

3rd Quarter 2014

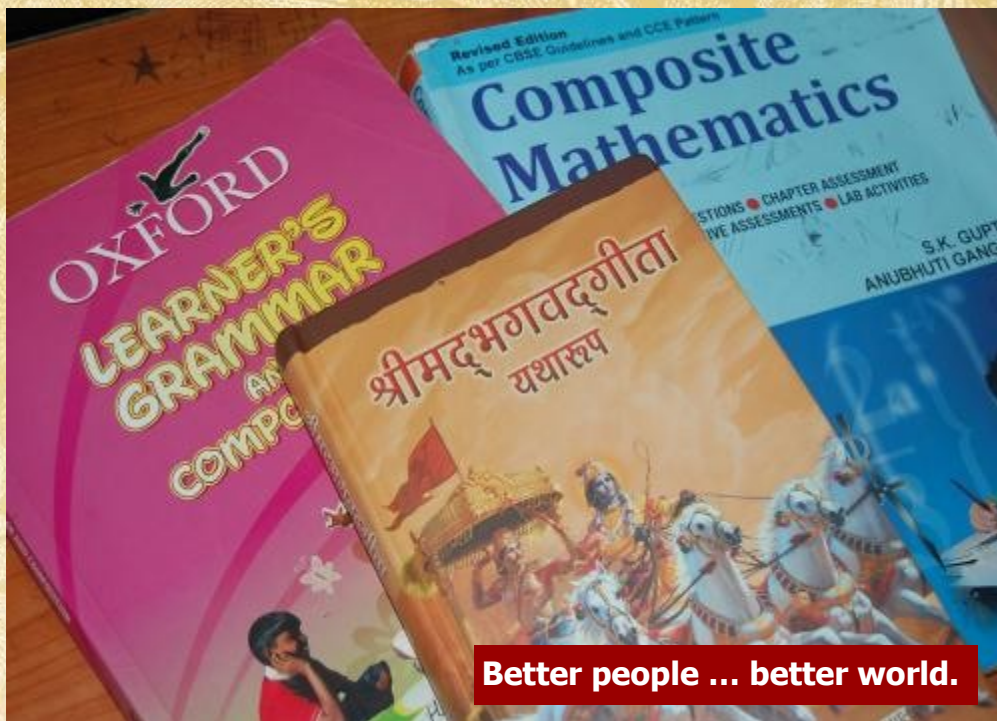
तपः शोचाम दया सत्यम्

Bhaktivedanta Gurukula and International School Vrindavan

Srila Prabhupada on Gurukula

It is very encouraging that you have got license from the Board of Education to continue our children's school. Kindly organize it nicely and it shall be a great achievement. We have to concentrate to give them some idea about God—that should be our first business. In art class they should be encouraged to draw pictures of Krsna, Kuruksetra, etc. There are so many subjects for drawing as it is stated in our book Krsna. If they are trained, they will come out nice devotees. It will depend on the process of training. Regarding some misbehavior, that we have to check by training peacefully. Your attitude of tolerance and kindness very nice, so train them in this way. It is Lord Caitanya's order that we have got to discharge welfare activities on behalf of Lord Caitanya.

70-10-28 Letter: Bhavananda



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Chant....

*Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare*

And Be Happy..

Hema Malini in BGIS

Former actress and current Member of Parliament of Mathura Ms. Hemamalini visited Gurukul on 18th October 2014. She was invited by our director Lila Purushotham Das during his meeting with her in Kanpur. She was delighted to be present in Gurukul. In her address to the school she said, "I am also Krishna's devotee and I have been given chance to perform seva in Vraja. I will be happy to do service for the school." She also added, "You children are very fortunate to study here in Vraja. You should propagate Vedic culture throughout the world spreading the message of Srila Prabhupada and in his glorification."

The director of BGIS gave a brief power point presentation about the structure and vision of the new 60 acre project of the upcoming gurukula. The program was presided over by the president of ISKCON, Vrindavan HG Panchagauda Prabhu, and other senior Vaishnavas.



Chant....

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare

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And Be Happy..

