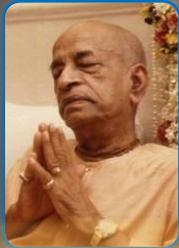


Freedom Newsletter



Dedicated to His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
Founder-Acarya of the International Society for Kṛṣṇa Consciousness

ISKCON Prison Ministry / August 2025

PO Box 2676
Alachua, FL 32616

PRABHUPADA SPEAKS OUT: Evolution in Fact and Fantasy—[part 2](#)

The following conversation (part 2) between His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada and some of a disciple took place in Los Angeles in June 1972. The disciple takes the role of an atheist scientist.

Devotee: Well, if I examine the layers of earth, I find in the deepest layers no evidence—

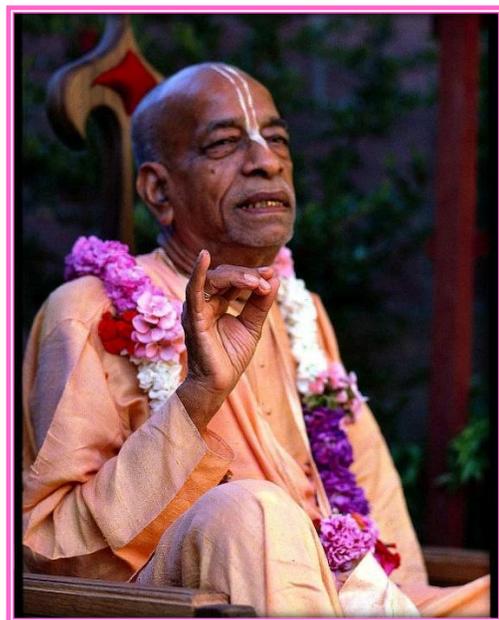
Srila Prabhupada: You are packed up with layers of earth, that's all. That is the boundary of your knowledge. But that is not knowledge; there are many other evidences.

Devotee: But surely if men were living millions of years ago, they would have left evidence, tangible evidence, behind them. I could see their remains.

Srila Prabhupada: So I say that in human society bodies are burned after death, cremated. So where does your excavator get his bones?

Devotee: Well, that's possible, but—

Srila Prabhupada: According to our Vedic system, the body is burned to ashes after death. Where, therefore, would the rascal get the bones? Animals are not burned; their bones remain. But human beings are burned, and therefore they cannot find their bones.



Devotee: I'm just saying that it appears, through layer after layer of deposits in the earth, that biological forms tend to progress from simple and primitive forms to more and more complex and specialized ones, until finally civilized man appears.

Srila Prabhupada: But at the present moment both simple and complex forms are existing. One did not develop into the other.



For example, my childhood body has developed into my adult body, and the child's body is no longer there. So

if the higher, complex

species developed from the simpler, lower species, then we should see no simple species. But all species are now existing simultaneously.

When I see all 8,400,000 species of life existing, what is the question of development? Each species exists now, and it existed long ago. You might not have seen it, but you have no proper source of knowledge. You might have missed it. That is another thing.

Devotee: But all the evidence shows otherwise. Five hundred million years ago there were no land animals; there were only aquatics.

Srila Prabhupada: That is nonsense. You cannot give a history of five hundred million years! Where is the history of five hundred million years? You are simply imagining. You say historical evidence, but where is your evidence? You cannot give a history for more than three thousand years, and you are speaking about five hundred million. This is all nonsense.

Devotee: If I dig far into the ground, layer by layer—

Srila Prabhupada: By dirt you are calculating five hundred million years? It could be *ten* years. You cannot give the history of human society past three thousand years, so how can you speak of four hundred or five hundred million years ago? Where were you then? Were you there, so you can say that all these species were not there? This is imagination. In this way everyone can imagine and say some nonsense.

We accept evolution, but not that the forms of the species are changing. The bodies are all already there, but the soul is evolving by changing bodies and by transmigrating from one body to another. I have evolved from my childhood body to my adult body, and now my childhood body is extinct. But there are many other children. Similarly, all the species are now existing simultaneously, and they were all there in the past.

For example, if you are traveling in a train, you find first class, second class, third class; they are all existing.

If you pay a higher fare and enter the first-class carriage, you cannot say, "Now the first class is created." It was always existing. So the defect of the evolutionists is that they have no information of the soul. The soul is evolving, transmigrating, from one compartment to another compartment, simply changing place. The *Padma Purana* says that there are 8,400,000 species of life, and the soul evolves through them. This evolutionary process we accept: The soul evolves from aquatics to plants, to insects, to birds, to animals, and then to the human forms. But all these forms are already there. They do not change. One does not become extinct and another survive. All of them are existing simultaneously.

