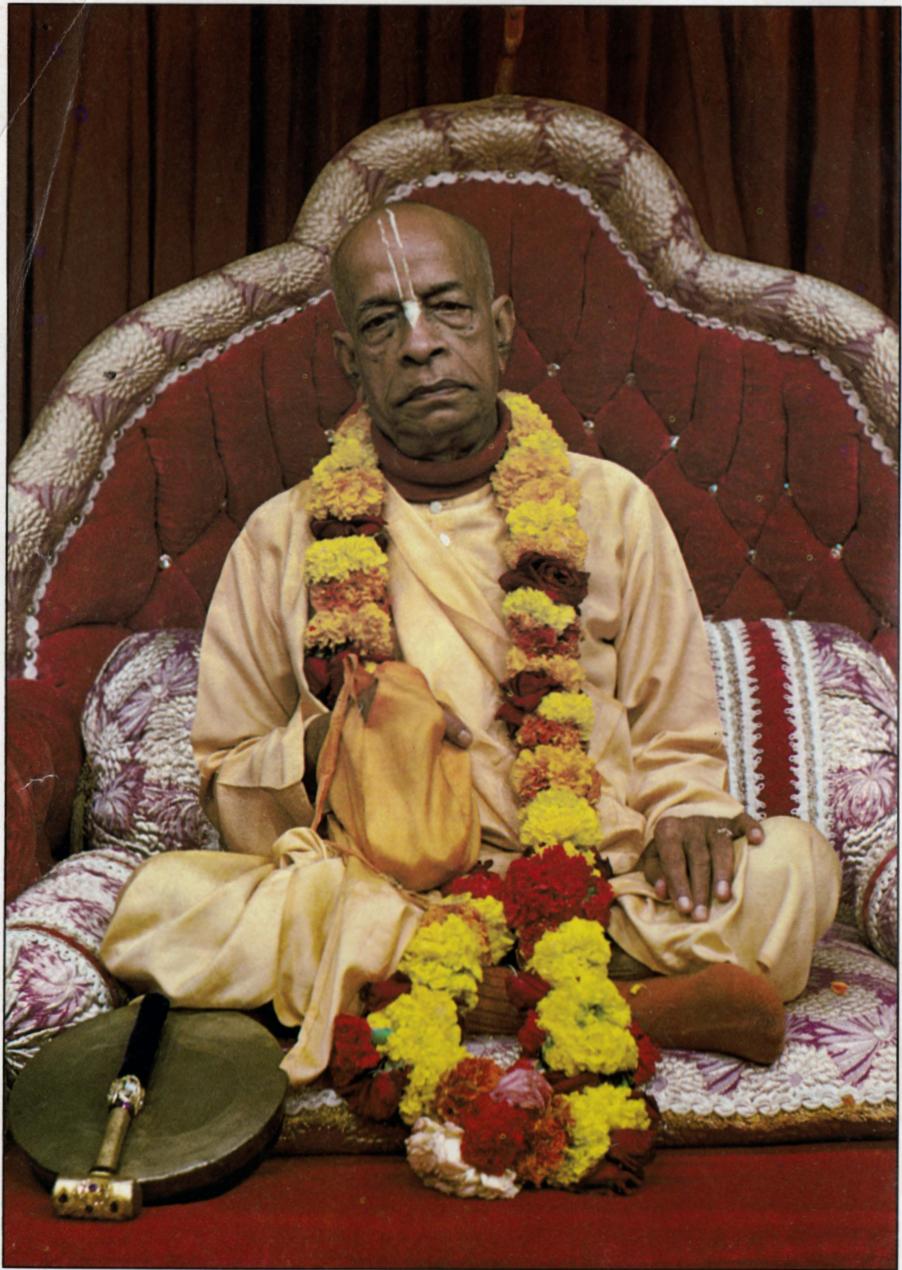


# THE KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS MOVEMENT IS AUTHORIZED



His Divine Grace  
**A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda**  
Founder-Ācārya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness

# THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS



The message of the *Vedas*, India's ancient spiritual and philosophical texts, is that the human form of life is meant for reviving our original God consciousness through the practice of spiritual discipline. The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) is a worldwide, nonsectarian movement dedicated to propagating this message for the benefit of mankind. The Society was founded in 1966 by His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, who had come to the United States a year earlier on the order of his spiritual master (Śrīla Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvati Gosvāmī) to teach Kṛṣṇa consciousness in the Western world.

Over the years, ISKCON has steadily grown in popularity and in-

fluence, and today it is widely recognized by theologians, scholars and laymen as a genuine and important spiritual movement. The reason for this is twofold: first, the philosophy which guides the lives of ISKCON's members is grounded firmly in the teachings of the Vedic literatures, specifically the *Bhagavad-gītā* and the *Srimad-Bhāgavatam*; second, the spiritual master and founder of ISKCON, His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, is a leader of substantial erudition and integrity. As the current representative of an unbroken chain of self-realized spiritual masters, reaching back to Lord Kṛṣṇa Himself, His Divine Grace is the leading exponent of Vedic culture in the world today.



**Fire ceremony** sanctifies initiation of new devotees. Essentially unchanged for thousands of years, the Vedic rite shows the authenticity of ISKCON's life-style.



**Traditional play** highlights ISKCON's cultural activities, dramatizing events from Sanskrit literature. Arts unify worship and education.



**Network TV** plays host to Kṛṣṇa devotees on the David Susskind show. Hundreds of mass-media presentations have familiarized Americans with the practices and views of ISKCON.

ISKCON is an educational, cultural, and philosophical movement with nearly one hundred centers in thirty countries throughout the world. These centers enable full-time members to live in close association, following the principles of Vedic life, and also provide a place where interested visitors can learn about the philosophy and culture of Kṛṣṇa consciousness and participate in its various functions.

