

ALL GLORY TO SRI GURU AND SRI GAURANGA



Sri Sri Sita-Rama, Lakshmi, Hanuman

His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
Founder-Acharya: International Society for Krishna Consciousness

Mithuna Twins Astrological Services “Home of the Bhrigu Project”

THE ASTROLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

Chant this mantra:

**Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare**

...and your life will be sublime

17 Oct. 2010 (#14)

Ashvin *dashami shukla-paksha*, 524 Gaurabda Era.
Sri Sri Ramachandra Vijai Dashami Utsava: Defeat of Ravana.
Holy Appearance Day of Sripad Madhvacharya

The Astrological Newsletter (Please e-share it with your friends).

Patita Pavana das Adhikary, Ed.

Abhaya Mudra Dasi

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Dear Prabhus, Welcome to the Sri Ramachandra Vijai Dashami edition of The Astrological Newsletter.

To commemorate the victory of the Personality of Godhead Lord Ramachandra and His thrilling victory over the wicked Ravana on this day in Treta Yuga, Srimati Abhaya Mudra Dasi presents a fascinating look at “The Stars of Lord Ramachandra.” From His horoscope you can understand the rarity of the fleeting *muhurta* under which God Himself advents Himself on Earth for the deliverance of all souls.

This issue also includes a few of Srila Prabhupada’s stunning predictions from 1977 regarding the hard times in which the world is now embroiled. Things are likely to only get worse, so give your self some time to carefully read and understand these instructions from the pure devotee. We thank Siddhanta Das of ITV as well as the devotees at the Bhaktivedanta Archives headed by Eknath Das for their help with the following article “Srila Prabhupada’s Grim Predictions.” Forewarned is forearmed, and those who know what is coming will be able to protect themselves and their families in the coming rough days ahead by heeding the Acharya’s warning.

Thanks to each one of you for your kindness and support of our humble efforts. We are servants of the devotees, Vaishnava *dasanudasa*.

-Patit Pavana das Adhikary, Ed.

Editorial:

Coincidence or Prediction?



“Cities buried in a sea of mud”

Our edition of The Astrological Newsletter, dated 23 Sept 2010 carried our poem Flood of Blood. One verse ran like this:

“Fiery storms rain from cloudless skies, Cities buried in a sea of mud,
Death flies from all directions, And you’ll drown in a flood of blood.”

Less than two weeks later, on October 5th, several villages in Hungary were indeed drowned in a flood of toxic, red mud as headlines screamed, “Hungary Declares Emergency as Toxic Mud Spill Kills Seven”. Poisonous, heavy-metal laden mud formed in the process of manufacturing aluminum broke out of its confinements and flooded seven villages.



Hundreds were injured and seven killed as cars were swept away like toys. The toxic sludge eventually reached the Danube, one of Europe’s most important waterways. As 39 million cubic feet of the

corrosive, blinding radioactive substance affected 15.4 square miles of inhabited land, it was soon declared Hungary's worst ecological chemical disaster to date. Naturally MAL, the company responsible for the outrage and whose owner has been arrested, insisted that it did nothing wrong.

As shocking as such science-gone-wrong catastrophes are, they are becoming commonplace in this Godless civilization that relies upon the stop-gap attempts of technology to bend the laws material Nature to our convenience, rather than honoring the gifts of Mother Earth. On 5 Sept. 2010 a gas line blew out in the San Francisco suburb of San Bruno, CA, causing an inferno that killed eight people, injured dozens and destroyed 37 homes. The BP Oil catastrophe, which spewed an ocean of oil into the Gulf of Mexico for three months from 11 April 2010 was another example of renegade science. Great technological advancements in warfare continue to rain bombs down upon innocent civilians in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan. While scientists create new viruses for planned biological warfare, miracle drugs serve to make disease-causing organism more fit as they mutate to create ever new illnesses. As we go to press we find that the US Army is seeking green alternatives to fossil fuels so that they can decimate innocent civilians and blow up the world in a more eco-friendly manner.

