

## The Potency Of Srila Prabhupada's Books

nama om viṣṇu-pādāya kṛṣṇa-preṣṭhāya bhū-tale  
śrīmate bhaktivedānta-svāmin iti nāmine

I offer my respectful obeisances unto His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, who is very dear to Lord Kṛṣṇa, having taken shelter at His lotus feet.

namas te sārasvate deve gaura-vāṇī-pracāriṇe  
nirviṣeṣa-śūnyavādi-pāścātya-deśa-tāriṇe

Our respectful obeisances are unto you, O spiritual master, servant of Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī. You are kindly preaching the message of Lord Caitanyadeva and delivering the Western countries, which are filled with impersonalism and voidism.

om ajñāna-timirāndhasya jñānāñjana-salākayā  
cakṣur unmīlitaṁ yena tasmai śrī-gurave namaḥ

I was born in the darkness of ignorance and my spiritual master opened my eyes with the torchlight of knowledge. I offer my respectful obeisances unto him.

yasya prasādād bhagavat-prasādo  
yasyāprasādān na gatiḥ kuto 'pi  
dhyāyan stuvaṁs tasya yaśas tri-sandhyaṁ  
vande guroḥ śrī-caraṇāravindam

By the mercy of the spiritual master one receives the benediction of Kṛṣṇa. Without the grace of the spiritual master, one cannot make any advancement. Therefore, I should always remember and praise the spiritual master. At least three times a day I should offer my respectful obeisances unto the lotus feet of my spiritual master.

guru-mukha-padma-vākya, cittete koribo aikya,  
ār nā koriho mane āśā  
śrī-guru-caraṇe rati, ei se uttama-gati,  
je prasāde pūre sarva āśā

My only wish is to have my consciousness purified by the words emanating from his lotus mouth.  
Attachment to his lotus feet is the perfection that fulfills all desires.

Compiled for the pleasure and satisfaction of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, who, out of his boundless mercy, has made himself present in this age for the fallen conditioned souls to take shelter of through his transcendental books and teachings (vani). May these 108 nectarian excerpts from the lotus mouth of Srila Prabhupada himself serve as a reminder of the immeasurable potency and significance of his books.

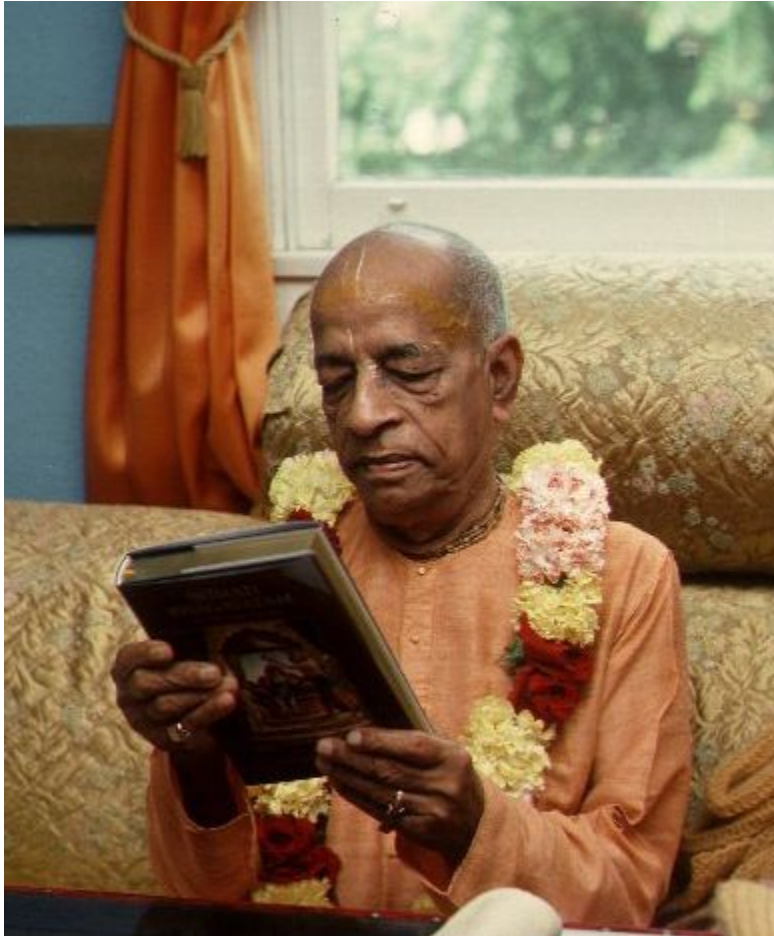
Your servant,  
Vidura Mahatma das

"So although a physical body is not present, the vibration should be accepted as the presence of the Spiritual Master, vibration. What we have heard from the Spiritual Master, that is living."

Srila Prabhupada Lecture: January 13, 1969 – Los Angeles, CA

# 108 Quotes on The Potency Of Srila Prabhupada's Books

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## “Not Ordinary Books”

**“These books are the foundation stone of our movement.”**

Letter to Hridayananda—Bombay 31 October, 1974:

Actually these books are the foundation stone of our movement. Whatever we are is resting on these books, so far reading them and distributing them. This should be our only motto.

**“books are the basis of our Movement. Without our books, our preaching will have no effect.”**

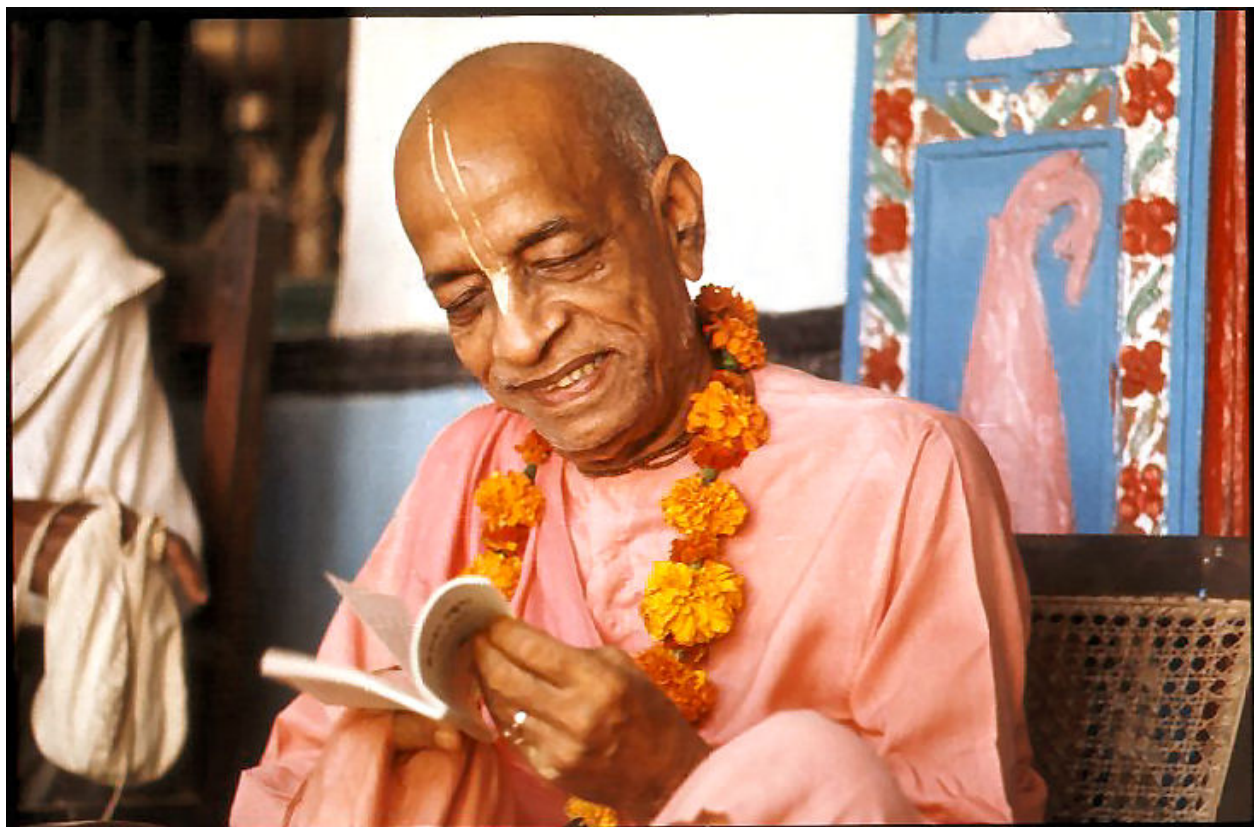
Letter to Mandali Bhadra – Jaipur - 20 January, 1972:

My first concern is that my books shall be published and distributed profusely all over the world. Practically, books are the basis of our Movement. Without our books, our preaching will have no effect.

**“If this book distribution is managed properly...the whole world will become Krishna conscious.”**

Letter to Satsvarupa—Nellore - 5 January, 1976:

Our first business is this book distribution. There is no need of any other business. If this book distribution is managed properly, pushed on with great enthusiasm and determination and at the same time if our men keep spiritually strong, then the whole world will become Krishna conscious.



**“Not ordinary books... Anyone who reads, he is hearing.”**

Letter to Rupanuga Das, 19/10/74:

Anyone who reads the books, that is also chanting and hearing. Why distinguish between chanting and book distribution? These books I have recorded and chanted, and they are transcribed. It is spoken kirtana. So book distribution is also chanting. These are not ordinary books. It is recorded chanting. Anyone who reads, he is hearing.

**“Yes, if they read. Even if they touch. That is the difference between this book and ordinary book.”**

Room Conversation with Mr. & Mrs. Wax, Writer and Editing Manager of Playboy Magazine -- July 5, 1975, Chicago:

Devotee (2): We are giving these books to so many common men. Then the books will attract them to perhaps chanting and following the regulative principles.

Prabhupāda: Yes, if they read. Even if they touch. That is the difference between this book and ordinary book. Even they touch and they read one line and says, "Oh, it is very nice," he makes a step forward. If he simply says this word, "Oh, it is very nice," that is sufficient to bring him. Therefore I am trying to push. He has paid some money. He will then say, "What these nonsense have written. Let me see." (laughter) And if he sees and says, "Oh, it is very nice," then the beginning is immediately. Therefore we are trying to push. At least let him say, "It is very nice." The Kartikeya's mother, the practical experience... The Kartikeya, when he used to go to see his mother, the mother was going to dance, ball dance, and she would not speak: "All right, sit down. I am coming." She used to go out. The same mother gradually, in the association of her son, became Kṛṣṇa conscious. So at the time of death she asked Kartikeya, "Is your Kṛṣṇa here?" and she died immediately. This is the effect. So anta-kāle, she remembered Kṛṣṇa, so her life was successful. She inquired like this, "Is your Kṛṣṇa here?" And immediately died. So she got the benefit of her son's Kṛṣṇa consciousness. You can ask Kartikeya also. She said that.

**“The instruction given in my books is supposed to be personal instruction.”**

Letter to Dhirstaketu—Bombay 14 October, 1973:

Regarding your question about instruction, spiritual life is different from material life. The instruction given in my books is supposed to be personal instruction. When we read the Bhagavad-gita As It Is, it is understood that we are receiving personal instructions of Kṛṣṇa. No physical barrier is there in the case of spiritual affairs.

**“Hearing must be from sadhu, from devotee, from the lips of the devotee...If you simply read Krishna book or Bhagavad-gita or Teachings of Lord Chaitanya...As long as you are reading, the sun is unable to take your life.”**

Lecture, Los Angeles, June 12, 1972:

So hearing is not very difficult job. But you must hear from the realized soul. That is... Satam prasangan mama virya-samvidah. If you hear from a professional man, that will not be effective. Hearing must be from sadhu, from devotee, from the lips of the devotee. Just like Sukadeva Gosvami was speaking to Maharaja Pariksit. So ... Or even if you hear yourself, you read books, you will save your life. If you simply read Krishna book or Bhagavad-gita or Teachings of Lord Chaitanya, then you know the... As long as you are reading, the sun is unable to take your life. It is not possible for the sun to take your life. So if you constantly read, then where is the opportunity of sun's taking your life? That means you are becoming immortal.

**“What I talk, I have written in the books...you can associate with me by reading my books.”**

Morning Walk: August 7, 1975, Toronto:

Indian Man (2): ...like your company very much in Toronto and we feel like talk you so much, but we don't have so much time to talk with you. You have so much mercy, so we have not... know so much about Kṛṣṇa from you.

Prabhupāda: So in my absence you read the books. What I talk, I have written in the books. That's all.

Indian Man (2): Personally, we think more greater.

Prabhupāda: That's all right. But still, you can associate with me by reading my books.

Indian Man (2): I am reading books Prabhupāda. That books are your very, very good and most blissful to us. It is the biggest good will upon whole of universe at present, I think. By that knowledge, from dog to, I have become... I feel like I have something in my property of your books in my home. That's the only property I feel that I have, this one. I was misled, misguided in this country.

Prabhupāda: Therefore in the beginning of Bhāgavatam it is said, dharmah projjhita-kaitavo atra: [SB 1.1.2] "All cheating type of instruction is kicked out from Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam. Only substance."

