

*****Latest Temple News*****

Snana Yatra Celebration



Vaishnava Calendar:

Wednesday July 2

Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura - Disappearance

Sunday July 13

Sayana Ekadasi

Monday July 28

Kamika Ekadasi

Tuesday August 12

Pavitraropana Ekadasi

Saturday August 16

Lord Balarama – Appearance

Saturday August 23

Sri Krishna Janmashtami

Sunday August 24

Srila Prabhupada – Appearance

On Sunday June 8th, we celebrated the Snana Yatra (bathing ceremony) of Lord Jagannatha at the temple. A wonderful abhishek of the Lord Jagannatha, Lord Baladeva and Subhadra was performed, led by Krsna-Balarama Swami, in which the devotees in attendance got to take part. A wonderful time was had by all. Thanks to all who attended and to Balarama Prabhu and his wife for providing the deities.



In June, the temple was pleased to welcome a special guest, Sridham Krishna Das from the ISKCON temple in Bangalore, India. Sridham gave a wonderful lecture on Krishna consciousness during the Snana Yatra celebration. The main purpose of his visit was to raise awareness for a food distribution program in India called Akshaya Patra. This program currently provides meals to over 800,000 under-

privileged school children. The program is rapidly growing and has its goal that "No child in India shall be deprived of education because of hunger." They hope to feed 1 million children a day by 2010. To find out more about this program or to see how you can help, visit their website at www.foodforeducation.org



Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura

In remembrance of the disappearance day of Bhaktivonda Thakura, we would like to share with you the following excerpt from a lecture given by Srila Prabhupada on Gaura Purnima in 1969:

"It was the desire of Bhaktivinoda Thakura to spread the life and precepts of Lord Caitanya in the western countries. So with this in view of publishing the book Sree Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, His Life and Precepts—he sent copies to various universities' libraries, and one of the copies was found in the McGill University in Montreal. After seventy-two years, this book was found in the library by one of our students, and he brought it to me. From a materialistic point of view, I was born in a different family, and Bhaktivinoda Thakura belonged to a different family, and my spiritual master, Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura, happened to be the fifth son of Bhaktivinoda Thakura. Although at home Bhaktivinoda Thakura was actually the spiritual master of my spiritual master, still he recommended Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura, when he was a young man about eighteen years old, that, 'You go to Gaura Kishora dasa Babaji and become initiated by him.' Bhaktivinoda Thakura was a magistrate and my Guru Maharaja belonged to a very respectable family, so he narrated the story before us ... when he was recommended to be initiated by Gaura Kishora Babaji Maharaja. This Gaura Kishora Babaji Maharaja used to respect Bhaktivinoda Thakura as his guide, therefore we take it [that in our] disciplic succession that Bhaktivinoda Thakura guided Gaura Kishora Babaji Maharaja, and Gaura Kishora dasa Babaji Maharaja initiated my spiritual master. Therefore, Bhaktivinoda Thakura is accepted as the spiritual master of the spiritual master of my spiritual master. He is in the fourth generation, grandman spiritual master.

"So, Caitanya Mahaprabhu's Saikirtana Movement, which Bhaktivinoda desired in 1896, and somehow or other, coincidentally, I do not know what was his desire, I was also born in that year. And, by Krishna's desire, I came to the disciplic succession: [to] Sarasvati Thakura, and he asked me to go to the Western countries and preach Caitanya Mahaprabhu's teachings. The spiritual line of understanding is different from the material-

istic point of view. The idea is that I was born in a different family and Guru Maharaja was born in a different family. Bhaktivinoda was at that time a magistrate, a government servant. By Lord Caitanya's desire we have come in the same line of disciplic succession. What was taught by Bhaktivinoda Thakura in 1896, that these teachings of Lord Caitanya should be spread in the Western countries, by chance or coincidence, it is now happening. We should take it for granted that whatever is happening at the present moment by my humble endeavor, it is all the grace of Bhaktivinoda Thakura. Therefore, on this auspicious ceremony of Lord Caitanya's Appearance Day, it will be greatly beneficial for us to hear from Bhaktivinoda Thakura what he wrote seventy-two years before, and after seventy-two years, being a humble servant in that line, I am trying to distribute [his teachings]. There is a spiritual coincidence, and we should take advantage of Bhaktivinoda Thakura's book.

