

WELCOME to our independent monthly newsletter, addressing some of the issues that help shape our ISKCON future in North America.

2 0 1 4 S E P T E M B E R



the WATCHDOG bulletin

NEWS PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY IN GBC MANAGEMENT

Prabhupada Quotes

"Oh, that we cannot cancel. That these hippies are not admitted'. No. We admit everyone. We cannot say that, "Such and such person cannot enter into our temple.' We cannot say. Everyone is welcome. Everyone is welcome. We cannot say, just like in some hotels, that 'such and such persons are not admitted'. No. We cannot. We admit everyone."

(Srila Prabhupada conversation, 29th April 1969, Boston)



His Divine Grace A.C.
Bhaktivedanta Swami
Prabhupada
Founder-Acarya of ISKCON

GBC
scandal of
the year!

¶ The Art of BANNING and The GBC ¶

Members of the North American GBC have given themselves the right of banning devotees from ISKCON temples, targeted at those who especially do not adhere to their management policies - right or wrong. It has many questioning the GBC's entitlement to use such a political instrument of control and suppression, and censorship. The Vaishnava acharyas preach "love and trust" and the encouraging of Vaishnava discussion over differences, instead of intolerance and aggression. This month we will take a closer look at the GBC misuse of banning devotees, focusing on the Phoenix temple.

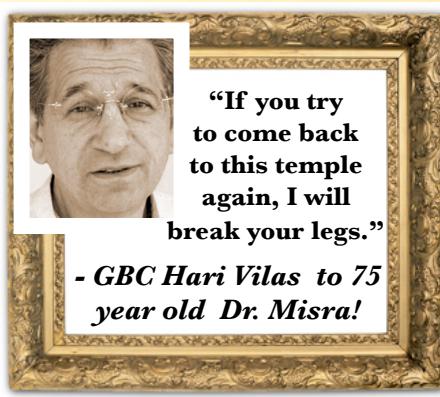
Probably the biggest and latest sensation in GBC banning abuse has been the banning of 7 families from the Phoenix Arizona temple, by GBC Hari Vilas das, and temple president, Prema Dhatri dasi who is a disciple of Romapada

Swami. Originally initiated against a 75 year old Indian congregational devotee Dr. Misra, it has escalated to include anyone who shows support for him, being

outraged at this moral abuse of Dr. Misra. Thrown out of a local court who backs Misra's

rights to visit the temple, the GBC management still blocks him from visiting to have darshan!

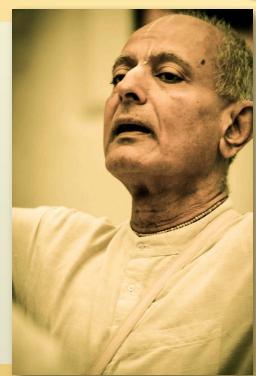
(See details following pages)



"If you try to come back to this temple again, I will break your legs."
- GBC Hari Vilas to 75 year old Dr. Misra!

"I would expect some corruption in the GBC. It's the material world."

- Nityananda das
North American GBC
Executive Committee Chairman





GBC Bans 20 Devotees In Phoenix

What started out as a probe of questioning to the temple management about some allegedly misplaced temple funds and the mixing of temple funds with outside private business enterprises of the temple president and vice president, has become a battle. On one side is a group of innocent devotees and their families (a total of 20 members including children) who have been banned from even having *darshan* in the temple, most of whom helped to start the temple in 1996. They claim they have been denied constitutional religious rights of worship at the temple of their choice, and abuse of GBC power by Hari Vilas, the GBC rep. of Phoenix. The banned members are considering a law suit. In an open email, the North American GBC Executive Committee chairman has publicly labeled them all as insincere. On the other side are the NA GBCs headed by Hari Vilas who are not budging from their decision to throw out from the temple, whomever they please or whomever challenges the local GBC and temple president. How to imagine that these particular GBCs - Badri Swami (San Diego), Romapada Swami (N.Y.), Hari Vilas (Seattle), Anuttama das (D.C.), Nityananda das (Dallas), Tamohar das (Alachua), are pleasing their spiritual master by carrying on in this way, as the following quotes from Srila Prabhupada, the *Founder-Acarya* of Iskcon, shows the complete opposite view:

“So you don’t take simply Jagannatha temple. There are many other temples, they allow. It is a particular management body, they do not allow. But that is not the sanction of the *sastra*. That is not the sanction. Suppose in your private house you make some private law. That is your business. But actually temple is open for everyone.”

