



## Highlights

- 🌿 Srila Prabhupada on Varnasrama
- 🌿 Varnasrama ... Mission Impossible
- 🌿 Effects of Modern Farming
- 🌿 GM Seeds



In his last days' message to the devotees, Srila Prabhupada put emphasis on the importance of Varnasrama and mercifully left the 50% of the job of his spiritual mission for his empowered disciples, giving them an opportunity to thus serve the Lord and gain proximity with Him, and they in turn carrying on the tradition of munificence have passed it on us, while guiding us by example. His divine grace Srila Prabhupada condemned the social set up based on industrialism, materialism, and perverted value system. He called for a spiritual overhauling of the society and also began the process by teaching the world the profound principles of love and submission to God- Krishna Consciousness.

Spiritual growth is everybody's right, Krishna Consciousness is not for elite, but for everybody. As His Holiness Bhakti Raghava Swami says, "all spirit souls are meant to progress towards Godhead and no matter what one's material situation, the most challenging and binding obstacle in this material world is the living entities' perverted reflection of pure love, material sex desire, which all devotees have to work on." How to come out of this illusion and control the material senses? The two different methods of controlling material senses as recommended in the Srimad Bhagavatham are the process of jnana, or the path of philosophical understanding of the Supreme- Brahman, Parmatama and Bhagavan. The other is that of direct engagement in the transcendental loving devotional service of the Lord. The latter one happens to be easier as the devotee does not have to wait for the attainment of the fruitive results of pious activities. Reviving our original relationship with the Lord is crucial, but how? – Hari nama.

Harer nama harer nama, harer namaiva kevalam  
Kalau nasty eva nasty, nasty eve gatih anyatha

[CC Madhya. 24I-2. 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.]

We have wasted enough lifetimes (84 lakhs!) in pursuing our concocted ideas of "pleasure" and "happiness". Now that we have this body, let us give this one birth to Him, just one life time. But in this age even this is difficult despite its inherent simplicity, so creating a conducive atmosphere for practicing Krishna Consciousness is essential. Citing Bhagavad Gita, Srila Prabhupada and other acharyas advocated varnasrama dharma, a social institution in which people ensure spiritual advancement by following their basic proclivities— a life centered around land, cow, and Krishna. The set up trains everybody's sensibilities in a manner that we are more disciplined and detached. In Srila Prabhupada's own words:

The Vedic principle is to reduce attachment, not to increase it. Therefore the whole system is called Varnasrama dharma. The Indian system calls for varna and ashrama- four social orders and spiritual orders. Brahmacharya (celibate student life), grhastha (married life), vanaprastha (retired life) and sannyasa (renounced life) – these are the spiritual orders. And the social orders consist of brahmins ( intellectuals), kshatriyas (administrators), vaishyas (merchants and farmers), and sudras (ordinary workers). So under this system, the regulative principles are so nice that even if one has the tendency to enjoy material life, he is so nicely molded that at last he achieves liberation and goes back home, back to Godhead. This is the process. So sex life is not required, but because we are attached to it, therefore there are some regulative principles under which it is maintained

However, Srila Prabhupada faults the modern caste system that is prevalent in India presently, calling it as a perversion of scriptural injunction- asuric varnasrama. What we require is daivi varnasrama, where Krishna is at the center of activities, it is a society where occupations are not defined by force or greed but are determined by character and training, not by birth and wealth— guna-karma-vibhagasah; and one that is based on mutual appreciation and cooperation between classes. Economic progress, pursuit of material comforts, and sense aggrandizement are not the goals. The guiding principle of life remains- simple living and high thinking. Since varnasrama happens to be not much traveled road, it is an area, which offers child like pleasure in digging the goldmine, there is so much to explore, know, and do. Since it is a way of life, it touches all the aspects of life – from family life, administration, agriculture, cow protection, to devotion for Him. There is a lot happening because of the untiring efforts of so many.

Varnasrama Research Teams are satellite localized research units working towards spreading the message of varnasrama and thus help preparing ourselves to come out of the material conditioning and take to the life style created by Lord Krishna and recommended by various acharyas, including Srila Prabhupada. This Newsletter is an endeavor to attain that objective. The present issue is planned to be farming-centric, trying to touch its different aspects.

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare  
Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare

Isn't it beautiful to chant the mantra in the verdant environs of fields, river flowing with clear water, cooing of the birds, mooing of the cows, and fresh breeze carrying the fragrance of unknown flowers? While sitting in AC room with no ventilation and fresh air, does this seems to be a pipe dream? It can be translated to reality through our adoption of varnasrama. Hare Krishna!



# Tamaso Ma Jyotir Gamaya. . .

## -Vrndavanlila dd



om purnam adah purnam idam  
purnat purnam udacyate  
purnasya purnam adaya  
purnam evavasisyate

(- Isopanisad. Invocation)

He is “perfect and complete, and because He is completely perfect, all emanations from Him, such as this phenomenal world, are perfectly equipped as complete wholes.” He has taken care of everybody’s requirement and provided with sufficient resources to meet them. If everybody takes their just share the precarious balance in the nature is perfectly maintained. As a loving father He has taken care of everybody and we are expected to take just our share. He is the only proprietor of everything, but when we guided by our greed and lust overstep our quota the nature representing Krsna’s energy wreaks its vengeance to set it right.

isavasyam idam sarvam

yat kinca jagatyam jagat

tena tyaktena bhunjitha

ma grdah kasya svid dhanam

(- Isopanisad. Mantra I)

[Everything animate or inanimate that is within the universe is controlled and owned by the Lord. One should therefore accept only those things necessary for himself, which are set aside as his quota, and one should not accept other things, knowing well to whom they belong.]

