving answer to your questions one by one.

a) Srimad Bhagavad-gita manifest originally in Mahabharat on the battlefield of Kuruksetra. Bhagavan Śrī Kṛṣṇa Himself gave us this ecstasy to the faithful, fortunate jīva-souls for their super-benefit of transcendental body strength and service. One sloka you will see in Gita-Mahatmya invocation page xxxi & xxxii verse 4, also on page 330 sloka 6 in Hidden Treasure.

sarvopaniṣado gāvo, dogdhā gopāla-nandanah

pārtho vatsah sudhīr bhoktā, dugdham gītāmṛtaṁ mahat

Very much attractively and simply explained, everything is in this Gita-Mahatmya sloka. You know the gist of the Vedas are the Upanisads, mentioned as a cow. Kṛṣṇa is using Arjuna as the calf of that cow for making the milk flow, and the faithful, fortunate souls of good pious intelligence are drinking that milk.

Srimad Bhagavad-gita is giving in varieties of ways (karma-yoga, jñāna-yoga, hatha-yoga, bhakti-yoga and exclusive devotional method) the chance to take the opportunity of that rescuing process from the illusionary environment to Vaikuntha-loka upward to Goloka Vrindavan.

In the Vaisnaviya-tantra-sara in the section explained as 'Gita-Mahatmya' the glories of Śrī Gita are explained to us in varieties of ways, but the Vaisnava Acharyas like Visvanath Chakravati, Baladeva Vidyabhusan, and especially Śrīla Bhaktivinod Thakur, they expressed the line of drinking that full-cream-milk as exclusive devotional method. Therefore Śrīla Prabhupada Saraswati Thakura following Bhaktivinoda Thakura's line avoided focussing on other intentions as we can see in Bhakti Rasamrita Sindhu and Narada Pancharatra:

anyābhilāṣitā sūnyam, jñāna-karmādy anāvṛtam

ānukūlyena kṛṣṇānuśīlanam bhaktir uttamā

sarvopādhi vinirmuktam, tat-paratvena nirmalam

hrīkeṇa hrīkeṣa sevnam bhaktir ucyate

Side 2...

Therefore those who want the mundane benefit up to Satya-loka must be attracted to see that full Gita-Mahatmya and read Bhagavad-gita. They also will gradually get a super-position in the plane of dedication by the mercy of the residents of that plane. So we can say those who are very much eager and who have much hankering for exclusive devotion to Kṛṣṇa will not try to take that opportunity explained in the Gita-Mahatmya of Vaisnaviya-tantra-sara.

Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakura published the Gita with commentary of Sridhar Swami, Visvanath Chakravaty and Baladeva Vidyabhusan, and following them in the Bengali language the commentary of Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura. There the full Gita-Mahatmya is not published.

But Srila Guru Maharaj seeing the present condition of the conditioned souls, very mercifully when he presented our edition he gave that Gita-Mahatmya for their general encouragement. So now we can say to everybody, "Go as you like!"

b) It is explained in Bengali by Kṛṣṇa Dasa Kaviraja:

dikṣā-kāle bhakta kare ātma-samarpaṇa
sei-kāle kṛṣṇa tāre kare ātma-sama
sei deha kare tāra cid-ānanda-maya
aprākṛta-dehe tāra caraṇa bhajaya

(Chaitanya-charitāmṛta Antya-līlā 4.192 & 193)

I tried to explain it in English but my English is very poor and not sufficient for explaining everything. But the Bengali verse is perfect and you will see in Chaitanya Charitamṛtam the explanation of Srila Swami Maharaj Prabhupada.

