

Founder Acharaya His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti Promode Puri Goswami Thakur

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President & Acharaya His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Goswami Maharaj

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Srila Gurudev is a pure devotee of the Divine Couple Sri Sri Radha Krishna and is a condensed form of Supreme Lord Sri Krishna's mercy. Therefore, we have to accept guru more seriously. If we do so, then gradually we will be able to realise that Srila Gurudev's mercy is more important than Krishna's mercy, for without Gurudev's mercy, no one will be able to get Krishna's mercy directly. Majority of the gurus in the lineage of Srila Prabhupada Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur are focused on engaging their followers to serve the Vaishnavas and chant the Hare Krishna Mahamantra. This is the easiest way to reach the ultimate goal of our spiritual practice - the lotus feet of Sri Krishna.

In the service of Śrī Kṛṣṇa Caitanya Mahaprabhu's Mission,

His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Goswami Maharaj
President, Sri Gopinath Gaudiya Math



GURU SEVA

by

**HDG Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan
Goswami Maharaja**

Observing the annual appearance of Srila Gurudev means to prepare our heart with the vow of rendering service to Him and His worshipful Lord Sri Krishna. As per the lunar cycle, Srila Gurudev's appearance day is on the fourth day of the waxing moon on the Vedic month of Ashwin (Wednesday, 19 Oct 1898). This year, today (10 October 2021) is that day—my most revered and beloved Gurudev, Srila Bhakti Promode Puri Goswami Thakur's appearance day. Whoever accepted Him either as shiksha guru or diksha guru, should meditate and act on what service to render him in the coming year.



The identity of all living entities is that they are the eternal servants of Lord Sri Krishna. Srila Gurudev appeared in this world as a condensed form of Supreme Lord Sri Krishna's mercy. We should render service to the Lord under the guidance of Srila Gurudev because Lord Sri Krishna has informed us that if we perform all our services under the guidance of Gurudev, then He will be satisfied with our service. Therefore, today we should pray to Gurudev from the bottom of our heart to prepare us for service until his next appearance day. Srila Gurudev is eternal for his qualified disciples. Although he is not

physically present with us, we know from the scriptures that actual Guru is Lord Sri Krishna Himself. Sri Krishna's expansion is Khsirodakshayi Mahavishnu, who resides in our heart as Paramatma and is always with us. So, if we follow the footsteps of Gurudev, then he will convey our prayers to Lord Sri Krishna, who in-turn will reveal our eternal service in our heart. Accordingly, if we follow our heart then one can consider Gurudev is instructing us from within.

B.B.Bodhayan Swami

VYASA PUJA OFFERINGS

by devotees

Dear Gurudeva,

It has now been almost twenty-two long years since you disappeared from our vision and left us for the eternal world. Every day that passes, I pray that somehow by the grace of Srimati Radhika, I will receive enough blessings to one day be able to serve again at your holy lotus feet. I know that this is only possible by serving and pleasing the Vaishnavas with sincerity, faithfully chanting the Holy Name without offense, and serving your many wonderful instructions to us—all of these things I am extremely unqualified to do and at an infantile state in my progress. But I always remember your encouraging words that if we have faith in Guru and Krishna, that even for the most fallen of sinners like me, it is possible to obtain the highest goal.

So merciful, kind, and loving you have been to us that I cannot measure our good fortune. You melted my cold, dry, and dark heart with your unlimited affection. You gave me hope and faith that one day I might be free from all the anarthas that I have accumulated over countless lifetimes trying to squeeze some enjoyment out of this world and its objects.

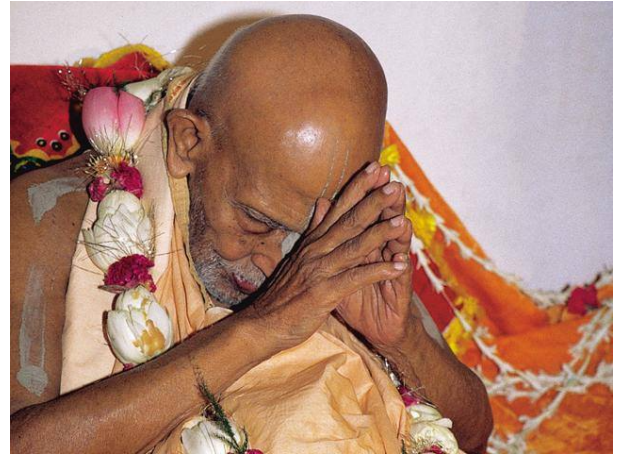


As we grow older, we see the futility in material pursuits and the wisdom of your teachings rings clearer and clearer. But patience is the pearl of virtue you have taught us. You have expressed with deep humility that if we *expect* progress from practicing sadhana and do not realize that everything will come to us only by grace and the mercy of the Vaishnavas, then our pride of practice or learning will become the impediment that will prevent that grace from descending.

What an incredible example you have set Gurudeva, not only for us but for the whole world. The accounts for your wonderful appearance in this world, extraordinary childhood, years of dedication to your Guru Maharaja and his mission, and exemplary service to the missions of your god-brothers and the overall Gaudiya Mission of Mahaprabhu will be an inspiration for generations to come. I feel so fortunate to be able to contribute a little seva to assist Srila Bodhayan Maharaja in publishing a new and extensive biography of your divine life. Much care and attention are going into researching all the old Gaudiya publications to unearth your many wonderful pastimes and contributions to the mission. Due to your extreme humility throughout your service to Srila Prabhupada Bhaktisiddhanta Thakur and over 80 years of service to his mission, you never promoted the depth of your realizations, devotional mood, scholarship, or other talents. You always remained humble and hid the brilliance of your devotional gifts. But with a close examination of the historical records and the many accounts of your godbrothers, we are still discovering the magnitude and impact of your seva. I do believe as well that the overall impact of your example and service has not yet fully manifest. Like a deeply buried treasure, the

more we dig the more enriched we become by what we find.

I wanted to share a few bits of nectar from your divine pastimes that are presented here for the first time in the English language¹. The many entries present in these divine works of literature give an idea of the extent of your devotional activities over many decades of service to Srila Prabhupada and the Vaishnavas. The articles also describe the elevated mood of Gaudiya Math and give us a sense of the deep dedication that you and your godbrothers manifested in the service of the mission, the Holy Name, and your divine master.