Every creation big or small is there for a purpose and is helpful in maintaining the precarious balance in nature. Our greed and desire to lord has wreaked havoc and made us face different complications like extinction of species. There are hardly any butterflies and insects to help pollination in the cities. Even in India, out of hundreds of breeds of cows we are now left with just 33 breeds! Global waste – We are living surrounded by rising debris of waste. Even developed countries like UK live in a mountain of waste of over 400 million tonnes, with household waste continuing to grow at a rate of 3 percent per annum. What a stinking economic development! India too is fighting tough to save the sacred rivers like Gangaji, Yamunaji etc from getting choked. No wonder the countries have formed Global Waste Management Symposium to unsuccessfully fight the battle against nature. Then there is threat of global warming – the glaciers are melting, there is a stark rise in the temperature, ozone layer is depleting slowly; global draught – almost all the continents are living under the threat of severe draught, soil has lost its fertility, rivers have shrunk to a thin ribbon from their old majestic gushing; global starvation – even the countries that used to be the feeding bowl to the world because of their proud agri-based economy have now taken to an industrial structure and in the process from once being proud food supplier to the world have now fallen to the state of depending on others for meeting even their basic requirements. Humanity needs food to live, the civilization of nuts and bolts is meaningless. Global terrorism has reached dangerously critical proportions. Natural calamities are further exacerbating the already grave situation. We have seen tsunami, earth quakes, draught, flood, Katrina, manifestation of unheard of diseases devouring countless lives. There is a threat from outside and even from within. Is it not an indication of the worsening times? Such developments reinforce the fragility and ephemerality of this material world – the grotesqueness of His fury in the face of our disobedience.

The price that we have paid for this economic development has outrun its viability. This plastic civilization is not as strong and as resilient as we were led to believe. Its vulnerability is showing.

A hand has no value if it is not connected to the body. Similarly, if man’s actions are not dovetailed to His wishes, our existence is meaningless. We turn atam-hanah- killer of the soul and we have only dark hellish planets waiting for us. After suffering through 84,00,000 bodies, we have got this body. It is the only form that has developed intelligence and consciousness, therefore more responsibility. Cats and dogs do not have responsibility but we have vedic injunctions to guide us and make the most of this precious opportunity of going back to Godhead. Sadly, we are using the same intelligence to further enslave ourselves to the senses. Challenging His authority, the scientists are foolishly trying to prove their supremacy over His creation by introducing genetically modified seeds, cloning of farm animals for consumption, cloud seeding, hybrid seeds, hybrid animals, using chemical fertilizers abandoning the traditional method of farming, or industrialization. This new era of so called “knowledge economy” is fallacious.

Andham tamah pravisanti

Ye ‘vidyam upasate

Tato bhuya iva ate tamo

Ya u vidyayam ratah

(- Isopanisad. Mantra 9)

Those who engage in the culture of nescient activities shall enter into the darkest region of ignorance. Worse still are those engaged in the culture of so called knowledge.” We are sitting atop a time bomb, which is bound to explode. And perched there, we are foolishly devising ways of pampering our senses and ego without bothering to solve the basic problem and understand the higher purpose of human life. And we call this age as that of “knowledge explosion.” What an irony!

prayenalpayusah sabhya

kalav asmin yuge janah

mandah sumanda-matayo

manda-bhagya hy upadrutah

[SB, 1:1:10]

No wonder, we do not even know what intelligence and happiness is. Absence of misery is happiness for us. Throughout our lives, deluded we chase the elusive happiness without bothering to refer to the scriptures which are treasure-house of all knowledge - “ manda-bhagya”.

Economic development has proved to be an Icarian flight for us; the wax wings have now begun melting. Icarus is destined to fall and die. More our wants are, the more complicated our lives are, requiring set up of more industries, more production to meet our needs, more pollution not only of environment but also of consciousness. Attacked by all kinds of miseries, where do we go? Even those who wish to practice bhakti find it difficult, the ambience is demoniac. What do we do? Still we have hope. Merciful Srila Prabhupada has given us solution for every problem - Simple living and high thinking- simple axiom but holds solution to all our miseries.

This world has lost its glory

Let us write a brand new story now

Let us like an obedient child return to His lap following His instructions in a varnasrama set up, with simple life and utilize our precious time and life in serving Him, His mercy will follow.

Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare

Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare





## Varnasrama System Must Be Introduced



Room Conversation: February 14, 1977, Mayapur

Satsvarupa: ...thought they were suppressed.

Prabhupada: Revolution means they are dissatisfied.

Satsvarupa: French Revolution, Russian Revolution.

Prabhupada: These things were not going nicely. Therefore gradually it broke. But if things are going nicely, people will be happy. They will not revolt. You have to keep the citizens satisfied in all respects. You must know the necessity how people are satisfied. You have to arrange the government in that way. Then there will be no revolution. Mass of people, if they are satisfied, they will not revolt. But they do not know the process. The "demoncracy," the common man is allowed to vote. He has no knowledge and he's voting. This is most condemned process. Camara-bhangi, a sweeper, he is voted to become Minister of Defense. His business is to cleanse the street, and now he's voted to become because he has got number of votes. So many bhangis, they vote, "Yes, he is our leader. He should be Defense Minister." You have to do that. This is democracy. His business is to sweep, and he's voted a defense minister.

Hari-sauri: But in, say in America, they argue that everybody's educated now. In America...

Prabhupada: What educated? Educated means hippies. That's all. This is their education. They do not know what is meant by education. Education... University student was informed that "Next birth you may become a dog," so he said, "What is the wrong there?" This is education. Is that education, that he agrees to become a dog very happily? There is no education. Simply waste of time.

Satsvarupa: But at least if there is extreme exploitation by a king or dictator it can't be changed. But the people...

Prabhupada: There cannot be exploitation if things are made in order. Just like ksatriya should be trained up as ksatriya. Then he is king. Not that a bhangi by vote becomes a king. This is education.

sauryah tejo dhrtir daksyam yuddhe capy apalayanam danam isvara-bhavas ca ksatram karma svabhava-jam [Bg. 18.43]

He must be very powerful, very strong, strongly built. You have seen the picture, Ramacandra? Sturdy body. You see. Laksmana. Because ksatriya. They should be trained up as ksatriya. Therefore the varnasrama college is required to train people who is able to become a brahma?a, who is able to become a ksatriya, who is able to become... In this way division must be. And according to the quality and work there must be division for cooperation. There is a big scheme. They have lost. They do not know. All bhangis, camara, sudras, they are simply given vote. That's all. Where is the training?

Hari-sauri: But what is the use of having big strong body if now they're using airplanes and tanks and guns.