Vāstavam-vastu vedyam atra. One who is really anxious to know reality, for them, it is Bhāgavatam. And those who want to be misled, not for them. One who is sincere to get the light, for him Bhāgavata is the only remedy. [break] ...the question that "Why Bhāgavata is so important than other books?" The reply is there: mahā-muni kṛte kim va paraiḥ. "What is the use of other books?" It is written by Mahā-muni Vyāsadeva, the Vedānta-ācārya.

**A moment's association with the commentary of a pure devotee**

Morning Walk—June 11, 1974, Paris:

Paramahansa: There's a verse in the Bhāgavatam that says that one moment's association with a pure devotee is greater than liberation from the material world or than innumerable...

Prabhupāda: Yes.

Paramahansa: ...years of enjoyment on heavenly planets.



Prabhupāda: Yes.

Paramahaṁsa: My question is: A pure devotee, when he comments Bhagavad-gītā, someone who never sees him physically, but he just comes in contact with his commentary, explanation, is this the same thing?

Prabhupāda: Yes. You can associate with Kṛṣṇa by reading Bhagavad-gītā. And these saintly persons, they have given their explanations, comments. So where is the difficulty? Everyone is helping you.

### **Even a little association with your books has the same effect?**

Room Conversation—December 13, 1970, Indore:

Prabhupāda: [...] Caitanya Mahāprabhu says,

sādhu saṅga sādhu saṅga sarva śāstra kaya

lava mātra sādhu saṅge sarva siddhi haya

[Cc. Madhya 22.54]

"Even a moment's association with a pure devotee—all success." Not necessarily that one has to acquire it previous, no. Generally it is so, but sādhu sanga has got its effect. Caitanya Mahāprabhu said, lavamatra sādhu sanga sarva siddhi haya. You have not read in the Sanātana-śikṣā in the Teachings of Lord Caitanya?

Revatīnandana: Does that also apply to reading the words of a pure devotee?

Prabhupāda: Yes.

Revatīnandana: Even a little association with your books has the same effect?

Prabhupāda: Effect, of course, it requires both the things. One must be very eager to take it. Just like Mahārāja Parīkṣit heard Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, and there are so many others. They are also reading Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam. So Mahārāja Parīkṣit was very serious. So both things should be serious. Just like the example: the husband and wife must be potent; then there is pregnancy. Otherwise there is no pregnancy. So sewing the seed, the field also must be fertile or receptive, then the seed will fructify. It is reciprocal.

Revatīnandana: If the seed starts to sprout and it lacks sufficient facilities, then it will die completely.

Prabhupāda: Yes. Yes.

Revatīnandana: But if a spiritual seed sprouts, then whatever sprout is made is never lost. Right?

Prabhupāda: Yes. It is not lost, but it is checked. Sometimes he is checked.

**“Not my books, Kṛṣṇa's books.”**

Morning Walk: June 8, 1976, Los Angeles:

Rāmeśvara: The only hope is to read your books, Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Devotees: Jaya.

Prabhupāda: Not my books, Kṛṣṇa's books.

**“...it is not my writing. It is Kṛṣṇa's writing.”**

Room Conversation -- September 4, 1976, Vrndavana:

So description of the sādhu is there. It is very nice. Where they will find this description all over the world? Hm? (referring to SB 3.25.21)

Harikeśa: I think there's only one person who's following that description.

Prabhupāda: No, I say about Bhāgavata's description. How perfect it is in any subject matter. I have tried to explain what is there in the Bhāgavatam, expand it. That is not my explanation, that is Kṛṣṇa's explanation. I cannot explain now. That moment I could explain. That means Kṛṣṇa's... I can understand that. That the description is very nicely given. Although it is my writing, but I know it is not my writing. It is Kṛṣṇa's writing. So we should read Bhāgavatam always. Nityam bhāgavata-sevayā (SB 1.2.18). We should not waste our time. So we have to check that closet. You can... (break) How they can say there is no God? Then you are only intelligent. All are fools. That means you are fool number one. If you think like that...

**“When there is time I go on reading my own books.”**

Letter to Hamsaduta -- Mayapur 1 October, 1974:

The book sales are very encouraging, increasing, increasing. It is very good news. Thank you, I want this. Record selling is temporary. Even George Harrison's record sales do not continue for a long time. But, a book sold becomes a permanent matter for enjoyment. We read the scriptures again and again and it is still fresh. When there is time I go on reading my own books.

**“taking shelter of these books means taking shelter of Kṛṣṇa.”**

Letter to Bhavananda -- Bombay 28 October, 1970:

It is stated in the Bhagavad-gita that Maya is very strong, unsurmountable, but one who surrenders to Kṛṣṇa—Maya does not touch him. So, all our books are as good as Kṛṣṇa because we deal in the books about Kṛṣṇa only. Therefore, taking shelter of these books means taking shelter of Kṛṣṇa—there is no doubt about it and if you stick to this principle there will be no attack from Maya.



**“Where is such literature throughout the whole world? It is all Kṛṣṇa's mercy. Every line is perfect.”**

Talk About Varnasrama, S.B. 2.1.1-5 -- June 28, 1977, Vrndavana:

Sometimes I become surprised how I have written this. Although I am the writer, still sometimes I am surprised how these things have come. Such vivid description. Where is such literature throughout the whole world? It is all Kṛṣṇa's mercy. Every line is perfect.

**“these books are the ultimate source of knowledge”**

Letter to Devananda dasa, September 1968:

But one thing I may inform you, that the three books which I have already prepared, namely the Bhagavad-Gita As It Is, Teachings of Lord Caitanya and Srimad Bhagavatam, all these books are the ultimate source of knowledge. If you simply reproduce what I have tried to explain in those books, surely you will come out victorious, even in the midst of so many mundane scholars. The descriptions given in these books are not mundane speculations, but they are authorized versions of liberated souls, presented by our humble self. So the strength is not in us, but the strength is in the Supreme Lord. And we have simply to present them without any adulteration, in humble service spirit. That is the secret of success.

**“this clear understanding of God is not available anywhere else but from our books.”**

Letter to Bali-Mardana - Monday, April 3, 1972 Sydney:

There is no other literatures like ours in the world, and this information, "Here is God, just see Him," this clear understanding of God is not available anywhere else but from our books.

**“anyone who reads them is sure to become Krishna Conscious.”**

Letter to John Milner—Bombay - 22 April, 1971

These books are so potent that anyone who reads them is sure to become Krishna Conscious. So it is a very valuable service to distribute our books.

**“If he reads one śloka, his life will be successful. If he reads one śloka, one word.”**

Lecture on SB 1.16.8 -- Los Angeles, January 5, 1974:

There is no literature throughout the universe like Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam. There is no comparison. There is no competition. Every word is for the good of the human society. Every word, each and every word.

Therefore we stress so much in the book distribution. Somehow or other, if the book goes in one hand, he will be benefited. At least he will see, "Oh, they have taken so much price. Let me see what is there." If he reads one śloka, his life will be successful. If one śloka, one word. This is such nice things. Therefore we are stressing so much, "Please distribute book, distribute book, distribute book." A greater mṛdaṅga. We are chanting, playing our mṛdaṅga. It is heard within this room or little more. But this mṛdaṅga will go home to home, country to country, community to community, this mṛdaṅga.

**"It is just like sugar doll. Anywhere touch—it is sweet."**

Room Conversation with Tripurari -- March 2, 1975, Atlanta:

Tripurāri: Sometimes the devotees question, "What is the best book to distribute, Caitanya-caritāmṛta or Bhagavad-gītā?" We're thinking all of them are absolute. It does not matter.

Prabhupāda: Yes. It is just like sugar doll. Anywhere touch—it is sweet. That's all. When I read books, I open anywhere. Any book I take, and anywhere I open, and I read.

**"each time he gets new enlightenment"**

SB 3.25.2 Purport:

Bhagavad-gītā can be read or heard many times, but because it gives great pleasure, the more one reads Bhagavad-gītā the more he gets the appetite to read and understand it, and each time he gets new enlightenment. That is the nature of the transcendental message. Similarly, we find that transcendental happiness in the Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam. The more we hear and chant the glories of the Lord, the more we become happy.

**"without fail, new aspects of the subject matter will be relished by the devotee"**

SB 3.20.6 Purport:

The narrations of Bhagavad-gītā and Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam may be read thousands and thousands of times, and still, without fail, new aspects of the subject matter will be relished by the devotee.

**"Kṛṣṇa is giving. I never thought my books will be sold as much. I never... Neither in the history of human society religious books sell six lakhs of rupees daily."**

Evening Darśana—August 14, 1976, Bombay:

Prabhupāda: So there is no scarcity of money. Now our daily collection is six lakhs of rupees throughout the whole world.

Kartikeya Mahadevia: Per day.

Prabhupāda: Per day. So there is no scarcity of money. A business started with forty rupees bringing six lakhs daily, it is not ordinary business.

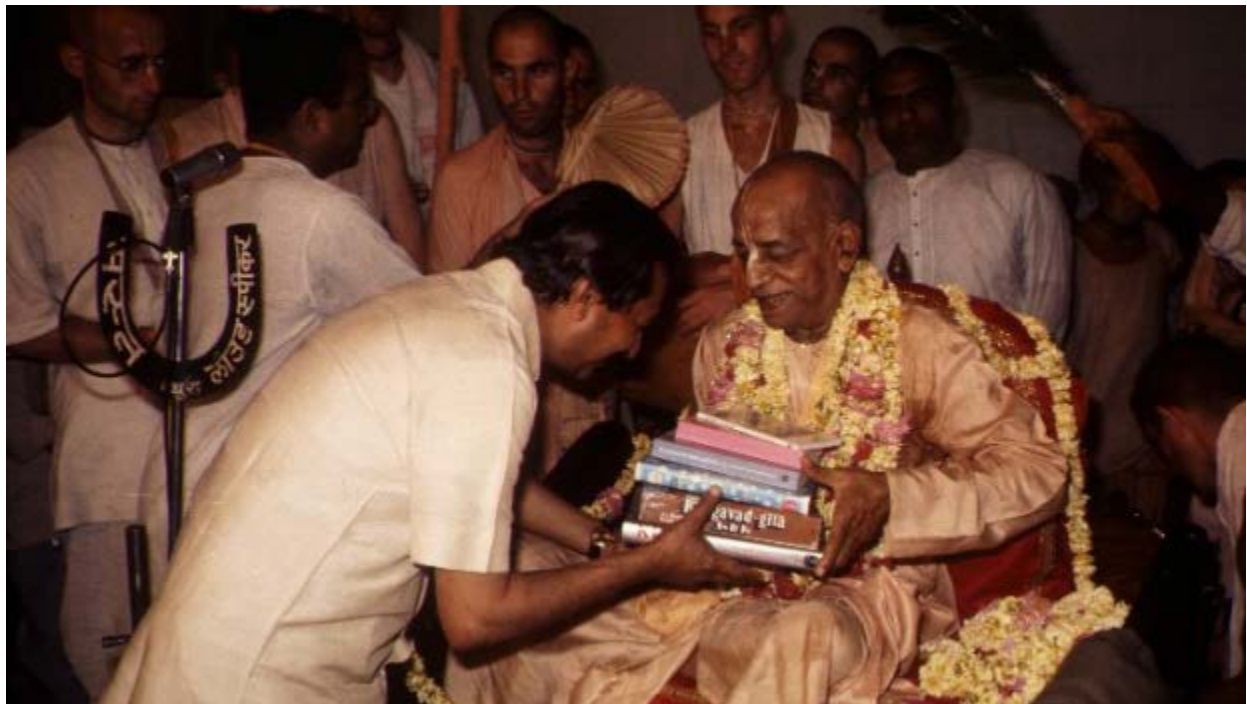
Kartikeya Mahadevia: No, extraordinary. Most extraordinary. Everybody wondering that only, how it has been done.

Prabhupāda: Kṛṣṇa is giving. I never thought my books will be sold as much. I never... Neither in the history of human society religious books sell six lakhs of rupees daily.

Kartikeya Mahadevia: It has never happened.

Prabhupāda: And it is selling where? Where they are not Hindus.

Kartikeya Mahadevia: Yes, all Christian countries, so-called; Westernized countries.



**“That gentleman has written, "Swami Bhaktivedanta will be remembered for centuries, making history.”**

Evening Darsana -- February 15, 1977, Mayapura:

Prabhupāda: They clapped. After hearing me they clapped. They purchased books. Now they are selling books. So I think my books are more important. We shall give more concentration for pushing on and publishing. What do you think?

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Yes. That is our weapons. They are our strength, they are our guidance and they are our ammunition. Everything is based on these books, everything. We are...

Prabhupāda: One Indian, a very learned scholar in Chandigarh, he has given very good certificate. What is that?

Satsvarūpa: He said that "There have been many commentaries on the Bhagavad-gītā including Rāmānuja, Madhva and Śaṅkara, and then," he said, "Tilak and Gandhi, but of all of them the commentary by A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami is the greatest commentary." Punjab University. Then he said later that "In this suffering mankind, God has sent His Holiness A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami."

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: He said greater than the other ācāryas.

Satsvarūpa: Yes. Greater than Rāmānuja and Madhva.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: And he's a big man.

Prabhupāda: He is very big man. Very good scholar also. He goes outside for lecturing.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Practically all the devotees feel your presence through these books.

Prabhupāda: Yes.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Their life is sustained with these books, these books and chanting and the Deity worship, sustaining all the devotees in the world and bringing new devotees. Everyone we ask who joins this movement, "Before you joined, did you get a book?" "Yes." In every case I have seen that the first thing was the book.