Devotee: But Darwin says there are many species, like dinosaurs, that are seen to be extinct.

Srila Prabhupada: What has he seen? He is not so powerful that he can see everywhere or everything. His power to see is limited, and by that limited power he cannot conclude that one species is extinct. That is not possible. No scientist will accept that. After all, all the senses by which you gather knowledge are limited, so how can you say this is finished or that is extinct? You cannot see. You cannot search out. The earth's circumference is twenty-five thousand miles; have you searched through all the layers of rock and soil over the whole earth? Have you excavated all those places?

Devotee: No.

Srila Prabhupada: Therefore our first charge against Darwin is this: He says there were no human beings millions of years ago. That is not a fact. We now see human beings existing along with all other species, and it should be concluded that this situation always existed. Human life has always been there.

Darwin cannot say there was no human life.

Devotee: We don't see any dinosaurs existing.

Srila Prabhupada; *You* do not see because you have no power to see. Your senses are very limited, so what you see or don't see cannot be authoritative. So many people—the majority of people—say, "I don't see God." Shall we accept, then, that there is no God? Are we crazy for being devotees of God?

Devotee: No, but dinosaurs—

Srila Prabhupada: But simply by dinosaurs being missing you cannot make your case. What about all the other species?

Devotee: Many, many others are also extinct.



Srila Prabhupada: Say I accept that many are extinct—because the evolutionary process means that as an earlier species gradually changes into a later species, the earlier vanishes, becomes extinct. But we see that many monkeys are still here. Man evolves from the simians, but simians have not disappeared. Monkeys are here, and men are here.

Devotee: But still I'm not convinced. If we make geological investigations all over the world, not just here and there, but in many parts of the world, and in every case we find the same thing—

Srila Prabhupada: But I say you have not studied all over the world. Has Darwin studied all the continents on this planet? Has he gone down into the depths of the seas and there excavated all the layers of the earth? No. So his knowledge is imperfect. This is the relative world, and here everyone speaks with relative knowledge. Therefore we should accept knowledge from a person who is not within this relativity.

Devotee: Actually, Darwin hit upon his theory because of what he observed on his voyage in 1835 to the Galapagos Islands, off the coast of South America. He found there species that exist nowhere else—

Srila Prabhupada: That means he has not seen all the species. He has not traveled all over the universe. He has seen one island, but he has not seen the whole creation. So how can he determine what species exist and don't exist? He has studied one part of this earth, but there are many millions of planets. He has not seen all of them; he has not excavated the depths of all the planets. So how can he conclude, "This is nature"? He has not seen everything, nor is it possible for anyone to.

Devotee: Let's just confine ourselves to this planet.

Srila Prabhupada: No, why should we? Nature is not only on this planet.

Devotee: Because you said that on this planet there were complex forms of living beings millions and millions of years ago.

Srila Prabhupada: We are not talking about this planet, but about anywhere. You are referring to nature. Nature is not limited or confined to this planet. You cannot say that. Nature, material nature, includes millions of universes, and in each and every universe there are millions of planets. If you have studied only this planet, your knowledge is insufficient.

Devotee: But you said before that millions of years ago on this planet there were horses, elephants, civilized men—

Srila Prabhupada: Yes, yes.



Devotee: But from hundreds of different sources there is no evidence.

Srila Prabhupada: I say they are existing now—men, horses, snakes, insects, trees. So why not millions of years ago?

Devotee: Because there is no evidence.

Srila Prabhupada: That doesn't mean—! You limit your study to one planet. That is not full knowledge.

Devotee: I just want to find out for the time being about—

Srila Prabhupada: Why the time being? If you are not perfect in your knowledge, then why should I accept your theory? That is my point.

Devotee: Well, if you claim that millions of years ago there were complex forms of life on this planet . . .

Srila Prabhupada: Whether on this planet or on another planet, that is not the point. The point is that all species exist and keep on existing by the arrangement of nature. We learn from the Vedic texts that there are 8,400,000 species established. They may be in your neighborhood or they may be in my neighborhood—the number and types are fixed. But if you simply study your neighborhood, it is not perfect knowledge. Evolution we admit. But your evolutionary theory is not perfect. Our theory of evolution is perfect. From the *Vedas* we know that there are 8,400,000 forms of bodies provided by nature, but the soul is the same in all, in spite of the different types of body. There is no change in the soul, and therefore the *Bhagavad-gita* [5.18] says that one who is wise, a *pandita*, does not see the species or the class; he sees oneness, equality. *Panditah sama-darsinah*. One who sees to the bottom sees the soul, and he does not find there any difference between all these species.

Devotee: So Darwin and other material scientists who have no information about the soul—

Srila Prabhupada: They're missing the whole point.