The soul by nature is spiritual but is of the Tatastha-sakti. He has the possibility of obtaining a fully serving spiritual form, and he has the possibility to be in material existence by becoming covered by material consciousness. The bound atma gets a subtle and physical body. Until he surrenders to Guru that divine soul is covered by matter and he is disconnected from the transcendental service world. But when receiving initiation, which means that when he fully surrenders to Kṛṣṇa in the form of Guru, that surrendered position is explained by Srila Saraswati Thakura and Srila Swami Maharaj (in Antya-līlā 4.192): With his willing, feeling and thinking consciousness he is surrendering to Kṛṣṇa in his dedicated mood of sacrifice. Kṛṣṇa is seeing his sincere attitude and immediately gives him in seed form his own transcendental form as spiritual body, and gradually that will manifest (as 'sata pata vedanoi' a needle passes almost, but not quite, instantaneously through a pile of leaves with some small difference of time from leaf to leaf).

When he gets the direct service-form to the Supreme Personality of Godhead – where are playing 5 kinds of ecstasy as rasa – as suitable by his own hankering service mood to Kṛṣṇa he is getting his male or female form accordingly. But on the whole, when realising the position of the jiva-soul we must say it is coming as the power of Kṛṣṇa – Tatastha-sakti

Side 3...

— and that means every potency's identification is as female. But it can be transformed in the mood of male such as dasya-rasa, sakhya-rasa and vatsalya-rasa. All of them are serving Kṛṣṇa, and the mood of service is prakṛiti, but their action may be as a male by the mercy of 'Mūl-Sankarsan.

If we translate those verses (Cc Antya 4.192,193) word by word we must say that this body is transformed to transcendental form. But Śrīla Sarasvatī Thākura gave some explanation in his anubhasya in Śrī Chaitanya Charitamṛitam, and Śrīla Swami Maharaj has seen it and given purport for our clarification in English. There you can see and then you must understand:

"At the time of initiation, a devotee gives up all his material conceptions. Therefore, being in touch with the Supreme Personality of Godhead, he is situated on the transcendental platform. Thus having attained knowledge and the transcendental platform, he always engages in the service of the spiritual body of Kṛṣṇa. When one is freed from material connections in this way, his body immediately becomes spiritual, and Kṛṣṇa accepts his service. However, Kṛṣṇa does not accept anything from a person with a material conception of life. When a devotee no longer has any desire for material sense gratification, in his spiritual identity he engages in the service of the Lord, for his dormant spiritual consciousness awakens. This awakening of spiritual consciousness makes his body spiritual, and thus he becomes fit to render service to the Lord. Karmīs may consider the body of a devotee material, but factually it is not, for a devotee has no conception of material enjoyment. If one thinks that the body of a pure devotee is material, he is an offender, for that is vaiṣṇava-aparādha."

c) Astral travel is the travelling of the mental body out from the physical body. But when the jīva-soul travels from the material body, that takes place at the time of death.

d) Offering bhoga to Kṛṣṇa we can sing the bhajan "bhaja bhakata vatsala sri gaurahari..." Arati will then be held during which time the devotees may sing "yasomati nandana..." and "jaya sachinandana...". This also is the tradition here in Śrī Chaitanya Sarasvat Math.

In giving answer I am always feeling restricted by my lack of English. But you consider these points and I think you must understand my expression.

I am expecting some devotees from Malaysia must join in the Guru-puja festivals and afterwards the Vrindavan Parikrama. What plans have you? If you will join with us for these programmes I must be happy.

Again with my blessings,

Yours Affectionately,

Swami B.S.Govinda

Kṛṣṇa said, "There must have been some offence against *Vaiṣṇava-sevā*,

and therefore the bell did not ring. What do you say?—Do any of you have any doubt or bad conception about this man?"

The Pāṇḍavas then asked one another if any of them had thought any evil about him. At last Draupadī admitted, "I had some thought in my mind that the man is low-born, and although I prepared so many curries with the utmost attention and skill, he mixed all the preparations together and then ate that. He does not know how to eat because he comes from a very low class—this is what I had in my mind."

Feed again

Kṛṣṇa explained, "There is some contempt for the Vaiṣṇava, and therefore the bell has not rung. There is no other course than for you to go to him again, bring him, and again feed him."

So the Pāṇḍavas went and brought him back. This time all of them waited with great respect as he took *prasādam*, and the bell rang with every morsel.

