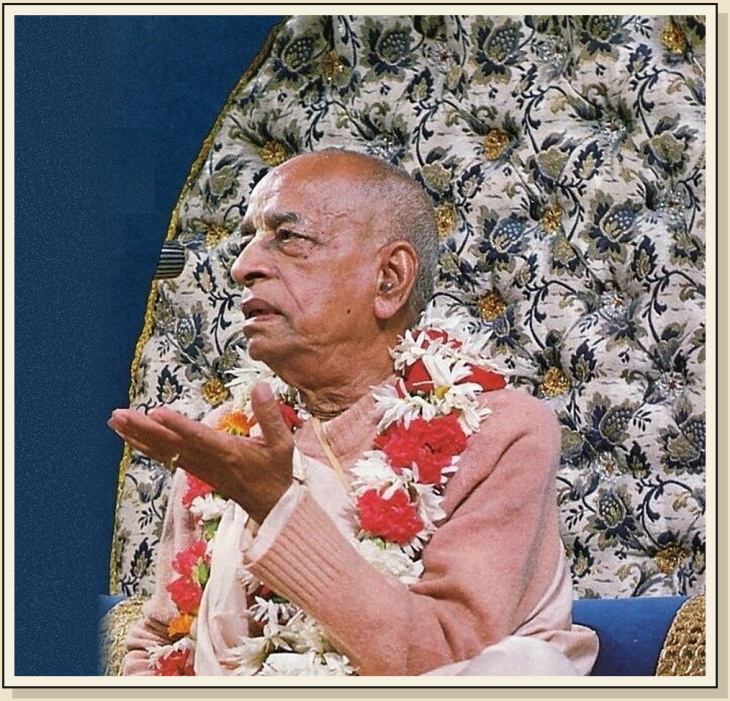
PASTIMES OF ŚRĪLA PRABHUPĀDA



Prabhupāda-līlā

From the primary sources

1947 – 1977

PASTIMES.VEDABASE.CC

Prabhupāda-līlā



Prabhupāda-līlā

From the primary sources

Pastimes of Śrīla A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda
in his letters, conversations and lectures, 1947–1977

PASTIMES.VEDABASE.CC

Prabhupāda-līlā: From the primary sources. First edition, November 2026. Free to read and to share in its entirety, with this page.

This is an independent reader's compilation made from the texts published at vedabase.cc. It is not an official publication of the Bhaktivedanta Book Trust. Śrīla Prabhupāda's words are quoted exactly as they appear in the letters, transcripts and books published there; the narration that links them is editorial.

Set in Libertinus Serif. Web edition, with search and a map: pastimes.vedabase.cc

Contents

How to read this book 6
I Before the West 7
II Crossing to America 13
III 1967 22
IV 1968–1971 62
V 1972–1974 68
VI 1975–1977 85

Index of places 107

How to read this book

This book gathers 269 scenes from the life of Śrīla A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda (1896–1977), taken from the primary sources published at vedabase.cc: his letters, his conversations and morning walks, and his lectures, where he recalls events of his own life or where events around him are recorded. The scenes run in order of date, from a letter of July 1947 to the last months of 1977.

190 scenes are **narrated**: a short account in plain prose, every sentence of which rests on a passage of the source. Words between quotation marks are Prabhupāda's own, verbatim. The other 79 are **fragments**: the passage itself, printed unaltered and without comment. At the end of every scene the source is named, with a link to the original at vedabase.cc.

The narration is editorial and should be read as such. Where a transcript does not say who is speaking, the narration says so. Spellings of names inside quoted passages are those of the original documents (the earliest letters write *Krishna*, *Caitanya*, *Bhagwatam*), so the same name may appear in more than one form.

The narration was drafted with the help of AI language models and checked against the sources sentence by sentence, by script (every quotation must be found letter for letter in the passage) and by a second model pass. It has not yet been read by a human editor; corrections are welcome.

Many of the episodes were first located with the help of *Śrīla Prabhupāda Līlāmṛta As It Is*, compiled by Mukunda dāsa (2001); everything printed here is taken from the primary sources themselves.

I

Before the West

Letters from India · 1947–1962

9 SCENES



1947

A letter to Gandhi

LETTER · CAWNPORE · 12 JULY 1947

In a letter to Mahatma Gandhi from Cawnpore on July 12th 1947, Prabhupāda opened with "Dear Friend Mahatmajee" and called himself Gandhi's unknown friend. He wrote that he had written to him again and again, although Gandhi had never replied. He had sent him his papers, Back to Godhead, but Gandhi's secretaries had told him that Gandhi had very little time to read letters and much less to read magazines. Then, "as a sincere friend", he told Gandhi that he must immediately retire from active politics if he did not desire to die an inglorious death.

He wrote that the honour and prestige Gandhi had obtained were beyond anyone else within living memory, but that all of it was false, created by the Illusory Energy of Godhead.

Source: Letter to Mahatma Gandhi

1950

Thanks to Father Ramakrishna

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 12 DECEMBER 1950

In a letter to Father Ramakrishna from Calcutta on December 12th 1950, Prabhupāda wrote that his departure for Allahabad had been postponed because a prospective tenant had failed to pay him Rs 500/-. The man had promised to pay the day before but said his cheque had been dishonored, and had now promised to pay at noon; Prabhupāda wrote that he did not count upon him. Paid or not, he would proceed to Allahabad that night. He told Ramakrishna, "As the son cannot repay the father, so I cannot repay the obligation I owe to you," and sent his sincere blessings, because Ramakrishna had tried to help him in a very critical time.

His life had been miserable due to his family affairs, he wrote, and Ramakrishna had come to rescue him from the plight.

Source: Letter to Father Ramakrishna

1952

A business sealed in Allahabad

LETTER · ALLAHABAD · 26 SEPTEMBER 1952

In a letter to Ramakrishna from Allahabad on September 26th 1952, Prabhupāda wrote that he had come there to improve his lot but saw that his bad luck was impossible to improve. For about two years the business had met expenses of some Rs 600/- a month. Then rival firms had designed to remove him, and by their trick the Drug Controller had suspended his business for a month and a half, with about Rs 1000/- locked up and sealed. He wrote that he had been put to shame by his servants and immediately required Rs 300/- for the establishment charges.

"As a son has no shame to ask his father, so I feel no shame for it," he wrote, and asked Ramakrishna to send the money by T.M.O. and save his prestige and honour.

Source: Letter to Ramakrishna

1955

The first copies of Gaudiya Darshan

LETTER · DELHI · 16 SEPTEMBER 1955

In a letter to Govinda Maharaja from New Delhi on September 16th 1955, Prabhupāda wrote that he had received two copies of Gaudiya Darshan that morning. At Mathura he had heard from Kesava Maharaja and Goswami Maharaja that Sridhara Maharaja was going to publish it, and now he found it actually in hand. He offered his congratulations to Govinda Maharaja, writing that if anything had been done it was due to

his energy. Of Govinda Maharaja's article he wrote that it was not only very amusing but also instructive; simple dry philosophical arguments, he added, would not appeal to people in general.

He added that in time Govinda Maharaja could become "a great transcendental humorist in the art of journalism."

Source: Letter to Govinda Maharaja

Two sets of good dresses

LETTER · DELHI · 5 OCTOBER 1955

In a letter to Gosvami Maharaja from New Delhi on October 5th 1955, Prabhupāda wrote that he wished to visit good businessmen, insurance companies and government officers. But, he wrote, "I have no proper dress at all." He asked for two sets of good dresses in order to take up this responsibility, and awaited Gosvami Maharaja's decision. He was glad that Sridhara Maharaja had advised Gosvami Maharaja to purchase land at Mayapur, and wrote, "Yes we we must have a temple at Mayapur."

He was also glad to learn of good land being secured on long lease from the Port commissioners for their Howrah Math, Howrah being a good place for preaching.

Source: Letter to Gosvami Maharaja

1958

Eleven rupees and a glass of milk

LETTER · BOMBAY · 28 JULY 1958

In a letter to Mr. Banerjee from Bombay on July 28th 1958, Prabhupāda reported that he had been honoured with Rs. 11/- and a glass of milk, and had given thanks very much for them. But, he wrote, "mission is not fulfilled." He informed Mr. Banerjee that one gentleman had allowed him to sit in his office for propaganda work in Bombay city, and he sought Mr. Banerjee's help in this matter. He wrote that Lord Caitanya's mes-

sage of universal love and fellow feeling required to be preached in an organized manner, and that the Bengalis, as Lord Caitanya's countrymen, had a responsibility for this task.

Source: Letter to Mr. Banerjee

A reminder about a flat

LETTER · BOMBAY · 2 AUGUST 1958

In a letter to Harbanslal from Bombay on August 2nd 1958, Prabhupāda wrote that he would be glad to keep in touch by correspondence, so that he might give his humble suggestions for this service. He then informed him that he was passing his days in Bombay "in great inconvenience for want of a suitable residential place." He reminded Harbanslal that he had promised him some place in his flats as soon as one of them was vacant. The next page of the letter is missing.

Source: Letter to Harbanslal

1961

Introducing himself to Mr. Nakano

LETTER · DELHI · 18 APRIL 1961

In a letter to Mr. Nakano from Delhi on April 18th 1961, Prabhupāda wrote that from the conversation of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan it appeared the government did not approve of congresses organized by private persons and did not participate in them. He would wait one week more for their final decision, yes or no. He then told Mr. Nakano that he had been educated at the Scottish Churches College, taking his B.A. in 1920, and that Netaji Subhas Candra had been his college mate. In 1921, influenced by Mahatma Gandhi, he had left education and joined for some time in the national liberation and other social service movements.

The next page of the letter is missing.

Source: Letter to Mr. Nakano

1962

Lectures for young offenders

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 1 JUNE 1962

In a letter to Sri Puri from Vrindaban on June 1st 1962, Prabhupāda wrote that he was glad to see that his Thursday lectures had brought some changes in the minds of the young offenders. If the lectures were continued, he wrote, he was sure "to turn these offenders into saintly characters." He asked Sri Puri to be present at his next lecture, on the morning of Tuesday the 5th of June, to see personally how the transcendental medicine was acting upon them. He was trying, he wrote, to make the spiritual method as practical as any material cure, with greater and more persisting effect.

Source: Letter to Sri Puri

II

Crossing to America

1965–1966

17 SCENES



1965

Leaving for America with books

LETTER · BOMBAY · 28 JULY 1965

In a letter to Buro from Bombay on July 28th 1965, Prabhupāda wrote that he was going to America to propagate his Srimad Bhagwatam, taking 200 sets of three volumes and depending solely on "the goodwill of Srila Prabhupada," as he calls his own spiritual master in the letter. The "P" form had been hard to get sanctioned because of strict exchange control, but the day before the Controller of Exchange had allowed him to go. He reminded Buro that when his spiritual master came to Bombay and Buro, then four years old, bowed down before Him, He had blessed him. Six months later Prabhupāda saw Him at Radhakunda with Buro, who in those days was Prabhupāda's constant companion, and His Divine Grace lovingly called the boy the cowboy friend of Lord Krishna and asked him where his cows were.

The only difficulty now, he wrote, was that in his absence the printing work would remain suspended for want of supervision.

Source: Letter to Buro

Sick at sea, cooking at Port Said

LETTER · 4 OCTOBER 1965

In a letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja on October 4th 1965, Prabhupāda wrote that he was lecturing in America, some days for an hour and some days for half an hour, and had for the first time in his life delivered a speech in a church. He was alone and in his old age, and crossing twelve thousand miles by ship he had become very sick. At his request they had served him vegetarian meals on board, yet he could not take them and fasted for eight to ten days, suffering terribly from colic pain. Afterwards the captain bought him an electric stove in Port Said, and he wrote, "I then cooked for myself and took prasada."

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

Mustard oil from twenty miles away

LETTER · 4 OCTOBER 1965

In a letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja on October 4th 1965, Prabhupāda described America as "a very, very expensive country", where a room he found in the YMCA cost fifty-five rupees a week. He wrote that when he came from New York to Butler he saw a solid line of cars on two lanes for five hundred miles. He had been eating muri, puffed rice, and peanuts with mustard oil. Everything was available but the price was high: he bought two hundred and fifty grams of mustard oil for five rupees, and had to travel to a shop twenty miles away to get it.

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

Seeing Balasaraswati dance

LETTER · NEW YORK · 27 OCTOBER 1965

In a letter to Sumati Morarjee from New York on October 27th 1965, Prabhupāda wrote that the American people, so far as he had studied them, were very eager to learn the Indian way of spiritual realization. When a dancer from Madras, Balasaraswati, came to New York, he went with a friend to see the dance "just to see the mode of reception", although for forty years he had never attended such a ceremony. He wrote that the Bhagavata cult was preached also through music and dance, as Lord Caitanya had done, and that he was thinking of introducing the same system for his preaching, but had no means. The Christian missionaries were backed by huge resources, he noted, and the devotees of Lord Krishna might also combine to preach the Bhagavatam cult all over the world.

Source: Letter to Sumati Morarjee

A typewriter and a promise of lunch

LETTER · NEW YORK · 6 NOVEMBER 1965

In a letter to Sally from New York on November 6th 1965, Prabhupāda wrote that he was so glad to receive her very affectionate letter of the 3rd, and that he had got a nice typewriter and was very much satisfied

with its working. To her reminder of his good cooking he replied that next time he went to her home "I must serve you with good lunches without fail." He sent good wishes to her friends who still remembered him and wrote that he liked Butler more than New York, especially the quarter where her home was. Had he had the means to rent a house independently, he wrote, he would have gone back to Butler and held his Bhagavatam discourses daily with good friends.

Source: Letter to Sally

Old Bijo proposes a restaurant

LETTER · NEW YORK · 13 NOVEMBER 1965

In a letter to Sally from New York on November 13th 1965, Prabhupāda told her she could take him as "Old Bijo", who even at his ripe old age had taken up an adventurous task and needed her help in his adventures in America. He wrote that he was living in a precarious condition; there was a suitable room, but the lady wanted $55.00 a month, which he could not pay. Since she and his friends in New York had liked his cooking, he asked her why she did not start an Indian restaurant there. He was sure she would earn at least $2000.00 a month net, adding, "This is not a dream but actual fact."

Such a business, he wrote, would let her earn her fortune and help his mission at one stroke.

Source: Letter to Sally

The New York blackout

LETTER · NEW YORK · 13 NOVEMBER 1965

In a letter to Sally from New York on November 13th 1965, Prabhupāda wrote that he had extended his visa up to 1st April 1966 by paying ten dollars, but did not know how he would live. He was taking his meals only once a day, with some milk and fruit in the evening, and with the nights so long he sometimes felt "this night starvation." On the 10th there had been all darkness in New York, and he had learned that many

people stayed in elevators and subway trains for more than seven to eight hours. He himself had burned some vegetable oil in a small bowl as a lamp, since he could not procure a candle from the shop.

Then a friend, Mr. Bill, happened to come and arranged some fruits and a candle.

Source: Letter to Sally

The degree of Swami Jesus

LETTER · NEW YORK · 19 NOVEMBER 1965

In a letter to Sally from New York on November 19th 1965, Prabhupāda thanked her daughter for awarding him a good degree, "SWAMI JESUS", which he called a great honour. He wrote that sometimes the Lord speaks through an innocent child, and he took this honour as sent by Lord Jesus through a child free from all formalities of current society. He explained that he had proposed the restaurant so that she might become one of the richest families in America, since one could become rich only by trying one's luck in business, not by serving others. His next proposal was that she invest $20,000/- in a New York property worth $100,000/-, which would bring at least $1000/- a month in rent.

If she could, he asked her to do it immediately.