It seems as though the cures offered by the Western scientists are worse than the malaise, hence USA is said to stand for Useless Scientific Addiction. The only cure for a world being destroyed by over-technological "advancement" is Hari Nama *yagna* of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. How far down the slippery slope must the world plummet before a misguided mankind realizes *hari nama eva kevalam?* ·

Srila Prabhupada's Grim Predictions for Kali Yuga:

Millions Will Be Unemployed



Sriman Siddhanta Das Prabhu's "Memories" series (itvproductions.org) remains one of our all-time favorite mediums of understanding the many facets of the pure devotee. Through his interviews, we obtain glimpses of the Perfect Spiritual Master as reflected by each of the unique disciples. Siddhanta's most recent DVD, number 50, contains an inspiring

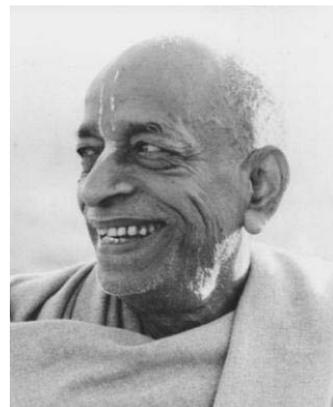
conversation with a devotee called Rameshwara Das. In his talk, Rameshwara Das recounts a discussion with Prabhupada regarding the future of the world, one to which we are now bearing witness. This prophetic conversation advocating devotee self-sufficiency took place during a train ride to Prayag, in January of 1977. As you read these stunning predictions, bear in mind that, although the Acharya had been instructing us about the importance of Krishna conscious farm projects since New Vrindavana had been acquired in 1969, at the time of this conversation Divine Grace was mere months away from ending his manifest *lila*. Yet the World Prophet's emphasis remained fixed and unchanged that *varnashram* agricultural communities will be the salvation of ISKCON's devotees, and indeed the world. In these crucial times, the words of the prophet ring louder than ever. Rameshwara Das' recollections (slightly edited for brevity) will be followed by the actual conversation.

From Memories DVD #50: "Srila Prabhupada...talked about the coming of unemployment. We are seeing these bad economic times now. It's 2009, almost 2010. Prabhupada was speaking about the progress of Kali Yuga. More and more, there will be unemployment. And we must be ready to take these unemployed people onto our farms. That is what Srila Prabhupada said. We need farm communities that grow food because--he predicted this--one day millions of people will be coming to our Hare Krishna farms because they are unemployed. We must accept them. We must feed them. We must let them live there and they will become gradually spiritualized. We'll put them to work. They will get their food--*prasadam*. They will hear about Krishna and they will gradually become devotees. This was Prabhupada's prediction about Kali Yuga and the Krishna conscious farm communities. Amazing prediction and vision."

Hard Times and Prabhupada's Prophecies

(Recorded on a train to Prayaga, 11 January 1977)

His Divine Grace AC Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada: (Looking out the window after the train has pulled out of the city) Now...we have come to the open field. How nice it is. And so long as we were passing through those congested areas -- hellish, simply hellish. And now here is open space. How nice it is!



Hari Sauri Das: To enter into a city is so imposing on your consciousness.

Prabhupada: Up to that point, simply rubbish, all papers thrown here and there. People are living in... Now see here, how it is open and pleasing. Organize this farm project.

HSD: (Commenting on another speaker's input) He's just saying that in the West one requires a great deal of capital. To start a farm, to get the land, you need a lot of money because land is very expensive. And also we have to use modern farming techniques because we have so few men to run the farms.

Prabhupada: No, you show example. People will do automatically. When the people find it is very nice, they will take.

HSD: Should we try to make an effort to have our householders go and live on the farms, a special effort? If it's ready to do that?

Prabhupada: Why householders? Everyone. (audibly chants Hare Krishna *japa*)

Rameshwara Das: In America there is a very big emphasis on getting people to join us by moving into our temples. The temple presidents are very eager to get as many people to move in as possible, but in the long run most people cannot come up to the standard.



Prabhupada: Therefore I am [advocating] farms.

RD: So they have to be encouraged to have a little bit of Krishna consciousness in their own home, make their home a temple.

Prabhupada: No, let them go to the farm, New Vrindaban.

RD: Many people... Most people in the world, they are *grhamedhis*, and they cannot give it up so easily.

Prabhupada: "No, you remain... Come here with your wife, children. You remain *grihamedhi*."

Disciple: New Vrindaban is very austere. If we build little bungalows with modern convenience...

Prabhupada: Oh, yes.

Disciple: There has to be some modern convenience.

Prabhupada: Oh, yes. Then we shall do that.

RD: But for many people who live in the cities, they have their jobs already. They don't want to give it up... Say, in America, most people live in the cities, and they already have their job, and they are set in their ways.