Prabhupada: That is your useless waste of time. Why? Therefore the war does not stop, unnecessary war, and such a big war, Kuruksetra, in eighteen days it is finished. This is decision. And this is going on, continually war, strain, politics, diplomacy, lecture, Parliament. There is no finishing of war. There is no finishing. It will go on. Just like same example: If you keep the dogs as dogs, they'll going on barking. It will never finish. So this is the civilization of dog work. It is not human civilization. Therefore it is going on. War is not stopped. Where is stop? War is stopped? No. Going on. And it will go on because they are dogs. You cannot stop their barking. There are so many things. If we follow the instruction of Bhagavad-gita, then whole world will be... This is a fact. Now, how to implement it, that is another thing. It is a fact.

Hari-sauri: Because even the yavanas and mleccas were following the ksatriya system in Krsna's time. Just like Jarasandha. He had all the chivalrous respect of a ksatriya even though he was a demon. But nowadays everybody's... No one is...

Prabhupada: Everybody's sudra. Nobody's brahmana, nobody's...

Hari-sauri: No.

Prabhupada: Sudra is to be controlled only. They are never given to be freedom. Just like in America. The blacks were slaves. They were under control. And since you have given them equal rights they are disturbing, most disturbing, always creating a fearful situation, uncultured and drunkards. What training they have got? They have got equal right? That is best, to keep them under control as slaves but give them sufficient food, sufficient cloth, not more than that. Then they will be satisfied.

Hari-sauri: If that's done then how will those who have some potential to be educated, how will we recognize them?

Prabhupada: Either educate them or control them. Give them facility of education. But there is no education at all. Even for the whites there is no education. So we are stressing on the point of education. You educate certain section as brahmana, certain section as ksatriya, certain section as vaisya. In that education we don't discriminate because he's coming of a sudra family. Take education. Be qualified. Then you talk. Not by votes.

Prabhupada: Yes. Not... He did not say possible. Iha bahya. Caitanya Mahaprabhu was interested only on the spiritual platform. He had no idea of material side. He rejected material side.

Satsvarupa: But don't we do that also?

Prabhupada: No. Our position is different. We are trying to implement Krsna consciousness in everything. And Caitanya Mahaprabhu personally took sannyasa. He rejected completely material. Niskincana. But we are not going to be niskincana. We are trying to cement the troubled position of the... That is also in the prescription of Bhagavad-gita. We are not rejecting the whole society. Caitanya Mahaprabhu rejected everything, iha bahya. Rejected meaning, "I do not take much interest in this." Bahya. "It is external." He was simply interested in the internal, the spiritual. But our duty is that we shall arrange the external affairs also so nicely that one day they will come to the spiritual platform very easily, paving the way. And Caitanya Mahaprabhu, personality like that, they have nothing to do with this material world. But we are preaching. We are preaching. Therefore we must pave the situation in such a way that gradually they will be promoted to the spiritual plane, which is not required

Satsvarupa: Varnasrama is not required.

Prabhupada: Not required. Caitanya Mahaprabhu denied, "I am not brahmana, I am not ksatriya, I am not this, I am not this." He rejected. But in the Bhagavad-gita, the catur-varnyam maya sristam [Bg. 4.13] So we are preaching Krsna consciousness. It must be done.

Hari-sauri: But in Caitanya Mahaprabhu's practical preaching He only induced them to chant

Prabhupada: That is not possible for ordinary man.

Hari-sauri: What, to simply induce people to chant?

Prabhupada: Hm?

Hari-sauri: He only introduced just the chanting.

Prabhupada: But who will chant? Who'll chant?

Satsvarupa: But if they won't chant, then neither will they train up in the varnasrama. That's the easiest

Prabhupada: The chanting will be there, but you cannot expect that people will chant like Caitanya Mahaprabhu. They cannot even chant sixteen rounds. And these rascals are going to be Caitanya Mahaprabhu.

Satsvarupa: No. But if they at least will chant and take some prasada...

Prabhupada: Chanting will go on. That is not stopped. But at the same time the varnasrama-dharma must be established to make the way easy.

Hari-sauri: Well, at least my own understanding was that the chanting was introduced in the age of Kali because varnasrama is not possible.

Prabhupada: Because it will cleanse the mind. Chanting will not stop.

Hari-sauri: So therefore the chanting was introduced to replace all of the systems of varnasrama and like that

Prabhupada: Yes, it can replace, but who is going to replace it? The... People are not so advanced. If you imitate Haridasa Thakura to chant, it is not possible.

Satsvarupa: We tell them go on with your job but chant also.

Prabhupada: Yes. Thakaha apanara kaje, Bhaktivinoda Thakura. Apanara kaja ki. Caitanya Mahaprabhu recommended, sthane sthita... And if they do not remain in the sthana, then the sahajiyas' chanting will come. Just like the sahajiyas also have got the beads and..., but they have got three dozen women. This kind of chanting will go on. Just like our (name withheld). He was not fit for sannyasa but he was given sannyasa. And five women he was attached, and he disclosed. Therefore varnasrama-dharma is required. Simply show-bottle will not do. So the varnasrama-dharma should be introduced all over the world, and...

Satsvarupa: Introduced starting with ISKCON community?

Prabhupada: Yes. Yes. Brahmana, ksatriyas. There must be regular education.



# Varnasrama... Mission Impossible

-H.H.Bhakti Raghava Swami

Varnasrama Musings

## INTRODUCTION

There used to be a television series in North America called MISSION IMPOSSIBLE. As kids we would watch it religiously and with rapt attention. The introduction in each series centered on describing to the would-be hero (should he choose to accept the impossible assignment) a series of endless complicated scenarios, all filled with what seemed like insurmountable obstacles. The drama would then begin to unfold with our hero performing superhuman feats and manoeuvres, crossing over overbearing hurdles and somehow battling through these intense and challenging situations which all appeared a truly lost cause, very much impossible to overcome... yet every single time, without fail and to everyone's amazement (and that was our attraction to and the beauty of the series), what appeared initially as an impossible mission would end up becoming very much feasible.