Ref- Vol-5th, Issue- 14th, Date- 20th
November 1926, Saturday 4th Agrāhāyana
1333, Sri Gaudiya Math, (Page 274- 275)

Kalikāta – Last Saturday that is 20th of Kārttika, the day of Śrī Govardhana Puja, on the auspicious occasion of Śrī Śrī Giridhārī Jiu's Annakuṭa grand festival, at Kalikāta's Bhaktibhavana, Tridaṇḍī Svāmī Śrīmadbhaktivaibhavasāgara Mahārāja, Ācārya Śrīpāda Vāsudeva Paravidyābhūṣaṇa B.A., and other eminent devotees had recited Śrī Mādhavendra Purī's Śrī Gopāla vighraha's

¹ These articles have been excerpted and translated by the grace of Sundar Gopal Prabhu. May he be blessed for this valuable seva.



Annakuṭamahātsava from Śrī Caitanya Caritāmṛta and the details of Govardhana Puja held among the Vṛjavāsīs during the Dvāpara yuga and along with that they performed melodious kīrtanas in front of the deity of Śrī Śrī Giridhārī.

The euphonious sound of Śrī Praṇavananda Brahmācārī Prabhu's kīrtana reverberated throughout the glorious walls of the modern-day Bhaktibhavana. However, it is noteworthy to mention the euphoria and the inclination to serve the Vaishnava devotees among the residents of Bhaktibhavana.

The annual festival at Śrīla Maheśa Paṇḍita Ṭhākura's Śrīpāṭha in Cākdāha.

On the last 20th of Pouṣa (1338 as per the Bengali calendar), 5th of January (1932), Tuesday, at the Śrīpāṭha of Cākadāha's Kānṭhālapuli, the grand annual disappearance festival of the one among Dvādaśa Gopāla, Śrīla Maheśa Paṇḍita Ṭhākura, was successfully concluded with desired outcome. From Kalikātā, Tridaṇḍisvāmī Śrīmadbhaktivaibhava Sāgara Mahārāja, Śrīpāda Anantavāsudeva Paravidyābhūṣaṇa Prabhu, Śrīpāda Pramodabhūṣaṇa Cakravartī Pratnavidyālaṁkāra, Śrīpāda Niyamānanda Dāsādhikārī, Śrīyukta Harisādhana Dāsādhikārī, Brahmācārī Śrī Hariprasādajī, Brahmācārī Śrīvaradarājajī, Śrīyukta Nṛpendranātha Majumdāra and Śrīyukta (Image v10_436) Vidyutkumāra Ghoṣa; from Śrīdhāma Māyāpura, Śrīpāda Paramānanda Brahmācārī Vidyāratna Prabhu, Dr. Śrīyukta Śubhaviḷāsa Dāsādhikārī, Śrīyukta Mukunda Dāsādhikārī, Brahmācārī Śrīvīracandra, Brahmācārī Śrīaghadamana and other devotees; from Bārākapura, Śrīyukta Divyasuri Dāsādhikārī and from Kānṭhālapuli and its adjacent villages, many elevated personalities had participated in this annual festival.

In the forenoon of the above mentioned day, Śrīpāda Pramodabhūṣaṇa Cakravartī Pratnavidyālaṁkāra Prabhu and Śrīyukta Divyasuri Dāsādhikārī Mahāśaya while performing kīrtana glorifying Śrī Gaura roamed around the village of Kānṭhālapuli and upon arrival at the samādhi of Śrīla Maheśa Paṇḍita, they circumambulated it and offered their prostrated obeisances. Immediately afterward Triḍaṇḍī Svāmī Śrīmadbhaktivaibhava sāgara Mahārāja, addressing the sea of devotees gathered at the premises of the Samādhi mandir recited a verse of Śrīla Kavirāja Gosvāmī Prabhu from Śrī Caitanya caritāmṛta. It is as follows:

“Maheśa Paṇḍita Vrajera udāra gopāla |
Dakkāvādyā nṛtya kare preme mātōyāla ||”
(Maheśa is the munificent Gopāla of Vṛja |

He plays the drums and dances gleefully immersed in the sea of love. And by performing this kīrtana and subsequently elucidating it he gave rise to a wave of love in the hearts of devotees and by doing so he presented the divine Śrī Vighraha of the Lord. Both before and after the recital session, Śrīpāda Pratnavidyālaṁkāra Prabhu and Śrīpāda Niyamānanda Dāsādhikārī Prabhu had performed the Mahājana-Padāvalī Kīrtana.

In another place your divine grace exhibited your deep love and respect for your godbrother by offering the following poem:

NIRYĀṆA (Departure)

Ref- Gaudiya Vol-5th, Issue- 15th, Date- 27th November 1926, Saturday 11th Agrāhāyaṇa 1333, Sri Gaudiya Math, (Page-25)

Last Thursday at 10 a.m. an ardent servant of Kalikātā's Śrī Gauḍīya Maṭha, Śrīpāda Rāmavinoda Brahmācārī, left for his heavenly abode. He had set forth an exemplary example as to how till the last day of life one should



continue to serve Śrī Hari Guru Vaiṣṇava with utmost sincerity and honesty. He had descended on this earth to teach mankind and after having established his principles and ideologies, he left for his heavenly abode. The only way to pay homage to him is by following his established principles and ideologies. Even Śrī Gaurasundara has placed him in the highest regards, this is our word of assurance.

Note- We mentioned here the passing away of Ramvinoda Brahmachari in whose memory Srila B.P.Puri Maharaja wrote this beautiful poem, which is shared below.

Ref- Gaudiya Vol-5th, Issue- 16th, Date- 4th December 1926, Saturday 18th Agrāhāyaṇa 1333, Sri Gaudiya Math, (Page-307).

ŚOKAŚĀTANA

*Ādarśa gurura sevaka he Gaurāṅgajana!
Rākhiyā ādarśa sevāra śuddhasanātana ||
Calile svadhāme tava he vaikuṇṭhadūta!
Hāsiyā amartya hāsi kivā adabhūta ||*

The exemplary servant of the spiritual master, oh the devotee of Gaurāṅga! You have set the ideals for serving the pure Sanātana dharma. And by doing so you thus make your final journey to the heavenly abode, oh the messenger of Vaikuṇṭha! Surprising all of us by your divine smile.