Prabhupāda: Hm.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Then, after reading, they become convinced and then they joined.

Prabhupāda: So let us do our duty. Our attempt Kṛṣṇa will see. That gentleman has written, "Swami Bhaktivedanta will be remembered for centuries, making history." Is not that?

Satsvarūpa: "Unsurpassed," this... Not just remembered, it will be unsurpassed.

**"...supposed to be intelligent or scholar and does not read my books, his knowledge has no profit. That's a fact. Asampūrṇa. He remains still in darkness. That is a fact."**

Letter from Yugoslavia—"Books!"—June 30, 1977, Vṛndāvana:

Prabhupāda: Our books are sold not for philosophical speculation but practical solution of the problems. The philosophical classes are now being closed everywhere.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Yeah, that's a fact.

Prabhupāda: The professors are starving. No students are interested in philosophy. Rather, they take admission in the technological class.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Or even in meditation in classes. They want some practical realization.

Prabhupāda: Yes. Yes.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Should I go on reading, Śrīla Prabhupāda?

Prabhupāda: Hm. Hm.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: "Seeing that the... Lord Caitanya did not let them escape so easily, seeing that the books would be very interesting, he requested both standing orders and several small books. Before leaving the city, I went to two international book shops. One book shop bought several books, and the other shop, an enterprise, wanted to translate two of your books into Yugoslavian language."

Prabhupāda: Eh? What is that?

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: "One bookshop bought several books, and the other shop, an enterprise, wanted to translate two of your books into Yugoslavian language."

Prabhupāda: What is that book?

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: "Gugalana(?), one of the few cities which had a theological seminary, was overpowered..." He doesn't say which one.

Prabhupāda: So make arrangement immediately. We shall allow them to translate and publish.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: He says, "Gugalana, one of the few..." [break]

Prabhupāda: And Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam is going, what is called, strong.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Very welcome (indistinct). He says, "The Yugoslavians, more than any other..." [break] "He felt such books should be read by everyone."

Prabhupāda: All philosophical.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: "He gladly bought the Śrīmad..." [break]

Prabhupāda: ...supposed to be intelligent or scholar and does not read my books, his knowledge has no profit. That's a fact. Asampūrṇa. He remains still in darkness. That is a fact.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: His learning is imperfect.

Prabhupāda: Hm?

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: If such a person doesn't read your books, his learning is not complete-imperfect. Asampūrṇam?

Prabhupāda: Sampūrṇam is perfect, when he completes reading my books.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Asampūrṇam means incomplete.

Prabhupāda: Imperfect.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: "She also," this person who said that, that all the intellectuals should be familiar with the books, "she also bought the Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam standing order and promised to advertise your books among her colleagues."

Prabhupāda: Just see how Kṛṣṇa...

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: "Even more pleasing was my conversation with the chairman of the Comparative Literature program. He bought both standing orders for the department library, and he wants to speak with his colleagues, who are interested in India. He feels both or one of them..."

Prabhupāda: This will increase India's cultural program. And the government is not... You have to show to the government.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: "The day ended with a visit to the Philosophy Institute. The professors were in a meeting, and they did not want to speak with me, but finally I rather abruptly started showing them the books anyway." He burst into their meeting.

Prabhupāda: How much obstacles he had. His feature is not attractive, he speaks another language, and he presents the most tough subject. And still, Bhāgavata is going through. So many hard knocks.

**"Yes, that is a fact. That authority I have got."**

Morning Walk—March 1, 1975, Atlanta:

Prabhupāda: I am surprised how I have written so many, what to speak of them? (laughter) It is all Kṛṣṇa's mercy.

Dhīra-Kṛṣṇa: One professor the other day was trying to convince one of our boys that you were coming in the disciplic succession and were authorized to translate all these books.

Prabhupāda: Yes, that is right.

Dhīra-Kṛṣṇa: Because he was dressed and he didn't know that he was your disciple, so he was saying, "Bhaktivedanta Swami, he is coming in a disciplic line straight from Kṛṣṇa. That's why he can speak on all these books."

Prabhupāda: Yes, that is a fact. That authority I have got. That's a fact. *Yasya deve parā bhaktir yathā deve tathā gurau, tasyaite kathitā hy arthāḥ prakāśānte* [ŚU 6.23]. They become manifest, all the meanings of the Vedic literature. *Yasya deve parā bhaktiḥ*.

**"...it is Kṛṣṇa's grace. Otherwise, not possible. Human being, it is not possible."**

Room Conversation, July 26, 1976, London:

Srila Prabhupada: Are you reading sometimes my books? Which one?

George Harrison: Mainly Krsna.

Srila Prabhupada: That is the main book. [laughs]

George Harrison: Mukunda gave me the new books, but there's so much to read.

Srila Prabhupada: Philosophy.

George Harrison: I don't know how anybody could have written it, it's difficult to read all that amount.

Srila Prabhupada: Sometimes they are surprised how one man can write so many books, but it is Krsna's grace. Otherwise, not possible. Human being, it is not possible.

**"Why I get up at night, one o'clock, and do this job? Because I cannot do without it. How one will do it artificially? This is quality. Therefore they like my purports."**

Morning Walk -- November 2, 1975, Nairobi:

Aśakti, attachment. Just like Rūpa Gosvāmī says that "How shall I chant with one tongue, and how shall I hear, two ears? Had it been millions of tongue and trillions of ear, then I could enjoy it." This is quality. Quality is not so cheap. Maybe after many births. For the time being you go on following the rules and regulations. It is being done by force. Where is the quality? So you wanted to understand quality. This is the quality. You'll not be forced, but automatically you'll desire. That is quality. I am writing books. I am not being forced by anyone. Everyone can do that. Why one does not do it? Why I get up at night, one o'clock, and do this job? Because I cannot do without it. How one will do it artificially? This is quality. Therefore they like my purports.

### **Practical experience**

Conversation -- May 28, 1977, Vrndavana - GBC Meets with Srila Prabhupada:

"My purports are liked by people because it is presented as practical experience."





**“I have instructed everything in my books.”**

**“In my books the philosophy of Krishna Consciousness is explained fully so if there is anything which you do not understand, then you simply have to read again and again.”**

Letter to Bahurupa -- Bombay 22 November, 1974:

I am pleased to hear that you are chanting 16 rounds daily and reading my books regularly and following the four rules. In my books the philosophy of Krishna Consciousness is explained fully so if there is anything which you do not understand, then you simply have to read again and again. By reading daily the knowledge will be revealed to you and by this process your spiritual life will develop. Krishna Consciousness is not a hackneyed thing but it is something which is our natural and original consciousness. Presently our consciousness is clouded just like a mirror becomes covered with dust So the cleansing process is this chanting and hearing and doing some service and trying to please the Spiritual Master. By this process our consciousness becomes clear and we are able to understand everything.

**Questions that may arise when not present: “the questions... Answers are there in my books.”**

Morning Walk: May 13, 1973, Los Angeles:

Paramahansa: Śrīla Prabhupāda, when you are not present with us, how is it possible to receive instructions, for example, on questions that may arise?

Prabhupāda: Well, the questions... Answers are there in my books.

Paramahansa: Other than that, for example, that we would ask you in...

Prabhupāda: Yes.

Paramahansa: Do you direct us also through the heart? Besides the Paramātmā?

Prabhupāda: If your heart is pure. Everything depends on purity.

**“if you cannot understand, read it repeatedly...the answers will automatically come.”**

Lecture on The Nectar of Devotion -- Los Angeles, June 23, 1970:

So these things, one after another, everything is very clearly explained in this Nectar of Devotion. So each chapter you should read very carefully. And if you cannot understand, read it repeatedly. Don't all of a sudden, reading one or two page, immediately question, "Prabhupāda, what is this? What is this? What is this?" Go on reading, and the answers will automatically come. So this book is, this valuable book is now published. You should take full advantage.

**“The whole substance of Vaiṣṇava philosophy and activities, everything is there.”**

The Nectar of Devotion -- Los Angeles, June 23, 1970:

Hare Kṛṣṇa. So we have published our Nectar of Devotion. So every one of you should read this Nectar of Devotion repeatedly. The whole substance of Vaiṣṇava philosophy and activities, everything is there. So every one of you read this Nectar of Devotion once, twice, thrice.

**“all conclusive statements in the Kingdom of Bhakti”**

Letter to Advaita -- Los Angeles 18 June, 1970:

All of you in the press are doing so hard work. I can simply pray to Kṛṣṇa for your perfect advancement in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. One thing I must inform you in this connection that so far our activities in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness are concerned, everyone of us should read this book very attentively because all conclusive statements in the Kingdom of Bhakti are contained in this transcendental valuable book. It is the essence of all Vedic scriptures enlightening about Kṛṣṇa Consciousness. If anyone will read this Nectar of Devotion very carefully, he will have all guidance in Bhakti cult. So in the temple class some portions of this book must be regularly discussed.

**“All these books should be regularly read. That will give you guidance. You haven't got to ask repeatedly to me; everything is there.”**

Room Conversation -- April 2, 1972, Sydney:

Śyāmasundara: It's so clear, this book.

Prabhupāda: You read regularly, Nectar of Devotion, regularly. All these books should be regularly read. That will give you guidance. You haven't got to ask repeatedly to me; everything is there. You are selling Nectar of Devotion?

Devotee (2): We're waiting for our next shipment from Japan. Then we'll begin.

Prabhupāda: These four books will give you all guidance-Kṛṣṇa, Nectar of Devotion, Bhagavad-gītā As It Is, and... What is that?

Devotee (2): Teachings of Lord Caitanya.

Prabhupāda: All guidance. Rādhā-kṛṣṇa bolo bolo bolo re sobāi.

**"Why I'm working so hard? Read the books."**

Morning Walk -- January 5, 1974, Los Angeles:

Prajāpati: Now, you have answered all our inquiries so thoroughly in our books that to make inquiry at this point seems like..., you've already answered all the questions. So how may we... What is the proper relationship at that point to make inquiry?

Devotee (4): Read the books.

Prabhupāda: Yes. Read the books, yes. Why I'm working so hard? Read the books.

**“We have presented the complete philosophy of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness in our books”**

Letter to Jayapataka -- February 13, 1970:

Now we want some men who understand all the purports of the Śāstras so that they will be able to face any questionnaires put to them especially ..... This is a very important business, and I want all of my disciples to be thoroughly versed in this way. Our first business to every initiated devotee is to chant daily sixteen round of beads without fail, and to follow the regulative principles rigidly, and our literatures must be studied with great attention. We have presented the complete philosophy of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness in our books Bhagavad Gita as it is, Srimad Bhagawata, Teachings of Lord, Chaitanya, Kṛṣṇa, and others being printed, so the classes and personal study should be undertaken penetratingly. Please see that all the devotees are following these principles; this program is the essential basis of our spiritual advancement. If chanting and following of the regulation is done sincerely, without offense, all

questions and doubtful points of philosophy will be cleared up by realization of Krsna from within the heart of the devotee.

**“The original potency of the sastra remains in these books”**

Letter to Miss Nedungadi -- Bombay 19 March, 1975:

I am so much grateful that you have enjoyed studying my books. Many young intelligent persons such as yourself are studying these books in the colleges and universities all over the world. Actually anyone who tries to understand these books will become a great realized devotee of Lord Krishna gradually. The original potency of the sastra remains in these books because I have not added or opinionated anything of my own. I have simply presented the scriptures such as Bhagavad-gita and Srimad-Bhagavatam as they are. Therefore just see the effect they have on the world. At present, we have about 100 centers worldwide and about 10,000 fully dedicated students in those centers.

**the essence of all the previous acaryas' books**

Morning Walk, May 13, 1975, Perth, Australia:

Devotee: First of all we must read all your books.

Srila Prabhupada: Yes.

Devotee: Practically speaking, Srila Prabhupada, you are giving us the essence of all the previous acaryas' books in your books.

Srila Prabhupada: Yes. Yes.

**“Whatever is to be learned of the teachings of Srila Bhaktivinode Thakura can be learned from our books.”**

Letter to: Gurukrpa , Yasodanandana—Los Angeles 25 December, 1973:

Whatever is to be learned of the teachings of Srila Bhaktivinode Thakura can be learned from our books. There is no need whatsoever for any outside instruction.

**“Read only one book if that was all that I had written.”**

Letter to Sukadeva—New Delhi - 14 November, 1973:

You say that you would read only one book if that was all that I had written, so you teach others to do like that. You have very good determination.

**“all of the contents of these books become revealed from within.”**

Letter to Hamsaduta -- Los Angeles 12 January, 1968:

Regarding the examination, you are already a passed student so don't be afraid of it. When the examination will be held, you will find the questions so easy that within a few minutes you shall be able to answer them all. I wish to introduce this examination system so that in the future our students may not remain unconcerned with these books we are publishing. These books are not material knowledge. To a sincere student, all of the contents of these books become revealed from within, even if he has not thoroughly studied them all.

**“an immense treasure of knowledge in art, science, literature, philosophy and religion will be revealed”**

Krsna Book Preface:

Hundreds of thousands of examples can be cited of people who have escaped the greatest dangers of life due to a slight advancement in Kṛṣṇa consciousness. We therefore request everyone to take advantage of this great transcendental literary work. One will find that by reading one page after another, an immense treasure of knowledge in art, science, literature, philosophy and religion will be revealed, and ultimately, by reading this one book, Kṛṣṇa, love of Godhead will fructify.