(Srila Prabhupada Darshan, July 8th, 1976)

“Similarly, the members of this Krsna consciousness society are sometimes refused entrance into some of the temples in India [...] Such dogmatic prohibitions were not approved by Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu.”
(Sri Caitanya-caritamrta, Madhya-lila, 1:63, purport)

“But there is one difficulty, because the present administration of Jagannath Puri sometimes do not allow us to enter the temple. Of course, for our vaisnavas this discrimination is spiritually illegal.”

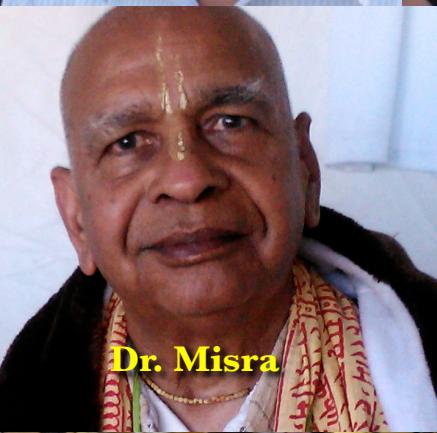
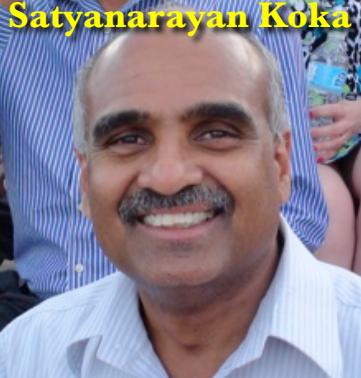
(Srila Prabhupada Letter April 8th, 1972)

SOME OF THESE NA GBCS MAY BECOME NAMED IN LAW SUIT

(from left to right: Badri, Romapada, Hari Vilas, Anuttama, Tamohar, & Nityananda das)



* *Tamohar was the NA GBC EC chairman during the 2009 Phoenix temple takeover*



These devotees have been all banned from the Phoenix Iskcon temple, simply because they appeared in court to make truthful statements supporting Dr. Misra, who was wrongly and unfairly accused of taking a garland and some prasadam from the temple, and thus a restraining order had been put on him. He also had been wrongly accused by the TP that he had taken money in the temple, from a congregational member, money that was meant for the temple. He proved the charge to be false, as the elderly lady had asked Dr. Misra to buy something for her and she was paying him back

These wonderful devotees and their families (and others not pictured here, a total of 20) have been banned from the temple, their rights to worship in the Phoenix ISKCON temple transgressed by the North American GBC Executive Committee and their local GBC representative, Hari Vilas. Our founder-acharya of ISKCON would not ban them from participating in the *sankirtan* movement what to speak of visiting the temple for programs and *darshan*. They have taken shelter of Srila Prabhupada and the process of Krishna consciousness as taught by him. They regularly have programs in their own homes, go out on street chanting party and book distribution, and are trying very hard to see ISKCON as their spiritual family? Won't you join us in protesting their being banned, to your local GBC representative? Imagine how they feel facing uncalled for indignation and attacks from some of the top leaders of ISKCON?

Some of them have their own businesses, take care of their devotional households, and are very humble and pure hearted. **The only reason they have been banned is because they appeared in court to support Dr. Misra**, who had been the victim of a restraining order put on him by the temple president Prema Dhatri. They deserve your support! Please write to the GBC chairman - Anuttama das at: anuttama.acbsp@pamho.net; Nityananda das, the North American Executive Committee chairman at: ndasa108@gmail.com; and especially Jagajivan das in charge of GBC Corruption Finding Committee, at: jagajivan.das.acbsp@pamho.net.

Charges Thrown Out Of Court

After questions were raised by a temple committee regarding the temple finances, soon thereafter a complaint was filed by the temple president Prema Dhatri dasi, in the local county court, to place a restraining order on Dr. Misra, from even visiting the temple. She charged that he took a flower garland from the temple and some sacred food. As he did not have an attorney to represent him, he initially lost. But when he appealed the case with a reputable attorney, the ruling was overturned. Still, Prema Dhatri has been ordered by Hari Vilas to call the police on Dr. Misra if he tries to come and have *darshan*. She has called the police on Dr. Misra twice, as he was trying to have *darshan* of the Deities. Anyone there in the Phoenix temple management, ever hear of Vaishnava *aparadha*? Having *darshan* is not a crime. *Aparadhas* to *Vaishnavas* however are a spiritual crime with reactions on one's spiritual life.

