

His Divine Grace Śrīla Bhakti Rakṣaka Śrīdhara Deva Goswāmī Mahārāja

81.08.27 -

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: ...and Kṛṣṇa disappeared. What is this? General heart of devotees he holds there. And Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura has given his opinion in this place that, “Kṛṣṇa was little aloof only to enjoy the attitude of Rādhārāṇī at that, under such circumstances, He was enjoying that.” Harmonising things are there. So in Yaśodā and all the first class servitors, there cannot be any fault, they’re perfect in their service. But still if we find any deviation that is to produce some, another *rasa* for the taste of both the parties. This way it will be seen to be harmonious.

Hare Kṛṣṇa. Gaura Haribol. Gaura Haribol. Gaura Haribol. Gaura Haribol.

So you are all my very precious friends. Prabhupāda wanted me to preach in the west. But my fault, for some fault on my part, deceived him, but he is so gracious. And also through Swāmī Mahārāja I get you. And anyhow my talk, my voice, my, what little I know about Kṛṣṇa consciousness that is going out _____ [?]

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: That also is not fault Mahārāja. That is also to increase the mellow. To make everybody to taste another kind of mellow you have got from the pastimes.

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: The publicity. *Ahaitukī kṛpa sindhu*. It is in *Prapanna-jīvanāmṛtam*, the ocean of causeless mercy, the Vaiṣṇava. So exacting from me the service of Mahāprabhu for the world at large, so very intimately connected friend you are of mine, all of you, all of you, helping my service a great deal. So I am very much thankful. Gaura Haribol. Gaura Haribol. Gaura Haribol. Gaura Haribol. Hare Kṛṣṇa.

Dhīra Kṛṣṇa Mahārāja: Mahārāja, we are the ones who are very much thankful to Your Divine Grace.

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: That is the nature of this plane, ha, ha, everyone thinks that he will be benefited; he's benefited, he'll be thankful, the very nature. And that is a very peculiar and mystic nature.

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: That reminds me Mahārāja, during the last Māyāpur festival, Gaura Pūrṇimā festival, when everyone used to come here, so one day you were telling Satsvarūpa Mahārāja when he came, you told him, he said, ‘thank you,’ and you said, ‘why are you saying thank you.’

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Hmm?

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: He said, ‘thank you,’ to you, but you replied, you asked him, ‘why do you say thank you? As if by saying this ‘thank you’ you are creating a distance.’ But it is our...

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Ha, ha. That is the custom, the courtesy of the society.

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: But you pointed out that since we are in the same *sampradāya*, and this is, we must accept it as natural gift. And I also understood that when the father gives something the son doesn’t say thank you, usually. But when a distant people give something, then...

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Then they thank you, it is our custom. But there perhaps...

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: Even there, they say thank you to the father and mother.

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Thank God, no, they will thank God, thank God. In the Brahmo fashion here. _____ [?]

Devotee: _____ [?]

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: “We are compelled, or we are obliged to you.”

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: “We are under obligation to give you thanks because you are supplying so many things for our enjoyment.” This is the relation between God and the *jīva*. It is the Brahmo fashion. I am His, I am His own; I am not a second party that I shall show courtesy towards Him, courtesy. That I am getting some benefit from Him, I am another independent separate party.

Hare Kṛṣṇa. I am hearing, listening to *Bhāgavata* and *kīrtan*, everything. I am a slave. The whole profit will go to my master. I am not a party; I am not an independent party. I am His own; I’m His slave. Whatever He wants to do through me the beneficiary is only one, not a second beneficiary, *advaya-jñāna* means the beneficiary is one. It is *līlā*, and we are part of that. We are not independent beneficiaries. That should be thought out, *advaya-jñāna*. This is the pure, harmonised absolute, conception of purely harmonised absolute; that only one beneficiary in the universe. It is His *līlā*, everything to satisfy Him, every movement, every existence. Existence, movement, and also different expression of satisfaction, all included within Him, the only beneficiary.

Gaura Haribol. Gaura Haribol. Gaura Haribol. Nitāi Caitanya. Nitāi Caitanya.

[About 1:50 minutes of Bengali (?) conversation]

Once, to construct a temple in Purī, Goswāmī Mahārāja collected money from the King of Mailbunj [?], the chief of Mailbunj Mahārājah. Estimation at that time was fifteen thousand, and eight thousand, advance he gave. He took the money and gave it to Prabhupāda. But there was, the whole money was expended in the exhibition of Māyāpur. The Māyāpur position for the, one competitor in [blachin?] Māyāpur, he began to propagate in such a way that Prabhupāda felt necessity of showing the splendour of Māyāpur at that time. And the whole money was spent there. And the Mailbunj also inquired, ‘What about the temple?’