**“full of the different aspects of this deep philosophy of Krishna Consciousness”**

Letter to Mr. Gold written from Bombay – January 16, 1975:

I am so glad to see that you are so much absorbed in our philosophy and comparing it to other philosophies. I have written many books already which are full of the different aspects of this deep philosophy of Krishna Consciousness. I request you to study them carefully and you will find a treasure house of scientific information in relation to the ultimate goal of life and conquering the major problems of life, birth, death, old age, and disease.

**“outlines of thought are already there...They are so full of meaning. Provided you can express the meanings.”**

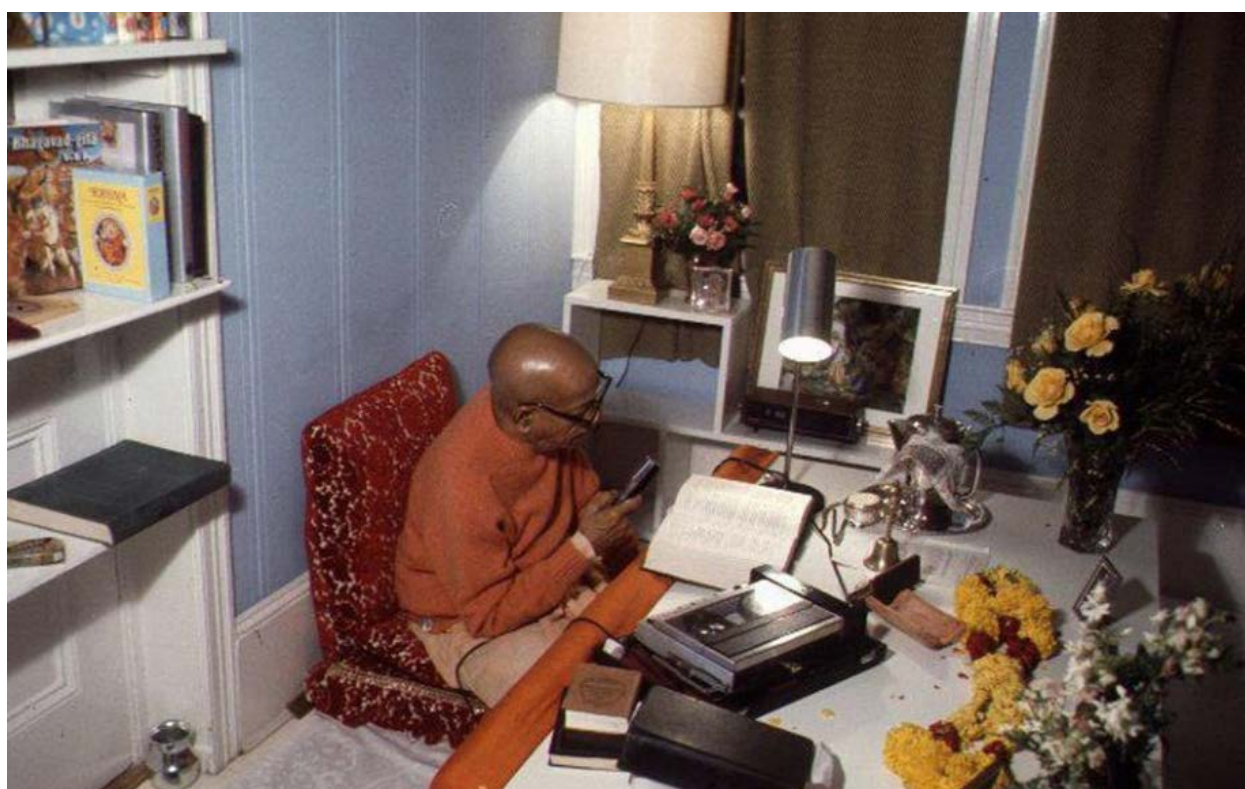
Room Conversation -- August 12, 1972, London:

Enough ingredients to preach. Simply one has to become intelligent how to express. The, what is called, outlines of thought are already there. You read one line, you can speak half an hour. They are so full of meaning. Provided you can express the meanings.

**“Everything is there. Read it”**

Lecture on SB 5.5.5 -- London, September 3, 1971:

Find out this verse. Seventh Chapter. Mama māyā duratyayā. So read books profusely, and learn the problems of life and the solution of life. Everything is there. Read it.



**“Cram the purports of my books...everything is there.”**

**“Each sloka can be seen from many, many angles of vision”**

Letter to Tribhuvanatha written from Los Angeles - June 16, 1972:

I am very much stressing nowadays that my students shall increase their reading of my books and try to understand them from different angles of vision. Each sloka can be seen from many, many angles of vision, so become practiced in seeing things like this. If we are selling the books but we do not know

what is inside the book, that will be a farce, especially if you are preaching and selling books to the students of Edinburgh.

**“read books more and more and try to understand the subject matter from different angles of vision... listen to the tapes of my lectures”**

Letter to Bhargava -- Los Angeles 13 June, 1972:

This restlessness or agitation of the mind cannot be rectified by altering the material circumstances. If we are Krishna Conscious, any type of occupation will suit me and we shall always be satisfied. Therefore, I recommend you to read books more and more and try to understand the subject matter from different angles of vision and be always discussing it with your godbrothers even while you are working at the press, and when you are working and you cannot read, then listen to the tapes of my lectures and hear in that way. And never neglect to chant your 16 rounds of beads daily, rise early without fail, attend mangal arati, take bath, and follow the other regulative principles, and everything will come out very successfully, you can rest assured of that.

**Study our books, see our philosophy from different lights of directions, become convinced yourself, you will see Krishna face-to-face.**

Letter to Bhagavatananda -- New York 8 July, 1972:

Nowadays it seems many of the older disciples like yourself are having difficulty. If you do not set the example for the younger students and take the responsibility for instructing them in the right line, how will things go on? Try to always study our books and see our philosophy from different lights of directions, become convinced yourself of this knowledge and without a doubt all of your difficulties of mind will disappear forever and you will see Krishna face-to-face.

**“we have to study from all angles of vision, not simply by sentiment.”**

Lecture on SB 1.10.2 -- Mayapura, June 17, 1973:

So there are so many things to understand from Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, full knowledge, all knowledge, as it is required by the human society. So we have to study from all angles of vision, not simply by sentiment. This is Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam.

**“In order to remain steadily fixed in Krishna consciousness there must be a sound philosophical understanding.”**

Letter to Satsvarupa Goswami - Nellore 5 January. 1976:



Yes, as a Sannyasi and GBC your first duty is to read my books. Otherwise how will you preach? In order to remain steadily fixed in Krishna consciousness there must be a sound philosophical understanding. Otherwise it will become only sentiment. Whenever you find time please read my books.

**“If you want to stay in Krsna Consciousness you will have to develop firm faith in Guru and Sastra. Therefore, you must study my books very scrutinizingly.”**

Letter to: Srutadeva — Vrindaban 30 October, 1976:

If you want to stay in Krsna Consciousness you will have to develop firm faith in Guru and Sastra. Therefore, you must study my books very scrutinizingly, follow the four regulative principles very strictly and chant 16 rounds daily avoiding the ten offenses. Don't take this movement as something cheap.

**“Temple life is going on with little change, but we should become habituated to read the books more profoundly.”**

Letter to Sukadeva -- Bhaktivedanta Manor 23 July, 1973:

Regarding the starting of a society newsletter, I think there is no need for it. Do not unnecessarily increase your responsibilities. What responsibilities you have make perfect. Besides, we already have our society journal, Back to Godhead. As for receiving news of other centers, why should you be so anxious? The news is always the same, sankirtana is going on, deity worship, with little change. We should rather turn our interest to learn from the books more and more. We should inquire about Krsna. Temple life is going on with little change, but we should become habituated to read the books more profoundly. Then if you have some questions about Krsna consciousness as in the books, you can ask an elder Godbrother or write to me directly. That will help you make progress.

**“...speaking something against the teachings of the dīkṣā-guru... one who is offensive, how he can make advance in chanting?...Your guru is writing books. If you think, "There is no necessity of reading books," that is guror avajñā (offensive)...”**

Lecture on BG 17.1-3 -- Honolulu, July 4, 1974:

Prabhupāda: Authority is your spiritual master. You do not know who is authority? Why this question is there? If one is initiated, then he accepted the authority. And if he does not follow the instruction of spiritual master, he is a rascal. He is defying the authority. That's all.

Sudāmā: The question also is there: the authority is the spiritual master, but the via media to the spiritual master... The difference between, like we were discussing in the automobile of śikṣā and dīkṣā-guru.

Prabhupāda: Then so śikṣā and dīkṣā-guru... A śikṣā-guru who instructs against the instruction of spiritual, he is not a śikṣā guru. He is a demon. Śikṣā-guru, dīkṣā-guru means... Sometimes a dīkṣā-guru is not present always. Therefore one can take learning, instruction, from an advanced devotee. That is called the śikṣā-guru. Śikṣā-guru does not mean he is speaking something against the teachings of the dīkṣā-guru. He is not a śikṣā-guru. He is a rascal.

Woman Devotee: People are instructing with these sessions?

Prabhupāda: (Ignoring question) Because that is offense. Guror avajñā. First offense is guror avajñā, defying the authority of guru. This is the first offense. So one who is offensive, how he can make advance in chanting? He cannot make. Then everything is finished in the beginning. Guror avajñā. Everything is there. If one is disobeying the spiritual master, he cannot remain in the pure status of life. He cannot be śikṣā-guru or anything else. He is finished, immediately. Guror avajñā śruti-sāstra-nindanam, nāmno balād yasya hi... You do not study all these things. You become initiated. There are ten kinds of offenses. Do you have any regard for these things or not? You must avoid these ten kinds of offenses. The first offense is to disobey the orders of guru. That is first offense. So if you are offensive, how you can become advanced by chanting? That is also not possible.

Woman Devotee: Can we just have the chanting without instructions?

Prabhupāda: What is that?

Sudāmā: She wants to know actually that should they just have the chanting without reading your books or without instruction or following the program.

Prabhupāda: But that chanting must be pure. Your guru is writing books. If you think, "There is no necessity of reading books," that is guror avajñā. Do you mean to say I am writing these books whole night for selling and making money? What do you think like that?



**“the real standard of understanding”**

Letter to Jagadisa -- Calcutta 29 September, 1970:

Take care of the new devotees so that they may read our literatures carefully and come to the real standard of understanding. Our strength is not material strength, but spiritual strength.

**“most essential that all the initiated devotees study our books and learn this philosophy very well”**

Letter to Rupanuga written from Los Angeles - February 17, 1970:

It is most essential that all the initiated devotees study our books and learn this philosophy very well. And to get the strength for understanding these, everyone must chant sixteen rounds of beads daily without fail. In this way, when the devotee is constantly engaged in Krsna Consciousness, following the regulative principles rigidly, Krsna will give all intelligence from within how to make steady progress in Krsna Consciousness.

**“So if you study my books very carefully, then I am sure you will find out the means for applying this Krsna Consciousness philosophy in all spheres of life. There is no limitation. Simply it requires a little common sense practicality.”**

Letter to Amarendra das written from Calcutta - January 31, 1973:

Whatever you can do to turn the minds of the people towards Krsna Consciousness, that is very much appreciated by me. You are intelligent boy. In consultation with your Godbrothers you can decide how to effectively run the campaign. I want to turn over now the management to my disciples as I am desiring to devote my time now simply for translating the books like Srimad-Bhagavatam. So if you study my books very carefully, then I am sure you will find out the means for applying this Krsna Consciousness philosophy in all spheres of life. There is no limitation. Simply it requires a little common sense practicality. The main point is that Krsna is the center of all activities, whatever is going on. Whatever the activity may be, if Krsna is the center, that is all right. The details simply require a little common sense. So you are there in Dallas, and you have all the details of the situation. So now, with the help of your Godbrothers there, you decide exactly how to execute the thing. After all, the result is given by Krsna. So the main point is simply to execute everything with complete sincerity and enthusiasm, without deviating from the principles that I have given you in my books. So I have seen the news clippings and they are very nice. Now you go on making more and more propaganda for informing people of this philosophy of Krsna Consciousness. If we push this propaganda very strongly and at the same time remain completely pure by following all of the regulative principles very strictly, by chanting sixteen rounds, reading the books, attending mangala aratrika, etc., then everything will be all right.

**“these siddhantic conclusions are being mentioned in all my books, and the boys and girls in our Krsna Society should now give more attention for studying the books very attentively.”**

Letter to Krsna Devi—Los Angeles 17 February, 1970:

The way of discussion with Dr. Staal requires a little bit of knowledge in the sastras which is called siddhanta. In the Caitanya Caritamṛta it is said that nobody should be neglectful of the siddhanta because by siddhantic conclusion one becomes firm in Krsna Consciousness. So these siddhantic conclusions are being mentioned in all my books, and the boys and girls in our Krsna Society should now give more attention for studying the books very attentively. And to get the strength, one should chant the beads sixteen rounds without fail. In this way, when the devotee is constantly engaged in Krsna Consciousness, at that time, Krsna will give all intelligence from within how to make steady progress in Krsna Consciousness.