The members of ISKCON are of all ages, of varying degrees of education, and from many walks of life: students, teachers, scientists, servicemen, laborers and professionals. Indeed, numerous races, creeds and nationalities are represented in ISKCON. The unifying characteristics that bring such diverse individuals to Kṛṣṇa consciousness are high ethical standards and a sincere desire to understand spiritual truth. As a prerequisite for the serious pursuit of spiritual life, all devotees voluntarily abstain from meat-eating, illicit sex, intoxication and gambling.

In contrast to the complexity and anxiety of modern life, the Kṛṣṇa conscious life-style is based on the principle of "simple living and high thinking." Devotees rise very early—about 4:00 A.M.—and spend the morning hours in meditation and study, attending classes in the profound and practical philosophy of *Bhagavad-gītā* and *Śrimad-Bhāgavatam*. Śrila Prabhupāda's translations of these two Vedic classics are regarded by many scholars as the most erudite and authoritative available. In the morning hours, the devotees also meditate on the *mahā-mantra*, composed of the following transcendental names of God: Hare Kṛṣṇa, Hare Kṛṣṇa, Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa, Hare Hare/

Hare Rāma, Hare Rāma, Rāma Rāma, Hare Hare. Vedic literature states that this meditation is the simplest and most sublime process for reviving God consciousness in the current materialistic age.

During the day, the main activity is preaching Kṛṣṇa consciousness. Many devotees go out to public places to distribute the Society's books and its official journal, *Back to Godhead* magazine, which has a monthly circulation of more than a million copies in thirteen languages. This literature is provided by the Bhaktivedanta Book Trust, the publishing arm of ISKCON, which is the exclusive publisher for the works of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda. Since its inception in 1972, the BBT has quickly become the world's largest publisher and distributor of English and foreign-language editions of India's spiritual classics. To date, the BBT has published a total of sixty 400-page hardbound volumes, each profusely illustrated with original paintings by devotee artists. It is principally through the distribution of this literature (as well as by contributions from members and well-wishers) that the Society is financially maintained.

In addition to book distribution, devotees engage in a wide variety of activities, including teaching, outside jobs, artistic pursuits, and farming. The qualification in Kṛṣṇa consciousness is not the kind of work one performs, but that it be done in the spirit of devotion to God. As Lord Kṛṣṇa tells His devotee Arjuna in the *Bhagavad-gītā*, "All that you do should be done as an offering unto Me." (Bg. 9.27)



Editorial and graphic arts divisions of the Bhaktivedanta Book Trust are housed in this building in residential Los Angeles.



**Back to Godhead** magazine rolls off the presses as BBT officials check quality of printing. The publication has a monthly circulation of more than one million.

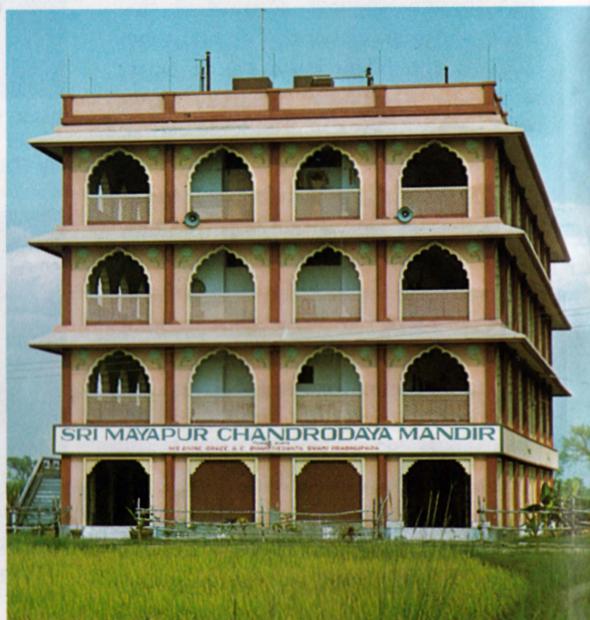


Propagating Kṛṣṇa consciousness is a major daily activity of ISKCON's members. Here a devotee shows the *Bhagavad-gītā As It Is* to an interested couple in New York's Central Park.



**Exquisite ISKCON temple** in Vrindavana, India, the birthplace of Lord Kṛṣṇa, was constructed in 1974 and is already a popular pilgrimage site. International Guest House stands in rear.

Once a year, the members of ISKCON journey to the Society's international headquarters at Śridhāma Māyāpur, West Bengal, India. Śrila Prabhupāda has proposed establishing an Institute of Vedic Studies at this site, where visitors from all over the world can learn about Vedic culture and witness it in practice. Presently the world center includes a large facility for massive distribution of food to thousands of needy families. Another major Indian center is in Vrindavana, the birthplace of Lord Kṛṣṇa, where the Society has recently opened the magnificent Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma Temple and International Guest House.



**First building** of a future city, this dormitory rises above the fertile Ganges plain at ISKCON's world headquarters in Māyāpur, West Bengal, India.



**Free food distribution** at Māyāpur aids Indian families. Col. D. R. Suri of UNICEF declared, "The Society has been rendering a humane service by distributing foodstuff in West Bengal." Former United States ambassador to India Kenneth Keating said, "You have my admiration and blessings for your selfless work."

In the United States and other countries, ISKCON has established a series of rural *āśramas*, each a model of Vedic agrarian life. Avoiding modern farm machinery as far as possible, they demonstrate that a human being need not depend on the artificial economy of the city. He can live peacefully and simply in the country while pursuing a spiritual life.

For the children of ISKCON there is Gurukula, the Society's primary and secondary school system. Taught by academically qualified members of the Society, the children learn Vedic language and culture as well as the usual subjects like English, math, and history. The unique feature of Gurukula is that the entire educational process is centered around the goal of self-realization.