Prabhupada: But you said that there is unemployment also.

RD: To a certain extent. But there are still 250,000,000 people. So most of them...

Prabhupada: So those who are unemployed, let them come to us. We shall give them employment.

RD: Yes. But for the mass population...

Prabhupada: Well, gradually you will increase and...

RD: We have to give them something that they can do in their home.

Prabhupada: Oh, yes.

RD: Because it is impractical to think that they will give up everything and move into the temple.

Prabhupada: No, those who are unemployed, let them come. We shall give them employment.

Disciple: On the farm.

Prabhupada: Yes.

RD: For those who are unemployed, that's attractive... Many people already have their jobs and their families.

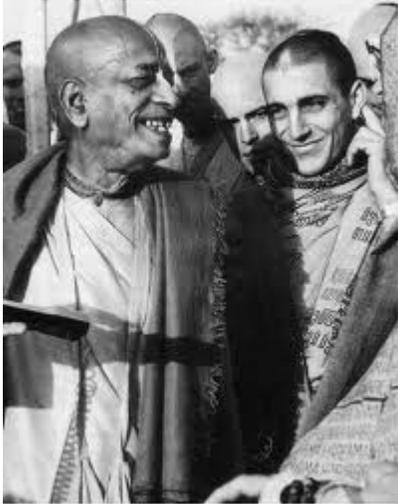
Prabhupada: All right, let them not come, but those who are unemployed, let them come.

RD: But what...? For those people who already have their jobs, instead of...

Prabhupada: That job... They will be very soon jobless. Don't worry. (laughs) They will come. They will be obliged to come. Now they have got job, but as the days are advancing in Kali-yuga, they'll be jobless.

HSD: So we can expect that material conditions are going to become very much worse than this.

Prabhupada: They may become or not. We don't care for it. Let us establish an ideal society. That is the...



Disciple: If someone who is well-off wants to become a devotee, shall we encourage him to give up all of his material well-being or shall we ask him to instead put a temple in his house and encourage him how to make his house into a temple and make his whole family Krishna conscious?

Prabhupada: And what is your material well-being? Everyone is going hundred miles for well-being. Is that well-being? Either they may go by motorcar or by train... And as soon as there is -- what is called? -- bottle-neck, they

become very much disturbed: "How to go to the office?" Where is well-being?

RD: Say, the Christian religion... The Christian religion has millions of followers.

Prabhupada: But what is the meaning of these followers? They do not understand anything. Simply by rubber-stamp they are follower.

RD: But if we can get a mass following, it is only possible by preaching to them little bit at a time.

Prabhupada: Yes. By your ideal life, ideal teaching, you'll get. This Christian or any religion, what is the use of that? It's not at all religion. It's simply rubber-stamp...

RD: Many people think that if you become a Hare Krishna you have to shave your head.

Prabhupada: That is very good.

RD: But it scares them and it keeps them from joining us.

Prabhupada: No, you save so much barbers' expenses. (laughter) ·

The Stars of Lord Ramachandra

Abhaya Mudra Dasi

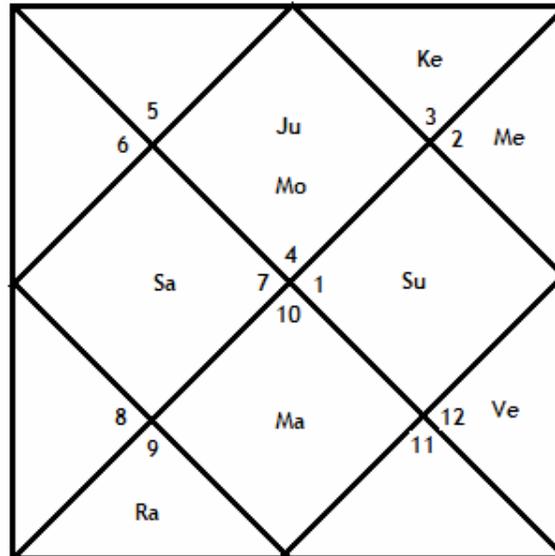
In the *Ramayana* of Adi-kavi Valmiki, the celestial picture of planets during the birth of Lord Ram is described as follows:



*madhu mase sithe paksha, navamyam karkate subhe,
punarvas nakshatra sahithhe, ucchasthe graha-pamchake
mesham pushani samprapthe, pushpavrushti samakule,
avirasi jagannatha, paramatma, sanatanah*

“It was the month of Madhusudana (Chaitra which occurs in April-May). The Moon was in *shukla paksha* (waxing fortnight), and the *navami tithi* or 9th day after the new Moon was in force. The ascendant or *lagna* was Karkata (Cancer rising) and the *nakshatra* (of the Moon) was Punarvasu. The nourishing Sun was in the sign of the ram (Mesha) and five planets were exalted. When the Lord of the Universe--the primeval and eternal Soul of all souls appeared--flowers rained from the sky incessantly.”

