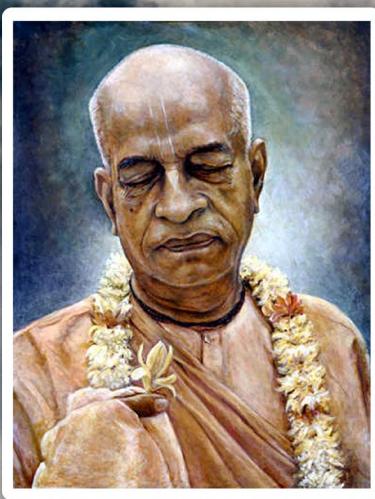


ISSUE : 07

AUG 2019

BRAHMA JIJNASA

THE YEARLY NEWSLETTER OF BHAKTIVEDANTA CLUB
IIT PATNA



About Us

Bhaktivedanta Club IIT Patna

By the mercy of Lord Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu and by the desire of Srila A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, Bhaktivedanta Club came into existence in 2009 to present the higher dimensional science of ancient India for awakening the proactive leadership quality among the students. Now a days, modern youth do not know anything beyond the prime necessities of life namely eating, sleeping, fearing and sense gratification. Animal life is also based on these four principles. Hence there is neither happiness nor the peace of mind. The Bhaktivedanta Club IIT Patna caters the needs of modern youth synergizing the overall growth, both materially and spiritually. A systematic teaching is provided in the form of mantra meditation, yoga retreat camps, love feast program and intellectual lectures for personality development and Time management. We also organise Various spiritual trips, Cultural Programs, Festivals and contests like Vedic Quiz and Colouring competition. Recently we organised "Story Telling Competition" and "Pot Decoration Competition" to promote literary skills and creativity among students. We organise Food for life program for impecunious and unprivileged students outside the campus. We do Nagar Sankirtan and Book Distribution to create awareness for "Hari Naam" in the society. We also organise small Rath Yatra festival every year for kids. The Bhaktivedanta Club IIT Patna invites everyone to participate and understand the real purpose of human life by practical engagement in devotional service.



Janmastami

(03 SEPTEMBER 2018)

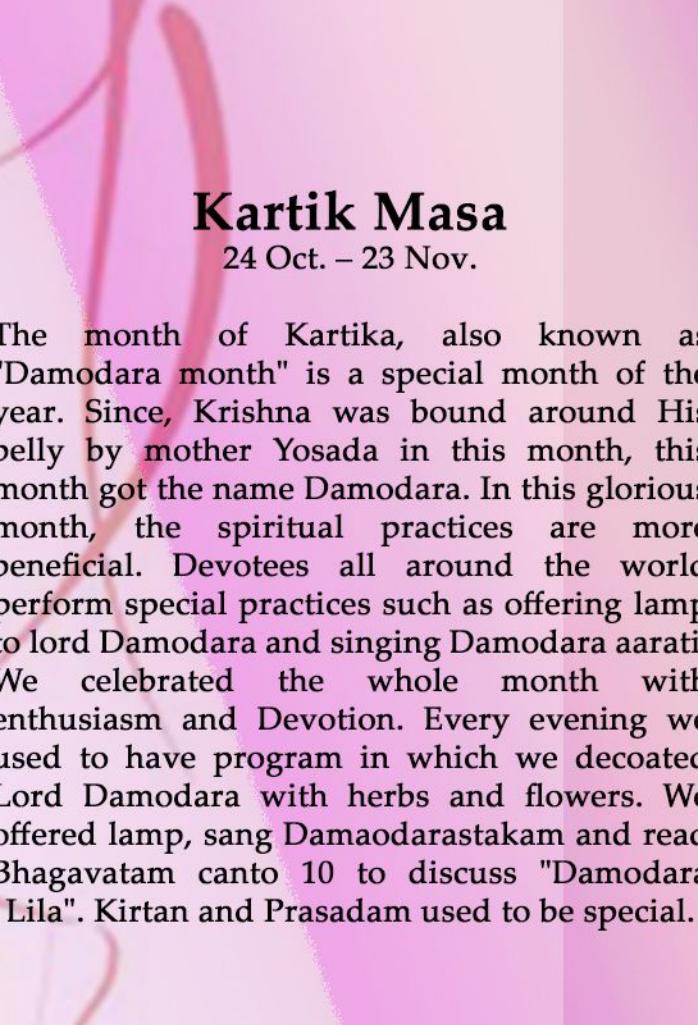
The Divine Appearance day of Lord Krishna, "Sri Krishna Janmastami" is celebrated as a grand festival with utmost spiritual fervour. This is the most awaited festival of Bhaktivedanta Club, where more than thousands of students, faculty, staff and their kids participate together. Students were burning the midnight oil to prepare for this day. It started with grand Aatri and then we started cultural programs. Bhagavad-Gita recitation, Fancy-dress competition, singing, Group dance, prize distribution was going one after another. Drama on "Pastime of Vamana Dev and Bali Maharaj" was played which thrilled everyone's heart. Then there was a Kirtan session with all type of musical instruments. Everyone was dancing to celebrate lord's birthday and were enjoying a transcendental bliss. Dr R.K. Behera gave a lecture on "Intelligent Design". There was ample Prasadam for all including the especial Chhapan Bhog. In the midnight the Lord's abhishekam started which was accompanied with melodious bhajans chanted by gathering. Diorama, Book stalls and Decoration were special attractions of the festival. The event ended physically with a vote of thanks, but Janmastami is still relishable in our memories.