Throughout the world, the Kṛṣṇa Consciousness Society has been recognized for its cultural and welfare activities. Mayors and law enforce-



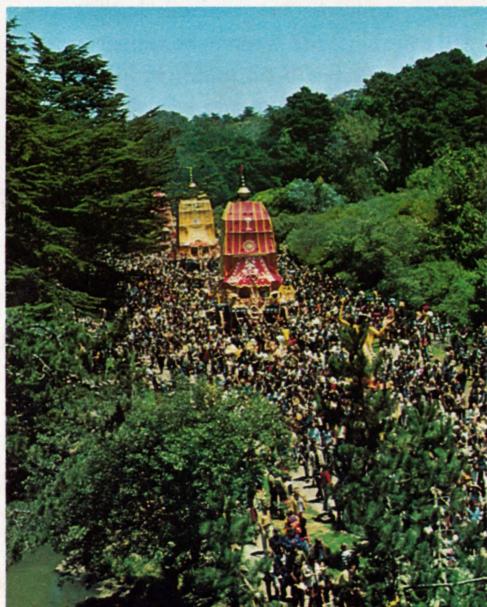
**Cow protection**, a mainstay of Vedic culture, contributes to the prosperity of ISKCON's many farm communities.



**Rolling hills** of West Virginia cradle ISKCON's flourishing New Vṛndāvana farm. Begun in 1968, it now spreads over one thousand acres and has over a hundred devoted workers.



**Personalized teaching** insures a high standard of education at Gurukula, ISKCON's primary and secondary school system. In his book *Hare Krishna and the Counterculture* (John Wiley and Sons, Inc.), Dr. J. Stillson Judah of the Graduate Theological Union says, "The student is taught to be kind to everyone, not to be quarrelsome, to be charitable, clean, benevolent, self-controlled, completely devoted to God and free from material desires."

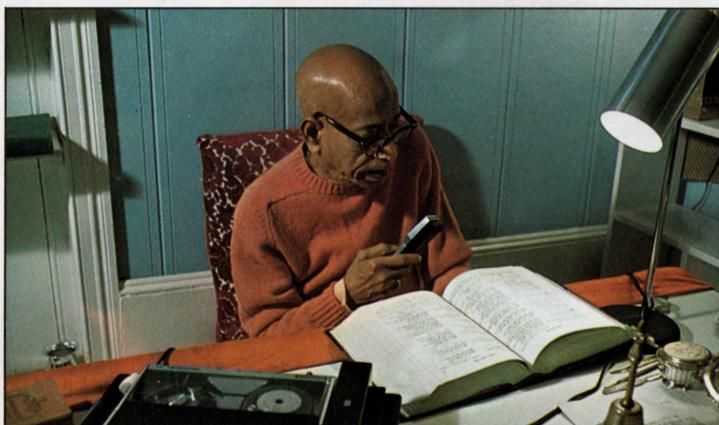


Tens of thousands join ISKCON's Ratha-yātrā Festival in dozens of cities worldwide. Mayor Joseph Alioto officially proclaimed "Ratha-yātrā Day" in honor of the San Francisco celebration (above).

ment officials in major metropolitan areas have praised the Society for its success in helping young people overcome drug dependence. *Addictions Magazine* declared, "Krṣṇa consciousness is close to one hundred percent successful in stopping drug use." The mayor of San Francisco has proclaimed a Ratha-yātrā Day in honor of the spectacular festival held annually by ISKCON. In addition, ISKCON is establishing centers for Vedic studies in several major American cities to enable college students and residents to take courses in Vedic philosophy, religion, arts, social thought and psychology.

Thus the International Society for Krishna Consciousness—a dynamic and effective spiritual movement—is making a significant contribution to the intellectual, cultural and spiritual life of contemporary man.

# THE FOUNDER-ĀCĀRYA



His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda dictates his translation of an original text. Tapes are transcribed, edited, composed and printed. To date he has written over sixty volumes.

His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda was born in 1896 in Calcutta, India. He first met his spiritual master, Śrila Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvati Gosvāmī, in Calcutta in 1922. Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvati, a prominent devotional scholar and the founder of sixty-four branches of Gauḍiya Mathas (Vedic institutes), liked this educated young man and convinced him to dedicate his life to teaching Vedic knowledge in the Western world. Śrila Prabhupāda became his student, and eleven years later (1933) at Allahabad, he became his formally initiated disciple.

At their first meeting, in 1922, Śrila Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvati Ṭhākura requested Śrila Prabhupāda to broadcast Vedic knowledge through the English language. In the years that followed,

Śrila Prabhupāda wrote a commentary on the *Bhagavad-gītā* and in 1944, without assistance, started an English fortnightly magazine.

Recognizing Śrila Prabhupāda's philosophical learning and devotion, the Gauḍiya Vaiṣṇava Society honored him in 1947 with the title "Bhaktivedanta." In 1950, at the age of fifty-four, Śrila Prabhupāda retired from married life, and four years later he adopted the *vānaprastha* (retired) order to devote more time to his studies and writing. Śrila Prabhupāda traveled to the holy city of Vṛndāvana, where he lived in very humble circumstances in the historic medieval temple of Rādhā-Dāmodara. There he engaged for several years in deep study and writing. He accepted the renounced order of life (*sannyāsa*) in 1959. At Rādhā-

Dāmodara, Śrīla Prabhupāda began work on his life's masterpiece: a multivolume translation and commentary on the 18,000-verse *Śrimad-Bhāgavatam* (*Bhāgavata Purāṇa*). He also wrote *Easy Journey to Other Planets*.