Source: Letter to Sally

1966

A temple for New York

LETTER · NEW YORK · 20 JANUARY 1966

In a letter to Sir Padampat Singhania from New York on January 20th 1966, Prabhupāda wrote that on hearing of Shastri's sudden death he had thought of President Dr. Radhakrishnan, also personally known to him, as the next man to get the sanction, and had approached him through a mutual friend. He wrote that Vrindaban had no palaces like Singhania's Dvaraka, being full of forest and cows on the bank of the Yamuna, where Lord Krishna in His childhood played the part of a cowboy. "So when the

Dvarakawalas and the Vrindabanwalas meet there may be a via media." A magnificent temple befitting New York, he explained, would cost not lakhs but crores, because the cost of land, materials and labor there was fabulous.

Because the government would hardly allow such an amount in foreign exchange, he had suggested an estimate of seven lakhs only.

Source: Letter to Sir Padampat Singhania

A tape of his kirtana

LETTER · NEW YORK · 4 FEBRUARY 1966

In a letter to Tirtha Maharaja from New York on February 4th 1966, Prabhupāda enclosed a letter from Sir Padampat Singhania, who, he wrote, was prepared to spend any amount for this purpose. He told Tirtha Maharaja that he had prepared some tape records of his personal kirtana. When one of them was played, he wrote, the audience "became practically charmed", although not a single word of his language was understandable to them. He enclosed a cheque for Rs 10/- as his humble offering to the lotus feet of his spiritual master, "Srila Prabhupada", through Tirtha Maharaja, and wished that Tirtha Maharaja would ask for His blessings for success in this attempt for His service.

Source: Letter to Tirtha Maharaja

Working twenty-four hours without fatigue

LECTURE · NEW YORK · 5 APRIL 1966

In a lecture on Bhagavad-gītā 2.49–51 in New York on April 5th 1966, Prabhupāda said that working for a spiritual purpose, one will not feel fatigued, and called this his practical experience. He said he was there always working, reading or writing, twenty-four hours. He took some food only when he felt hungry, and went to bed only when he felt asleep. He told the audience, "You can ask Mr. Paul whether I am not doing this."

He took pleasure in doing that, he said, and did not feel fatigued.

Source: Bhagavad-gītā 2.49–51

A theft and a new address

LETTER · NEW YORK · 27 APRIL 1966

In a letter to Sumati Morarjee from New York on April 27th 1966, Prabhupāda asked her permission to take with him to India one American boy from the class he was holding. The boy had his passport and a couple of hundreds to spend in India, and Prabhupāda described him as coming of a good family and a sincere soul to this line of culture. He then informed her that the month before there had been a theft in his room. His typewriter, tape recorder and some books had been stolen, more than Rs 1000/- of goods, "and therefore I am changing the place to the above address."

Source: Letter to Sumati Morarjee

Inquiries during the Bengal famine

LECTURE · NEW YORK · 20 MAY 1966

In a lecture on Bhagavad-gītā 3.8–13 in New York on May 20th 1966, Prabhupāda spoke of what he called a manufactured famine in Bengal in 1942. In his family life at that time he had some responsibility, about ten people: himself, his wife, his five children, a servant and others, and he was purchasing rice. Management was going on, but so many people died. He inquired individually from those who were in some way or other in touch with devotional service, and was satisfied that they were not in difficulty even in that famine.

When he inquired even from the villages, they replied, "No, we have no difficulty. Some way or other, we are managing."

Source: Bhagavad-gītā 3.8–13

Buddhu the servant and his corns

LECTURE · NEW YORK · 23 MAY 1966

In a lecture on Bhagavad-gītā 3.13–16 in New York on May 23rd 1966, Prabhupāda said that natural foodstuff meant for human beings is full of vitamins already, by nature's law. He recalled that when he was a family man he had a servant, only twenty-two years old, who was too stout and

strong. One day he asked the servant, whose name was Buddhu, "Buddhu, what do you take that you are very stout and strong?" Buddhu answered, "My dear sir, I take only these corns."

Source: Bhagavad-gītā 3.13–16

About Mr. Paul

LETTER · NEW YORK · 11 JUNE 1966

In a letter to Mangalaniloy Brahmacari from New York on June 11th 1966, Prabhupāda wrote that his publication work was suspended in his absence from India, though three volumes of his Srimad-Bhagavatam were already published and further copies were ready for printing. He asked whether Mangalaniloy's establishment could take charge of publishing these books or manage the publication in his absence. Asked to write something about Mr. Paul, he described him as a young man of twenty-three who had attended his class at 72nd Street with others. When there was a theft in Prabhupāda's room, Paul invited him to his residence, and he wrote, "So I am with him and training him."

Source: Letter to Mangalaniloy Brahmacari

Govardhana Puja in New York

LETTER · NEW YORK · 13 NOVEMBER 1966

In a letter to Sumati Morarjee from New York on November 13th 1966, Prabhupāda wrote that the next day they would celebrate Lord Krishna's worship as Giridhari at Govardhana Puja, and that they had invited many friends to take Prasadam. He told her that he was distributing Prasadam daily to his twenty followers. "Krishna is arranging food for them," he wrote.

Source: Letter to Sumati Morarjee

An apology for Candrasekhara

LETTER · 15 DECEMBER 1966

In a letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja on December 15th 1966, Prabhupāda wrote that he had learned from a letter that Candrasekhara had blasphemed Narayana Maharaja. "Fools do not know how to honor Vaisnavas," he wrote, and asked Narayana Maharaja by his greatness to excuse him. He had not instructed Candrasekhara to do such a thing; he had only told him to visit Narayana Maharaja. Anyway, he asked once more that Candrasekhara's aparadha be excused.

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

III

1967

The year of the letters

141 SCENES



January

Received at the airport

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 19 JANUARY 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda, Hayagriva, Kīrtanānanda, Satsvarupa, Gargamuni, Acyutananda and Jadurani from San Francisco on January 19th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that "Mr. Allen Ginsberg and about fifty or sixty others received us on the air port." When he arrived at his apartment, some press reporters were also there and took note of his mission. He wrote that he understood they were feeling his absence, and that Krishna would give them strength. If they felt very strongly about his absence, he told them, they might place his pictures on his sitting places.

Source: Letter to Brahmananda, Hayagriva, Kīrtanānanda, Satsvarupa, Gargamuni, Acyutananda, Jadurani

Place my pictures at my sitting places

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 19 JANUARY 1967

> *If you feel very strongly about my absence you may place my pictures on my sitting places and this will be source of inspiration for you.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda, Hayagriva, Kīrtanānanda, Satsvarupa, Gargamuni, Acyutananda, Jadurani

Rayarama cooks for seventy

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 19 JANUARY 1967

> *Sriman Rayarama is cooking well and distributing Prasadam to the devotees numbering sometimes seventy.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda, Hayagriva, Kīrtanānanda, Satsvarupa, Gargamuni, Acyutananda, Jadurani

Wedding day feast in San Francisco

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 25 JANUARY 1967

> *On the marriage ceremony day there was extraordinary gatherings (150 at least) and all of them were distributed prasadam. Sriman Ranchor assisted by some girls prepared kachoris, Samosa, Iskcon Balls, Puri, Chatni etc and there were many fruits also and all the guests enjoyed the Prasadam very nicely.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Consoling Acyutananda in Kirtanananda's absence

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 30 JANUARY 1967

> *Since Kīrtanānanda is absent certainly you are feeling some strain. But the more you serve Krishna the more you become stronger.*

Source: Letter to Acyutananda

Kīrtana before fifteen hundred

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 30 JANUARY 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from San Francisco on January 30th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that the previous day's function had been "very successful." There had been an audience of about 1500 or more, and all of them chanted and danced continually for one hour and fifteen minutes. He came back at 11:30 at night. In the same letter he asked Brahmananda to try to secure a copy of each film so far taken of them while performing kīrtana.

If they got the film, he wrote, they could then purchase a projector to show it in different places.

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Prabhupada remembers Jadurani as nicest girl

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 30 JANUARY 1967

> *I always remember you as the nicest girl because you are so devoutly engaged in the service of Krishna.*

Source: Letter to Jadurani

February

Keeping $6000 in the bank

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 3 FEBRUARY 1967

In a letter to Gargamuni from San Francisco on February 3rd 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he thought Gargamuni was now an expert account keeper, and wrote, "may Krishna bless you for talents and sincere endeavour for service of the Lord." He then told Gargamuni to become a little cautious about signing checks. At least $6000.00 was always to remain in the bank, and expenditure was to be met from the balance above that amount. That figure, he wrote, should be "the deadline for drawing check."

Source: Letter to Gargamuni

Tapes, a dictaphone, and mango juice

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 3 FEBRUARY 1967

In a letter to Gargamuni from San Francisco on February 3rd 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he had received one tape from Gargamuni that day and had sent him five tapes in three days. The Dictaphone sometimes stopped while working, and he asked Gargamuni to consult the supplier about why. The machine was brand new and needed no cleaning, he wrote, but if the tapes were to be cleaned, he wanted to know how. He was sending the pass book by separate post and enclosed a letter for Neal.

He also asked to be sent, regularly, dry mango juice and papad made by Bedekar with spices.

Source: Letter to Gargamuni

Two more things taught to Ranchor

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 10 FEBRUARY 1967

In a letter to Kīrtanānanda from San Francisco on February 10, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote about Ranchor. He had taught Ranchor two more things, "Nan khatai" and "Peda". Kīrtanānanda, he wrote, would have to learn them from Ranchor by succession.

Source: Letter to Kīrtanānanda

Kirtana at the Himalayan Academy

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 11 FEBRUARY 1967

In a letter to Rupanuga from San Francisco on February 11th 1967, Prabhupāda reported that that evening they had had very successful performances of Kirtana and discourses for two hours, from 7 to 9 P.M., at the Himalayan Academy, the Christian Yoga Church. About 100 people were present, and he wrote that all of them appreciated the Kirtana and lectures. "They profusely garlanded me and exposed me for photo snaps," he wrote; Ranchor played the harmonium, and they were pleased with his playing and garlanded him too. They handed over a collection of about $12.00, and, he wrote, they would most probably invite them again for such performances.

Source: Letter to Rupanuga

Garlanded at the Himalayan Academy

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 11 FEBRUARY 1967

> *They profusely garlanded me and exposed me for photo snaps. Ranchor played the Harmonium and they were pleased with his playing and garlanded him.*

Source: Letter to Rupanuga

Innocent boys and the cunning world

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 15 FEBRUARY 1967

> *You are all innocent boys without any experience of the world. The cunning world can befool you at any time.*

Source: Letter to Satsvarupa

March

A signing without Mr. Taylor

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 14 MARCH 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from San Francisco on March 14th 1967, Prabhupāda took up a point from Brahmananda's last letter. That letter had given him to understand that Mr. Taylor was not present when the agreement was signed. Prabhupāda wrote that this was "something like marriage performances without the bridegroom."

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Wry remark on visa laws

LETTER · NEW YORK · 14 MARCH 1967

> *Man's artificial civilisation has created so many artificial laws that we, although God's men, have difficulties to travel in God's countries on God's business.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Guessing 75% of the Hindi

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 25 MARCH 1967

> *with great difficulty I could guess only 75% of the hindi writing. There is no body here who can read Hindi.*

Source: Letter to Sri Krishnaji

Contract like a wedding without groom

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 30 MARCH 1967

> *The agreement was signed like marriage ceremony without the presence of the bridegroom.*

Source: Letter to Rayarama, Satsvarupa

April

An apology for unanswered letters

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 7 APRIL 1967

In a letter to Kīrtanānanda from San Francisco on April 7, 1967, Prabhupāda took up a report from Hayagriva. Hayagriva had told him that Kīrtanānanda was sorry not to be receiving his letters, and Prabhupāda begged his pardon for this. He admitted that he did not reply to each and every letter, but asked Kīrtanānanda not to think that he neglected to write. He wrote: "I always think of you because you are all my heart and soul."

Source: Letter to Kīrtanānanda

A meeting at Berkeley

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 7 APRIL 1967

In a letter to Kīrtanānanda from San Francisco on April 7, 1967, Prabhupāda described a meeting at Berkeley the night before, which he called very successful. He thought there were about three hundred students, who participated for two hours and "danced with us". After the meeting closed, the students surrounded him to offer their respects, and some of them asked various questions.

Source: Letter to Kīrtanānanda

The reception in New York

LETTER · NEW YORK · 10 APRIL 1967

In a letter from New York dated April 10th 1967, addressed to Janaki and a long list of other devotees, Prabhupāda described the reception in New York. The students there had organized it very well, and varieties of prasadam were distributed to about 100 men in the temple. He wrote that he was "not least tired". After landing from the air ship, although there was some blockade in his ear, he still continued meeting for three hours.

Source: Letter to Janaki, Haridasa, Mukunda, Syamasundara, Malati, Hayagriva, Harsarani, Devakinandana, Lilavati, Ravindra Svarupa, Haladhara, Upendra, Subala, Krsna Devi, Dayananda, Nandarani, Jayananda, Ballabhi, Syamadasi, Ramanuja Yamuna, Gurudasa, Yoga...

A loan from Janardana's wife

LETTER · NEW YORK · 12 APRIL 1967

In a letter to Janardana from New York on April 12th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote about money that Janardana's wife had faithfully loaned to the Society. He did not wish to put her into trouble over it. He asked Janardana to let him know that he was going to repay her loan. Otherwise, he wrote, "I shall send her the money."

Source: Letter to Janardana

A letter to Janardana's grandfather

LETTER · NEW YORK · 12 APRIL 1967

In a letter from New York on April 12, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote to Mr. Dambergs senior. He wrote that he was unknown to him, but had heard about him from his "very good grandson Sriman Janardana (Janis)". He had heard that Mr. Dambergs had been ailing for a long time, and also that he was a great devotee of Lord Jesus Christ.

Source: Letter to Mr. Dambergs (senior)

Sending a photo of his life

LETTER · 14 APRIL 1967

> *I am sending you a photograph to show how I live here.*

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

PS request for tilaka

LETTER · 14 APRIL 1967

> *PS. If it is possible send me tilaka and agarbathi.*

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

A cheque for Bahuji's treatment

LETTER · NEW YORK · 15 APRIL 1967

In a letter to Sri Krishna Panditji from New York on April 15th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he was very sorry to learn that Srimati Bahuji was suffering from pyorrhea. He wrote that it was due to excessive betel chewing. With the letter he sent a small cheque for her treatment.

Source: Letter to Sri Krishna Panditji

Who will read Hindi letters

LETTER · NEW YORK · 15 APRIL 1967

> *Who will read your Hindi letters.*

Source: Letter to Sri Krishna Panditji

Comforting a frustrated young disciple

LETTER · NEW YORK · 22 APRIL 1967

> *I know that you poor girl have been frustrated by the so called society and you deeply needed the shelter of Krishna Consciousness. Krishna kindly sent you to me and I have tried to give you whatever I had in my possession.*

Source: Letter to Ballabhi

Enjoying daily preparations

LETTER · NEW YORK · 22 APRIL 1967

> *I am enjoying your preparations daily*

Source: Letter to Subala, Krsna Devi

Money recovered from Payne

LETTER · NEW YORK · 27 APRIL 1967

In a letter to Kīrtanānanda from New York on April 27, 1967, Prabhupāda gave news about lost funds. By the Grace of Krishna, he wrote, he had been able to recover $4227 and odds out of the $5000.00 that had gone "in the belly of Sir Conman Fraud (Payne)". Mr. Goldsmith was trying to recover at least $500.00 out of another $750.00 "in the belly of Payne".

