

## CC Punch

**Date:** 01 Jan 2003

**Author:** Kalacakra Krsna das

Hare Krishna Devotees,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev.

Wish you all a very happy new year! I convey my heartfelt thanks to all the devotees who are part of this forum and who took active part in sharing their invaluable realizations with others so magnanimously.

As HG Vaijayantimala mataji rightly pointed out that the realizations that we get are directly supplied by Krsna, I was thinking how valuable they are !! How much importance should we give to those sublime and potent instructions that the Paramatma is constantly giving us (even though we are so adamantly refusing to follow them)? Yes! Those instructions change the course of our lives tremendously. And as Srila Prabhupada says in several places in his purports, that those instructions sometimes come from the Paramatma within, and also from the Spiritual master externally. The choice is with us to either follow them or not.

Here is a punch from Srila Prabhupada's purport to one of the verses in Caitanya Caritamrita Madhya Lila, Chapter 20, verse 6. This is a verse where Sanatana Goswami's escape from the prison to meet Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu is narrated. The story goes like this...Sanatana Goswami was a minister working under the Nawab Hussain Shah. Although he was involved in state affairs, he was deeply interested in the study of the scriptures. So he lied to the Nawab, took sick leave, and stayed at home discussing Krishna-Katha with a few Brahmanas. The Nawab went to his home, finding that Sanatana Goswami lied to him and not willing to continue his service to the Nawab, imprisoned Goswami. Sanatana Goswami then secretly tries to convince the jail keeper with sweet words and promising him some rewards if he helps him to escape.

He speaks to the jail keeper in CC Madhya, 20.5,6 as follows:

*tumi eka jindā-pīra mahā-bhāgyavān  
ketāba-korāṇa-śāstre āche tomāra jñāna*

**Dear Sir, you are a saintly person and are very fortunate. You have full knowledge of the revealed scriptures such as Koran and similar books.**

*eka bandī chāḍe yadi nija-dharma dekhiyā  
saṁsāra ha-ite tāre mukta karena gosāñā*

**If one releases a conditioned soul or imprisoned person according to religious principles, he himself is also released from material bondage by the Supreme Personality of Godhead.**

Then Srila Prabhupada punches in his purport: "The jail keeper could not deny that he was a learned scholar because **when one is elevated to an exalted position, one thinks himself fit for that position.**"

This is a very strong punch, extremely painful to our false ego! But somehow if we undergo that pain and apply the right medicine of Krishna-katha, (which is rightly called *bhavauśadhi* - medicine that cures the material disease), we will remain blissful always!

Thank you so much.  
Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev,  
Kalacakra Krsna das.

## Isn't it strange?

**Date:** 06 Jan 2003

**Author:** Jagjivan das

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,  
Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to Srila Gurudev.

Just wanted to share with you all the following that I received from a friend.

Isn't it strange how a 20 dollar note  
seems like such a large amount when  
you donate it to the temple, but  
such a small amount  
when you go shopping?

Isn't it strange how 2 hours  
seem so long when  
you're in arati, and how  
short they seem when you're  
watching a good movie?

Isn't it strange that you can't  
find a word to  
say when you're praying,  
but you have no trouble thinking  
what to chat about with a friend?

Isn't it strange how difficult  
and boring it is  
to read one chapter of the  
Gita, but how easy it is to  
read 100 pages of a  
popular novel?

Isn't it strange how everyone  
wants front-row-tickets to concerts or  
games, but they do whatever is  
possible to sit at the  
back of the temple room?

Isn't it strange how we need to  
know about an event at the temple 2-3  
weeks before the day so we can  
include it in our  
agenda, but we can  
adjust it for other events in  
the last minute?

Isn't it strange how difficult  
it is to learn a

fact about Krishna to share it  
with others, but how easy it is  
to learn, understand, extend and repeat  
gossip?

Isn't it strange how we send  
jokes in e-mails and  
they are forwarded right  
away, but when we are going to  
send messages  
about Krishna, we think about it  
twice before we share it with  
others?

Your servant,  
Jagjivan das  
New zealand.

## Surrendering is your Anesthetic

**Date:** 09 Jan 2003

**Author:** Purnacandra das

Hare Krishna Prabhujis and Matajis,

Please accept my most humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to Srila Gurudev.

