



## Srila Prabhupada Glorification Lecture

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17th September 2005, Ujjain

### Part 1

Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur travelled all over India and established Krishna Consciousness. Then came Srila Prabhupada to spread it all over the world. An interesting point arises, Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur sent other disciples to go and preach to the Western world but they fell down and they did not succeed. It is better to become aware of this fact for our own benefit and for our institution. Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur disciples were sent to West but they did not succeed. If Gaudya Math did not fall apart then there would have been a different path. But we can see it was due to the divine arrangement of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. When Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu left this planet, His movement had faced an unfortunate decline. This was the reality but does it mean Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu was a failure? No Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu's movement wasn't a failure but it was His divine arrangement. He is creating a setup in such a way that Krishna Consciousness can be properly established in the world.

Lets go back even further. We can see what the religious history of India was like at beginning of Kali Yuga. Dharma faced an incredible decline. The Vedic culture was nearly lost and all kinds of abominable activities were going on. Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu came and harmonised the personalism and impersonalism. We can see this is the divine arrangement of the Supreme Personality of Godhead to establish Vedic culture all over world in the dark age of Kali. Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu allowed Krishna Consciousness to be covered. Bhaktivinoda Thakura came along to remove the clouds and let the Krishna Consciousness sunbeams shine through. Then Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur gave the shape in the form of his preaching mission he generated an incredible appeal to this movement. All kinds of exemplary people took part in Krishna Consciousness. However, Gaudya Math disintegrated, as Prabhupada said, Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur wanted the society to remain collective through a Governing Body Council (GBC). The concept of GBC came from Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur, that is to form a collective body. Soon after he left his body, there was a split with the Gaudya Math. One group believed in Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur wishes. Another group wondered how a spiritual organization could be run by a group of managers instead they needed a spiritual head. Unfortunately one group formed an acarya but he fell down and the Gaudya Math disintegrated. They still carry on but Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu mission is not being achieved but just maintaining their lives is not Krishna Consciousness.

Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu wanted us to spread Krishna Consciousness all over the world. Therefore, Bhaktivinoda Thakura gave us the word Nama Hatta. This mission of establishing Krishna Consciousness all over the world is needed by Nama Hatta. The general first creates an army and launches his attack. Similarly in order to defeat Kali, Sri Caitanya

Mahaprabhu needs an organization that is trained and disciplined to defeat this evil Kali. Bhaktivinoda Thakura gave a structure Nama Hatta is what ISKCON is today. Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur's structure of Gaudya Math was not achieved. However from the ruins of Gaudya Math, Prabhupada revived the spirit of Bhaktivinoda Thakura in the form of ISKCON. We must see the lineage, our heritage.

Everything is happening by the divine arrangement by Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. If Gaudya Math didn't fall apart, everything would have been wonderful yet there would still have been a need. Prabhupada said, more than once, don't make the same mistakes that his godbrothers made after Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur left this planet. The mistake was they did not understand his instruction of a collective management in order to maintain the institution. Through their mistakes we learnt a lesson that is the importance of collective management.

Once when talking to Sri Chand Hinduja, the most prominent Indian in the world, before Mittal he was considered the richest Indian. Sri Chand was discussing Prabhupada's genius in his management skills. Generally, spiritual institutions have management problems after their Guru leaves his body or falls down but not in ISKCON. Actually it's a unique thing, ISKCON survived due Prabhupada's genius as an organizer. He organized a collective management of the GBC. So in this way we can see what a genius Srila Prabhupada was. It was only Srila Prabhupada who thought this way, he took it from Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur. Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur took this from his father, Bhaktivinoda Thakura. We can see a structure in Nama Hatta. This spiritual institution stands for the propagation of Krishna Consciousness all over the world. What is the price one pays to buy this commodity? Shradha. Who is the sole distributor of this commodity? Nitayanada Prabhu. There are then all kinds of individuals selling this commodity. So there is a structure and we must recognize it.

The person who is creating the structure is not saying he is the Head, he is a sweeper that keeps the marketplace clean. All kinds of impurities are there in the marketplace. The cleaner must keep the market clean so the Holy name can be distributed all over the world. Bhaktivinoda Thakura gave the blue print, he did not create an institution. Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur took the blueprint and gave a structure but this disintegrated. What was the need for this? So everyone learns a lesson. That lesson is that whatever we do we should do it collectively.

Srila Prabhupada established himself as the founder acarya. The head of the institution must be properly established. Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur took a humble position and he did not emphasise to his disciples that he was the founder. But Srila Prabhupada was emphatic that unless one is constantly reminded that he is the founder Acarya, then the movement will not be kept together. To hold anything today we need the Head and the management structure. Just the Head and no management will it have any effect? No. Therefore these two things are very important and the most important discussion.

