



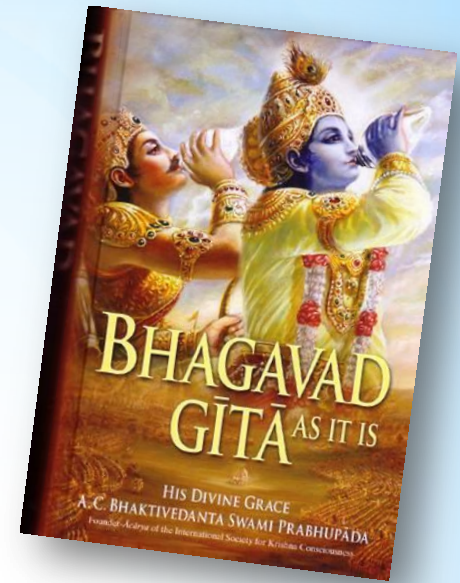
Spiritual Ambassador



NUS
National University
of Singapore

*18.69 of Bhagavad Gita:

Na ca tasmān manuṣyeṣu
Kaścin me priya-kṛttamaḥ
Bhavitā na ca me tasmād
Anyah priyataro bhuvi



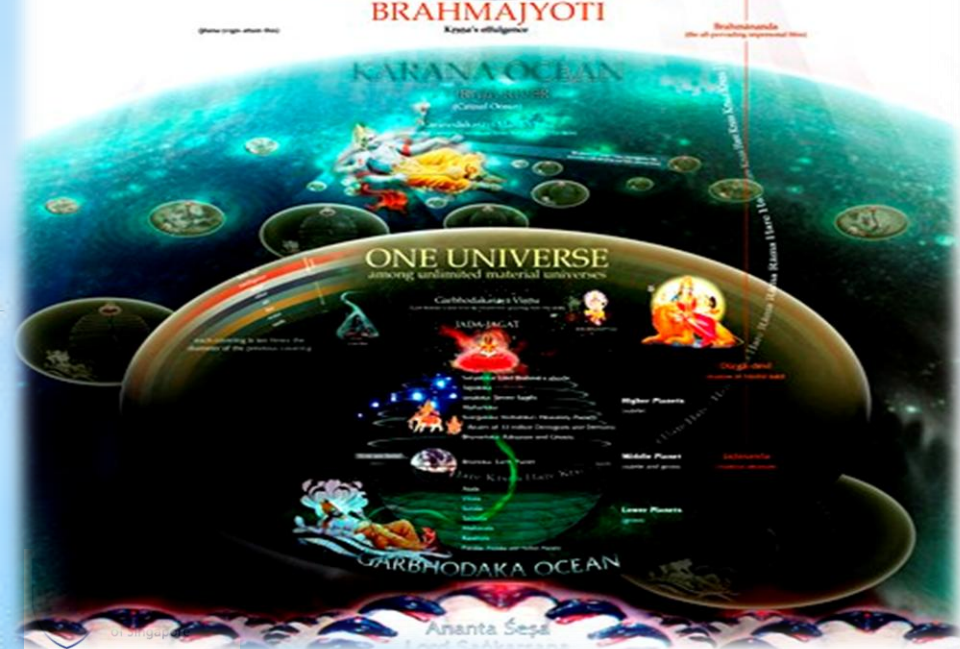
*“There is no servant in this world more dear to Me than he, nor will there ever be one more dear.”

***GOD's Favorites**

“An accredited diplomat sent by a state as its representative in a foreign country.”



* **Definition of Ambassador**



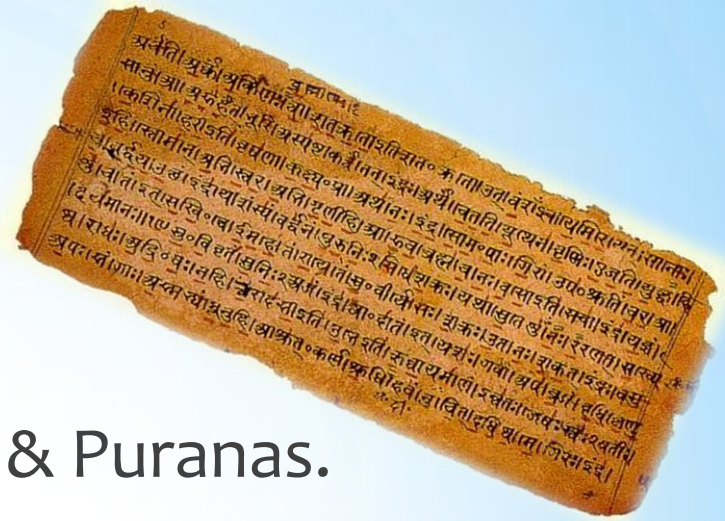
* **Spiritual World**

* Vedas:

Rig / Sam / Yajur / Atharva

* 108 Upanishads / Vedant Sutras

* Itihasas: Mahabharat, Ramayan & Puranas.