Impediments to spiritual progress are the impurities in one's own heart. The impurities are such things as greed, lust, attachment etc. This point is repeated in many places in both the Bhagavad Gita and Srimad Bhagavatam (eg SB 8.3.28).

HH Bhakti Caru Swami Maharaj in his discourse yesterday at the Sydney temple, explained in simple terms how these impediments can be withdrawn so that one may continue one's progress spiritually and at the same time free oneself from material miseries (or as HG Viraj Prabhu points out, the body becomes oblivious to the bodily miseries as a result of fixing one's consciousness to Krishna Consciousness, Or, as HH Mahavishnu Maharaj once put it, 'The person's consciousness does not register these miseries in a blissful state').

HH Bhakti Charu Maharaj likened the withdrawing of the impediments, to the withdrawing of the consciousness when one is treated with an anesthetic before going under the knife of a surgeon. One feels no pain at all because of the withdrawing effect of the anesthetic. Likewise, for one to overcome the miseries of one's past karma, one simply surrenders at the lotus feet of the Supreme Lord.

At this point, HG Viraj Prabhu asked the question as to what does surrender actually mean or entail. Maharaj explained that surrender means offering everything to the Lord, one's house, one's family, one's bank balance, everything. He quickly clarified though that one does this by using everything one has in His service and His service only; one's house is utilized as a temple, one's Lakshmi is used in promoting Krsna Consciousness, one's family is trained to become nice devotees and so on. When one surrenders in this manner, the Lord at this point assumes full responsibility for all your actions, past, present, and future. Maharaj also hastened to add that when one has surrendered in this manner, then one does not ask Krishna for any favors after that. Otherwise, it is not a full surrender. Maharaj likened the surrendered soul to that of a small child under the full protection of his parents. The child is completely dependent and under the full protection of the parents. All of what HH Bhakti Caru Maharaj said that I have paraphrased above is partially summarised in Srila Prabhupada's purport to SB 8.3.28 that I accidentally stumbled upon today.

Srila Prabhupada Ki Jai!

Srila Gurudev Ki Jai!

Your humble servant,

Purnacandra das

Sydney.

## Relieving Anxiety of the Lord

**Date:** 10 Jan 2003

**Author:** Kalacakra Krsna das

Hare Krishna,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev.

I just came across a very very special purport in Sri Caitanya Caritamrta, Antya lila, chapter 3, text 52. This chapter is about the glories of Namacharya Srila Haridas Takura.

Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, to show to the world, the magnanimity of His dearest devotees, have talks and discussions at times with them. From these transcendental talks, questions and answers, we get a very good idea about devotional service, the Lord and His devotees and many other things. Srila Prabhupada says in one of his purports in Srimad Bhagavatam 1.9.17, "**The popular saying is that a housewife teaches the daughter-in-law by teaching the daughter**". Sometimes Lord Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu taught His disciples like Srila Saarbhauma Bhattacarya, Srila Rupa Goswami, Srila Sanatana Goswami etc and sometimes the Lord asked questions from His devotees like Srila Ramananda Raya and Srila Haridas Thakura and inspired them to speak on the transcendental subject matter.

In this chapter, the Lord asks a question to Srila Haridas Takura, **My dear Thakura Haridasa, in this Age of Kali most people are bereft of Vedic culture, and therefore they are called yavanas. They are concerned only with killing cows and brahminical culture. In this way they all engage in sinful acts. How will these yavanas be delivered? To My great unhappiness, I do not see any way.**

For this Srila Haridas Thakura replied, "**My dear Lord, do not be in anxiety. Do not be unhappy to see the condition of the yavanas in material existence. Because the yavanas are accustomed to saying 'hā rāma, hā rāma' ['O Lord Rāmacandra'], they will very easily be delivered by this nāmābhāsa. A devotee in advanced ecstatic love exclaims, 'O my Lord Rāmacandra! O my Lord Rāmacandra!' But the yavanas also chant, 'hā rāma, hā rāma!' Just see their good fortune!**"

In the purport for text 52 (CC Antya Lila Chapter 3), Srila Prabhupada is so deep in his devotional service to the Lord. He says as follows:

*"These words of Haridasa Thakura are just befitting a devotee who has dedicated his life and soul to the service of the Lord. **When the Lord is unhappy because of the condition of the fallen souls, the devotee consoles Him, saying, "My dear Lord, do not be in anxiety." This is service. Everyone should adopt the cause of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu to try to relieve Him from the anxiety He feels. This is actually service to the Lord. One who tries to relieve Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu's anxiety for the fallen souls is certainly a most dear and confidential devotee of the Lord.**"*

Thank you very much.