Gaura Purnima

21 March 2019

Gaura Purnima is the auspicious appearance day of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu. We celebrated this festival with enthusiasm and devotion. As soon as morning programs were over, we set off for a Nagar sankirtan in the campus lead by kids. Coming from there we performed a grand Abhishekam of Gour-Nitai with Juices, Milk, Ghee, Curd, Honey and Ganga jal. Abhishekam was accompanied with a parallelly going melodious kirtan. Then Aarti was performed and especial dishes were offered to the lord. In the evening we started with an elegant Goura Aarti followed by Prabhupada lecture on pastimes of Lord Chaitanya. Now it was the time for Dancing kirtan and everyone enjoyed a lot. Lastly we relished prasadam of various kinds.



Kartik Masa

24 Oct. – 23 Nov.

The month of Kartika, also known as "Damodara month" is a special month of the year. Since, Krishna was bound around His belly by mother Yosada in this month, this month got the name Damodara. In this glorious month, the spiritual practices are more beneficial. Devotees all around the world perform special practices such as offering lamp to lord Damodara and singing Damodara aarati. We celebrated the whole month with enthusiasm and Devotion. Every evening we used to have program in which we decorated Lord Damodara with herbs and flowers. We offered lamp, sang Damaodarastakam and read Bhagavatam canto 10 to discuss "Damodara Lila". Kirtan and Prasadam used to be special.

Govardhan Puja

08 November 2018

Our club celebrated this auspicious festival with great pleasure and enthusiasm. In the evening the program started with an extraordinary Aarti. Devotees designed a Govardhan Hill made of Halva prasadam, decorated with fruits, vegetables, sweets, Juices and dry fruits. We discussed the "Govardhan lila" of Krishna from Bhagavatam. The Hill was worshipped by offering aarti as well as delicious prasadam. Everyone did parikrama around Govardhan. Devotees made the day mesmerizing by doing a magnificent Kirtan and all were dancing around. Everyone was blessed to attend this festival with so much of devotion. At the end, the Hill of maha prasadam was distributed to everyone and all were happy and satisfied.



Maha Shivaratri

4 March 2019

Lord Shiva is param Vaishnava, The most exalted among Devotees. This year Bhaktivedanta Club organised a special programme on this day in the evening which comprised Deep-dan, Kirtan, Lecture on "Shiva Tatva" and Love Feast. The kirtan session was long enough and everyone was absorbed in it and enjoying within. Then lecture session was very much enlightening and cleared many misconceptions about Lord Shiva. Finally, Programme ended with prasadam and everyone enjoyed a lot.