*Śrī Guru-padāravinde labhiyā śaraṇa |
Kirupa yāpita ha've āśrita jīvana ||
Śikhā'le tumie tā'r kariya ācāra |
Śrī Guru-mahimā bhavē karile prācāre ||*

By taking shelter at the lotus feet of the spiritual master. How one should lead a protected life. You have taught us that by following the path of righteousness. And you preached everything in the mood of glorifying the spiritual master.

*Māyāra kuhake hāya, mugdha jīvakula |
Cāhe nā śunite tā'ra kothā rahe bhula ||
Bhāviyā tādera daśa vyātitha antare |
Kata nā ḍেকেচা 'Kṛṣṇa' bhāsi āśrunīre ||*

Alas the entire mankind is enchanted by illusions. They do not want to hear his teachings because they consider them fallacious. However, his heart aches thinking about their present condition. How much he has wept while chanting the name of 'Kṛṣṇa'.

*Madhura amiya bhāṣe ḍāki' jane jane |
Valecche, "he bhāi, to'rā bhaja Kṛṣṇadhane ||
Kṛṣṇa vinā āra vandhu ke ācche savāra |
Kṛṣṇera caraṇa padma sarvasukhādhāra ||*

He calls out to each and everyone in his melodious and ambrosial voice. And says, "Oh brother, please chant the name of Kṛṣṇa". Kṛṣṇa is the only true friend one has in his life. Hence the lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa are the only place that can provide us with eternal happiness.

*"Jīvana samāptikāle kariva bhajana |
Kakhana emona nāhi kahe kahe viṣajana ||
Maraṇa avaśya bhāi, jānaha niścaya |
Sarvasva tyājijā laha Kṛṣṇa-padāśraya ||"*

In the last few years of my life I shall glorify the lord. Says no individuals who consider themselves as intellectuals But death is inevitable, everyone knows that. Therefore renounce every material pleasure and resort to the lotus feet of Kṛṣṇa.

*Jīvera vedanā-kliṣṭha śrīmukha tomāra |
Śuniyā maṅgalavāṇī baḍa se āśāra ||
Nāciyā uṭhite hiyā atīva pāṣāṇa |
Rākṣī māyāra moha karita prayāṇa ||*

Your beautiful face always reflected the painful sufferings of mankind. However, the sound of the auspicious words was of a great assurance. Hearing it even the hearts of



extremely stone-hearted men danced with joy. Thus abandoning the illicit desire of demonic illusion.

*Prathama sākṣāte mane paḍe ekdin |
Dākiyā kahile more ha'ye kata dīna ||
“he bhāi, ki nāma tomāra, kothā tava ghara?
Ki kārya yāpaha divā, kaha ataḥpara ||*

I clearly remember the very first day I had met you. Very humbly you summoned me “Oh brother, what is your name, where do you reside? Please tell me what kind of work you do.

*Śuniyā hainu stavdha, na sare vacana|
Kahinu, “Śrīpādapadme mama āgamana ||
Viṣaya-madāndha āmi kicchu nāhi jāni |
Mama-paricaya bhālo jānaha āpani ||”*

I fell silent, words refused to come out of my mouth. Later I exclaimed that “I have come to witness your lotus feet I am blind with vanity hence consider me ignorant. But it is you who know very well my true identity”.

*Amani gambhīra tnā'ra haila vadana |
Kahite lāgilā, “Jīva Kṛṣṇadāsa hana ||
Nitya Kṛṣṇadasya tnā'ra nitya paricaya |
Kṛṣṇera vasatisthala tnā'ra dhāma haya ||*

Suddenly his entire demeanor became serious. He stated that “Every living object is the servant of Kṛṣṇa. His everyday service to Lord Kṛṣṇa is his true identity. As a result, the abode of Kṛṣṇa becomes a dhāma to him.

*“Śrī Gurusevane mile-Kṛṣṇapremadhana|
Śrīguru-sevāya bhāi, deha prāṇa-manal||”
Āro kata kathā kahila Kīrtana |
Anartha-pidita-citta, na haya smaraṇal||*

It is by serving your spiritual master that you receive the love of Kṛṣṇa as a wealth. Brother, hence once should entirely dedicate his mind body, and soul to serving one's spiritual

master. You said so many other things through the melodious kīrtanas. My useless-distressed-consciousness does not remember it.

*Keha vā ācare śudhu, nā kare pracāra |
Athavā prācari' keha, na kare ācāra ||
Ācari' pracārii' dui ādarśa sevāra |
Sādhile jīvera hita, sevā avatāra ||*

Some engage in practice, but do not preach. While some preach but do not practice. Both the practitioner and the preacher are two ideals of service. You have always desired the well-being of mankind, you are the true reincarnation of an ardent servant of the Lord.

*Varṇita nāhika śakti tava guṇa-gaṇal|
Avidyākaitavapūrṇa malamaya manal||
(Hey) Vaiṣṇava ṭhākura, kara karuṇā-īkṣaṇal|
Tavānuseraṇe jena jāya a jīvana ||*

Depicting strength is not an aptitude of mankind. The heart is often polluted with illiteracy. (Oh) Vaiṣṇava Ṭhākura, please cast your merciful glance on me. So that I can lead the rest of my life following your ideals.

*Sevāya vimukha āmi viṣayī durjjana|
Śrī Guru-sevaya prīti nāhi eka kaṇal||
Vaiṣṇavacaraṇe kari kata aparādhal|
Kṣamiyā sakala prabhu, karra parasādal||*

I am averse to religious services whereas I am more inclined to material possessions. I have no iota of desire to serve my spiritual master. Thus I have committed thousands of sins unto the lotus feet of a vaiṣṇava. Please forgive me oh Prabhu, and accept me as your associate.

Guruvaiṣṇavasevābhikhārī,

Śrī Praṇavānanda Brahmācārī



Dear Guru Maharaja, your glories have no beginning and no end—you are the eternal servant of Lalita sakhi and reside in the abode of Sri Krishna and His parisads. I pray that you will be merciful unto me and that I may one day achieve a taste for the Holy Name and follow the amazing instructions that you have so mercifully provided us. I am only a beggar with no qualifications, but I have no other chance to again get your divine association and mercy. Please be merciful to me!