This example has been shown to us. Those who are *niskin-cana* do not want anything—no name, no fame, or anything of the kind. They are naturally satisfied with whatever comes, and they are whole-sale dedicated to the Lord. Such devotion can be found anywhere without any show of grandeur. No worldly grandeur is necessary; just richness of the heart—no knowledge, no education, no honour of a high birth, no power, and no gorgeousness. Kṛṣṇa consciousness is so full, so sufficient, so absolute, that just a particle of that contains everything. All grandeur, all education, and everything is there: it is of such a nature. Service, self-dedication, *śaraṇāgati*, surrender: that is the neces-

sity, not valour or learning.

*api cet sudurācāro,
bhajate mām ananya-bhāk
sādhur eva sa mantavyaḥ.
samyag vyavasīto hi saḥ
(Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā 9.30)*

"You fail to understand, but he is all right. He must be thought to be a *sādhu*, a truly honest man, and nothing else. He may have no name or fame or good presentation, or any of the qualities that attract us; none of these are necessary." Self-contentment does not require anything. It can stand alone. It is self-sufficient. Kṛṣṇa consciousness is self-sufficient. It does not require any form of paraphernalia to establish itself: it is a

mind, "The Lord is coming to a place nearby and I shall have a chance to have His *darśana*."

Mahāprabhu went to that district, but by the time Vāsudeva arrived there, Mahāprabhu had already left. Vāsudeva was greatly disappointed and fell to the floor, crying, "What misfortune! I could not have His *darśana*, not even a glimpse of the Lord, and He has now left. I am too unqualified to meet Him."

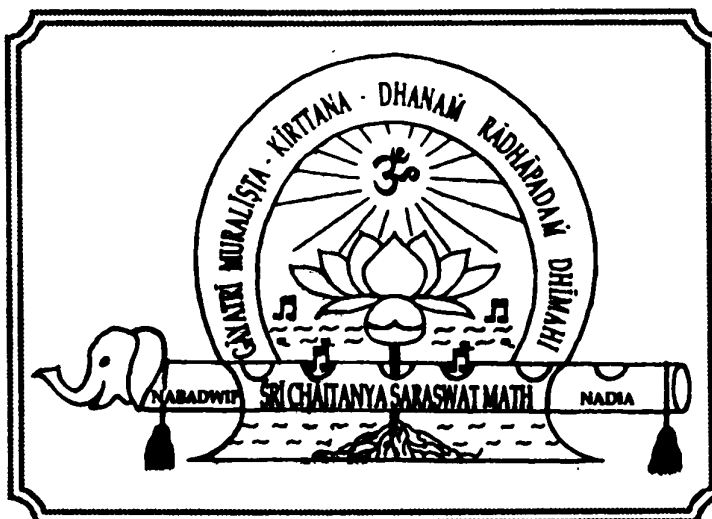
Drawn back

Mahāprabhu went almost a mile when suddenly He felt some attraction pulling Him back. He ran back, found that leper, and embraced him. The leper body vanished and turned into a beautiful figure. Such was the devotion of Vāsudeva Vipra.

The devotees feel themselves to be the poorest of the poor, the humblest of the humble—*ātma doinya*. *Tṛṇād api sunicena, taror api sahiṣṇunā*: they feel themselves to be lower than a blade of grass.

Śrīla Bhaktivinod Thākura has written that in general, the measurement of a Vaiṣṇava is according to his degree of humility—his natural, real

humility. Only a show of humility has no value. Imitation has no value anywhere. Proper humility can only come when one feels his connection with the autocratic Lord and Master. Then only can he feel himself as humble: the master is the autocrat and the servant has no position. This is a matter of realisation and not a 'mathematical' truth. In connection with the autocrat he has no position, and if he accepts this naturally, not artificially, he will automatically be the humblest. The servant of an autocrat has no position and no ego whatsoever, and therefore he will pos-



self-established thing. With it there will be no need of hankering for anything, whether it be grandeur or anything else.