Source: Letter to Kīrtanānanda

May

Not much for letters, much for work

LETTER · NEW YORK · 4 MAY 1967

> *I know that you are not much for writing letters but you are much for work.*

Source: Letter to Syamasundara

Sandalwood bookmark gift

LETTER · NEW YORK · 4 MAY 1967

> *I also thank you very much for your sandalwood book marker. It is wonderful. Everyone appreciated this present and I am keeping it very carefully.*

Source: Letter to Upendra

Assuring San Francisco devotees of his presence

LETTER · 5 MAY 1967

> *If you try to follow my instruction you will feel that my body is in your presence always. I know that you all devotees of San Francisco are very much anxious to get me back there and I am also trying to go back there as soon as possible*

Source: Letter to Ballabhi

Good handwriting for signboards

LETTER · NEW YORK · 5 MAY 1967

> *I am very much pleased to see your good handwriting. I shall therefore request you to utilize your talent in the service of Krishna.*

Source: Letter to Gurudasa, Yamuna

A suitable place beside a butcher

LETTER · NEW YORK · 5 MAY 1967

In a letter to Kīrtanānanda from New York on May 5, 1967, Prabhupāda reported on a place they had found. It was a very nice, suitable place "at 6th Street on Grand". The difficulty was that there was a butcher just on the side and the smell was obnoxious, so "we could not do it".

Source: Letter to Kīrtanānanda

The first act of a drama

LETTER · NEW YORK · 6 MAY 1967

In a letter to Hayagriva from New York on May 6th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that Hayagriva had nicely done the first act of the Lord Caitanya drama. He called it "nicely done literature". But when it was played, he wrote, it would have to be cut short, otherwise it would take too long a time.

Source: Letter to Hayagriva

Draft letter for Upendra

LETTER · NEW YORK · 6 MAY 1967

> *as a Divinity Student you must not be sent to the field. Chant Hare Krishna. Krishna will save you.*

Source: Letter to Upendra

Hurt by a godbrother's misreading

LETTER · 17 MAY 1967

> *How can you think that I am criticizing you? If you think this, it is like a thunderbolt striking my head.*

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

Praising a disciple's wife's handwriting

LETTER · NEW YORK · 21 MAY 1967

> *I have received her letter but I am sorry that I could not reply this good girl. I very much appreciate her feelings and specially the hand writing.*

Source: Letter to Ravindra Svarupa

Forgiven as a father forgives

LETTER · 24 MAY 1967

In a letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja on May 24th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote, "I always consider you as my son!" But he had been very hurt, he told him, to read a part of Narayana Maharaja's letter which had in it some harsh words. Now, he wrote, he had forgiven him "just as a father forgives his son."

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

June

Utmost care, and a stabbing heart

LETTER · NEW YORK · 1 JUNE 1967

In a letter to Sri Krishna Pandit from New York on June 1st 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that the boys were taking utmost care of him and there was no scarcity of care. "But still after all, this body is subject to death," he added. He had come there, he wrote, with a great mission to execute his Spiritual Master's order. But, he wrote, "my heart is stabbing me."

Source: Letter to Sri Krishna Pandit

Prayers credited with saving his life

LETTER · NEW YORK · 5 JUNE 1967

In a letter from New York on June 5, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote to Krishna dasi. He told her that, due to her sincere and ardent prayer, Krishna had saved his life. He added: "I was to die on Tuesday certainly but because you prayed sincerely I am saved."

Source: Letter to Krsna Devi, Subala, Lilavati, Yamuna, Jayananda, Upendra, Malati, Gurudasa, Syamasundara, Haridasa, Mukunda, Janaki, Aunt Edna Howell

Leaving the hospital for the sea

LETTER · NEW YORK · 7 JUNE 1967

In a letter to the boys and Himavati from New York on June 7th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he was "making progress very nicely." He told them that he would be discharged from the hospital the next day. From there he was to go to New Jersey to rest for a fortnight "in front of the natural sea."

Source: Letter to Boys, Himavati

A message read at Tompkins Square

LETTER · NEW YORK · 9 JUNE 1967

In a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Renovich from New York on June 9, 1967, Prabhupāda told of a meeting in Tompkins Square Park the previous Sunday. Thousands of people took part. He had been seriously ill for the last few days and could not attend, but he sent a message through his disciple. When the message was read, it was "received with great applause".

Source: Letter to Mr. and Mrs. Renovich

A shower bath at the seashore

LETTER · NEW YORK · 9 JUNE 1967

In a letter to Mr. Taber dated New York, June 9, 1967, Prabhupāda gave news of his health. He wrote that he was improving gradually. That day he had taken a shower bath by himself "here at the seashore in N.J."

Source: Letter to Mr. Taber

Massage and the seashore

LETTER · NEW YORK · 9 JUNE 1967

In a letter to Nandarani dated New York, June 9, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote about the massaging. He did not believe in medicine or doctors, he wrote, but he was practically perceiving that "the massaging is helping me beyond expectation". That day he had taken a shower bath by himself. He was reciting from Srimad Bhagavatam and enjoying the seashore in N. J.

Source: Letter to Nandarani

On the path of death, still thinking of books

LETTER · NEW YORK · 10 JUNE 1967

> *Although I am practically on the path of death, still I cannot forget about my publications.*

Source: Letter to Hayagriva

Ill, indifferent where he dies

LETTER · NEW YORK · 10 JUNE 1967

> *I don't mind whether I die here or in Vrndavana—wherever there is Krishna, that is Vrndavana.*

Source: Letter to Mukunda

Attracted by his Guru Mahārāja

LETTER · LONG BRANCH · 14 JUNE 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from Long Branch on June 14th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he also had been attracted by his Guru Mahārāja. That happened, he wrote, "when he convinced me that God lives and we can live with Him."

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Crediting disciples' prayers for his life

LETTER · LONG BRANCH · 14 JUNE 1967

> *Yes it is due to your prayers that this time my life has been saved.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Prayers of the boys saved me

LETTER · NEW YORK · 14 JUNE 1967

> *Your prayer and all other boys' prayers has saved me and I hope to render some service to you all for some more years.*

Source: Letter to Gargamuni

Disciples more than father and mother

LETTER · 14 JUNE 1967

> *My disciples here are Godsend, they are all more than my father and mother, and they are taking so much care for me that I shall never be able to repay the debts.*

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

Recuperating by the seashore

LETTER · 14 JUNE 1967

> *The weakness is still continuing and sometimes I feel dizziness but the seashore breeze gives me such relief.*

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

A record from Hayagriva

LETTER · 25 JUNE 1967

In a letter to Hayagriva dated June 25th 1967, Prabhupāda thanked him very much for the new record he had sent. He wrote that he had enjoyed it "like anything". He singled out Hayagriva's speech on the essay "Krishna the Chariot Driver."

Source: Letter to Hayagriva

Stroke reported to Sumati Morarjee

LETTER · NEW YORK · 27 JUNE 1967

> *the maya has given me a great stroke very recently. Due to my incessant hard work for the last two years, my health has been shattered.*

Source: Letter to Sumati Morarjee

July

Best day, writing by hand

LETTER · 1 JULY 1967

> *Today is my best day which is why I am writing you a letter in my own hand.*

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

Leaving spiritual children

LETTER · STINSON BEACH · 8 JULY 1967

In a letter to Jadurani from Stinson Beach on July 8th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote, "After all, I am old man." There was no certainty of his life, he wrote, and if he collapsed at any moment it would not be surprising. But he wished to leave some of his spiritual children, who had so kindly joined him in faith and respect, so that they might work and the philosophy of Krishna Consciousness might be broadcast all over the world.

Source: Letter to Jadurani

The flight with Kīrtanānanda's puris

LETTER · STINSON BEACH · 11 JULY 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from Stinson Beach on July 11th 1967, Prabhupāda reported on his flight. He wrote that he had no inconvenience on the plane and that he "ate all the puris brought by Kīrtanānanda." Sometimes on the way there was a little jerking from air pockets, and he got a little nervous.

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Arrival at the house

LETTER · STINSON BEACH · 11 JULY 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from Stinson Beach on July 11th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he "got down safely and was received by the anxious devotees here." Jayananda brought him to the house in a nice car. He described the house as "situated in an exceptionally nice spot," and wrote that the house itself was aristocratic.

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

A palatial building and a broken kutira

LETTER · 14 JULY 1967

In a letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja on July 14th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he was staying in a palatial building. There were always four of them ready to serve him, and there was no want of prasada, lodging or any care. Still, he wrote, he felt that his broken kutira without any opulence, bathing in the Yamuna, darsana of the temples, and "the ripped cotton quilt of the Gaudiya Vaisnavas" were "so very sweet."

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

Wish to die in Vrindavan

LETTER · 14 JULY 1967

> *I am old now. I am not afraid to die, but if my life air passes away in the lotus dust of the Vaisnavas in Vrndavana then that would be very blissful.*

Source: Letter to Sripad Narayana Maharaja

Arrival in London

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 26 JULY 1967

In a letter to the "children" at New York from Vrindaban on July 26th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that they had arrived in London on schedule on Sunday morning. Kīrtanānanda gave him a massage, and then he took a shower bath and rested until the afternoon.

Source: Letter to "Children" at New York

A night at the Excelsior

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 26 JULY 1967

In a letter to the "children" at New York from Vrindaban on July 26th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that they were put up for the night in the Excelsior Hotel. He described it as "something like a dream palace, complete with air conditioning, TV, Hi-Fi, swimming pool and everything else." They had a nice meal and slept very nicely.

Source: Letter to "Children" at New York

Stepping out into India

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 26 JULY 1967

In a letter to the "children" at New York from Vrindaban on July 26th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that the flight from Moscow to Delhi took about eight hours. When they arrived it was about midnight local time. As they stepped out of the plane, he wrote, "I KNEW IT WAS INDIA!" He wrote: "It was like walking into a solid wall of HEAT."

That, he wrote, was what he had been wanting, and it felt good to him.

Source: Letter to "Children" at New York

August

The warmth of the city

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 2 AUGUST 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from Vrindaban on August 2nd 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that Kīrtanānanda was "feeling the warmth of the city a little tediously." For himself, he wrote, "this warmth is little bracy."

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Not absent from you

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 2 AUGUST 1967

> *Never think that I am absent from you. Physical presence is not essential; presence by message (or hearing) is real touch.*

Source: Letter to Students

Guitar is fine for kirtana

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 3 AUGUST 1967

> *I think that you can go on playing on your guitar and make it successful for Krishna kirtana. You do not require to learn freshly about sitar.*

Source: Letter to Murari

A mantra sung at the airport

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 4 AUGUST 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from Vrindaban on August 4th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote down the mantra he had sung at the airport. In the letter he set it down as "K, K, K, K, K, K, K, HE (twice); K, K, K, K, K, K, raksa mam; K, K, K, K, K, K, pahi mam."

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Eating lunch better in India

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 4 AUGUST 1967

> *So far my present health is concerned I think I am improving; at least I am taking my lunch better than in N.Y.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Back in the kitchen

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 15 AUGUST 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from Vrindaban on August 15th 1967, Prabhupāda told him he would be glad to know that for the last two days he had been taking part in the cooking. He called this "positive proof of improvement in my health."

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

News of Himavati's baby

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 15 AUGUST 1967

In a letter to Hansadutta from Vrindaban on August 15th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he was very happy to learn that Himavati was going to have a baby. A child, he wrote, is "a rare gift given by Krishna". But it is at the same time, he added, "a great responsibility".

Source: Letter to Hansadutta

Hansadutta's health

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 15 AUGUST 1967

In a letter to Hansadutta from Vrindaban on August 15th 1967, Prabhupāda told him that he must think of his health. Prabhupāda had already noticed a deterioration when he was in N.Y. Now, he wrote, Hansadutta said it had gotten worse.

Source: Letter to Hansadutta

Praise for Yamuna

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 24 AUGUST 1967

> *Regarding Yamuna, your wife, I've got a very great regard, because she is very sincere girl. I'm sure you should feel fortunate to have such a wife.*

Source: Letter to Gurudasa

Disciples who think freely

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 27 AUGUST 1967

In a letter to Mrinaline from Vrindaban on August 27, 1967, Prabhupāda replied to a letter of hers. Her letter was certainly full of sense, he wrote, and a K.C. boy or girl cannot be "nonsense". He was proud to have disciples like her, who think freely but correct their mistakes by consulting him without any reservation. He added: "I am always feeling separation for you all."

Source: Letter to Mrinaline

Looking younger without the beard

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 29 AUGUST 1967

> *Anyway, you must have reduced your age considerably by sacrificing this "maya," and now you must look like a very nice young gentleman.*

Source: Letter to Hayagriva

A fancy for America

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 29 AUGUST 1967

> *I have got a fancy for your country, and being inspired by that, I first went to your country, and still I feel that way.*

Source: Letter to Hayagriva

September

Letter from a lost child

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 5 SEPTEMBER 1967

> *When I received your letter, it appeared to me that I had received a letter from a lost child*

Source: Letter to Umapati

Old, sick, and cared for

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 9 SEPTEMBER 1967

In a letter to Rupanuga from Vrindaban on September 9th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote, "I am old man. At the same time sick." Even if he were well, he explained, it would not be possible for him to look after the affairs of the American house. He wanted to remain free, being taken care of by all of them. In the States he had been happy being taken care of by them, and he wrote that this enjoyment was "liking to me in this old age."

Source: Letter to Rupanuga

Anxiety over Acyutananda's eating

LETTER · VṚNDĀVANA · 9 SEPTEMBER 1967

> *Acyutananda is here, but he is not eating well, so I am also put into anxiety.*

Source: Letter to Rupanuga

Rock candy for Gargamuni's jaundice

LETTER · DELHI · 15 SEPTEMBER 1967

> *Let him take complete rest in the hospital and give him rock candy as advised above. For a diseased person suffering from jaundice, rock candy will be just appreciated and as soon as he regains health the original taste will be appreciated.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Rock candy and papaya

LETTER · DELHI · 15 SEPTEMBER 1967

In a letter to Gargamuni from Delhi on September 15th 1967, Prabhupāda advised him to take rock candy as much as possible and always keep a piece in his mouth. For eating, he recommended ripe papaya, as much as Gargamuni could take. If possible, he added, Gargamuni should also boil green papaya. This, he wrote, "will be your diet and medicine."

Source: Letter to Gargamuni

Two sisters and a rivalry

LETTER · DELHI · 16 SEPTEMBER 1967

In a letter to Janaki from Delhi on September 16th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that she would be angry if he said that her sister was better than she. But he thought he was right, he added, because Mukunda supported him. Rivalry between good hearts, he wrote, "is very nice job". Still, he was equally pleased with both her sister and Janaki herself.

Source: Letter to Janaki

Chanting at the wheel

LETTER · DELHI · 16 SEPTEMBER 1967

Prabhupāda wrote to Jayananda from Delhi on September 16th 1967. He recalled that when Jayananda drove his car, he always chanted "Hare Krishna". When Prabhupāda was by his side, he wrote, he could understand how heartily Jayananda had accepted the philosophy of Krishna Consciousness.

Source: Letter to Jayananda

His health improves through his disciples' longing

LETTER · DELHI · 16 SEPTEMBER 1967

> *So far my health is concerned I'm improving, by Krishna's grace and it is due to your feeling of my absence and eagerly awaiting for my return.*

Source: Letter to Jayananda

Typing his own letter in Delhi

LETTER · DELHI · 20 SEPTEMBER 1967

In a letter to Dayananda, Nandarani and Uddhava from Delhi on September 20th 1967, Prabhupāda explained that there was no good typewriter where he was. He was typing the letter himself. Acyutananda, he wrote, "is not fast typewriter". And Kīrtanānanda was going back to London the next day.