Kartik Festival

One of the most auspicious festivals in Vrindavan is the celebration of Kartik month. Many festivals related to the pastimes of Krishna or His devotees occur during this month: Rasa-lila, Diwali, Govardhana Puja, the appearance of Radha-kund, and the disappearance festival of Srila Prabhupada. The students of BGIS also celebrated the Kartik month with great enthusiasm this past year. Every evening, the students offered ghee lamps to Lord Krishna while singing the Damodarastaka prayers. In this month, the boys also got the chance to hear from eminent Vaisnavas from all over the world. BGIS also celebrated the 38th anniversary of the disappearance of ISKCON's founder acharya A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. During the month of Kartik, the students visited some other local temples of Vrindavan as well.



Swimming Champions 2014, yet again!

Students of Bhaktivedanta Gurukula were declared the swimming champions at the district inter school swimming championship 2014. Our boys have been consistently winning medals for the last 12 years. This year BGIS also won the "overall Championship" cup, adding one more feather in their cap. Our students totally bagged 10 golds and 2 silvers.

Gagan Puri, of class 12, was awarded the best swimmer award among the 10-12 schools which participated in the event. The management of the school congratulates the winners and extends special thanks to the coach Mr. Yogesh Yadav.

Chant....

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And Be Happy..



BGIS Advisory Board Meeting

On the auspicious month of Kartik the first meeting of BGIS Advisory Board was conducted at the Gurukula premises in Shri Vrindvan Dham on 26th Oct ,2014. The meeting was chaired by HH Gopal Krishna Maharaj, GBC, Srila Prabhupada Disciple and was co-chaired by HG Devakindan Prabhu, Regional Secretary, ISKCON. The meeting was convened by Dr. Lila Purushottam Das, Prof IIT Kanpur and Director BGIS.

Many eminent educationists and businessmen attended the meeting. Some of them are Prof. Ashok Kumar, Vice-Chancellor, AKS University, MP, Shri R.K Taneja, Shri Piyush Goyal. HH Gopal Krishna Maharaj started the meeting by emphasizing the great need of promoting the gurukula model of education to solve the increasing problems in society like crime, dissatisfaction etc. He told that Bhaktivedanta Gurukula and International School is a school with a difference. Although there are so many school and colleges in India, hardly any of those teach the children about the aim of human life. He urged all the members of the advisory board to participate in this mission to spread spiritual education which is the greatest need of the hour.

Dr. Lila Purushottam Das then gave a small presentation about the current scenario of the school and the target to relocate the school to new land by 2016 and start a full-fledged university by 2020. The members then gave their valuable feedback and showed great enthusiasm to participate in the project in various capacities.

Chant....

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare

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And Be Happy..



Indo Russia Festival

On 2nd November, the gurukula campus became land of festivity as more than 350 Russian devotees came to attend a special cultural evening organized in the garden of Gurukula campus in Shri Vrindvan Dham.

The program included beautiful kirtans, cultural performances by students of BGIS and Russian devotees. There was a nice devotional talk by Chaitanya Chandra Charan Prabhu, eminent preacher in Russia. However, the main attraction of the evening was the unique goti-pua Odissi dance by the small gurukula children which left the visiting Russian devotees awestruck. The program ended with prasadam feast and some of the of the Russian devotees made contributions for the new Gurukula construction project.

Chant....

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And Be Happy..

Swatch Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India)

MP Hema Malini (BJP) administered the Swachh Bharat oath to a large group of students and Vrindavan residents. In the oath-taking ceremony taking place in Gandhi Park, hundreds of students from different schools gathered to hear their Member of Parliament speak on the "Clean India" push coming from the Prime Minister.

Swami Maheshananda Saraswati, BJP's district president D.P. Goyal, Vyapar Mandal leader Ashok Varshnay, Chairman of Vrindavan Municipality Mukesh Gautam, among others, were on the stage with her while she administered the oath. Before doing so, she gave an address in which she said, "Mahatma Gandhi dreamt of an India which was not only free but also clean and developed. Mahatma Gandhi secured freedom for Mother India. Now it is our duty to serve Mother India by keeping the country neat and clean," she added.

After administering the oath, Hema Malini went to the main markets of Vrindavan and demonstrated the cleaning program. In her address to the students and people present there, she made it clear that it was everyone's responsibility to keep the holy town of Vrindavan clean. She appealed to everyone that no one litter on the open street. Garbage should be put in the garbage bins only. She urged the Chairman of the Vrindavan Municipality Mukesh Gautam to ensure that Vrindavan gets cleaned and remains clean.