**“must read all the books that have been translated...otherwise they will miss the opportunity...”**

CC Madhya 25.278, Translation and Purport:

All the devotees connected with the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement must read all the books that have been translated (the Caitanya-caritāmṛta, Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, Bhagavad-gītā and others); otherwise, after some time, they will simply eat, sleep and fall down from their position. Thus they will miss the opportunity to attain an eternal, blissful life of transcendental pleasure.

**“cram the purports of my books...Everything is there.”**

Letter to Gopijanavallabha -- Vrindaban 19 September, 1974:

Do not be paramahansa that now I haven't got to hear Srimad-Bhagavatam and Bhagavad-gita. Don't be a better paramahansa than your Guru Maharaja. I go and sit and I enjoy the lectures and how they are performing kirtana. So as I am doing, you must also do.

Everyone can become a first class speaker. Simply cram the purports of my books. The references are there, the philosophy is there. Everything is there. So if you do it, everyone will be pleased with your speaking.

**“if you read these literatures carefully you will realize the topmost science of Krsna Consciousness”**

Letter to Bansidhari -- Bombay 16 November, 1970:

I am very glad that your distribution to the libraries is well received. Please get our books at least one full set in every city and college library in you neighboring areas. And if you read these literatures carefully you will realize the topmost science of Krsna Consciousness and be more inspired to spread the same to all persons as their real welfare benefit.

**“read them very carefully, and gradually the knowledge will become revealed to you.”**

Letter to Steve - New Vrindaban 16 June, 1969:

Please accept my blessings. I thank you very much for your letter, and I understand from your one simple question that you are now serious about perfecting your life in Krishna Consciousness. You have asked me to tell you everything that you should know, and this, of course, is a great subject matter. We now have published several books which delve deeply into the topic of the Absolute Truth, so you should read them very carefully, and gradually the knowledge will become revealed to you. The first book you should study carefully is the Bhagavad-gita As It Is. The sum and substance of Bhagavad-gita is that we should surrender ourselves wholly and completely upon the Lotus Feet of Krishna.

**“very easily you will make your advancement in Krishna Consciousness.”**

Letter to Bhargava -- Los Angeles 13 June, 1972:

So I am requesting all of my students to read my books very seriously every day without fail. In this way, if your mind becomes absorbed at least one or two hours daily in the transcendental subject matter of Srimad-Bhagavatam, Bhagavad-gita, and other books then very easily you will make your advancement in Krishna Consciousness.

**“utilize whatever time you find to make a thorough study of my books. Then all your questions will be answered.”**

Letter to Upendra -- Nellore 7 January, 1976:

As to your question concerning whether relationships between devotees are eternal, the answer is "yes." This is confirmed by Sri Narottama dasa Thakura: "cakhudana dilo yei, janme janme prabhu sei", he is my Lord birth after birth. In this way you have to understand, by studying carefully the philosophy. We have got so many books now and I want all of my disciples to read them carefully. Soon we shall be instituting Bhakti-sastri examinations and all brahmanas will have to pass. So utilize whatever time you find to make a thorough study of my books. Then all your questions will be answered.

**“always read my books daily and all your questions will be answered and you will have a firm basis of Krishna Consciousness.”**

Letter to Hugo Salemon, 22/11/74:

If it is possible to go to the temple, then take advantage of the temple. A temple is a place where by one is given the opportunity to render direct devotional service to the Supreme Lord Sri Krishna. In conjunction with this you should always read my books daily and all your questions will be answered and you will have a firm basis of Krishna Consciousness. In this way your life will be perfect.



## “Hear and Repeat”

**“Hear and repeat...otherwise how we shall know that he has understood the philosophy?”**

Arrival Conversation—Los Angeles, June 20, 1975:

...all our men should write. Otherwise how we shall know that he has understood the philosophy?

Writing means śravaṇam kīrtanam. Śravaṇam means hearing from the authority and again repeat it. This is our business, śravaṇam kīrtanam viṣṇoḥ [SB 7.5.23], about Viṣṇu, not for any politician or any other



man. Śravaṇaṁ kīrtanaṁ viṣṇoḥ, about Kṛṣṇa or Viṣṇu. So that is success. Hear and repeat, hear and repeat. You haven't got to manufacture. Any one of us, simply if you reproduce the purport which I have given in the Bhāgavata, you become a good speaker. What I am doing? I am the same thing, writing the same thing so that modern man can understand. Otherwise we are repeating the same thing.

**“but they should all be on the basis of our books. You should not go beyond the jurisdiction of our teaching.”**

Letter to Danavir—Bhuvaneśvara 26 January, 1977:

It is good to hold more classes with the bhaktas, but they should all be on the basis of our books. You should not go beyond the jurisdiction of our teaching. The idea of theater, based on Bhagavatam topics is also a very good way to introduce the philosophy to the people in general. Go on preaching with vigorous enthusiasm and increase your program for bringing new men to live in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness.

**“You must write just as you have heard from your Guru and nothing else. Otherwise, your writing is useless.”**

Letter to Bhakta Dennis—Mayapur 8 April, 1975:

I think that the best thing for you is to study our books very carefully and then try to write something. Do not try to concoct your own theories. This is not the process. You must write just as you have heard from your Guru and nothing else. Otherwise, your writing is useless.

**“That is preaching. Our process is anuśṛṅyāt. We hear from the superior and reproduce it.”**

Morning Walk: August 29, 1975, Vrndavana:

Prabhupāda: No, how he is preaching? Have you heard? No, you cannot understand in Hindi.

Akṣayānanda: Hindi.

Prabhupāda: Anyone?

Dhanañjaya: We've been told he preaches nicely.

Prabhupāda: I have told him that "You simply read my books and reproduce it. That's all. That will be preaching."

Akṣayānanda: At least when he speaks to me in English, it's always very nice.

Brahmānanda: He can memorize Prabhupāda's books and then just speak it.

Prabhupāda: That is preaching. Our process is anuśṛṅyāt. We hear from the superior and reproduce it. That is śravaṇaṁ-kīrtanam. Then perfect. If I add something, my own imagination, then it will spoil. No addition-alteration; as it is. As it is you hear from your spiritual master, reproduce. That's all. Yāre dekha, tāre kaha 'kṛṣṇa'-upadeśa [Cc. Madhya 7.128]. This 'kṛṣṇa'-upadeśa is coming by paramparā, so you reproduce. That's all. Even a child can reproduce what he has heard from his father. It is not at all difficult.

**“You are hearing, but you have to write also. Then write means smaranam, remembering what you have heard from your spiritual master... Hear, write, remember...We have got so many books.”**

Lecture, Śrī Brahma-saṁhitā, Verse 32 Excerpt—Los Angeles, August 14, 1972:

Realization means you should write, every one of you, what is your realization. What for this Back to Godhead is? You write your realization, what you have realized about Krishna. That is required. It is not passive. Always you should be active. Whenever you find time, you write. Never mind, two lines, four lines, but you write your realization. Sravanam kirtanam, writing or offering prayers, glories. This is one of the function of the Vaisnava. You are hearing, but you have to write also. Then write means smaranam, remembering what you have heard from your spiritual master, from the scripture. Sravanam kirtanam visnoh... about Vishnu, not for others. Don't write any nonsense thing for any nonsense man. Useless waste of time. Vishnu. Write about Vishnu, Krishna. This is cultivation of Krishna consciousness. Hear, write, remember, try to understand. Don't be dull, dull-headed. Very intelligent. Without being very intelligent, nobody can have full Krishna consciousness. It is for the most intelligent man. So that intelligence will come if you try to understand Krishna. We have got so many books. Always try to understand Krishna. Then you are liberated. Simply by... You cannot understand Krishna in full. He is unlimited; our knowledge is limited. But as far as you can, try to understand Krishna.

**“We haven't got to invent something by our fertile brain for preaching. Everything is there.”**

Letter to Jagadisa dasa - Bombay 9 Novemeber, 1975:

So study my books and reproduce the purports in your own language. You should instruct your temple presidents to preach like this. This is preaching. We haven't got to invent something by our fertile brain for preaching. Everything is there. One who is expert for presenting these things before the audience so they can conveniently understand, this is a successful preacher. You have only to speak what Krsna has said. Then you become a preacher.

**“memorize the purports of my books and then speak them in your own words.”**

Letter to Janajanmadhih dasa - Bombay 15 Novemeber, 1975:

So, if you are strong enough to preach Krsna consciousness there, that is very good; that as long as you chant your 16 rounds and follow the four regulative principles, then you will get the strength. The process is that you should memorize the purports of my books and then speak them in your own words. Do not adulterate or change anything. Then you will be the perfect preacher. You should also distribute our books as far as possible. If you do this sincerely, then you will be successful.

**“My disciples should become all good preachers, and that depends on studying the books nicely so that you can arrive at the right conclusion.”**

Letter to: Hrdayananda—Los Angeles 5 July, 1971

Yes, I am very pleased that you are inclined to read and study our books with such seriousness. Thank you very much. And your conclusion is very nice. So continue it whole-heartedly. We want good preachers also. Preaching shouldn't depend on me only. My disciples should become all good preachers, and that depends on studying the books nicely so that you can arrive at the right conclusion. From your letter I can tell that you are doing very nicely in this regards and Krishna will help you in your endeavor more and more.

**“they must present their assimilation in their own words”**

Letter to Brahmananda -- Los Angeles 1 July, 1969:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 28, 1969, and I have noted the contents carefully. The circular you have sent to the presidents and members of ISKCON is very nicely drawn, and please follow the principles. All students should be encouraged to write some article after reading Srimad-Bhagavatam, Bhagavad-gita and Teachings of Lord Caitanya. They should realize the information, and they must present their assimilation in their own words. Otherwise, how they can become preachers?

**“read from my books and try and explain the meaning in your own words”**

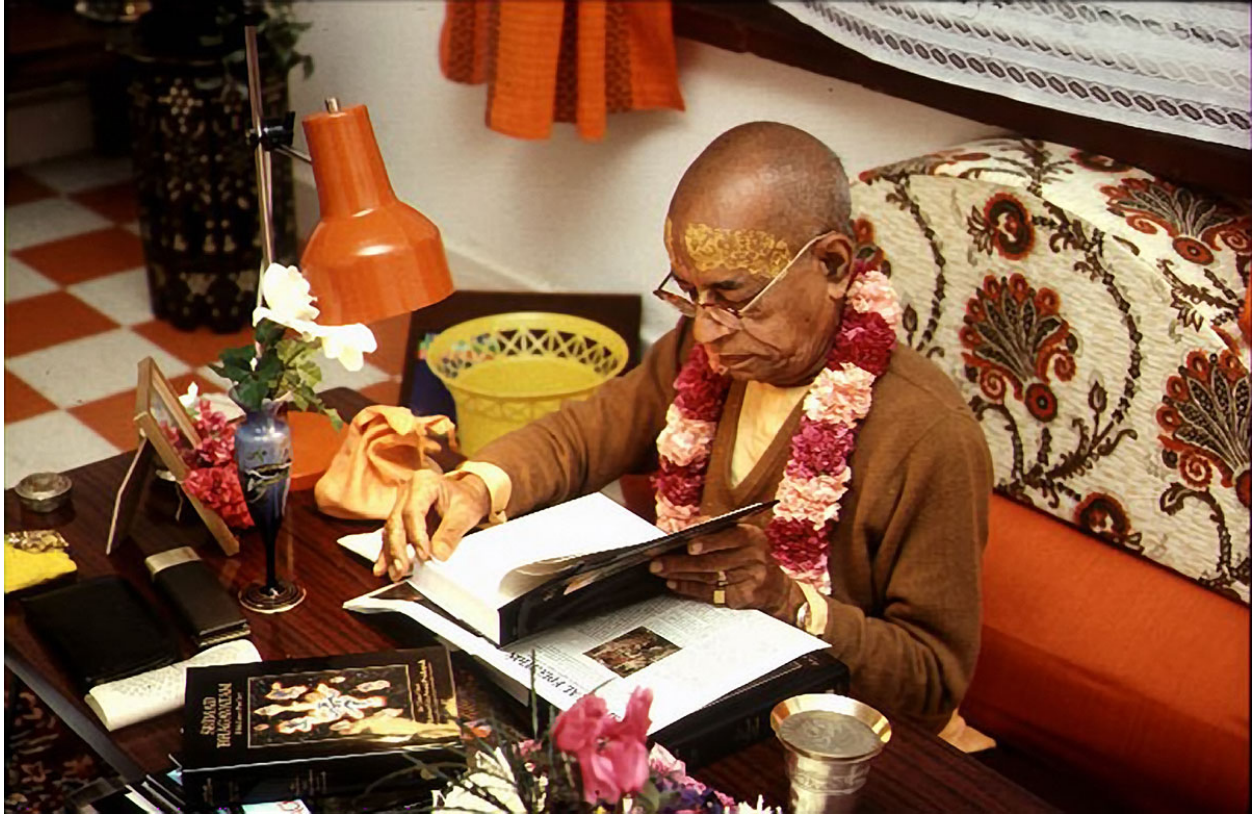
Letter to Sudama -- Calcutta 26 January, 1973:

Just read from my books and try and explain the meaning in your own words. It does not matter that you are not so expert at Sanskrit. You just try to realize the importance of Krsna consciousness and make your life cent per cent engaged in Krsna's service—that is perfection.