Source: Letter to Dayananda, Nandarani, Uddhava

Los Angeles and a warmer climate

LETTER · DELHI · 20 SEPTEMBER 1967

Prabhupāda wrote to Dayananda, Nandarani and Uddhava from Delhi on September 20th 1967. He told them he had heard from friends that the climate of Los Angeles was warmer. "For my health", he wrote, "I require warmer climate."

Source: Letter to Dayananda, Nandarani, Uddhava

First baby born into a KC family in America

LETTER · DELHI · 23 SEPTEMBER 1967

> *Yours will be the first baby born into a KC family in America, so we must be very careful for him while he is in the womb.*

Source: Letter to Himavati

Cooking and typing again

LETTER · DELHI · 23 SEPTEMBER 1967

> *definitely I've improved because I am now cooking and typing*

Source: Letter to Satsvarupa

Kīrtanānanda flies to New York

LETTER · DELHI · 30 SEPTEMBER 1967

In a letter to Janardana from Delhi on September 30th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that Swami Kīrtanānanda had given him "a great shock." He had advised Kīrtanānanda to go to London with an introduction letter and money. But Kīrtanānanda had flown to New York without Prabhupāda's knowledge. His first action after taking sannyasa, Prabhupāda wrote, was a great shock to him.

Source: Letter to Janardana

October

The London plan Kīrtanānanda did not follow

LETTER · DELHI · 3 OCTOBER 1967

In a letter to Nandarani and others from Delhi on October 3, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote of his great desire to open a temple in London. He had hoped that Kīrtanānanda, after accepting sannyasa, would do this job. For this purpose Kīrtanānanda was given an introductory letter to a London lady, along with expenses. But "out of his whim" he did not go to London and went directly to New York.

Prabhupāda called it "a terrible example" and wrote that it had shocked him.

Source: Letter to Nandarani, Krsna Devi, Subala, Uddhava

Kīrtanānanda in New York

LETTER · DELHI · 4 OCTOBER 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from Delhi on October 4th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he was glad to learn that Kīrtanānanda Swami was now in New York. He had learned too that Kīrtanānanda looked "very nice in midst of his glowing God-brothers." But, Prabhupāda added, he "would have been looking more nice if he had stayed in London for a few days as it was settled here."

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Letters give new energy

LETTER · DELHI · 4 OCTOBER 1967

> *When I receive letters from you and Brahmananda immediately I feel new energy.*

Source: Letter to Rayarama

Three languages for the Western World

LETTER · DELHI · 4 OCTOBER 1967

In a letter to Rayarama from Delhi on October 4, 1967, Prabhupāda named who knew which language. Janardana was well acquainted with French, Hayagriva and Rayarama with English, and Mr. Phil with German. So together, he wrote, they could "perform great blitz for bombarding the Western World with Krishna philosophy". This was what he had wanted, and Krishna was sending his "good lieutenants".

Source: Letter to Rayarama

Typing himself as an experiment

LETTER · DELHI · 6 OCTOBER 1967

> *This typewriting work is done by me. For two days I am alone and doing everything myself as experiment. This proves that I am now well.*

Source: Letter to Satsvarupa

Satsvarupa as secretary

LETTER · DELHI · 6 OCTOBER 1967

> *a secretary like Satsvarupa Brahmacari is a great fortune for me*

Source: Letter to Satsvarupa

Ninety percent well in Delhi

LETTER · DELHI · 7 OCTOBER 1967

In a letter to Mukunda from Delhi on October 7, 1967, Prabhupāda reported on his health. By the Grace of Lord Krishna he was now 90% well, though the basic difficulty remained that he could not walk a very long distance. Sitting on his seat he felt nothing abnormal, and "even nowadays I can type letters". He was also eating more than he had been eating in the States.

Source: Letter to Mukunda

A stolen record player

LETTER · DELHI · 7 OCTOBER 1967

In a letter to Mukunda from Delhi on October 7, 1967, Prabhupāda reported that the record player Mukunda had given him at Stinson Beach was lost. Somebody had stolen it from his room while he was alone, sleeping. He wrote that he could take some police action, but did not wish to implicate himself in such a way because he was going to Calcutta.

Source: Letter to Mukunda

America as home

LETTER · DELHI · 8 OCTOBER 1967

> *Practically your country is my home now. India is foreign country for me. The reason is that my spiritual family is there & my material relationships are in India; therefore factually where my spiritual family exists, there is my home.*

Source: Letter to Nandarani

Don't upset your wife

LETTER · DELHI · 8 OCTOBER 1967

> *Your wife is always assisting you so why make her unhappy by uttering something which is unnecessary and unpleasant?*

Source: Letter to Subala

Willing to sit under a tree with one sincere soul

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 11 OCTOBER 1967

> *I am prepared to sit down underneath a tree with one sincere soul and in such activity I shall be free from all diseases.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Disciples in saffron look like angels

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 13 OCTOBER 1967

> *In my opinion, Clean shaved Brahmacharies & Grhasthas in saffron robes look like angels from Baikunta.*

Source: Letter to Damodara

He praises Jadurani to his visitors

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 13 OCTOBER 1967

> *I always think of you because you are so nice in Krishna Consciousness. Several times I talk about your nice qualifications which you are employing amongst my visitors.*

Source: Letter to Jadurani

A thunderbolt for Kīrtanānanda

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 13 OCTOBER 1967

In a letter to Jadurani from Calcutta on October 13th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he was very sorry to inform her about Kīrtanānanda. After his return to N.Y., he wrote, Kīrtanānanda was "playing the part of a foolish man". It was necessary for Prabhupāda "to play the part of a thunderbolt" for those nonsense activities.

Source: Letter to Jadurani

Praising Gargamuni as Brahmananda's Laksmana

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 19 OCTOBER 1967

> *I must congratulate Gargamuni, the simple boy, who never believed in impersonalism. He is your younger brother as important as Lord Laksmana was younger brother to Lord Rama.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

A name and a horoscope

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 23 OCTOBER 1967

In a letter to Lilavati from Calcutta on October 23, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote about her child. The child should be named Subhadra, he wrote, the name she had already chosen, and he called it nice. He also found the horoscope a nice idea, and said that if he met a good astrologer he would try to get one for her little child.

Source: Letter to Lilavati

A tambura for Lilavati

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 23 OCTOBER 1967

In a letter to Lilavati from Calcutta on October 23, 1967, Prabhupāda reported a purchase. He had bought one tambura for her from Dwarkin & Sons, costing Rs 106/-. The shop had allowed him a special discount of 20% on the price.

Source: Letter to Lilavati

A promise to return via San Francisco

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 23 OCTOBER 1967

In a letter to Mukunda from Calcutta on October 23, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote about his return journey. When coming from San Francisco, he had promised Janaki and other girls that when he came back this time he would come first to San Francisco. So he would return by the Pacific route, possibly making a break in the journey in Tokyo and Hawaii.

Source: Letter to Mukunda

Grief over Kirtanananda's fall

LETTER · NAVADVĪPA · 26 OCTOBER 1967

> *My grief for Kīrtanānanda isn't anything personal but I am sorry that he has become like a mayavadi in spite of my best efforts to help him.*

Source: Letter to Jadurani

A lion cub among jackals

LETTER · NAVADVĪPA · 27 OCTOBER 1967

In a letter to Rayarama from Navadvipa on October 27, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he was so glad to learn Rayarama was "acting exactly like a lion cub". He wrote that he knew Rayarama would in the future conquer many jackals. He cited their experience in India: the jackals roar four times at night without any influence, but the one roar of a lion drives away many elephants.

Source: Letter to Rayarama

Delight at a seventeen-year-old's devotion

LETTER · NAVADVĪPA · 28 OCTOBER 1967

> *I am so happy that a boy of 17 years can feel so nicely about Krishna Consciousness. I am so happy that the Krishna Consciousness movement is attracting young innocent hearts of America.*

Source: Letter to Aatie

Reassuring Krishna Devi about her husband

LETTER · NAVADVĪPA · 29 OCTOBER 1967

> *I can understand your anxiety about your husband & rest assured that I shall never advise your husband to leave you.*

Source: Letter to Krsna Devi

November

Buttered capatis in pregnancy

LETTER · NAVADVĪPA · 2 NOVEMBER 1967

> *Your husband knows how to prepare nice capatis and you can take them nicely buttered.*

Source: Letter to Himavati

Calling the departing disciples children

LETTER · NAVADVĪPA · 2 NOVEMBER 1967

> *You have rightly said that he and Hayagriva came like two children and took their things from the temple. Don't you think that all this is childish activities?*

Source: Letter to Himavati

Not letting Kīrtanānanda become Keith

LETTER · NAVADVĪPA · 2 NOVEMBER 1967

In a letter to Rayarama from Navadvipa on November 2, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote about Kīrtanānanda. He wrote that he could not allow him "to become Keith again". Kīrtanānanda was his spiritual son, and he would never allow him to fall down. When he returned, he wrote, he would "drag him forcibly and make all right again".

Source: Letter to Rayarama

The record player arrives

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 4 NOVEMBER 1967

In a letter to Mukunda from Calcutta on November 4, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he was much obliged to him for sending the record player, which he called essential. He noted that he could have saved the customs duty of 120 Rs if Mukunda had sent a note stating that it was an unsolicited gift. Anyway, the machine was received intact, and "I am enjoying it".

Source: Letter to Mukunda

Alone at 26 Second Avenue

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 11 NOVEMBER 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from Calcutta on November 11th 1967, Prabhupāda reminded him that he had started the center at 26 2nd Avenue alone. He wrote that he "took the risk of 200.00 dollars per month for the rent."

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Chanting without an audience

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 11 NOVEMBER 1967

In a letter to Brahmananda from Calcutta on November 11th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he had never thought about the audience. He wrote that he "was prepared to chant if there were no man to hear me."

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Chanting without an audience

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 12 NOVEMBER 1967

> *I was prepared to chant even if there were no men present to hear me.*

Source: Letter to Subala

Arguments, not sticks

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 21 NOVEMBER 1967

In a letter from Calcutta on November 21, 1967, addressed to Pradyumna, Satsvarupa and Jadurani, Prabhupāda wrote that the killing proposal was not good. "We have to kill them," he wrote, "with arguments and reasons not with sticks and weapons." To Jadurani he wrote that he was very glad she wanted to kill the non-devotees, but that she should leave the matter to her good God-brothers, who would take care of it. He was pleased to learn of her spirit of protest, but, he wrote, "sometimes we have to tolerate."

Source: Letter to Pradyumna, Satsvarupa, Jadurani

His Guru Maharaja's tears

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 23 NOVEMBER 1967

In a letter to Woomapati from Calcutta on November 23rd 1967, Prabhupāda recalled an experience from the time when his Guru Maharaja was alive. One of his Guru Maharaja's disciples who had accepted sannyasa was one day forcibly dragged by his wife. His Guru Maharaja, he wrote, lamented with tears in His eyes, saying that "He could not save the soul."

Source: Letter to Woomapati

Why we say prabhu

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 28 NOVEMBER 1967

> *This prabhu means boss. If everyone of us thinks of his fellow worker as boss there is no question of misunderstanding.*

Source: Letter to Nandarani

December

A published book as a conquered empire

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 12 DECEMBER 1967

> *When one book is published I think I have conquered an empire.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Satsvarupa's dream

LETTER · CALCUTTA · 12 DECEMBER 1967

In a letter to Jadurani from Calcutta on December 12th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he could understand that they were all thinking of him 24 hours a day. Therefore, he wrote, Satsvarupa had had a dream that Prabhupāda had gone to Boston and was enjoying their company. Similarly, Prabhupāda also thought of them all, "especially of you because you are so nice and good."

Source: Letter to Jadurani

He calls his students his teachers

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 16 DECEMBER 1967

> *Although officially I am your Spiritual Master, I consider you all students as my Spiritual Master because your love for Krishna and service for Krishna teach me how to become a sincere Krishna Conscious person.*

Source: Letter to Jadurani

A dictaphone out of order

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 16 DECEMBER 1967

In a letter to Jadurani from San Francisco on December 16th 1967, Prabhupāda asked her to inform Satsvarupa that very soon he was going to overload him with tapes for typing. His dictaphone was a little out of order, and Gargamuni had taken charge of repairing it. As soon as he got it back, he wrote, his work on Srimad-Bhagavatam would begin.

Source: Letter to Jadurani

Three hours of sleep

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 16 DECEMBER 1967

Prabhupāda wrote to Jadurani from San Francisco on December 16th 1967. At that moment, he told her, he had some difficulty in sleeping. He wrote, "I cannot sleep more than 3 hours at night, and 1 hour in day."

Source: Letter to Jadurani

Chant and hear yourself

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 16 DECEMBER 1967

> *If nobody comes to hear, please chant and hear yourself.*

Source: Letter to Subala

Initiation beads for Blanche Hochner

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 17 DECEMBER 1967

In a letter to Blanche Hochner from San Francisco on December 17th 1967, Prabhupāda wrote about her initiation. He told her that he would chant all the beads that day, at the time of the initiation, and send them to her by post the next day. He also gave her the name she would receive: "Your initiated name will be Balai dasi."

Source: Letter to Blanche Hochner

Handwritten letters are more valuable

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 21 DECEMBER 1967

> *Your handwritten letter is more valuable than type written.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Blessing Brahmananda: poor but Krishna is rich

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 21 DECEMBER 1967

> *May Krishna give you more and more strength my dear child. I am very poor but Krishna is very rich.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Diet instructions for Rayarama

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 21 DECEMBER 1967

In a letter to Rayarama from San Francisco on December 21, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that his first concern was that Rayarama was not eating well. He called it "a case of anxiety". He asked him not to eat dal and spices, but simply boiled vegetables, rice and a few capatis. Butter was to be taken separately, only as much as required for taste, and milk twice, morning and evening.

Source: Letter to Rayarama

I may live or die

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 21 DECEMBER 1967

> *I am an old man. I may live or die it does not matter. But you must live for long time to push on this Krishna Consciousness movement.*

Source: Letter to Rayarama

Like the Queen of King Jadu

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 23 DECEMBER 1967

In a letter to Jadurani from San Francisco on December 23rd 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that he was very glad to know that she was helping her God-brothers in Boston. He compared her to "the Queen of King Jadu." King Jadu, he explained, was a very powerful King, and Jadurani was his constant companion.

Source: Letter to Jadurani

Beads without a sender's name

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 24 DECEMBER 1967

In a letter to Nandakisora from San Francisco on December 24, 1967, Prabhupāda wrote about some beads that had been sent to him. He did not know whether Nandakisora had sent them from N.Y. with a stamped envelope; if he had, that was all right. Otherwise someone else had sent them, and he was missing that person's name. Either way, Nandakisora could chant on these beads and inquire if anyone was missing his beads.

Source: Letter to Nandakisora

Alan Watts for the introduction: pragmatic nonsense

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 29 DECEMBER 1967

> *For me, either Professor Dimmock or Mr. Watts both are nonsense. Now for selling purpose, if you think Mr. Watts is nice, I have no objection.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Keeping Hayagriva's name on the Gita

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 29 DECEMBER 1967

> *He has committed a blunder, but just so that he may be encouraged to come back you may mention his name also along with Rayarama's.*

Source: Letter to Brahmananda

Anxious for disciples in Delhi

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 30 DECEMBER 1967

> *I have become too much anxious about you.*

Source: Letter to Acyutananda, Ramanuja

Kīrtanānanda given as an example

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 30 DECEMBER 1967

In a letter to Madhusudana from San Francisco on December 30, 1967, Prabhupāda gave Kīrtanānanda as an example. Kīrtanānanda, he wrote, had been giving him direct service by massaging, cooking for him and so many other things. But later on, "by dictation of Maya", he became puffed up. He became so puffed up that he thought his Spiritual Master a common man, existing only on account of his service.