* Upa Vedas:

Ayurveda, Dhanurveda,
Gandharvaveda

* Other architecture related
scriptures.



* **Vedic Knowledge Sources**

Within the Vedic scripture, one can find music, dance, art, biographies on great saints and personalities, and stories that contain every level of emotion. They also exhibit lessons of truth, etiquette, philosophy, and examples of how others have lived and attained the heights of spiritual consciousness and freedom from further material birth

The most important books for spiritual instruction, are the Bhagavad-Gita and Srila Vyasadeva's own commentary on the Vedic texts, the Bhagavat Purana. He was the original author of the essential Vedic scriptures.



* How do we get the
knowledge about Spiritual World

* Sure, all religions indicate there is life after death. However, they normally offer only the most basic understanding that if you are good and a believer, maybe you will go to heaven. And if you are predominantly bad, you will go to hell.



* But only the Vedic philosophy offers detailed information on how exactly this works, and how we create our future with every thought, word and deed. And how that future may not only be in a heavenly world or on a hellish planet, but how it can be another life similar to what we are experiencing now on this earthly globe.



* **Importance of BG and SB**

- * Where every tree is a transcendental purpose tree; where the soil is the purpose gem, all water is nectar, every word is a song, every gait is a dance, the flute is the favorite attendant, effulgence is full of transcendental bliss and the supreme spiritual entities are all enjoyable and tasty,
- * Where numberless milk cows always emit transcendental oceans of milk; where there is eternal existence of transcendental time, who is ever present and without past or future and hence is not subject to the quality of passing away even for the space of half a moment.
- * That realm is known as Goloka only to a very few self-realized souls in this world"



* Spiritual world in Scriptures

Long Term:

To Go Back home back to Godhead

Short Term:

The Short-Term Goal is to find happiness. By understanding our spiritual identity, we also become free from the day to day turmoil and hassles that many people take so seriously. Some people let such problems control their lives.

As a merciful father, it's God's urgency to take us back.



* **The ultimate goal of Vedic Process**

Parampara

* By Accepting a Guru.

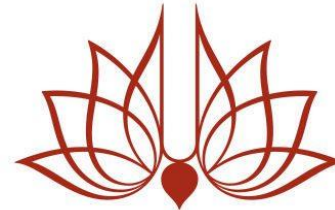
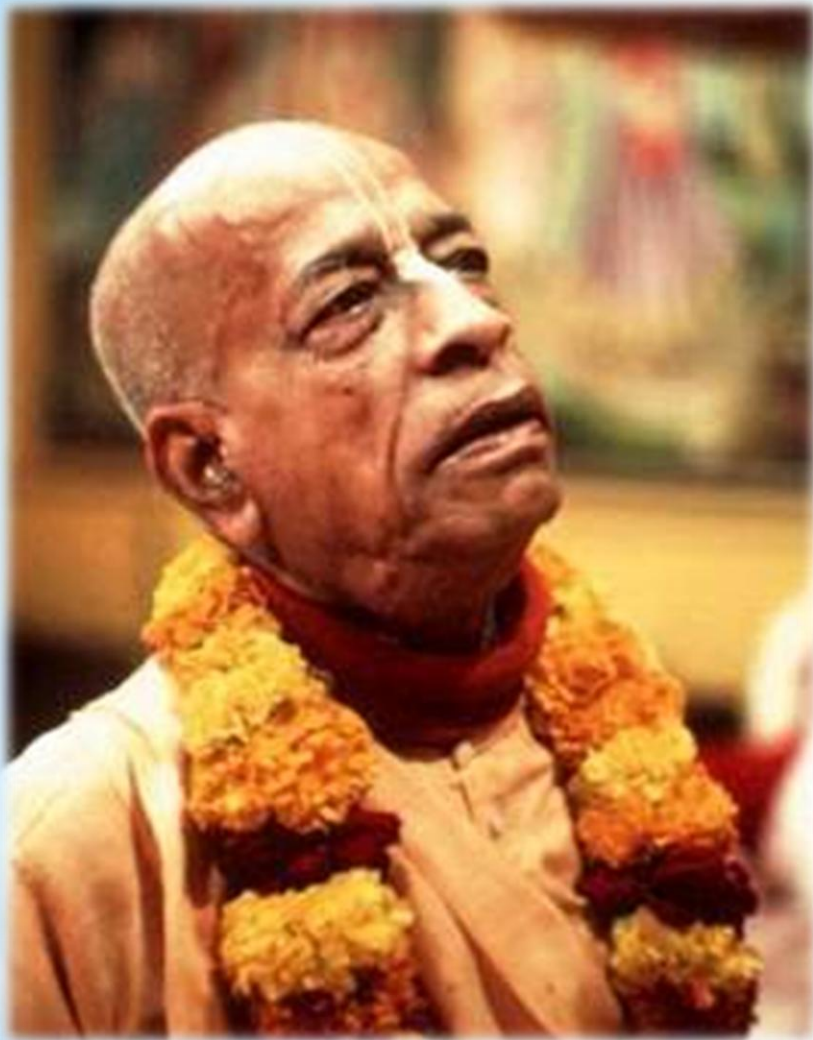
* **Acharya:** Gives knowledge as per time place & circumstances; comes in Parampara :