Devotee: They say that all living things tend to evolve from lower to higher. In the history of the earth—

Srila Prabhupada: That may be accepted. For example, in an apartment building there are different kinds of apartments: first-class apartments, second-class apartments, third-class apartments. According to your desire and qualification, as you are fit to pay the rent, you are allowed to move up to the better apartments. But the different apartments are already there. *They* are not evolving. The residents are evolving by moving to new apartments as they desire.

Devotee: As they desire.

Srila Prabhupada: Yes. According to our mentality at the time of death, we get another "apartment," another

body. But the “apartment” is already there, not that I’m creating the “apartment.”

And the classes of “apartments” are fixed at 8,400,000. Just like the hotel-keeper: He has experience of his customers coming and wanting different kinds of facilities. So he has made all sorts of accommodations to oblige all kinds of customers. Similarly, this is God’s creation. He knows how far a living entity can think, so He has made all these different species accordingly. When God thinks, “Come on, come here,” nature obliges. *Prakrteh kriyamanani gunaih karmani* [Bg. 3.27]: Nature is offering facility. God, Kṛṣṇa, is sitting in the heart of the living entity as Paramatma, and He knows, “He wants this.” So the Lord orders nature, “Give him this apartment,” and nature obliges. “Yes, come on; here is your apartment.” This is the real explanation.

Devotee: I understand and accept that. But I’m still puzzled as to why there is no geological evidence that in former times on this planet there were more complex forms.

Srila Prabhupada: Why are you taking geological evidence as final? Is it final? Science is progressing. You cannot say it is final.

Devotee: But I have excavated all parts of the world, and every time—

Srila Prabhupada: No. You have not excavated all parts of the world.

Devotee: Well, on seven continents.

Srila Prabhupada: Seven continents is not the whole world. You say you have excavated the whole world, but we say no, not even an insignificant portion. So your knowledge is limited. Dr. Frog has examined his three-foot-wide well, and now he claims to know the ocean. Experimental knowledge is always imperfect, because one experiments with imperfect senses. Therefore, scientific knowledge *must* be imperfect. Our source of knowledge is different. We do not depend on experimental knowledge.

Now you see no dinosaurs, nor have I seen all the 8,400,000 different forms of life. But my source of knowledge is different. You are an experimenter with imperfect senses. I have taken knowledge from the perfect, who has seen everything, who knows everything. Therefore, my knowledge is perfect. Say, for example, that I receive knowledge from my mother: “Here is your father.” But you are trying to search out your father on your own. You don’t go to your mother and ask; you just search and search.

Therefore, no matter how much you search, your knowledge will always remain imperfect.

Devotee: And your knowledge says that millions of years ago there were higher forms of life on this planet.

Srila Prabhupada: Oh, yes, because our Vedic information is that the first created being is the *most* intelligent, the most intellectual person within the universe—Lord Brahma, the cosmic engineer. So how can we accept your theory that intellect develops by evolution? We have received our Vedic knowledge from Brahma, who is so perfect.

Dr. Frog has studied his three-foot well, his little reservoir of water. The Atlantic Ocean is also a reservoir of water, but there is a vast difference. Dr. Frog cannot inform us about the Atlantic Ocean. But we take knowledge from the one who has made the Atlantic Ocean. So our knowledge is perfect.

Devotee: But wouldn’t there be evidence in the earth, some remains?

Srila Prabhupada: Our evidence is intelligence, not stones and bones. Our evidence is intelligence. We get Vedic information by disciplic succession from the

most intelligent. It is coming down by *śruti*, hearing. Vyasa-deva heard from Narada, Narada heard from Brahmā [picture above]—millions and millions of years ago. Millions and millions of our years pass, and it is not even one day for Brahma. So millions and billions and trillions of years are not very astonishing to us, for that is not even one day of Brahma. But Brahma was born of Kṛṣṇa, and intelligent philosophy has been existing in our universe from the date of Brahma’s birth. Brahma was first educated by God, and His knowledge is passed down to us in the Vedic literature. So we get in the *Vedas* such intelligent information. But those so-called scientists and philosophers who do not follow this system of descending knowledge, who do not accept knowledge thus received from higher authorities—they can’t have any perfect knowledge, no matter what research work they carry out with their blunt senses. So whatever they say, we take it as imperfect.

Our method is different from theirs. They are searching after dead bones, and we are searching after living brains. This point should be stressed. They are dealing with dead bones, and we are dealing with living brains. So which should be considered better? 🌸



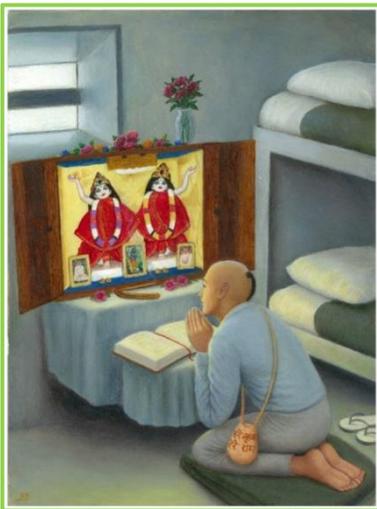
Lord Kṛṣṇa inspiring Lord Brahmā to create the universe.