Source: Letter to Madhusudana

Washing Jagannatha with hot water for comfort

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 30 DECEMBER 1967

> *To continue a sense of devotion, it is better to wash the Body of Lord Jagannatha with hot water so that we may have the feeling that Lord Jagannatha is more comfortable.*

Source: Letter to Madhusudana

Massage, upma, and a formula

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 30 DECEMBER 1967

In a letter to Satsvarupa from San Francisco on December 30th 1967, Prabhupāda gave news of his health. Gaurasundara, he wrote, was "keeping me quite fit by massaging," and Govinda dasi was supplying him upma. He remarked that perhaps Satsvarupa had never tasted upma. If Jadurani could prepare it, he wrote, he would send the formula.

Source: Letter to Satsvarupa

Joy at Rayarama's calendar

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 31 DECEMBER 1967

> *My joy has no bounds when I received your calendar so nicely imagined.*

Source: Letter to Rayarama

Students caring for him in San Francisco

LETTER · SAN FRANCISCO · 31 DECEMBER 1967

In a letter to Rayarama from San Francisco on December 31st 1967, Prabhupāda wrote that all the students there were taking his personal care, especially Gaurasundara and Govinda dasi. Upendra and Uddhava, he reported, were "personally cooking for me." And Mukunda, he added, was personally looking after his permanent visa.

Source: Letter to Rayarama

IV

1968–1971

10 SCENES



1968

Dr. Urquhart and the brain substance

LECTURE · MONTREAL · 3 AUGUST 1968

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.2.6 in Montreal on August 3rd 1968, Prabhupāda recalled that he was a student of psychology in his college life. He still remembered that Dr. Urquhart said the brain substance of man had been found up to 64 ounces, while that of woman had been found, at the highest, 34 ounces. He then explained that su-medhasaḥ means one who has got good brain substance. But, he said, so far as spiritual life is concerned, it does not depend on the material brain substance.

"It has nothing to do with this bodily construction," he said, and added, "You must remember."

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.2.6

First meeting with his Guru Mahārāja

LECTURE · MONTREAL · 17 AUGUST 1968

In a Vyāsa-pūjā lecture in Montreal on August 17th 1968, Prabhupāda recalled that in 1920 he joined the noncooperation movement and gave up his education. In 1922, he said, he also met his Guru Mahārāja, who on his first visit, he did not know why, told him that he should preach this Caitanya philosophy to the outside world. He replied, "We are dependent nation. Who will hear us?" In the world, he had said, nobody hears any person coming from a dependent nation, so they must first of all have independence.

He was a young man at that time, he said, and misled in so many ways, but his spiritual master, Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī Gosvāmī Mahārāja, saved him.

Source: Śrī Vyāsa-pūjā

Rukmiṇī feels far away

LECTURE · MONTREAL · 18 AUGUST 1968

During a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 7.9.12 in Montreal on August 18th 1968, Rukmiṇī said she felt so far away from Prabhupāda when he was not there. Janārdana repeated her words for him. Prabhupāda answered, "Oh, that you should not think." There are two conceptions, he said, the physical and the vibration; the physical is temporary, and the vibration is eternal.

As soon as we chant Hare Kṛṣṇa or Bhagavad-gītā or Bhāgavata, he said, He is present immediately by His vibration. When one feels separation from the spiritual master, he said, one should try to remember his words of instruction: "You'll feel that He is with you."

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 7.9.12

1969

Forced by his spiritual master

LECTURE · HONOLULU · 5 MARCH 1969

In a lecture in Hawaii on March 5th 1969, the day after Śrī Gaura-Pūrṇimā, Prabhupāda said that Kṛṣṇa sometimes puts a person in such circumstances that he has no other way than to surrender to Kṛṣṇa. He recalled that his spiritual master wanted him to preach, but he did not like it, and his spiritual master forced him. He had no desire to accept the sannyāsa order and preach, he said, but his spiritual master wanted it. When he was forced, he thought, "What is this? What...? I am committing some mistake, or what is that?" He was puzzled.

A little after, he said, he could understand that "it is the greatest favor shown to me."

Source: Day after Śrī Gaura-Pūrṇimā Lecture

Checking his son's teeth before breakfast

LECTURE · HONOLULU · 24 MARCH 1969

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 7.9.11–13 in Hawaii on March 24th 1969, Prabhupāda said that in India a child is trained from childhood to take bath and wash teeth in the morning. He remembered that when his second son was about four years old, he used to ask him before breakfast, "Show me your teeth." The boy would answer, "Yes." Then he would be told that he had washed his teeth and was allowed to take breakfast.

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 7.9.11–13

The new disciple who stayed to hear

CONVERSATION · COLUMBUS · 10 MAY 1969

The transcript of this room conversation in Columbus on May 10, 1969, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own early days among his Godbrothers. The others were to go to see another temple, the Śeṣayī Temple, but although he was a new man he did not like to go, and he decided, "I shall hear." He was new at that time; some of his important Godbrothers were sitting, and he was sitting too. The one he had stayed to hear, not named in the passage, knew this boy was new; when all but a few selected Godbrothers had gone, he marked that "This boy is interested to hear me."

He went on to say that hearing is very important.

Source: Room Conversation

Hints to leave family life

LECTURE · LONDON · 12 SEPTEMBER 1969

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 5.5.1 in London on September 12th 1969, Prabhupāda recalled that when he was a householder, his Guru Mahārāja several times gave indication that he should give up family life, become a sannyāsī and preach. There were hints in several ways, but still he was not willing. He was thinking, "If I go away, then my family, my sons, my daughters, they will suffer." He had left his family connection, he said, actually in '54, but introductory in '50.

They were living and he was living; they were not dying in his absence, and he was not suffering without his family.

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 5.5.1

1970

His son asks why the moon follows

LECTURE · LOS ANGELES · 7 MAY 1970

In a lecture on Śrī Īśopaniṣad, Mantra 5, in Los Angeles on May 7th 1970, Prabhupāda read that the Supreme Lord is far away, but He is very near as well. He recalled that about forty years before, when he was a householder, his second son, four years old, was walking with him. The boy said, "Oh, father, why the moon is coming with us?" Prabhupāda chuckled and called this very intelligent.

He pointed out that when one is going by aeroplane or train, one sees the moon or sun going along.

Source: Śrī Īśopaniṣad, Mantra 5

A mother monkey in Kanpur

LECTURE · INDORE · 13 DECEMBER 1970

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 6.1.22–25 in Indore on December 13th 1970, Prabhupāda said that when a small baby smiles, the father, mother and relatives immediately become attracted. He recalled that in Kanpur he was staying in a room, and one monkey came with a child. The child somehow or other entered through the bars of the window, and the mother became mad. She thought, "My child is gone."

Somehow he pushed that monkey out of the bars again, and immediately she embraced the child and took it away.

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 6.1.22–25

1971

The beginning in Tompkinson Square

LECTURE · BOMBAY · 11 APRIL 1971

In a paṇḍāl lecture in Bombay on April 11th 1971, Prabhupāda recalled that in 1965, for one year, he had no shelter, neither any means to maintain himself. He had only some books, Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam, and "some way or other, I pulled on." In 1966, after incorporation in New York under the state religious act, he started the movement and began to chant the Hare Kṛṣṇa mantra in a park in New York. He asked aside what it was called, and named it: Tompkinson Square.

Young boys and girls began to assemble and chant and dance: "This is the beginning." A well-known poet, Mr. Allen Ginsberg, was also coming, he said, and joined them.

Source: Paṇḍāl Lecture

V

1972–1974

41 SCENES



1972

The man who spits at the moon

CONVERSATION · JAIPUR · 19 JANUARY 1972

In Jaipur on January 19th, 1972, the talk had turned to enviousness, which was called the habit of the conditioned soul. After a break in the recording, Prabhupāda gave another example. Everyone, he said, calls the moon very beautiful; then he made a spitting sound and asked, "so what is that spite?" The devotees laughed, and he answered that he falls on his face.

The devotees laughed again. Then he added that "The moon is far away, the moon is far away from him".

Source: Room Conversation on SB 1.5.11

Bali-mardana no longer has a zone

CONVERSATION · LOS ANGELES · 25 MAY 1972

In a conversation with the GBC in Los Angeles on May 25th, 1972, Prabhupāda said that Girirāja, Brahmānanda and Madhudviṣa were to be maintained. As a door opened and closed, he asked whether there were three candidates, or four new ones. Rūpānuga explained that Bali-mardana originally had a zone, but now that he was with ISKCON Press he no longer had one. Prabhupāda responded, "Oh. He has... So you are also out", and there was laughter.

A devotee remarked that it was really a difficult problem.

Source: Conversation with the GBC

Butter in Germany

CONVERSATION · LOS ANGELES · 25 MAY 1972

In a conversation with the GBC in Los Angeles on May 25th, 1972, Prabhupāda said that the preacher is the best devotee, because he is a soldier. In war, he said, all comforts go to the soldier first, then to the civil

people, and there was no butter in Germany. He recalled a Godbrother whose name the transcript gives as Sulye[?]: when that Godbrother first came to India, Prabhupāda asked him why he was so thin and weak, since he had heard that German people were very robust, stout and strong. The Godbrother replied that when he was eight years old, "weekly I was getting butter of this size."

Everything was controlled, Prabhupāda said, even for children.

Source: Conversation with the GBC

"Give me relief"

CONVERSATION · LOS ANGELES · 25 MAY 1972

> *So now you are so many boys, young boys, you have understood. So do it, and give me relief. I'll remain in the background.*

Source: Conversation with the GBC

Twelve, or the whole world

CONVERSATION · LOS ANGELES · 25 MAY 1972

In a conversation with the GBC in Los Angeles on May 25th, 1972, Prabhupāda said it could be made fifteen, and that he had no objection. Śyāmasundara asked whether Prabhupāda's Guru Mahārāja had originally wanted twelve. Prabhupāda answered, "He wanted, but he was manage Gauḍīya Maṭha." He added, "We are managing the whole world."

Śyāmasundara said they could divide it up into smaller and smaller parts.

Source: Conversation with the GBC

First of all make the zone

CONVERSATION · LOS ANGELES · 25 MAY 1972

In a conversation with the GBC in Los Angeles on May 25th, 1972, Śyāmasundara said that was one, if everyone was agreeable. Prabhupāda replied that they agree, that everyone will agree, that it was not a ques-

tion, and there was laughter. He said, "Whatever I'll say, he'll agree", and that this was not the problem. He chuckled and said, "First of all make up zone."

Śyāmasundara said all right.

Source: Conversation with the GBC

Childhood request for a Deity

CONVERSATION · MEXICO CITY · 4 JUNE 1972

> *Just like we tried to imitate our father. He was worshiping Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa Deity, so I told him I want to do it. So he gave me Deity.*

Source: Room Conversation

A devotee who never gets satisfaction

CONVERSATION · SAN DIEGO · 1 JULY 1972

In a room conversation in San Diego on July 1st, 1972, Prabhupāda was speaking of fruits as meant for offering to Kṛṣṇa. As a devotee entered, the recording continues with the question "What is your problem of life?" Devotee (2) said twice that they were miserable, and Prabhupāda asked why. The devotee explained that they never get satisfaction.

Prabhupāda agreed, saying it was a "good sign, because then you will be searching after the source of satisfaction."

Source: Room Conversation

A guest from the Detroit temple

CONVERSATION · SAN DIEGO · 1 JULY 1972

In a room conversation in San Diego on July 1st, 1972, the recording has an invitation to come to the temple daily at seven in the morning. A guest said yes, and that they had been staying at the Detroit temple with Bhagavān. They said they had been helping the band a little and had come to see Prabhupāda, and asked what they should do to serve him and whether they should go back to Detroit. Prabhupāda replied, "Or you can remain here also, anywhere."

He added that there was a temple in Los Angeles and asked whether the guest had been there. The guest answered no.

Source: Room Conversation

A reader of Easy Journey

LECTURE · LOS ANGELES · 24 AUGUST 1972

In a lecture in Los Angeles on August 24th 1972, Prabhupāda recalled that some time in 1960, as he thought, a gentleman met him and asked about his book Easy Journey, and whether they would go there. Prabhupāda told him yes, they would go. When the man asked whether he would come back again, the answer was no: "No coming back." Then the man asked, "Then what it is?"

Prabhupāda said that meant the man wanted sense gratification. He wanted to go to the moon planet or any planet, come back and boast among his friends that he had gone, and the audience laughed.

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.2.21 and Initiations

Sannyāsīs in Hyderabad

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 16 SEPTEMBER 1972

On a morning walk in Los Angeles on September 16th, 1972, Svarūpa Dāmodara asked whether this was the opinion of the so-called Indians. Prabhupāda said yes, and that many sannyāsīs had recently been saying it in Hyderabad. They had not taken his name, he said, but were saying, "Europeans, American Vaiṣṇavas, Hare Kṛṣṇa people, they are spoiling Hindu religion." And somebody had said, "Unfortunately, their leader is an Indian."

Svarūpa Dāmodara asked if that was really so, and Prabhupāda said yes. Svarūpa Dāmodara said it was because they are very envious.

Source: Morning Walk

A war declared alone

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 16 SEPTEMBER 1972

On a morning walk in Los Angeles on September 16th, 1972, Svarūpa Dāmodara began a question about why Kṛṣṇa, partly indistinct on the recording. Prabhupāda said, "Yes. That is my only hope." Otherwise, he asked, how could he declare this war alone against all svāmīs, all yogīs, all pseudo-religionists, all politicians, all leaders, all scientists? Their business, he said, was to protest against all of them, and he called it a very unhappy, hard task.

He added, "My Guru Mahārāja did it."

Source: Morning Walk

An Indian man on bhakti-yoga

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 16 SEPTEMBER 1972

On a morning walk in Los Angeles on September 16th, 1972, Svarūpa Dāmodara asked who that was, and Karandhara said it was an Indian man who comes to the temple. Prabhupāda asked whether he had said it like that, and Karandhara said yes. According to Karandhara, the man had said that bhakti-yoga is only for the low class and unintelligent. Prabhupāda replied, "Let him come; I shall talk."

Svarūpa Dāmodara said that a man who says like that simply shows his ignorance.

Source: Morning Walk

The gramophone in his childhood

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 28 SEPTEMBER 1972

> **Prabhupāda:** *Just like in our childhood we were thinking a gramophone machine, "How it can speak without a man? There must be a man within."*

Source: Morning Walk

Food that waits for Kṛṣṇa

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 2 OCTOBER 1972

On a morning walk in Los Angeles on October 2nd, 1972, Prabhupāda said, "If you have the determination, Kṛṣṇa will help." He said that if she was determined not to smoke even if she died, Kṛṣṇa would help her, but if she thought that Kṛṣṇa would help her if He liked, that kind of surrender would not help. Then he described a man who has prepared some nice foodstuff and says that if Kṛṣṇa comes he will give it to Him, otherwise he will eat, and there was laughter. If Kṛṣṇa is very hungry, the man says, He will come.

Prabhupāda said, "So this alternative proposal is not accepted." Svarūpa Dāmodara remarked that this was personal motivation.

Source: Morning Walk

A guest who finished two plates

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 2 OCTOBER 1972

On a morning walk in Los Angeles on October 2nd, 1972, Svarūpa Dāmodara told of a man who had liked the prasādam so much that Svarūpa Dāmodara made another plate, and the man finished that as well. Svarūpa Dāmodara asked what that preparation from eggplant was, and a devotee answered that it was the vegetable, which the man really liked. Svarūpa Dāmodara said the man finished the whole plate and asked, "What is here Prabhupāda?" Prabhupāda said, "Gradually try to convince him, and let him read our books."