This *shloka* has been interpreted to form not one but a few different charts with slight variations. The arrangement upon which most pandits agree is here:



The houses 1, 4, 7 and 10--*atma, sukha, jaya* and *karma* respectively-- are known as *kendras* or angular houses. They are the pillars of a chart, just as four walls support a room. As a general rule, planets in *kendras* fortify a horoscope. In the chart of Sri Rama, not only are all four *kendras* occupied, but each one is inhabited by exalted planets. In astrology, there are a total of five *mahapurush yogas* designating a “great personality.” These are formed when any of the “five planets” (counting neither Sun, Moon, Rahu nor Ketu) are in *kendras*. Three of these are instantly visible.

MAHAPURUSH YOGAS: In the chart of Sri Rama, Brihaspati in *atmasthan kendra* is in his sign of exaltation, Kartaka the crab. This confers *hamsa mahapurush yoga*. Next, Shani in his exaltation sign of Tula “the balance” in the *sukhasthan kendra* confers *shasha mahapurush yoga*. And in the *jayasthan kendra* exalted Mangal creates a powerful *ruchaka mahapurush yoga*. In the *karmasthan* and, again, in the first house, Sun in Aries and Moon in Cancer are *uccha* (exalted) and *swa-rashi* (own sign) respectively.

OTHER YOGAS: Two planets with directional strength, Jupiter and Sun confer one of many, many *raja yogas*. Since Lord Rama is the worshipful Lord of the kings of kings, the listing of *raja yogas* is almost ludicrous. For the sake of discussion, we will mention a few of the obvious combinations: *gaja-keshari, vina, parvata, shankha, bhagya, kama, chamara, kahala, mridanga, pushkala, amara* and *dan yogas*.

Lord Rama advented Himself under Purnavasus *nakshatra*. Purnavasus has a single *pada* or quarter in Cancer. This *nakshatra* is ruled by Brihaspati, the *guru* of the Demigods. The splendid *gaja-keshari yoga* or elephant-lion combination formed by Jupiter and Moon together in the *lagna* speaks of the Lord’s great strength, lasting fame and supreme stability. The combination in the sensitive watery sign of Cancer testifies to His extremely beautiful, sweet and attractive personality. Exalted Jupiter along with the Moon in his own sign is a testimony for the spotless character of the Lord. Jupiter in the first house of self always acts as a saving grace even in the worst of situations. This victorious potency of *Guru-lagna* so spotlessly situated is testified to by the salutation “*Jai Sri Rama!*” uttered millions of times daily by the devout. Lord Ram is triumphant in all circumstances, and He gives his protection to His devotees.

Bhagya yoga, the aspect of Jupiter to the 9th house of *dharma*, a recurring theme in the charts of devotees of the Lord, reveals how strictly Lord Rama follows the codes *dharma*. His exalted Mars in the 7th aspecting *lagna*

reveals His unbending will to keep all vows. His exalted Sun in the 10th in the sign of an exalted Mars gave Him the kingdom of Ayodhya and the excellent ability to control different weapons in defeating *rakshasas*. Exalted Saturn sent him to the forest during Shani's planetary period along with His consort Sita. It is noteworthy that Husband and Wife, The Lord and the Goddess of Fortune, both appeared under *navami*, a *rikta* or "hollow" *tithi*, a situation which many pandits point to as the reason for *vanavasam*.

Exalted Venus in the 9th shows the personal beauty and magnanimous grace He offered to all in His ideal kingdom. Exalted Mercury in the third (see below) would aptly describe His younger brothers who were equal to Him in splendor. Astrologers agree that Rahu and Ketu may have been in 6th and 12th position as presented. Rahu in the 6th does very well as destroyer of enemies and yet Ketu in the 12th is an indication of someone who is liberated from material circumstances. Lord Rama was so magnanimous that when He departed this planet, He took with Him every living entity of Ayodhya. Even the most insignificant creatures obtained liberation and returned to the eternal domain of the Personality of Godhead in Vaikuntha.