## IMPOSSIBLE IS POSSIBLE

In many ways, the present varnasrama mission is like this. To turn the tide from the present global disastrous scenario we find ourselves in is indeed a mission impossible, if taken at face value. The odds for the world leadership becoming responsible Vaisnavas and ruling their citizens based on principle of dharma seem incredibly remote. The chances for people reverting to a more simplified life style, of becoming localized and depending on production from the land, of abandoning the conveniences of tractors and similar modern machineries but using more traditional and natural technologies all appear like something from a fairy tale. The odds for governments closing down slaughter houses, liquor and brewery stores, lotteries and gambling casinos also seem totally unfathomable. The odds of stopping the ever increasing list of promiscuity and hedonistic behaviour in society appear too incredible. And the likelihood for people to again take up a God conscious way of life based on the four principles of truthfulness, compassion, austerity and cleanliness also appears unreal. But we, the devotees of Krishna, know better... nothing is impossible.

We must maintain this great hope. The story of that little mother sparrow who had lost her eggs and threatened to ocean to drink her up should serve as a reminder. Seeing such determination on the part of that sparrow, Lord Vishnu's huge bird carrier, Garuda, had come to the rescue. Where is Garuda now one may ask? We have yet to show the determination of that mother sparrow.

## PLANNING AND ORGANIZATION

As often pointed out by Srila Prabhupada, planning and organization remain the two most important aspects, the key factors, for any organization or movement to succeed, besides of course the integrity and purity of its leaders. Planning remains the domain largely of the more intellectual class, the brahmanas, while organization remains largely the domain of the more administrative class, the ksatriyas. These two classes of men are needed to make things move. They are meant to go hand in hand.

At present we lack especially in ksatriya trained manpower. The varnasrama colleges, so much wanted by Srila Prabhupada, are meant to bring about the needed changes to give individuals an opportunity to take up these highly important posts. Simultaneously, we also need to cultivate present existing individuals holding such managerial positions in society although they may not yet be devotees. We need to work from both sides so that our planning and organization becomes balanced and harmonized.

## LEADERSHIP AWAKENING

There are many positive signs taking place within ISKCON in this regards and it will help us keep a proper focus by knowing about these.

In February this year, the GBC passed two significant resolutions pointing towards acknowledging and supporting the varnasrama mission. These have already been widely published on various devotee sites. Some will surely say it is not enough and they certainly have a point. However, we should see it as something positive.



H.H. Bhakti Raghava Swami



In April this year, the leadership of India, the India Regional Governing Body (IRGB), formulated a series of resolutions to establish a national ministry for Varnasrama-based Rural Development, thus recognizing its importance and necessity. Those efforts are gradually unfolding.

Later in the month August, the leadership in Malaysia held their National Council meeting where the establishment of a national varnasrama committee was on the agenda. Some encouraging news on this should be available by the next issue of this newsletter.

Looking on the Western side, the Canadian leadership have also slated varnasrama on their agenda for their up-coming national meetings in early October.

Last but not least, later on this year, in mid-November, the leadership of W. Africa plans its annual festival and varnasrama will also be discussed. There are many other developments taking place.

### PROMOTING VARNASRAMA RESEARCH TEAMS (VRT)

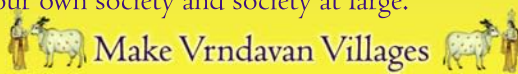
I was very happy to hear how some of our varnasrama preachers in India, in particular Sriman Bharat Chandra prabhu, National Coordinator for the varnasrama mission, are forging ahead to establish Varnasrama Supporting Teams (VRT). This is a simple yet most effective way to help bring the much needed awareness and thus begin the process of self-education and training as to what the varnasrama mission entails... and it entails a lot. We need to have these set up wherever we detect even a small interest in the varnasrama mission. We should actually have such units wherever there is an ISKCON center and especially in all large cities even there may not be a center yet.

There will soon be a brochure available which will make it easier for devotees to become involved in this way. Establishing VRT units in different countries will pave the way to consciousness building, thus underlining the urgency for bringing about the varnasrama changes so much needed. Every responsible devotee reading our varnasrama newsletter should make an effort to become somehow or other involved in establishing or participating in such units of VRT. It will be largely be within such gatherings of VRT members that deeper realizations of varnasrama will become revealed.

### PROMOTING NATIONAL VARNASRAMA MINISTRIES

Another yet important level to develop is at the national levels. As the VRT units will provide opportunities to develop local and regional efforts promoting the varnasrama mission, the importance and urgency to establish national ministries for varnasrama will become more obvious. There will be a direct relationship with the establishment of VRT units and the creation of varnasrama ministries in different countries.

Devotees in leadership positions around the world can take advantage of the various information now available to help make this happen. Having such varnasrama ministries established will be like helping manifest the ksatriya aspect of the varnasrama mission. The more both these elements can work nicely together, the planning of the brahmanas and the administration of the ksatriyas, the more we can begin to effect changes within our own society and society at large.



Make Vrindavan Villages

-H.G. Bharat Chandra das

India is the richest country. This is so not because of gold or paper money reserves, but because of cow dung. Cow dung is pure biomass and a country which possess largest quantity of biomass that country is to be considered as richest. Farming with this manure is natural, organic and self-sufficient. In contrast, chemical farming is unnatural, destructive and unsustainable. The term organic farming does not give the complete picture of the holistic and self-sufficient nature of farming practised traditionally in India. Key ingredients of such a holistic farming were:

1. Water shed management with tanks and bunds.
2. Irrigation through bull-run water lifting devices
3. Goshala (milk and other derived products from cows form ingredient in panchagavya, an excellent manure for the fields)
4. Oil extraction system using Oil ghani. Oil cakes are excellent manure and feed for cows.
5. Sugarcane fields and Jaggery making using ghani (Jaggery is an essential unit in preparation of jeevamrta)
6. Local pottery for a good seed bank to store the traditional seeds using herbs.
7. Traditional storage of the harvested grains using herbs and in granaries (without using chemicals).
8. A joint family system to do the farming.
9. Last but not the least, Lordships Sri Sri Krishna Balaram as the center of the society.



Since everything cannot be thought of, the modern propagation of organic farming is piecemeal. Hence, the mission "Make Vrndavan Villages" approaches the whole subject holistically. Land, cows and Krishna are real wealth. I hope that this issue brings different tenets of such holistic farming to its readers and inspires them to take up to the mission of "Make Vrndavan Villages". I congratulate all the devotees to have researched the topic and to have presented in such a lucid manner. Hare Krishna.

