

His Divine Grace Śrīla Bhakti Rakṣaka Śrīdhara Deva Goswāmī Mahārāj

81.10.24

Śrīla B.R. Śrīdhara Swāmī: ...began his activities in the lowest and he had to go away. I am going in sixty-three, ten years mistake I counted, so he has been, if he had been another ten years of course he could show...in the preaching of the West in his lifetime. But anyhow [Śrīla A.C. Bhaktivedānta] Swāmī Mahārāj he has done a miracle, most successfully? We thank our fortune that we are still living to see the desire of our Guru Mahārāj fulfilled to such a great extent which we did not expect at all, beyond our expectation, the success, according to our calculation, success beyond our calculation. And we lived to see that, to have practical experience of that.

Gaura Hari bol! Gaura Hari bol! Gaura Hari bol! Gaura Hari bol! Gaura Hari bol!

Devotee: Did Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Saraswatī Ṭhākura Prabhupāda discuss any specific idea for preaching in England and other places of Europe? Did he give any special...

Śrīla B.R. Śrīdhara Swāmī: Yes. Here he made planning after planning. And he used to consult those books containing the maps of England. And here they have hired the house for the Maṭh. And the Parliament used to consult the map. And also history, and also used to read the preaching history of the Catholic Fathers, how, and what sort of experience they had to undergo in the management and administration of so many churches under them. Those they used to read. But more, when he circumambulated Vraja *maṇḍala*, the book of one Mr (Grouch?) who had got much investigation about the ancient acquaintances of Vṛndāvana, one copy he kept with him, the (Grouch?), one Mr (Grouch?).....he wrote ancient history..... Then one Mr (Grouch?) he had special interest for Vṛndāvana. And where it is situated, what place, the name, and what was the *līlā* of Kṛṣṇa there, the detail is found there. (Grouch?) You may find that book, you may try to find that book.

Devotee: That book is for Mathurā.

Śrīla B.R. Śrīdhara Swāmī: Not only Mathurā, Mathurā *maṇḍala*, the whole of Vraja *maṇḍala*. The description of the whole of Vraja *maṇḍala* is given there. Now and then he consulted that book, I saw. Ha, ha, ha. And at the same time he was very strict about this *rasa līlā* etc, the highest *rasa*. So much so when he was living in Vṛndāvana during this (kartika minor?) one month of observed generally the month of kartika, he, in the end of his life, he used to observe this month in Vṛndāvana. When he was there in Vṛndāvana one of his old friends who was an attorney and then retired, and he became a disciple of a *sahajiyā* householder, Goswāmī, Pran Gopāla, and he invited Pran Gopāla Goswāmī to read the *rasa-līlā* in his house. One day he came to see Prabhupāda because he had some respect for him from his childhood.....? And Prabhupāda also

thought to give a return visit to that gentleman's house. And we heard there that he's austere and he's attending that discourse of *Bhāgavatam*, and *Bhāgavatam rasa-līlā*. Anyhow he managed to go up, this Paramahansa Mahārāj was his attendant at that time. And he went there, and just put, showed his respect to *Bhāgavatam* and then came back. Then that gentleman, his old friend, he had no other alternative but to come back. Announced there, "*Rasa-līlā*, that reading is going on there. And how is it that you are only bowing down by bending your head there you come away."

Then he told that it is the direction of our Guru Mahārāj that to attend the *rasa-līlā* of Kṛṣṇa, that is a direct, great offence, that is offence.Disobey him and commit offences against *Bhāgavatam* and my Gurudeva. It is an offence. So it is not for ordinary people. If they go to approach when they're not fit for that then,

drstya pal koyal ardyā?

They will acquire some opposite results, opposite conception. Very strict in that regard, very strict to go on according to principles. The Rāmadāsa Bābājī's party was chanting when he was invited in a Barrister's, in a? house in Kulia. To explain on *Bhāgavatam*, he has gone with his own party, but when he reached there he saw the party of Rāmadāsa Bābājī, he was also invited previously and they're chanting Nitāi Gaura Rādhe Śyāma. He proposed to the owner of the house that this is offending, this *kīrtana*, not acting in accordance with the scriptural true conception. It is offending so that should be stopped.

But the gentleman, the (bhakhi?), he told, "I invited them. How can I request them to stop? They're also *sādhus*. How can I request them?"

He at once left the place to go away with his own party. No compromise, no compromise with half truth or any (vikṛta? vikar?) means...

Devotee: Perverted, perversion.

Śrīla B.R. Śrīdhara Swāmī: Perverted, imitated or perverted, or any filthy thing. No compromise. And at the same time, if anyone is found to put any objection in the true conception, he must go there and put some objection. Once, one *zamindar* in Orissa, he passed some remark against Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura's books, in his early life. He was gone somewhere else and he came to his quarter and heard that that *zamindar* he passed some remark against Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura, at nine o'clock. Then he went to that *zamindar's* house nearly by ten o'clock at night, and by pushing his door.

And he wanted to know who is he, what is your business with me in this night?"

"I have come to say to you, you have not got the position to unlatch the shoes of Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura. A fellow of your status has the audacity to put his mark against Bhaktivinoda Ṭhākura's writing. I give opposition to that."

Just as it makes me remember one political act. When? in the revolutionary day of Indian history, the political history, (when partition followed?) some British officer was murdered. At that time, the then leaders of India,? and others, they were in England and Bor? convened a meeting there, of the Indians. And discussion about this murder they put a resolution in the meeting.....?

(the recording from here is too faint to continue transcribing)