Excerpts from inmates' letters

6/24/25

Lord Krsna first showed himself to me in 1999 at of all things a Marilyn Manson concert! I was walking with my friends in Cleveland towards the concert and a man with a shaved head and tuft of hair [in the back] approached us. My friends made fun of him, but he showed me a book that had Ganesh on the cover. I don't remember what it was. But I only had three dollars in my pocket. I offered them to him. I would pick it up and look at it. But none of it made any sense to me. I caught my case in 2001. Searched everywhere for religion. Couldn't find answers. I found the address to the New Vrindavan temple. When I got my first Gita which is now have sitting on my altar in front of my Panca Tatva, Sri Radha Krsna, and His Divine Grace [Śrīla Prabhupāda].



This is who I presently give service to, I tell them all good morning when I turn the lamp on that illuminates them all day. I offer my food that I make here, and I chant and read to them all. After first becoming Krsna conscious I went strong! But kind of like a boxer who fight his most in the first round. Hindsight; I burnt myself out! I started

kicking it with other people again, and next thing you know, the Gita and beads are sitting in my box and only thing about Krsna was a picture of child Krsna ,which I always have hung, with His flute, in a flower garden. I lost my bead bag because a CO said that fags can't carry purses. And my neck beads got taken for being too tight by regulation. And me in my fallen state didn't fight like I should have. Things I have asked forgiveness for often....

6/24/25

Now after years of indulgence! I was sitting here suffering the way that we do in this form and I was looking at Krsna on my wall. And just felt, 'Come Back Home!' Literally it was something I felt. I got out my Gita and read some for the first time in years. So I went to the chapel and talked to chaplain Nash. All Glories for this soul because, even though not a Vaishnava [devotee], he contacted ISKCON, got literature, and beads bags, etc. And this grand Srimad-Bhagavatam

that I haven't been able to read any because they won't let it leave the chapel. But it took four months of me fighting and, with the help of Nash fighting for me, I received my devotional tools! When he reached over the desk with my fresh beads and bag, I broke down in torrents of tears. I think Lord Krsna likes seeing me cry, He has me do it enough. :-) Hare Krishna!!! Now, the next week my Grandmother passed. Krsna came to me in time to get me through this. The chaplain asked me what our funeral rights are. This was a revelation about how little I know. All I could say is that as spirit soul, we should not lament and should rejoice because now hopefully she is in a more Krsna Conscious body. Before I fell, I used to chant wherever I could so people could hear the chant and gain a better spiritual position in the next life. So with that I gained a thirst to find out about our traditions. For example. holy days. I know of Ekadashi, Janmastami, Caturmasya but how is it proper to honor them? Any special prayers, etc...

6/24/25

I am back chanting, not back to sixteen rounds but will get there. I read Bhagavatam, and Gita daily. I hardly do anything anymore besides read and chant. We have EDOVO, and they put ISKCON books on there and that's how I read Bhagavatam. But if our Wi-Fi goes down, that's out. I have a personal copy of Canto one. I have a copy of *Nectar of Devotion*. But I could use a hardbound copy of *Teachings of Lord Chaitanya*, *Isopanisad*, and *Nectar of Instruction*. And is there some book that describes all of our everyday practices? Like I go out in the mornings and collect flowers while chanting Maha Mantra and then the only prayer I have for offering is the one I was taught to use for offering food. Namo Maho Vadanyaya, Krsna Prema Pradayate, Krishnaya Krsna Chaitanya, Is there any other service I can give at my personal altar? I will do the prayer for the six Goswamis, or recite Siksastakam, I always start with *Nama On Visnu Padaya Krsna Prestaya Bhutale*.... Please kind soul i have been drowning in this ocean, could you please offer me a hand up?

Brandon M. —Marion, Ohio

7/14/25

Things are going well....we are now allowed study time in the chapel.....lol!!!! baby steps.....haha! Several of us go and spend time going over whatever topics arise....we read from the Bhagavad-gita and read the newsletter out loud and discuss the articles. we now have ten ladies....some come every week and others off

and on....but it is a start.....I will keep you posted of the progress.....