Such compassion

There was a *brāhmaṇa* Vaiṣṇava named Vāsudeva Vipra in Kurmma-kṣetra just south of Puri. He was a leper, but what type of leper? He had such compassion that when any worms would fall from the sores on his body, he would pick them up and place them back in the wounds to prevent their dying. One day he found within his

sess natural humility—and that is his wealth. What sort of wealth is that? It is such that it can capture the autocrat. Service is of that type. A real servant has such a position in relation to the master, and vice versa: the master is also addicted to his servant. One party is surrendering, and the master is also naturally attracted to that sincere servant.

Lowest is richest

The Lord is an autocrat, but He is not heartless. So the devotee who is the richest is the lowest. The meanest, the poorest, is the richest. This is Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Service is necessary, nothing else. We must find out how to develop that innate tendency so our body may be made of that stuff and nothing else. How is this possible? *Sraddhā* will make us understand. Sincerely hankering we will feel, "Yes. This is the highest; we want that." Sincere hankering, faith, and greed for that are necessary—*lauḷyam arta mulyam ekalam*. If you want it, you can have it. Such is that plane. It is a plane of natural transactions, but we do *not* want it; therefore we are culprits. Sincere wanting from the core of the heart is the only necessity—nothing else. Without that we must think ourselves to be sham devotees, only showing their attire. But if real inner hankering exists, it will be wholesale genuine. Wholly want, and you can have. *Lauḷyam arta mulyam ekalam*—but there must not be any adulteration in that wanting. It must be sincere—*lauḷyam*. If you want, you can have. It is a most simple thing. It is most natural and most gentleman-like: "If you want, you can have. No complaint can come against you from any quarter. But if you do not want, then don't have." *Lauḷyam arta mulyam ekalam*. The only price is to really want it. Don't misuse it. Understand the value of it, want it, and you will have it.

Sraddhā is the real regard to have. This is the crux, and this is the highest aim, and only that can satisfy our inner thirst. The innermost thirst can be

quenched only by that. By giving your small self you can gain the whole infinite. So what is needed from us? Sincere hankering. How to develop that? With the contact of the *sadhu* and with the help of the scriptures we can try to increase that inner feeling. That inner demand can only be satisfied by Kṛṣṇa consciousness. It will satisfy our innermost demand. This is the justification of the saying *sarva-dharmām parityajya, mām ekaṁ śaraṇaṁ vraja* (Bg. 18.66). "Give up all conceptions and phases of duty. Whatever call of duty comes to you, give it up." This is such a high theory. "I am everything to you. *Sarva-dharmām*—all conceptions of duty are to be given up, and—*mām ekaṁ*—only Myself exists as your single concern: this is the position of Myself and yourself by nature and constitution. Try to understand and do that, and you will find that everything undesirable, sinful, and reactionary will vanish—*aham tvāṁ sarva-pāpebhyo. Mokṣayiṣyāmi mā śucaḥ*—no necessity for repentance will come to you. Only you will get full satisfaction." This is the greatest assurance that has ever been found so clearly and boldly expressed. "Give up all phases of duty and come to Me alone, and you won't have to repent for any loss." This call is clear, bold, straight, and direct, and it is the conclusion of *Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā* where so many phases of duty have been dealt with that almost all have been covered. Mahāprabhu said,

yāre dekha, tāre kaha 'kṛṣṇa'-upadeśa āmāra ājñāya guru hañā tāra' ei deśa (Chaitanya-caritāmṛta, Madhya 7.128)

"If you want to do anything good to the world, talk about Kṛṣṇa. Try to distribute Him—He who can compensate for all other alternatives. Only try to distribute that central, absolute thing to help the people and the environment, and don't have any other sort of duty. Only try to distribute this teaching of *sarva-dharmām parityajya, mām ekaṁ śaraṇaṁ vraja* to whomever you meet. If you want to do good to others, only give this highest thing. Engage

yourself in this way and you will become more and more confirmed in your position, and so many others will be benefitted. No other more holy duty than this can be there."

