

Gaura Katha Day 5 – Pune NVCC

Caitanya Mahaprabhu denies to meet King Prataparudra

1 January 17

The New Year has started. It is its time to wake up. Actually it is the day to wake up because last year is gone.

jiv jago, jiv jago gauracanda bole

Lord Gauranga is calling, “Wake up, sleeping souls! Wake up, sleeping souls!

If there is canda then there should be surya also.

**vande sri-krsna-caitanya- nityanandau sahoditau
gaudodaye puspavantau citrau sandau tamo-nudau (Sri Caitanya-
caritamrta, Adi 1.2)**

“I offer my respectful obeisances unto Sri Krsna Caitanya and Lord Nityananda, who are like the sun and moon. They have arisen simultaneously on the horizon of Gauda [West Bengal] to dissipate the darkness of ignorance and thus wonderfully bestow benediction upon all.”

kota nidra jao maya-pisacira kole

How long will you sleep in the lap of the witch called Maya?

So who has to wake up? The jiva, the soul, has to wake up. The body automatically wakes up when it is hungry and what does it do after that?

ahara-nidra-bhaya-maithunam

Bhaktivinoda Thakura says jiv jago, wake up! Go for mangal arati, chant the holy name, distribute books, Nityam bhagavata-sevaya then mahaprasade govinde is also there. But if I don't do this, then that means the soul has not woken up.

Body is doing its activity, but the soul is sleeping.

The soul should get up and follow its dharma, jivera'svarupa' haya-k???era 'nitya-dasa'.

Many people around the world have still not woken up. So this has to be meditated upon. We should know whether we have woken up or not. Caitanya Mahaprabhu is calling us jiv jago.

bhajibo boliya ese samsara-bhitare bhuliya rohile tumi avidyara bhare

Bhaktivinoda Thakura says, O Jiva! you have forgotten the way of devotional service and are lost in the world of birth and death.

You had said, "I will do bhajan" and then you came to world, Bhaktivinoda Thakura is reminding us. Lord Kapila tells his mother Devahuti. When the jiva in womb is suffering so much, he prays "Oh Lord! Just one time remove me from these sufferings and I will worship you."

janma-mrtyu-jara-vyadhi- duhkha-dosanudarsanam These are the 4 sufferings of the material world. However we do not understand what suffering there is in birth. If you listen to Lord Kapila, your hairs will stand on end. Bhaktivinoda Thakura writes . You said, "I will worship you, but you have forgotten. You took birth and went to vidyalaya, but you just collected avidya from there. You came out of the womb and got attached to your mother."

**tomare loite ami hoinu avatara
ami bina bandhu ara ke ache tomara**

Lord says, I have descended just to save you; other than Myself you have no friend in this world. You had promised, so I have come for you, for every jiva. For each one of us the Lord has appeared.

golokam ca parityajya lokanam trana-karanat

Leaving Golok the Lord appears for us. Caitanya Mahaprabhu says – “ Other than me, is there any other bandhu? Who is called a bandhu? One who helps us in need, is a bandhu. A friend in need is a friend indeed. They are your real friends. We call our friends our ‘so called friends’, because they don’t know our real need. If they don’t know our real need, how can they help us?

So our friends do not know our real needs. When we go to the doctor he does a diagnosis, prescribes the medicine and tells us some do’s and don’ts. Our friends can’t diagnose our diseases. An incorrect diagnosis means an incorrect treatment. The result is that there is no cure. Caitanya Mahaprabhu has diagnosed our problem and He also gives us appropriate treatment.

**enechi ausadhi maya nasibaro lagi
hari-nama maha-mantra lao tumi magi**

“I have brought the medicine that will wipe out the disease of illusion from which you are suffering. Take this maha-mantra- Hare Krsna, Hare Krsna, Krsna Krsna, Hare Hare/Hare Rama, Hare Rama Rama Rama, Hare Hare.”

Caitanya Mahaprabhu says, “ Ask for the Holy name. It is all yours. It is your right.”

**bhaktivinoda prabhu-carane pariya
sei hari-nama-mantra loilo magiya**

Bhaktivinoda Thakura says “O Lord! Please give me the holy name. I am running after the acaryas. Please give me Krsna. “

One who has accepted an acarya is called as acaryavan.