ROMAPADA SWAMI BEGAN POLITICS THAT HAS PHOENIX TEMPLE COMMUNITY DIVIDED

It all started one morning in 2009, with Romapada Swami masterminding and instigating a revolution against the Iskcon Phoenix temple management, which included sending in Kuladri das to lie to both the GBC representative for Phoenix, Hridayananda Goswami, and then lie to the secretary of the Board of Directors. The lie to Hridayananda was that the Board of Directors does not want him to be the GBC in Phoenix any longer. The lie to the temple board of directors was that Hridayananda Maharaj does not wish to be the GBC any longer. Both lied to parties were asked to sign papers accepting Hridayananda's resignation. (proof on Pg. 10 & 11). At the time there was no suspicion that this was a covert operation to install one of Romapada's future disciples as President (Prema Dhatri), propping up an illegitimately replaced GBC takeover, and putting in Hari Vilas from Seattle in as acting GBC. This scandal and betrayal of loyalty in GBC management, also created an inroad for Romapada Swami to canvas the Indians in Phoenix for money for his own purposes, an activity he is known to do in other areas where he is either the GBC or guru.

Recently one Phoenix lady expressed her desire to the temple president Prema Dhatri, that she wished to choose Radhanath Swami as her guru. The temple president replied to her that Phoenix Iskcon is a Romapada Swami temple and that everyone should take initiation from him. Inside sources said the lady was very distressed by the answer. This goes against GBC policy of choosing one's guru and continues to pose suspicion about the original intent of deceiving the previous temple management to benefit Romapad.

Reports are that the congregation of the temple has shrunk 1/3 to 1/4 of its original size. The amount of banned devotees by the GBC has increased and those devotees have now started their own temple meetings out of a rented space, which many families are attending rather than going to the Iskcon temple. In the works also, is a potential law suit being discussed to bring the temple president to justice, to whom charges are that she allegedly changed the previous temple board of directors to her own, by crossing out names and not receiving proper votes or legal permission by that previous Board of Directors management to install her own management board, thus breaking State law. In that law suit, some North American GBC members and their conspiracy agent are expected to be named. Later, Hridayananda Goswami was coerced to sign a statement saying that the whole scandal was only a miscommunication of information.

Kuladri das, key operative and
deceiver in the Phoenix scandal. His
official title is Iskcon Legal Compliance



MIGHT IS RIGHT IN THE LOCAL GBC TEMPLE MANAGEMENT

Nityananda das, the chairman of the North American GBC Executive Committee, in a private meeting with banned devotees in Phoenix, in December of 2013, relayed that Hari Vilas has stated that he is prepared to ban 100 members and devotees of the community as he sees fit, close the temple, and have Prema Dhatri worship the installed temple Deities in her own home. The banned temple members and their families are all outstanding citizens with no blemish of past misbehavior of any kind, whom are of Indian descent, and are loyal followers of Iskcon and Srila Prabhupada. They feel that their legal rights of worship have been transgressed by persons - Hari Vilas and Prema Dhatri. One question being raised in this case, is that perhaps Hari Vilas and Prema Dhatri should not be in any official position or hold any official title in the temple, since they took power unethically and improperly in the first place. Tamohar das was the NA GBC EC chairman at that time of 2009.

LEADING ISKCON SANNYASI DENOUNCES PROCEDURAL DEFECT IN CHANGING OF GBC AND TEMPLE MANAGEMENT IN PHOENIX

One of ISKCON's oldest devotees maintaining the *sannyasa* order of life, Trivikrama Swami, had this to say recently about the GBC mismanagement of the Phoenix ISKCON temple:

"The previous GBC (in Phoenix) was unceremoniously removed from his position there by the NA GBC executive committee because of the speculation that he would allow the temple to be taken out of Iskcon. There was not proper procedure followed for this drastic step and it has set a terrible precedent." - email from Trivikram Swami, Feb., 2014