The qualities "endowed" by these combinations are summed up in one of the few devotional *shlokas* of *Sri Chanakya Niti Shastra* (12.15), which the great pandit borrowed from Valmiki:

*dharme tat-parata mukhe madhurata dane samutsahata
mitre'vaicakata gurau vinayata chitte'timabhirata
acare shucita gune rasikata shastresu vijnanata
rupe sundarat shive bhajanata tvayy asti bho raghava*

"O Raghava, Descendant of the Raghu dynasty! The love of *dharma*, sweet speech, an ardent desire for acts of charity, guileless dealings with friends, humility in the *guru's* presence, deep tranquility of mind, pure conduct, discernment of virtues, realized knowledge of the *shastras*, beauty of form and devotion to the Absolute Truth are all found in You."

Perplexing Position of Mercury?

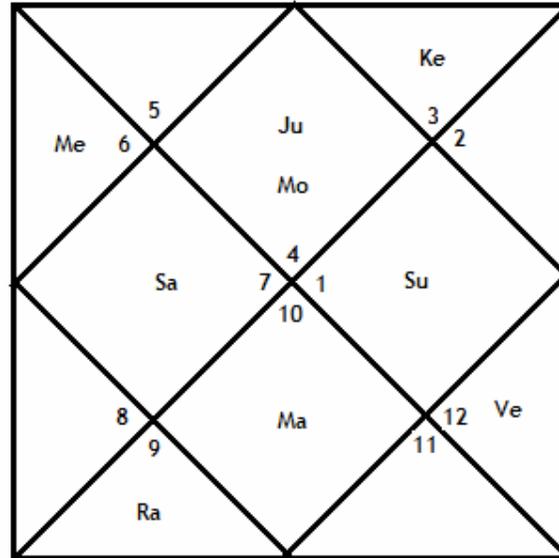
The most perplexing element of the chart of Lord Rama's usually centers around the position of Mercury. Some astrologers debate that Mercury in the Lord's chart is conjoined the Sun in Aries, lending solar strength to Budha. Sri Purushottama Nagesh Oak, quoting "standard scriptural sources", says in his *Rationale of Astrology* that Mercury is in Taurus in the 11th house of gain

and friendship. Yet there is even an even more far-fetched, yet perhaps scripturally-sound, conclusion which we will present for the purpose of discussion. The verse from the *Ramayana* quoted above clearly states *ucchasthe graha-pamchake, mesham pushani samprapthe*. Does this mean that “five planets were in exaltation and, in addition to that, Pushya (a name for Aditya or the Sun planet) was also exalted in Mesha-rashi (Aries)?

The usual translation for this verse includes the Sun as one of the exalted planets, yet why would Valmiki, a poet equal to Vyasa, repeat himself? Since Sun is already mentioned, the rest of the exalted planets should include Mercury, placing this “planetary prince” in Virgo. But how could Mercury be exalted, in Virgo, since according to contemporary observation, Mercury travels with the Sun? Virgo is six signs away Aries.

To rest the case for an exalted Mercury as per the words *ucchasthe graha-pamchake* we recall a statement from Dr. B.V. Raman’s description of Mercury’s movements in ages past. The late astro-pandit states that since there are very ancient *shlokas* in *jyotish shastra* that allude to Mercury being opposite the Sun, therefore there is a likelihood that in previous *yugas* the path of Mercury differed from what it is now. Descriptions of Budha-Aditya *yoga* in various *shastras* state that this combination is formed when the Sun and Mercury are either in conjunction or in mutual 7th place positions. That leads to the conclusion that the clock of the universe does not always move at the same speed in different *yugas*. As the cycle of the Universe changes, so (apparently) do the planets become altered in their courses.

Lord Sri Rama appeared millions of years ago in the Treta Yuga. Exalted Mercury in the *chakra* of Lord Rama would be drawn thusly:



There are also different opinions regarding the positions of Rahu and Ketu since the Nodes were not mentioned by Valmiki in this context. Astrologers of yore would have been able to ascertain Rahu and Ketu from hearing of the locations of other planets. In Kali Yuga this ability is lost since we rely more upon computers than actual observation and wisdom of the skies. But in the past every great astrologer was also an astronomer, since *jyotish shastra* includes *gola shastra*.