Though there were many schools present there, who went back to their respective schools after taking the oath, the Bhaktivedanta Gurukula decided to act on the oath immediately after the ceremony. Students of Standard IX of the BGIS cleaned the Yamuna riverfront near Vanshi Vat. Friends of Vrindavan's volunteers and cleaning equipments assisted them in the cleaning operation.

Radhakanata Dasa from the management of the BGIS said that it was a motivating idea of our Prime Minister to get everyone involved in cleaning their respective places. He said, "Friends of Vrindavan has been trying to clean Vrindavan for last twenty years. The BGIS and FoV are Eco-school partners. We have been working together to sensitize the people not to litter."

"Sri vigraharadhana-nitya-nana-sringara-tan mandira marjanadau.

Marjanadau means cleansing. The spiritual master along with his disciples is always engaged in cleansing the temple of Sri Sri Radha Krishna. If the cleanliness is neglected, it is a sure sign of laziness. If one is lazy, one doesn't keep his environment clean. "First let me sleep." This is the mode of ignorance, tama-guna. We have to overcome raja-guna and tama-guna. Satvram visuddham vasudeva sabditam. " Prabhupada (1976 Lecture)



Prayers for a Soul

Sri Mann Shiksha *Instruction to One's Mind*

By :- Raghunath Das Goswami Pad

1. O mind, I grasp your feet and beg you with sweet words: Please cast away all hypocrisy and develop intense, unprecedented love for my spiritual master, Vrajabhumi, the people of Vraja, the Vaishnavas, the brahmanas, the Gayatri mantra, the holy name, and the transcendental shelter that is the fresh young couple of Vraja, Radha and Krishna.

2. O Mind, don't concern yourself with the pious and impious deeds described in the Vedas. Rather, intently serve Shri Shri Radha-Krishna in Vraja. Always remember that Lord Chaitanya is the son of Maharaja Nanda and that my guru is most dear to Lord Mukunda.

3. O Mind, just listen to me! If you desire to reside in Vraja birth after birth, and if you desire to directly serve the divine youthful couple there with great attraction, then with intense love always remember and bow down to Shrila Svarupa Damodara Gosvami; to Shrila Rupa Gosvami and his elder brother, Shrila Sanatana Gosvami; and to all their associates and followers.

4. O mind, give up friendship with non devotees, which is nothing but a prostitute who will steal the treasure of your heart—your desire to serve Radha-Krishna. Don't listen to talks of impersonal liberation, which are a tigress who devours everyone. You should even give up attraction for Lord Narayana, which leads to the world of Vaikuntha. Instead, O mind, just worship Shri Shri Radha-Krishna in Vraja, for They bestow upon Their worshipers the jewel of pure love for Themselves.

5. The highwaymen of lust and his friends have bound me around the neck with the painful, horrible, powerful ropes of many wicked deeds. O mind, please scream out to

the devotees of Krishna, the killer of Baka, "I am being killed!" Then He will save me.

6. O Mind, why do you burn us both by bathing in the urine trickling from the ass of great deviousness and hypocrisy? Instead, you should delight us by eternally bathing in the glistening nectar-ocean of pure love for Shri Shri Gandharva-Giridhari (Shri Shri Radha-Krishna).

7. As long as the impudent untouchable woman of the desire for fame dances in my heart, why should pure love for Radha-Krishna touch me? O mind, continuously serve my spiritual master, the leader of those who are dear to the Lord. Then my master will quickly kick out that haridan and allow that pure love to enter.

8. So That He will mercifully smash my wickedness (even though I am a great rascal), so that He will give me the splendid nectar of transcendental love, and so He will engage me in Shri Radha's service, please, O mind, with words choked with emotion, worship Lord Giridhari here in Vraja.

9. O mind, please meditate on Krishna, the moon of Vraja forest, as the Lord of my controller, Shrimati Radharani. And please meditate upon Shrimati Radharani, the queen of Vraja forest, as Krishna's controller. Also please meditate upon Lalita as the peerless friend of Radha and Krishna, Vishakha as the guru who teaches Them many things, and Radha-kunda and Govardhana Hill as two places the mere sight of which bestows charming transcendental love for the divine couple.