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| * 1. Kṛṣṇa | 9. Akṣobhya | 17. Brahmaṇya Tīrtha | 25. Kṛṣṇadāsa |
| * 2. Brahmā | 10. Jaya Tīrtha | 18. Vyāsa Tīrtha | 26. Narottama |
| * 3. Nārada | 11. Jñānasindhu | 19. Lakṣmīpati | 27. Viśvanātha |
| * 4. Vyāsa | 12. Dayānidhi | 20. Mādhavendra Purī | 28. Baladeva |
| * 5. Madhva | 13. Vidyānidhi | 21. Īśvara Purī | 29. Bhaktivinoda |
| * 6. Padmanābha | 14. Rājendra | 22. Lord Caitanya | 30. Gaurakiśora |
| * 7. Nṛhari | 15. Jayadharmā | 23. Rūpa | 31. Bhaktisiddhānta Sarasvatī |
| * 8. Mādhava | 16. Puruṣottama | 24. Raghunātha, Jīva | |

* 32. A. C. Bhaktivedanta Svāmī Prabhupāda

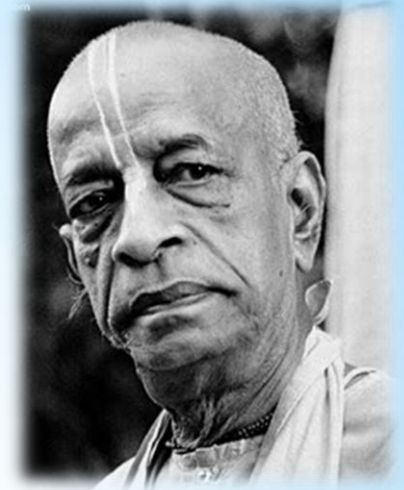
Need to study personal examples who have lived their life with BG principles

* **How to go Back to Godhead ?**



* Srila Prabhupāda
is one of those representatives

- * 1896 Born in Calcutta
- * 1916 Student of Philosophy at Scottish College
- * 1918 BA Exams & Marriage, Joined Bose Laboratory
- * 1921 Met Subhash Chandra Bose & Gandhi's movement
- * 1922 Met Spiritual Master: Bhakti-siddhant Saraswati.



“You are an educated young man. Why don't you preach Lord Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's message throughout the whole world?”

- * 1932 Initiated by Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura
- * 1936 Final order from his spiritual master to preach in the West
- * 1939 Honoured with the title "Bhaktivedanta" by Gaudiya Society
- * 1944 Started 'Back to Godhead' magazine
- * 1953 Jhansi – Established League of devotees

