



IPM News



Dedicated to His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

SEPTEMBER 2011 ISKCON Prison Ministry Newsletter

Changing Lives From the Inside Out!

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Thankfulness

By Bhakti-lata Dasi

Sometimes, devotees ask me if the inmates are grateful for the support IPM provides to them. You can find this answer loud and clear, in the quotes below:

“Hare Krsna. Please accept my humblest obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

Once again I am humbled by your gift. My appreciation is seated deep within. I really am at a loss for words. Every day the Lord blesses me in so many ways. I devour all reading material. If I'm not at my job, which unfortunately doesn't allow any reading material while there, I am at my bunk, immersed in all these Vedic wisdom I am so fortunate to have. I offer anyone who shows interest a book to read and I've had several chances to share with others. I've, by Krsna's mercy, learned so much; I know there is so much yet to be revealed, but I am at peace knowing these prayers to Sri Sri Radha-Krsna. Chanting and reading and studying.; God will keep advancing the spirit while freeing me from the grasp of material ignorance and passion. I will forever remember and be thankful for the copy of Bhagavad-gita you sent me in County Jail; it has started a wheel in motion that, to me, is priceless and my most valued treasure. May you and your endeavors be blessed. May ISKCON and IPM be blessed. What I feel, I think, it's love in my heart; so long I've been numb, led by lust and desire. I'm just rediscovering myself, my true nature. I can't rightly explain this feeling. Haribol. My deepest reverences.”

Clayton Selvia, Milton, FL

“I have received your gift in the mail. It is very welcome and very much appreciated. Without IPM and the seva of IPM volunteers these walls would be very bleak indeed. Bringing the Light of Truth of our Lord Sri Krishna is the greatest single thing anyone has ever done for me, and I have IPM to thank for it. A thousand blessings upon you all, and may the next year bring even more souls to the lotus feet of our Lord. Hare Krishna. Your obedient servant.”

Bhakta Mark Davis, Iowa Park, TX

"I simply want to say that I pray Krishna will always bless the work you do. I for one am eternally grateful to all members of IPM. You have no idea how deeply you have impacted my life. I really am unable to express it in words. All I can say is thank you. Haribol! Countless bows, Bhakta Ricky"

Ricky Jones, Huntsville, TX

"Bhakta James and I watched "The Hare Krsna People" on the "Your Ever Well-Wisher" DVD. James really liked seeing that. For almost 2 years I've promised him DVDs that show he and I aren't the only people in this world who worship Krsna. Thanks to your help, this is finally possible. Thank you so much.

I was moved from E Dorm to B, which has three times as many people, more violence, and thievery, and more souls to preach to. On a consistent basis I try to remember Krsna, yet fail again and again, but keep trying. It was a hard thing for me to comprehend Krsna, but thanks to Carl Sheppard [another inmate] not giving up on me, I finally got God's mercy."

Bhakta Gerald Niles, Daytona Beach, FL

Also, inmates often send me a postcard, like the two below, just to say thank you:

"Hello, prabhu, just wanted to thank you for the BTGs. They mean the world to me. Haribol! With respectful obeisances, your servant, Kalki Das"

Kalki Das Wirth, Delano, CA

"Hare Krsna! I hope this finds you and yours in bright spirit and doing well. Thank you for the books, *Chanting Hare Krsna* and *The Definitive Guide to Practicing KC in Prison*, and especially for *How to give a good class* pamphlet. I'm excited about the new chapel. We have it wired with surround sound; we're almost finished! More later." (*The chapel is the only place where inmates can view the Prabhupada DVDs IPM send them. They also gather in groups to have Krsna conscious programs.*)

Gary Griffin, Portland, OR

To read more excerpts of inmate letters and to see some of their artwork, please visit our website at www.iskconprisonministry.org

If you want to receive IPM NEWS, our monthly electronic newsletter, please send us an e-mail with "Subscribe to IPM NEWS" in the subject line.

To help with this prison program, please contact Mukunda Dasa or Bhakti-lata Dasi at:

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