Lord Ram's chart is one of a kind, an exceptional formation of stars, which occurs so rarely that only the Supreme Personality of Godhead could have appeared under such a splendid stars. There is no comparison to the character of Lord Rama, and to this day people still cry when they hear the sacrifices of Sri Sri Sita-Rama, Lakshmana and Hanuman at *Ramayan katha*. His character is an inspiration for those who pray for the rule of Lord Rama and long for the perfect kingdom called Ramrajya.

On this day of Sri Ramachandra Vijaya Dashami, as we consider the stars of Lord Ramachandra, we cannot forget His prowess in defeating the Lord of Lanka. As read in *Srimad Bhagavatam* 9.10.15, even the demi-god of the ocean Lord Varunadeva blessed this day with the words:

“My Lord, You may use my water as You like. Indeed, You may cross it and go to the abode of Ravana, who is the great source of disturbance and crying for the three worlds. He is the son of Vishrava, but is condemned like urine. Please go kill him and thus regain Your wife, Sita Devi. O great hero, although my water presents no impediment to Your going to Lanka, please construct a bridge over it to spread Your transcendental fame. Upon seeing

this wonderfully uncommon deed of Your Lordship, all the great heroes and kings in the future will glorify You.” ·

Note: We welcome discussion from learned readers who may throw light upon the position of Budha in the advent chakra of Sri Rama Bhagavan.-Ed

Letters to the Editor

Pregnancy Prediction

Hare Krishna respected Prabhuji and Mataji,

All glories to you!!! I wrote to you regarding progeny-related issues during the start of this year. You advised that perhaps after June there were chances of conception. With great pleasure, I would like to inform you that I conceived in the later part of June and right now I am four-and-a-half months pregnant. I am extremely grateful to you for your timely guidance and blessings.

Your Servant,

Ddd

Delhi

Don't forget to let us know when the young devotee appears! -Ed.

Hope through Bona Fide Astrology

Dear Patita Pavana Prabhu,

Dandavats Prabhuji, Jaya Srila Prabhupada! Prabhu, we were so happy to read [our infant son's] chart. Thank you so much for your research and thorough report. You have given us strength to continue serving him so that he indeed may become a staunch devotee and follower of Srila Prabhupada. We realize that we still have a long and difficult time ahead but your words are very comforting that our son has a good future.

We will most certainly contact you when we need you. Your sweet dealings and understanding have won our hearts and we are very much indebted to you Prabhu. Thank you for your blessings.

Your servant,

VBd

Den Haag

“A Valuable Service”

Hare Krishna,

Thanks so much. Yes we received the reading and we are very grateful to get the information. It is a great relief to know that there is light at the end of the tunnel although the bad news is that the next two years may be very difficult. Overall it is an optimistic outlook.

On the advice of everyone and under medical supervision she has abruptly discontinued the strong painkillers and is now going through the concomitant misery of detox. She is very brave to choose to do so, but the reading added to her determination. We may go ahead with the full reading as you have offered. We'll let you know. Thanks again for your learned analysis and advice. You are performing a valuable service.

ys
Bdd
New Orleans

Reincarnation and Honest Preaching

Dear Patita Pavana,

Please accept my humble obeisances, and all glories to Srila Prabhupada.

When I wrote to say thank you, I had not yet read any of the newsletters. The least I could do, is to say thank you. However, yesterday, I read the second one thoroughly from beginning to end. Very nice account about Ratnavali / Raghava. But I liked the poem you wrote. I like this kind of direct, no beating around the bush, preaching. To me, in this kind of preaching, the sincerity of purpose adds to the eloquence of the words. Words after all are words, but when they are used in pure purpose of compassion towards the awakening conditioned souls to their numerous predicaments and the liberating solution of chanting the holy names of Krishna, such gutsy honesty, seem to touch the heart of other waiting, fortunate conditioned souls unknowingly eager to hear this kind of message.

In other words such honest descriptions have the power to make devotees, to wake up the desire for devotional life in whoever is by Krishna's mercy guided to hear and understand such message. No amount of "thanks" will

ever be sufficient toward the originator of such messages. Despite this fact, here is a tiny appreciation of mine.

