

Tridandisvami Sri Srimad Bhaktivedanta Narayana Maharaja

AN AMAZING DARSANA

Miami, Florida, May 7: 2006

[Because of Srila Narayana Maharaja's health, the opportunity was not there for each and every devotee to have an individual personal darsana with him in his quarters. Therefore, on Sunday morning, May 7th at about 10:30, Srila Narayana Maharaja entered the beautifully decorated temple room at the Inverrary Hotel and Resort and held a darsana there for all. All the devotees present now could personally meet with him.

When Srila Narayana Maharaja first arrived, the devotees were sitting in groups according to their respective cities. In this way, each city's group would be having their opportunity to ask their questions.

Srila Narayana Maharaja first spoke to the entire audience:]

[Srila Narayana Maharaja:] We have begun our Navadvipa project. Perhaps you know that it will be better than our Govardhana project – with a big hall, beautiful temple, library, charitable dispensary, free school and many other facilities. There will also be guest rooms where you can stay.

It is a very big project; so I want your help. If you can, please donate something to make this project successful.

I am very happy, especially that Sripad Kirtanananda Maharaja has come. So many sannyasis have come, and devotees have come from remote places – like Sripad Puru Prabhu and his family. I am very happy to meet you all.

Deleted: Prabhu

I want you to preach my mission, just as the disciples of Parama-pujyapada Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Maharaja preached. His disciples preached everywhere and distributed his books. I also want you to preach everywhere through books. Distribute his books and my books. Go to airports, seaports, schools, colleges, street to street, house-to-house – and broadcast the mission of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu. Chant harinama and be happy.

But one thing – you must give proper respect to your superiors. You must certainly do this. Don't criticize any Vaisnava. Give proper honor, even to those who are not qualified, but are chanting the holy name. Don't criticize.

In this way, try to follow:

trnad api sunicena
taror api sahnuna
amanina manadena
kirtaniyah sada harih

["One can chant the holy name of the Lord in a humble state of mind, thinking oneself lower than the straw in the street. One should be more tolerant than the tree, devoid of all sense of false prestige and ready to offer all respects to others. In such a state of mind one can chant the holy name of the Lord constantly." (Sri Siksastaka verse, 3)]

Be humble – more so than a blade of grass. Be tolerant – more so than a tree. If you throw a stone at the tree, it will reciprocate by giving you sweet fruits. The trees don't ask for water, or anything, for themselves. They serve all others by their bark, juice, shade, fruits, flowers and leaves. Everything they have is for others.

Vaisnavas should be like that. Don't desire your own praise; rather, as others are qualified, give them honor. In this way, preach my mission as the disciples of Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Maharaja preached. They preached everywhere. In a couple of years, the whole world knew: Hare Krsna, Hare Krsna. How wonderful this is!

He translated so many books. He established preaching centers in the midst of oceans, in the middle of forests and everywhere else. Try to do this; by this you will be happy and others will be happy.

I have come to meet you all. My blessings are always with you.

If you have any questions, you can ask.

[Paramesvari dasi:] Gurudeva, please accept my humble obeisances. Dandavats. I just wanted to ask you: Are the same sinful reactions that are in the foodstuffs on Ekadasi also there on the incarnations' appearance days? Sometimes we break at noon.

[Srila Narayana Maharaja:] On Ekadasi, and on the birthdays of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu, Sri Krsna and Lord Nrsimhadeva, on Rama-navami and so on, we should not take grains. Lord Sri Krsna has arranged this. If anyone does a very little effort, he will benefit so much. It is not very difficult. You can take yoghurt (SP), milk and juice, and so many fruits, vegetables and other preparations. It is not difficult. Try to follow that.

[Sripad Madhava Maharaja:] You also mentioned that sometimes we break at mid-day. On Rama-navami we fast all day, and on days that we break at noon, we do not break with grains. We break a full fast and take Ekadasi preparations at midday.

[Brajanatha dasa:] Gurudeva, she is asking if the same sin is in the food on the appearance days of Visnu-tattva and Ekadasi.

[Srila Narayana Maharaja:] Yes, the sins are also there.

[Sripad Madhava Maharaja:] Now, whoever has offerings can come with their offerings and offer them to Srila Gurudeva.

[Many devotees stood up and formed a line that extended around the huge temple room to the hallway door, so that they could meet with him, introduce new people to him, offer him gifts and speak with him personally. As the devotees approached him, most of them wept. They begged his blessings to serve him better, to progress in

Krsna consciousness, to develop taste for chanting, and some begged for initiation. Srila Narayana Maharaja mercifully gave his blessings for the fulfillment of all their requests.

Seeing this, all the rest of the devotees, who had previously been sitting, waiting to ask questions or just wanting to have some verbal exchanges, also entered the line. You would have had to be there, to really appreciate what occurred.

We have recorded some of those exchanges herein:]

[Indulekha dasi (from New York):] I need to know: when I am with your books and going around showing them to people, what should my mood be? What should my mood be with the people who I am giving books to and talking to?

[Srila Narayana Maharaja:] This is welfare work. You can think, "I am doing welfare for them. They should be happy by reading these books." You are helping them.

[Indulekha dasi:] If I make some laddhu or burphy, can I give it to them?

[Srila Narayana Maharaja:] Oh yes, yes.

[Indulekha dasi:] That is what we are starting to do now. We are going on harinama sankirtana, and distributing books and prasadam.

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[Sugata dasa:] I'm Sugata dasa. It's so good to see you. I want to thank you so much for continuing to travel, despite your advanced age. You are helping us so much. You taught us about compassion by the way you treated so many devotees who were having problems. You gave us so much mercy. I appreciate your exemplary qualities of compassion and forgiveness towards others. It is hard to understand just how forgiving you are!

[Srila Narayana Maharaja:] I have so much affection for you. I remember you.

[Sugata dasa:] Yes, but all the devotees are seeing how you are treating them with so much compassion. It's a great inspiration. Thank you so much.

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[Devotee:] This is Bhakta Danny. He has been in Iskcon for about 20 years and never got initiated. He is feeling the desire to get initiated by you, but he feels he should read your books more first. Do you think he is ready? You know his soul inside.

[Srila Narayana Maharaja:] You should chant Hare Krsna. Can you chant? Hare Krsna Hare Krsna Krsna Krsna, Hare Hare, Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Hare Hare. [Danny and Srila Narayana Maharaja chanted together.] Follow Vaisnava etiquette. Don't take onions or garlic, and go on with your practices.

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[Bhakta Danny:] This is my wife and brother in law.

[Srila Narayana Maharaja:] Thank you. My blessings to you.

[The next morning at 6.30 am, Bhakta Danny went with his wife to Srila Narayana Maharaja's quarters, and both participated in their full initiation ceremony.]