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The following is a sannyasa initiation ceremony, given by His Holiness Jayapataka Swami on March 9th, 1982, in SridhamaMayapura.

Jayapataka Swami: We are welcoming new initiating gurus for the International Society for Krishna Consciousness celebration at this festival. As you know, in May, Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada asked our GBC to decide, in his absence how they would manage things, and any questions they had, they could give.

At that time, they came with several questions, including:

How to print books in his absence?

How would initiations go during his illness, since he had stopped initiating for several months?

And, in his physical absence?

and various other technical questions about our management affairs.

Srila Prabhupada mentioned that he would name some people who would initiate on his behalf during his presence, since it is not the proper etiquette to initiate in the presence of one's guru, and in his absence, that they would, in their own right, initiate, and their disciples would be his grand-disciples, in the International Society for Krishna Consciousness.

Subsequently, Srila Prabhupada appointed 11 persons to initiate in his presence as rtviks, or officiating initiators, and in his absence, to be initiating gurus for ISKCON. Later, a question was raised, "What about others?", and he said, "When needed, then you may increase."

So, in pursuance of Srila Prabhupada's instruction to the Governing Body Commission to manage everything, the Governing Body Commission feels that it is necessary to expand the number of spiritual masters and our program in ISKCON will be to continue to expand spiritual masters, so that the preaching may also expand, but under the basic principle that we all work cooperatively, together.

Actually, this is the essence of our movement; we work, we have diversity, but we have unity. There are many temples, many zones, many initiating gurus, many devotees from many lands, but we all are united under Srila Prabhupada's movement, under this International Society for Krishna Consciousness. In this way, if we follow Prabhupada's instructions very strictly, then there will be no difficulty in going out and expanding our preaching in various ways.

We're now expanding the responsibilities of various devotees, so we are very fortunate that very senior vaisnavas, who have taken great risk in preaching Lord Caitanya's movement on behalf of SrilaPrabhupada in different parts of the world, have now been requested to take up this responsibility for initiating on behalf of SrilaPrabhupada, and the International Society for Krishna Consciousness, and training their disciples in our Krishna conscious philosophy and systems.

So, SrilaPancadravida Swami Maharaja, we'd like you to give everyone your blessings as well as instructions at this time on what mood we should imbibe, at this glorious moment.

Pancadravida Swami:

**oàajiàna-timirândhasya
jïänäijana-çaläkayä
cakñurunmélitaàyena
tasmaiçré-guravenamaù**

**çré-caitanya-mano-'bhéñöää
sthäpitaàyenabhü-tale
svayaàrüpaukadāmahyaà
dadätisva-padäntikam**

**namaoàviñëu-pädäyakãñëa-preñöhäyabhü-tale
çrématebhaktivedänta-sväminitinämine**

**namastesärasvatedevegaura-väëé-pracäriëe
nirviçëña-çünyavädi-päççätya-deça-täriëe**

**çré-kãñëa-caitanya
prabhu-nityänanda
jayädvaitagadädhara
çréväsädi-gaura-bhakta-vãnda**

**Hare Kãñëa, Hare Kãñëa,
KãñëaKãñëa , Hare Hare/
Hare Räma, Hare Räma
RämaRäma, Hare Hare**

I am taking this duty to serve as an initiating spiritual master on behalf of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness on the order of my spiritual master,

OàViñëupädaParamahaàsaParivräjakäcäryaAñöottara-çataÇréÇrémadAbhayaCaraëäravindaBhaktivedänta Swami Prabhupada. I am taking his order, coming through the agency of the Governing Body

Commission, and of other dear Godbrothers. They're requesting this service of me.

SrilaPrabhupada said when he was going to the Western countries to preach, that he was asked to take sannyasa, instructed through Kesava Maharaja, and he said "In this way, I took it that my spiritual master, he was speaking to me."