RECENT MAJOR COVERUP BY N.A. GBC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Recently, a financial audit on the Phoenix ISKCON temple accounts, and the private and business accounts of the temple president and her husband (Praibha and Ramesh Somaiya / aka Prema Dharti devi and Madhava Hari das) was executed, according to NA GBC EC chairman Nityananda das. A public statement was then sent out after their investigation was supposedly complete, with two NA GBC members Badrinarayan Swami and Nityananda das, stating that there was absolutely no signs of misappropriation of funds or foul play, and that their audit had shown that the Somaiyas were as "clean as a whistle." (See page 6)

Later however, it was discovered by the newly formed GBC Corruption Investigation Committee head, Jagajivan das, that the audit was stopped by Hari Vilas, and that **the investigation was deemed "inconclusive" by the auditor. This contradiction reveals that the NA GBC EC statements that all accounts were in order, was directly misinformation and lies.** When Jagajivan das asked the Phoenix GBC Hari Vilas, why was the audit discontinued, he replied that too much time and money was already spent on it. **This lack of honesty in NA GBC EC communication to the public and to the international GBC body, seems to show a deliberate cover-up of the temple finances and alleged money laundering,** that may be going on between the temple money and private funds of Mrs. and Mr. Somaiya. Members of the temple congregation are entitled to see where their donations are going, by regular monthly temple account disclosures. Transparency of funds of an Iskcon temple are also standard Iskcon GBC policy. **On request by a few members, the NA GBC EC chairman refused to show the audited investigation report, stating that it was privileged GBC information.** The WDB encourages a continuing of the audit investigation and oversight by a non-GBC committee, for transparency and integrity.

GBC
scandal of
the year!

Lying - the seed of corruption!

Below is an email to the Phoenix temple president and her husband, by the NA GBC EC chairman Nityananda das and GBC of Phoenix Hari Vilas das.

*Their written statement goes against what the Corruption Investigation Committee of the GBC, lead by Jagajivan prabhu has determined, that the investigation was actually “inconclusive”. **The NA GBC EC aborted further auditing** necessary to get a real and factual determination of the accounts, denying the appeal of the auditor for further investigation. This was NO WHERE stated by Nityananda das or Hari Vilas. Rather as the email below states, “the investigation did not find any factual information that would support the broad number of allegations”. This revelation has all the elements of a COVER-UP by the NA GBC Executive Committee. Please note WHO is a member of their Executive Committee and who was behind the dishonest take over of the Phoenix temple - Romapada!*

North American Executive Committee

International Society for Krishna Consciousness

Founder-Acarya His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

Executive Committee: Nityananda das, Chairman, Mukhya devi dasi,
Romapada Swami, Nanda Suta das

Novemeber 1, 2013

GBC
scandal of
the year!

Dear Prema-dhatri devi dasi and Radha Madhava Prabhu,

Please accept our humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada.

After an accusatory email from Prayag Misra was widely circulated on the internet by irresponsible leaders six months ago, the NAGBC began an investigation. The NAGBC appointed a special investigator* to determine if the allegations were factual or baseless. You were fully cooperative and submitted financial records of the temple as well as your personal financial information for the years 2010, 2011 and 2012 for examination by a CPA. The investigation did not find any factual information that would support the broad number of allegations made by Prayag Misra and a few of his supporters from the Phoenix area who lodged the complaint. We commend you for your patience and Vaisnava tolerance in the face of these false accusations.

(continued...)

Your servant on behalf of the NA GBC EC,

Nityananda das, Chairman
Hari Vilas das, GBC Phoenix



GUILTY OF COVER-UP?

*Lies - lies - & more lies!
The audit was never finished!*

*The investigator is a certified, career professional who has performed this service for secular projects and leaders worldwide. In addition to his qualifications he has vast investigative experience within ISKCON.

- * *The following is an official (3 pg.) letter by the South Asian Bar Association of Arizona, sent to temple president Prema Dhatri, disproving of her policy to ban certain persons and devotees from having access to visit the Phoenix Iskcon temple.*
- * *As of yet, no official response from temple the management or NA GBC EC has been made in reply to this letter, although publicly stating that they would do so.*

February 18, 2014

Mrs. Pratibha Somaiya
ISKCON Phoenix
100 S. Weber Drive
Chandler, Arizona

Dear Mrs. Somaiya,

The South Asian Bar Association of Arizona (“SABA-AZ”) is an organization that advocates for the legal interests of South Asian communities in our state. Founded in 2008, our membership consists primarily of attorneys of South Asian origin. Among the many communities we are committed to representing are those who practice the Hindu faith.