Especially in this Age of Kali we are to engage in this Kṛṣṇa-kīrtan: talk about Kṛṣṇa, distribute Him. Everyone is hard-hearted or heartless, so go out and distribute heart to everyone. Distribute everywhere the heart of the heart; the real sweet heart distribute to everyone. This is the most holy campaign and engagement, so what more can we invest?

Understand My order

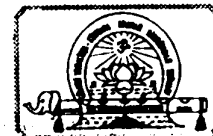
Mahāprabhu said, *yāre dekha, tāre kaha 'kṛṣṇa'-upadeśa*: "Understand that I order you to do this, therefore the dirt of any ego that you have become a Guru and are distributing Kṛṣṇa consciousness will not touch you. Keeping on your head that this is My order, go on with this distribution of Kṛṣṇa consciousness. There is no other subject of discussion. Whoever you meet, talk to them only about Kṛṣṇa; talk about their heart of hearts."

Everywhere the key is in the spirit of surrender, service, and dedication—*sevonnukhe hi jihvādau*.

All glories to Śrī Guru and Gaureṅga

Śrīla Guru Maharaj's
100th Appearance Day

Śrī Vyasa-puja
Offerings



by direction of Srīmadbhagavatī Śrī Chaitanya Bhagavat Math
(—a sacred supplement to published offerings)

22 October 1994

Offerings to Śrīla Guru Maharaj

The Book Table

Keeping up to date with our Math's
•New Publications•

i) English language, available now:

The most sought after new publication is the Centenary biography written by Sripad Sagar Maharaj here in Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math. This book, *Srila Guru Maharaj — His Divine Pastimes & Precepts in Brief*, made headline news and is available here for Rs50 + p&p.

From London Sri Chaitanya Saraswati No.2 has also been produced by Sripad Bhakti Ananda Sagar Maharaj for Nabadwip Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math. Depicting a concise history of the Math and Srila Govinda Maharaj's world-wide preaching in words and pictures, it is a most presentable publication.

It contains approximately 100 full-colour pictures, and is available here for Rs100 + p&p.

From Ireland Sripad Bhakti Suarup Tridandi Maharaj has brought together more gems of Srila Guru Maharaj's guidance in *The Golden Staircase*. Printed by Ananta Printing & Publishing just down the road from our U.S.A. Santa Cruz ashram, the contents is complemented by a very attractive cover. As yet we have very few copies. Rs100 + p&p.

Srila Guru Maharaj's Vyasapuja on 28th October saw the publication of a commemorative magazine from Australia: *Sri Govinda Dham Australia — Sri Vyasapuja Edition*. With some of the articles submitted by the Australian devotees, it also includes several black & white pictures of the local community and the progress of Sri Govinda Dham.

The second English edition of *Home Comfort — An Introduction to Inner Fulfilment* has been produced. By the will of Srila Govinda Maharaj, it now includes Srila Guru Maharaj's essay *Sri Guru and His Grace* originally published in 1934 in *The Harmonist*.

ii) Various languages:

Sanskrit, Gujarati & Bengali accompanies the English text of *Sri Chaitanya Saraswati No.2*: the preaching with pictures and words publication described earlier on this page.

The Bengali *Sri Chaitanya Charitamrita*, a single edition book published by the Math is a resounding success. From far and wide devotees are coming to our centres just to purchase copies for themselves — and their friends and associates.

Please note that with the arrival of the second shipment, the minimum requested contribution is inevitably a little higher at Rs 70 per copy.

Щрї Гурӯ и Его милость

Five thousand *Sri Guru and His Grace* in Russian have been printed and many have already been distributed in Russia.

Camera ready artwork of a thoroughly new second edition is ready for the press. This edition has been prepared in Nabadwip, and is expected to be printed soon.