In the Caitanya-caritamṛta, Lord CaitanyaMahaprabhu describes:

**kibāvīprakībānyāsē, cūdrakenenaya
yeikāñēa-tattva-vettā, sei 'guru' haya**

He says that yeikāñēa-tattva-vettā, when one can imbibe this science of Krishna consciousness, then he is able to preach, and to work on behalf of this Krishna conscious movement. I am seeing the position of being a spiritual master as being done on behalf of this great ISKCON movement, theInternational Society for Krishna Consciousness.

This is Lord CaitanyaMahaprabhu's mercy. He wants this whole world to be inundated with Krishna consciousness. The prime agency for spreading Krishna consciousness is this ISKCON movement. This movement will not be spread by so many faction-mathas, by individuals working independently. The Krishna conscious movement will go on expanding more and more, based on the cooperative service of all the various membersof ISKCON.

One astrologer predicted that SrilaPrabhupada was such a great personality that he was capable of building a house in which the entire world can live, and that is ISKCON.

Actually, no one has any right to be considered as an initiating spiritual master if he cannot satisfy the desire of his spiritual master. This is what spiritual master means. The whole disciplic succession is coming down and one is accepting the order of his spiritual master as his life and soul.

SrilaPrabhupada informed us, as confirmed in the sastras, that the spiritual master is present in his vani instructions. During the physical presence of the spiritual master, vapuh, one is trained and in the physical absence of the spiritual master, the training goes on in the form of completing the instructions given. That is the vani.

So, as mentioned bySrilaJayapataka Maharaja Acaryapada, SrilaPrabhuapda is still present. He is present everywhere. He's present in the worship of the deities. He's present in the form of so many disciples, and grand-disciples. This is all the sakti of SrilaPrabhupada.Nothing is independent of SrilaPrabhupada.

SrilaPrabhupada is present in the distribution of his books all over the world in this sankirtana movement. SrilaPrabhupada is present in his instructions and in his blessings. He is blessing every one of us. We should not think that we can function in any way, independent of the blessings of our spiritual master, SrilaPrabhupada.

So, I take this as a great benediction. I have no qualifications, but because the preaching of this ISKCON movement has to go on, SrilaPrabhupada has given me his blessings to take a small part in seeing that this work continues somehow or other. All glories to SrilaPrabhupada!

Jayapataka Swami: Actually, CaitanyaMahaprabhu ordered devotees to take up the responsibility for being guru, for preaching. Actually, one time, SrilaPrabhupada said, "All my disciples, all my followers are spiritual masters." Devotees are going and preaching. Prabhupada said that it is not difficult to be a spiritual master, a guru, one has to simply repeat exactly what his spiritual master has said, what our previous acaryas have said. We have to repeat exactly what SrilaPrabhupada has said and what Krishna has said, and that is the principle qualification of being a spiritual master.

All devotees share that same responsibility, and initiating spiritual masters have an additional empowerment to take all of the sinful reactions of their disciples. That is a permanent responsibility to deliver their disciples. In fact, in Caitanya-lila, we see that sometimes devotees wouldn't mind giving instruction and being siksa-guru, but they would refuse to become diksa-guru because they thought, "If I take even one disciple whom I can't deliver, I will have to come down again, and be left out of Lord Caitanya's pastimes for so long." In their mood of humility, they didn't want to take that risk.

SrilaPrabhupada mentioned that due to taking many disciples, also he had to encounter so many difficulties. Those who are taking initiation should be a little merciful to their spiritual masters. Take the vows that are made seriously. Strictly follow the four regulative principles and chant the Hare Krishna mantra.

CaitanyaMahaprabhu continued the system diksa-guru which had been handed down since time immemorial. People have to be initiated in the sampradaya. To carry on the sampradaya, initiating spiritual masters are necessary, so Lord Caitanya gave the standard. He said:

āmāraājīāya guru haiätāra' eideça

"You become guru on My order." In the same way, Prabhupada said, "Now I am ordering you. You become Guru." So, on behalf of Prabhupada,

the GBC is ordering, "Now you also have to take up this responsibility." No one should take it up, without getting the order. That is not the proper etiquette.

One should take up this responsibility, on their order, even if one feels himself to be somewhat insignificant, or incapable of such a great responsibility. With faith in Prabhupada, the previous acaryas, and the mercy of Lord Caitanya, one can take up the great responsibilities endowed in this function of initiating.