We write this letter to express our views as practitioners of law and members of the South Asian community at large. We do so not only to articulate the South Asian legal community’s perspective, but also to respond to a specific effort by you to invoke the powers of the legal system that we do not believe are in the best interests of justice or the community that we represent and often defend.

The Action Against Alleged Harassment

You are the president of the local chapter of the International Society of Krishna Consciousness, which runs a Hindu temple in Chandler, Arizona. The temple is supported at least in part by charity and donations from members of the community. Because of reports of legal actions brought to our attention, we undertook a full review of the court filings and exhibits filed in a matter captioned as *Somaiya v. Misra*, Chandler Municipal Court (Ariz.) Cause No. LC2013-000383-001. The action commenced with a petition for injunction against harassment against a member of the temple. The trial court held a hearing on February 13, 2013, at which you were represented by counsel but the defendant was not, and issued the injunction as requested.

An attorney, David Bodney, was ultimately retained to represent the defendant in an appeal to the Arizona Superior Court’s Lower Court of Appeals division. Mr. Bodney is well-respected for his expertise on matters of free speech and the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. His appeal was successful. The Court stated that you “did not substantiate” your accusation that the defendant had allegedly stolen food from the temple. The Court further declared that the accusation that he took a blessed garland from the temple was meritless. The Court noted, as do we, the lack of due process and lack of respect for procedural fairness that had taken place in the lower court proceeding. It concluded its lengthy opinion by reversing the judgment of the Chandler Municipal Court. The petition for an injunction was therefore rejected.

Threats of Criminal Prosecution

Diwali, one of the most important festivals and holidays of the Hindu faith, was celebrated at the temple on Sunday, November 3, 2013. It is widely accepted and known among followers of Hinduism that all people are free to participate in any such celebration at a Hindu temple. Centuries of tradition and cultural practices among Hindus support the notion that such festivals are open, public affairs. Yet, the Chandler Police Department was called to the temple in the midst of the celebration on November 3, in yet another unsuccessful effort to invoke the legal system against members of the community. We understand that Chandler police officers arrived at the scene but opted not to enter the premises in an effort to “expel” anyone, due to the large numbers of people present.

The efforts to invoke the law and law enforcement against temple members then continued. On November 8, 2013, the temple’s attorney sent a letter on his law firm’s letterhead to multiple individuals and devotees, this time invoking the criminal law of trespass. This letter stated that any recipient of the letter was on “formal notice” of “denied access to the Hare Krishna Temple located on the Private Property.” It cited Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 13-1501 to 13-1504 as the basis for this statement. These statutes govern the law of criminal trespass in Arizona. Section 13-1504, cited by your attorney, concerns criminal trespass in the first degree and defines it as a potential Class 6 felony crime. In Arizona, a Class 6 felony crime carries with it the threat of up to two years of imprisonment. See Ariz. Rev. Stat. § 13-702(D).

Our Position

SABA-AZ is concerned by the attempted legal actions taken against members of the community. Those legal actions include the meritless action filed in Chandler Municipal Court, the frivolous attempt to involve the Chandler Police Department on November 3, 2013, and the offensive November 8, 2013 letter authored by an attorney for the temple at your direction.

The strongly-worded appellate ruling issued by the Arizona Superior Court speaks for itself. The petition for an injunction against harassment was found to be meritless and violated the constitutional rights of a temple member. Broadly speaking, we find the attempt to invoke the injunctive powers of a court of law to resolve your personal differences with that member to be inappropriate, in light of your position of authority as the leader of a Hindu temple.

As to the specific accusations leveled in that action, we agree with the appellate court in finding these to be inappropriate topics on which to invoke the legal system. The temple’s attorney attempted to persuade the Court that food prepared at the temple was your personal property, and that the person eating it as a devotee of the temple constituted the crime of “theft.” Such accusations run contrary to the spirit in which *prasadam* is offered to persons after temple prayers. He also attempted to persuade the Court that the member had stolen a blessed garland, despite the unequivocal testimony of multiple witnesses who disagreed with this allegation. We believe that the taking of an item such as a sanctified garland should not expose a member of the community to accusations of the crime of theft.