At that time Goswāmī Mahārāja explained. “Vaiṣṇava, we have given something for food, but he was so thirsty he has taken a glass of water and not milk.” A glass of milk was offered, milk water or sugar water, but for, he took something else. That was, he was thirsty. More necessity was there. So it has been transformed. And we must rely his heart, his attitude, Kṛṣṇa *sevā*. He knows his best how to utilise. So we don't have to repent for that, or to get any explanation for that. He’s more...

Once, when I came here in the beginning, first I came to Māyāpur. I saw many gentleman has sent money order and Parvat Mahārāja is receiving them for the service of Mahāprabhu. And

that touched me very much, that how fortunate they are. At the birth time of Mahāprabhu they are giving some contribution for the service of the Great Lord.

And when I was posted in Kurukṣetra I used to come to Delhi and collect funds, four *annas*, eight *annas*, one rupee, two rupee, in this way for the service of Kurukṣetra Maṭha. But that time, the Gaura Pūrṇimā, Mahāprabhu's birth ceremony drawing near, I laboured hard and collected...

You are going away?

Devotee: Yes. I'll be coming back.

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: ...hard, and collected twenty-five rupees more for what was necessary for Kurukṣetra. And privately I remitted that to Māyāpur.

There was one senior man with me in Kurukṣetra. He told, "This time you seem to be too much reduced, fatigued." Anyhow when the coupon came back, it came to his hand. He said, "Oh, you have sent twenty-five rupees there. You did not say to me."

"I was afraid that without your permission I sent it. So I hesitated to say to you at that time."

Then a letter came from Prabhupāda. And he told that, "What you have sent for the birth celebration of the birth ceremony of Mahāprabhu has been taken for the service of both Nityānanda Prabhu and Mahāprabhu," he told.

Then when I came back there I was told that Prabhupāda told that, "This money has got a very great value. It has come, money is small, the quantity is small, but it has come when the necessity is great; necessity is great."

When one is thirsty, then the valuation of the water increases. So, "Thy necessity is greater," that Sidney case, in the battlefield, Sidney, a big man, and ordinary soldier, when only one glass of water was taken in the battlefield for Sidney. He was a rich man and a good scholar and he is dying in the battlefield. And he wanted a glass of water. And anyhow it was managed only one glass of water. And at that time a soldier more wounded he, "I want water." He gave it to him. It has been an example: Sidney. So according to the necessity: the valuation of water.

So Prabhupāda told that, "Twenty-five rupees is not much, but the necessity for small quantity was very great at that time." So the twenty-five rupees met a great necessity. And Prabhupāda told, "This money, who has sent, with great energy and attention, he has collected this money. So the small quantity satisfies a big necessity. That is to judge." And he told that, "You sent it for Mahāprabhu. I utilised it both for Nityānanda Prabhu and Mahāprabhu." And he wrote it to me. Hare Kṛṣṇa. It is for *sevā*, not for any conditional gift.

Hare Kṛṣṇa. Hare Kṛṣṇa. Nitāi. Nitāi. Nitāi. Nitāi.

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: Mahārāja, what do you think of Atal [?] Kṛṣṇa Goswāmī?

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Atal [?] Kṛṣṇa Goswāmī, a formal Goswāmī, he translated, no, he published one edition of *Caitanya Bhāgavata*; an ordinary Goswāmī.

Devotee: Yati Goswāmī.

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Yati Goswāmī. I attended one of his lectures when I was in Calcutta. Rādhā-Govinda Pal, Rādhā-Vinode Pal, one of the umpire in the second great war, after Rādhā-Vinode Pal, a good lawyer and he was engaged in the committee to decide the

international _____ in the _____ and other, the, perhaps this side, eastern war field, three judges, one from India, another two _____. He told that Japan has no, he has not committed any crime. If he would have been victorious then he would have tried you as criminal war mongers. For this independent judgement he got international position, the Rādhā-Vinode Pal in Calcutta.

The Kṛṣṇa dasa Pal statue, you know? Kṛṣṇa dasa Pala, Harrison Road and College Street Road, there is a statue Kṛṣṇa dasa Pal. His family, Kṛṣṇa dasa Pal, then Rādhā-Caran Pal, his son was Rādhā-Vinode Pal.