After publishing three volumes of *Bhāgavatam*, Śrīla Prabhupāda came to the United States, in 1965, to fulfill the mission of his spiritual master. Since that time, His Divine Grace has written over sixty volumes of authoritative translations, commentaries and summary studies of the philosophical and religious classics of India.

In 1965, when he first arrived by freighter in New York City, Śrīla Prabhupāda was practically penniless. It was after almost a year of great difficulty that he established the International Society for Krishna Consciousness in July of 1966. Under his careful guidance, the Society has grown within a decade to a worldwide confederation of almost one hundred *āśramas*, schools, temples, institutes and farm communities.

In 1968, Śrīla Prabhupāda created New Vṛndāvana, an experimental Vedic community in the hills of West Virginia. Inspired by the success of New Vṛndāvana, now a thriving farm community of more than one thousand acres, his students have since founded several similar communities in the United States and abroad.

In 1972, His Divine Grace introduced the Vedic system of primary and secondary education in the West by founding the Gurukula school in Dallas, Texas. The school began with three children in 1972, and by the

beginning of 1975 the enrollment had grown to one hundred fifty.

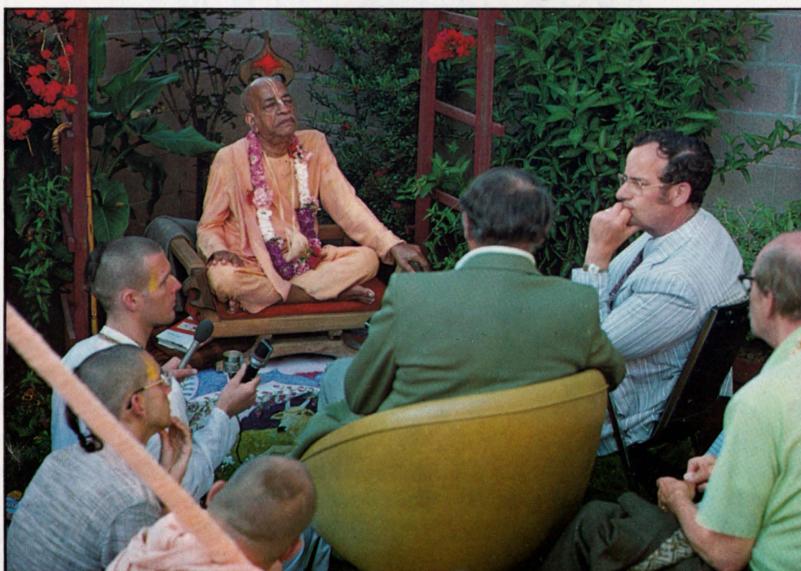
Śrīla Prabhupāda has also inspired the construction of a large international center at Śridhāma Māyāpur in West Bengal, India, which is also the site for a planned Institute of Vedic Studies. A similar project is the magnificent Kṛṣṇa-Balarāma Temple and International Guest House in Vṛndāvana, India. These are centers where Westerners can live to gain firsthand experience of Vedic culture.

Śrīla Prabhupāda's most significant contribution, however, is his books. Highly respected by the academic community for their authoritativeness, depth and clarity, they are used as standard textbooks in numerous college courses. His writings have been translated into eleven languages. The Bhaktivedanta Book Trust, established in 1972 exclusively to publish the works of His Divine Grace, has thus become the world's largest publisher of books in the field of Indian religion and philosophy. Its latest project is the publishing of Śrīla Prabhupāda's most recent work: a seventeen-volume translation and commentary—completed by Śrīla Prabhupāda in only eighteen months—on the Bengali religious classic *Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta*.

In the past ten years, in spite of his advanced age, Śrīla Prabhupāda has circled the globe twelve times on lecture tours that have taken him to six continents. In spite of such a vigorous schedule, Śrīla Prabhupāda continues to write prolifically. His writings constitute a veritable library of Vedic philosophy, religion, literature and culture.

# REVIEWS

Scholars Praise Śrila Prabhupāda's Books



The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) adheres strictly to the principles of India's ancient Vedic culture, whose goal is the spiritual perfection of man. The Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement is firmly based upon the conclusive truths found in *Bhagavad-gītā*, *Śrimad-Bhāgavatam*, and *Caitanya-caritāmṛta*, which contain the essence of Vedic knowledge. These three major texts, translated into the English language by His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda and replete with his erudite commentary, provide the philosophical and practical foundation for the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement.

His Divine Grace Śrila Prabhupāda is uniquely qualified to translate and teach Vedic knowledge. He is the representative of a well-documented

disciplic succession of Vedic authorities. By providing guidelines for the practical implementation of the sublime Vedic teachings, Śrila Prabhupāda has for the first time successfully implanted genuine Vedic culture in the West.

The books of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda are highly respected by students, scholars and laymen alike. His works are now widely used in college courses and seminars in diverse subjects, including philosophy, religion, world literature, history, and the social sciences. The following reviews, written by scholars renowned in their fields, give graphic testimony to the scholarship and authenticity of the books of Śrila Prabhupāda, the founder-ācārya of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement.

## REVIEWS

### BHAGAVAD-GĪTĀ AS IT IS

"No work in all Indian literature is more quoted, because none is better loved, in the West, than the *Bhagavad-gītā*. Translation of such a work demands not only knowledge of Sanskrit, but an inward sympathy with the theme and a verbal artistry. For the poem is a symphony in which God is seen in all things. . . . The Swami does a real service for students by investing the beloved Indian epic with fresh meaning. Whatever our outlook may be, we should all be grateful for the labor that has lead to this illuminating work."

*Dr. Geddes MacGregor, Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Philosophy  
University of Southern California*

"The *Gītā* can be seen as the main literary support for the great religious civilization of India, the oldest surviving culture in the world. The present translation and commentary is another manifestation of the permanent living importance of the *Gītā*."