Now, Governing Body Commission, on behalf of Srila Prabhupada, has formally requested Gopal Krishna Goswami Maharaja to take up this responsibility. We request His Divine Grace, Gopal Krishna Goswami to give us a blessing and instruction in pursuance of Srila Prabhupada's words at this time.

Gopal Krishna Goswami:

**oàajiàna-timirândhasya
jiänäijana-çalākayä
cakñurunmélitaàyena
tasmaiçré-guravenamaù**

**çré-caitanya-mano-'bhéñöàà
sthäpitaàyenabhü-tale
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**çré-kãñëa-caitanya
prabhu-nityänanda
çréadvaitaçrégadädhara
çréväsädi-gaura-bhakta-vânda**

**Hare Kãñëa, Hare Kãñëa,
KãñëaKãñëa , Hare Hare/
Hare Râma, Hare Râma
RâmaRâma, Hare Hare**

First I would like to thank the managers of the Governing Body Commission for giving me the responsibility to initiate on behalf of His Divine Grace, A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, members of the Krishna consciousness movement. Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu predicted that one day, this movement will spread to every town and village of the world, and Bhaktivinoda Thakura also predicted that a great soul will appear who will lead the Krishna consciousness movement. Now, we have seen this movement, founded by His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, the fruition of these plans for

continuing to spread this Krishna consciousness movement in every corner of the world.

Prabhupadahad a plan. He set up a Governing Body Commission to run the Society. Very often people would come up to Prabhupadato ask who will succeed him, and he would always say that the Governing Body Commission is going to take on the matter. Prabhupada said that the GBC body represents him, and any decision made by the GBC body is the statement he decided upon.

We can see, over the past four years since Prabhupada's departure, this movement has continued to expand all over the world. Normally, when the Founder-Acarya disappears, there is a lot of confusion, but this movement has continued to expand all over the world because Prabhupada injected the principles of purity in this institution.

If we remain pure and dedicated to the instructions of SrilaPrabhupada, then there will be no difficulty in advancing in spiritual life. Prabhupada used to say that spiritual life is easy for the simple. So, spiritual life is not difficult.

The spiritual master's business is he simply repeats what he has heard from his spiritual master, in the same way as the postman's business is just to deliver the mail. The disciple's business then, is to simply follow the instructions of the spiritual master, who is repeating the instructions of his spiritual master. It becomes Krishna consciousness movement to go on expanding as it has been; it is very essentialtherefore, that we stick to the teachings thatSrilaPrabhupada has given us.

We should remember, as his disciples and grand-disciples that there's no acarya greater than Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. We should also remember the work that Prabhupada has done and how very powerful he is. He not only opened nearly 200 temples, but he also wrote nearly 80 books. And these books will guide the members of this Krishna conscious society, eternally.

Prabhupada said, "This Krishna consciousness movement will go on expanding for the next 10,000 years.", and that,"One day these books will become the law books of the world.", so we should read these books. All of the instructions are there in his books. We don't have to turn to any other spiritual authority for direction.

Prabhupada said he has left everything in his books. We should develop the habit of reading his books regularly, and understanding his instructions. With the assistance of the senior Godbrothers of this movement, all confusion can be removed. We should remain pure to

the principles that are laid down in these books in the various instructions.

In the first volume of Srimad-Bhagavatam, Prabhupada wrote that the book is "Dedicated to my eternal spiritual master, who lives forever by divine instructions, and the follower lives with him." Prabhupada is living with us in his divine spiritual instructions. We just have to meditate on those instructions, and if we meditate on those instructions, we would feel fully satisfied.

So, on this most auspicious day, the appearance day of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, I would like to request all my Godbrothers and the disciples of my Godbrothers to remain pure to the teachings of Prabhupada. Prabhupada has given us everything. We don't need to go to any other personality to gain any type of spiritual instruction.

As one of the acaryas of this Krishna consciousness movement, I would like to pledge my loyalty to the Governing Body Commission, recognizing the fact that the Governing Body Commission is the true representative of Srila Prabhupada. Even if I am an acarya, I have to abide by their instructions, because when the body is assembled together, and it comes to a decision, that is the same as Prabhupada making a decision. Hare Krishna.