## Vedic Agriculture: The Answer to World Food Crisis

-H.G. Cidananda das

As most of us know, agriculture using pesticides, herbicides and chemical fertilisers have ruined land in all countries, and the price of such items, being even more expensive each year, farmers are committing suicide, as they can't cope with their financial problems in India, and elsewhere. This situation couldn't last forever, and a researcher, Mr. Subhash Palekar, studied in the Vedas, and discovered how to look after Mother Earth, as the Lord wishes. He experimented with his findings, consisting of using cow's urine, dung, and natural pesticides, such as neem, and soon, he could find that there is no need for any artificial chemicals and dangerous poisons, found on the market. He published his findings in three volumes, Philosophy of spiritual farming, Principles of spiritual farming and Techniques of spiritual farming. He has also conducted seminars in the country, to thousands of planters, who are now looking to him as a saviour, as he saved Mother Earth from total destruction!

Subash Palekar said that the main method to be adopted by farmers to increase productivity was to promote the formation of humus in the soil. Palekar said that the plants in the forests grow by drawing nutrients and energy from the humus which is formed through the natural process of decomposition and composition of enzymes, amino acids and nutrients. Palekar argues that his natural farming technique is cost effective.

He said that there is no need to use any inputs including farmyard manure except for the fact that the dung and urine of one cow is enough for 30 acres of farm land. So, profit is much higher, than with chemical agriculture. The only profit makers are the chemical industries, who are not very happy to observe the reversing trend, as their sales are down.

Such peaceful revolution is also happening in Thailand, as Lord Buddha also taught such techniques of peaceful living.

With such new concept of economics, all cows and bulls should be protected, as the precious dung is like gold to humans, and milk and milk products, purest of food. Not much studies are required to grow all food required, as Mother Nature provides more than enough for all humanity, in large quantity.

(Reproduced from dandavats.com as on September 9, 2008)



# Eighteen ways how 'modern farming' affects our world



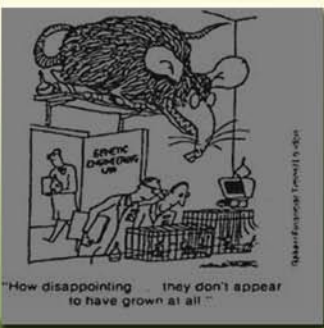
Today's chemical farms have little use for the skilled husbandry which was once the guiding principle of working the land. The emphasis today is solely on productivity - high input in exchange for high returns and productivity (mostly diminishing now however for farmers worldwide). Four important considerations - what happens to the land, the food it produces, the people who eat it and the communities which lose out - are overlooked.

- 1 Land exhaustion : The constant use of artificial fertiliser, together with a lack of crop rotation, reduces the soil's fertility year by year.
- 2 Fertilisers : High yield levels are produced by applying large quantities of artificial fertilisers, instead of by maintaining the natural fertility of the soil.
- 3 Nitrate run-off: About half of the nitrate in the artificial fertiliser used on crops is dissolved by rain. The dissolved nitrate runs off the fields to contaminate water courses.
- 4 Soil erosion: Where repeated deep ploughing is used to turn over the ground, heavy rains can carry away the topsoil and leave the ground useless for cultivation.
- 5 Soil compaction?: Damage to the structure of soil by compression is a serious problem in areas that are intensively farmed. Conventional tillage may involve a tractor passing over the land six or seven times, and the wheelings can cover up to 90 per cent of a field. Even a single tractor pass can compress the surface enough to reduce the porosity of the soil by 70 per cent, increasing surface run-off and, therefore, water erosion. In the worst cases, the surface run-off may approach 100 percent - none of the water penetrates the surface.
- 6 Agricultural fuel: As crop yields grow, so does the amount of fuel needed to produce them. European farmers now use an average of 12 tons of fuel to farm a square kilometre of land; American farmers use about 5 tons (1987 figures)
- 7 Biocide sprays: The only controls used against weeds and pests are chemical ones. Most crops receive many doses of different chemicals before they are harvested.
- 8 Cruelty to animals: On most "modern" farms, all animals are crowded together indoors. Complex systems of machinery are needed to feed them, while constant medication is needed to prevent disease. The cruelty involved in managing, breeding, growing and slaughtering farm animals today is unimaginably repulsive and horrifying.
- 9 Animal slurry: With so many animals packed together in indoor pens, their manure accumulates at great speed. It is often poured into lagoons which leak into local watercourses, contaminating them with disease-causing organisms and contributing to algae-blooms.
- 10 Imported animal feed: Many farms are not self-sufficient in animal feed; instead they rely on feed brought into the farm. This often comes from countries which can ill afford to part with it.
- 11 Stubble burning: In countries where stubble is burned, large amounts of potentially useful organic matter disappear into the sky in clouds of polluting smoke.
- 12 Loss of cultivated biodiversity: Large and other chemical farms tend to be monocultures growing the same crop and crop varieties.
- 13 Threat to indigenous seeds and animal breeds and species: Native cultivars and animal breeds lose out to exotic species and hybrids. Many native animal breeds are today threatened with extinction. The same holds true for many indigenous plant varieties which have disappeared within the space of one generation.
- 14 Habitat destruction: Agribusiness farming demands that anything which stands in the way of crop production is uprooted and destroyed. The wild animals and plants which were once a common sight around farms are deprived of their natural habitat and die out.
- 15 Contaminated food: Food, both plant and animal products, leaves the farm contaminated with the chemicals that were used to produce it.
- 16 Destruction of traditional knowledge systems and traditions: Rural indigenous knowledge and traditions, both agricultural and non-agricultural, is invariably connected to agriculture and agricultural systems.
- 17 Control of agriculture inputs and food distribution channel: The supply and trading in agricultural inputs and produce is in the hands of a few large corporations. This threatens food security, reducing the leverage and importance of the first and the last part of the supply chain - the farmer and the consumer.
- 18 Threat to individual farmers: Chemical agriculture is a threat to their livelihoods and changes their lifestyles, unfortunately not for the better.