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev,  
Kalacakra Krsna das.

## Blessings in disguise

**Date:** 16 Jan 2003

**Author:** Ramasrai

Hare Krishna Prabhujis & Matajis,  
Kindly accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev.

While I was reading the S.B. 1.18, titled "Maharaj Pariksit cursed by a Brahmana boy" and thereafter I read S.B. 1.19 The Appearance of Sri Sukhdev Goswami, and the way Maharaj Pariksit retires from family life and how he prepares for his few remaining days of life, and how on the bank of holy Ganga the Brahmrishi, Rajrishi, Dev rishi and best among the sages from all part of the universe assemble there and at last the best of the best Devotee of Lord Krishna, H.H. Shri Sukadev Goswami arrives there.. While thinking about this situation, I realized that how Lord Sri Krishna is so **merciful** on His devotees - those who have completely **surrendered** to Him, of such Devotees Lord Krishna directly takes the charge, and to such devotees whatever happens in their life good or bad( as it appears from the material point of view )is always auspicious and are welcomed by such exalted devotees like Pariksit Maharaj, and any inauspicious things in their life ultimately becomes a boon by the Mercy of Lord, as it happened with Pariksit Maharaj. For such surrendered Devotees Lord Krishna makes the plan, either during the life span or at the end, and He makes the best arrangement for them to return back to Him, that too with full of Glories as it happened with Maharaj Pariksit, and for those who are not his devotees, Maya Devi takes the charge of such souls who are bound by the action of three modes. Just because of the curse Maharaj Pariksit got the opportunity to be associated with such exalted Devotees who mercifully by their presence turn any place into a place of pilgrimage! and just from his **curse**, we fallen souls got the nectar in the form of Srimad Bhagavatam, which alone can deliver all the fallen souls just by its association, it all happened just by the curse of the Brahmana boy Srngi. How merciful is Lord !!!, What a glorious arrangement He made for His beloved devotee!?, Prabhupada Maharaj has written in His purport many times that those devotees who have taken the shelter of His lotus feet, will always be protected by Him not only them but also their family members even if they happen to be atheist, as in the case of Hiranyakasipu, he was awarded liberation even though he was envious of Lord Krishna, just because he was the father of Prahlad Maharaj, His sincere devotee.

Anything that happens in the life of a devotee is always auspicious and even by hearing such narration it gives pleasure and increases one's devotion toward Lord Krishna (because such topics are in relation to Lord's wonderful pastimes).

Hare Krishna!  
Your aspiring servant,  
Ramasrai  
Abu Dhabi.

## **Tulasi Mahatmya**

**Date:** 18 Jan 2003

**Author:** Abhira Kanya devi dasi

Hare Krishna!

All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev!

Here's a few notes from the lecture of HH Bhakti Vishrambha Madhava Swami on the Tulasi Mahatmya at Abu Dhabi Last Year.

These are from Garuda Purana and Padma Purana.

Tulasi was born in the month of Kartika. Tulasi Pooja will give a son to the childless. Tulasi is the best offering to the Lord.

Lord sells himself for Tulasi and Ganges. Eight Tulasi leaves are the best offerings. Tulasi manjaris in the mouth at death will give a place in spiritual world even if committed 100's of sins. One manjari is better than any other flower. Roots of Tulasi plant are very good and strong. Soak in water and make them stiff. This can be used to light lamps. One such lighted lamp is equal to 1000 deepams . They also can be used for the decoration of deities. Burn Tulasi wood with camphor and use it as chandan. This will draw us nearer to Krishna. The shadow of Tulasi is non different from Her so we should not step on it. Tulasi's mud in forehead will give the benefit of 100 days of worship. Always chant with Tulasi. Krishna will not accept anything without Tulasi, not even chandan. If you don't have a Tulasi plant you can offer dried twigs of her and use it again and again.

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev,  
Abhira Kanya devi dasi  
Abu Dhabi.

## **Granthraj Success in Year 2002**

**Date:** 20 Jan 2003

**Author:** Murlidhara Krsna das

Dear all Granthraj members,

Please accept my dandavat pranams, All glories to our beloved Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev

After looking at our web site, I have found out this details which I will like to share with all of you.

