

Sri Sri Guru Gaurangau Jayatah
Bhakti Vedanta Institute
Princeton University Harinama
Princeton, NJ

April 11, 2015

*Harer Nama Harer Nama/Harer Namaiva Kevalam
Kalau Nasty Eva Nasty Eva/Nasty Eva Gatir Anyatha*

“In this age of quarrel and hypocrisy, the only means of deliverance is the chanting of the holy names of the Lord. There is no other way. There is no other way. There is no other way.” (*Brhan-naradiya Purana*)

In his “*Attaining Perfection*” talks, Srila Prabhupada^[1] explained that “*Kalau* means 'in this age.' *Nasty eva, nasty eva, nasty eva* -- three times *nasty eva*. *Eva* means 'certainly,' and *nasti* means 'not.' 'Certainly not, certainly not, certainly not.' What is that 'certainly not'? One cannot realize oneself by *karma*. That is the first 'certainly not.' One cannot realize oneself by *jnana*. That is the second 'certainly not.' One cannot realize oneself by *yoga*. Certainly not. *Kalau*. *Kalau* means 'in this age.' *Kalau nasty eva nasty eva nasty eva gatir anyatha*. In this age one certainly cannot achieve success by any of these three methods. Then what is the recommended process? *Harer nama harer nama harer namaiva kevalam*. Simply chant the Hare Krishna *mantra*. *Kevalam* means 'only.' Simply chant Hare Krishna. It is the easiest and most sublime process. This is recommended, practical, and authorized. So take it. Accept it in any condition of life. Chant. There is no expenditure, there is no loss. We are not chanting a secret. No. It is open. And by chanting you will cleanse your heart.”

After a long cold winter the New York devotees journeyed out to the beautiful campus grounds of Princeton University for Harinam with Sripad Bhakti Madhava Puri Maharaj, Ph.D (Sripad Puri Maharaj).



Passers-by taking in the rhythms of *Harinama Sankirtana*

In an earlier *sanga*, Sripad Puri Maharaj had explained that the only means of deliverance from material bondage, as Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu^[2] has recommended, is “by chanting the holy names of Krishna [and in this way one] can one cross the ocean of nescience and attain the lotus feet of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Sri Krishna.” He further explained that in the previous ages “one had to practice the process of meditation to attain liberation (*Satya yuga*). In *Treta-yuga* elaborate fire sacrificial performances were recommended and in *Dvapara-yuga*, the people were engaged in elaborate diety worship of the Lord. But in *Kali-yuga* by the mercy of Mahaprabhu, the process is even more simplified. Mahaprabhu said ‘all we need to do is chant the holy names of Krishna in the company of the devotees’ and that is called *Harinama Sankirtana* (congregational chanting). Mahaprabhu inaugurated this *Harinama Sankirtana* process over five-hundred (500) years ago.”



***Harinama Sankirtana* on the beautiful campus of Princeton University**

“The first principle in devotional service is to hear and chant the Hare Krishna MahaMantra (*Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare / Hare Rama*

Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare” “Maha” means great and “mantra” means sound that liberates the mind from ignorance,” Sripad Puri Maharaj said. This is confirmed in the first *sloka* (verse) of Sri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu’s *Siksastakam*:

*ceto-darpaṇa-mārjanam bhava-mahā-dāvāgni-nirvāpaṇam śreyah-kairava-candrikā-
vitaranam vidyā-vadhū-jīvanam ānandāmbudhi-varধানam prati-padam
pūrṇāmṛtāsvādanam sarvātma-snapanam param vijayate śrī-kṛṣṇa-saṅkīrtanam*

“The Holy Name of Krishna cleanses the mirror of the heart and extinguishes the fire of misery in the forest of birth and death. As the evening lotus blooms in the moon’s cooling rays, the heart begins to blossom in the nectar of the name. And at last the soul awakens to its real inner treasure – a life of love with Krishna. Again and again tasting nectar, the soul dives and surfaces in the ever-increasing ocean of ecstatic joy. All phases of the self of which we may conceive are fully satisfied and purified, and at last conquered by the all-auspicious influence of the Holy Name of Krishna.”

“Chanting Sri Krishna’s holy names is the *yuga-dharma* of this age of quarrel, darkness and ignorance called *Kali-yuga*.”

After our beautiful Harinam, *prasadam* was served and honored by all.



L to R: Ralph, Sripad Puri Maharaja, Syamasundara das Prabhu with Bhakta Steve and Ojey

All Glories to Sri Guru and Sri Sri Gauranga
Srila Bhakti Nirmal Acharya Maharaja ki jai
Sripad Bhakti Madhava Puri Maharaj ki jai

Your humble servant
Kushum devi dasi
(New York)

[1] His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada (Srila Prabhupada) is the founder Acharya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)

[2] Sri Krishna Chaitanya Mahaprabhu appeared in in Mayapur, West Bengal, India in 1486. Although He is the Supreme Lord Himself, Sri Krishna, He posed as a devotee, and revealed the most sublime sentiments and the natural disposition of a devotee. He taught us by His own example how to establish a connection with the Lord through the practice of pure devotion. Srila Rupa Goswami has glorified Lord Chaitanya as being the most munificent Lord because He freely distributed pure love of Godhead.

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