Source : Internal inputs and "Return to the Good Earth", Third World Network



## Genetically Modified Seeds and Other Organisms (GMOs)



Questions about the safety and ethics of genetic engineering have never been answered. GE supporters may just be opening a Pandora's box. Illustration source : WPR,1985

Genetic modification (GM), also known as genetic engineering (GE), is an artificial method of gene manipulation, transferring a gene of a living organism, whether plant or animal, into another. The DNA structure or sequence is usually tampered with, and foreign substances are added to the isolated genes.

While gene transfer does occur in nature, the basic difference is that it is obviously natural, in compliance with the tenets of nature, and thus has no side-effects or dangers associated with it. The species concerned would invariably be closely-related and a combination of hereditary characteristics based on natural laws of dominance would only be possible. It should also be noted that gene transfer of the type that is effected by biotechnologists in their laboratories is NEVER possible nor desirable in nature.

GE plants or other organisms can, through interbreeding, contaminate local or even regional gene pools and biodiversity, thus affecting entire ecosystems. This is not just a possibility but has already occurred when GM crops have interbred with other plants and contaminated the produce as well as gene pool. Moreover, because GM has been using various toxins, antibiotic-resistant genes, allergens and genes sourced from dangerous strains of bacteria and viruses, their presence within a food chain can have devastating results on food quality and human / animal health.

The threats of GE are many. Firstly, GE is relatively imprecise, with the technology itself not guaranteeing accurate 'positioning' of the gene. The life cycle of the organism created by GE, called a genetically-modified organism (GMO), is also neither predictable nor controllable. Its effect on and interaction with other organisms in its environment can never be known immediately and the effects may not even be apparent until some generations later. Lastly, the polluting genes which contaminate biodiversity and gene pools CANNOT be exterminated or removed by any means whatsoever. In other words, whenever adverse effects of GM or GMOs become apparent, the 'rogue' cannot be weeded out. Food products can also be contaminated directly genetically, or mixed with GM food. In either case, consumers would never even know.

In India, Bt cotton is a well-known example of GE and has been discussed on a separate page on this website. Other examples of GM posing a threat to India include :

**GM Mustard :** A cocktail of genes taken from the tobacco plant and various bacteria. The plant is engineered to be resistant to a highly-poisonous herbicide that kills all other plants. In other words, the company that sells GM mustard seeds also profits by selling the herbicide over which it has a monopoly. The plant also carries a toxic male sterile gene aimed at stopping pollen production.

**GM Soya :** A Monsanto creation that has genes of various bacteria, the petunia plant and of the cauliflower mosaic virus. The plant has also been engineered to be resistant to a specific herbicide, in this case the highly toxic Roundup. Hence, as with GM mustard, GM soya too comes as a package with its own herbicide that can be supplied only by one company

**GM Maize :** Branded Starlink and created by Aventis, GM Maize was found to contain allergens that caused nausea and shock in humans by the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Declared unfit for human consumption, Starlink was withdrawn from the US markets and various products of which it was an ingredient were recalled. Starlink however made a surreptitious return as an innocuous unlabelled corn-soya mix which was distributed under the World Food Programme (WFP) in some Third World countries. On exposure of the same, many of the recipient nations refused the product. In India, the same product was sought to be distributed as food aid by Catholic Relief Services and CARE-India during the aftermath of the Orissa cyclone in 1999. The 'aid' was rejected and the import of the product banned after samples of the material were tested by the Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology (RFSTE), New Delhi (an affiliate of Vandana Shiva's Navdanya) and found to be genetically-modified. [http://www.satavic.org/genetic\\_engineering.htm](http://www.satavic.org/genetic_engineering.htm)



-Bhaktin Radha

Hands of love held together, we are here greeting one and all  
To make our world a garden of peace and love,  
To make our homeland, a Vrndavan,  
Shining bright in the light of the divine sun.  
Hidden within is the treasure of love and devotion,  
Covered with green meadows and flowers of spring  
Alert and awake as the bells of temple ring,  
The gentle breeze carrying every song you sing,  
A blissful moment that makes you dance & swing  
Like the birds flapping their wings,  
Let's get together to greet the day with rising sun.  
The songs of the birds, the humming bees and squeaking squirrels,  
Greets one and all to the land of Vrndavan.

Deer's around jumping high and low,  
Their face shining with a smile and glow  
The sweet songs of the cuckoo  
Echoing from the mango groves  
Cows with their deep dark eyes,  
And the calves hugging their mother twice,  
Chirping of the young little birds,  
are the unique ways of expressing love without words.  
With the freedom to live and let others live  
This is our kingdom of peace and love.  
The wavering of leaves, whispering of the trees, and the gentle cool breeze  
Greets one and all to the land of Vrndavan.

Every home so neat and clean,  
With the presence of deity with in  
Lamps of love lit at the doorstep,  
Dispelling the darkness at every footstep  
Vedic way of life we live,  
A simple spiritual life, we believe  
With every thought of the mind,  
Dedicated to please the divine  
Every word of your speech,  
are the glories of the eternal truth you got to reach.  
Every deed you do, is a sankirtan  
Every part of your life you taste the nectar of hari kirtan  
Every tune of our lives, in rhythm of the Divine  
We wake up to glow and shine  
The rising sun of the dawn, shining lamps of the dusk and the twinkling stars of the night,  
Greets one and all to the land of Vrndavan.

Mothers churning the butter,  
Crawling kids with their toys scattered,  
Hiding here and there, refusing to bathe and eat  
Reminds you of Krsna, the supreme, so naughty & sweet.  
Children in Gurukul, their home and school,  
dedicated to serve the master and being truthful  
learning the art of love of godhead and being successful  
marching ahead with new freshness and vigor  
their gentle smiles and tender hands of love and care  
Greets one and all to the land of Vrndavan.

Glowing bright, we claim our birth right  
To serve the supreme and embrace him tight,  
Awaiting for his call, day and night  
Spreading the carpets of love, lighting the lamps of devotion and sprinkling the flowers of compassion,  
We greet one and all to the land of Vrndavan.