Narasimha chaturdashi

18 May 2019

Narasimha chaturdashi is the auspicious day on which Lord Narasimha Deva appeared to save Prahlada Maharaj from his Demonic father HiranyaKasipu. Our Club started the celebration with Abhishekam, Kirtan and reading Bhagavatam in the morning. We also observed fasting till Dusk. Evening Program started with ecstatic kirtan, then we had lecture on sweet pastimes of Prahlada Maharaj. Again, there was a heavy Dancing Kirtan. Everyone was Dancing jubilantly. At the end we had big feast in the temple.

Ram Navami

14 April 2019

Preparations were going on for quite some days and we were really excited as the awaited occasion had finally arrived "Sri Ram Navami", The Appearance Day of "Lord Ramachandra". The evening celebration began with the blissful and spiritually uplifting Gaura Aarti and Narasimha Prayer. Then, we had "Sri Ram Stuti" recitation by Mataji's, fancy dress competition, Prize distribution and dance performance by the faculty kids. We also had "Chaupai" recitation from the college students which were really heart stirring. Then we had drama performances from faculty kids on "Ram Setu Bandhan". An enlightening lecture was given by Dr. S.K. Parida on description of Lord Ram's life and his teachings. Based on lecture, small quiz was held and prize were distributed. After that we had dancing kirtan and everyone seemed to enjoy the bliss of the holy name, chanting and dancing in ecstasy. Finally, we had delicious Feast and everyone seemed satisfied.



Bihta Nagar Sankirtan

1 December 2018

Our Club organized a nagar sankirtan in Bihta village. We started our Sankirtan from Shri Ram Janki Temple Bihta. Firstly, we did jubilant kirtan in temple and then we moved to outside village and came on mukhiya gali, through old Thana road we went to Bihta Railway Station where we did ecstatic kirtan lead by Devotees. Many villagers were amazed to watch us and later joined us. We were chanting and dancing all the way from post office road to market, to flyover and finally through Mahadeva road we went to Mahadeva temple where we did kirtan for a while and reached back to Ram Janki Temple where we did parikrama and end our sankirtan. Then we distributed Pasadam to all villagers. Everywhere we would see people joining us, singing and dancing with us happily. Therefore, Chaitanya Mahaprabhu says, we Indians have the prime responsibility to propagate this "Hari Naam sankirtan movement" all around the world. Due to the mercy of Lord Chaitanya this program accomplished successfully.



Sri Chaitanya Bhagavata, Antya 4.126 - Srila Vrindavana Dasa Thakura
Translation: In every town and village, the chanting of my name
will be heard.

Whenever and wherever there is a decline in religious practice,
O descendant of Bharata, and a predominant rise of irreligion – at that time
I descend Myself.

(B.G. 4.7)

Jagannath Rath Yatra 2019

ISKCON, Patna has organized the Jagannath Rath Yatra in the state capital Patna on 4th July. It was the day when this Cart festival of India, The Rath Yatra started in Jagannath Puri, Orissa. After the Aarti at ISKCON Patna, the Rath Yatra started from the ISKCON temple and passed through the Taramandal, Dak Bungalow chauraha, Gandhi Maidan, Exhibition Road,

Mahavir Mandir, J.P. Golambar and returned to the temple. The procession had Horses, Elephants and Camels in the front followed by big Band party followed by huge crowd of devotees pulling the ropes, followed by Rath, again followed by a huge crowd of devotees. All the way Devotees were Chanting, Dancing, Pulling the ropes and Distributing books. Lot of prasadam was being distributed among the crowd from the top of the Rath, different Stalls were installed beside the road distributing juices and fruits among the Devotees. After Rath Yatra, around 10,000 plates of free prasadam were distributed.

To make conversation with the culture of India and to instil integrity among kids, our club organised a Jagannath Rath Yatra headed by kids in IIT Patna on 29 March 2019. To celebrate this divine festival, BVC made a small Rath and did Rath Yatra in park with kids. All the matajis helped in organizing the event and cooked nice Prasadam. Kids were very happy by pulling the cart and at last they got the yummy prasadam.