Your humble servant,

Ramdas Das Adhikari



Dear Srila Guru Maharaja,

Please accept my most humble dandavat pranamas at the dust of your holy lotus feet. On this most auspicious holy day, I can only pray for your causeless mercy upon this fallen jiva. I'm forever indebted with you for saving me from this ocean of birth and death, allowing me to render menial service to Sri Hari and vaishnavas. I can only pray that you grant me the shelter of your lotus feet life after life.

Your fallen servant,

Sanatana Goswami Das.

Sri Bhaktivinode Sanga Gaudiya Math,
Panama City.



Dear Guru Maharaja,

All glories to you on this day of your Vyasa Puja. Since the day I was blessed by your mercy and taken shelter of your lotus feet, my life has changed forever. I know only by your grace am I able to embrace each day as an

opportunity to slowly and surely come closer to having a glimpse of true understanding. Your love has turned my scared broken heart into one of hope, that I may one day be able to surrender. As my journey in this body continues to unfold, I know that if it was not for your mercy I would not be able to endure this material world and all of the struggles and hypocrisy that I see and feel every day. This life can be so confusing and turbulent, and remembering you and your example of true humility and surrender is my strength. Knowing that as time goes on the challenges get harder, the only way I will be able to endure them is by holding on to the Holy Name and become humble and tolerant. Your humility and how you were always serving the devotees, is my inspiration. For you and your love, I am eternally grateful.

Your servant,

Jayashri Devi Dasi



“yogyata-vicare, kichu nahi pai
tomara karuna – sara
karuna na hoile, kandiya kandiya
prana na rakhibo ara”

It is always a struggle for me to share my insignificant prayers about a Parahansa as glorious as Srila Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur. I had prayed on my knees on sharp rocks, danced for Shiva and begged the Lord of the Universe to be able to simply have a glimpse of a real Saint in this lifetime. Innocent and quite stupid I had resigned to my lack of sukriti, thinking that such great mahatma as pure as an immaculate spring, as humble as morning grass, more tolerant than a bamboo was no longer available in this age of Kali. Somehow or another by the Lord of Mercy I ended in Jagannath Puri Dham in 1999 and by the unconditional love of Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Goswami Maharaj,



I was granted darshan of the most beautiful vision I could ever imagine—Srila Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur.

My boundless gratitude is beyond words.

Sri Krishna truly satisfies all desires, my only sadness is that still to this day I do not feel worthy or such matchless gift. The only time I can feel some relief from my shortcoming is when I am serving His eternal servant, Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Goswami Maharaj, who is a ray of hope in this material world, blessed by the love of his master with unlimited virtues he carries on the loving mission of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu.

Since COVID-19, I haven't been able to do any direct service to his Lotus Feet, so how can I share anything that has any essence about the glories of someone that is beyond this material world description. The only limited strength I have is constantly holding on by the invisible string of seva. Without its existence I am absolutely nothing.

I can only cry and beg that They will not abandon this poor servant and that They will continuously engage me in Their loving service life after life, until one day, when the fruit of my bhakti is finally ripe enough they can pluck it and offer it to the Divine Couple.

I remain, until then, a dog at Their door waiting for some remnants.

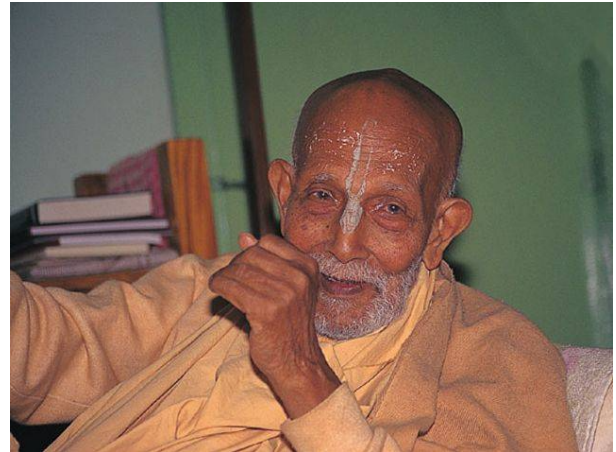
Dasanudas,

Anuradha Devi Dasi

♦♦♦

Please accept my most humble prostrated obeisances and allow me to take the dust of your lotus feet on my head on this most auspicious day when our dearest and most sublime honorable Gurudeva, His Divine

Grace Srila Bhakti Promode Puri Goswami Thakur blessed us with his appearance in this earthly realm. It is my deepest and most heartfelt desire that he grant this humble soul a drop of his causeless mercy despite my extremely fallen condition. My Lord only through your forbearance can I survive the tormenting and tortuous nature of this material world.



Gurudev, without your guidance and mercy it is impossible to navigate the tempestuous storms of material desires, the wandering of the mind and the blazing fires of sensual desires which inundate me with distractions from your lotus feet from moment to moment. It is only through your Grace and unlimited mercy that I can hope to cast out the delusions of grandeur precipitated upon my consciousness by association with the material energy. It is only via sadhu sanga association with your devotees and your merciful successor, His Divine Grace, Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bhodhayan Goswami Maharaj that we are able to continuously connect with your divine self and I pray for those opportunities to continuously receive this sadhu sanga and all its inherent merciful blessings which are the key to finding our way home.

Gurudeva, I am honored and blessed to have so many fond memories of your darshan, moments of pure unadulterated spiritual



connection to your holiness in direct discussion on the deepest topics of vaishnava philosophy and fundamental principles of Krishna Consciousness. It is from this deep well of nectar, and via your blessings that I am able to draw, from day to day, a drop of your infinite mercy, and ration that sweetness in order to survive another moment in this material chaos of endless distractions from your association. Please grant me the fortitude to find the resources to fully engage my heart, mind and consciousness in your service and grant me the opportunity to engage myself in the mood of serving your sweet grace.

Maya is such a strong and powerful force throughout this material universe, deeply embedding its illusory energy into our hearts and minds, ensnaring our attention and distracting us from our eternal goal to serve your lotus feet and dive deep into the nectar of bhakti and the devotional embrace of your guiding light. Gurudeva, through your grace, you have granted this fallen soul an opportunity to find a way home, your mercy knows no boundaries and by some great boon you have granted this undeserving miscreant a chance to associate with your divine presence and the exalted souls who, through your mercy and guidance, continue to carry the torch of divine knowledge and teach the mission of our Lord, Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu.