Source: Morning Walk

Rāmeśvara is asked for his answer

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 2 OCTOBER 1972

On a morning walk in Los Angeles on October 2nd, 1972, Rāmeśvara said that everywhere they go, especially in Los Angeles, they always talk of other gurus and of spiritual knowledge, but do not find out what the

real test is. Prabhupāda asked, "What is your answer?" Rāmeśvara said they show them the books and say that these are the real scriptures. Prabhupāda then asked, "How do you explain? You are realized or not?"

Rāmeśvara replied, "Prabhupāda, when you say that this is the knowledge that's been realized...", and the line breaks off there.

Source: Morning Walk

Lucille asks for initiation

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 2 OCTOBER 1972

On a morning walk in Los Angeles on October 2nd, 1972, Jayatīrtha told Prabhupāda about a 40-year-old lady named Lucille. He said she was very much convinced of the philosophy and devoted to Kṛṣṇa consciousness, but had a very hard time giving up smoking cigarettes and drinking coffee. She had been trying for about nine months and could not do it, yet she still desired initiation. Prabhupāda answered, "No. You cannot. You cannot give."

He said she must at least promise, and then the recording breaks. The recording continues: "But after initiation if she smokes, that's not good."

Source: Morning Walk

Speaking on nonviolence in Jhansi

LECTURE · VṚNDĀVANA · 6 NOVEMBER 1972

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.2.26 in Vṛndāvana on November 6th 1972, Prabhupāda recalled going to Jhansi sometime in 1950 or '51. The friend in whose house he was staying was a leader, and there was a meeting for Gandhi's disappearance day. At that time he was not a sannyāsī, and he was asked to speak something on nonviolence. He explained that if you have some right and somebody by force stops you from utilizing it, that is violence.

If he had some right to enter a room and somebody checked him by force, "You cannot enter," that, he said, was violence, and it was criminal.

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.2.26

Getting out of India

LECTURE · VṚNDĀVANA · 6 NOVEMBER 1972

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.2.26 in Vṛndāvana on November 6th 1972, Prabhupāda recalled that, as a sannyāsī, he had so much difficulty to obtain the government's permission to go out. He said he remembered "with what great difficulty I got out of this country." Because by Kṛṣṇa's grace he got out, he said, he could spread the movement all over the world; otherwise it was not possible. He had wanted to start the movement from India, but he was not at all encouraged.

He approached so many friends: "You have got four sons. Kindly give me one, one of your sons." He wanted, he said, to make him a brāhmaṇa. They asked him what the son would do, becoming a brāhmaṇa: "We have to earn our livelihood."

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.2.26

A professor asks where the witness is

LECTURE · HYDERABAD · 26 NOVEMBER 1972

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.2.6 in Hyderabad on November 26th 1972, Prabhupāda was explaining that by one's karma and by superior judgment one has to get another body. He recalled that he had been a student in Calcutta, at the Scottish Churches College, and a student of philosophy also. Dr. Urquhart, he said, denied karmavāda, arguing, "So where is the witness?" That was his argument, Prabhupāda explained, because any judgment is done on the strength of witness.

But the witness is there, he said: according to the Vedic system the sun, the moon, the day and the night are witnesses, and above all, the supreme witness is God Himself.

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.2.6

1973

Business dismantled, order carried out

LECTURE · LOS ANGELES · 19 APRIL 1973

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.8.27 in Los Angeles on April 19th 1973, Prabhupāda said he had practical experience of Kṛṣṇa's words that He takes away all the sources of income of one He specially favors. His Guru Mahārāja ordered him to go and preach when he was twenty-five, he recalled, but he thought he would first become rich and use that money for preaching. He got a good opportunity in business, and an astrologer told him, "You should have become like Birla." He was manager in a big chemical factory; he started his own factory, and the business was very successful.

"But everything was dismantled", he said; he was forced to come to this position to carry out the order of his Guru Mahārāja.

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.8.27

Fifty tolās of gold for a daughter

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 30 APRIL 1973

The transcript of this morning walk in Los Angeles on April 30, 1973, does not name the speaker; the compilation Śrīla Prabhupāda Līlāmṛta As It Is attributes these words to Prabhupāda. The custom, as stated: "Every marriage, the father must give at least fifty *tolās.*" He was not a rich man, yet he had to give his daughter fifty tolās of gold at her marriage. Karandhara asked whether that was twenty-five ounces and said that right now it was worth about $2,300.

Source: Morning Walk

His mother's worry over an unmarried daughter

LECTURE · LOS ANGELES · 13 MAY 1973

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.8.51 in Los Angeles on May 13th 1973, Prabhupāda recalled that in his childhood his sisters were married between nine and twelve years of age. By twelve years, he said, the mar-

riage had to be finished; that was the duty of the father. He remembered that when his second sister was going twelve, his mother said to his father, "I shall go to the river and commit suicide." The daughter, she said, was not married, and the audience laughed.

His father was very sorry and answered, "Yes, I am trying. What can I do?"

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.8.51

An order received at twenty-five

LECTURE · LONDON · 22 AUGUST 1973

In a Vyāsa-pūjā lecture in London on August 22nd 1973, Prabhupāda recalled that at their first meeting his Guru Mahārāja asked him to preach. At that time he was a young man, only twenty-five years old, and also a householder. Due to his "ill luck", he said, he could not immediately execute the order, but it was in his heart that it was to be done. So, "better late than never", he executed the order at the age of seventy years, not at twenty-five.

He said that he was simply finding out the opportunity how to do it. It was not his credit, he told them, but theirs, that they were helping him execute the order of his Guru Mahārāja.

Source: Śrī Vyāsa-pūjā Lecture

The postmaster's question in Delhi

LECTURE · LONDON · 29 AUGUST 1973

In a lecture on Bhagavad-gītā 2.26–27 in London on August 29th 1973, Prabhupāda recalled that in 1956, in Delhi, he was publishing Back to Godhead. They had a concession rate for posting, the paper was to be delivered to the postmaster, and an Ārya-samājī postmaster talked with him about it. The postmaster said, "If we do our duty nicely, then what is the use of worshiping God?" Because the paper's name was Back to Godhead, he was indirectly protesting, asking what was the use of propagating this philosophy of Godhead if we act nicely.

Prabhupāda replied that if one is not God conscious, he cannot be moralist, he cannot be truthful, he cannot be honest.

Source: Bhagavad-gītā 2.26–27

Asking his mother's permission as a child

LECTURE · BOMBAY · 22 OCTOBER 1973

In a lecture on Bhagavad-gītā 13.23 in Bombay on October 22nd 1973, Prabhupāda explained that all hands and legs belong to Kṛṣṇa and should be used for Kṛṣṇa. He then recalled that in his childhood, even for going to the privy, he wanted his mother's permission and would ask, "Can I go?" He said that this was nature. "Mother is not restricting me; still, I am asking the permission of mother", he said, and he added that he remembered it.

Then he said that a question may be raised: how Kṛṣṇa, as Paramātmā, gives permission when we do something wrong.

Source: Bhagavad-gītā 13.23

The kavirāja's word at his father's death

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 13 DECEMBER 1973

On a morning walk in Los Angeles on December 13th 1973, Prabhupāda spoke of a physician in Dacca. Hearing a passing cultivator coughing, the physician sent him home, and when his students asked why, he chastised them: "He will die after eight hours." Prabhupāda then recalled that when his father died, the kavirāja said that they could now do the rituals, because he would die before next morning. The kavirāja told him this at about ten or eleven o'clock, and it actually so happened.

"So that is experience," Prabhupāda said.

Source: Morning Walk

His son asks about marriage

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 18 DECEMBER 1973

The transcript of this morning walk in Los Angeles on December 18, 1973, does not name the speaker of the opening words, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own family, and he is named as it continues. When his second son was four years old, they were passing a big marriage party, and Girirāja said yes when asked whether he knew how a marriage party goes. The boy, whom Prabhupāda called very intelligent, asked what it was, and he explained that the man was going to marry. Then the boy asked, "Father, you were married?"

Prabhupāda called it a nonsense question: the boy did not know that without marriage he could not have come into existence.

Source: Morning Walk

1974

Morning Walk

MORNING WALK · LOS ANGELES · 3 JANUARY 1974

> *In our childhood we saw the comet. Not this like; that was small comet. Still, the first world war was there declared. That we have seen in 1914.*

Source: Morning Walk

Forty rupees spent on a taxi

CONVERSATION · VṚNDĀVANA · 13 FEBRUARY 1974

In a room conversation in Vṛndāvana on February 13th 1974, Dr. Kapoor asked about forty rupees. The reply on the recording was that they could not be spent, because there was no exchange for Indian currency, so they were kept as they were. On the return in 1967, the money was spent as taxi fare, from Palam airport to Chippiwada in Delhi, thirty-five or forty rupees. In 1967, the recording continues, there was a heart attack.

Prabhupāda said he was hospitalized but did not like the hospital. He thought, "Now I shall die, let me go back to Vṛndāvana."

Source: Room Conversation

Dr. Patel and the rascals

MORNING WALK · BOMBAY · 23 FEBRUARY 1974

On a morning walk in Bombay on February 23rd 1974, Prabhupāda called the Māyāvādīs rascals. Dr. Patel said he was bracketing so many good people with the bad. Prabhupāda asked, "Where is good people?!" He called them all rascals and said, "Let them come", adding that he would kick on their face, and that he was so strong.

He said he had already kicked one, and asked the name; Tamāla Kṛṣṇa said, Bala Yogi. Prabhupāda said yes, and that he was a dog.

Source: Morning Walk

Living in temples from the beginning

MORNING WALK · MĀYĀPUR · 5 MARCH 1974

On a partially recorded morning walk in Māyāpur on March 5th 1974, Prabhupāda recalled that he had kept his office at an address called Multani temple, a famous temple. In his retired life, he said, his office was at a Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa temple, his residence was the Rādhā-Dāmodara temple, and before that Keśī Ghāṭa. He asked who had seen it, and a devotee said he had. Prabhupāda said that was also a temple, and Ātreya Ṛṣi remarked that Kṛṣṇa had arranged.

Prabhupāda said he lived in that house for seven years and then came to the Rādhā-Dāmodara temple. After a break in the recording, the words continue: "stayed in that Rādhā-Kṛṣṇa temple, Malliks. And still I am living in temple. So Kṛṣṇa has arranged nicely, from the beginning of my life, temple".

Source: Morning Walk, [partially recorded]

Morning Walk

MORNING WALK · MĀYĀPUR · 6 MARCH 1974

> *I had a friend, if you give him *rasagullā,* he'll want little salt. *Rasagullā* with little salt he'll eat. Without salt, he cannot eat. And my father, he was, at the last stage of his stay, some rice mixed with milk. While eating that, he'll take a little curry also*

Source: Morning Walk

Only Brahmānanda was attracted

MORNING WALK · MĀYĀPUR · 9 MARCH 1974

On a morning walk in Māyāpur on March 9th 1974, Prabhupāda said that Caitanya Mahāprabhu, being God, can attract any man, but he himself is not God and has to attract people by some opulence. An Indian man replied that in the beginning, when Prabhupāda went to America, he attracted everyone, chanting just in the park. Prabhupāda answered amid laughter that at that time only Brahmānanda was attracted: "Not you. Not you." The man said that was only because Brahmānanda was a sincere soul.

Prabhupāda said that Brahmānanda and Acyutānanda first danced in his chanting in the park, and the photograph was published in the Times of New York.

Source: Morning Walk

Meat in the refrigerator

MORNING WALK · MĀYĀPUR · 9 MARCH 1974

The transcript of this morning walk in Māyāpur on March 9, 1974, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own early days, when he had no disciples. In the beginning he had no disciples, so he was cooking for himself. A gentleman who later became his disciple gave him a place, and he was cooking there. In the refrigerator he saw meat, and he asked what it was.

The gentleman said, "It is for cats. I don't take meat." and the answer was, all right. He stayed there for three or four days.

Source: Morning Walk

When God was said to be dead

MORNING WALK · BOMBAY · 31 MARCH 1974

The transcript of this morning walk in Bombay on March 31, 1974, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own first visit to the USA. When he first went to the USA, the theory was that God is dead. But when he began to speak, they realized, "No, God is not dead. God is with Swāmījī." They wrote; they wrote articles.

Source: Morning Walk

His eleven-year-old bride

MORNING WALK · BOMBAY · 12 APRIL 1974

On a morning walk in Bombay on April 12th 1974, Prabhupāda recalled that when he was married, his wife was eleven years old. Laughing, he said that she was an eleven-year-old girl, and he at the same time was twenty-one or twenty-two. One day he captured her hand, and she began to cry. He laughed and said, "A little girl, you see?"

There the recording breaks.

Source: Morning Walk

Sally, who arranged meetings

MORNING WALK · GENEVA · 6 JUNE 1974

The transcript of this morning walk in Geneva on June 6, 1974, does not name the speaker of the opening words, but the account concerns Prabhupāda's own books, and he is named as it continues. He had been a guest at the house of his friend's son, an Indian who had married an English girl. He asked whether her name was Selly or Sally, and Yogeśvara answered Sally. Prabhupāda said she was arranging so many meetings and called her a "very intelligent girl."

Some of the churches purchased his books. Yogeśvara then said that a devotee from a saṅkīrtana party had recently met a priest on the street in Butler, Pennsylvania, who said, "Oh, yes, I remember your spiritual master. He was here."

Source: Morning Walk

The dream of Guru Mahārāja calling

LECTURE · MĀYĀPUR · 6 OCTOBER 1974

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.8.26 in Māyāpur on October 6th 1974, Prabhupāda recalled dreaming that Guru Mahārāja was asking him to come out. He asked whether he had told this story before, and answered yes. He was afraid, thinking that he would have to give up his family, become a sannyāsī and go behind his Guru Mahārāja: "No, no, it is horrible." But his Guru Mahārāja forced him to it, somehow or other, and he called that mercy.

He said he could understand now how merciful his Guru Mahārāja was "that he forced me to take this life".

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.8.26

The dead of the Partition days

LECTURE · MĀYĀPUR · 21 OCTOBER 1974

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.8.41 in Māyāpur on October 21st 1974, Prabhupāda compared the mixing up in a family group to the assembly of straws in the waves of a river. He recalled that in 1947, in the Partition days, they had seen Hindu-Muslim fighting. One party was Hindu, the other Muslim; they fought, and so many died. After death, he said, there was no distinction who was Hindu or who was Muslim.

The Municipal men gathered them together in piles to throw them somewhere.

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 1.8.41

VI

1975–1977

51 SCENES



1975

Ghosts in Lucknow and London

LECTURE · HONOLULU · 3 FEBRUARY 1975

In a lecture on Bhagavad-gītā 16.7 in Honolulu on February 3rd 1975, Prabhupāda recalled that in his household life he was doing business in Lucknow. There was a very big house there, worth thousands of rupees' rent, but haunted, so nobody would take it, and he took it at two hundred rupees. All the servants complained, "Sir, there is ghost." He would chant Hare Kṛṣṇa, he said, and he was saved; everyone was saved.

In 1969, he said, he was a guest in the house of John Lennon in London, a big plot with a guesthouse, and they complained of a ghost there. He advised them to chant Hare Kṛṣṇa, "and the ghost went away."

Source: Bhagavad-gītā 16.7

Faith and forty rupees

CONVERSATION · ATLANTA · 28 FEBRUARY 1975

In a room conversation with Svarūpa Dāmodara in Atlanta on February 28th 1975, Prabhupāda said that the chanting was proving efficient and was not theory. His Guru Mahārāja, he said, told him to go and preach whatever he learned in the English language. He came with this faith: "My Guru Mahārāja said. I must be successful." He said he did not show any jugglery, gold-making jugglery.

He asked, "Where is my gold?" and chuckled that he came with forty rupees first.