The first newsletter, I printed it right away as I received it. Brought it to the kitchen and showed it to one regularly visiting sister-in-law. As soon as she saw the *maha-mantra* on the cover, she said: "Ah, this is the prayer that you chant." I immediately said to her: "I can give this newsletter to you, I will print another one for myself." She kindly accepted it and said that she will read it. I knew in my heart that the timing was right to give to her somehow this literature with the *maha-mantra*. I took it as Krishna's arrangement for her to somehow or another get in touch with the Holy Name and make a little more progress towards KC. That is how I did not read the first newsletter yet. Afterwards, I was very busy tying work and sadhana up until yesterday... when, already, the second newsletter came in. I will read the first one in some short future though. I feel there is great honesty of purpose in these newsletters. This is practical application of SB 1.1.2:

*dharmah projjhita-kaitavo 'tra paramo nirmatsaraanaam sataam
vedyam vaastavam atra vastu shivadam taapa-trayonmoolanam
Srimad-bhagavate maha-muni-krite kim va parair ishvaram
sadyo hrdy avarudhyate 'tra kritibhih shushroobhis tat-kshanat*

“Completely rejecting all religious activities which are materially motivated, this *Bhagavata Purana* propounds the highest truth, which is understandable by those devotees who are fully pure in heart. The highest truth is reality distinguished from illusion for the welfare of all. Such truth uproots the threefold miseries. This beautiful *Bhagavatam*, compiled by the great sage Vyasadeva [in his maturity], is sufficient in itself for God realization. What is the need of any other scripture? As soon as one attentively and submissively hears the message of *Bhagavatam*, by this culture of knowledge the Supreme Lord is established within his heart.”

No cheating, no envy, and *kritibhih shushrushubhis*: a message meant for and appreciated by men who are thoroughly honest and who do hear with great respect the message of Godhead. All glories to Srila Prabhupada who was certainly the most honest and compassionate soul on earth. Somehow by Krishna's wonderful hand somewhere in the background His Divine Grace has made this wonderful spreading of Krishna consciousness such a lifelong nectarean engagement. All glories to Srila Prabhupada's servants who

sincerely try to contribute to his wonderful mission. All glories to your sincere service to Srila Prabhupada in this approach of yours.

Hope you and your good wife are doing well.

Your humble servant,
Prabhava Vighraha Dasa
Montreal

As always, you continue to be a greatly appreciated friend and Godbrother while your support is very valuable, heartwarming and appreciated. Regarding the accident that took away Raghava who was evidentially re-born as Ratnavali, I am printing hereunder the letter I received from Srila Prabhupada after the sankirtan accident that I experienced, the one that temporarily removed two devotees, Jananivas (who I feel has taken birth again in ISKCON) and Bhakta Will.

Your humble servant,

Patita Pavana das (Patita Uddharana das)

Letter from Srila Prabhupada: 15 November 1971

My Dear Patita Uddharana,

Please accept my blessings. I beg to acknowledge your letter of Oct. 9, 1971; due to our frequent moving about and heavy schedule I have been unable to answer until now. Please forgive me.

I have noted especially your description of the unfortunate accident which took place and which took away our friends Jananivasa das Brahmachari and Will Prabhu. So on one side we have to be very sorry if our dear friends are taken away from this world, and on the other side we should be satisfied that a pure devotee is never lost. He gets another good chance to cultivate Krishna Consciousness, or if one is advanced he goes back to Home, back to Godhead. But even if it is taken that a devotee is not mature, we should be confident that he will take birth in a rich or devotional family. So their human life in a very good position is guaranteed. A devotee's position is always better than an ordinary karmi's position. Karmis do not know what is the next life, but devotees know it as certain as anything that he is going to have a nice human form of body.

So let us pray for the departed souls that they may be engaged again in Krishna's service.

It will be a good idea in the future if our devotees take lesson from this unfortunate incident and take precaution not to drive late at night for any reason—no gain can come from such driving at night which will ever compensate for much great losses. Please advise your GBC zonal secretary that in future great precaution must be taken.

Please continue in your writing of songs and poems for Krishna, because singing Krishna's praises is the highest type of spiritual activity and will give Him great enjoyment. I would be pleased if you can send me a tape of some of your compositions.

I plan to remain here in Delhi until 26th November, then we are all going to Vrindaban for a few days.

I hope this meets you and all of my spiritual sons and daughters in Columbus in good health and jolly mood.

Your ever well-wisher,

A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami

Delhi

Stopping the Landslide of Bad Karma

Dear Patita Pavana das Prabhu,

Thank you for the September issue of The Astrological Newsletter. As always it was uncompromising and revealing. It should be a must-read for all devotees everywhere. I'm impressed by your honesty in preaching which is hard to find nowadays except in Prabhupada's original books.