Food for All

12 January 2019

we did our 9th "Food for All" program in nearby Arap village in which 700 village people and children, participated. This programme was done under the supervision of H.H. Prabodha Nanda Swami Maharaja. The programme started with a spiritually enlivening kirtan on which village children danced a lot. Then Maharaja gave a lecture on Indian culture and explained to the village people how we are losing it. Maharaja blessed children with Hindi lecture on pastimes of Dhruva Maharaja. There was a small quiz among kids followed by Prize distribution. Maharaja especially requested village people to revive that Indian culture. Again there was an astounding kirtan and everyone danced jubilantly. Programme ended with Prasadam distribution. Everyone got nutritious, healthy and tasty prasadam. At last all chanted Mahamantra together and village Mukhia thanked Maharaj and appreciated initiative of our club.



Yoga Retreat Camp

21 October 2018

Yoga Retreat Camp is one of the most awaited Events of Bhaktivedanta Club IIT Patna which witnesses nice participation from IITP Fraternity. The main attractions of camp include discussion on significance of Yoga for stress free life, Mantra Meditation, practice of some yoga asanas, Surya Namaskar and pranayama. The main Theme of this excursion is to understand and realize the true meaning of Yoga i.e. "To connect with God". The camp solemnized on a Spring sunny day underneath a Banyan tree. The part of camp which everyone enjoyed the most was dancing kirtan. Camp ends with Palatable and wholesome Krishna Prasad.



**Abandon all varieties of religion and just
surrender unto Me. I shall deliver you from all
sinful reactions. Do not fear.**

(B.G. 18.66)

TRIPS

TIRUPATI (20-12-2018)

Tirupati, one of the most visited religious places in India, marks the beginning of an uphill journey through the Seshachalam. We began by foot from the bottom of the hills to reach upto the top through Alipiri Mettu. We choose a detour to the Kalayankatta. We waited in the queue for long, long hours to get darshan. This lead us to darshan of the deity for a few seconds who is residing in the innermost sanctum or Garbha Griha. After standing around hours and hours, when you just stand in front of the deity for a fraction of second, you only feel peace, nothing else. The time we saw the deity, we forget everything and kept looking at Him, you don't even know what you should pray for. Amongst the temple's most popular traditions is the prasadam (Tirupati laddu) or sacred offering that devotees collect after emerging from the sanctum. After that, we took Anna prasadam in the prasadam hall with 1000 of devotees at a time.



VRINDAVANA (10-11-2018)

As Prabhupada says that only Lord's mercy can take you to Vrindawana not your train tickets that so happened with us this time. It was a 2 days trip but it resembled like a fraction of seconds. As soon as we reached to Vrindavan, first we visited the beautiful campus of Bhaktivedanta Gurukul and International School, from there we went for 22 km long Parikrama of Goverdhan hill. According to our capacity and realisation we all experienced the bliss and potency of this place.

Next day we visited Radha Damodar temple and Radha Raman temple for darshan. It is said that the deities of these temples are manifested itself for the devotees. In the evening we enjoyed the bone fire in Gurukul campus along with many devotees from all over the country.

The most enlightening part came next morning and it was the chanting session of Hare Krishna mahamantra along with a very realized and intellectual personality prof. L.D. Behera sir who shared many intricacies of this chanting process along with his experience.



PURI (11-07-2019)

This year our club visited Puri Dham to attend "Bahuda" festival. After reaching Puri, we directly went to Gundicha Temple to get Lord's darshan and saw huge Rath were parked outside it. After prasadam, we rushed to Jagannath Temple. We also visited Hanuman Mandir and got darshan of Vimala Devi and Patit-Pawan Bhagwan. Next day, we proceeded to Sea beach where we chanted for some time and enjoyed bathing with Devotees. Thereafter we went to "Gambhira" where Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu spent most of his times in Puri and "Bhajan Kutir" of Haridash Thakur. Returning from there we went to ISKCON Puri Temple and attended Aarti. Same evening we went to Jagannath Temple to watch Lord's returning on Rath popularly called Bahuda Mahotsava. Outside the temple Lord's decoration with various kinds of golden ornaments called "Suna Bhesha" was going on. Again we took a deep in the sea and returned same night.