Perhaps most concerning to us was the accusation that the member did not donate “much” to the temple. It is apparent from court records that the target of this litigation spent considerable time at the temple, and that he spent that time furthering the daily functions of the temple in different ways. The notion that a person is exposed to court actions against “harassment” on grounds that he chooses to come to the temple, even though he does not provide what someone considers to be sufficient amounts of donations, is contrary to the spirit in which Hindu temples should be available to the public at large. At a minimum, a person should not be exposed to legal action based on the amount he or she chooses to donate to a Hindu temple.

The effort to involve the Chandler Police Department, including the letter from the temple’s attorney threatening multiple devotees with charges of criminal trespass, is another legal tactic to which we object. Arizona’s system of justice, including its law enforcement officials, provides both the temple and its devotees with safety and security in times of need. It is our understanding, for example, that officers from the Chandler Police Department provided extra security for temple devotees in the aftermath of the Wisconsin Sikh Temple shooting tragedy in August of 2012. We therefore disagree with any attempt to waste the valuable resources of Arizona’s law enforcement community for the purpose of resolving your personal disputes with members of the community. That you would do so during the auspicious occasion of a Diwali celebration is particularly disturbing.

CONCLUSION

It is our hope that these inappropriate attempts to invoke the legal system against members of the community are not repeated again. As to the criminal trespass notice your lawyer sent to multiple individuals, we call on you to withdraw it. While it is not our desire to interfere with the inner workings of this or any other temple, we do not believe that suing temple devotees and having attorneys send threatening letters to individuals is a constructive method of resolving disputes or disagreements. Above all, we believe that temples should be forums for the community at which all citizens are welcomed, regardless of their political or other views, as long as such views are expressed in a respectful and civil manner. If our organization can facilitate in mediating a peaceful discussion, where disagreements can be aired and resolutions hopefully reached, please let me know and we will offer a volunteer or volunteers to do so.

Sincerely,



Neil Singh

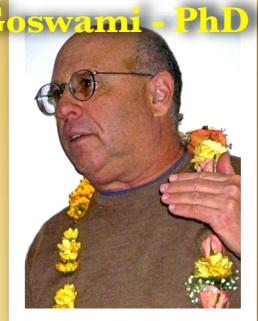
Vice-President and Co-Founder, SABA-AZ

Ph: (602) 252-1080

cc: Don Fletcher, Esq. (Lake & Cobb, P.L.C., Tempe, AZ)
Hari Vilas Das (Vedic Cultural Center, Sammamish, WA)

Below is an email correspondence between Hridayananda Goswami and Badrinarayan das, which reveals the conspiracy of the NA GBC EC to illegitimately change the GBC and temple management of Phoenix Iskcon.

Hridayananda Goswami - PhD



>> Subject: Re: AZ GBC
>> From: "Hrid" <hrid8@ivs.edu>
>> Date: Thu, March 12, 2009 6:13 am

>> To:"Badrinarayan Dasa" <bnarayan@earthlink.net> (more)

>>

>> Dear Badrinarayana Prabhu,

>> Jaya Srla Prabhupada. When I began my service as GBC for Phoenix, I found there a terribly politicized situation, a community divided, with strong feelings on various sides. Together with other devotees, I worked to depoliticize the situation. The picture you present below represents in fact only one extreme side of this conflict.

>>

>> Badri: From the discussions I have been party to, there has been frustration felt in the Phoenix community for a long time. The narrations I have heard are that while grateful for the help getting started from the Tucson temple, Phoenix was still being run in large part as a satellite of Tucson rather than being allowed the freedom to grow into its own independent ISKCON community, with the ability to develop local programs and initiatives to serve the local devotee community and outreach to the general public in Phoenix.