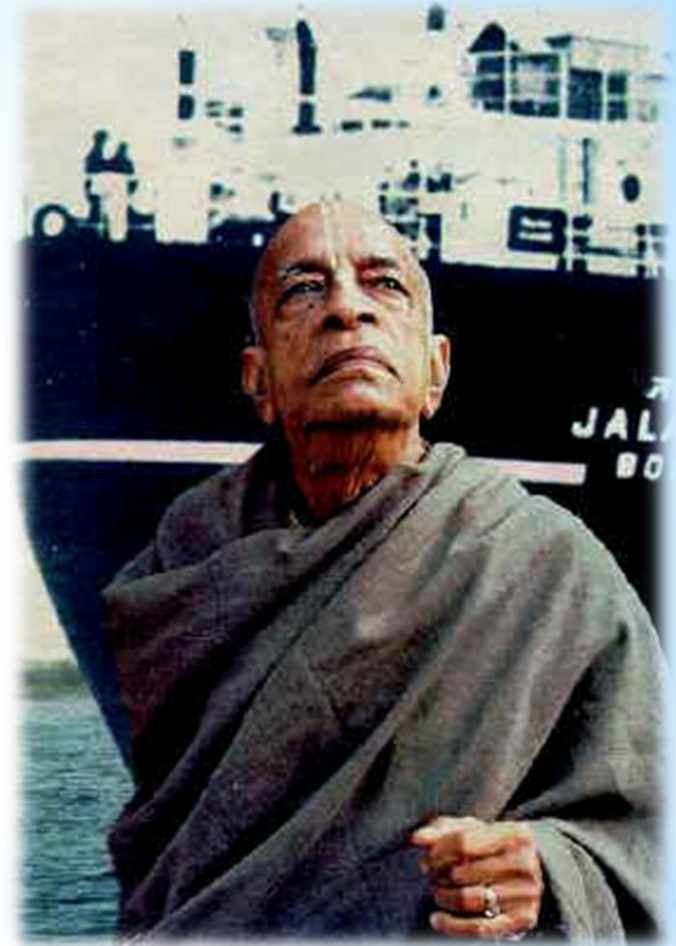
* **Life in brief - I**



- * 1954 Retired from work
 - * 1959 Took Renounced Order of Life
 - * 1960 First Book - Easy Journey to Other Planets
 - * 1962 Started to translate Srimad Bhagvatam
- Journey to US**
- * 1966 Had Heart Attack / Registered his society
 - * 1967 Published Bhagvad Gita as it is.
 - * 1972 Established Bhaktivedanta Book Trust
 - * 1975 Published Chaitanya Charitamrita
 - * 1976 Established Bhakti-Vedanta Institute
 - * 1977 Disappearance in Vrindavan

* Life in Brief - II

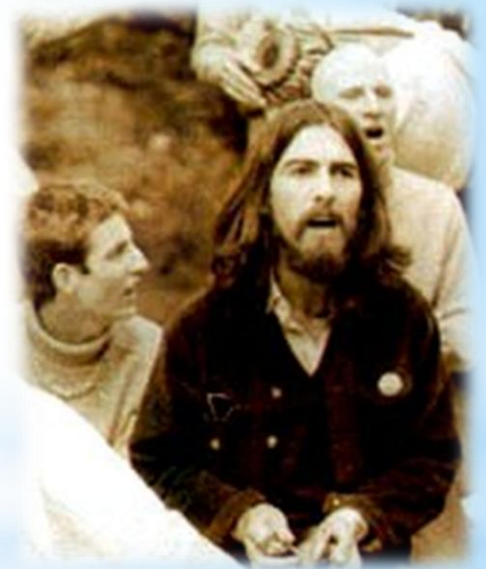
- * In 1965, at age of 70, he ventured outside India to fulfill the order of his spiritual master. During his sea voyage, suffered two severe heart attacks & one paralysis attack.
- * Reached the shores of America with 7 dollars. Founded Hare Krishna movement with a small group of disciples, after a year of struggling alone in New York City.
- * This marked the only time in history that a Krsna devotee successfully trained non-Indians in the strict disciplines of Vaisnavism. Amazingly, this was achieved during the blossoming of America's hedonistic counterculture movement.



* Sowing the Seed

- * He sent his followers, chanting the names of God, into the streets of cities & towns everywhere & Hare Krsna became famous in every corner of the earth.
- * He sent his disciples to London, where they recorded the single, "Hare Krsna Mantra", with George Harrison, in 1969. It became the fastest selling of all the Apple Corporation's releases, including those of the Beatles.

He formally initiated approximately 5000 disciples. These initiates represented a sweeping diversity of nationalities, races, ethnicities, & religious backgrounds.