**CHITRAKOOT
(31-12-2018)**



**PRAYAGRAJ
(02-02-2019)**

Visit of Vaishnawas

"The humble sage, by virtue of true knowledge, sees with equal vision a learned and gentle brāhmaṇa, a cow, an elephant, a dog, and a dog-eater"

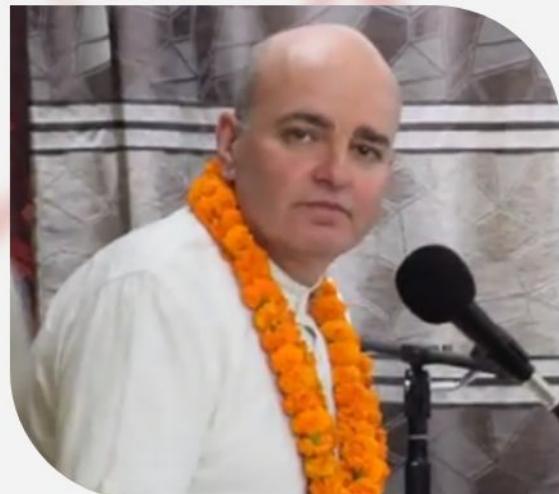
H.H. Bhakti Ashraya Vaishnava Swami Maharaja



He visited our club on 29 July 2019 during one of his Tour to Gaya. He is an exalted Saint from Vrindawana. In morning we attended his Bhagavatam class. Lecture started with a vibratory kirtan. Then We discussed the Talk on-going between Uddhava & Vidura about Lord Krishna after battle of Kurukshetra. He was then discussing Lord's beauty and the trap which it created for the enemies on the battle field. How they used to come to fight with full vigour but once saw the pleasing smile of Krishna, became enchanted by it forgot what to do on the battle field and started drinking the nectar coming from beautiful face of the lord and in the mean while Arjuna would shoot them with arrows. Dying with watching lord's face, all of them were immediately transferred to Vaikuntha Planet. He also addressed many of our questions. He discussed importance of purity in devotion and how both act as mutual catalyst for each other. The lecture ended with Palatable Prashadam.

H.G. Tusti Mohan Krishna Prabhu

He came to our club on 4 May 2019 during one of his lecture in ISKCON Patna. He is secretary of H.H. Jaipataka Swami Maharaja and had been residing in Sridham Mayapur since many years. Despite being so old, he is very energetic and has a different way of explaining things. He uses fresh examples to make things easy to understand in a humorous way. He discussed the Topic "Secrets of Success in Life". The lecture was interspersed with short Kirtan and Bhajan. He described one who is connected to Krishna, Lakshmi Devi manifest in the family and Saraswati Devi manifest in the mind.



H.G. Karuna Nimai Prabhu

He is from Rourkela and came to Patna for preaching, meanwhile he also visited our club and we got the opportunity to associate with him. He is very young devotee. He attended morning programme with us and gave the morning Bhagavatam class. He was really very friendly and explained the things in a more comprehensive way. There was a healthy discussion and interaction between us. We asked many doubts and very skilfully he answered them to our satisfaction. Then we had prasadam together. He felt very happy and we were fortunate to get his association.

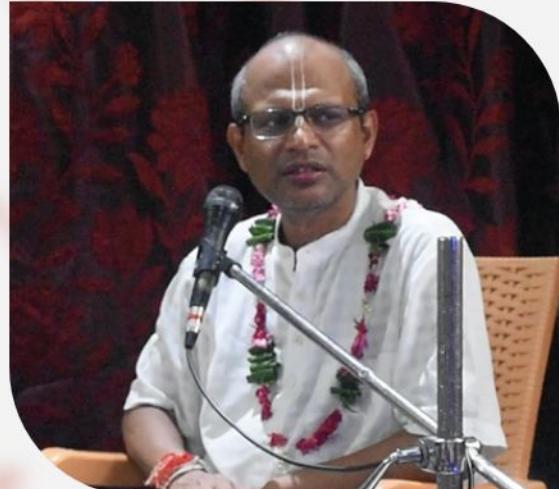
H.H. Prabodha Nanda Swami Maharaja



It is said, mahad-vicalanāṁ nṛṇāṁ grhinām dīna-cetasām(Bhāg. 10.8.4). The only business of a saintly person or sannyāsi, a person in the renounced order, is to preach Kṛiṣṇa consciousness. Material life means that one forgets Kṛiṣṇa and increases desires for sense gratification. But if one receives the advantage of instructions from saintly persons and forgets the importance of material desires, one is automatically purified. Taking this instruction from Srila Prabhupada, H.H. Prabodha Nanda Saraswati Swami Maharaja mercifully visits IIT Patna annually. He discussed many pastimes of Lord Krishna and his devotees in our club programmes. He inaugurated our first 'food for life' program of Bhaktivedanta Club in Amahara school Bihta.