German printing

Göttliche Unterweisungen, a translation of Srila Govinda Maharaj's book

Divine Guidance has been published in Berlin by the dedicated energy of Prema-sindhu Prabhu. This German edition has received much appreciation from readers.

Orissan books

Sri Jagannath Puri is (outwardly) in the Indian state of Orissa. Being one of the principal pilgrimage places for the Gaudiya Vaisnavas, our Gurudevas' books are much sought after. Now available in their local language are translations of *The Benedictine Tree of Divine Aspiration* and an excerpt from *Sri Guru and His Grace* entitled *Guru Kripa*.

Hindi books

Two more books are now available in the national language of India. They are both Srila Guru Maharaj's books translated from Bengali: *Amrita Vidya* and *Siksastakam*.

Spanish Barshan

The Mexican devotees have brought out their own local language edition of *Sri Gaudiya Barshan* magazine.

In addition they presented Srila Govinda Maharaj with two pictorial albums of pictures-with-words as an introduction to the activities and devotees of their country.

EL GUARDIÁN DE LA DEVOCIÓN

Based on the original San Jose printing *The Guardian of Devotion* has now manifest in Sapanish. The original book published in the time of Srila Guru Maharaj, particularly illustrated the special intimate relationship between Srila Guru Maharaj and Srila Swami Maharaj Prabhupad.

This German edition has been expanded to include the third of the contemporary Trinity — Srila Govinda Maharaj — and their relationship.

Family care

One of the glories of Srila Govinda Maharaj is that despite the fact that Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math has centres spread all over the globe with thousands of devotees and aspiring devotees looking to the Math for shelter, he looks after everything with a very affectionate 'family' mood.

In a family there is natural recip-

rocity. Here we have certainly no shortage of affection and sacrifice from the head of the family, Srila Maharaj, so, although there is little 'official' management in the activities of the Math, it is up to everyone to combine their particular energy so as to make the family work... actively and with progress.

Math Management

In running such a large mission there is the need for several distinct categories of duty.

Each department can be further sub-divided to more specific areas of service. As Srila Maharaj many times says, "One person cannot do everything." During the time of Westerners coming here, Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math has always been a place where if you see service needs to be done, check if it is alright to do it, then do it.

There are many opportunities for active devotees. It is an open invitation to all faithful devotees, please consult and request Srila Maharaj's permission, come for six months with all the necessities and funds for a service that you consider may suit you — and try your best. Within that time you will get a good trial at that service, then, in consultation with Srila Maharaj, you may receive the opportunity to come back for a longer period after first returning to your country.

Never before

On being asked yet again for funds for a necessary project in the Math, Srila Govinda Maharaj recently said, "I have never before been in this situation where I am constantly giving out money, but in the past I have always been given money. Not only that, but no one would even ask for anything either."

We can all learn from this. The message is clear, that if we are in a service that needs funds, it is natural that we need to finance it ourselves and not go to the Acharyya to ask anything from him.

A Temple is for giving

One of the first lessons of Temple life is that any temple is a place to go to give, and not take. For householders, their giving comes in the form of funds as well as their active participation as far as possible while seeing the needs of their families.

Brahmacharis are full time Temple servitors under the direction of their Spiritual Master, and as such do not hold funds privately. As with everyone, at least their input of energy must well exceed any energy they take such as in food, accommodation, etc. Krishna consciousness means devotional service, and these are very simple points for devotees to understand.

No disposal diapers please

Disposable diapers are not suitable to use at the Math. There is no suitable arrangement here for disposal, and apparently they take 500 years to decay....

Centenary Year 'Vacancies'

No work is better than work done for the satisfaction of Krishna, Sri Guru and Sri Gauranga. So what better new year's resolution than to resolve to make a special sacrifice during this Centenary Year to engage increasingly in the direct service of Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math? Home and abroad there is always much service opportunity. The sky's the limit — and far beyond.

Book Distributors

(villages and cities, home and abroad)

In the company of similarly motivated devotees, distribute a selection of the many available titles from our Math to the needy souls.

Requirements: Your maintenance and travelling expenses, including the running of a vehicle if required.