*Thomas Merton, Theologian*

"I am most impressed with A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda's scholarly and authoritative edition of *Bhagavad-gītā*. It is a most valuable work for the scholar as well as the layman and is of great utility as a reference book as well as a textbook. I promptly recommend this edition to my students. It is a beautifully done book."

*Dr. Samuel D. Atkins  
Professor of Sanskrit, Princeton University*

". . . As a successor in direct line from Caitanya, the author of *Bhagavad-gītā As It Is* is entitled, according to Indian custom, to the majestic title of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda. The great interest that his reading of the *Bhagavad-gītā* holds for us is that it offers us an authorized interpretation according to the principles of the Caitanya tradition."

*Olivier Lacombe  
Professor of Sanskrit and Indology, Sorbonne University, Paris*

"I have had the opportunity of examining several volumes published by the Bhaktivedanta Book Trust and have found them to be of excellent quality and of great value for use in college classes on Indian religions. This is particularly true of the BBT edition and translation of the *Bhagavad-gītā*."

*Dr. Frederick B. Underwood  
Professor of Religion, Columbia University*

## REVIEWS

“... If truth is what works, as Pierce and the pragmatists insist, there must be a kind of truth in the *Bhagavad-gītā As It Is*, since those who follow its teachings display a joyous serenity usually missing in the bleak and strident lives of contemporary people.”

*Dr. Elwin H. Powell  
Professor of Sociology  
State University of New York, Buffalo*

“There is little question that this edition is one of the best books available on the *Gītā* and devotion. Prabhupāda’s translation is an ideal blend of literal accuracy and religious insight.”

*Dr. Thomas J. Hopkins  
Professor of Religion, Franklin and Marshall College*

“The *Bhagavad-gītā*, one of the great spiritual texts, is not as yet a common part of our cultural milieu. This is probably less because it is alien per se than because we have lacked just the kind of close interpretative commentary upon it that Swami Bhaktivedanta has here provided, a commentary written from not only a scholar’s but a practitioner’s, a dedicated lifelong devotee’s point of view.”

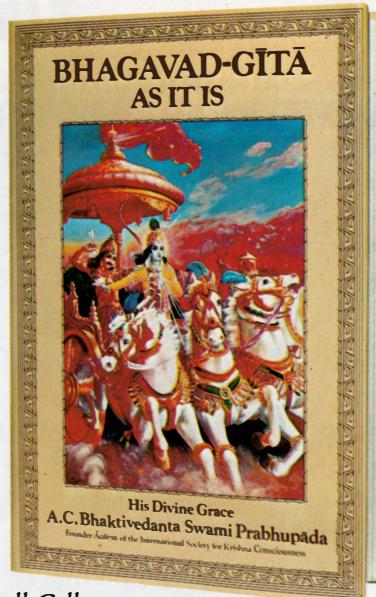
*Denise Levertov, Poet*

“The increasing numbers of Western readers interested in classical Vedic thought have been done a service by Swami Bhaktivedanta. By bringing us a new and living interpretation of a text already known to many, he has increased our understanding manyfold.”

*Dr. Edward C. Dimock, Jr.  
Department of South Asian Languages and Civilization  
University of Chicago*

“The scholarly world is again indebted to A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda. Although *Bhagavad-gītā* has been translated many times, Prabhupāda adds a translation of singular importance with his commentary....”

*Dr. J. Stillson Judah, Professor of the History of Religions and Director of Libraries  
Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California*



## REVIEWS

"Śrīla Prabhupāda's edition thus fills a sensitive gap in France, where many hope to become familiar with traditional Indian thought, beyond the commercial East-West hodgepodge that has arisen since the time Europeans first penetrated India.

"Whether the reader be an adept of Indian spiritualism or not, a reading of the *Bhagavad-gitā As It Is* will be extremely profitable. For many this will be the first contact with the true India, the ancient India, the eternal India."

*Francois Chenique, Professor of Religious Sciences  
Institute of Political Studies, Paris, France*

"As a native of India now living in the West, it has given me much grief to see so many of my fellow countrymen coming to the West in the role of *gurus* and spiritual leaders. For this reason, I am very excited to see the publication of *Bhagavad-gitā As It Is* by Śrī A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda. It will help to stop the terrible cheating of false and unauthorized 'gurus' and 'yogis' and will give an opportunity to all people to understand the actual meaning of Oriental culture."

*Dr. Kailash Vajpeye, Director of Indian Studies  
Center for Oriental Studies, The University of Mexico*

"... It is a deeply felt, powerfully conceived and beautifully explained work. I don't know whether to praise more this translation of the *Bhagavad-gitā*, its daring method of explanation, or the endless fertility of its ideas. I have never seen any other work on the *Gītā* with such an important voice and style. ... It will occupy a significant place in the intellectual and ethical life of modern man for a long time to come."

*Dr. Shaligram Shukla  
Professor of Linguistics, Georgetown University*

"I can say that in the *Bhagavad-gitā As It Is* I have found explanations and answers to questions I had always posed regarding the interpretations of this sacred work, whose spiritual discipline I greatly admire. If the aesceticism and ideal of the apostles which form the message of the *Bhagavad-gitā As It Is* were more widespread and more respected, the world in which we live would be transformed into a better, more fraternal place."

*Dr. Paul Lesourd, Author  
Professeur Honoraire, Catholic University of Paris*

## REVIEWS

### ŚRĪMAD-BHĀGAVATAM

"This is a work to be treasured. No one of whatever faith or philosophical persuasion who reads these books with an open mind can fail to be both moved and impressed...."

*Dr. Garry Gelade  
Professor of Psychology  
Oxford University*

"It has been my great pleasure recently to have read the Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam in the superb edition authorized by A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda.... I am sure this monumental work will go far to bring the sublime message of the Bhāgavatam to numerous Westerners who otherwise would miss this opportunity."