**>> HDG: My main concern is that proper procedures were not followed. I was given false information in two ways:
>> 1. I was informed that the leaders of ISKCON Phoenix, by consensus, wanted a change of GBC. This
>> was grossly inaccurate and misleading. I was told that the motive of this change was to arrange a GBC who
>> could visit Phoenix more often. I was told nothing more. I suggest that ISKCON Resolve or another body
>> investigate this matter thoroughly. As far as I know, the GBC did not investigate the situation in Phoenix before
>> reaching this conclusion. Certainly I was not consulted, nor were other leading members of the Phoenix
>> community.**

>>

>> Badri: There were concerns raised about Dasarath prabhu's on-going deep involvement. There were concerns that Phoenix was being set up so that collections from Phoenix could be funneled towards the Sedona project. There was concern about the quality of new local leadership proposed...were they being selected for their spiritual strength and ability to develop a community or more for their willingness to be compliant to the desires of Dasarath prabhu and his personal preaching plans?

>>

**>> HDG: Why wasn't I informed of these concerns? Why weren't other Phoenix leaders in good standing, with
>> differing views, given a chance to voice their views?**

>>

>> Badri: Hearing all these concerns and after research concluding that they had strong elements of truth, the NA GBC searched for a GBC member who had the time and inclination to give the Phoenix temple the attention it needs and deserves to avoid the concerns and achieve the goals listed above. Hari Vilasa prabhu was the best available candidate.

>>

**>> HDG: How thorough was the research, if so many of the leaders of ISKCON Phoenix, including the GBC and regional secretary, were not even
>> consulted, nor given a chance to express a view? Why was the
>> investigation conducted secretly and selectively?**

>>

>> Badri: Now Hari Vilasa prabhu is duly in place,

>>

>> HDG: Not so duly, since the procedure was flawed.

>>

(continued on next page)

>>

>> Badri: that assignment being confirmed at the GBC meeting just concluded in Mayapur. He has shown an eagerness to >> work with the local devotees and to develop a spiritually strong team focused on developing and serving the Phoenix >> community. As an indicator of the potential for success, he has developed a good team, with significant successes, in >> Seattle.

>>

>> HDG: I like Hari Vilasa and I am not opposed in principle to his doing the work. **I am extremely opposed to the procedure followed. I am further concerned about the fact that Prabhupada adamantly objected to centralized management and it seems that such centralized management takes place in the Northwest USA. There is also anecdotal >>evidence that similar centralization will take place in Phoenix.**

>>

>> **Badri: Let's not worry about who said what to who** but rather let's get on with the business of serving the conditioned >>souls and developing a thriving community in Phoenix.

>>

>> **HDG: Prabhupada did in fact worry about flawed procedures, which he often saw as a form of 'politics.' This would certainly include concealing intentions and motives from the local GBC**, who despite his imperfections, worked in

>> good faith to serve ISKCON in Phoenix. Prabhupada also worried very deeply about centralization.

>>

>> With best wishes,

>> Your servant,

>> Hridayananda das Goswami

*COMMENT: NOTE Badrinarayan's statement towards the end of his email, "let's not worry about who said what to who". In other words, **Badri das does not at all object to lying and deceit**, if it helps him or the NA GBC EC achieve their personal goals. Corruption wins in this case, and **the Phoenix temple remains a divided community with dishonest people running the affairs**. This must be a disgrace to Srila Prabhupada's name, how the GBC can allow politics and corruption to enter his Movement, crafted by a few individuals who do not know how to represent the pure devotee nor conduct themselves like honest brahmanas. **Thus they show that they have no respect for the entire GBC body, nor the rules by which govern them**. Also please note that the man they put in as GBC was Hari Vilas, who has been noted for his "thug like" tactics in management (as he threatened to break the bones of a Phoenix congregational member who has been banned from the temple by him, if the member tries to visit for darshan).*

MORAL OF THE STORY: You can't trust liars, even if they are wearing the robes of a GBC! Actually, the way the NA GBC EC deceived and lied to the ISKCON world and Phoenix temple congregation, proves that they are not qualified to be in their positions and should be removed by a responsible International GBC body who cares about what image and GBC management ethics they are presenting to the world. The GBC says that they are sworn to integrity and transparency, but maybe that is just a rumor. There should be NO deaf ears on this one, as Iskcon law states below:

APPENDIX: From the ISKCON Law Book 8.4.8.6

Culpable Falsehood Before The GBC

A person who commits perjury (intentional falsehood) while asserting something or testifying something before the GBC or a body representing the GBC is to be corrected with a suitable remedial measure.

...in another email by Hridayananda Maharaj, referring to the Phoenix temple takeover by the NA GBC EC:

"This is all the work of Romapada, who does things like this that backfire and eventually blow up in his face" - 2009

