Respected Guru Maharaj,

Please accept my most humble obeisances at your soft and cooling lotus feet and I have experienced the same whenever you have kindly allowed me to massage your holy lotus feet in Vrindavan, Mayapur, Russia and Delhi.

All glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada, your life and soul.

Guru Maharaj, as I sat down today on 5th of May 2025 to write your Vyasapuja offering, with lots of pain of separation from you in my heart, I am remembering the dreaded day that had come in my life on 5th May 2024, you had just departed from this world at 09:22 AM. Everything was stopped for me, didn’t know what to do, which way to move and so on.

As Srila Prabhupada explains, “Appearance and disappearance both are beautiful, just like the sunrise and sunset. But for those who are living behind, disappearance is painful, in a sense that we will not have physical association of that spiritual personality anymore, but in other hand it is a joyful day because that spiritual personality went back to Godhead and he has achieved Krishna’s association”.

But it was not so easy to digest Guru Maharaj on 5th May 2024 up until now. May be I will never be able to digest Guru Maharaj till the end of my last breath.

Guru Maharaj, for me now especially after your physical disappearance from this world, the Vyasapuja is also appearing like disappearance day. In fact every day is a disappearance day for me.

On your disappearance day so many devotees personally wrote to me the condolence, outpouring their hearts. It shows that we are one family in Srila Prabhupada’s ISKCON Society. One of them wrote to me:

“Hare Krishna Dear Dharmatma prabhu, All Glories to Srila Prabhupada, Glories to his valiant son Gopal Krishna Maharaj. You must be feeling devastated and so much more. The transcendental exchanges you have had will act as a soothing balm. Your father son relationship will only grow as you continue to represent him to your purest ability. Just wanted to reassure you that the special bond you have with him due to your unconditional commitment to serving him faithfully will continue to bear wonderful fruit. Maharaj and Srila Prabhupada will always be protecting you from any difficulties this temporary existence may present.

Take comfort in the eternal perspective. All Glories to the power of pure devotional service. He is an exalted devotee and is always in the reach of his humble followers. How happy Srila Prabhupada must be to have him back till the next mission. Hare Krishna!

Today we are celebrating your 81st Vyasapuja here in Sri Vrindavan Dham where you are eternally residing in your sacred Samadhi Mandir where everyday the Seva-Puja is still going on in separation from you. It is the service in separation Guru Maharaj. But my heart is still hankering to meet you again at the lotus feet of Srila Prabhupada. Till that time I make an endeavor to continue to purify myself.

In fact Guru Maharaj, one time you have asked this question – “What is the desire of the Spiritual Master”? and you yourself gave the answer – “Only one, that the disciple continue to purify oneself, that one free oneself from the material tendencies, because material tendencies are responsible for keeping one entangled in material existence.”

Guru Maharaj, what more can I say? You have given us everything; you have covered all the aspects of Krishna consciousness to instruct us. You didn’t miss any area for us. You have covered everything in those 10 points and so much more in your lectures.

One thing I had observed when you were physically present in this planet. Whether I was going with you to SB class or to some devotees’ house for Prasad or Govardhan parikrama or in the temple room for darshan or anywhere, every time you said one thing “Lets Go, Lets Go”. Today I am meditating on this Guru Maharaj as I am writing your Vyasapuja offering, humbly requesting at your lotus feet with straws in my teeth that when time comes for me to die, kindly repeat the same word in my ear “Lets Go” and I will catch hold of your lotus feet immediately and go with you right at that moment.

A disciple’s only business is to follow his Spiritual Master wherever his Spiritual Master is engaged in the preaching mission of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. In the same way my only business is to follow your divine instructions that you have left behind for all of us to follow and receive your blessings in that way, in order to rejoin you again one day at the end of this lifetime.

Srila Prabhupada explains in Krsna Book - Chapter-80, Meeting of Krsna with Sudama Brahmana, "Without the blessings of the spiritual master no one can be happy. By the mercy of the spiritual master and by his blessings, one can achieve peace and prosperity and be able to fulfill the mission of human life.”

Thank you very much Guru Maharaj for walking through this material world and delivering unlimited fallen souls like me. I am eternally indebted to you for your divine love, kindness, care, concern, chastisement and so much more. Let your fame be spread all over the three worlds (*eve yasa gusuk tribhuvana*).

Your servant always,

Dharmatma das

(ISKCON Vrindavan)