Mail Order

Organise, start and establish an active mail order department.

Book-lists, Colour catalogues, address lists and other facilities are immediately available.

Requirements: Funds for further advertising materials, bulk postage, etc.

Head Maintenance Man

To do a variety of handyman type of work according to the necessity around the Math. It would suit a practical all-rounder builder/painter/plumber/electrician. Also may necessitate supervising local labour.

Requirements: Funds to purchase full set of tools for the Temple as well as the sundry materials required for repairs.

General Handymen

Active practical persons to assist the Head Maintenance Man.

Math cleaning

To clean the temple is to clean the heart. Eternal, varied heart cleaning duties available indoors and outdoors.

Requirements: A minimal fund for purchasing brooms, etc. and replacing them when worn out.

Gardener/landscaper

Unlimited opportunities to make the grounds colourful, tidy and attractive.

Practical gardening knowledge a must.

Requirements: Funds for tools, plants, etc. and funds for employing assistants when necessary.

Cowherd

Krishna loves cows. This is His Temple, so use your own tender loving care to make our goshala an example for the world to follow.

Knowledge of cow-care and animal husbandry is a big advantage.

Cook for Western tastes!

We now have a kitchen run by the Western pilgrims for the Western pilgrims. Here's your chance to cook for Krishna and cook preparations suitable for maintaining the health of the devotees. Not being brought up with mustard oil and chillis, the local dishes can be somewhat troublesome to otherwise healthy stomachs...

The cooking is required to be simple, but nice.

Bhoga, cooking fuel and basic cooking utensils are available from the Math.

Requirements: Be a good cook!

Motor mechanic/drivers

One Jeep, two cars, two motorcycles and two mopeds and three generators all need loving attention too! Are you the one to fit the bill?

Requirements: International driving

licence (Indian licences available in Calcutta — if you can pass...); working mechanical general all-round experience. Funds to foot the repair bills, and to equip each with a basic tool-kit as well as to have a centrally equipped repair bay.

Receptionist/Bookroom Manager

One of Srila Govinda Maharaj's top priorities is looking after pilgrims when they come to the Math. He sees that they have undergone much austerity to come here, and as far as possible we shall try to give nourishment to everyone for their prosperous devotional life.

To many, it is a great difficulty to be anywhere in India. No doubt the true Nabadwip Dham is part of the spiritual world rather than India, but some assistance is needed to help such gems shine through.

Services include taking personal care of each devotee, as well as ensuring that all guest-houses and guest-rooms are clean and equipped with at least the minimum items for the pilgrims (bedding, buckets, mosquito nets, working fan, drinking water and running water).

Requirements: Cash in hand for supplying general necessities where necessary, and replacing old items in course of time.

Artists & Photographers

(Still & Video)

Artists and photographers! Your services are always appreciated. Especially at the moment we need line drawings, as well as creative designs in black & white for printing, and colour for displays suitable for Srila Guru Maharaj's Centenary Year. It is also wished to organise a slide-show for the occasion as well as videos.

Different types of slide shows and videos are required for preaching in

villages and for preaching in universities and schools.

Requirements: Own brushes, pencils, paper. Own camera equipment and film/cassettes (transparency film may not be available in West Bengal). Supply initially at least one projector with screen & power supply (battery with inverter — due to the intermittent electricity here).

Office administration

Always the bottom of the pack but one of the tops of necessity: responsible, accurate office workers are required to make it all run.

Duties include making & sending invitations, replying to letters, addressing envelopes, packaging parcels & posting, communicating with Srila Maharaj on behalf of devotees abroad, filing, managing tapes and other archives, transcribing tapes, typesetting, printing, etc., etc.

Requirements: Alertness, knowledge of typing useful, and funds to help out.

Other 'vacancies'

certainly exist, such as child minders, and teachers for devotional training. What skills do you have? See if in this Centenary Year you can put them to work here at Nabadwip Sri Chaitanya Saraswat Math.