We actually got to chant and did kirtan.....it was nice.....everyone studies from EDOVO.....we are reading "Beyond birth and death" right now.....the ladies ask me how I have managed to get through losing so much and why I am devoted to krsna? I simply explain that Krsna does not cause things to happenHe allows things.....that is the difference. I am devoted because it is my purpose for being.....In the past I am the one that got in my own way.....this world is full of miseries.....krsna is the only way to obtain true perfectionby pure devotion and love of Krsna we can have all that we desire.....they ask me



how can I find Krsna? I tell them everyone wants Krsna ! God doesn't have to jump in front of us to let us know He acknowledges our existenceeveryone would love that.... all we have to do is to turn our undivided attention towards Krsna.....if you give Krsna

your full attention you will get the same in return.....since Krsna is everywhere at once He is with us always.....pure devotion means we never have to be reborn into these miseries again.....so in this Krsna comforts me.....Krishna and His comfort is all I can ask.

Anyway.....just wanted to update you.....I miss you and hope you are well. Hello to all.....hope to

hear back from you soon.....always your Utsaha.....

Bhaktin Kimberly S. —Ocala, Florida



INMATES SPEAK OUT

All Glories to Sri Gurudeva and all Vaisnavas.

It is not easy to understand Krsna with these present material bodies and our egotistical ways. Srila Prabhupada has given us the tools necessary for grasping the concept of our eternal role in God's eternal pastimes, but due to our attachment to this materialistic condition it is most of the times hard for us to be able to comprehend Krsna's magnificence. With the weapons passed down on the Parampara succession line we can overcome sin and death and go back to a Godly life.

When Sri Krishna Chaitanya came to this earth about 500 yrs ago, He, through His mercy, gave us the Maha mantra and anyone without prejudice can become Krishna conscious and go back to Godhead. The method is easy and free; give up meat eating, gambling, intoxicants, and illicit sexual relationships. These four pillars of sinful life need to be eradicated from spiritual life and we will be successful in this lifetime.

Also chanting at least 16 rounds of the Maha mantra every day, reading Srila Prabhupada's books, and associating with Vaishnavas. There are plenty more procedures and ways to purify our existence but we have to start slow, then progressively get more involved. Our goal, if we are serious about it, is to eventually submit to a spiritual master for his guidance is required to be able to advance in spiritual endeavors. Remember that Srila Prabhupada is our instructing Guru as we follow his eternal message.

If conditions allow it, please go to a temple and become acquainted with Krishna, live a Godly life, and be free.

If your family is supportive then encourage them to be part of your experience. Give them a Kṛṣṇa conscious book and some prasadam. May your day be filled with blessings and devotion. 🌸

Humbly, Bhakta Jose A. — Fairton, New Jersey

Drops of Nectar

Srila Prabhupada: To them I reply, God is not dead; your intelligence is dead. You have a dead body, and you're proud of it. The body is just like a motorcar. A motorcar is dead, and if there is no driver it does not work. Similarly, the body is dead, and as soon as you, the soul, leave the body, it stops working. That means you are occupying a dead body. It is working only as long as you are there, but actually the body is dead. And you are decorating a dead body. All your acquisitions are simply decorations on a dead body. *Apranasya hi deha-sya mandanam loka-ranjanam.* Some rascal may applaud, "Oh, you are so intelligent; you are decorating your body so nicely." But an intelligent man will say, "What a fool he is, that he's decorating a dead body."

Conversation between His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada and several of his disciples in June 1974 —Paris, France

LIFE of a PURE DEVOTEE

HARIDA THAKUR and the Prostitute

The following story about the great devotee Haridas Thakur, is from the Shri Chaitanya Charitamrita His disappearance day this year is on September 6th.

After leaving his home, Haridas Thakura stayed for some time in the forest of Benapola (in India). Haridas Thakura constructed a cottage in a solitary forest. There he planted a Tulasi plant, and in front of the Tulasi he would chant the holy name of the Lord 300,000 times daily. He chanted throughout the entire day and night. For his bodily maintenance he would go to a brahmana's house and beg for some food. He was spiritually so influential that all the neighboring people worshiped him.

Ramachandra Khan was the zamindar (landholder) of that district. He was envious of Vaisnavas and was therefore a great atheist. Unable to tolerate that such respect was being offered to Haridas Thakura, Ramachandra Khan planned in various ways to dishonor him. By no means could he find any fault in the character of Haridas Thakura. Therefore he called for local prostitutes and began a plan to discredit His Holiness.