Acaryavan purusho veda

He knows the Vedas and has become knowledgeable. We should go to such persons and ask for Krsna. So the acarya gives us Krsna. Which Krsna is this? **Hare Krsna, Hare Krsna, Krsna**

Krsna, Hare Hare/Hare Rama, Hare Rama Rama Rama, Hare Hare,

We ask the representatives of the Lord to please give us the holy name. Now we try to sing and while singing we meditate. We sing with complete concentration and try to take it to our heart. **Hridayangam** – not just accumulation, but assimilation.

This is a new year, New year for us starts on **Gaur Purnima** but we live in this world so we have to follow. As New Year is celebrated here, I wish you all a happy new year. So New Year's message is 'jiva jago wake up soul'.

Krishna Das Kaviraj Goswami wrote **Caitanya Caritamrita** on the banks of **Radhakunda**. He writes in detail in the Madhya Lila how **Caitanya Mahaprabhu** took sannyasa. He moved toward **Jagannath Puri**. He stayed there for 2 months and gave sadbhujā darsana to Śrīvābhauma Bhaṭṭācārya. Then He went on His South India yatra. He comes back and His accommodation is arranged at Kasi Misra's house. When He returned to Jagannatha Puri the first thing He did was to take darsana of Lord Jagannatha. Then only did He go to Kasi misra's house. And **Sarvabhauma Bhaṭṭācārya** introduced Him to all the devotees.

The reciprocations between **Ramananda** Ray and **Caitanya Mahaprabhu** surprised everyone there. **Caitanya Mahaprabhu** asked him, if he had taken darsana of **Kamalānayan**?

Ramananda said, "My body is ratha and my heart is my sarthi and my ratha brought me here." **Caitanya Mahaprabhu** was angry and said, "No, you should go for darsana." Ramananda Ray went.

**ksetre ssi' raja sarvabhaume bolaila
sarvabhaume namaskari' tanhare puchila(CC Madhya 11.41)**

The King stayed at Cuttack and went to Jagannatha Puri for darsana. The palace of the king is still there in Cuttack. I was also called by the King to his palace. When King Prataparudra returned to Jagannatha Puri, he sent for Sarvabhauma Bhaṭṭācārya. When the Bhaṭṭācārya went to see the King, he offered him respects and made the following

inquiries.

**mora lagi' prabhu-pade kaile nivedana?
savabhauma kahe, – kainu aneka yatana (CC Madhya 11.42)**

The King asked, “Have you submitted my petition to the Lord?” Sarvabhauma replied, “Yes, with much endeavor I have tried my best.”

**tathapi na kare tenha raja-darasana
ksetra chadi' yabena punah yadi kari nivedana (CC Madhya 11.43)**

“Yet despite my great endeavor, the Lord would not agree to see a king. Indeed, He warned me that if He were asked again, He would quit Jagannatha Pur? and go elsewhere.”

**suniya rajara mane duhkha upajila
visada kariya kichu kahite lagila (CC Madhya 11.44)**

Hearing this, the King became very unhappy and, greatly lamenting, began to speak as follows.

**papi nica uddharite tanra avatara
jagai madhai tenha caria uddhara (CC Madhya 11.45)**

The King said, “Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu has descended just to deliver all kinds of sinful, lowborn persons. Consequently He has delivered sinners like Jagai and Madhai.

**prataparudra chadi' karibe jagat nistara
ei pratijna kari' kariyachena avatara? (CC Madhya 11.46)**

“Alas, has Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu incarnated to deliver all kinds of sinners with the exception of a king named Maharaja Prataparudra?”

“Has Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu made His advent deciding that He will deliver all others with the exception of me? He bestows His merciful glance upon many lower-class men who are usually

not even to be seen.'?" Maharaja Prataparudra continued, "If Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu is determined not to see me, then I am determined to give up my life if I do not see Him.

If we don't get the krpa (mercy) of the Lord then life is useless.

sunyaitam jagat sarvam govinda-virahena me "O Govinda! Without You, the world is empty.

There are many people who do not worship the Lord. They say, there is no time to worship, but they find time to sleep.

**eta suni' sarvabhauma ha-ila cintita
rajara anuraga dekhi' ha-ila vismita**

Hearing King Prataparudra's determination, Sarvabhauma Bhattacharya became thoughtful. Indeed, he was very much astonished to see the King's determination.

Sarvabhauma Bhattacharya was astonished because such determination is not possible for a worldly man attached to material enjoyment. The King certainly had ample opportunity for material enjoyment, but he was thinking that his kingdom and everything else was useless if he could not see Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. This is certainly sufficient cause for astonishment.

He had so much asakti for **Caitanya Mahaprabhu**, He was very attached to **Caitanya Mahaprabhu**. So from this we understand his thoughts, his personality and his caritra.

Give a mike to a man when he speaks. You will soon understand what his level and real his real identity is – whether he is wise or a fool. Prabhupada would say – you shut up! Let the Lord speak . So one who talks about Krsna is intelligent.

Sarvabhauma Bhattacharya still has hope.

bhattacharya kahe – deva na kara visada

tomare prabhura avasya ha-ibe prasada (CC Madhya 11.51)

Finally Sarvabhauma Bhattacarya said, “My dear King, do not worry. Because of your firm determination, I am sure that **Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu’s** mercy will definitely be bestowed upon you.” Due to King Prataparudra’s firm determination, the Bhattacarya predicted that the King would receive **Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu’s** mercy without fail. **Maharaja Prataparudra** had firm faith in the Bhattacarya, who declared **Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu** to be the Supreme Personality of Godhead.

As soon as the Bhattacarya saw the King’s firm determination, he declared, “The Supreme Lord is approached only by pure love. Your love for **Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu** is very, very deep; therefore without a doubt He will be merciful upon you.

If one decides this, he can make further progress by thinking of Krsna, chanting Krsna’s names and glorifying Him. There is then no doubt that such a fully surrendered devotee will receive the blessings of Lord Krsna. The Lord is controlled by love of a devotee,

aham bhakta-paradhino

This is the specialty of the Lord, the greatness of the Lord. Lord says, “I am completely under the control of My devotees. Indeed, I am not at all independent.”

Sarvabhauma Bhattacarya then suggested, “There is one means by which you can directly see Him. “On the day of the chariot festival, **Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu** will dance before the Deity in great ecstatic love.

“On that Ratha-yara festival day, after dancing before the Lord, **Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu** will enter the Gundica garden. At that time you should go there alone, without your royal dress.

When **Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu** enters the Gundica garden, you should also go there and read the five chapters of **Srimad-**

Bhagavatam about Lord Krsna's dancing with the gopis. In this way you can catch hold of the Lord's lotus feet.

**sunī' gajapatira mane sukha upajila
prabhure milite ei mantrana drdha kaila (CC Madhya 11.59)**

Maharaja Prataparudra took the Bhattacharya's advice and firmly decided to follow his instructions. Thus he felt transcendental happiness.

PUNE ANNUAL KATHA DAY 5 – Challenges and Struggles (amended)

All glories to the assembled devotees.

**nama om vishnu-padaya krishna-preshthaya bhu-tale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine
namas te sarasvate deve gaura-vani-pracarine
nirvisesha-sunyavadi-pascatya-desat-tarine**

Hare Krsna, Hare Krsna, Krsna Krsna, Hare Hare/ Hare Rama,
Hare Rama, Rama Rama, Hare Hare

dhule dhule gora chanda, hari guna gai
asiya vrndavane, nace gaura rai

The moonlike Lord Gaurachand dancingly arrives in Vrndavana, swaying to and fro, singing the glories of Lord Hari. Every footstep is a dance. Mahaprabhu's Vrndavana kirtana had everyone dancing also. So the whole Vraja-mandala welcomed Gaura Sundar. Gaura Sundar entered Vrndavana. Not only the Brajavasis, but the animals, birds and trees of Vrndavana are

also devotees. Braj is Cintamani. Every tree there is a desire tree. They all welcomed **Caitanya Mahaprabhu** and danced with Him. The whole of Vraj was filled with waves of **Caitanya Mahaprabhu** and it became brighter by Gauracandra's light. **Caitanya Mahaprabhu** was doing Vraj-mandala Parikrama. Every Kartik we also walk on that very same path during **Vraja-mandala Parikrama**. When Yamuna sees Him, she runs towards her Lord. Lets sing this song and meditate on **Caitanya Mahaprabhu's Vrndavana** visit.

**om namo bhagvate vasudevaya
bahunam janmanam ante jnanavan mam prapadyate
vasudevah sarvam iti sa mahatma su-durlabhah**

After many births and deaths, he who is actually in knowledge surrenders unto Me, knowing Me to be the cause of all causes and all that is. Such a great soul is very rare.

The definition of mahatma is given by the Lord. Such surrendered great souls are very rare. **Prabhupada** was such a sudurlabha mahatma. He knew Vasudeva is all in all.

Sukhdeva Goswami tells us in Srimad-Bhagvatam. This is one of **Prabhupada's** most quoted sloka.

**kirata-hunandhra-pulinda-pulkasa
abhira-sumbha savannah khasadayah
ye'nye ca papa yad-apasrayasrayah
sudhyanti tasmai prabhavisnave namah (SB 2.4.18)**

Kirata, Huna, Andhra, Pulinda, Pulkasa, Abhira, Sumbha, Yavana, members of the Khasa races and even others addicted to sinful acts can be purified by taking shelter of the devotees of the Lord, due to His being the supreme power. I beg to offer my respectful obeisances unto Him.

If those who are sinful (papi), take shelter of the Lord, they can be purified. The list is given in the sloka. **Kirata, Huna, Andhra, Pulinda, Pulkasa, Abhira, Sumbha, Yavana** are the

members of the Khasa races. The above-mentioned historical names are the different nations of the world. For example, the area of East Germany and part of Russia is known as the province of the Hunas and the Greeks are known as Pulindas. The conclusion is that the Lord, being all-powerful, can, under any and every circumstance, accept anyone from any part of the world, either personally or through His bona fide manifestation as the spiritual master. **Lord Caitanya** accepted many devotees from different communities.

Our acaryas get inspiration from this sloka. Making them Krsna conscious is very difficult, but if Maha Visnu empowers his devotees then the impossible becomes possible. You have also seen it. It is day 5 today. How Prabhupada established **ISKCON** and made so many of them Krishna conscious and it is still going on.

People are becoming pure and Sanatana dharma is being established all over the world. At the Matchless Gift storefront Prabhupada asked the first batch of devotees if they were ready to follow the 4 rules and regulations. They said yes.

All types of adharmic – irreligious things are going on all over

**yatra adharam catur vidha
dharmo rakshati rakshitaha**

Dharma protects us only if we protect dharma. It's said – thou shall not kill. But nobody follows it. All kinds of sinful activities are going on all over the world. In countries where irreligion is prominent, it was a big challenge to establish dharma. It's only possible if the mahatmas, the devotees empowered by the Lord, do it.

By **Prabhupada's** efforts the **Bhagavat-Gita** is being taught all over the world and these yavanas have become devotees. Instead of saying Bhagavan uvaca, they say Allah uvaca. There is no

difference. Their rosary has 99 beads which are 99 names of Allah. Allah means 'God which is great'. And if we want to say the Lord which is attractive what we will say? Krsna!! ya karshiti sa krsna.

Prabhupada went to the printers all alone. He carried the printing papers on his head. Many a times he would go without eating anything. He did not have money for breakfast. If 1000 books were printed, only 200 copies were given to him. Only when these were paid for, would he get the remaining copies.

Now comes the distribution of books. **Swamiji** would personally go and distribute books. In the hot sun, on an empty stomach, he would go on book distribution. Once he fainted. This incident occurred in 1964 and he was taken to hospital. His Guru Maharaja had ordered him on the bank of Radhakunda. 'If you ever get money, print books'. **Prabhupada** never forgot this order. He made it his life's mission. Whenever he had money, he printed and distributed books. He faced monetary problems, but still he kept going on.

When he went to New York, slowly he got some help. Later when **ISKCON** was established, he printed and distributed more books. He kept writing books the entire night. He wrote about 70 books which are now translated into more than 70 languages. He founded the **Bhativedanta** Book Trust in 1972 to publish his books.

Once when the Bhagavat-Gita was to be printed, 76 railroad truck loads (bogies) of paper was required. It was a big challenge for **Prabhupada** and his disciples.

Prabhupada once wanted 17 volumes of **Caitanya Caritamrita** printed in 2 months. The manuscript was ready. His disciples thought it was just impossible, but Prabhupada wanted it printed. And by the Lord's mercy 17 volumes of Caitanya Caritamrita were printed in 2 months.

A total of 350 devotees from all over the world were coming to

Mayapur. This was the first time in the history of Calcutta and they were very excited. In the flight, the devotees sang mahaprasade govinde. Nowadays when the air hostess sees our tilak and sikha she asks; "Swamiji, what will you have? Vegetarian or non vegetarian?" It was different then. After prasada the devotees started doing kirtana. Soon these ecstatic devotees were in a dancing mood and all of them stood to dance. The captain made an announcement for them to be seated or there would have to be an emergency landing.

All these **Kirata, Huna, Andhra, Pulinda, Pulkasa, Abhira, Sumbha, Yavana** members of the Khasa races were now devotees and Caitanya Mahaprabhu's prediction that all such people along with the devotees will sing Jai Sacinandana Gaura Hari, had been realised.

Prabhupada wanted to establish sadachar-etiquette in the West, but it was a challenge. They would say, "Swamiji, go back". An Indian in the West once said to Prabhupada, "Swamiji, never say these two things to these people – 1. become vegetarian and 2. change your dress. Here you will have to wear western clothes. **Prabhupada** said, "If they don't listen to me, I will go away, but I will not wear clothes like you and I will surely tell them."

patram puspam phalam toyam yo me bhaktya prayacchati,

This is a big list of what the Lord eats. Lord did not say chickenam muttanam, but patram, puspam. He did not change his dress. In fact he changed their dresses. The men all started wearing dhotis and females were wearing saris. He ensured that they follow the 4 rules.

The people were suffering due to drug addiction. A survey showed that 2 out of 5 people were fit for a mental hospital. They are facing so many problems due to their vices of drinking and smoking. Another survey found that America was the number one country for diseases – adhi-mental sickness,

and vyadhi- diseases of the body. Millions of dollars are being wasted on their addiction. So much is being done to stop drug addiction, but it is all in vain. Yet, once a person joins ISKCON, he easily leaves all the addictions.

param drstva nivartate

Unless one is transcendently situated, it is not possible to cease from sense enjoyment. But one who has tasted the beauty of the **Supreme Lord Krsna**, in the course of his advancement in Krishna consciousness, he no longer has a taste for dead material things. When one is actually Krishna conscious, he automatically loses his taste for material things. Once they get the taste of holy name – **keshava madhava tuhya namat re godava, amrutahuni goda nava tuze deva** – they leave the lower things automatically without any effort.

Another big challenge was that Prabhupada was alone with a small drum. There was no mrdanga. Our movement has two important musical instruments, the mrdanga and karatala. He had no extra dhotis or saris. **Prabhupada** started importing those from India and slowly the preaching was increasing. He had come to America with just 5 dollars and no friends. In one year he had 5000 dollars and many disciples. He established New Vrindavana in the West. This was just one. There was lots of other properties.

Once he asked a man how many children he had. The man replied that he had 8. At that time it was normal to have that many children. The modern trend is – we two, our two. Prabhupada said to him, “Give me one. I will train him and he can go and preach.” Like this he asked many grhastas, but nobody agreed or came forward. Once a man asked Prabhupada on a train, “Please bless my son.” **Prabhupada** did not reply and again he asked. Prabhupada responded, “Give me your son.” This was his blessing. The man left that compartment and went far away to another compartment.

The situation has changed now. Many are joining. In the West at that time the family structure was loose, so they were joining Prabhupada. They need not ask anybody. But at that time in India nobody was joining. They had to ask their family who would not agree. In the West boys and girls were joining, but there were obstacles as well.

Many times the centre and temples were attacked by atheists. Some parents would say that the Hare Krsna's brainwashed their children. On one occasion many parents rallied together to make a case against Prabhupada for brain washing. **Prabhupada** said, "Yes you have made their brains dirty and I have washed them."

The case went from the Low court to the High court. They won the case and on 17 March 1977. The New York Supreme court dismissed all the charges and Hare Krsna was announced as a bonafide religion with its roots in India. This was a victory of dharma.

jayas tu pandu-putranam yesam pakse jansrdanah.

The victory is always with the sons of Pandu because **Lord Krsna** is associated with them. We had Lord Krsna with us and victory had to be there. The Hare Krsna movement became victorious. Prabhupada said, "Now my mission is complete as the court has announced **ISKCON** as a religion."

At that time we had lawyer devotees in **ISKCON**. They knew the law of land and the law of the Lord. **Prabhupada** had said to them to quote the law of the Lord from his books in court.

Srila Prabhupada Lilamrita describes in detail about Srila Prabhupada, the challenges he faced, his achievements. Many books are written on **Prabhupada**. I have also written a few. One more book about **Prabhupada** in Bombay is upcoming. The manuscript is ready and soon it will be published. And the name of the book will be Bombay is my office. **Prabhupada in**

Bombay .