*Dr. Alex Wayman  
Professor of Sanskrit, Columbia University*

"The Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam is extremely useful for all those interested in ancient India, whether their interest be that of the philosopher, the student of religion, the historian, the linguist, the sociologist or the political scientist.... I truly hope that Śrila Prabhupāda will complete his translation of the entire Bhāgavata and continue to translate other eminent Sanskrit works as well. Undoubtedly, this work of Swamiji's is a great contribution to the troubled human society of today's world."

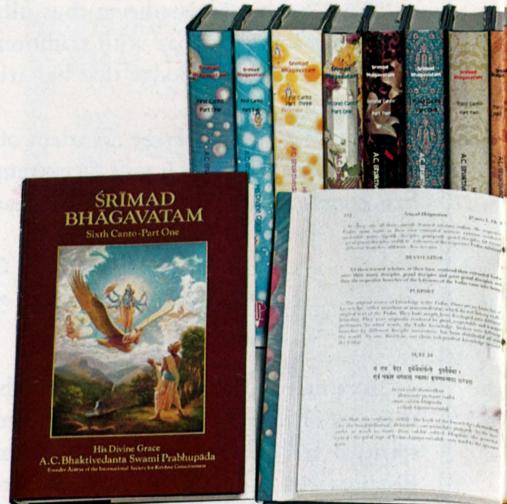
*Dr. Sooda L. Bhatt  
Professor of Indian Languages, Boston University*

"The Bhaktivedanta Book Trust editions of famous religious classics of India, with new translations and commentaries, are an important addition to our expanding knowledge of spiritual India. The new edition of the Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam is particularly welcome."

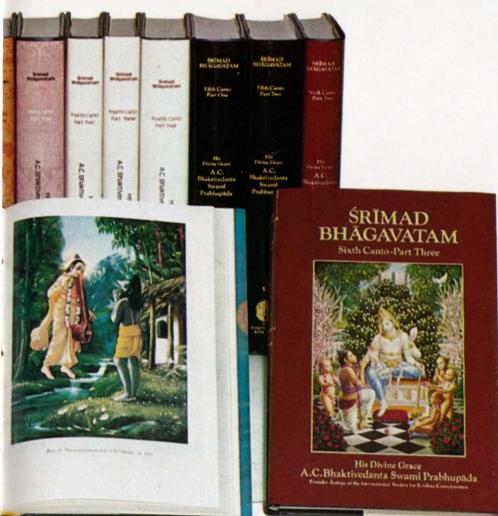
*Dr. John L. Mish  
Chief, Oriental Division, New York Public Library*

"...A commentary on the *Vedānta-sūtra* by Śrila Vyāsadeva divided into twelve 'cantos' of which four are presented here in eight beautifully produced volumes. These lavish volumes, obviously the product of devotional effort, contain many lovely full-color illustrations...."

*Choice magazine, June, 1975*



## REVIEWS



"In the diversity of religious approaches offered by the *yogis* of India, the most significant, of course, is the way of Kṛṣṇa consciousness. It is amazing to see how Śrī Bhaktivedānta Swami has in less than ten years succeeded, by his personal devotion, untiring energy and efficient direction, in organizing the International Society for Krishna Consciousness. Now, he has undertaken the stupendous project of rendering the entire *Bhāgavata*, the great devotional classic of India, into English. His edition is learning blended with devotional feeling and

inspired by a definite purpose of communicating the intense lyrical and devotional quality of the *Bhāgavata*. Śrīla Prabhupāda has done an excellent service by his able rendition of 'the abode of divine joy' that the *Bhāgavata* is."

*Dr. Mahesh Mehta, Professor of Asian Studies  
University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada*

"It is axiomatic that no book can be expected entirely to satisfy all its potential readers. Here is one, however, which can be said to come remarkably close to that ideal. . . . we have here the ideal of what an edition of a Sanskrit text for a Western audience should be."

*Dr. R. E. Asher  
Professor of Linguistics, University of Edinburgh*

". . . For those who have no access to the Sanskrit language, these books convey, in superb manner, the message of the *Bhāgavatam*. In addition to being a scholarly work, it directly reflects the spiritual aspirations of a religious community which has gained considerable popularity in modern America."

*Dr. Alaka Hejib  
Department of Sanskrit and Indian Studies, Harvard University*

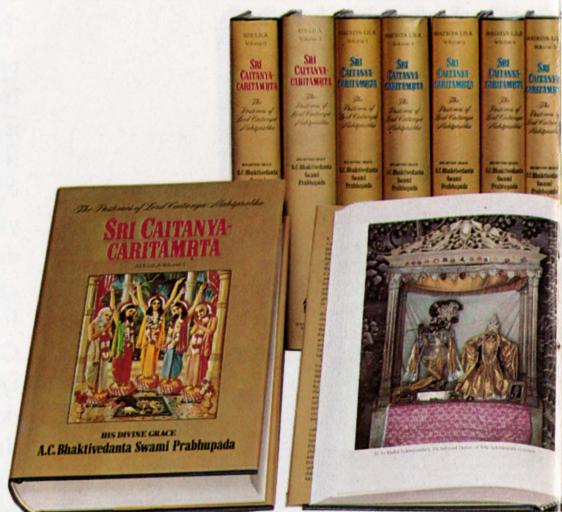
"*Srimad-Bhāgavatam* is a valuable source material and cannot but be attractive to serious students and scholars of religion and philosophy. I recommend this series, to anyone, as an important and useful reference work."

*Dr. C. P. Agrawal, Chairwoman  
Department of Humanities, University of Michigan*

## ŚRĪ CAITANYA-CARITĀMRTA

"I am most happy to have these handsomely printed volumes which embody the work of so learned and sincere a believer in the message of the *Caritāmṛta*. I thank you."