The story about our Godbrother Raghava Das' reincarnation is simply amazing, factual and thought-provoking to say the least! Lord Krishna protects His devotees!

Also, your poem *Flood of Blood* was hard hitting. We don't hear much preaching like this and NOW is the time to expose these rascals in Governments. Soon they will clamp down on the preaching by devotees. All we see is expanding corruption: cover-ups of the coming downfall our current Godless civilization, illegal wars, and false flag terror. The BP Disaster was the tip of the iceberg. The worst is yet to come! Kali Yuga is relentless and in full swing.

Only Krishna consciousness and massive chanting and preaching can stop this landslide of bad karma. Your astrological news letter is an important eye-opening look at what may come to pass if the preaching potency is

watered down in Srila Prabhupada's ISKCON. I wonder why we don't get more heavy duty preaching like this? It's *jiva jago* time.

I urge all thoughtful and sincere devotees to preach, distribute books and perform Hari Nam Sankirtan now like there is no tomorrow. Or else the times they are a changing-and not for the better.

Take care, my dear Godbrother.

Your servant,
Jaya Madhava Das d/o Srila Prabhupada
Moscow

Thanks for your friendship and for your words on our poem, Flood of Blood. Not surprisingly, some found it shocking. But Krishna consciousness is not about conformity to social trends. Rather, it is the proverbial line drawn in the sand. As you know better than I, we are not here to win popularity contests. -Ed.

Cities Will Crumble

Hare Krishna, Patita Pavana Prabhu,
I read you poem which clearly indicates that cities are going to crumble and alternative provided by Srila Prabhupada is to live simply on farm and grow our own food and save time for chanting Hare Krishna.

My *shiksha guru* is H.H.Savyasachi Prabhu who, under the guidance of H.H. Bhaktivikasa Maharaja, is trying to establish Farm Community in South India. I came into Krishna Consciousness by his mercy and came to know about Srila Prabhupada desire to establish Varnashram communities from him, and many other Vaishnavas. It appears as though a crash is very close.

I am married and we have a son, 4 months old. Both of us are convinced that cities are going to crumble and moving to the farms is only the option. It is also evident from the present social and economical conditions. But we are not able to decide as to which point of time we should quite the modern life and go for Farm communities.

Your Servant
Divyang Patel
Baroda

Reincarnation and the Laws of Nature

Hari Bol Patita Pavana Prabhu!
Param Vijayate Sri Krishna Samkirtan!

I very much enjoyed the [Ratnavali Diary] issue of The Astrological Newsletter. How we continue to progress in K.C. is clearly shown as well as how the law of nature is working quite perfectly.

Your servant,
Bhakta dasa Adhukary
Krung Thep

If you liked it, then we must be doing something right! Thanks, Prabhu -Ed.

Ratnavali's Story is Good Preaching

It is interesting that The Astrological Newsletter covered the story of Ratnavali. We took Ratnavali along on a preaching tour through Russia a couple of years ago and her descriptions of her experiences proved very effective preaching.

-Uttama Shloka das

Zurich

Exactly, Prabhu. Preaching the message of Guru-Gauranga is the only reason we ran the story. Krishna consciousness is multi-faceted. -Ed.

Krishna Can Change Our Destinies

Dear Prabhuji,

Thank you for one more incredible edition of The Astrological Newsletter. It helped me take spiritual life and the message of Srila Prabhupada more seriously.

1) Can the way in which we die and the time altered? That is, if someone is supposed to die in an accident, then might he die in some other way?

2) Is the time of the living entity going BTG fixed?

Sukumar Gaur das

Mumbai

It is said that you may deserve to be hit by a truck. But if you take shelter of Krishna, your vikarma-phal becomes lightened considerably, and you'll be hit by a garland instead. Carefully read the letter (above) that Prabhupada sent me about the fortunate accident I was in. I asked the GBC, His Grace

Sriman Shyamsundar das Prabhu, for Prabhupada's comments about that particular accident, and Shyamsundar replied, "Prabhupada said 'this did not have to happen.'" And that is the message of his letter to me. Through Krishna consciousness and Krishna's gifts like jyotish shastra, we can substantially increase the value and quality of our lives. I am convinced of it. Regarding your question about going back to Godhead, perhaps I can let you know if I ever get there, unless you get there first! -Ed. ·