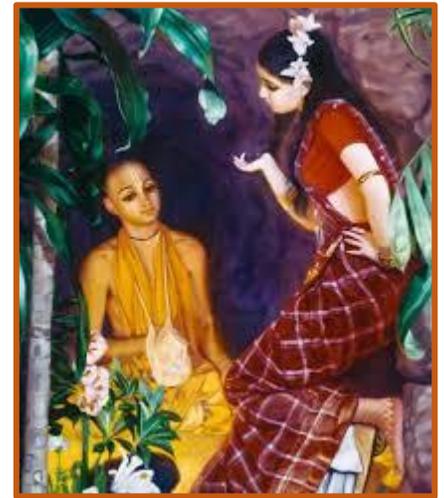
Ramachandra Khan said to the prostitutes, "There is a mendicant named Haridas Thakura. All of you devise a way to deviate him from his vows of austerity." Among the prostitutes, one attractive young girl was selected. "I shall attract the mind of Haridas Thakura," she promised, "within three days." Ramachandra Khan said to the prostitute, "My constable will go with you so that as soon as he sees you with Haridas Thakura, immediately he will arrest him and bring both of you to me." The prostitute replied, "First let me have union with him once; then the second time I shall take your constable with me to arrest him."

At night the prostitute, after dressing herself most attractively, went to the cottage of Haridas Thakura with great jubilation. After offering obeisances to the Tulasi plant, she went to the door of Haridas Thakura, offered him obeisances and stood there. Exposing part of her body to his view, she sat down on the threshold of the door and spoke to him in very sweet words. "My dear Thakura, O great preacher, great devotee, you are so beautifully built, and your youth is just beginning. Who is the woman who could control her mind after seeing you? I am eager to be united with you. My mind

is greedy for this. If I don't obtain you, I shall not be able to keep my body and soul together."

Haridas Thakura replied, "I shall accept you without fall, but you will have to wait until I have finished chanting my regular rounds on my beads. Until that time, please sit and listen to the chanting of the holy name. As soon as I am finished, I shall fulfill your desire." Hearing this, the prostitute remained sitting there while Haridas Thakura chanted on his beads until the light of morning appeared. When she saw that it was morning, the

prostitute stood up and left. Coming before Ramachandra Khan, she informed him of all the news. "Today Haridas Thakura has promised to enjoy with me. Tomorrow certainly I shall have union with him."



The next night, when the prostitute came again, Haridas Thakura gave her many assurances. "Last night you were disappointed. Please excuse my offense. I shall certainly accept you. Please sit down and hear the chanting of the Hare Krsna maha-mantra until my regular chanting is finished. Then your desire will surely be fulfilled." After offering her obeisances to the Tulasi plant and Haridas Thakura, she sat down at the door. Hearing Haridas Thakura chanting the Hare Krsna mantra, she also chanted, "O my Lord Hari, O my Lord Hari." When the night came to an end, the prostitute was restless. Seeing this, Haridas Thakura spoke to her as follows. "I have vowed to chant ten million names in a month. I have taken this vow, but now it is nearing its end. I thought that today I would be able to finish my performance of yajna, my chanting of the Hare Krsna mantra.

I tried my best to chant the holy name all night, but I still did not finish. Tomorrow I will surely finish, and my vow will be fulfilled. Then it will be possible for me to enjoy with you in full freedom.”

The prostitute returned to Ramachandra Khan and informed him of what had happened. The next day she came earlier, at the beginning of the evening, and stayed with Haridas Thakura. After offering obeisances to the Tulasi plant and Haridas Thakura, she sat down on the threshold of the room. Thus she began to hear Haridas Thakur’s chanting, and she also personally chanted “Hari, Hari,” the holy name of the Lord.

“Today it will be possible for me to finish my chanting,” Haridas Thakura informed her. “Then I shall satisfy all your desires.” The night ended while Haridas Thakura was chanting, but by his association the mind of the prostitute had changed.

The prostitute, now purified, fell at the lotus feet of Haridas Thakura and confessed that Ramachandra Khan had appointed her to pollute him. “Because I have taken the profession of a prostitute,” she said, “I have performed unlimited sinful acts.

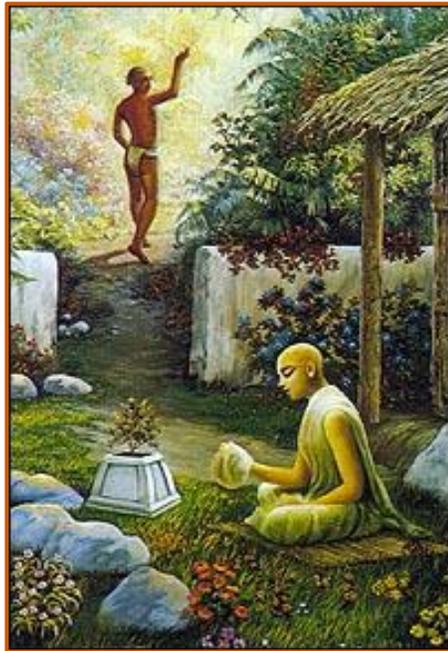
My lord, be merciful to me. Deliver my fallen soul.” Haridas Thakura replied, “I know everything about the conspiracy of Ramachandra Khan. He is nothing but an ignorant fool. Therefore his activities do not make me feel unhappy. On the very day Ramachandra Khan was planning his intrigue against me, I would have left this place immediately, but because you came to me I stayed here for three days to deliver you.”