*Dr. Daniel H. H. Ingalls  
Chairman  
Department of Sanskrit  
and Indian Studies  
Harvard University*



"The appearance of an English translation of Kṛṣṇadāsa Kavirāja Gosvāmi's *Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta* by A. C. Bhaktivedanta [Founder-Ācārya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness] is a cause for celebration among both scholars in Indian studies and lay-people seeking to enrich their knowledge of Indian spirituality. . . . It will fill a most serious lacuna in our libraries and in our courses on the religious traditions of India.

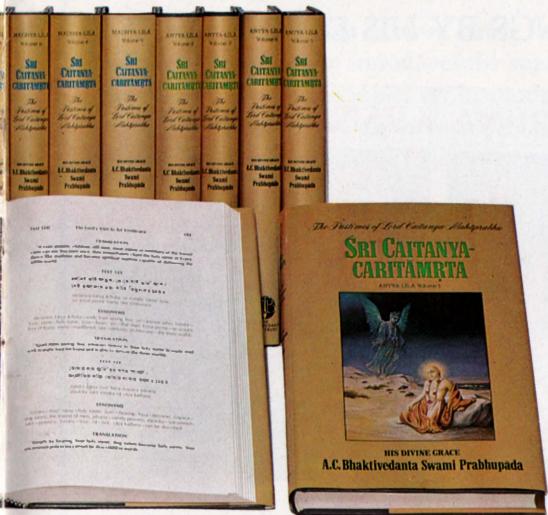
" . . . For the first time we possess a readily accessible edition for this great religious classic that will provide opportunity for scholars in Indian literature and followers of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness tradition alike to compare the original text with a modern English translation and become acquainted with the deeper spiritual meaning of this work through the learned commentary of Śrī Bhaktivedanta.

" . . . Anyone who gives a close reading to the commentary will sense that here, as in his other works, Śrī Bhaktivedanta has combined a healthy mixture of the fervent devotion and aesthetic sensitivity of a devotee and the intellectual rigor of a textual scholar. At no point does the author allow the intended meaning of the text to be eclipsed by the promotion of a particular doctrinal persuasion.

" . . . These exquisitely wrought volumes will be a welcome addition to the libraries of all persons who are committed to the study of Indian spirituality and religious literature, whether their interests are sparked by the motivations of the scholar, the devotee or the general reader."

*Dr. J. Bruce Long  
Department of Asian Studies, Cornell University*

## REVIEWS



"It is a remarkable document of great historical and sociological importance, giving a picturesque presentation of the socio-religious climate in the India of Śrī Caitanya's times and the far-reaching social and religious changes wrought by him. As a literary piece, it is regarded as a work of great merit, having no parallel in the whole of Bengali literature. As a religious text, its sanctity is comparable to that of the *Bhagavad-gītā*.

"This English edition translated by A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami

Prabhupāda is superb. It contains the original Sanskrit and Bengali verses with their English transliteration, synonyms, translation and elaborate purports, easily bearing testimony to the author's profound knowledge of the subject."

*Dr. O.B.L. Kapoor, Emeritus Chairman and Professor, Department of Philosophy  
Government Postgraduate College, Gyanpur, India*

"It is a genuine joy to have this momentous biographical work on the life of Bengal's great saint Caitanya, prepared by his best-known modern interpreter, A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda."

*Dr. Mark Juergensmeyer, Associate Professor of Ethics  
and the Phenomenology of Religions  
Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California*

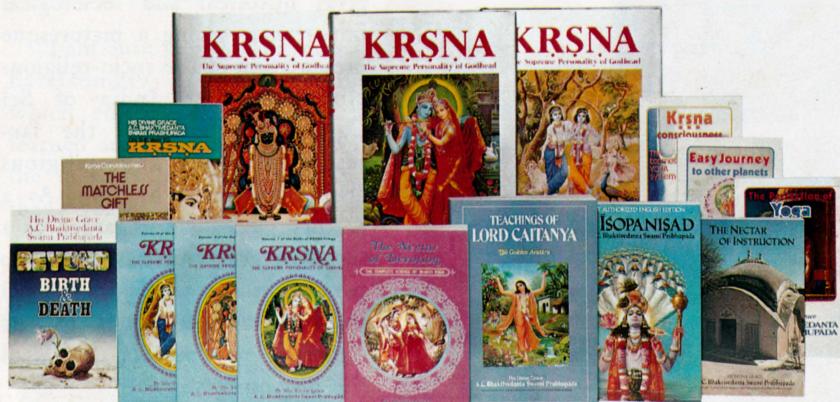
"Year by year, interest in Eastern religious thought and philosophy grows in America. The editing and translating of the important Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta will make a substantial contribution to those who seek information about Indian concepts . . ."

*Dr. Gerald A. Larue  
Professor of Religion, University of Southern California*

"I can recommend Śrī Caitanya-caritāmṛta as a source of rich insights for every serious student of consciousness."

*Dr. Rory O'Day, Department of Human Relations  
University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada*

## OTHER MAJOR WRITINGS BY HIS DIVINE GRACE



"*Teachings of Lord Caitanya* is an authentic and lucid account, in English, of the life and philosophy of Śri Caitanya Mahāprabhu. The spiritual movement initiated by 'the Great Master' five hundred years ago has profoundly influenced millions of men and women in India ever since, and is presently making its mark throughout the world.

"Śrī A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, the present spiritual master of the movement in disciplic succession, has done a great service to the English-speaking world by making this spiritual treasure available in English."

*Dr. K. L. Seshagiri Rao  
Professor of Religious Studies, University of Virginia*

"*Kṛṣṇa* is an important book both for the new student of the history of religions and for the professional scholar. It is a helpful and significant contribution to the growing phenomenon of interest in the religions of Asia."