Jayapataka Swami: The sannyasa candidates' ceremonies will commence, and from their sannyasa-guru, subsequently they will get the special pranam-mantra that Prabhupada has requested every sannyasi to say three times a day.

Jayapataka Swami: Bhanu Das. I first had association with Bhanu when Srila Prabhupada flew in from Japan. That's when he personally made him a devotee. Bhanu has received guru-krpa, special mercy from guru. He is also one of our senior members. Since 1970, he's been a devotee. He knows Bengali and Sanskrit, he wants to preach in India and in Japan, translate the scriptures, and to preserve the strict purity of Srila Prabhupada's movement, and the siddhanta or the conclusions of sastra, according to Srila Prabhupada's books. Bhanu Swami.

Bhanu Swami Maharajaki, jaya!

Sacisuta was absorbed in sankirtana consciousness, in firing up all the sankirtana devotees, so now we hope that as a sannyasi, he will be a perfect example and continue to fire up the sankirtana movement in South America, especially in Chile, and see many of Srila Prabhupada's books distributed there. May he see also Prabhupada's teachings

preserved in their pure form. So nombre es SacisutaSwamiMaharajaki, Jaya!

NitaichandGoswami. NitaichandGoswami is our temple president here in Mayapur. SrilaPrabhupada instructed him that he should especially protect Mayapur-dhama. Now he has a danda to do it with.

Tamal Krishna Goswami: Maharaja's parents are very niceGaudiyaVaisnavas. His father came to see me, and said "Please protect my son." Naturally, the parents always see the son as a little boy, but I said to them, "Actually, Nitaichand Maharaja is protecting all of the devotees staying here."

Jayapataka Swami: Actually, he was a policeman, so now he's policeman for Krishna. Of course, as a sannyasi, he has to travel and preach all around Gaura-mandala-bhumi, and all around Mayapura-dhama, and that, he can do just by circumambulating this temple, Navadvipa-dhama, and the holy land. The whole world is coming to him.

Nitaichand Maharajaki, jaya!

Tatpara Swami. Our Tatpara Swami was taking out the, bollock party and van party, steadily. He's one of the very first devotees that lived in a grass hut here, in 1971, after the land was purchased upon SrilaPrabhupada's instruction by Tamal Krishna Goswami and others. Actually, Prabhupada himself wanted to give him sannyasa, but now he's finally taking up this responsibility, so he is going to be preaching and establishing Lord Caitanya's movement all over Bengal, very strongly.

TatparaSwamiMaharajaki, jaya!

Then we have Subhag Swami. SubhagSwamiMaharajaki, jaya!

Subhag Swami Maharaja was first sent by his parents to England for higher studies. And then in England he met SrilaPrabhupada's movement, and got the highest study. Since then, he has been translating SrilaPrabhupada's books, and now he's preaching in Calcutta.

Now, as a sannyasi, he'll take up dynamic preaching to the higher class citizens of Calcutta, and the world, of this Krishna consciousness movement. Subhag Swami Maharajaki, jaya!

Then we have our Gurukula Regional Secretary of India, who's teaching all our students from all around the world, Dhanurdhara Swami Maharaja. DhanurdharaSwamiMaharajaki, jaya!

His Holiness Agramika Swami Maharajaki, jaya!

Jayapataka Swami: Who is going to be preaching also, to the intellectuals, no doubt, in the northeast, if there are any. The real intellectual of course is one who understands Krishna consciousness, even if he can't read and write. But, we need sannyasis to establish pure devotional service, and be perfect examples.

And then, we have Prahladananda Swami Maharajaki, jaya! A well-known preacher in our movement.

And Mahakrama Swami Maharajaki, jaya! President, Regional Secretary of Philadelphia. Now our temples are becoming strengthened by sannyasis, for preaching. In this way, our sannyasis and our grhasthas are all cooperating, each taking their responsibilities, seriously.

So that is the end of our sannyasi initiation celebration.

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