Source: Room Conversation with Svarūpa Dāmodara

A professor speaks of disciplic succession

MORNING WALK · ATLANTA · 1 MARCH 1975

On a morning walk in Atlanta on March 1st 1975, Prabhupāda said he was surprised how he had written so many, and called it all Kṛṣṇa's mercy. Dhīra-kṛṣṇa told him that a professor had tried to convince one of their boys that Prabhupāda was coming in the disciplic succession and was authorized to translate all these books. Prabhupāda said that was right. The boy was dressed, and the professor did not know he was Prabhupāda's disciple.

The professor said Bhaktivedanta Swami "is coming in a disciplic line straight from Kṛṣṇa." Prabhupāda said it was a fact: "That authority I have got."

Source: Morning Walk

Children smoking in Butler

CONVERSATION · ATLANTA · 1 MARCH 1975

The transcript of this room conversation with three Trappist monks in Atlanta on March 1, 1975, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own first days in America. When he was first in America, in Butler, he saw small children, ten to twelve years old or almost ten, nine, smoking. He was surprised, because in India, at least, that is not allowed. He said he thought there was a law: "If any boy smokes less than sixteen years old, he is punished".

One of the guests then said that he was looking at someone who was ten years old.

Source: Room Conversation with three Trappist Monks

Climbing the Victoria Memorial scaffolding

MORNING WALK · LONDON · 11 MARCH 1975

On a morning walk in London on March 11th 1975, Prabhupāda named the Victoria Memorial. Brahmānanda asked whether it was built for the king when he was coming. Prabhupāda said no, it was built in memory

of Victoria, imitating the Taj Mahal, and it took twenty years. While it was being constructed, he said, he went to the top by crossing the scaffolding.

Brahmānanda said he must have been very brave, and Prabhupāda answered, "Yes, I am still brave." The devotees cried Jaya, and he added that an astrologer had said this boy, for executing his purpose, would enter into the fire.

Source: Morning Walk

Marriage, studies and Gandhi's movement

CONVERSATION · TEHRAN · 13 MARCH 1975

The transcript of this room conversation with the Canadian Ambassador to Iran in Tehran on March 13, 1975, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own student years and marriage. After the ambassador mentioned the number eighteen, the reply was that in that year he was married, and that he was a student at that time. He gave his years as a student as "1900 up to '20." Then he joined Gandhi's noncooperation movement and gave up his education.

The ambassador then asked how he had felt about Gandhijī spiritually.

Source: Room Conversation with Canadian Ambassador to Iran

From one sheet to Back to Godhead

LECTURE · MĀYĀPUR · 23 MARCH 1975

In an arrival talk in a room in Māyāpur on March 23rd 1975, Jayapatākā told Prabhupāda that everything he planned was perfect. Prabhupāda recalled that long ago, when he was publishing Back to Godhead as one sheet, he thought it would have been nice if it were like Illustrated Weekly. Now, he said, "they are coming like that". Jayapatākā said Illustrated Weekly was nothing compared to Back to Godhead, and Prabhupāda laughed and said it was better than Illustrated Weekly.

He had thought of getting some help from an artist, who would paint pictures as he dictated. "Now Kṛṣṇa has got lots of artists."

Source: Arrival Talk in Room

Morning Walk

MORNING WALK · MĀYĀPUR · 8 APRIL 1975

> **Prabhupāda:** *Yes. He became very angry and chastised me.*
>
> **Jagajīvana:** *Śrīla Prabhupāda, was this during a lecture by Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta?*
>
> **Prabhupāda:** *Eh?*
>
> **Jagajīvana:** *Was this during a lecture?*
>
> **Prabhupāda:** *Yes. I was not... One of my old brother, he, he wanted to speak something. So I leaned my... I immediately became... [laughter] So he chastised him more than me.*

Source: Morning Walk

Alone in New York, 1965

CONVERSATION · MELBOURNE · 21 MAY 1975

The transcript of this room conversation with the director of research of the Department of Social Welfare in Melbourne on May 21, 1975, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own arrival in New York. He came from India alone to New York in 1965, and for one year he had no place to stay and no means to eat. He was "loitering practically," living in one friend's house and then in another's. Then gradually it developed.

He was chanting alone in a square in New York for three full hours; the transcript gives the square as Tompkinson Square. He said, "So that was my beginning."

Source: Room Conversation with Director of Research of the Dept. of Social Welfare

Bathing in the Ganges with his father

CONVERSATION · LOS ANGELES · 22 JUNE 1975

The transcript of this garden conversation with Dr. Allen Gerson in Los Angeles on June 22, 1975, does not name the speaker; the compilation Śrīla Prabhupāda Līlāmṛta As It Is attributes these words to Prabhupāda. In Calcutta, as a child, he used to bathe in the Ganges with his father, and many gentlemen regularly bathed there. He described "the modern scientific method" as throwing all the garbage into the river. So while they were bathing there was some stool floating, and they used to drive the stool away and take their bath.

Source: Garden Conversation with Dr. Allen Gerson

The astrologer of Svarūp Gañj

MORNING WALK · DENVER · 1 JULY 1975

On a morning walk in Denver on July 1st 1975, Brahmānanda said that Bhāvānanda Mahārāja knew about the astrologer in Māyāpur. The account on the recording was that a big astrologer in Svarūp Gañj saw Prabhupāda's photograph and said, "This is the face of the most powerful spiritual personality on the planet." Prabhupāda laughed and said Hare Kṛṣṇa. Brahmānanda asked what else, and Bhāvānanda said the astrologer could tell from his face that he can make a house in which the whole world can live peacefully.

The devotees cried Jaya, and Prabhupāda said, "At least I desire so".

Source: Morning Walk

Yadubara's question, Prabhupāda's answer

MORNING WALK · DENVER · 3 JULY 1975

On a morning walk in Denver on July 3rd 1975, Yadubara asked whether Kṛṣṇa was directly controlling that. The reply on the recording began, "Actually, it was done to me." The speaker said he did not want to take sannyāsa and thought he would do business, but Kṛṣṇa forced him to take sannyāsa, and everything was dismantled. Yadubara said that the business was successful.

Prabhupāda answered, "I was thinking of becoming Birla, but I am now more than Birla." He called this Kṛṣṇa's mercy. Brahmānanda added that Birla gives him money now.

Source: Morning Walk

New York, not the jungle

MORNING WALK · CHICAGO · 8 JULY 1975

On a morning walk in Chicago on July 8th 1975, Prabhupāda said that if you are a good charmer, you can charm the snake also. Caitanya Mahāprabhu, he said, made the snakes, the tigers and the elephants all dance Hare Kṛṣṇa. Tripurāri said that, just like that, Prabhupāda had charmed all of them. Prabhupāda said he was not going to imitate Caitanya Mahāprabhu, laughed, and said, "I have come to New York, not to the jungle."

Sudāmā said New York is worse than jungle, and Tamāla Kṛṣṇa said it is called an asphalt jungle. Prabhupāda answered, "After all, they are human being", and said that therefore they had collected some nice souls.

Source: Morning Walk

Asked to show the universal form

LECTURE · NAIROBI · 28 OCTOBER 1975

During a lecture on Bhagavad-gītā 7.2 in Nairobi on October 28th 1975, an Indian man asked Prabhupāda whether he could show him something about the viśva-svarūpa. Prabhupāda asked in return, "So am I Kṛṣṇa?" and amid laughter told him that he did not know Kṛṣṇa and was thinking of Prabhupāda as Kṛṣṇa. The man said he was not calling him Kṛṣṇa. Prabhupāda said that the viśva-svarūpa will be shown by Kṛṣṇa, not by not-Kṛṣṇa, and that he was not Kṛṣṇa.

The man repeated that he was not saying Prabhupāda was Kṛṣṇa. Prabhupāda said he was Kṛṣṇa's servant, carrying what Kṛṣṇa says: "That is my position."

Source: Bhagavad-gītā 7.2

1976

Room Conversation

CONVERSATION · MĀYĀPUR · 19 JANUARY 1976

> *I remember, in those days I was sitting within the car, and there was some *prasādam.* One monkey entered and took away everything.*
>
> **Tamāla Kṛṣṇa:** *In the train compartment.*
>
> **Prabhupāda:** *Hmm. They are very clever. Many times in Vṛndāvana the monkeys have taken away from my hand foodstuff.*

Source: Room Conversation

A snake at the Caitanya Maṭha

LECTURE · MĀYĀPUR · 21 FEBRUARY 1976

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 7.9.14 in Māyāpur on February 21st 1976, Prabhupāda explained that a sādhu does not want to kill even an ant, but in the case of the scorpion and the snake they are happy. He recalled that sometime in 1933, in this Caitanya Maṭha, a big snake came out in front of him while he was taking bath. Everyone was looking at what to do. Guru Mahārāja, who was upstairs, immediately ordered, "Kill him," and it was killed.

Prabhupāda, then a newcomer, thought, "How that Guru Mahārāja ordered this snake to be killed?" and was a little surprised.

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 7.9.14

Cooking once, then Fifth Avenue

MORNING WALK · MĀYĀPUR · 12 MARCH 1976

On a morning walk in Māyāpur on March 12th 1976, the recording resumes after a break on a daily routine: rising early, cooking at an apartment from nine or half-past nine, bathing, eating together, then going to Fifth Avenue for loitering. When Puṣṭa Kṛṣṇa repeated the name of Fifth Avenue, Prabhupāda said yes, and that he was cooking once only. Yaśodānandana remarked that his loitering was very fruitful eventually,

and Prabhupāda said he was studying Americans, how they were walking and shopping. Satsvarūpa recalled that Prabhupāda once said he was happier then, maintaining himself, than having thousands of disciples.

Prabhupāda agreed: "There was no chance of finding fault." Amid laughter he added, "Now I have to find fault."

Source: Morning Walk

Arrival in Boston, then Butler

INTERVIEW · LOS ANGELES · 4 JUNE 1976

In a room conversation in Los Angeles on June 4th 1976, a reporter asked Prabhupāda about his role when he first came to the United States. He answered that he came alone in 1965, practically without any help, with no destination for where to live or where to sleep. He stayed sometimes in one friend's house, sometimes in another, "practically loitering on the street", and more than one year passed in this way. He said he arrived on the 17th of September, in Boston, and then asked, "Is it Boston?"

A devotee confirmed it. He was received by a representative of his host, who took him to Butler, where he stayed for twenty days before coming to New York.

Source: Room Conversation with Reporter

Asking Sumati Morarji for a ticket

CONVERSATION · LOS ANGELES · 8 JUNE 1976

The transcript of this room conversation in Los Angeles on June 8, 1976, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own journey by ship. He then approached Sumati Morarji, who had once given him five hundred rupees in exchange for his Bhāgavata book, and asked her for one ticket. They had their own shipping company, Scindia Navigation. She said, "Swāmījī, you are so old, you are taking this so responsibility. Do you think it is right?" and he answered that it was all right.

At that time he was seventy years old, and all the secretaries thought that "Swāmījī is going to die there." Anyway, they gave him the ticket, one free return ticket by their ship.

Source: Room Conversation

Room Conversation

CONVERSATION · TORONTO · 17 JUNE 1976

> *Our education in Sanskrit was in college. Of course, I was the best student in my class of Sanskrit. I was standing first.*

Source: Room Conversation

No response, and the visa renewed

CONVERSATION · TORONTO, NEW VRINDAVAN · 21 JUNE 1976

The transcript of this conversation at the airport and in the car to New Vrindavan on June 21, 1976, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own early days away from India. When there was no response, he did not know where to live or where to eat. Sometimes he stayed with Dr. Mishra, sometimes with some friend somewhere. He was going to inquire at the shipping company when the next ship was returning to India.

Still he was renewing his visa: "Let us hope. Let us hope."

Source: Conversation in Airport and Car to New Vrindavan

Chanting by Tompkins Park

LECTURE · NEW YORK · 14 JULY 1976

In an interview with Newsday in New York on July 14th 1976, Kevin Layhart asked Prabhupāda how he came to found the movement in the United States. He answered that he was ordered by his spiritual master to do this work, and on his order came in 1965. He came alone with no help and no money, and somehow or other, he said with a laugh, he started. Asked how he attracted people, he said, "My attraction is this chanting."

Asked whether he stood on street corners and chanted, he said yes; he had no magic, and never showed any magic, as others show some. When Bali-mardana named the park, Prabhupāda said, "By Tompkins Park I was chanting, and these boys gradually came."

Source: Interview with Newsday Newspaper

Sleep with George Harrison

CONVERSATION · LONDON · 26 JULY 1976

In a conversation in London on July 26th 1976, George Harrison said the books were such a lot of work, and he did not know how Prabhupāda did it all. Prabhupāda said that at night he did not sleep, not because he was nowadays sick; generally he slept two hours at most. He took a little rest during the daytime, three to four hours on the whole, "But actually I do not like to sleep." George Harrison called it a waste of time, and Prabhupāda said that when he goes to sleep he thinks he is going to waste his time.

George Harrison searched for the word for it: "Sleep is the little death."

Source: Conversation with George Harrison

Chicken juice during childhood typhoid

CONVERSATION · NEW MĀYĀPUR (FRANCE) · 2 AUGUST 1976

The transcript of this room conversation at New Māyāpur on August 2, 1976, does not name the speaker; the compilation Śrīla Prabhupāda Līlāmṛta As It Is attributes these words to Prabhupāda, and the account begins with "in my childhood". When he was one and a half years old he suffered from typhoid, and the doctor, Kartik Chandra Bose, said to give him chicken juice. His father refused, but the doctor insisted that the child was very weak and offered to prepare it in his own house. His father thought it was essential, so it was sent from the doctor's house, and when it was given to the child he immediately began to vomit.

The account says his father threw it away, and when the doctor asked, the words that follow are "No, no, then don't bother." The speaker adds, "This story I heard."

Source: Room Conversation

His father's income and household

CONVERSATION · NEW MĀYĀPUR (FRANCE) · 2 AUGUST 1976

The transcript of this room conversation at New Māyāpur on August 2, 1976, does not name the speaker who answered Hari-śauri, who had said that in the last twenty or thirty years everything had become so much degraded; the compilation Śrīla Prabhupāda Līlāmṛta As It Is attributes these words to Prabhupāda. The reply was that his father's income was not more than 250 rupees: "How opulent we were." There was no question of need; they received four or five guests daily, and his father held so many festivals. His father gave four daughters in marriage, and "There was no difficulty."

Source: Room Conversation

What he wrote about the moon in 1958

LECTURE · NEW MĀYĀPUR (FRANCE) · 3 AUGUST 1976

In a lecture on Bhagavad-gītā 9.34 in New Māyāpur on August 3rd 1976, Prabhupāda said of those trying to overcome the laws of nature, "They cannot do it." He recalled that in 1958, in his book Easy Journey to Other Planets, he wrote that the moon planet excursion is simply childish and a waste of time. And actually, he said, it has proved. He said that he was not a scientist, neither then nor now.

He had said it on the strength of the version in the Vedic literature that it is not possible.

Source: Bhagavad-gītā 9.34

Bowery neighbors at the door

CONVERSATION · TEHRAN · 10 AUGUST 1976

The transcript of this evening darśana in Tehran on August 10, 1976, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own days on Bowery Street. Jñānagamya had said it was the worst place in the country, but that he had made it the best. The reply was that he had not known; Mukunda suggested it was a good place, so he lived there, and it actually happened to be a good place. Gradually all his disciples came, and he had no disturbance.

He was living on Bowery Street, and bums lay at his door with urine and wine bottles, yet "they were so respectful." He had no quarrel with them; they welcomed him and opened the door for him, and they also knew he was "a harmless man."