*William A. Johnson  
Professor of Philosophy, Brandeis University*

"The book *Kṛṣṇa, the Supreme Personality of Godhead* should prove to be an important addition to materials available for college courses in religion. It is one of the best sources in English for gaining insight into the *bhakti* religious tradition."

*Louis Roberts, Executive Chairman  
Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Syracuse University*

## REVIEWS

"*The Perfection of Yoga* is most useful for anyone wishing to understand the meaning of *yoga*. It also introduces the student to the study of *Bhagavad-gītā* and shows how direct and simple, yet in another sense, how profoundly complex is the path of spiritual growth through *yoga* practice. It is a scholarly book, yet has a direct personal meaning for all—a powerful combination."

*Dr. Frank Ledwith, Professor of Psychology  
University of St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland*

"I think the best feature of the Hare Kṛṣṇa movement is that it is providing scholars with excellent translations of the rarest books on *kṛṣṇa-bhakti*."

*Dr. Lawrence Shinn  
Professor of Religion, Oberlin College*

"I have read Śrī Bhaktivedanta Swami's books with great care, attention and profound interest, and have found them to be of incalculable value to anyone who is curious about India's spiritual and cultural heritage. The author of these books displays on every page an astounding scholarship in the subjects treated, and also an understanding and ease of exposition of abstruse ideas, which are rarest gifts."

*Dr. H. B. Kulkarni  
Professor of English and Philosophy, Utah State University*

"The publications of the Bhaktivedanta Book Trust are very valuable documents and will no doubt become classics for the English reader of Indian religious literature."

*Dr. Jerry M. Chance, Chairman  
Department of Philosophy and Religion, Florida A&M University*

"These books are not only beautiful, but also relevant to our times, as we as a nation search for new cultural patterns for our way of life."

*Dr. C. L. Spreadbury  
Professor of Sociology, Stephen F. Austin State University*

*For more information on these publications and the Krishna Consciousness Society, please write the Society's Secretary at 3764 Watska Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90034.*

# DECISIONS

**U. S. Courts Officially Recognize ISKCON's Public Activities**



Numerous decisions in American courts over the years have supported the public programs of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement.

## **Philadelphia**

Judge Alfred L. Luongo  
U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

The Philadelphia decree was typical, and included the following points:

Kṛṣṇa consciousness is recognized as an authentic religion.

To broadcast the glories of God to all people, members of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness society can perform *sankirtana*, a missionary activity including chanting, dancing and playing cymbals and drums; the dissemination of the word of God through preaching and reading aloud from religious literature; the distribution of religious literature, sanctified foods and flowers to the public; and the solicitation and acceptance of contributions.

In performing *sankirtana*, devotees can go wherever people gather—streets, byways and other public places.

## **Other major decisions:**

### **Chicago**

Judge Hubert F. Will  
U. S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division

### **Los Angeles**

Judge Campbell M. Lucas  
Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Los Angeles

### **Las Vegas**

Judge Roger D. Foley  
U. S. District Court for the District of Nevada

### **Denver**

Judge Fred M. Winner  
U. S. District Court of Denver, Colorado

### **San Francisco**

Judge Melvin E. Cohn  
Superior Court of the State of California in and for the County of San Mateo

# A SHORT STATEMENT OF THE PHILOSOPHY OF KRŚNA CONSCIOUSNESS

*The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) is a worldwide community of devotees practicing bhakti-yoga, the eternal science of loving service to God. The Society was founded in 1966 by His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda, a pure devotee of God representing an unbroken chain of spiritual masters originating with Lord Krṣṇa Himself.*

*The following eight principles are the basis of the Krṣṇa consciousness movement. We invite all our readers to consider them with an open mind and then visit one of the ISKCON centers to see how they are being applied in everyday life.*

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1. By sincerely cultivating a bona fide spiritual science, we can be free from anxiety and come to a state of pure, unending, blissful consciousness in this lifetime.
2. We are not our bodies but eternal spirit souls, parts and parcels of God (Krṣṇa). As such, we are all brothers, and Krṣṇa is ultimately our common father.
3. Krṣṇa is the eternal, all-knowing, omnipresent, all-powerful, and all-attractive Personality of Godhead. He is the seed-giving father of all living beings, and He is the sustaining energy of the entire cosmic creation.
4. The Absolute Truth is contained in all the great scriptures of the world. However, the oldest known revealed scriptures in existence are the Vedic literatures, most notably the *Bhagavad-gītā*, which is the literal record of God's actual words.
5. We should learn the Vedic knowledge from a genuine spiritual master—one who has no selfish motives and whose mind is firmly fixed on Krṣṇa.
6. Before we eat, we should offer to the Lord the food that sustains us. Then Krṣṇa becomes the offering and purifies us.
7. We should perform all our actions as offerings to Krṣṇa and do nothing for our own sense gratification.
8. The recommended means for achieving the mature stage of love of God in this age of Kali, or quarrel, is to chant the holy names of the Lord. The easiest method for most people is to chant the Hare Krṣṇa *mantra*:

Hare Krṣṇa, Hare Krṣṇa, Krṣṇa Krṣṇa,  
Hare Rāma, Hare Rāma, Rāma Rāma, Hare Hare.

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If you are interested in the subject matter of this booklet or would like to know more about the International Society for Krishna Consciousness, its publications and its programs we invite you to correspond with its Secretary. Or simply clip out this convenient coupon and mail it to us.

International Society for Krishna Consciousness  
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"His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda is doing valuable work, and his books are significant contributions to the salvation of mankind."

Śrī Lal Bahadur Shastri  
Former Prime Minister of India



International Guest House at ISKCON's World Headquarters in Śridhāma Māyāpur, West Bengal, India.