

Sri Caitanya-Siksamṛta
Nectarean Teachings of Lord Sri Caitanya
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Chapter - 3
Vaidhi Bhakti
Part - 3
Avoiding obstacles in devotional
service

Avoiding Offenses

Chapter - 3

Part - 3 Avoiding obstacles in devotional service

The nama aparadhas are:

1. to criticize devotees;
2. to think that the devatas are independent of the Lord;
3. to disrespect the guru;
4. to criticize the Vedas and other scriptures;
5. to think the glorification of the Name an exaggeration;
6. to interpret the Name;
7. to commit sinful activity on the strength of the Name;
8. to think that the Name is like a pious activity;
9. to teach the Name to faithless people;
10. not to have attraction for the Name in spite of hearing its glories.

Offense 1:

By criticizing the devotee, gradually devotion will decrease & one will fall from their position and become atheistic moralists, finally become amoral, living like animals.

We will see conditional side of others in organisation,
For that we have to be in detached mood

Offenses is because of disrespect.
We need to be respectful with everything.
Generic disrespectful attitude leads to Vaishnava aparad.
Ex: Inertia of motion.



Constructive criticism - unless we are authorities we can't do
We can't hide behind our good intention.



Better not to deal with a devotee who had abused us so that
we will not commit offenses.



If we have good reason we will try to behave ourselves Ex:
Air Hostesses
We need to do cost benefit analysis with our behavior.



Avoid communal hatred discussions.



Forgiving and forgetting is must if we want to go BTGH.
Story of Lala Babu



Krsna can take help of other devotees to purify us and we should
think Krsna orchestrated this situation at my request.

Offense 2:

Arguments between different groups do not bear any good result. All the devatas, should be regarded as the servants of the Lord, but without being envious of them, the devotee should worship the Lord

Offense 3:

Disrespect to the guru is a serious offence. Without faith in the guru there can be no faith in his instructions. Without faith, no devotional activities.

Those who have a strong tendency to surpass the guru commit offence and cannot develop attachment to the Lord.

Offense 4:

By criticizing real scriptures, there can be no advancement in devotion.

Who do not respect the scriptures and concoct a new form of worship become a burden on the world.

Ex: Brahma samaj, Buddhism, Dattatreya

Inventing a new process, is a manifestation of pride and imagination, with no substance.

Offense 5,6:

By glorification of the result of pious activity, people are encouraged to perform pious activity.

Glorification of the holy name is not similar to the empty glorification of pious activities.

Those who think that the glories of chanting given in the scriptures are simply exaggerated praises are offenders.

To speculate whimsically about the meaning of the Name is an offence. For fear that "hari" may indicate Krsna, some people add extra words to "hari" such as "nirakara". This is interpreting the name.