On this most sacred day, in remembrance of your pastimes and the great fortune that I have been granted to be blessed by your sweet touch, please grant me the opportunity to more fully devote my life, heart and soul, to serving your mission and the vision further manifest through the unyielding dedication of your successors. As a useless and materially blinded individual who can only hope to beg for a morsel of your profoundly compassionate tolerance, please allow me to

continuously serve your divine mission in all its glory without further distraction.

Your humble servant and devoted follower,

Govardhana Das

♦♦♦

Our beloved guardian.

It has been more than 20 years that our beloved guardian disappeared from our mortal vision. As also the next generation of exalted vaishnavas has left us, the world often feels like an orphan. The ability to harmonize everything and give supreme and soothing shelter of all conditioned souls, was unparalleled in our Gurudeva Srila Bhakti Promode Puri Goswami Thakur.

We are living in times where the age of Kali is progressing with alarming speed. The digital age is upon us, where totalitarianism and sectarianism is rapidly taking over society. The whole planet often seems like a burning forest fire, quite literally. How will we be able to keep our focus and cross over the ocean of samsara without the guidance of pure devotees like Srila Gurumaharaj?

When his godbrother Srila Sridhara Maharaj was once asked by a concerned devotee about a nuclear 3rd world war, the answer of Parampujyapad Sridhar Maharaj was: “There will be war, after war, after war, without end, until finally there will be the dissolution of the Universe. Are you concerned about that? His point was, that the world of time and space is not a resting place for our soul. Like Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupad use to say: dry stool or wet stool, it is all stool.

Srila Prabhupad Bhaktisiddhanta made his headquarters in Kolkotta. Srila Gaur Kishor Das Babaji referred to Kolkotta as the capital of Maya, but Srila Bhaktisiddhanta felt that there the need to fight Maya was the greatest.



Although generally the path of bhakti is one of ahimsa, still the peaceful war on the illusion that lives in our own hearts in disconnection for service to guru, vaishnav and Bhagavan, needs to be waged.

Our acharyas have shown us that we need to always view the world from the absolute perspective. Once I was with Srila Bhakti Vallabh Tirtha Maharaj in Vraj mandal parikrama. Then in Vrindavan there was a vaishnava assembly where they spoke about cleaning up the dham. And although external purity is also important, Srila Tirtha Maharaj went on to stress that it is impossible for our material senses to come in contact with the Pure Transcendental dham.



The shelter and guidance of suddha bhaktas is the only thing we need to live a successful life. On this holy vyasa puja, I pray to Srila Gurudeva and Srila Bodhayan Maharaj to forgive my reluctance for serving the devotees, and my countless offences, and to grace me with some dust of their lotus feet so my taste for chanting the Holy Names may arise within my heart.

Arjuna Das



*Namah om vishnupadaya gaurapreshmaya
bhutale
Srimad bhakti pramodaya puri goswami iti
namine*

Srila Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur appeared in this material world on 18th October, 1898 of Kartika 2 month according to Bengali calender in Ganganandapur village, Jessore district. He was the founder Acharya of Sri Gopinath Gaudiya Math. Throughout his life, he was extremely devoted in the worship of the divine couple Sri Sri Radha Krishna. Born during the auspicious Durga puja festival, whole of Bengal was celebrating the arrival of goddess Durga, and unknowingly the birth of a great saint. Tarini Charan Chakravarti and Ram Ragini Devi were filled with joy on the birth of their son, who was named Promode Bhushan Chakravarti.

From the early age itself, we could see him being compassionate towards everyone. He has natural affinity towards Vaishanava virtues. On example quoted in the book *Samadhi*, tells us just that. One day, Srila Bhakti Promode Puri maThakur was returning from his school was returning from school earlier than scheduled and entered the kitchen to greet his mother when he saw his mother, Ram Rangini devi chopping a fish on the kitchen slab. He stared wide eyed as the fish continued to flop around while its blood splattering all over the counter and on his mother's clothes. His eyes welled up with tears on witnessing the scene in front of him and he froze. Upon seeing him kike a statue, his mother grew worried and inquired him, 'why are you home so early? Did something happen in school?', 'are you well? Did you get into a fight with someone?' and so on. Srila Bhakti Promode Puri Goswami maThakur said to his mother, 'why don't you chop and cook me as well? I am just as helpless as that fish. There's no way you can just wash the blood off, cook it, and eat it. We all claim to



be human, so how is killing poor, innocent creatures like this fish a worthwhile human action? Fruits and vegetables were made by God for us to eat. Eating fish or meat has been judged wicked and unjust by God. This is completely inappropriate. Both those who do an injustice and those who accept it are guilty of sin, thus you must not bring fish into our kitchen from now on. Otherwise, I vow I'll never eat anything prepared there again.' That day onwards fish was never brought into Chakravarti household. Considering serving fish in Bengal is customary on special occasions this was a huge step in their lifestyle to follow a purely vegetarian diet (Chapter 5).

When Srila Puri Maharaja first appeared before Srila Prabhupada at the Yoga Pith in Sri Mayapur in 1915, he was still a young university student. Srila Prabhupada's diksha master, Paramahansa Thakura Srimad Gaura Kishor Das Babaji, had just entered his eternal abode the day before; therefore it was a momentous occasion. Srila Puri Maharaja often stated that the moment he first saw Srila Prabhupada and made his obeisances to him, he realised in his heart that this was his spiritual master. He was given the name Pranavananda Brahmachari after accepting both Harinam and mantra diksha from Srila Prabhupada on the auspicious day of Sri Krishna Janmastami in 1923.

We can't describe about Srila Puri Goswami Maharaja's life without mentioning his contribution to the spiritual movement in which he was so active. Outside of Sri Gaudiya Math, the breadth of his accomplishments is unfathomable. He shared an unwavering confidence in his Guru's service and Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's message with his godbrothers. His only goal and highest aspiration in life was to serve others. This conviction drove him to devote his entire life to achieving Srila Prabhupada and Mahaprabhu's delight and fulfilling their

aspirations. If we will examine his life in this setting, we will see more than the surface.