* Spreading Lord's Glories - I

- * Established 108 Krsna temples on six continents.
- * Inaugurated the Rathayatra Festival of Lord Jaganatha in major cities around the globe.
- * Introduced the "Sunday Love Feast" & prasadam distribution programs providing millions of free meals to the public.
- * Created the world's first chain of vegetarian restaurants known as Govinda's.



* **Spreading Lord's Glories - II**

- * Spoke daily on the philosophy of Krsna consciousness, Over 2,200 lectures were recorded.
- * He had scores of interviews & philosophical discussions with news reporters, scientists, religious leaders & politicians.
- * Meetings with world-renowned dignitaries & celebrities like Indira Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Allen Ginsberg, Ravi Shankar, Alice Coltrane, John Lennon & George Harrison.
- * Published the monthly magazine, Back to Godhead, which he called the backbone of his movement. At the height of its circulation in the mid seventies, over a million copies per issue were sold.
- * Recorded more than twenty albums of devotional music.



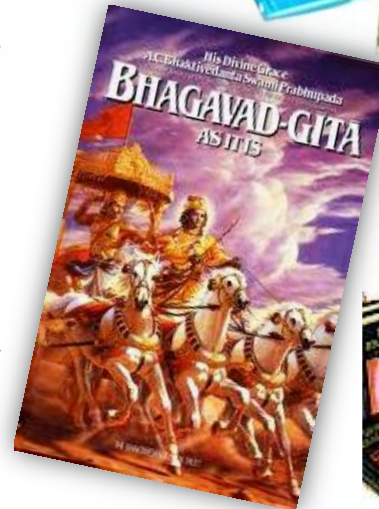
* **Efforts to Glorify Lord - I**



- * Built worldwide major temples, founded a spiritual city at Mayapur, India.
- * Established primary schools to provide education in the principles of devotional service.
- * Founded the Bhaktivedanta Institute to advance Krsna consciousness within the scientific community.
- * Formed the Bhaktivedanta Swami Charity Trust to unearth & renovate the holy places.
- * Set up farm communities to teach "simple living & high thinking".
- * Commissioned his artist disciples to produce hundreds of illustrations of Krsna's pastimes.

* Efforts to Glorify Lord - II

- * Wrote 70 books on the science of Krsna consciousness, sleeping only couple of hours per day.
- * The Encyclopedia Britannica proclaimed that his voluminous translations from the original Sanskrit & his lucid commentaries "have astounded literary & academic communities worldwide."
- * Founded the Bhaktivedanta Book Trust (BBT) in 1972. By 1976, over 55,000,000 literatures had been published in 25 languages & distributed in almost every country, making the BBT the world's largest publisher of Vedic religious & philosophical texts.



* Literary Contribution

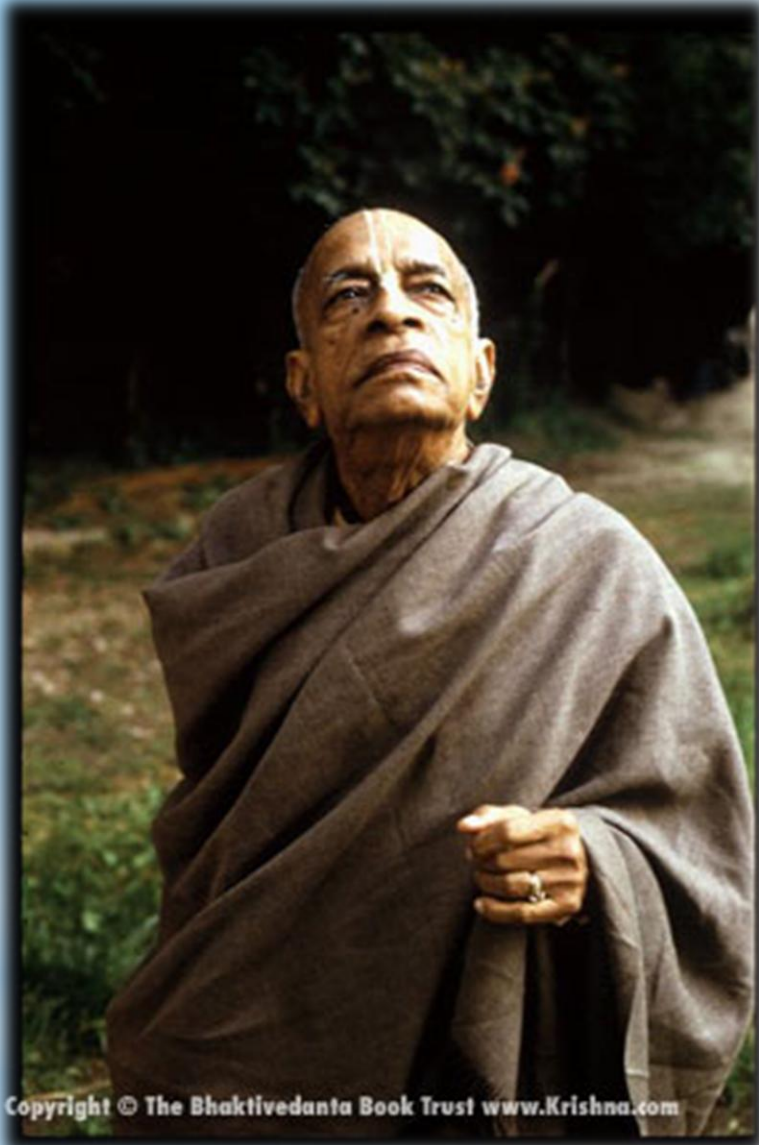
* Srila Prabhupada established Vedic standards of Deity worship & installed the Deities in temples worldwide.