These are the results of almost one year of our beloved Granthraj yahoo group not to forget that in February 26, we will have one full year !!!!!

Members: **110**

Founded: **Feb 26, 2002**

**Postings until today : 288**

The results are simple wonderful almost everyday we have received some new realization from all sides of this planet the Bhagavatam messages has been send.

And all this thanks to HG Kalachakra Prabhu and constant blessings of HH Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj not to forget 110 members who have dedicated their time for this group. Let us all wish a better and more successful year 2003.

I will finish with one universal saying:

Maybe some individuals can accomplish something in there respectful field of work but together united we can accomplish everything

**Jaya Srila Prabhupada and His ISKCON the house he has build for all of us Srimad Bhagavatam Purana ki Jaya !!!**

Please continue to contribute to our beloved Granthraj group and please keep our group free from Kali's influence of quarrels and politics.

Your servant,

Murlidhara Krsna das

Yugoslavia.

## Hearing and Reading Srimad Bhagavatam

**Date:** 21 Jan 2003

**Author:** Devakinandan das

Hare Krishna Prabhus and Matajis!

Please accept my humble obeisances! All glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev!

Whenever any one has had problems in life and approached Gurudev, Gurudev has one very central advice - ***please bury your head in reading Srimad Bhagavatam and do not look up. Dig your heels in and hear Srimad Bhagavatam!***

Srila Prabhupada's purport in **1.2.5** bears testimony to this point, which should preferably and for the salvation of our souls never be taken for granted:

"Krishna is our most intimate master, friend, father or son and object of conjugal love. Forgetting Krishna, we have created so many objects of questions and answers, but none of them are able to give us complete satisfaction. ***All things - but Krishna - give temporary satisfaction only***, so if we are to have complete satisfaction, we must take to the questions and answers about Krishna. We cannot live for a moment without being questioned or without giving answers. Because the Srimad Bhagavatam deals with questions and answers that are related to Krishna, we can derive the highest satisfaction only by reading and hearing about this transcendental literature. ***One should learn the Srimad Bhagavatam and make an all-around solution to all problems pertaining to social, political or religious matters. Srimad Bhagavatam and Krishna are the sum of all things.***

Your servant,

Devakinandan das

Singapore.

## Dwaraka Rath Yatra

**Date:** 30 Jan 2003

**Author:** Sajjana Priya Krishna das

Dear Prabhujis and Matajis,

Hare Krishna! Please accept our most humble obeisances. All Glories to Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev!

It is by the mercy of Sri Sri Rukmini Dwarakadish and our beloved Guru Maharaj that around 9 devotees from Abu Dhabi congregation attended the Dwaraka Rath Yatra on 26.01.2003. This was the first ISKCON Rath yatra we all attended and it was totally blissful and transcendental. It was like being in Vaikunta and we did not want to come back from that Vaikunta atmosphere. We were also fortunate to have the association of Our beloved Guru Maharaj and some other sanyasis and it was really purifying. Devotees from different parts of the world were there ,so also from different places in India. Their Lordships Shri Shri Jagannath, Baladev and Subhadra were looking blissfully beautiful showering their Unlimited mercy on all the conditioned souls. The ecstatic sankirthan was led by HG Gudakesha Prabhu and HG Yashomatinandan Prabhuji. Around 300 devotees participated in the Rath yatra and there was book distribution and Prasadam distribution.

Our Guru Maharaj HH Mahavishnu Goswami Maharaj gave very very instructing and enlightening discourses. In Srimad Bhagavatam 10.81.35, Sudama glorifies the quality of Lord shri Krishna by saying:

*kiñcit karoty urv api yat sva-dattaṁ  
suhṛt-kṛtaṁ phalgv api bhūri-kārī  
mayopaṇītaṁ pṛthukaika-muṣṭim  
pratyagrahīt prīti-yuto mahātmā*

**The Lord considers even His greatest benedictions to be insignificant, while He magnifies even a small service rendered to Him by His well-wishing devotee. Thus with pleasure, the Supreme Soul accepted a single palmful of the flat rice I brought Him.**

Our Guru Maharaj is a living example of this great quality and Maharaj was glorifying all the devotees for their smallest good quality. In return for our insignificant surrender, Maharaj is bestowing on everybody so much mercy and knowledge that anybody who has even little gratitude cannot ever give up the shelter of the lotus feet of this great Mahatma. The following are some of the extracts from the discourses which Maharaj was giving.