**“kindly continue to develop in this way and write more and more of your realizations based upon our books.”**

Letter to Dasanudasa — Hrsikesa 13 May, 1977:

The two essays which you have sent are very nicely written. It appears that you have good talent for writing, so kindly continue to develop in this way and write more and more of your realizations based upon our books. There is no need to concoct anything new. You simply have to study carefully our books and then in your own words try to express what you have read. This will automatically make you a very successful preacher.



**“study my books and reproduce the purports in your own language. You should instruct your temple presidents to preach like this.”**

Letter to: Jagadisa — Bombay 9 November, 1975:

So study my books and reproduce the purports in your own language. You should instruct your temple presidents to preach like this. This is preaching. We haven't got to invent something by our fertile brain for preaching. Everything is there. One who is expert for presenting these things before the audience so they can conveniently understand, this is a successful preacher. You have only to speak what Krsna has said. Then you become a preacher. I am also glad to learn that Sripati Prabhu is traveling with you. Keep him nicely.

**“they (classes) should all be on the basis of our books”**

Letter to Danavir written from Bhuvaneshvara - January 26, 1977:

It is good to hold more classes with the bhaktas, but they should all be on the basis of our books. You should not go beyond the jurisdiction of our teaching. The idea of theater, based on Bhagavatam topics is also a very good way to introduce the philosophy to the people in general. Go on preaching with vigorous enthusiasm and increase your program for bringing new men to live in Krsna Consciousness.

**“Our preaching must be based upon the subject matter from books and nothing outside of them.”**

Letter to Prajapati -- Los Angeles 16 June, 1972:

Regarding your questions, we should not take any stock of rumors which may come, that is not our process to act upon rumors. We hear from the authorized sources, and then our hearing is perfect. So you are the leader of big temple, you should know these things and avoid them, and instruct the other students there to stick to whatever is mentioned in our books and try to understand that subject matter from every angle of vision, without trying to adulterate by adding anything rumor. Our preaching must be based upon the subject matter from books and nothing outside of them.

**“write more and more of your realizations based upon our books. There is no need to concoct anything new.”**

Letter to Dasanudasa -- Hrsikesa 13 May, 1977:

The two essays which you have sent are very nicely written. It appears that you have good talent for writing, so kindly continue to develop in this way and write more and more of your realizations based upon our books. There is no need to concoct anything new. You simply have to study carefully our books and then in your own words try to express what you have read. This will automatically make you a very successful preacher.

**“read my books more carefully and present things as I have presented them.”**

Letter to Gandharva -- Bombay 18 March, 1975:

Any way, whatever your position may be simply follow the rules carefully, chant 16 rounds and read my books and you will be saved from Maya. Regarding your writing, it is a little off-time. I suggest that you read my books more carefully and present things as I have presented them.

**“read the books and learn the purports and then speak to them in your own words.”**

Letter to Acyutananda and Yasodanandana written from Bombay - November 21, 1975:

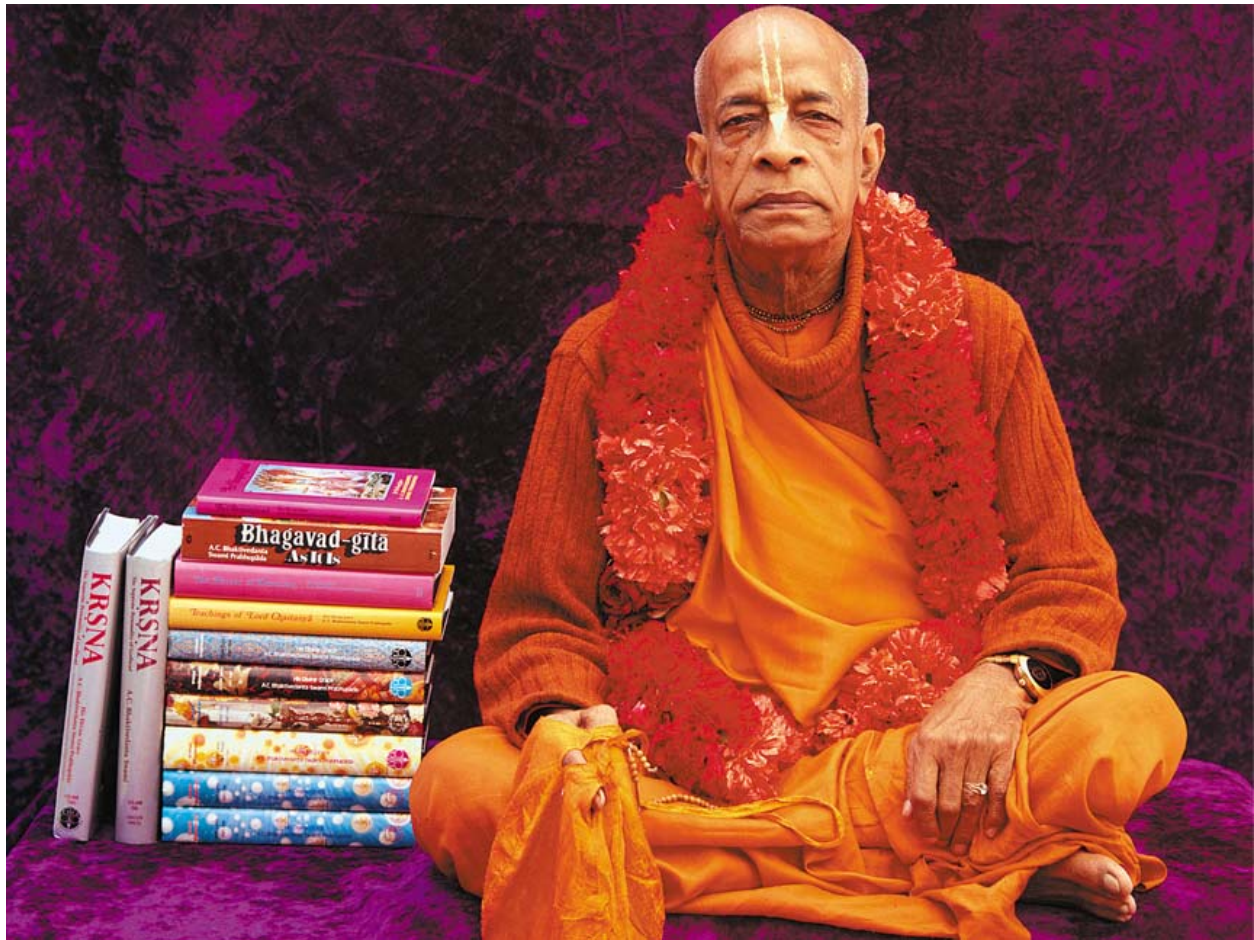
My dear Acyutananda Swami and Yasodanandana Swami,

Please accept my blessings. I am in due receipt of your letters dated November 16th and November 18th with all the enclosed clippings which I have read with interest. I am glad to see that your preaching programs are going on. I think Acyutananda Swami, he is a very good preacher. The process is simply to read the books and learn the purports and then speak to them in your own words.

One thing is, where is Gurukrupa Swami? I have not heard anything from him. I do not know where he is.



That you have been victorious in preaching to the big Mayavadis, that is the mercy of Krsna. Now the Western higher circles, they have admitted that the greatest contribution of the Hare Krsna Movement are these authorized translations of the Vedic literatures. This has been said by one professor.



**“Where there is no ignorance, there is no disturbance.”**

**“So my oral instruction as well as my books are all at your service. Now you GBC consult them and get clear and strong idea, then there will be no disturbance.”**

Letter to Hayagriva—Calcutta 14 September, 1970:

From the very beginning I was strongly against the impersonalists and all my books are stressed on this point. So my oral instruction as well as my books are all at your service. Now you GBC consult them and get clear and strong idea, then there will be no disturbance. Disturbance is caused by ignorance; where there is no ignorance, there is no disturbance. The four Sannyasis may bark, but still the caravan will pass. There is every evidence that they are influenced by some of my fourth-class Godbrothers.

**“must study my books very scrutinizingly... Don't take this movement as something cheap.”**

Letter to Srutadeva -- Vrindaban 30 October, 1976:

If you want to stay in Krsna Consciousness you will have to develop firm faith in Guru and Sastra. Therefore, you must study my books very scrutinizingly, follow the four regulative principles very strictly and chant 16 rounds daily avoiding the ten offenses. Don't take this movement as something cheap.

**“Your siddhanta is correct to the sastra and in this way go on reading books... [...] ...otherwise we can be misled by bogus philosophies.”**

Letter to Ayodhyapati -- Vrindaban 22 September, 1976:

Your siddhanta is correct to the sastra and in this way go on reading books and have the correct perception and Krsna will help you. siddhanta baliya citte na kara alasa iha haite krsna lage sudrdha manasa (CC Adi 2.117). A sincere student should not neglect the discussion of such conclusions, considering them controversial, for such discussions strengthen the mind. Thus one's mind becomes attached to Sri Krsna.

You should be always alert in understanding the sastric conclusions that will help you, otherwise we can be misled by bogus philosophies. I am very pleased that you are studying the books. This will make you happy and successful.

**“if there is lack of knowledge, or if there is forgetfulness, everything will be spoiled in time.”**

Letter to Hamsaduta -- Los Angeles 22 June, 1972:

I am very pleased to see the things are going on, and that new centers are opening many in Germany. Now I am feeling very much inclined for retiring behind the scenes to translate my Srimad-Bhagavatam. This means that now you all leaders, especially the GBC members, must become very much responsible and do the work that I am doing to the same standard. So I want you leaders especially to become very much absorbed in the philosophy of Bhagavad-gita, Srimad-Bhagavatam, and become yourselves completely convinced and free from all doubt. On this platform you shall be able to carry on the work satisfactorily, but if there is lack of knowledge, or if there is forgetfulness, everything will be spoiled in time. So especially you must encourage the students to read our books throughout the day as much as possible, and give them all good advice how to understand the books, and inspire them to study the things from every point of view. In this way, by constantly engaging our tongues in the service of the Lord, either by discussing His philosophy or by chanting Hare Krishna, the truth is that Krishna Himself will reveal Himself to us and we shall understand how to do everything properly. Now we have got so many students and so many temples but I am fearful that if we expand too much in this way that we shall become weakened and gradually the whole thing will become lost. Just like milk. We may thin it more and more with water for cheating the customer, but in the end it will cease to be any longer milk. Better to boil the milk now very vigorously and make it thick and sweet, that is the best process. So let

us concentrate on training our devotees very thoroughly in the knowledge of Krishna Consciousness from our books, from tapes, by discussing always, and in so many ways instruct them in the right propositions.

**“simply read My books and reproduce it... As it is...If I add something, my own imagination, then it will spoil.”**

Morning Walk, August 29, 1975, Vrindavana:

Aksayananda: ...preach more, then that would help. Because he was previously a principal of a school.

Srila Prabhupada: No, how he is preaching? Have you heard? No you cannot understand in Hindi.

Aksayananda: Hindi.

Srila Prabhupada: Anyone?

Dhananjaya: We have been told he preaches nicely.

Srila Prabhupada: I have told him that, 'You simply read My books and reproduce it. That's all. That will be preaching.

Aksayananda: At least when he speaks to me in English, it is always very nice.

Brahmananda: He can memorize Prabhupada's books and then just speak it.

Srila Prabhupada: That is preaching. Our process is anusrnuyat. We hear from the superior and reproduce it. That is sravanam-kirtanam. Then perfect. If I add something, my own imagination, then it will spoil. No addition, alteration; as it is. As it is you hear from your spiritual master, reproduce. That's all. yare dekha tare kaha krsna upadesa. This Krsna-upadesa is coming by parampara, so you reproduce. That's all. Even a child can reproduce what he has heard from his father. It is not at all difficult.

**Your words are sufficient. The potency is there. When they change, it is something else.**

Room Conversation, June 22, 1977, Vrindavana:

Yaśodā-nandana: In the Gurukula we were teaching T̥sopaniṣad class to the children. So we took... [break] ...Prabhupāda and the words which the recent edition of the Press is wrong. Many changes were brought. They were trying to make better English, but sometimes, to make better English, I think they were making philosophical mistakes also. There is no so much need of making so much better English. Your English is sufficient. It is very clear, very simple. We have caught over 125 changes. They're changing so many things. We are wondering if this is necessary. I will show you today. I have kept the book.

Prabhupāda: I know that these rascals are doing. What can be done? How they can be relied on?

Svarūpa Dāmodara: It's not the responsibility of the BBT trustee, to see these things don't change without Prabhupāda's sanction?

Prabhupāda: And Rāmeśvara is indulging this. The great rascal is that Jagannātha? He's there in Los Angeles.



Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Jagannātha dāsa?

Prabhupāda: Maybe.

Indian devotee (2): Jagannātha-suta.

Prabhupāda: Jagannātha-suta.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: No...

Prabhupāda: And the one rascal is gone.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Nitāi.

Prabhupāda: It is starting. What can I do? These cannot... These rascals cannot be educated. Dangerous. Little learning, dangerous. So how to correct? The leader of these dangerous-Rādhā-vallabha.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Rādhā-vallabha?

Prabhupāda: Hm. He's a dangerous, who maintains these rascal with this work. He'll always have questions and alteration. That is his business. That is American business. They take that always. What can I do? Ultimate, it goes for editorial. They make changes, such changes.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Your original work that you're doing now, that is edited by Jayādvaita. That's the first editing.

Prabhupāda: He is good.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: He is good. But then, after they print the books, they're going over. So when they reprint...