# Make Vrndavan Villages





## Food, Faith & Farming Symposium: New Vrindaban Takes the Lead!

-Bhaktin Rita Gupta

Reported by Bhakta Chris Fici

To the delight of many devotees living in rural ISKCON communities, the GBC (ISKCON's administrative authority) recently set guidelines instructing all GBC members to spend 10% of their time boosting farm projects. Do any GBCs really spend 10% of their time promoting rural projects? Are the guidelines making any measurable change? The answer is yes — at least in New Vrindaban, Srila Prabhupada's first farm community. New Vrindaban is building bridges with neighbors over issues such as locally grown food and an ethical approach to ecology. "We're finding common ground to express shared spiritual values," says Bhaktin Rita Gupta

With the help of Malati dasi, New Vrindaban's resident GBC, Bhaktin Rita organized the community's first Food, Faith & Farming symposium. The organization strategy was simple: invite a panel of experts, contact the local news media, provide nice prasadam, and leave plenty of time for socializing and touring New Vrindaban Dhama

The panel included Whitney Sanford, associate professor at the University of Florida; Balabhadra Dasa from ISCOWP; Navina Shyam Dasa, assistant director of the Montessori School in Alachua, Florida; Madhava Gosh Dasa, a resident organic grower in New Vrindaban; and Danny Swan, director of the East Wheeling Community Gardens project. The panelists debated the need for creating a food system which is environmentally equitable to land, animals and people.

Tapahpunjah Dasa, director of The Small Farm Training Center, moderated the talks and peppered the panel with questions about going from values to practical application. The audience—12 of whom live outside of New Vrindaban—eagerly spoke about growing up on local farms. Everyone present expressed appreciation for a return to simple living.

Thanks to local media exposure — an article which appeared in the Faith supplement of the Wheeling News Register — over 30 people attended the symposium. "It was a great networking experience," explains Bhaktin Rita. "For three hours, people from different religious paths and cultural backgrounds really touched common ground." The symposium ended just in time for Radha Vrindaban Chandra's Sunday feast, followed by a hayride up to New Vrindaban's 6.5-acre organic growing site called "The Garden of Seven Gates."

"Two more New Vrindaban symposiums are planned for the summer months," added Bhaktin Rita. "We're beginning to attract a lot of local people by making Krishna consciousness relevant to their lives."

Chris Fici is an aspiring monk/writer in New York City. He is the editor for Club I08, the environmental outreach program from New Vrindaban, West Virginia.

(Source:www.dandavats.com)



Make Vrindavan Villages

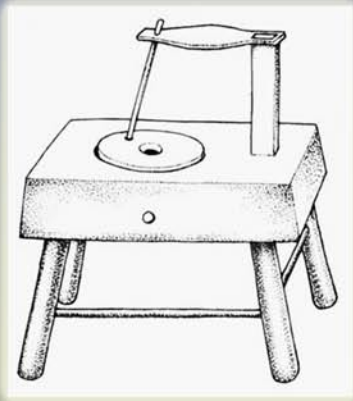


# Grinding Mortars

- Bhakta Mohan Sundar



Ever guessed of how a small tool can prolong your Krsna Conscious life. Please read this article carefully till the end to know I am talking about.



Cereal grains first have to be crushed to ready them for human consumption. The simplest and most ancient tool for this purpose is the grinding of cereal seeds between two stones. The bottom stone is always fixed, while the top stone can be turned, or moved around.

The grain to be ground is allowed to trickle in through the eye in the centre of the top stone. This simple hand tool, traceable to ancient times, has survived in village households until today. Earlier it was used to grind flour for meal, later on to grind salt and fodder for the animals. Two versions of it are known. In one the handle is fastened directly on the top stone so that it can be brought into motion only with a strong effort. We can find versions of this form from Roman times, and its connections are primarily towards the west

This mortar is still used in some villages of South India to prepare Dosas, Idlis and some Chutneys. The paste or extracts of the cereals crushed under this mortar is mixed in equal proportions with water and added with jeera, curry leaves and then the paste or pindi is then put on a hot pan to prepare Dosas. Not surprisingly, the Dosas prepared from the paste obtained from the mortar are tastier than the ones prepared from crushing in an electric grinder (modern). As they say, the blades in an electric grinder break the protein cells in the cereals and the taste is gone due to it. But the crushing between the stones in fact adds to the value of the batter keeping the proteins intact.

The second version of this mortar is shown in the below picture. This can be utilized inside the home without any problem of applying strong effort to crush or make a paste of the cereal grains. This can also be used for making turmeric paste which is very widely beneficial and medicinal.



In India, this mortar is also used to crush raw mangoes and make a paste out of them. This paste is used in Dal and also for festive preparations. As such, grinding in an electric grinder and grinding or crushing in granite, wooden mortar has a lot of difference to the taste of the meal. The granite mortar adds or retains the original taste of the cereals, fruits and the opposite applies for electric ones with metal blades.



The world favorite Indian Garam Masala made of whole spices – cinnamon, cloves, peppercorns, cumin, coriander and cardamom seeds is still grinded in these mortars in villages of India. Apart from the natural fresh soundless environment, the villagers contribute their prolonged age of 85 – 95 years in India to the food they eat. They say that these mortars bring a very natural taste to the meal keeping the proteins, carbohydrates intact, which can be relished to the heart's content

A solid proof is my Grandfather's mother who is still going strong at the age of 95 and she contributes a part of her healthy lifestyle to one of the granite mortar she uses till now in the village of Kamepalli, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh. She says in her own words that longevity of human life greatly depends on the kind of food we eat.

“We must relish our food which we eat. And this can happen only when the food is not spoilt or the taste of food is not spoilt by over grinding, over cooking etc. Just till recently in our village, we used to have atleast two main ingredients of a meal prepared through this mortar daily. This mortar has become a part of our life” she says smiling.



## India allows first large trials of GM food crop

Thu Aug 16, 2007 9:27am EDT

NEW DELHI (Reuters) - India has approved the first large-scale field trials of a genetically modified food crop, a senior government official said on Thursday.

A new hybrid variety of the popular brinjal vegetable, which promises better yields with less intensive use of pesticide, will be tested in the latest GM trials to be held in the country.

"We have allowed large-scale field trials of Bt brinjal," an official at the environment ministry, who could not be named, told Reuters.