In his house there was a meeting, Ato [?] Kṛṣṇa presiding, and Svarūpa Ghosh _____ and Śyāmasundar Cakravartī, they delivered lectures. I was at that time living nearby. I went to attend their lecture. I heard a sober, mild tempered man delivered lecture, not excited. But his later action has frustrated me totally. When: before his death he gave twenty five thousand or something, or more than that, some rupees for the hospital; not for the propagation of Mahāprabhu's advice.

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: Ke Mahārāja?

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Ato [?] Kṛṣṇa Gowāmī.

Devotees: _____ [?]

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Hari dāsa Goswāmī, a once big scholar, at present living just on the Kaliyadaha, Hari dāsa Goswāmī, a scholarly man.

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: _____ [?]

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Oh, he has come from that family. I do not know. I knew Dāmodara, he was a good scholar of *Vedānta* and *Nyāya*. He read *Nyāya* from Navadvīpa and *Vedānta*, he is a good scholar. He has got a book on *Vedānta* also, the Rādhā-Ramana Dāmodara.

Another gentleman was Kṛṣṇa Caitanya. He was not a very good devotee but not anti Gauḍīya Maṭha. Another Guṇamali, three, and another Madhusudan, Sārvabhauma. Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura gave him the title Sārvabhauma. There was a big meeting in Midnapur and Prabhupāda his *Brāhmaṇa Vaiṣṇava* _____ that book, the lecture, on the basis of that lecture and that lecture was given where Madhusudan Goswāmī presided. He was a good scholar and also related to Gauḍīya Maṭha. Others, present generation I am not acquainted with.

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: _____ [?]

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Sometimes we do that in order to force him to listen, and to attract the public. For these two reasons, that he will also get some idea and he will try to correct himself, as well as to take this advantage of his good position and then draw the audience. For two purposes to do it, *anukulyasya sankalpa*. _____ Test of the people, ordinary people to spread that, that it not much spread. But to convince people of the highest thing, to so many, number. The highest quality, when connotation increases, denotation decreases, connotation increases. And connotation decreases, denotation increases. But the highest connotation has been distributed so widely, the denotation circle is so wide it is almost impossible. So impossible has been made possible by Him. Hare Kṛṣṇa.

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: Dhīra Kṛṣṇa Mahārāja, do you have any questions?

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Dhīra Kṛṣṇa Mahārāja is going for some long time. His separation we shall feel here very keenly; though short association but still impression is deep.

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: Very sweet also.

Dhīra Kṛṣṇa Mahārāja: Sometimes, when I am in the west, I feel your separation very intensely.

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Necessarily, because you have got much affection for me, extraordinary affection.

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: Dhīra Kṛṣṇa Mahārāja is always singing your glory, Mahārāja.

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: Hare Kṛṣṇa. He sent a letter _____; that is one, another point _____ These quotations from the scriptures that showed his position of affection for me.

Bhakti Caru Swāmī: Their big complaint about Dhīra Kṛṣṇa Mahārāja is that he did not manage. Although he was the president of Los Angeles he did not manage, but he was always sitting in his room and talking about your teachings, talking about Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja's teachings.

Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja: In a paper I saw, perhaps in *Ānanda Bazaar*, this India sent ambassador to America, but what is that? Swāmī Mahārāja is the real ambassador of India to America. So something like that. What he was doing that was the real management, thinking of the highest topics within him, and the thought wave spreading outside.

Vivekānanda mentioned in one place I heard, I read from when I was in college, in *raja yoga* perhaps. He of course told about Pariha, one Pariha *bābā*. That Pariha *bābā* and such *sādhus* they bring things from a very, very high plane to the ordinary psychic plane. And the Jesu and Mohammed, all these people they take from the plane of Parhia *bābā* and then they take those things to the market here in the mundane plane. So from the highest plane to take down to certain level, and from there to spread things to the external world: the mercantile method. So higher thought may come in the higher level, and from there also it may come. So high thinking. That is from the highest quarter to take the thing to the ordinary plane. And the *ṛṣis* of that plane they may also take them to the public market here. So high thinking, that is also preaching in other words, thinking also preaching to certain extent, to move a particular, to take the wave of movement in a particular layer.

Hare Kṛṣṇa. Hare Kṛṣṇa. Kṛṣṇa. Kṛṣṇa.

[Śrīla Śrīdhara Mahārāja finishes speaking at about 27:15, then *kīrtans*]

[Śrī Śrī Gurv-aṣṭaka,
Pañca Tattva Mahā-mantra,
Śrī kṛṣṇa-caitanya prabhu jīve dayā kari',
Śrī Śrī Prabhupāda-padma-stavakaḥ.]

.....