10. O mind, please worship Lord Hari's beloved Radha. with the splendor of Her beauty She makes Rati, Gauri, and Lila burn with envy, with the power of Her good fortune She defeats Shaci, Lakshmi, and Satyabhama, and with Her ability to control Krishna She completely eclipses Candravali and the other pious young girls of Vraja.

11. O mind, in order to attain the direct service of the two divine lovers, Shri Shri Radha-Giridhari, in the company of Their friends, every day you must constantly drink, with Shri Rupa Gosvami, the five nectars of worshipping Them, chanting Their names, meditating on Them, hearing about Them, and bowing down before Them, and every day you must worship Govardhana Hill.

Chant....

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare
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And Be Happy..

The Magic of Thinking Positive

Jerry is the kind of guy you love to hate. He is always in a good mood and always has something positive to say. When someone would ask him how he was doing, he would reply, "If I were any better, I would be twins!" He was a unique manager because he had several waiters who had followed him around from restaurant to restaurant.

The reason the waiters followed Jerry was because of his attitude. He was a natural motivator. If an employee was having a bad day, Jerry was there telling the employee how to look on the positive side of the situation.

Seeing this style really made me curious, so one day I went up to Jerry and asked him, I don't get it! You can't be a positive person all of the time. How do you do it?" Jerry replied, "Each morning I wake up and say to myself, Jerry, you have two choices today. You can choose to be in a good mood or you can choose to be in a bad mood.

I choose to be in a good mood. Each time something bad happens, I can choose to be a victim or I can choose to learn from it. I choose to learn from it. Every time someone comes to me complaining, I can choose to accept their complaining or I can point out the positive side of life. I choose the positive side of life.

"Yeah, right, it's not that easy," I protested. "Yes, it is," Jerry said. "Life is all about choices. When you cut away all the junk, every situation is a choice. You choose how you react to situations. You choose how people will affect your mood. You choose to be in a good mood or bad mood. The bottom line: It's your choice how you live life."

I reflected on what Jerry said. Soon thereafter, I left the restaurant industry to start my own business. We lost touch, but I often thought about him when I made a choice about life instead of reacting to it.

Several years later, I heard that Jerry did something you are never supposed to do in a restaurant business: he left the back door open one morning and was held up at gun point by three armed robbers. While trying to open the safe, his hand, shaking from nervousness, slipped off the combination. The robbers panicked and shot him. Luckily, Jerry was found relatively quickly and rushed to the local trauma center. After 18 hours of surgery and weeks of intensive care, Jerry was released from the hospital with fragments of the bullets still in his body.

I saw Jerry about six months after the accident. When I asked him how he was, he replied, "If I were any better, I'd be twins. Wanna see my scars?" I declined to see his wounds, but did ask him what had gone through his mind as the robbery took place. "The first thing that went through my mind was that I should have locked the back door," Jerry replied. "Then, as I lay on the floor, I remembered that I had two choices: I could choose to live or I could choose to die. I chose to live."



Chant....

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And Be Happy..

Let's Learn from a Story

"Weren't you scared? Did you lose consciousness?" I asked. Jerry continued, "...the paramedics were great. They kept telling me I was going to be fine. But when they wheeled me into the ER and I saw the expressions on the faces of the doctors and nurses, I got really scared. In their eyes, I read 'he's a dead man.'

I knew I needed to take action." "What did you do?" I asked. "Well, there was a big burly nurse shouting questions at me," said Jerry. "She asked if I was allergic to anything. 'Yes,' I replied. The doctors and nurses stopped working as they waited for my reply. I took a deep breath and yelled, 'Bullets!' Over their laughter, I told them, 'I am choosing to live. Operate on me as if I am alive, not dead.'"

Jerry lived thanks to the skill of his doctors, but also because of his amazing attitude. I learned from him that every day we have the choice to live fully. Attitude, after all, is everything.

By Dr. Brad Wilson



**Moral :- Positive thinking is the first step towards a happy life.
&
YES!!!
Attitude is everything**

Chant....

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Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare
And Be Happy..*

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