The prostitute said, “Kindly act as my spiritual master. Instruct me in my duty by which to get relief from material existence.” Haridas Thakur replied, “Immediately go home and distribute to the brahmanas whatever property you have. Then come back to this room and stay here forever in Krsna consciousness. Chant the Hare Krsna mantra continuously and render service to the Tulasi plant by watering her and offering prayers to her. In this way you will very soon get the opportunity to be sheltered at the lotus feet of Krsna.”

After thus instructing the prostitute about the process of chanting the Hare Krsna mantra, Haridas Thakura stood up and left, continuously chanting “Hari, Hari.”

Thereafter, the prostitute distributed to the brahmanas whatever household possessions she had, following the order of her spiritual master. The prostitute shaved her head clean in accordance with Vaisnava principles and stayed in that room wearing only one cloth. Following in the footsteps of her spiritual master, she began chanting the Hare Krsna maha-mantra 300,000 times a day. She chanted throughout the entire day and night. She worshiped the Tulasi plant, following in the footsteps of her spiritual master. Instead of eating regularly, she chewed whatever food she received as alms, and if nothing was supplied she would fast.

Thus by eating frugally and fasting she conquered her senses, and as soon as her senses were controlled, symptoms of love of Godhead appeared in her person. Thus the prostitute became a celebrated devotee. She became very advanced in spiritual life, and many stalwart Vaisnavas would come to see her. Seeing the sublime character of the prostitute, everyone was astonished. Everyone glorified the influence of Haridas Thakura and offered him obeisances.



By inducing a prostitute to disturb Haridas Thakura, Ramachandra Khan caused a seed of offense at his lotus feet to germinate. This seed later became a tree, and when it fructified, Ramachandra Khan ate its fruits. Ramachandra Khan was naturally a non-devotee. Now, having offended the lotus feet of Haridas Thakura, he became just like a demoniac atheist.

Because of blaspheming the cult of Vaisnavism and insulting the devotees for a long time, he now received the results of his offensive activities.

When Lord Nityananda returned to Bengal to preach the cult of bhakti, love of Godhead, He began touring all over the country. For two purposes—to spread the cult of bhakti and to defeat and subdue the atheists—Lord Nityananda, the most dedicated devotee of the Lord, moved throughout the country. Lord Nityananda, who is omniscient because He is the Supreme Personality of Godhead, came to the house of Ramachandra Khan and sat down on the altar of the Durga-mandapa. When the Durga-mandapa and courtyard were filled with crowds of men, Ramachandra Khan, who was inside the house [and wanted to get rid of Lord Nityananda], sent his servant to Lord Nityananda. The servant informed Lord Nityananda, “My dear sir, Ramachandra Khan has sent me to accommodate You in some common man’s house. You might go to the house of a milkman, for the

cow shed is spacious, whereas the space here in the Durga-mandapa is insufficient because You have many followers with You.”

When Nityananda Prabhu heard this order from the servant of Ramachandra Khan, He became very angry and came out. Laughing very loudly, He spoke as follows. “Ramachandra Khan has spoken rightly. This place is unfit for Me. It is fit for cow-killing meat eaters.” Having said this, Lord Nityananda stood up and left in an angry mood. To chastise Ramachandra Khan, He did not even stay in that village.

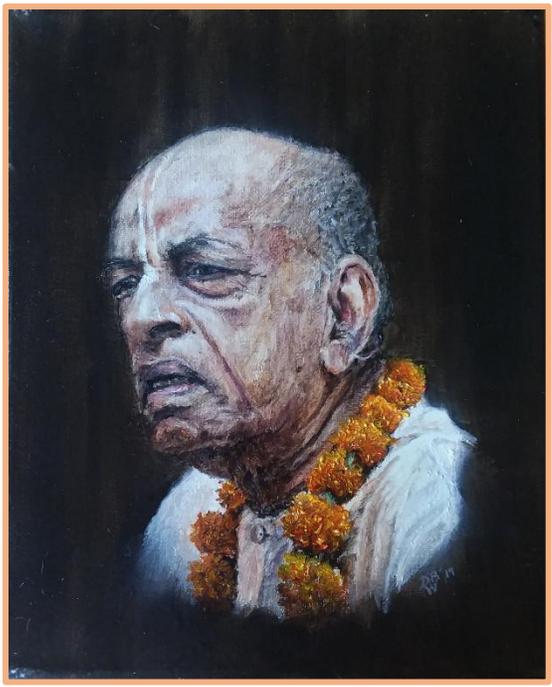
Ramachandra Khan ordered the servant to dig up the dirt in the place where Nityananda Prabhu had sat. To purify the Durga-mandapa temple and the courtyard, Ramachandra Khan sprinkled and smeared it with water mixed with cow dung, but still his mind was unsatisfied.