H.G. Lila Purushottama Das

Dr. L. Behera is currently a professor at IIT Kanpur and Director of Bhaktivedanta Gurukula and International School, Vrindavan. In the past, he has also been faculty member in University of Ulster, UK, BITS Pilani, Bhaktivedanta Institute Mumbai, and ETH, Zurich. He has published more than 120 papers in various international and national journals as well as conference proceedings. He is determined to strive hard to bring this school to a level of international repute in terms of academic performance and real-life skills. He visited IIT Patna to give a course on "An introduction to Bhagavad Gita". Many students attended this course, we had discussions with him and the course ended with a trip to Gaya.



H.G. Nimai Sundar Prabhu

He is from ISKCON Ujjain and the head of IIT Indore BACE. He visited our club during summers. He is a young Devotee and a versatile speaker on topics of Srimad Bhagavatam. He attended morning programme in our club and took Bhagavatam lecture class. The class started with short Kirtan. In the lecture he explained how to develop love for Krishna by Devotional service. He further explained that love and devotion brings purity to our heart and we become equally disposed to everyone, no matter whether the person is my friend or foe. He quoted many verses from Chaitanya Charitamrita to support this. Then we had a question-answer session with him. He cleared many of our personal doubts. We took prasadam together and it was really nice to associate with him.



"For one who explains this supreme secret to the devotees, pure devotional service is guaranteed, and at the end he will come back to Me."

-B.G. 18.68

Laws of Karma

Laws of Karma are equivalent to Newton's Law of "Every action has an equal and opposite reaction". When we think or act, we initiate a force that will react accordingly. This returning force may be modified, changed or suspended but cannot be eradicated fully. A person may not escape the consequence of his actions, but he will suffer only if he himself has made the conditions ripe for his suffering. "As you sow, so shall you reap". The saying further reaccentuates the laws of karma. Whatever we put out in the universe; it will come back to us. The law of karma is infallible, and everyone invariably is subjected to it. Sometimes we are oblivious to the fact that most of our lifetime is spent in undergoing destiny which is created by our karmas or deeds in the past births. As per the law of Karma, every good and positive work generates a merit, while every negative deed result in a sin which subsequently we need to repay by enduring happiness or unhappiness. All major events in our life are predestined. During our day to day interactions, we are either settling an old account or creating a new one. If an account is not settled in the present birth, it is carried over to the next birth. Virtually, our thoughts and actions have consequences- good or bad. If we aspire for peace, love, prosperity; we must be willing to act accordingly. True change only occurs if we make the commitment to change what is in our heart. If we want to change our life, we must change our frame of mind and our surroundings. Energy and intentions are vital components that determine the significance of an end-result. Basically, love and passion embody the motives of one that resolves to leave a lasting impression on the whole. Buddha states that 'Karma consists of our thoughts, words, actions and actions that others perform under our instructions. Virtually karma is the law of moral causation. In this world nothing happens to a person that he does not for some reason or other deserve. The definite invisible cause of the visible effect is not necessarily confined to the present life. They may be traced to a remote past birth. Virtually, we are the architects of our own fate.

Dr. Supriya Singh
HOD, Political Science
Govt. Women's College Patna

What is Krishna Consciousness?

Krishna Consciousness is a process which gives practical way to achieve the real perfection. Now question arise here what is real perfection? Real Perfection is to know about our self and the relation with the supreme self Shri Krishna. This Krishna Consciousness is very easy process. A person in Krishna Consciousness performs all his activities from waking up early in the morning to going for sleep at night, for the pleasure of Krishna only. We may see him as working in office, studying in classroom or cooking in kitchen, but he is always

remembering Krishna that is called '***Yukta Vairagya***'. We should try to achieve this type of perfection and make our life successful.