Maharaj says that to be serious about Devotional Service, we should know only two things. One is that we are the servitor of the Supreme Absolute Truth, Krishna. The second is that Krishna is the supreme master. Once we understand this perfectly, it keeps us humble in all circumstances, and as a servant we should always be obeying and respecting the master and never try to be the master ourselves.

Maharaj was saying that the main reason for our dissatisfaction is that we are not sufficiently chanting Krishna's names or adequately glorifying Him. Our mind is meant only for remembering Krishna and is not meant for anything else. If the mind is filled with so many other things, then there will be no place for Krishna and this makes us completely dissatisfied.

Maharaj was taking verse no. 9.10.53 from Srimad Bhagavatam:

*nādhī-vyādhi-jarā-glāni- duḥkha-śoka-bhaya-klamāḥ  
mṛtyuś cānicchatām nāsīd rāme rājany adhokṣaje*

**When Lord Rāmacandra, the Supreme Personality of Godhead, was the King of this world, all bodily and mental suffering, disease, old age, bereavement, lamentation, distress, fear, and fatigue were completely absent. There was even no death for those who did not want it.**

Maharaj was expertly describing the threefold material miseries - adhyatmika, adhibhautika and adhidaivika, and also the way to counteract them. Some of the important points mentioned were:

**Adhyatmika:**

These are the sufferings from the body and the mind. Regulated rest and regulated eating lead to a sound body which helps us in carrying out our supreme goal i.e. Devotional service. In this regard, Maharaj was telling that the mind is the main source of trouble and this is reflected in the body. Actually, worry has no factual existence at all. The best way to cure the mentally concocted worries is that we should make arrangements to carry on our occupational duties in an honest and straightforward way. If we are not able to arrange somethings with all our efforts, we should pray to Krishna sincerely and chant His names. Krishna is an expert manager and He will take care and we should not be unnecessarily taking on all these things and worry.

**Adhibhautika:**

These are the sufferings from other living entities. This is mainly because of envy. Because of envious nature, one living entity tries to inflict misery on the others and enjoys seeing the sufferings of others. In this regard, Maharaj was telling the story of 3 friends who wanted to tease one man. When the man was walking on the road, the first fellow went and shouted to the man that it was a ghost. The man said that he was not a ghost and angrily started walking. After a few kilometers, the second friend came and shouted that it was a ghost walking. The man got really irritated and shouted saying that he was not a ghost. After some time the third fellow came, looked at the man, and shouted that it was a ghost. The man by now became almost mad since three people had said the same thing and began to believe himself to be a ghost. To end this kind of destructive mentality, we have to go to the pages of Srimad Bhagavatam which provides solutions for all the problems. The seventh canto SB 7.15.24 says, "kṛpayā bhūtajam duḥkham". Instead of being envious, we should be compassionate towards the other living entities, and this way the other living entity will slowly change for the better. Even otherwise, by being nice, we will be completely satisfied and peaceful. In this regard, Maharaj mentioned the advice which Dhruva's mother Suniti gave to him in shloka 4.8.17 of Shrimad Bhagavatam:

*māmaṅgalaṁ tāta pareṣu maṁsthā  
bhunkte jano yat para-duḥkhas tat*

**My dear son, don't wish for anything inauspicious for others. Anyone who inflicts pain upon others suffers himself from that pain.**

**Adhidaivika:**

These are the sufferings from nature caused by the demigods like the earthquake, flood etc., Srimad Bhagavatam seventh canto 7.15.24 says "*daivam jahyāt samādhinā*". The only way is to chant lovingly and with concentration the Holy names of the Lord.

Thus if we want to really purify ourselves and get rid of all kinds of miseries, we should come to the pages of the Scriptures. Otherwise, this illuminated existence would soon end and we will be put in some dark species of life. In order to approach the scriptures, our thinking should be pure. For thinking to be pure, the mind should be pure. For the mind to be pure, the actions should be pure and for actions to be pure, there should be an association with pure-minded people. If this process is perfect, then we can **Real-ise**. We can see the reality that Krishna is the all in all. If we can see the Reality, then there is **Real-isation**.

We shall try to post the other points in the forthcoming mail.

Yours in service of Srila Prabhupada and Srila Gurudev,  
Sajjana Priya Krishna das  
Vaijayantimala devi dasi  
Karthik Saikumar  
Abu Dhabi.