We, as devotees of Sri Sri Radha Krishna and our Gurudev, Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Goswami Maharaj cannot thank him enough for his efforts to establish this math and provide us a path to achieve the ultimate love. I beg him and our guruvarga for their blessings so that we can correctly implement our devotional service.

“Hare Krishna Hare Krishna, Krishna Krishna Hare Hare;
Hare Rama Hare Rama, Rama Rama Hare Hare”

My prayers at the lotus feet of the divine couple Sri Sri Radha Krishna and Srila Gurudev.

Raseshwari Devi Dasi



Dandavat pranams dear Param Gurudeva Srila Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur ! Though I didn't get a chance to know yourself during the long time you spent in the material world, I appreciate the teachings you left behind for us through your books and CDs.

I want to thank you to have chosen Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Goswami Maharaj as your dearmost disciple and successor. He is my dearmost Gurudeva. In his teachings, he often refers to you. He told us about some of your realisations. I feel blissful when I remember them. Once Sri Gadhadar pandit came to your bedroom to complain about the pujari. Another one is when you were about to leave this world, you saw Radharani who was welcoming you. I feel deeply moved hearing these.

Dearmost Param Gurudeva, please take care of Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Maharaj's



physical health as he suffers from bad headaches and other problems. Take care as well of his disciples' sadhana and love for Krishna, for you are our shelter.

Please accept the most humble obeisances of Tapasvini devi dasi, a humble most fallen jiva whose desire is to get nearer to Krishna every day and get the ultimate goal- prema.

Tapasvini Devi Dasi



All glory to nitya-lila-pravishta om Vishnupad 108 Sri Srimad Bhakti Sidhanta Sarasvati Gosvami Thakur, his close disciple, my all-merciful Guru Maharaj nitya lila-pravishta Om Vishnupad Paramahansa Sri Srimad Bhakti Pramod Puri Gosvami, all rupanuga-gaudiya-guru varga, all Vaishnavas and Vaishnavis.

On the eve of the Holy day of the appearance of the great Vaishnava Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur, I offer sincere and humble obeisances to his feet. As a result of sinful actions, I am doomed to a bitter and burning separation from him. Now I humbly ask my dear Gurudev for forgiveness for the many troubles that I have caused him, voluntary or involuntary insults that I have committed. With faith, I hope for mercy and blessing to serve him forever. I really want to properly glorify my venerable Guru Maharai. But what can I do? Even if the whole universe chants his glory continuously, will it reflect at least some of his good qualities? Om Vishnupad Paramahansa Sri Srimad Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur has always shown perfect worship of the Lord and the highest example of bhakti. I can only weep helplessly at his lotus feet, praying for the opportunity to be engaged in devotional service to the Vaishnavas, Sri-Sri Guru-Gauranga, Sri-Sri Radha-Gopinath under his guidance, to live in his will in order to give him joy.



I humbly ask all Vaishnavas for the blessing to always fulfill the will of my Gurudev, his instructions, and chant Harinam. All I pray to the Lord and His Devotees is to have the most precious decoration of all the worlds: the dust from the lotus feet of this Holy Vaishnava in my heart. Dear Guru Maharaj, all-merciful Devotees, please kindly forgive me my mistakes and insults; allow me to serve you all diligently and with great love.

Always and forever your unworthy servant of the servant,

Malini Devi Dasi



*vaisnavar naama liba ar kuch na kariba
vaisnavar guna gana karaye jivera trana
guru vaishnava bhagwana tinera smaran,
tinera smarana haye vighna vinasana,
anayase haye nija vanchita purana*

With these mantras of our parampara, I offer my obeisances to my beloved Gurudeva nitya lila pravishta Om Vishnupada Ashotarshat Shrila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Goswami Maharaja, to his beloved master nitya lila pravishta Om Vishnupada Ashotarshat Srila Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur and to the Guru parampara!

Gurudeva has mentioned in his book 'My Beloved Masters' about Srila Puri Maharaja and many facets of his divine character. Time



and again I have also heard about Srila Maharaja from his beloved disciple Om Vishnupada Ashtotarshat Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Goswami Maharaja. Gurudeva has told in one of his katha that Bhagawan and his dearmost servitors always listen to our prayers when we call them with the relation that we have with them.

Srila Maharaja ji was, one of the beloved masters of my Gurudeva and also a very dearmost godbrother of my Parama Gurudeva nitya lila pravishta Om Vishnupada Ashtotarshat Srila Bhakti Dayita Madhava Goswami Maharaja.

For your divine appearance day celebration, O Srila Puri Maharaja, please accept my dandavat pranams!

You have everything that I am yearning for!

O the beloved master of my Gurudeva and beloved of my Parama Gurudeva, please glance at my wretched condition!

Despite everything available for service, I am too weak to walk on the path of servitude! Self enjoyment practice of lifetimes always keeps pulling me downwards! You once said 'Gayite Gayite Gayan, Bajate Bajate Bayan', but my efforts too are not sincere! I am just drifting on the waves of selfishness! What should I do? Day by day I am watching myself falling down in Sadhan Bhajan!

Please be merciful to me! Please bestow me with eternal Sadhu Sanga! Please come into my heart! and remain there Forever! O Palash Manjari, please be merciful to me, that with this mercy may I be able to offer myself completely 'manasa vacha karmana with bhava for the pleasure of Guru, Vaishnava and Bhagwan!

Vancha kalpataru bhyas ca kripa sindhubhya eva ca,

Patitanama pavanebhyo vaishnavebhyo namo namah.

Shamoli Devi Dasi



Dandavat Pranam!

All glories to Sri Sri Guru Parampara and Gauranga!

Although I have never met Srila Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur, I consider myself very fortunate to be able to have siksa with His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Maharaj.

All of Param Gurudev's teachings and manner are expressed through His Divine Grace. I have nothing to offer but a simple prayer of gratitude and the hope to be able to realise such teachings and please such a sincere Vaishnava in this lifetime.

