

# Nectar of Instruction

Summaries and organization

## **Ourselves and Our Life**

### **Text 1**

#### **Sense and mind control**

Not artificial atonement

Knowledge

Positive engagement for all senses

Speak → Krsna

Mind → Krsna

Anger → demons

Genitals → children

Tongue and belly → prasadam

### **Texts 2 and 3**

#### **Hinders and helps**

##### Hinders:

Too much: money, knowledge, rules, achievements

Wrong kind: thing, talking, friends

Solve with: simple living, being under the shelter of the internal energy, and living in devotee society

##### Helps:

Enthusiastic, confident patience

Principles with devotees as devotees have done

Practical action “endeavor executed with intelligence in Krsna consciousness”

Nine processes (pp. 28-29)

Using everything in Krsna’s service

Senses and mind in Lord’s service we use

Hindrance avoid while good help we do choose

## **Devotees and Society**

### **Text 4**

#### **Loving exchange**

Prasadam, gifts, confidences

Needed in mundane relationships also

Basis for ISKCON

Avoid exchanges with non-devotees

### **Text 5**

#### **How to Determine with whom to have the exchanges**

- Types of devotees—kanista, madhyama, uttama
- Degree of faith: neophyte—starting, trying; middle—faith; highest—defined (p.48 and 57-8)
- Qualifications for initiation
  - Willingness to do austerity
  - Following guru's instructions
  - Not a show
  - Inquisitive

Basis for all advancement—chanting Hare Krsna (p.53 bottom-p55 top)

### **Text 6**

#### **How *Not* to Determine who is a devotee**

By advancement, but not by body

Defects, low birth, if high birth must be qualified

Offense against Vaisnavas

(P63) "As soon as anyone becomes envious, he falls from the platform of paramahansa."

p. 65—for whom is quote written?

Loving exchange with the Vaisnavas are six

Know Vaisnavas three and how with them we mix

Based on their faith but not their bodies' hues

## **Absorption in Krsna**

### **Text 7**

#### **Sweet sugar will cure**

Day and night (misguided society and leaders)

Offense—clearing—pure

Ten offenses and positive alternatives (not in text; suggestions from devotees)

Offend devotee—beg forgiveness

Think demigods are equal to Visnu—be enlightened by devotee

Disobey guru—beg forgiveness

Disrespect sastra—praise the same scriptures and understand the real meaning from a devotee

Think chanting's glories are imaginary—hear the real glories

Have a mundane interpretation of chanting—here the real meaning

Commit sins on the strength of chanting—avoid sins and sincerely repent

Think chanting's an auspicious ritual—keep chanting

Instructing faithless—ask for forgiveness of the faithless' offenses and practice discrimination

Lack of faith and maintaining attachments—associate with devotees who are more advanced and who will honestly help to cut those attachments

From sraddha to nistha (from Madhurya Kadamini)

- Sraddha—in scriptures and the activities of bhakti; gained from others' preaching and from Supersoul
- Sadhu sanga—inquiring from guru
- Bhajana kriya—unsteady: false confidence, sporadic endeavor, indecision, struggle with senses, inability to keep vows, and enjoying the facilities of bhakti
- Anartha-nivrti—(stages on pp. 27-29) Anarthas come from: past sins, past piety (desire for liberation), offenses, bhakti (prestige). Types of offenses: seva offenses (all destroyed by name except committing sins on the strength of chanting). Anarthas cause: sleep, distraction, bad habits, material taste, disinterest in material topics (p.34), ignorance, false ego, attachment, hatred, and fear of death (p.13)
- Nistha—in bhakti and in quality of bhakti; steadiness in body, mind, and words; determination becomes easy

### **Text 8**

#### **Think of Krsna all the time**

(at this point there's a "break" to an explanation of the higher stages of bhakti)

asakti—going to Krsna

bhava or rati—beginning of one of the five rasas, in either awe or equality

What we think of at death determines our next body

Control tongue and residence

Reference to "levels" of Gita chapter 12 (pure love, sadhana bhakti, working for Krsna)

Attaining one of the five rasas

Name may seem bitter but taste is so sweet

Chant and remember the whole day complete

## **Better and Best**

### **Text 9**

#### **Best places**

Vaikuntha → Mathura → Vrindavana → Govardhana → Radha Kunda

What does it mean that it's best to live at Radha Kunda?

Explanation of Lord Caitanya versus other sampradayas

### **Text 10**

#### **Best people**

(vikarmis) → karmis → jnanis → bhaktas → prema bhaktas → gopis → Radharani

Serve Radha and her kunda

Serve Radha Kunda throughout one's life

### **Text 11**

#### **Radha and her kunda**

Why so difficult to attain?

Requirements, suggestions, and benediction

Of all the worlds Radha's Kunda is most blessed

Karmis to bhaktas her prema is best

Serve her and her kunda, Lord Krsna you'll meet

#### **Overview in metered rhyme**

Senses and mind in Lord's service we use

Hindrance avoid while good help we do choose

Loving exchange with the Vaisnavas are six

Know Vaisnavas three and how with them we mix

Based on their faith but not their bodies' hues.

Name may seem bitter but taste is so sweet

Chant and remember the whole day complete

Of all the worlds Radha's Kunda is most blessed

Karmis to bhaktas her prema is best

Serve her and her kunda, Lord Krsna you'll meet