Ramachandra Khan’s business was questionable, for he tried to avoid paying income tax to the government. Therefore the government’s minister of finance was angry and came to his residence. The Mohammedan minister made his residence in the Durga-mandapa of Ramachandra Khan. He killed a cow and cooked the meat at that very place. He arrested Ramachandra Khan, along with his wife and sons, and then he continuously plundered the house and village for three days. In that very room he cooked the flesh of a cow for three consecutive days. Then the next day he left, accompanied by his followers. The Mohammedan minister took away Ramachandra Khan’s position, wealth and followers. For many days the village remained deserted.

Wherever an advanced devotee is insulted, for one man’s fault the entire town or place is afflicted. 🌸



Inmate Artwork



ABOVE: Drawing of Radha and Krishna, by Brian Babinski —California

LEFT: Drawing of Śrīla Prabhupāda, by David Burkman —Connecticut

Calendar

AUGUST 2025

- 05 Aug 2025 - **Pavitropana Ekadasi**
- 06 Aug 2025 - Disappearance Day of Srila Rupa Goswami
- 06 Aug 2025 - Disappearance Day of Sri Gauridasa Pandita
- 09 Aug 2025 - **Appearance Day of Lord Balarama**
- 10 Aug 2025 - Second Month of Caturmasya Begins
- 10 Aug 2025 - Srila Prabhupada's Departure for the USA
- 16 Aug 2025 - **Sri Krsna Janmastami**
- 17 Aug 2025 - **Appearance Day of Srila Prabhupada**
- 19 Aug 2025 - **Annada Ekadasi**
- 31 Aug 2025 - **Radhastami : Appearance of Srimati Radharani**

SEPTEMBER 2025

- 03 Sept 2025 - **Parsva Ekadasi**
- 04 Sept 2025 - Appearance Day of Sri Jiva Goswami
- 05 Sept 2025 - **Appearance Day of Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura**
- 06 Sept 2025 - Disappearance Day of Srila Haridasa Thakura
- 07 Sept 2025 - Acceptance of Sannyasa by Srila Prabhupada
- 08 Sept 2025 - Third Month of Caturmasya Begins
- 14 Sept 2025 - Srila Prabhupada's arrival in the USA
- 17 Sept 2025 - **Indira Ekadasi**

OCTOBER 2025

- 02 Oct 2025 - Appearance Day of Sri Madhvacharya
- 03 Oct 2025 - **Pasankusa Ekadasi**
- 04 Oct 2025 - Disappearance Day of Srila Raghunatha Dasa Goswami
- 04 Oct 2025 - Disappearance Day of Srila Raghunatha Bhatta Goswami
- 04 Oct 2025 - Disappearance Day of Srila Krsnadasa Kaviraja Goswami
- 07 Oct 2025 - Disappearance Day of Sri Murari Gupta
- 08 Oct 2025 - Fourth Month of Caturmasya Begins
- 11 Oct 2025 - Disappearance Day of Srila Narottama Dasa Thakura
- 18 Oct 2025 - **Rama Ekadasi**
- 22 Oct 2025 - **Govardhana Puja**
- 25 Oct 2025 - **Disappearance Day of Srila Prabhupada**
- 30 Oct 2025 - Disappearance Day of Sri Gadadhara Dasa Goswami
- 30 Oct 2025 - Disappearance Day of Sri Srinivasa Acharya

NOVEMBER 2025

- 02 Nov 2025 - **Utthana Ekadasi**
- 02 Nov 2025 - Disappearance Day of Srila Gaura Kisora Dasa Babaji Maharaja
- 04 Nov 2025 - Disappearance Day of Sri Bhugarbha Goswami
- 04 Nov 2025 - Disappearance Day of Sri Kasisvara Pandita
- 05 Nov 2025 - Sri Krsna Rasayatra
- 05 Nov 2025 - Appearance Day of Sri Nimbarkacharya
- 05 Nov 2025 - Last Day of Caturmasya
- 15 Nov 2025 - **Utpanna Ekadasi**
- 15 Nov 2025 - Disappearance Day of Sri Narahari Sarakara Thakura
- 16 Nov 2025 - Disappearance Day of Sri Kaliya Krsnadasa
- 17 Nov 2025 - Disappearance Day of Sri Saranga Thakura



ABOVE: Lord Krishna and His eternal consort, Srimati Radharani.