With folded palms,

Sudevi Dasi



O most beloved Param Gurudev! Although vaishnavas never die, and are eternally present, it is with great sorrow that we realise that your most precious physical association is no more available for the last 22 years. It is also with intense regret when I think how I was unable to be of any utility to your holy self during the time I was able to. Even though such emotional feelings may appear in my heart I am most weak and uncertain to which extent I am actually ready to surrender wholeheartedly to your most divine lotus feet, this is my most pathetic situation. However, vaishnavas are an ocean of mercy, and never will they be the cause of any inauspiciousness, thus my heart becomes hopeful and full of



delight upon realizing that you are present in the divine holy personality of your cherished disciple His Divine Grace Om Vishnupad 108 Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Goswami Maharaj. O Param Gurudev! Your mercy is being constantly showered upon the whole world, so on the occasion of the anniversary of your divine appearance I am not asking for your mercy but for the qualification to receive it. O diamond amongst saints please somehow make use of me the way you like.

Forever hoping to be yours in this world and in the other,

Krishnamurti Das



All glories to Your Divine Grace Parama Pujyapad Sri Srimad Bhakti Promode Puri Goswami Thakur, on this celebration day of Your divine appearance!

Please accept our dandavat pranams at your lotus feet, as we remember you with surrender and gratitude for your pure and inspirational example of Krishna bhakti and for your unalloyed dedication to your Gurudeva, Srila Bhaktisiddanta Saraswati Goswami Thakur. Your humility and unassuming nature are a shining example for aspiring bhaktas like ourselves. Nothing in this material world could distract you from your service — not even a pick pocket robbing you as you chant in kirtan at Ratha Yatra time in Jagannatha Puri. You wanted nothing to disturb your transcendental absorption. Please, we pray, help us become single pointed in our devotional service in a similar way — like a focused laser beam — unaffected by all material, yet temporary, distractions or impediments.

Please accept our dandavat pranams again and again as we express our gratitude for your making Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan

Maharaja your successor. He totally embodies and teaches your love and faith in the Lord's Holy Names — like a touchstone or a transparent medium — making it clear that the mantra is non-different from the Divine Couple, Sri Sri Radha and Krsna — who are our only shelter at every moment. Please be merciful and grant us full faith to chant constantly, without offense and with all respect for others, with all our hearts.

Our association with you has been through your writing and your lectures and through your disciples. We never got to meet you and offer service face to face. In the book, 'The Life of Devotion', we are inspired by your amazing pastimes.

We pray you are pleased with our endeavors in spiritual life and that you will bless us with unalloyed Krishna bhakti.

Two aspiring servants of the servants of our acharyas and the Divine Couple,

Janardana Dasa (SBBBM) and Kanupriya Devi Dasi (ACBSP)



All glories to Sri Guru and Gauranga!

My humble obeisances at the lotus feet of Param Gurudev nitya lila pravistha Om Visnupadha paramahansa parivigathacharya Astotharasatha Sri Srimad Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur Maharaj. In the recent history of vaiahnava culture, Param Gurudev earned high respect from everyone due to his natural humility and tolerance without any second thought. I heard numerous times through Gurudev who was personally serving Param Gurudev exhibited many symptoms such as prema bhava which is what every Gaudiya vaishnava on this earth is supposedly longing/ endeavoring. I pray at his lotus feet to remove all my faults and provide platform in this very own life through which I can



practice spirituality at high standard. The only debt we have in this life is to live upto his expectation and show our true desire at our full ability. On this auspicious occasion, let us have full courage to follow our Guru parampara's path and make our life successful.

Dasanudas,

Mahadeva Das & Mahalakshmi Devi Dasi



Glory to our beloved Srila Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur Maharaj on the auspicious day of his appearance.

Of course, I will not be able to meet you in this material word,
but I know your humility,
your kindness,
your gentleness,
your respect for the vaishnavas,
your righteousness,
your love and compassion to us fallen souls.
Let me take refuge at your lotus feet.

Gauri Devi Dasi



All glories to Sri Guru and Gouranga! All glories to Sri Gopinath Gaudiya Math!

I offer my obeisances on this wonderful day to our Param Guru Srila Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur, his dedication and intimate devotion, disciple of Srila Prabhupa Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur. I remember his beautiful happiness in this world for our benefit, longing for his eternal blessings and to be able to serve his most intimate devotees. I offer my obeisances to this beautiful swan that illuminates us every day with his heart of Krishna and how to learn

the art of sadhana. I offer hundreds of dandavad paranams on this auspicious day.

Dasanudas,

Kripa Avatar Das



Dear Param Siksha Gurudeva Om Vishnupada Paramahansa Parivrakacharya His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti Pramode Puri Thakur Maharaja Ki Jaya. Dear Param Siksha Gurudeva. It is my honor to address you on your most holy appearance day. Like my birth father and first guru, you were born in this auspicious month. By the grace of Radha and Krishna and Srila Prabhupada Bhaktiivedanta Swami I had the opportunity to have your darshan during the 500th anniversary of Lord Chaitanya's birth in Sridham Mayapura. You gave darshan one evening just next to the ISKCON property and a god brother told a few of us about the darshan. I was deeply touched by your humility and sweetness, and my heart was won over in those brief moments. Some years later I met your chosen successor and understood that he represented proper vaishnava behavior in relation to all Gaudiya followers. I appreciate very much his example of proper respectful relationships between all Gaudiya branches—exuding humble vaishnava etiquette.

Dear Siksa Parama Gurudeva, please help me to also exhibit excellent vaishnava etiquette and full humility with the ability to give Krishna Consciousness to others in a respectful and loving manner. Help me to regain my eternal service to the servants of Radha and Krishna through the guidance given by my Gurudeva Srila Prabhupada Bhaktivedanta Swami, and your guidance as my Parama Siksa Gurudeva. I remain blessed by your darshan, and the continued guidance of your successor, my



Siksa Gurudeva Bhakti Bibuddha Bodhayan
Goswami Maharaja. Thank you.

Your aspiring Siksa granddaughter,

Aditi Devi Dasi



Dear Srila ParamGurudeva, Please accept my
humble obeisances. All glories to you.

From Srila Gurudeva I have heard and
understood that you are the personality that
embodies all 26 qualities of a vaishnava. I
would like to recite some of them that really
touches my heart.

Your compassion: You never used to close the
door of your room and it was open for
everyone. When Srila Gurudeva asked for the
reason, your reasoning was that “if someone
comes from far and he/she does not have time
to wait and by looking at the close doors if
he/she returns back, I will not be able to help
him/her, for I am a sannyasi and its my duty
to provide spiritual help and no one should
return back from my door”. You are the
embodiment of mercy and compassion.