"Practically, this Caitanya Movement was—of course Lord Caitanya inaugurated this Movement five hundred years ago, and after that, so many pseudo-Caitanyites depreciated the whole thing—but the Caitanya Movement in its pure form, as it is, was restarted by Bhaktivinoda Thakura ... We should take it that Bhaktivinoda Thakura was the origin of the Krishna consciousness movement in its pure form.

"Bhaktivinoda wrote [almost] one hundred books ... Just imagine—he was a very responsible officer, a magistrate, and he was grhastha; [he] also had many children. Altogether he had ten children, and he had to take care of children, the office of magistrate and extra religious work. He was made superintendent of the Temple of Jagannatha, because the government knew that Bhaktivinoda Thakura was a very highly advanced religious person. Whenever there was some religious question he was consulted. In spite



of all his responsibilities, as officer, or as family man with so many children, he executed his family life very nicely or else he could not have produced a child such as Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura. At the same time he served the Supreme Lord in so many ways. That is the beauty. He has written so many books and in spite of cumbersome duties. That is the beauty of his life ... he would come from the office in the evening and take his meals and go to bed. That was his program. And he'd sleep from eight to twelve at night, four hours, and then get up and write books until morning. That was his program.

"In this way, he wrote hundreds of books, some published, some in the course of [being] published. All this became possible because he was a sincere, faithful servant. To write so many books with so many responsibilities, for an ordinary magistrate is not possible. But because he was sincere, he got the strength from the Supreme Lord. One does not need to seek strength separate from the Supreme Lord. But if you are sincere the Supreme will give you sufficient strength. Actually, Bhaktivinoda Thakura brought my Guru Maharaja [to this world to be] his son. He prayed to Lord Caitanya that, 'Your preaching and teachings have been so much depreciated, it is not [in] my power to correct them.' He prayed to Lord Caitanya, and after his prayer Lord Caitanya sent my Guru Maharaja as his son. And he took up the matter very seriously."



ISKCON New York at Long Island Temple

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS, INC.



Sri Sri Nimai Nitai Mandir

197 S. Ocean Ave.
Freeport, NY 11520

www.iskconny.com

Phone: 516-223-4909
E-mail: contact@iskconny.com

The Seven Purposes of ISKCON

- 1) To systematically propagate spiritual knowledge to society at large and to educate all people in the techniques of spiritual life in order to check the imbalance of values in life and to achieve real unity and peace in the world.
- 2) To propagate a consciousness of Krishna (God), as it is revealed in the great scriptures of India, Bhagavad-Gita and Srimad-Bhagavatam.
- 3) To bring the members of the Society together with each other and nearer to Krishna, the prime entity, thus developing the idea within the members, and humanity at large, that each soul is part and parcel of the quality of Godhead (Krishna).
- 4) To teach and encourage the sankirtana movement, congregational chanting of the holy name of God, as revealed in the teachings of Lord Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.
- 5) To erect for the members and for society at large a holy place of transcendental pastimes dedicated to the personality of Krishna.
- 6) To bring the members closer together for the purpose of teaching a simpler, more natural way of life.
- 7) With a view towards achieving the aforementioned purposes, to publish and distribute periodicals, magazines, books and other writings

Prabhupada Quotations

A Pure Devotee

"...A pure devotee is constantly engaged—sometimes he chants, sometimes he hears or reads books about Krishna, or sometimes he cooks prasadam or goes to the marketplace to purchase something for Krishna, or sometimes he washes the temple or the dishes—whatever he does, he does not let a single moment pass without devoting his activities to Krishna..."

Bg 12.2 purport

Real Spiritual Life

"If I am not jolly that means maya has attacked me. A devotee shall never be not joyful. Always joyful. If he is actually in contact with Krishna, how he can become morose? No. If he is morose, if he is unhappy, that



means maya has attacked him. This is the test."

Lecture, 721031SB.VRN

Nine Processes Of Devotional Service

1. hearing
2. chanting
3. remembering
4. worshipping
5. serving the lotus feet of the Lord
6. offering prayers
7. carrying out the orders of the Lord
8. making friends with Him
9. surrendering everything to Him

"One can engage in all nine devotional processes, or eight, or seven, or at least in one, and that will surely make one perfect."

Srila Prabhupada, Bg 11.55