Jayant Vyas
Assistant Professor
PIET, Parul University Vadodara, Gujarat, India

Perfection of a living Body

There are innumerable particles of living spark that exist on this planet and other planets as well. According to their desire they are given a particular type of compartment or a body. According to Vedic science, six kinds of changes takes place in a body. No living body can avoid this. But those who engage in the service of Lord Krishna, they are freed from all miseries of life. In my childhood, I used to pluck flowers from a "Kath Champa" tree for Lord. This living body in the form of a tree, is engaged in the service of Lord Krishna by providing flowers and shades to the devotee for nearly 10 decades. This tree takes different kinds of painful situations such as torrents of rain, scorching heat and sometimes cyclone and although being broken, is still standing taking shelter of earth in the service of Lord Radha Madan Mohan. In any form of living body, if one is engaged in the service of Lord Krishna, he is perfected. This tree is an example of such perfection as Lord Chaitanya says "***Jivera Swarup haya nitya Krishna Das***". Engage your body in service of Lord and be happy and lead a blissful Life. Hare Krishna...



FAREWELL 2019

**"We Will
Miss You!"**



Dr. R. K. Behera
Associate Professor
Electrical engineering Department, IIT Patna

Association of Devotees

Hare Krishna! All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

In Prabhupada's words, " If you maintain the association of devotees your life will be happy and perfect. That is the version of sastra that the most important thing of spiritual realization is the company of realized souls or pure devotees of the Lord." By the mercy of Lord Jagannath, I came in the association with Bhaktivedanta Club IIT Patna in June, 2017 when I was an intern there and it was a phenomenal experience. One of my lab member invited me for the Saturday Program, and for the first time in my life I had seen such beautiful worship of Krishna. The love for Krishna attracts me so much that I didn't realize but very soon I became a part of it. I enthusiastically celebrated Janmastami, Rath Yatra, Govardhan Puja and many more festivals. By Prabhupada's blessing sometimes I got an opportunity for book distribution also. I have lots of beautiful memories of that place. For me Bhaktivedanta Club is not only a group of devotees but also a "Hare Krishna" family. The respect for this family is tremendous and I can not even explain in my words. All I would like to thank my spiritual master (Dr. Ranjan Kr. Behera) and all the other devotees of Bhaktivedanta Club for bringing me in Krishna Consciousness. I had learnt a lot from you all and many more learning are yet to come. Last but not the least let us turn our race into grace and with full gratitude, devotion and extreme love for Krishna, chant together the holy name of Lord

"Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Hare Hare, Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare !!!"

Hari Haribol!!

Swati Sneha
Noida, TCS





BHAKTIVEDANTA CLUB IIT PATNA

Address: B4/103, Faculty quarters IIT Patna, Bihta

You are cordially invited to attend the love feast program conducted every Saturday evening from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. It consists Gaura Aarti, Sankirtan, Thought provoking Lectures and delicious vegeterian feast.

Feel free to write us on our club Email id : byciitp@gmail.com

For more details about the club and it's activities, please contact :
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MESSAGE :

Today you are Hindu; tomorrow you become Muslim. Or today you are Muslim; tomorrow you become Christian. That kind of conversion, change, is not religion. Because the man remains the same. Simply by his changing the rubber stamp, "I am Hindu", "I am Muslim", "I am Christian", that does not make any benefit. Therefore our movement is Krishna consciousness. We don't talk of any religion. The consciousness should be changed. The material consciousness should be changed into spiritual consciousness. That is our propaganda. It is meant for Hindu, Muslim, Christian, anyone. White, black, yellow, everything. Because it is the function of the soul. Soul is not black, white, yellow. Soul is spirit. So one has to realize that "I am spirit soul. I am not Indian nor American nor Englishman nor German nor white nor black. This is my bodily description. I am not this body." This is the beginning of spiritual understanding.

"Religion means to know God and to love Him."

Srila Prabhupada,
Lecture on SB 1.2.6 -- London, July 23, 1973