And all 'vacancies'

need flexible devotees who can stand in for others' duties, and engage their energy according to the necessity of the moment.

Last but not least

Home and abroad, fund raisers are required for each centre around the world. So it comes as no surprise that funds are also required for this the Central Temple of our Srila Gurudevas. No one should need to ask Srila Maharaj for money, so let us try to again balance the scales.

A selection of Publications Available

By and about Śrīla B.R. Śrīdhar Mahārāj:

	Rupces
Absolute Harmony	40
Exclusive Guardianship—Concise Conclusions of Devotional Life	15
Holy Engagement	40
Home Comfort—An Introduction to Inner Fulfilment (Regular Print)	10
Loving Search for the Lost Servant	325
Ocean of Nectar	40
Search for Śrī Kṛṣṇa—Reality the Beautiful	120
Sermons of the Guardian of Devotion Vol. I	200
Sermons of the Guardian of Devotion Vol. II	200
Sermons of the Guardian of Devotion Vol. III	50
Sermons of the Guardian of Devotion Vol. IV	25
Śrī Guru and His Grace	120
Śrī-Śrī Prapanna-jīvanāmṛtam—(Positive and Progressive Immortality)	325
Śrī Śrī Prema Dhāma Deva Stotram	5
Śrīla Guru Mahārāj — His Divine Pastimes & Precepts in Brief	50
Śrīmad Bhagavad-gītā—(The Hidden Treasure of the Sweet Absolute)	325
Subjective Evolution—(The Play of the Sweet Absolute)	325
The Golden Staircase	100
The Golden Volcano of Divine Love	120
The Guardian of Devotion	60

By and about Śrīla B.S. Govinda Mahārāj:

The Benedictine Tree of Divine Aspiration	150
The Divine Servitor	40
Dignity of the Divine Servitor	40
Divine Guidance	40
Golden Reflections	40
Divine Message of the Devotees	20

Various (in English):

Kīrtan Guide (2nd Edition)	85
Relative Worlds (Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Ṭhākura)	40
Śrī Brahmā-saṁhitā	100
Śrī Chaitanya Mahāprabhu—His Life and Precepts	60
Śrī Chaitanya Sarasvatī—(The Voice of Śrī Chaitanyadev) #1	20
Śrī Chaitanya Sarasvatī— #2 (Full colour)	100

If ordering books from Śrī Chaitanya Sāraswat Math, Nabadwip

- Please make cheques postal orders (if from abroad: IMO, International Bank Draft, etc payable in Calcutta or at least India) payable to: "Śrī Chaitanya Saraswat Math".
- Foreign orders please add 30% plus Rs30 for post and packing (by sea, 4+ months) Air Mail can be more than double the book price. Please enquire.
- Indian inland orders please add 15% for post & packing
- Bulk rates and bulk shipping arrangements by request

Thus spake Śrīla Guru Maharaj:-

“One who is conversant with the very object of the scriptures, and who has practical experience, who is established in pure consciousness, is a genuine guru. One should approach such a guide for his own relief, to understand what is the highest benefit in the world and how to attain it. This is necessary. It is real. It is not imaginary. At the same time, it is difficult. The Absolute Truth must be sought out through a real process, otherwise we shall go the wrong way and then say, “Oh, there is nothing here; it is not real.” So, only if we follow this real process of understanding the truth will we experience the real nature of divinity.”

The devotional magazine, **Śrī Gaudiya Barāṇ**, was originally founded by the Founder-President-Achāryya of Śrī Chaitanya Sāraswat Math, Ananta-Śrī Vibhūṣita Paramahansa-cūḍāmaṇi Om Viṣṇupāda Śrī Śrīla Bhakti Rakṣak Śrīdhar Dev-Goswāmi Mahārāj And revitalised in its present newsletter form by the Most Magnanimous Sevāite and President-Achāryya, Om Viṣṇupāda Śrī Śrīla Bhakti Sundar Govinda Dev-Goswāmi Mahārāj

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