Srila Prabhupada is the head and the GBC is management. In time many

of us will come and go but the concept of GBC will always be there. Gaudya Math fell down from the deviation of one person who was their acarya. ISKCON had more than one acarya and many of them deviated from it. Yes our society suffered but it did not fall apart. The lesson learnt was only one person should be worshipped and that is Srila Prabhupada. The others have to recognize and become the humble servant of Srila Prabhupada. Spiritual culture is based on shradha ? we shouldn't create groups or clans with people. This is what I am going to address today, now and the next session.

The leaders of ISKCON can have a group around them, this is very possible. It is very easy for the disciples to create a group with a Guru in the center but even if not careful, it will weaken ISKCON structure. ISKCON will become weak. The real strength is in our unity. It will only happen when all leaders sit at the feet of Srila Prabhupada and it will work. What am I suppose to do as a leader and with my disciples? I have to become a transparent via medium and engage all my followers in the service of Srila Prabhupada. Then only will ISKCON become strong. That is why the title Srila Prabhupada is so important. The significance of the word Srila Prabhupada is the master at whose feet other masters sit! Once this is complete, then ISKCON will become strong. Anyway there is so much to say but I must stick to time. So I will carry on discussing this in my next session.

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#### Part 2

We have not recognized yet the full greatness of Srila Prabhupada. Srila Prabhupada is like a huge mountain but now we are very close and do not fully realize his greatness. Only when we move away from the mountain do we realize how great the mountain is. As time goes on we will begin to realise Srila Prabhupads's greatness even more.

Srila Prabhupada once lamented to me, "Everyone is coming but the Indians are not coming". In those early days there were very few Indians. But now they have realized the greatness of Srila Prabhupada and are coming forward.

Some exceptional souls, even though they took birth in Europe and America, they responded Srila Prabhupada to Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu's movement. That is why they are exceptionally fortunate. Many of them were sent by Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu to assist Him, that is why they took birth in the Western World. Once a devotee said to Prabhupada, "I was so degraded and you saved me". Prabhupada replied, "Your situation was superficial because as soon as I came, you approached me." So these devotees are very special individuals.

So by the passing of time, people will become aware of Srila Prabhupada's extraordinary activities this is just the beginning of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu's prediction: This Krishna Consciousness movement will spread to every town and village all over the world. One may think because you're a Hare Krishna, your trying to blow your own trumpet. Well just wait and see! We have the implicit faith that Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu words will not go in vain. Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu words will be fulfilled. What does Srila Prabhupada expect of us? I can say Srila Prabhupada's expectation was very little and it was for our own benefit.

Srila Prabhupada use to have an oil massage before taking his bath in the late morning. So one day while Srila Prabhupada was taking a massage, I just took opportunity to sit next to Prabhupada and observe him . Srila Prabhupada started to speak, "Many many lives you have tried to enjoy but you can see you are still not satisfied. Just offer this life to Krishna. See what happens? Its just one life, there's no lose!" Srila Prabhupada knew if we offered this one life to Krishna then our surrender would not be in vain. Even if nothing happens then what is the loss. That is what Srila Prabhupada wants from us. Just offer this one life to Krishna and see what happens. Yet we are so badly conditioned that even despite of Srila Prabhupada's advice, we cannot do that. Maya is so strong with so many illusions, and attachments but all it needs is implicit faith and earnest dedication. Let's offer this one life and not expect anything. Just one life to Srila Prabhupada. By offering this one life, what do we going to lose? I can tell you that although I haven't been able to surrender, I can see so many wonderful ways Srila Prabhupada is rewarding me. At least some of my life has been successful. What is the secret? Try to serve at Srila Prabhupada's feet. If you can offer yourself, you will in return receive something inconceivable.

To end my presentation on what Srila Prabhupada is expecting of us. At least I can say according to me that there are three instructions that are the most important. I received many instructions but these three I feel are the most important. They are:

- 1) No matter whatever happens never leave ISKCON
- 2) Your love for me will be shown by how you co-operate with each other.
- 3) The GBC is the ultimate managing authority and thereby you must abide by the GBC.

It's not that I haven't gone through personal difficulties yet I have always tried to follow these three instructions. My difficulties haven't been any less than yours probably. But these three instructions saved me from deviating or falling. I can say this reward has been extraordinary. Reward isn't one's fame or fortune. It is internal. The heart has been fulfilled with something I could never receive. So this is how Srila Prabhupada reciprocates. Once again I request please follow these three instructions. No matter whatever happens, never ever leave ISKCON. If you love Srila Prabhupada express your love through cooperation with one another. Always place yourself under the authority of GBC. And I can assure that you will never go

wrong.

**Please chant these names of God and your life will be sublime:**

**Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare**

**Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare**