

Nityananda Trayodasi Class

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14th February 2022

om ajnana timirandhasya jnananjana salakaya
caksur unmilitam yena tasmai sri gurave namah
sri caitanya mano 'bhistam sthapitam yena bhu tale
svayam rupah kada mahyam dadati sva padantikam

ajanu lambita bhujau kanakavadhatau
sankirtanaika pitarau kamalayataksau
visvambharau dvija varau yuga dharma palau
vande jagat priyakaro karunavatarau

Translation

I offer my respects unto Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu and Sri Nityananda Prabhu, whose arms extend down to Their knees, who have golden yellow complexions, and who inaugurated the congregational chanting of the Holy Names. Their eyes resemble the petals of a lotus; They are the maintainers of all living entities; They are the best of brahmanas, the protectors of religious principles for this age, the benefactors of the universe, and the most merciful of all incarnations. (Caitanya bhagavata 1.1.1)

Jai sri krsna caitanya prabhu nityananda sri advaita gadadhara
srivasadi gaura bhakta vrnda

hare krsna hare krsna
krsna krsna hare hare
hare rama hare rama
rama rama hare hare

Gaura prem anande hari haribol. Today is the appearance day of lord Nityananda and on this mahotsava, great festival day of Nityananda Troyodasi Iskcon Noida ki jai!

We will also say Iskcon Aravade and Iskcon Ujjain ki jai, Iskcon Tirupati ki jai and Iskcon Ekachakra Gram ki jai.

I am saying Iskcon ki jai to all these Iskcon centres because today on the day of Nityananda Troyodasi all these temples had their opening festival previously and I have attended all of these festivals. So just like Iskcon Noida temple opening- Sri Radha Govindadev ki jai. Only by the mercy of lord Nityananda have all these temples been opened and that too according to the auspicious times and circumstances.

So I have already said that even in Ekachakra Gram the temple opening was a few years ago. This Ekachakra Gram is the Dham where lord Nityananda appeared and here also Iskcon has opened a temple- Sri Gaura Nitai ki jai! So when the deities over there, Sri Radha Vrindavan Chandra were being installed a few years back then I also stayed back at Ekachakra Gram.

This is a great day and why would it not be because Nityananda Prabhu himself is so great as he is lord Balaram himself and is lord Balaram not great? There is no one greater, or more glorious or magnanimous in this world.

mattah para tram na 'nyat
Kincaid asti dhananjaya
mayi sarvam idam protam?sutre manigana iva

Translation

There is nothing whatsoever higher than Me, O Dhananjaya. All this is strung in Me, as clusters of gems on a string.

So the Lord himself is saying here that 'you will not find anybody greater than me.' So there are two of them, there is Krishna and there is Balaram and although they separate they are essentially one so they again become two as Krishna and Balaram. Balaram hoila Nitai. So lord Balaram has become Nityananda Prabhu on this day in 1474.

These are all historical facts, things which have previously

happened and we have the facts here and we have every detail. The year was 1474 in the month of Magh, January to February in the Shukla Paksha – bright fortnight of the moon. Also it was the day of Trayodasi, the thirteenth day and that is today. Lord Nityananda appeared today and also the place of his appearance is there and it is called Nitai bady.

We call this his birth but actually it is not like an ordinary birth which the lord takes like the living entities do. Lord Nityananda is a-janma, birth less because he does not take birth and yet he is still being born and taking birth. That place where he took birth is here even today and I have been there many times and I have seen this birth place. By that place there is a lake which is called Padmavati Kunda and why is it called this?

Lord Nityananda's mother was Padmavati and she gave birth to the lord and his father was Sri Hadai Pandit who cannot be an ordinary personality. The lord does not become the son of any ordinary person. The lord is Nitya which means always, and Ananda is bliss and sonthe lord is always blissful and alsohe plunders this bliss from the devotees.

ha ha prabhu nityananda, premananda sukhi
kripabalokana koro ami boro dukkhi

Translation

My dear Lord Nityananda, You are always joyful in spiritual bliss. Since You always appear very happy, I have come to You because I am most unhappy. If You kindly put Your glance over me, then I may also become happy.

(Savarana sri gaura pada padme, Narottama das)

We were just singing this bhajan. So the lord's father is there and over there the Yamuna also flows. Yamuna Maiya ki jai! So today the lord appeared in this dham, Ekachakra Gram. The people of this material world do not realise or understand the lord's birth and activities. They do not even have any

basic knowledge of the lord so what to say about understanding the lord's birth?

But the demigods know and not only do they know but they are the ones who pray for the lord's appearance and the lord then says 'yes, yes. I am going to take birth in the material world very soon.' The demigods know when the lord will appear and where he will appear. They get this information and they appear where and when the lord takes his birth like Ekachakra Gram.

yambrahma varunendra rudra marutah stunvati divyai stavai

Translation

Prostrations to that Lord Narayana whom the Lord Brahma, Varunadeva, Indra, Lord Rudra and Maruta devas pray with divine hymns

(Gita dhyana sloka 9)

They sing this Stuti and there is pushpavristhi where flowers are showered from the sky upon the lord and so many musical instruments are playing. So amongst all this, a welcome was being made today in the year 1474 in Ekachakra Gram. There are so many things to say and I am a fallen living entity so how much can I say with just one mouth? That too in a limited amount of time.

The pastimes the lord in Dwapara Yuga with lord Krishna which lord Krishna and Balaram played together in Dwapara Yuga in Vrindavan and then later in Mathura, all these pastimes were being played like child's play. These were being performed for the sake of the residents of Vrindavan and later Mathura and the residents were being shown the different pastimes of their lordships.

Who were the lord's playing these pastimes with? Children are always playing with friends of the same age and we know this by observation. So in the same way when Nityananda Prabhu was just a child he would play. His play was a exhibition of his

own pastimes that had already been performed in dwapara yuga and also he would act out the pastimes of lord Rama from treta yuga.

From whenever Vamana lila had taken place, the lord recalled that and played that pastime also as well as the pastimes of Parasuram. All these pastimes were performed with children who were residents of Ekachakra Gram. They were playing as the friends of the lord and they were all the previous cowherd boys of Krishna lila. So alongside them the lord would perform these pastimes of playing based upon the former pastimes that he had performed as the supreme personality of godhead.

They would play and enact these pastimes all day, there was no other play so they would not play cricket or kabaddi (an Indian sport). There was no playing computer games, no. He would play his own pastimes and only Nityananda Prabhu knew the stories of all these pastimes and therefore you can call him the story writer. Just like when there is a drama performance it is called a play or an act. So the writer of these dramas or plays was lord Nityananda Prabhu himself.

The director was also Nityananda Prabhu and he was also the leading actor. For others who may have needed make up, he would be the make up artist putting make up on their face and so like this everyday they would play. This is the description given in Chaitanya Bhagavad and like this Vrindavan Das Thakur is describing the pastimes of Ekachakra Gram.

There are pastimes of lord Krishna and lord Rama. There are pastimes of lord Parasurama and Vamana and all these pastimes and how they were performed is all described in Chaitanya Bhagavad. These are the games the lord played with the boys and his friends were all cowherd boys. They would spend most of their time in the company of lord Nityananda and sometimes they would even have overnight stays with the lord.

The parents of these boys had no problems and no issues about

this. There were never any complaints about the fact that their boys were constantly playing with the lord and actually they were happy that their children were associates of lord Nityananda and were staying with him all the time. In this way the whole of Ekachakra Gram loved Nityananda Prabhu and indeed he was the sweet darling of all the residents of Ekachakra Gram.

He was no doubt a friend of the boys of the same age but even the elder persons loved him so much- everyone loved him so much. We cannot talk about all these pastimes but when they all asked the lord, 'how do you know all these pastimes, who has taught you all the pastimes of lord Krishna and pastimes of lord Rama?'

So the lord replied 'these are all my own pastimes so how can it be that I don't know them?' He would not say it straight forwardly that I am the same Balaram and in treta yuga I was Lakshman but he would answer like this and say that 'these pastimes are my own and I have performed all these previously in the past yugas. That is why I know these pastimes very well.'

When these pastimes were going on one day it so happened that Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, Nimai was born in Mayapur, Navadvipa and lord Nityananda understood this. He therefore immediately started shouting loudly 'Nimai! Nimai!' Also he started shouting

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna
Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama
Rama Rama Hare Hare

His cried penetrated through the whole universe and in this way Nityananda Prabhu welcomed Gauranga Mahaprabhu. 'Welcome, welcome! I have already reached here on this earth planet and now you have come too. Welcome.' So gradually he wanted to

join Gauranga Mahaprabhu and just like it is difficult to separate Krishna and Balaram who are always together, lord Nityananda and Gauranga Mahaprabhu are the same and therefore they appeared in the same place.

Lord Rama and Lakshman were born in the same palace and when they were Krishna Balaram, Balaram was born in Gokul and as soon as Krishna was born he went there within one night because he could not keep away from lord Balaram. 'Take me too, take me also!' 'Where do you want to go?' 'To Gokul where Balaram is.'

So within the very same night of lord Krishna's birth they were together. In this pastime it is a little bit different and also lord Nityananda has been born in another place and that too quite some time before lord Chaitanya. But as soon as he found out that Chaitanya Mahaprabhu had appeared on this earth he wanted to come to him, to meet him and wanted to be with him and play with him.

Together they are going to play some pastimes, some games and those pastimes are of dancing and kirtan.

dharmā samsthāpanārthaya
sambhavāmi yuge yuge

Translation

In order to deliver the pious and to annihilate the miscreants, as well as to reestablish the principles of religion, I advent Myself millennium after millennium
(BG 4.8)

So lord Krishna is saying that he appears to reestablish the principles of religion and lord Balaram is saying this too as he also comes at this time and so in this way we can see that Krishna Balaram are not different from one another. So they will both together reestablish the religious principles in kali yuga.

ajanu lambita bhujau kanakavadhatau
sankirtanaika pitarau kamalayataksau
visvambharau dvija varau yuga dharma palau
vande jagat priyakaro karunavatarau

Translation

I offer my respects unto Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu and Sri Nityananda Prabhu, whose arms extend down to Their knees, who have golden yellow complexions, and who inaugurated the congregational chanting of the Holy Names. Their eyes resemble the petals of a lotus; They are the maintainers of all living entities; They are the best of brahmanas, the protectors of religious principles for this age, the benefactors of the universe, and the most merciful of all incarnations. (Caitanya bhagavata 1.1.1)

What has been said here? Karunavatarau. There are two incarnations of mercy. Krishna has become Gauranga and Balaram has become Nityananda and these two lords are the incarnations of mercy, Gauranga and Nityananda. This is the same as saying who is Dauji's brother? Krishna Kahnaiya is Dauji Balaram's brother.

So in kali yuga this Dauji Balaram has appeared as Nityananda Prabhu and the religious principle of this age is the chanting of the lords holy names. So both these lords have come together to propagate the religious principles. So lord Nityananda Prabhu is still in Ekachakra Gram but as soon as he hears that Gauranga has arrived he is getting ready to leave Ekachakra Gram. He has to move on and as he is desiring this, to move on from Ekachakra, what happens?

The lord has many energies and amongst them the energy displayed here is his will. Whatever he desires happens by his own will and that certain energy of his acts accordingly. There is also his lila shakti, his pastime energy which is called yoga maya and she makes all the arrangements according to the lord's desire. So lord Nityananda desired to leave

Ekachakra Gram and gradually approach Mahaprabhu so they could both together propagate the principles of religion further.

So you could say that in the final pastimes of the lord in Ekachakra Gram, one great saintly personality, a sannyasi comes there and he becomes the guest of Hadai Pandit and Padmavati. He is welcomed with much respect and all arrangements are elaborately made for his stay. His meal is ready and they ask him to please (cut).

This is a very difficult situation but Hadai Pandit realises that he has to agree to what the sannyasi has requested from him. 'Yes, this boy is now yours and we give him to you.' They certainly did not have a desire to give their darling son to this travelling sannyasi and also this had happened before in treta yuga. When sage Vishvamitra had arrived, as you all know, he had something he wanted.

What is it he wanted? 'I want Rama and Lakshman.' So Vishvamitra in treta yuga and this travelling sannyasi in kali yuga are asking for the same thing. There, Vishvamitra wanted the sons of king Dashratha and over here this travelling mendicant wants Hadai Pandit's son. At that time he was Lakshman and now he is Nityananda. So at that time king Dashrath with a heavy heart said, 'yes, you can take Rama and Lakshman, do as you desire.'

So the same thing happens here with lord Nityananda and the lord is now leaving but he doesn't want to go straight away to lord Gauranga Mahaprabhu. He first wants to see Gauranga or Nimai become older. 'Let him grow into a young man. At the moment he is just a child or youth and after all he is a scholar. He is known as Nimai Pandit and he teaches sastra but he does not as yet perform bhakti, devotional service.'

Lord Nityananda wanted to see that 'when the lord is a devotee, a preacher of bhakti and his spiritual master Iswara puri will give him the maha mantra

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna
Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama
Rama Rama Hare Hare

Then Gauranga will start his pastimes of kirtan and dancing, at that time I will join him and we will carry forward further this Sankirtan movement.' So the lord has set off away from Navadvipa and lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu is twenty years old or so at the meeting of both lords. Then at the age of twenty four Chaitanya Mahaprabhu takes sannyasa and so for four years till the lord takes sannyasa he is propagating the Sankirtan movement everywhere along with lord Nityananda.

udilo aruna puraba bhage,
dwija mani gora amani jage
bhakata samuha loiya sathe
gela nagara braje

tathai tathai bajalo khol
ghana ghana tahe jhajera rol
preme dhala dhala sonara anga
carane nupura baje

Translation

When the rising sun appeared in the East, the jewel of the twice-born, Lord Gaurasundara, awakened, and, taking His devotees with Him, He went all over the countryside towns and villages

They played the mridanga, and the cymbals chimed in time. Lord Gauranga's shimmering golden features danced, and His footbells jingled
(Bhajan Bhaktivinode Thakur)

In the kirtan of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu there were devotees who were also dancers and they would dance throughout the whole kirtan. Nityananda Prabhu was also a leading dancer and in this way Gaura and Nityananda stayed together and together

they preached Nama Sankirtan. There were many pastimes performed during this time like when they went to the home of Chand Kazi along with a tumultuous kirtan.

Chand Kazi was against the Sankirtan movement and was trying his best to stop the Sankirtan movement of Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. 'Who is this Chand Kazi to stop our kirtan?! Kirtan will not stop!' So with a great kirtan party and with a maha kirtan, lord Chaitanya and Nityananda went along with Advaita Acharya m and thousands of persons who joined them from who knows where?

There were not so many people in the whole of Bengal or Nawadvipa, that many people had gathered there and not just ordinary people but the demigods in the guise of ordinary people reached this party. Such a wonderful kirtan took place which lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and Nityananda prabhu were leading. Whenever there is any trouble or obstacle in preaching the holy names and devotional service of the lord, the lord himself destroys these obstacles.

So Gauranga and Nityananda Prabhu were all destroyers of such obstacles and actually we know that Nityananda Prabhu is Adi Guru, the original spiritual master just as lord Balaram is. He is Guru Tattva and the original adi guru as lord Balaram and lord Nityananda is non different from him. So this guru was given an order by lord Chaitanya which was

suno suno nityananda, suno haridas
sarvatra amar ajna koro ho prakas prati ghare ghare giya koro
ei bhiksa
bolo `krsna', bhajo krsna, koro krsna-siksa iha bai arna
boliba,
bolaiba dina-avasane asi' amare kohiba

Translation

Listen, listen, Nityananda! Listen, Haridasa! Make My command known everywhere! Go from house to house and beg from all the

residents, 'Please chant Krsna's name, worship Krsna, and teach others to follow Krsna's instructions.' Do not speak, or cause anyone to speak, anything other than this.

(Caitanya-bhagavata Madhya-Lila 13.8-9)

'Everyone must chant by my order!'

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna

Krishna Krishna Hare Hare

Hare Rama Hare Rama

Rama Rama Hare Hare

Everyone must speak about Krishna and read Bhagavad Gita. So hear the lord is making three points which are worship of Krishna, hearing the message of Bhagavad Gita and Bhagavatam and kirtan of Hare Krishna. 'Go to each and every home and preach this message of Krishna,' lord Chaitanya ordered lord Nityananda. Therefore

nadiya godrume nityananda mahajana
patiyache nam hatta jivera karata

Translation

In the land of Nadiya, on the island of Godruma, the magnanimous Lord Nityananda has opened up the Marketplace of the Holy Name, meant for the deliverance of all fallen souls
(Bhaktivinode Thakur Bhajan)

Bhaktivinode Thakur has written here about Nama Hatta Prachar, the marketplace of the holy name and the founder of this marketplace is Nityananda Prabhu who preached devotional service and who maintained this preaching. The pastime of the deliverance of Jagai and Madhai is related to this preaching mission of lord Nityananda.

The lord's preaching partner was Haridas Thakur, and who is this Haridas? He is Brahma Haridas and this implies that lord Brahma from the trinity of Brahma, vishnu and Shiva became Haridas Thakur or Brahma Haridas. He was the preaching partner

of Nityananda Prabhu and so this was a team and hence this preaching was a team effort. So once they both together had set off on their usual preaching mission when they came across Jagai and Madhai.

They tried to preach to them but were not getting any success in doing so but they still were not giving up in their attempts to preach to these two dacoits. 'If we can convert these two then our lord's name will become even more great.' Because of Gauranga Mahaprabhu many unworthy persons were getting liberated and so Nityananda Prabhu was thinking 'if Jagai and Madhai who are so sinful and low, if they can be delivered then our lord's name will become all the more great.'

People will then say 'such low persons are now liberated?! Wow! It will be the talk of the town!' This is exactly what has happened, right? Jagai and Madhai were delivered five hundred years ago and right now we are sitting here meditating upon this pastime and thinking about it and remembering it. Along with this the names of Gauranga Mahaprabhu and Nityananda Prabhu's names are being further glorified.

That day lord Nityananda was indeed successful and Jagai and Madhai made some serious offences as they were drinking wine from a clay pot or container or bottle and then that very thing they threw on lord Nityananda. As soon as they did so, there came blood flowing from the body of lord Nityananda, from his head. When lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu found out about this he called immediately for his Sudarshan Chakra.

The lord cannot tolerate Vaishnava Aparadha, and this is an offence at the lotus feet of the greatest Vaishnava lord Nityananda. Here lord Nityananda is playing the role of a Vaishnava in these pastimes. 'Who is the offender at the feet of lord Nityananda? Whether it be Jagai or Madhai or both of them, what will I do now? With my Sudarshan Chakra I will finish these two sinful offenders!'

So lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu himself has reached that place and there lord Nityananda Prabhu stops him from using the Sudarshan Chakra. 'No, no. In this yuga to kill the sinful living entities you will not use any weapons. You will not use bow and arrow or a mace or Sudarshan Chakra.' Lord Parashurama used an axe so like this lord Nityananda is saying 'oh lord, you will not use any weapon.'

Nityananda Prabhu is reminding lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu in this way and he says further 'if you want to destroy the sinners then how will you do so?'

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna
Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama
Rama Rama Hare Hare

So the lord saved Jagai and Madhai's life and we could say he gave them a second life. They both came to the lord's shelter and they promised that 'from today we will give up all our sinful activities. No more meat eating or intoxication and no more gambling or illicit connections. We will give up these four great sinful activities of kali yuga. We take this vow and so please give us protection.'

Lord Gauranga and Nityananda Prabhu gave the shelter of the holy name to Jagai and Madhai.

dina hina jata chilo, hari name uddharilo,
tara sakshi jagai madhai

Translation

The holy name delivered all those souls who were lowly and wretched. The two sinners Jagai and Madhai are evidence of this

(Ishta deve vijnapti, Prarthana Narottama das thakur)

So the greatest of sinners will be delivered and who will deliver them? Hari name uddharilo. The holy name will deliver

them! 'So you may say this but is there any proof of it?' Someone may ask like this. 'Yes, yes we have that proof. The witnesses to this mercy are Jagai and Madhai,' Narottama das thakur is saying this. 'Tara sakshi jagai madhai. When Jagai and Madhai can be delivered by the holy name then is there any doubt which that can be left?'

They were famous as the most sinful men and so sinful they were that even upon seeking for a more wretched sinner, you would not be able to find one. This is how wretched they were and so if the holy names can deliver that Jagai and Madhai then wherever they may be in this material world, the holy name will deliver all other sinful persons.

The lords Gaura and Nityananda and their team proved this statement and along with this a prophecy had been made

p?thivite ache yata nagaradi grama
sarvatra pracara haibe mora nama

Translation

In every town and village, the chanting of My name will be heard

C.C Antya 1.117)

This Sankirtan movement was started in Navadvipa Mayapur and it will reach every town and village, wherever on this earth any sinful man may be hiding, all these persons will be delivered by the holy names. The founding fathers of this Sankirtan movement are both Gauranga Mahaprabhu and Nityananda Prabhu and this is the religious principle which they have given us.

dharma sansthapanarthaya sambhavami yuge yuge

Translation

To protect the righteous, to annihilate the wicked, and to reestablish the principles of dharma I appear on this earth, age after age

On this day lord Nityananda Prabhu appeared and following him lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu appeared and together they are the founding fathers, having inaugurated this Hare Krishna or Hari Nama Dharma you could say. They have started the Gaudiya Vaishnava lineage and they have given form to devotional service unto lord Sri Krishna.

This Hare Krishna movement, Iskcon's founder acharya is Srila Prabhupada. So whatever is happening is what was predicted by lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and lord Nityananda and just like in the pastime of Jagai and Madhai they were delivered by the mercy of lord Nityananda and the holy name, this is happening everywhere and many sinful people are being delivered like this.

This preaching is happening in Noida as well and we can call it the greatest philanthropic work and we have to take it more further. Along with the temple openings of Iskcon centres and the installation of the deities, lord Nityananda has also come and he has come to Noida. He has in this way become a resident of Noida and with him Chaitanya Mahaprabhu is here also and with them are Sri Sri Radha Govinda Dev.

Both of the lords are devotees because Chaitanya Mahaprabhu has become a devotee and lord Nityananda Prabhu also has become a devotee. Both of them are the supreme lord

Krsnas tu bhagavan svayam

Translation

Krishna is the supreme personality of godhead
(SB 1.3.28)

And so Gaura Nitai both have become devotees and who do they worship? They worship Radha Govinda and when they were present here on earth they were themselves performing Sankirtan and this is a form of devotional service.

Sravanam kirtanam visnoh

smaranam pada sevanam
arcanam vandanan dasyam
sakhyam atma nivedanam

Translation

Hearing and chanting about the transcendental holy name, form, qualities, paraphernalia and pastimes of Lord Vi??u, remembering them, serving the lotus feet of the Lord, offering the Lord respectful worship with sixteen types of paraphernalia, offering prayers to the Lord, becoming His servant, considering the Lord one's best friend, and surrendering everything unto Him (in other words, serving Him with the body, mind and words)—these nine processes are accepted as pure devotional service

(SB 7.5.23)

This sravan and kirtan, hearing and chanting is devotional service and so lord Balaram performed this devotional service and became a devotee and so whose devotee is lord Nityananda? Radha Govinda's devotee and he is the devotee of Jagannatha. Jagannatha Baladev Subhadra Maiya ki jai.

So the lords stayed in Jagannatha Puri as well and there are many pastimes which took place there, pastimes of lord Nityananda and Gauranga Mahaprabhu. There are many kirtan pastimes during Jagannatha Rathayatra of the two lords and along with Radha Govinda and Jagannatha Baladeva and Subhadra Maharani, Sri Sri Gaura Nitai have been installed here in Noida.

On the day of today these deities were installed and how many years ago was this? Okay eight years ago so today is the eighth anniversary. So I am seeing now that there is a big crowd in the darshan tent today and every year I used to be there also and I am there in spirit today also although you are seeing me via zoom and I am seeing you right there. (shouts of Haribol).

So I have become a part of Iskcon Noida at this time of the installation anniversary celebrations by speaking and hearing the pastimes and glories of lord Nityananda. I have become a limb of this temple and this is my service for this festival. So the festival and celebration is throughout the whole day, whether you are in Noida or NCR. If you have not yet reached then do so quickly and loot the Ananda, the joy which lord Nityananda is giving out to one and all.

If you can loot this joy then do so and with all these festivities there is Harinam and the bhajan is that one is throwing jewels and diamonds of the holy name of lord Rama. So during Harinam there will be distribution of the jewels of the name of lord Rama and you know all this anyway. During today's Japa talk there was an interview on television and someone from Benares were being interviewed.

So they were asked 'so what did you see in Noida during all your sightseeing? Did you like Noida, is it nice and clean?' They asked 'is it this or that and what was the best place you saw in Noida that you liked the best?' So the reply of the journalist was 'I liked Iskcon Noida!' This person had gone and seen the whole of Noida and seen everything there but they said that the best place in Noida is Iskcon Noida ki jai!

Well here in Iskcon Noida we have Gaura Nitai and Radha Govinda Deva is here in Noida along with Jagannatha Baladeva and Subhadra Maharani. There are all festivities happening here for Jagannatha and it is so beautiful and well decorated and most importantly, this place will deliver everybody, liberate everybody making everybody a devotee.

Srila Prabhupada ki jai! Gaura prem anande hari haribol.

Memories of Srila Prabhupada at Hare Krsna Land

Memories of Srila Prabhupada at Hare Krsna Land

Occasion: 42 nd anniversary of Sri Sri Radha Rasabihari

ISKCON Juhu

January 2020 [30:54]

So, welcome all the assembled devotees, great souls! Prabhupada disciples are also present. We welcome them, haribol. I wasn't sure whether to say Om Namo Bhagavate Vasudevaya, so it's normally sung at katha. I wasn't sure but I thought for sure I will talk about Radha Rasabihari Ki Jai! And we have to talk about Srila Prabhupada and he is a Mahabhagavat. So, it's a katha, Bhagavat katha. So why not sing Om Namo Bhagavate Vasudevaya? That was appropriate? You think also?

Haribol.

So, it is a big occasion today for Radha Rasabihari Temple Juhu Hare Krishna land, Srila Prabhupada's office. As this is the day, forty two years ago when I was there. Some of you anyone else attended? Its 42nd is now and there will be 100 th anniversary and there'll be always a celebration of this occasion, or the anniversary festival of Radha Rasa Bihari Temple opening ki Jai

I did say I was there. Many others were there. Of course, Gopal Krishna Maharaja was there, Giriraj Maharaja more over Sridhar Maharaja was there, Mukunda Maharaja was there. Big international media was invited to cover the event. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra Vasant Dada Patil. He did the opening. And we had some central ministers and it was a big gathering so many were invited. And we were badly missing physical presence of one person. And that was, what do you think that we're missing? Devotees: Srila Prabhupada As yesterday I said

at another gathering I was addressing and I said, we were missing Srila Prabhupada's presence. Srila Prabhupada ki Jai or he was conspicuous by his absence, being conspicuous by someone's presence and being conspicuous by someone's absence so Srila Prabhupada was conspicuous by his absence.

The idea was that temple would be opened by Srila Prabhupada in his presence and Prabhupada had even come to Bombay from London because his health was not good. But instead of going to America, to Gita Nagari, he had to return. Srila Prabhupada attended Janmashtami at Bhaktivedanta manor and next day his Vyas Puja also was celebrated there at London. And then "Bring me back, let's go back, Back home".

Where is Prabhupada's home? Vrindavan. Vrindavan is my home. Mayapur is my place of pilgrimage, place of worship and Bombay is my office. So, he wanted to go to Vrindavan. And month of September 77 Srila Prabhupada was very much here, up there. The fifth floor, which tower is that? Prabhupada tower. Srila Prabhupada ki Jai. This is Prabhupada's tower, whole thing is Prabhupada's of course. Temples also and that tower was one other one also.

One tower is named after Prabhupada. So Prabhupada was at that floor. Prabhupada was not well. During this visit a lot of things that are different for first time kind of we had different experience. There were no more morning walks. So, walking and talking. Japa. Walk Japa talk Japa with Dr. Patel and company, debating and so that was not happening. And 77 September, every morning after walk Srila Prabhupada returned. And we all eagerly awaiting Prabhupada's return, "Prabhupada is coming, Prabhupada is coming." So, always had this spirit, because this was his office.

Doesn't person spend more time in the office than any other place somebody spends time at the home and the other place where he spends a lot of time most of his time is the office. So Srila Prabhupada spent lot of time, lot of time in Bombay,

his office. So many trips. Those days he was spending half time overseas and other half time in India. So he was landing, "Prabhupada is coming, Prabhupada is coming" from Nairobi.