Source: Evening Darśana

The governor's wife wants the house

CONVERSATION · HYDERABAD · 21 AUGUST 1976

In a room conversation with Gargamuni in Hyderabad on August 21st 1976, Prabhupāda said that at that time she was the governor's wife, her husband being K. M. Munshi. She had some organization of foreign women, and somehow she got the idea that the house was very nice. The house was not given to him rightly, but he was using it, and she wanted it, through the pressure of the collector and all the government officials. Later she wrote to him, "Bhaktivedantajī, you wanted to organize, but you could not."

Many lawyer friends advised him not to give up but to litigate. But he thought, "Who is going to litigate? Let me go to Vṛndāvana," and he left.

Source: Room Conversation

Hayagrīva's question on the street

CONVERSATION · VṚNDĀVANA · 4 SEPTEMBER 1976

In a room conversation in Vṛndāvana on September 4th 1976, Hari-śauri said that an article was by Hayagrīva, under the heading "Are you from India?" That, Hari-śauri said, was when Hayagrīva met Prabhupāda on the street. Prabhupāda said yes, Hayagrīva first of all met him on the street and asked him this question. Prabhupāda told him that he had taken one apartment there and asked him to come with him, and then came back to show him the apartment.

"And from the next day they began to come, Kīrtanānanda and Hayagrīva."

Source: Room Conversation

Garden Conversation

CONVERSATION · ALIGARH · 9 OCTOBER 1976

> *I was questioned by some gentleman sometimes in 1940. He charged that the Vaiṣṇava, "This Vaiṣṇava means a lazy fellow." He said like that. [laughs] So I said, "You have never seen a Vaiṣṇava." I told him, "You have never seen a Vaiṣṇava." "No, I have seen these Vaiṣṇavas. They do not do anything, and taking *mālā* and pretending to be very highly elevated, and sleep and snore." That's... "You have seen... But you have not seen. You might have seen these pseudo-Vaiṣṇavas, but real Vaiṣṇava you have not seen."*

Source: Garden Conversation

His mother's fondness for pickles

CONVERSATION · VṚNDĀVANA · 3 NOVEMBER 1976

In a room conversation in Vṛndāvana on November 3rd 1976, Prabhupāda recalled that his mother was very much fond of pickles. After resting in the afternoon, she would take something very sour: pickle. He said, "We used to take with her also," and laughed. They were small children then.

A long pause followed.

Source: Room Conversation

A Marwari school at home

CONVERSATION · VṚNDĀVANA · 3 NOVEMBER 1976

The transcript of this room conversation in Vṛndāvana on November 3, 1976, does not name the speaker; the compilation Śrīla Prabhupāda Līlāmṛta As It Is attributes these words to Prabhupāda. His father first admitted him to a Marwari school, where he learned devanāgarī, going there for a few days. He was the only Bengali student there. Because he was little, his father thought that rather than his going outside the house, "within the house there is a school; get him admitted."

Source: Room Conversation

The coconut and the lotus stem

LECTURE · VṚNDĀVANA · 18 NOVEMBER 1976

In a lecture on Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 5.5.31 in Vṛndāvana on November 18th 1976, Prabhupāda recalled talking long, long ago with an Ārya-samajī friend. The friend did not believe that a lotus stem can grow on the navel of Viṣṇu and that Brahmā is born there. Everyone calls it mythology, Prabhupāda said, but it is not mythology; it is fact. He asked his friend about a coconut tree: about sixty feet above there is the coconut, with water and pulp in it, and it is being carried from the ground.

"Where is the pipe? Where is the pump?" he asked. The friend could not explain.

Source: Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam 5.5.31

Stryādhīśa's twenty-two cāpāṭis

CONVERSATION · HYDERABAD · 10 DECEMBER 1976

In a room conversation on farm management in Hyderabad on December 10th 1976, the recording turns to the cāpāṭis taken by Kīrtanānanda: first one and two, then twelve, amid laughter. Another boy was men-

tioned, and the devotees supplied the name, Stryādhīśa. Prabhupāda said Stryādhīśa took twenty-two cāpāṭis. He recalled asking Stryādhīśa whether he could give him, and hearing yes; he gave him four, they were finished, and he asked again and heard yes.

He called him a very nice boy, who was eating twenty-two. One day there was no money, and Stryādhīśa went and came back after some time with some money: he had polished shoes at the shoe booth.

Source: Room Conversation on Farm Management

The village man who would not leave

CONVERSATION · HYDERABAD · 12 DECEMBER 1976

The transcript of this room conversation in Hyderabad on December 12, 1976, does not name the speaker; the compilation Śrīla Prabhupāda Līlāmṛta As It Is attributes these words to Prabhupāda: practically as a child, the speaker went with his father to the village. A man from the village was serving them, and his father said, "This boy is nice. So why not take him to Calcutta?" One day the man was absent, and he went into the village and found the man's house broken and roofless, with rain falling and the man sitting covered with a cloth. He asked him why he would not come with them to Calcutta, where they would give him a nice place and nice food.

The man answered, "Bābujī, I cannot go out of my home." That was his home.

Source: Room Conversation

1977

Bathing in cutting water

CONVERSATION · BOMBAY · 5 JANUARY 1977

In a roof conversation in Bombay on January 5th 1977, Dr. Patel told Prabhupāda that he should take a warm-water bath. Prabhupāda answered, "In 1925 I was taking." He said that when he touched the water, it was cutting. Dr. Patel said that it was cutting too much.

Prabhupāda chuckled and said that as soon as he took a dip, everything was warm. Dr. Patel replied that for now it was not right.

Source: Roof Conversation

The Buick bought in 1925

CONVERSATION · BOMBAY · 7 JANUARY 1977

In this room conversation in Bombay on January 7, 1977, the transcript does not name the speaker of the opening lines, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own life, and he is named as it continues. He began with "In our childhood..." and said that he had a car, but his nephew was driving; he never drove. In 1925 he purchased a Buick car. Trivikrama said it was a good car.

Prabhupāda said that at that time in India it was only eight thousand rupees: "Very strong car." Trivikrama then asked whether it had come from America.

Source: Room Conversation

He never voted

CONVERSATION · BOMBAY · 8 JANUARY 1977

In a room conversation in Bombay on January 8th 1977, Hari-śauri mentioned that some countries fine you if you do not vote. Prabhupāda said, "I have never given vote." Since they had got svarāj, as soon as the vote question came, he would go away. He thought, "Why shall I give this nonsense vote? None of them are liked by me."

In his gṛhastha life too, he said, he avoided the municipal board.

Source: Room Conversation

Mrs. Bruce and her two sons

CONVERSATION · BHUBANESWAR · 20 JANUARY 1977

In a room conversation in Bhubaneswar on January 20th 1977, the recording turns to Acyutānanda's mother, who was coming, and to the question "Sometimes your mother came?" Gargamuni said she came, though not for a feast. Prabhupāda said she used to come, "And kissing

you", and the room laughed. Sometimes, he recalled, he told her, "Mrs. Bruce, you can give us some money", and she answered that she had given her two sons.

Gargamuni said, laughing, that she was angry. Prabhupāda said he had met his mother, and she was a very nice lady.

Source: Room Conversation

Jumping on the beach at Purī

MORNING WALK · JAGANNĀTHA PURĪ · 25 JANUARY 1977

The transcript of this morning walk in Jagannātha Purī on January 25, 1977, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own life. Gargamuni suggested walking on the beach, which he said was very smooth. After a break came the words "I was jumping here", which drew laughter. He had come there in 1920 or '21, after appearing in his B.A. examination, and by that time he was married; he was married in 1918.

After another break he explained: "Because jubilant, I was jumping."

Source: Morning Walk

Two heart attacks on the ship

CONVERSATION · JAGANNĀTHA PURĪ · 25 JANUARY 1977

In a conversation in Jagannātha Purī on January 25th 1977, the recording turns to three heart attacks, two of them on the ship. Gargamuni asked whether it was twice on the ship. Prabhupāda said the attacks came on two consecutive days, and he would have died on the ship before reaching Gargamuni's country. He did not understand it was a heart attack; the pain was so severe that he thought, "I am now dying."

It came on two nights, and he was very much afraid that if such pain came again on the third night, he would die. But the third night there was no pain; it was suspended, and it came in New York.

Source: Conversation

The New York blackout of 1965

CONVERSATION · MĀYĀPUR · 16 FEBRUARY 1977

In a room conversation in Māyāpur on February 16th 1977, Hari-śauri mentioned that New York once had a blackout for an hour or so. Prabhupāda said he knew it and was there at that time, and it was not an hour but four hours. Fortunately he was not out on the street but in his place; it happened a few days after his arrival, in 1965. He had no candle and was simply sitting in darkness, until a gentleman brought him some: "But Kṛṣṇa sent him with some candle."

Hari-śauri said that nine months after that incident New York had a record number of births. Prabhupāda asked, "What can they do in darkness?" and the room laughed.

Source: Room Conversation

His father's night ārati and puffed rice

CONVERSATION · MĀYĀPUR · 18 FEBRUARY 1977

In a room conversation with Tamāla Kṛṣṇa in Māyāpur on February 18th 1977, Prabhupāda recalled that while they were sleeping, his father was doing ārati, "ding-ding-ding-ding-ding." Tamāla Kṛṣṇa said, "You heard the bell." Then, Prabhupāda said, his father would take his night dinner, and he corrected himself: not dinner, but some purīs or paraṭā. His father was also fond of puffed rice.

In his later age, his father was simply taking puffed rice and milk.

Source: Room Conversation

Cooking at Dr. Mishra's place

CONVERSATION · BOMBAY · 16 APRIL 1977

A room conversation in Bombay on April 16th 1977 opens on the recording with a remark: for one man sitting, cooking for not less than ten to fifteen men. Tamāla Kṛṣṇa asked what the idea was, and Prabhupāda said that everyone wanted some food prepared by him. Tamāla Kṛṣṇa suggested it was all the devotees in the early days, but Prabhupāda said

no: it was when he was living here and there, like Dr. Mishra's place. When Tamāla Kṛṣṇa said Dr. Mishra was very fond of his cooking, Prabhupāda laughed: "He got a good cook without paying."

He had no other alternative, he said, and he liked it. Dr. Mishra, Prabhupāda said, gave his place and foodstuff, and he was preparing, eating and giving them.

Source: Room Conversation with Ram Jethmalani (Parliament Member)

An old man asks him to be his son

CONVERSATION · BOMBAY · 19 APRIL 1977

In a room conversation in Bombay on April 19th 1977, Tamāla Kṛṣṇa remarked that Prabhupāda's father would not give him up. Prabhupāda then spoke of another gentleman, with whom he was going in the same car. The gentleman, a nice old man and very well-to-do, requested him to come. After giving him a nice seat and some refreshment, the man said that he liked him very much and had no son, and asked, "Why don't you become as my son?"

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa observed that everyone seemed to be very affectionate to him.

Source: Room Conversation

Arrival in Vṛndāvana, very weak

LECTURE · VṚNDĀVANA · 17 MAY 1977

In an arrival speech in Vṛndāvana on May 17th 1977, Prabhupāda said that he could not speak and was feeling very weak. He had been due to go to other places, like the Chandigarh program, but cancelled it because "the condition of my health is very deteriorating." So he preferred to come to Vṛndāvana: "If death takes place, let it take here." The devotees responded with Jaya and offered obeisances.

Source: Arrival Speech

Prepared to die

TALK · VṚNDĀVANA · 28 MAY 1977

In Vṛndāvana on May 28th 1977, when Jayatīrtha spoke of good medicine, Prabhupāda said he was very much confident of this medicine. He said that "nobody is prepared to die, but I am prepared to die"; that much strength he had got. Generally people do not like to die, he said, but he would be very glad to die if Kṛṣṇa wants. He added, "And I shall stay with you"; he had no objection either way.

He said he was not afraid of death, and asked why he should be afraid. Jayatīrtha answered, Jaya.

Source: Śrīla Prabhupāda Vigil

Kṛṣṇa's plan, not his

CONVERSATION · VṚNDĀVANA · 17 JUNE 1977

In a room conversation in Vṛndāvana on June 17th 1977, Tamāla Kṛṣṇa asked Prabhupāda whether he regretted having come back to India. The reply on the recording was that the plan was like that, but Kṛṣṇa's plan was different. When coming back, the speaker told Dvārakādhīśa he came there to live, and asked why He was driving him away; leaving Los Angeles, he was not happy. Tamāla Kṛṣṇa said he remembered, and Prabhupāda said that He had this plan.

Kṛṣṇa wanted, Prabhupāda said, to give him a better place in Vṛndāvana: he had been retired in Vṛndāvana, and Kṛṣṇa obliged him to leave. So, he said, "He has given a temple hundred times better than Los Angeles".

Source: Room Conversation

Forty rupees and a free ticket

CONVERSATION · VṚNDĀVANA · 2 JULY 1977

The transcript of this room conversation with Mr. Myer in Vṛndāvana on July 2, 1977, does not name the speaker, but the account is of Prabhupāda's own journey to New York. He had been given a free ticket, and

the government allowed him to take forty rupees with him. In that condition he started for New York, with "No friend, no secre..., no hotel, nothing, arrangement." He said, "This was the beginning."

Source: Room Conversation with Mr. Myer

Childhood near the Mulliks' Deity

CONVERSATION · VṚNDĀVANA · 19 JULY 1977

The transcript of this room conversation in Vṛndāvana on July 19, 1977, breaks several times and does not label the speaker after the breaks; the opening words, labeled as Prabhupāda's, are of his childhood. Before the first break, Prabhupāda said that he had had the opportunity of associating with Rādhā-Govinda of the Mulliks from childhood, that they were playing there, and that he was seeing the Deity. After the break the recording continues with a question, "Here is God," and then with the words "Atmosphere was all Kṛṣṇa conscious." After a further break someone is described as a retired pleader and a neighbor, a nice Vaiṣṇava.

Tamāla Kṛṣṇa asked whether he was the elderly man who would sometimes sleep while offering obeisances.

Source: Room Conversation with Pranavdas Gupta about Astrology Report

His only request at the last stage

CONVERSATION · VṚNDĀVANA · 3 NOVEMBER 1977

In a room conversation in Vṛndāvana on November 3rd 1977, Tamāla Kṛṣṇa told Prabhupāda that even if someone threatened their lives, they would not let him be taken to the hospital. His order, Tamāla Kṛṣṇa said, was their business to follow, even at the risk of their lives. Prabhupāda said, "That is my only request, that at the last stage don't torture me and put to death." He said he was not eating anything, and spoke of chanting by batches.

Kṛṣṇa dāsa Bābājī said that hari-nāma-saṅkīrtana is the medicine.

Source: Room Conversation

Index of places

Aligarh 98
Allahabad 9
Atlanta 86, 87
Bhubaneswar 101
Bombay 10, 11, 14, 67, 79, 81, 83, 100, 101, 103, 104
Calcutta 8, 50–52, 54–56
Cawnpore 8
Chicago 91
Columbus 65
Delhi 9–11, 45–50
Denver 90
Geneva 83
Honolulu 64, 65, 86
Hyderabad 76, 97, 99, 100
Indore 66
Jagannātha Purī 102
Jaipur 69
London 65, 78, 87, 95
Long Branch 36
Los Angeles 66, 69, 70, 72–75, 77, 79, 80, 90, 93
Māyāpur 81, 82, 84, 88, 89, 92, 103
Melbourne 89
Mexico City 71
Montreal 63, 64
Nairobi 91
Navadvīpa 52–54
New Māyāpur (France) 95, 96
New York 15–20, 27, 29–37, 94
San Diego 71
San Francisco 23–28, 56–61
Stinson Beach 38, 39
Tehran 88, 97
Toronto 94
Toronto, New Vrindavan 94
Vṛndāvana 12, 40–44, 75, 76, 80, 98, 99, 104–106