Your Humility: You are without false prestige.
(amani). You are the epitome of humility.
Srila Gurudeva always say that you are the
personification of the 3rd sloka of
Shikshashtakam , “*trnad api su-nicena taror
api sahisnuna amanina mana-dena kirtaniyah
sada harih*” Once when you were invited for
the inauguration of ‘Institute of Oriental
Philosophy’ , you were not given a place to sit
in the stage but a place in the first row of
audience. When Srila Gurudeva asked you if
he can talk to organizers, you humbly said
“whatever vaishnava’s have arranged for me,
that is perfect. We have not come here for
respect. We have come here for happiness of
Sriman Mahaprabhu”. You never had even
one photo with Srila Prabhupada. When

asked about it, you said “I don’t have the
eligibility to stand with Srila Prabhupada, so,
whenever anyone would take Srila
Prabhupada’s photo I would always step
back”. You are teaching humility by your own
example.



Your Complete Surrender unto Lord Krishna:
You are the best example of sarangati and
complete dependence on Lord Krishna. You
stayed at veranda in Sri Ananta Vasudev
Mandir for few years and then you stayed at
Sri Chaitanya Gaudiya Math helping math in
publication. You never wanted to have a Math
of your own. However later on the request of
your many disciples you agreed to open your
own math at the age of 92. You used to get up
at 3-3.30 in the morning and after doing
achaman you would chant Harinam and do
other deity seva till 11 a.m. Whenever there
was any unfortunate incident, you would
always say its Krishna’s desire, don’t get into
anxiety. And whenever there would be some
fortunate and happy incidents, you would say
don’t be too happy it is Krishna’s desire.

You completely peaceful nature: Srila Gurudeva
often tells the story of how he wrote a blank
cheque and gave it to a so-called devotee from
Bangladesh who later ran away with all the
money in the bank and not only that even the
money from hundi in the temple. Srila
Gurudeva expected that you would chastise
him. But when Srila Gurudeva came in front



of you after this incident, you were completely calm and peaceful and said that “One thief gave us money and other thief stole it.”

You were ‘sarva upkaraki’, working for the welfare of everyone: Once when you were sitting on the bed in Sri Chaitanya Gaudiya Math Vrindavan, one monkey came to your room and took away an apple and a banana and ran away. You were very calm and said “the monkey may be hungry.” This way you even think of welfare of animals also. Once in Kalna one woman came for financial help for her daughter’s marriage, Srila Gurudeva was near you and you asked him how much money he had. Srila Gurudeva said Rs. 1500. You asked Srila Gurudeva to give away that money to her. Then you told her that right now I have only this much, if I get more money and will send it to you. This way you were ready to help everyone to whatever capacity you could.

There are many more good qualities in you that I can keep glorifying endlessly. Srila Gurudeva always say that you were a spiritual encyclopedia. You always supported your Harikatha with slokas from Srimad Bhagavatam and you would exactly tell the sloka number and chapter from Bhagavatam.

I bow down thousand times to the dust of your lotus feet. On this auspicious day of your appearance, I pray to you that may I always remain a servant of servant of yours. Please bestow your mercy on me so that may I get a drop of your divine qualities in me in the service of Sri Guru, Hari and vaishnavas. Thank you for giving me your mercy in the form of Srila Gurudeva. Koti Koti Dandavat Pranams.

Your dasanudas,

Alkananda Devi Dasi

♦ ♦ ♦



To my most revered param Gurudev,

Please accept my repeated humble dandavat pranams at the dust of your lotus feet. You are a pure devotee of the Lord, residing in the topmost abode, Goloka Vrindavan in your eternal identity and serving the Divine Couple in eternal bliss. On the other hand, I am a conditioned soul, a product of Kali Yuga – contaminated, bound by my senses and trapped in this cycle of birth and death in this material world. How then, do I have the capacity to utter even a few words of your glories from my debilitated spiritual state?

Due to some good past karma, I have somehow come to the shelter of your lotus feet where you are protecting me through my beloved Srila Gurudev. I am bereft of any good qualities. Trying to purify myself in this life seems like an impossible task, but my only hope is the strength of your blessings, which will lift me up from my miserable state. You are an ocean of mercy. My desperate prayer at your lotus feet is to please bless me with spiritual strength so that I can develop the desire to serve Sri Guru and vaishnavas and have greed for the Holy Name, thereby pleasing you and make this life worthwhile.

Aspiring for a speck of dust to fall on my head from your most merciful lotus feet.

Vaishnava Dasanudasi.

♦ ♦ ♦

VAISHNAVA FESTIVALS: OCTOBER - NOVEMBER 2021

Date	Festival
10 October	Appearance day of HDG Śrīla Bhakti Promode Puri Goswami Thakur
15 October	Appearance day of Sri Madhac Acharya
16 October	Papankusha Ekadasi
17 October	Disappearance day of Srila Raghunath Das Goswami, Srila Ragunath Bhatta Goswami, and Srila Krishnadas Kaviraj Goswami
20 October	Sharadiya Rasa Yatra of Sri Krishna Beginning of Kartik Vrat
25 October	Disappearance day of Srila Narottam Das Thakur
30 October	Appearance day of HDG Srila Bhakti Raksak Sridhr Dev Goswami Maharaj
1 November	Rama Ekadasi
4 November	Dipavali
5 November	Sri Govardhan Puja
8 November	Disappearance day of Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Maharaj
12 November	Disappearance of Sri Gadadhar Das Goswami, Srila Dhananjay Pandit, and Srila Srinivas Acharya Prabhu. Sri Gopashtami
15 November	Uttanna Ekadasi
19 November	Disappearance of Srila Sundarananda Thakur Appearance of Srila Nimbarka Acharya Rasa Yatra of Sri Krishna (Kartik Purnima) End of Chaturmasya vrat

Bhagavata Dharma

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His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti Bibudha Bodhayan Goswami Maharaja, President & Acharya of Sri Gopinath Gaudiya Math;

Dedicated to:

His Divine Grace Srila Bhakti Pramode Puri Goswami Thakur, Founder Acharya of Sri Gopinath Gaudiya Math, and
His Divine Grace Srila Bhaktisiddhanata Saraswati Goswami Thakur PRABHUPADA.

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