Gopal Krishna Maharaja is coming from Nairobi today I heard. Jayapataka Maharaja is also coming from London today. So, those days, "Prabhupada is coming from his came from yours came from this country, that country that continent, Prabhupada is coming." And then we would be preparing to receive Prabhupada and anticipate to associate with Prabhupada. And morning walks with Srila Prabhupada.

And then Prabhupada returning to the temple after morning was such a great anticipation. So, we were so much conscious of Prabhupada consciousness was very wide spread and very thick in the air, "Prabhupada consciousness." So, as he returned from the morning walk, we used to greet Radha Rasa Bihari and this was all happening during Prabhupada days. Prabhupada tower is underneath. That old temple just cement sheet roof and some poles were supporting and very tiny structure which was even attempted by municipality to demolish, so many things. Memories of Srila Prabhupada! This had become Kurukshetra also. Hare Krishna land was also battlefield land [Laughter] guarding all night long with a gun, literally there were guns.

Prabhupada was in Australia, and he got the news on telephone, Srila Prabhupada was delighted, "Narsimha has killed him." The funeral ceremony they were taking his body to the cremation ground from this road. Ladies satsang was going on in the temple, Mrs. Single had been organizing weekly mahila satsanga, Hare Krishna mahila satsang. So, they were doing kirtana. When they found out who was it, they were all happy.

They were all delighted, there is a celebration. "paritranaya sadhunam vinasaya ca duskrtam Sure, who else Radha Rasa Bihari was behind all this. The battle of Hare Krishna land went on and on and on from 72 onward till literally opening up the

temple. Mr. Shetty was the contractor, he took up the task of building one additional floor to be added. On the top of all the buildings, tenants had occupied, when the construction was going on, one time Prabhupada was doing the inspection, he wanted to check the progress and personally. When he saw Shetty that he was doing this great service, creating accommodations or building accommodations. Then Prabhupada had also declared, "You are building accommodations for devotees and Lord has already made house for you in Vaikuntha." The temple was built and the deities stood mostly all the time till the opening they were they were there. So, Srila Prabhupada would return from morning walks and he greeted Radha Rasa Bihari with folded hands.

He would always bow down, bow down whenever he offered his obeisances to the deities. Even in his old days or ill health Srila Prabhupada he not with folded hands or doing panchang, but every time he did full dandavat. Approved by Srila Prabhupada, we started playing Govindam Adi Purusam recording in the Radha Rasa Bihari temple. Then we would do Guru puja, Srila Prabhupada's guru puja and there were times there was no Guru Puja. Prabhupada founded ISKCON in 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, to all these years there was no guru puja in any Iskcon temple. And one time, as Prabhupada arrived at Santa Cruz Mumbai and Dum, dum Kolkata.

Prabhupada was greeted and worshipped, some puja was offered to him. Aditya mataji something to do, she took some initiative or leadership for this idea and then others joined and we did offer Guru puja short one at the airport and from then we started, we did guru puja at Radha Rasa Bihari temple And the word got out and then whole world started doing guru puja. Others were saying, "Prabhupada accepted Guru puja at Radha Rasa Bihari temple, Bombay, his office" So, a lot of new things were also taking place happening here and there. Bombay's his office some new standards were being followed, whole world was following. Hari, Hari.

And we did kirtans during Guru Puja and very special kirtans, very ecstatic and excited kirtans. And Srila Prabhupada's presence in the presence of course of Radha Rasa Bihari and towards the end of Guru Puja kirtana and Guru puja, Srila Prabhupada used to take lots of flowers and he would throw that at us and then we used to jump to catch those flowers, this side and then that party is jumping and in the middle and that party is jumping to catch some of those flowers on this side. And then adding the further dimension to the excited and ecstatic kirtans. And then Jai Om Vishnu Pada Pramhamsa ki Jai, Ki Jai. And then Srila Prabhupada would begin, "Jaya Radha Madhava Kunja Bihari" Prabhupada playing kartals and Prabhupada, fully absorbed. Occasionally, opening his eyes are some side long, long glance at us sitting at his feet and occasionally we would notice some tears gliding down his cheeks.

As he was with Radha Rasa Bihari while chanting Jaya Radha Madhav. Almost in trance, Prabhupada would sing and then Bhagavatam class.

Then Prabhupada would return to his quarters.

Srila Prabhupada ki jai