* Circled the globe 14 times, preaching, inspiring his followers & making countless public appearances.

* Skillfully managed his international society simply through letters & personal meetings, virtually without the use of a telephone / email / cellphone.



* **Extended Efforts to Glorify Lord**

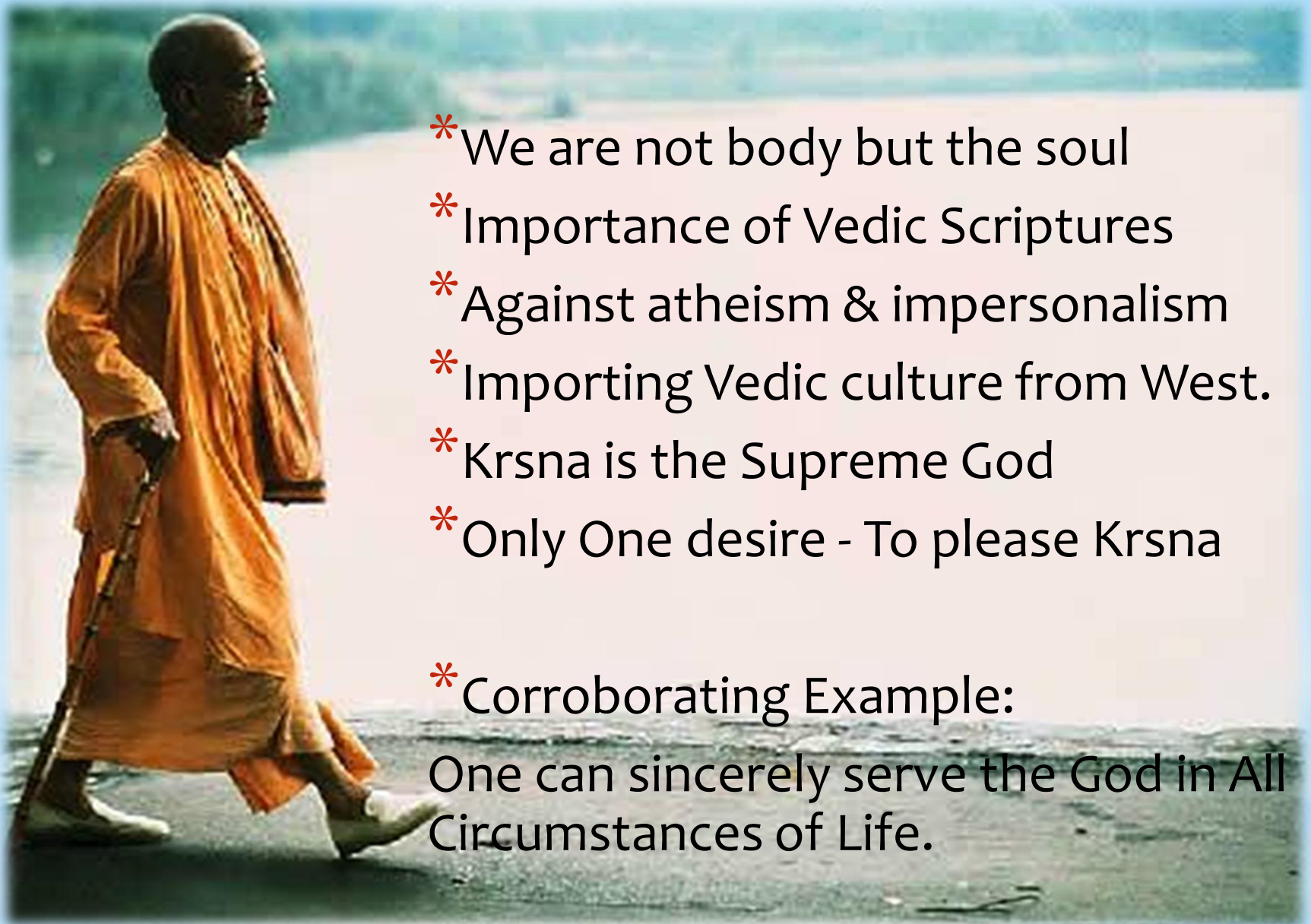


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- * Grave
- * Expert
- * Humble
- * Truthful
- * Merciful
- * Focused
- * Humorous
- * Respectful
- * Friend to all
- * Magnanimous
- * Compassionate
- * Surrendered to will of the Lord



* Transcendental Qualities

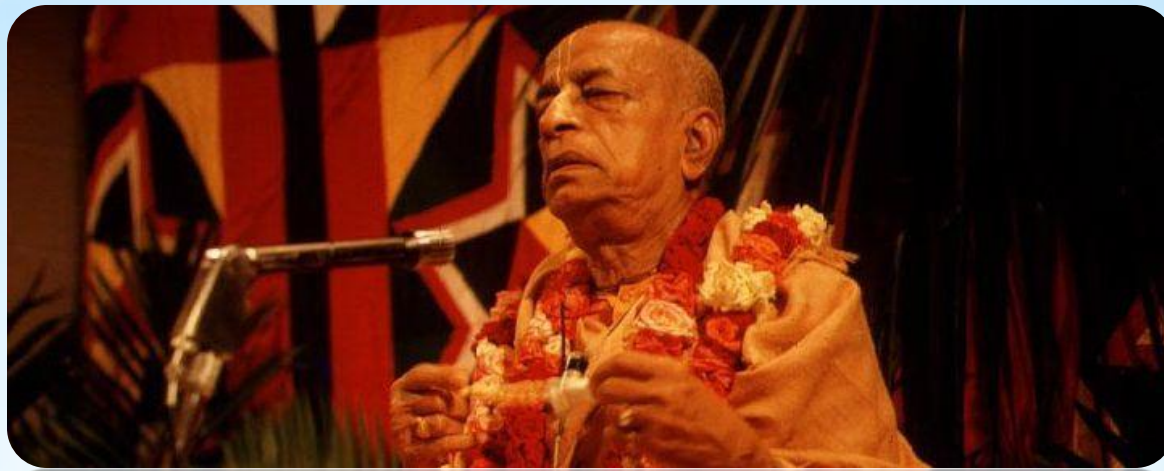


- * We are not body but the soul
- * Importance of Vedic Scriptures
- * Against atheism & impersonalism
- * Importing Vedic culture from West.
- * Krsna is the Supreme God
- * Only One desire - To please Krsna

* Corroborating Example:

One can sincerely serve the God in All Circumstances of Life.

* **Unique Contributions**



- * How his example helps us in our daily life struggle & how we learn to practice devotional service with current routine?
- * Our reciprocation with scrutinizing study of scriptures & helping others to understand & apply this knowledge.
- * Build up of our own character & how pleasing Lord's devotees will grant us access to spiritual world.

* **Applications in everyday life**

* 11.14.16 of Srimad Bhagavatam:

“nirapeksam munim santam
Nirvairam sama-darsanam
Anuvrajamy aham nityam
Puyeyety anghri-renubhah”

“With the dust of My devotees’ lotus feet, I desire to purify the material worlds, which are situated in Me.

Thus, I always follow in the footsteps of My pure devotees, who are free from all personal desires, rapt in thought of My pastimes, peaceful, without any feelings of enmity, and of equal disposition everywhere.”

* **Conclusion**



Thanks a lot.

Hare Kṛṣṇa Hare Kṛṣṇa
Kṛṣṇa Kṛṣṇa Hare Hare |
Hare Rāma Hare Rāma
Rāma Rāma Hare Hare ||