Prabhupāda: So how to check this? How to stop this?

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: They should not make any changes without consulting Jayādvaita.

Prabhupāda: But they are doing without any authority.

Svarūpa Dāmodara: I think we should make whole survey, all books already printed, before printing the next batch and check any mistakes so that it should be all corrected. Otherwise, if the scholars find out that there are so many mistakes in the books, then the quality and the appreciation will be reduced.

Girirāja(?): (indistinct)

Svarūpa Dāmodara: Yes. We find so far that they are appreciating so much within the scholarly circle, and we want to maintain that actually.

Prabhupāda: Very serious feature. It is not possible for me to check, and they are doing all nonsense, freedom. (pause)

Yaśodā-nandana: Jaya Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Prabhupāda: What to do?

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: I think Svarūpa Dāmodara's point, that all the books should now be checked before they're reprinted again... And they have to be checked not by some so-called learned Sanskrit man but by a learned devotee. Just like you always favored Jayādvaita because his Kṛṣṇa consciousness...

Prabhupāda: Jayādvaita, Satsvarūpa...

Yaśodā-nandana: Bhakti-prema, Satsvarūpa is there.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: So Bhakti-prema... That's a good solution.

Prabhupāda: Yes.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: You know, the real point is that the Sanskrit is often not translated properly in the translation, what Nitāi and others have done.

Prabhupāda: He's a rascal. That's... He's finding out guru and job for filling the belly. That is the latest news.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: What is he doing?

Prabhupāda: To find out some job to fill up the belly. Otherwise he'll starve if he doesn't get any job. And he's finding out guru. Job-guru. Now do the needful. Otherwise everything will be spoiled. These rascal editorial... That Easy Journey, original, this (indistinct) Hayagrīva has changed so many things.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: He actually took out the whole part about their going to the moon being childish. He deleted the whole section.

Yaśodā-nandana: Also in the Bhāgavatam, where Prabhupāda was talking about Lord Buddha... You mentioned that if the followers of Lord Buddha do not close the slaughterhouse, there is no meaning to such a caricature. That word was very nice. But in new book that word is not there any more. They have pulled the word. The meaning of the word is not... So many times.

Prabhupāda: It is very serious situation. Rāmeśvara is in direct...

Svarūpa Dāmodara: I think they're working too independently without consulting properly.

Yaśodā-nandana: Sometimes they appeal that "We can make better English," so they change like that, just like in the case of Īśopaniṣad. There are over a hundred changes. So where is the need? Your words are sufficient. The potency is there. When they change, it is something else.

Svarūpa Dāmodara: That's actually a very dangerous mentality.

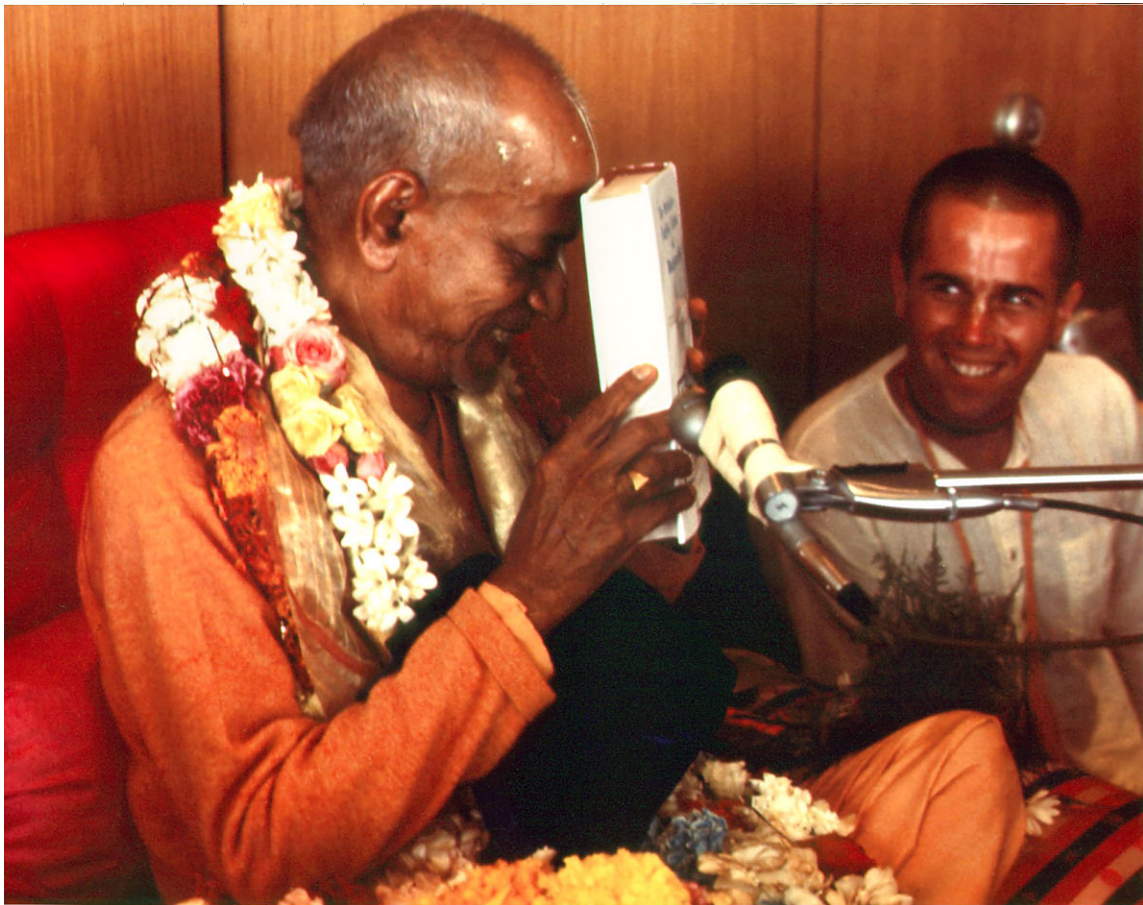
Yaśodā-nandana: What is it going to be in five years? It's going to be a different book.

Prabhupāda: So you... What you are going... It is very serious situation. You write one letter that "Why you have made so many changes?" And whom to write? Who will care? All rascals are there. Write to Satsvarūpa that "This is the position. They are doing anything and everything at their whim." The next printing should be again to the original way.

**“Unless we take care of the books and preach and read ourself, understand the philosophy, this Hare Kṛṣṇa will be finished within few years.”**

Morning Walk -- December 12, 1973, Los Angeles:

Yes. That is preaching. Therefore we are writing so many books. Unless we take care of the books and preach and read ourself, understand the philosophy, this Hare Kṛṣṇa will be finished within few years. Because there will be no life. How long one can artificially go on, "Hare Kṛṣṇa! Haribol!" That will be artificial, no life.



**“These books will do everything.”**

**“it is the duty of the ācārya to publish books that will help future candidates take up the method of service and become eligible to return home, back to Godhead, by the mercy of the Lord. In our Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement, this same path is being prescribed and followed.”**

Srimad Bhagavatam 10.2 Purport:

One can achieve the seed of bhakti-latā, devotional service, by the mercy of guru and Kṛṣṇa. The duty of the guru is to find the means, according to the time, the circumstances and the candidate, by which one can be induced to render devotional service, which Kṛṣṇa accepts from a candidate who wants to be successful in going back home, back to Godhead. After wandering throughout the universe, a fortunate person within this material world seeks shelter of such a guru, or ācārya, who trains the devotee in the suitable ways to render service according to the circumstances so that the Supreme Personality of Godhead will accept the service. This makes it easier for the candidate to reach the ultimate destination. The ācārya's duty, therefore, is to find the means by which devotees may render service according to references from śāstra. Rūpa Gosvāmī, for example, in order to help subsequent devotees, published such devotional books as Bhakti-rasāmṛta-sindhu. Thus it is the duty of the ācārya to publish books that will help future candidates take up the method of service and become eligible to return home, back to Godhead, by the mercy of the Lord. In our Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement, this same path is being prescribed and followed. Thus the devotees have been advised to refrain from four sinful activities—illicit sex, intoxication, meat-eating and gambling—and to chant sixteen rounds a day. These are bona fide instructions.

**“Only hope is that you distribute books, as much as possible, whole Europe, whole America...they will realize that what valuable books we have left for the study of the whole world. That will come.”**

Morning Walk -- June 28, 1975, Denver: Prabhupāda:

So it is a civilization of dog race. The man does not know, "By riding on a car, racing, is there any value if I do not know what is the meaning of my life?" Hmm? So this is going on. Big, big road for dog racing—that is civilization. [break] The rascal yogis, they say that "By this transcendental meditation you will keep your dog race very nice." They are attracted, "Oh, very nice. It is very nice." That's all. Mūḍhā nābhijānāti mām ebhyaḥ param avyayam. All mū..., rascals. Only hope is that you distribute books, as much as possible, whole Europe, whole America. If they come to some day, they will realize what is this value. [break] ...day they will realize that what valuable books we have left for the study of the whole world. That will come.

**"If they come to sense some day, they'll read all these books, and they will come to know how to live life. That is our contribution, Kṛṣṇa consciousness."**

Conversation with Yogi Amrit Desai of Kripalu Ashram (PA USA) -- January 2, 1977, Bombay:

Prabhupāda: On the whole the whole human civilization is..., and all the directors, they are not giving chance to know the value of life and how to conduct life. It is the first time, that we are giving the real idea of life. Otherwise whole world is in darkness. Na te viduḥ svārtha-gatim. They do not know what is the end of life. Adānta... Matir na kṛṣṇe parataḥ svato vā. Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, Vyāsadeva's real contribution... Ajānataḥ, lokasyājānato vidvāṁś cakre sātva-saṁhitām [SB 1.7.6]. He has given the

right direction. And they are not taking advantage of it. If they come to sense some day, they'll read all these books, and they will come to know how to live life. That is our contribution, Kṛṣṇa consciousness.

**“They will someday realize how valuable books we have left them.”**

Letter to Ajita -- Honolulu 11 May, 1976:

Concerning renaming your temple, if I have already given a name previously, then what is the need to re-name it. Now I can see that there is good preaching potential everywhere in your country as you mention the good response at the universities. Push on with these preaching activities and distribute my books profusely. They will someday realize how valuable books we have left them.

**“So kindly help me. This is my request.”**

Arrival address, Los Angeles, June 20, 1975:

So kindly help me. This is my request. Print as many books in as many languages and distribute throughout the whole world. Then the Krishna consciousness movement will automatically increase.

**“I have given you all the guidance and hints and it is described in all my books.”**

Letter to Mukunda -- Hong Kong 1 February, 1974:

I share your confidence that if done rightly, we can attract many persons, to visit the Manor and take prasadam and chant Hare Kṛṣṇa. That will be a great victory, and if they can take our books and hear the philosophy then we can make devotees out of them. This great responsibility is in your charge. I have given you all the guidance and hints and it is described in all my books. Now it is up to you. Please keep our principles firmly and everything will come out successful.

**“I have given my ideas and direction in my books.”**

Morning Conversation: April 29, 1977, Bombay:

Now you GBC, young boys, all, American, expert, you have got all intelligence, resources, so don't spoil. Let the movements go forward more and more. Now you have got nice places, filled with devotees. Don't be anxious for me. That, Kṛṣṇa will take. And even if I go, where is the harm? Old man. I have given my ideas and direction in my books. People appreciate. I think from my side I have done everything. Is it not? Do you think or not?

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Yes, you have done everything.

Prabhupāda: Hm? So you are young men, American boys.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa: Still, we want the whole Bhāgavatam, Śrīla Prabhupāda.

Prabhupāda: That will be done. Even it is not fulfilled, so there is no harm. But don't send me, in any case, in hospital. Now I am pointing out this. They are useless.

**“if there is any difficulty you may consult my books”**

Letter to Hamsaduta -- Madras 14 February, 1972:

So I want that you all GBC men work cooperatively to manage things now, along with the other officers, and it is better if devotees can address their questions to you, and because I have now given you everything you are able to answer all such questions from what you know, and if there is any difficulty you may consult my books, or you may write me if necessary.

**“if they cannot answer from their experience, then I have given answer in my books.”**

Letter to Kirtika -- Calcutta 16 February, 1972:

It is a very important question, and I am glad that you have asked me, but I think from now on the GBC men may be consulted in all such matters of temple management and affairs. I have given them everything, so they shall be able to answer all questions, and if they cannot answer from their experience, then I have given answer in my books—and still if they cannot answer, they may ask me.

**We can understand all of your instructions simply by reading your books.**

Morning Walk -- February 3, 1975, Hawaii:

Devotee (1): We can understand all of your instructions simply by reading your books.

Prabhupāda: Yes. Anyway, follow the instruction. That is required. Follow the instruction. Wherever you remain, it doesn't matter. You are secure. Follow the instruction. Then you are secure anywhere. It doesn't matter. Just like I told you that I saw my Guru Mahārāja not more than ten days in my life, but I followed his instruction. I was a gṛhastha, I never lived with the Maṭha, in the temple. It is practical. So many Godbrothers recommended that "He should be in charge in this Bombay temple, this, that, that..." Guru Mahārāja said, "Yes, better he lives outside. That is good, and he will do what is needed in due course of time."

**“whatever I know I have explained in my books. Beyond that I have no knowledge. [...] if you do not find answer from my books, then it is hopeless.”**

Room Conversation: June 26, 1975, Los Angeles:

Prabhupāda: So whatever I know I have explained in my books. Beyond that I have no knowledge.

Devotee (2): If that is the case, Śrīla Prabhupāda, that does not diminish our respect for you in the least because we have always held... Prabhupāda: So what can I do? I say that whatever I have got

experience, I am explaining in my books. I have explained. So it is not possible for me to answer every individual person. It is not possible. Devotee (2): We respect that. We understand. It is just that because they are saying these things... Prabhupāda: I have got my advanced students. They can answer. If they are unable, answer, if you do not find answer from my books, then it is hopeless.

**“Whatever I have to speak, I have spoken in my books. Now you try to understand it and continue your endeavor. Whether I am present or not present, it doesn't matter.”**

Arrival Speech: May 17, 1977, Vrndavana:

So I cannot speak. I am feeling very weak. I was to go to other places like Chandigarh program, but I cancelled the program because the condition of my health is very deteriorating. So I preferred to come to Vr̄ndāvana. If death takes place, let it take here. So there is nothing to be said new. Whatever I have to speak, I have spoken in my books. Now you try to understand it and continue your endeavor. Whether I am present or not present, it doesn't matter. As Kṛṣṇa is living eternally, similarly, living being also lives eternally. But kīrtir yasya sa jīvati: "One who has done service to the Lord lives forever." So you have been taught to serve Kṛṣṇa, and with Kṛṣṇa we'll live eternally. Our life is eternal. Na hanyate hanyamāne śarīre [Bg. 2.20]. A temporary disappearance of this body, it doesn't matter. Body is meant for disappearance. Tathā dehāntara-prāptiḥ [Bg. 2.13]. So live forever by serving Kṛṣṇa. Thank you very much.

**“I will always be with you through my books and orders.”**

Back To Godhead 13:1-2, December 1977:

If I depart there is no cause for lamentation. I will always be with you through my books and orders. I will always remain with you in that way.

**“The brainwash books are already there. Even if they stop externally, internally it will go on.”**

Letter -- Vrindaban 30 October, 1976:

They are now feeling the weight of this movement. Formerly they thought these people come and go, but now they see we are staying. Now we have set fire. It will go on, it cannot be stopped. You can bring big, big fire brigades but the fire will act. The brainwash books are already there. Even if they stop externally, internally it will go on. Our first class campaign is book distribution. Go house to house. The real fighting is now. Kṛṣṇa will give you all protection. So, chant Hare Kṛṣṇa and fight.

**“if there are no more temples, then the books shall remain.”**

Letter to Hamsaduta — New Delhi 8 November, 1973:

Books will always remain. That was the view of my Guru Maharaja, and I also have taken it. Therefore I started my movement with my books. And we shall be able to maintain everything with the sales of the books. The temples will be maintained by the book sales, and if there are no more temples, then the books shall remain.

**“We have got so many books, so if we go on preaching from them for the next 1,000 years, there is enough stock.”**

Letter to Satsvarupa -- Los Angeles 16 June, 1972:

My first business is to give the devotees the proper knowledge and engage them in devotional service, so that is not very difficult task for you, I have given you everything, so read and speak from the books and so many new lights will come out. We have got so many books, so if we go on preaching from them for the next 1,000 years, there is enough stock. Just like we have spent one day discussing one sloka, so you introduce this system in all of the temples, and very quickly the devotees will make spiritual progress by getting knowledge.

**“I have given you instruction... It will never stop. At least for ten thousand years it will go on.”**

Car conversation - New Vrindavan - June 21, 1976:

Still they have made some impression, the Hare Kṛṣṇa movement. Literatures are selling, they are appreciating, learned circle. Takes some time, but if we stick to our principles and do not make any compromise and push on-in this way, I have given you instruction, it will never stop; it will go on. It will never stop. At least for ten thousand years it will go on.

**“these books will do everything.”**

Room conversation, 18/2/76:

After 80 years, no one can be expected to live long. My life is almost ended. So you have to carry on, and these books will do everything.

**I shall live from my books, and you will utilize.**

Press Conference: July 16, 1975, San Francisco:

Reporter (2): What will happen to the movement in the United States when you die?

Prabhupāda: I will never die.

Devotees: Jaya! Hari bol! (laughter)

Prabhupāda: I shall live for my books, and you will utilize.





# Index of Quotes

## “Not Ordinary Books”

1. “These books are the foundation stone of our movement.”
2. “books are the basis of our Movement. Without our books, our preaching will have no effect.”
3. “If this book distribution is managed properly...the whole world will become Krishna conscious.”
4. “Not ordinary books... Anyone who reads, he is hearing.”
5. “Yes, if they read. Even if they touch. That is the difference between this book and ordinary book.”
6. “The instruction given in my books is supposed to be personal instruction.”
7. “Hearing must be from sadhu, from devotee, from the lips of the devotee...If you simply read Krishna book or Bhagavad-gita or Teachings of Lord Chaitanya...As long as you are reading, the sun is unable to take your life.”
8. “What I talk, I have written in the books...you can associate with me by reading my books.”
9. A moment’s association with the commentary of a pure devotee
10. Even a little association with your books has the same effect?
11. “Not my books, Kṛṣṇa's books.”
12. “...it is not my writing. It is Kṛṣṇa's writing.”
13. “When there is time I go on reading my own books.”
14. “taking shelter of these books means taking shelter of Kṛṣṇa.”
15. “Where is such literature throughout the whole world? It is all Kṛṣṇa's mercy. Every line is perfect.”
16. “these books are the ultimate source of knowledge”
17. “this clear understanding of God is not available anywhere else but from our books.”
18. “anyone who reads them is sure to become Krishna Conscious.”
19. “If he reads one śloka, his life will be successful. If he reads one śloka, one word.”
20. “It is just like sugar doll. Anywhere touch—it is sweet.”
21. “each time he gets new enlightenment”
22. “without fail, new aspects of the subject matter will be relished by the devotee”

23. "Kṛṣṇa is giving. I never thought my books will be sold as much. I never... Neither in the history of human society religious books sell six lakhs of rupees daily."
24. "That gentleman has written, "Swami Bhaktivedanta will be remembered for centuries, making history.""
25. "...supposed to be intelligent or scholar and does not read my books, his knowledge has no profit. That's a fact. Asampūrṇa. He remains still in darkness. That is a fact."
26. "Yes, that is a fact. That authority I have got."
27. "...it is Kṛṣṇa's grace. Otherwise, not possible. Human being, it is not possible."
28. "Why I get up at night, one o'clock, and do this job? Because I cannot do without it. How one will do it artificially? This is quality. Therefore they like my purports."
29. Practical experience

## **"I Have Instructed Everything In My Books"**

30. "In my books the philosophy of Krishna Consciousness is explained fully so if there is anything which you do not understand, then you simply have to read again and again."
31. Questions that may arise when not present: "the questions... Answers are there in my books."
32. "if you cannot understand, read it repeatedly...the answers will automatically come."
33. "The whole substance of Vaiṣṇava philosophy and activities, everything is there."
34. "all conclusive statements in the Kingdom of Bhakti"
35. "All these books should be regularly read. That will give you guidance. You haven't got to ask repeatedly to me; everything is there."
36. "Why I'm working so hard? Read the books."
37. "We have presented the complete philosophy of Kṛṣṇa Consciousness in our books"
38. "The original potency of the sastra remains in these books"
39. the essence of all the previous acaryas' books
40. "Whatever is to be learned of the teachings of Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura can be learned from our books."
41. "Read only one book if that was all that I had written."
42. "all of the contents of these books become revealed from within."

43. "an immense treasure of knowledge in art, science, literature, philosophy and religion will be revealed"
44. "full of the different aspects of this deep philosophy of Krishna Consciousness"
45. "outlines of thought are already there...They are so full of meaning. Provided you can express the meanings."
46. "Everything is there. Read it"

### **"Cram the purports of my books...everything is there."**

47. "Each sloka can be seen from many, many angles of vision"
48. "read books more and more and try to understand the subject matter from different angles of vision... listen to the tapes of my lectures"
49. Study our books, see our philosophy from different lights of directions, become convinced yourself, you will see Krishna face-to-face.
50. "we have to study from all angles of vision, not simply by sentiment."
51. "In order to remain steadily fixed in Krishna consciousness there must be a sound philosophical understanding."
52. "If you want to stay in Krsna Consciousness you will have to develop firm faith in Guru and Sastra. Therefore, you must study my books very scrutinizingly."
53. "Temple life is going on with little change, but we should become habituated to read the books more profoundly."
54. "...speaking something against the teachings of the dīkṣā-guru... one who is offensive, how he can make advance in chanting?...Your guru is writing books. If you think, "There is no necessity of reading books," that is guror avajñā (offensive)..."
55. "the real standard of understanding"
56. "most essential that all the initiated devotees study our books and learn this philosophy very well"
57. "So if you study my books very carefully, then I am sure you will find out the means for applying this Krsna Consciousness philosophy in all spheres of life. There is no limitation. Simply it requires a little common sense practicality."

58. "these siddhantic conclusions are being mentioned in all my books, and the boys and girls in our Krsna Society should now give more attention for studying the books very attentively."
59. "must read all the books that have been translated...otherwise they will miss the opportunity..."
60. "cram the purports of my books...Everything is there."
61. "if you read these literatures carefully you will realize the topmost science of Krsna Consciousness"
62. "read them very carefully, and gradually the knowledge will become revealed to you."
63. "very easily you will make your advancement in Krishna Consciousness."
64. "utilize whatever time you find to make a thorough study of my books. Then all your questions will be answered."
65. "always read my books daily and all your questions will be answered and you will have a firm basis of Krishna Consciousness."

## **"Hear and Repeat"**

66. "Hear and repeat...otherwise how we shall know that he has understood the philosophy?"
67. "but they should all be on the basis of our books. You should not go beyond the jurisdiction of our teaching."
68. "You must write just as you have heard from your Guru and nothing else. Otherwise, your writing is useless."
69. "That is preaching. Our process is anuśṛṇuyāt. We hear from the superior and reproduce it."
70. "You are hearing, but you have to write also. Then write means smaranam, remembering what you have heard from your spiritual master... Hear, write, remember...We have got so many books."
71. "We haven't got to invent something by our fertile brain for preaching. Everything is there."
72. "memorize the purports of my books and then speak them in your own words."
73. "My disciples should become all good preachers, and that depends on studying the books nicely so that you can arrive at the right conclusion."
74. "they must present their assimilation in their own words"
75. "read from my books and try and explain the meaning in your own words"

76. “kindly continue to develop in this way and write more and more of your realizations based upon our books.”
77. “study my books and reproduce the purports in your own language. You should instruct your temple presidents to preach like this.”
78. “they (classes) should all be on the basis of our books”
79. “Our preaching must be based upon the subject matter from books and nothing outside of them.”
80. “write more and more of your realizations based upon our books. There is no need to concoct anything new.”
81. “read my books more carefully and present things as I have presented them.”
82. “read the books and learn the purports and then speak to them in your own words.”

### **“Where there is no ignorance, there is no disturbance.”**

83. “So my oral instruction as well as my books are all at your service. Now you GBC consult them and get clear and strong idea, then there will be no disturbance.”
84. “must study my books very scrutinizingly... Don't take this movement as something cheap.”
85. “Your siddhanta is correct to the sastra and in this way go on reading books... [...] ...otherwise we can be misled by bogus philosophies.”
86. “if there is lack of knowledge, or if there is forgetfulness, everything will be spoiled in time.”
87. “simply read My books and reproduce it... As it is...If I add something, my own imagination, then it will spoil.”
88. Your words are sufficient. The potency is there. When they change, it is something else.
89. “Unless we take care of the books and preach and read ourself, understand the philosophy, this Hare Kṛṣṇa will be finished within few years.”

### **“These books will do everything.”**

90. "it is the duty of the ācārya to publish books that will help future candidates take up the method of service and become eligible to return home, back to Godhead, by the mercy of the Lord. In our Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement, this same path is being prescribed and followed."
91. "Only hope is that you distribute books, as much as possible, whole Europe, whole America...they will realize that what valuable books we have left for the study of the whole world. That will come."
92. "If they come to sense some day, they'll read all these books, and they will come to know how to live life. That is our contribution, Kṛṣṇa consciousness."
93. "They will someday realize how valuable books we have left them."
94. "So kindly help me. This is my request."
95. "I have given you all the guidance and hints and it is described in all my books."
96. "I have given my ideas and direction in my books."
97. "if there is any difficulty you may consult my books"
98. "if they cannot answer from their experience, then I have given answer in my books."
99. We can understand all of your instructions simply by reading your books.
100. "whatever I know I have explained in my books. Beyond that I have no knowledge. [...] if you do not find answer from my books, then it is hopeless."
101. "Whatever I have to speak, I have spoken in my books. Now you try to understand it and continue your endeavor. Whether I am present or not present, it doesn't matter."
102. "I will always be with you through my books and orders."
103. "The brainwash books are already there. Even if they stop externally, internally it will go on."
104. "if there are no more temples, then the books shall remain."
105. "We have got so many books, so if we go on preaching from them for the next 1,000 years, there is enough stock."
106. "I have given you instruction... It will never stop. At least for ten thousand years it will go on."
107. "these books will do everything."
108. I shall live from my books, and you will utilize.

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