India has allowed commercial cultivation of genetically modified cotton since 2002

That decision led to large-scale protests by voluntary organizations, which said bacillus thuringiensis or Bt cotton seeds were a health hazard and harmful for the environment

But trade experts say the new technology has pushed up production and productivity.

"There has been less opposition to genetically modified seeds now as farmers have experienced higher yield due to Bt cotton cultivation," Sharad Joshi, a farmers' leader and lawmaker, said.

India, the world's second-largest cotton producer after China, overtook the United States with estimated output of 28 million bales (1 bale=170 kg) in the year to September 2007.

## Six feet tall paddy crop grown in Nellore

-P. Sudhakar

Sapling planted for every 10 inch distance.

TIRUNELVELI: Any agricultural scientist visiting 67-year-old progressive farmer V. Antonysamy's paddy field at Puliyangudi in the district cannot just believe their eyes, as the paddy, which normally grows up to 3 feet height, easily covers even a 6 footer as the crop, each carrying good quantity of paddy grains, has been robustly nourished by natural farming practices and not by even a granule of any chemical fertilizer.

The crop standing on 5 acres of land is so taller and the fruiting is far better than the paddy in the neighbouring fields, where chemical fertilizers are being used liberally.

Subsequent to cultivation of sugarcane on this field for 15 years continuously, Mr. Antonysamy cultivated this time paddy following meticulous preparation of the land.

"After sugarcane leaves were spread on the land, 10 loads of tank silt was added to it and 25 kg of daincha, an excellent bio-manure, was allowed to grow. On the 45th day, the land was irrigated with water and the daincha was mixed in the slushy soil and the fermentation process was allowed to continue for about 7 days. Even as the beneficial microbes were growing abundantly in this highly nutritious mixture, nursery is prepared on a portion of this land," he narrates.

He has planted a paddy sapling for every 10 inch distance from south to west (not east to west) as sunlight falls on the paddy leaves for a longer period every day (approximately 1 hour, he says) in this arrangement that encourages improved photosynthesis. Moreover, this pattern of planting requires only 12 persons per acre as the traditional method needs 16 – 18 farmhands.

To avoid the growth of weeds, he employs a novel technique of allowing one to one-and-a-half inch deep water to stagnate in the field and sprays one litre of cow urine diluted with 10 litres of water on the crop in an acre to ensure the absorption of atmospheric nitrogen.

After coming to know about the crop, the Collector, who hails from an agrarian family background, drove to Puliyangudi to visit the farm and understand the techniques employed by him.



(Source:<http://devinder-sharma.blogspot.com/2009/08/pepsico-coca-cola-nestle-itc-will-now.html>)

How safe is your food will now be determined by the food industry. PepsiCo, Coca Cola, Nestle, ITC and Hindustan Unilever are some of the food giants that will approve the food that you eat. Now don't be surprised. The newly constituted Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has actually packed various scientific panels with industry representatives. Jai Ho! In a front page report in the Mail Today (Aug 7, 2009) intrepid science journalist Dinesh C Sharma says: In an apparent case of the regulated becoming the regulators themselves, the array of scientific panels is packed with industry representatives who will provide 'scientific opinion' to the food authority on a range of critical issues like labeling, food additives, pesticide residues, genetically modified food and even decide methods of sampling and analysis. Let us first look at the list of industry representatives on various scientific committees/panels

Functional foods, Nutraceuticals: Hindustan Unilever, PepsiCo India, Marico, Food safety Solutions Internationals. Sampling and Analysis: Coca Cola, Hindustan Unilever, Vimta laboratories, Micro Chem Food additives and Flavourings: Marico, Coca Cola, PepsiCo, Excelsior Food and Chemicals Contaminants in Food Chain: Ranbaxy, Hind Agro Industries

Pesticides and Antibiotic Residues: Britannia, ITC, Hindustan Unilever

Labelling, Advertisements/Claims: GSK

Consumer Healthcare: Britannia, Nestle, IADFAC laboratories, Hindustan Unilever, Confederation of Indian Industry.

Section 13 of the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 under which the Authority has been set up says: "the food authority shall establish scientific panels, which shall consist of independent scientific experts." I wonder since when has the Ministry of Food Processing began to treat industry representatives as 'independent' scientific experts. On the contrary, the Authority has, as expected, turned out to be an industry affair. Like Mahatma Gandhi's three monkeys, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India has now ensured that it will see no evil, talk no evil and hear no evil. By making the regulated the new regulators, it has very conveniently pushed all consumer concerns away from public glare. V N Gaur, an IAS officer, who doubles as the chief executive officer of the Authority unabashedly defends the inclusion of the industry in the scientific panels: "Scientific knowledge is not the prerogative of government organizations alone. Transparency, high level of scientific integrity, and rigorous conflict of interest procedures are the best safeguards for science-based food standards and food safety," he told the newspaper. I would like to ask Mr Gaur that if it was true, there is no reason why processed food (mostly produced by top ten food companies in the world) should now emerge as the biggest killer even in the United States. Junk food (as it is often called) and the sedentary lifestyle is acknowledged world over as the main reason behind the health crisis the world is faced with today. Scientific knowledge is not only the prerogative of the government institutions and the private industry alone Mr Gaur. There are various non-government bodies and individuals in this country whose credibility in scientific issues is much above the official and private industry domains. Why not invite them on the panels? Why are you afraid of having them sit in these committees to decide the safety parameters that the food industry must adhere to? And this reminds me of what Thomas Jefferson, the 3rd US President, had once said: "If people let governments decide what food they eat, their bodies will soon be in a sorry state as are the soul of those who live under tyranny." If only Jefferson had visualized that in the 21st century, what food the people should eat would be decided by the private food industry, I am sure he would have reframed his statement to say that such a society would be virtually enslaved.

## ISKCON Swami Meets With India's President

By Vrajendra Nandan Dasa on 5 Sep 2009

On 20 August 2009 at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi ISKCON's Gopal Krishna Goswami met with India's president Pratibha Devisingh Patil. A copy of the photo book Darshan, featuring images of the deities of ISKCON centers worldwide, was presented along with a flower garland and Maha-prasadam (sanctified food) from ISKCON Delhi's Radha Parthasarathi. Upon receiving the gifts Patil recalled a visit to ISKCON Mumbai where she viewed Sri Sri Radha Rasabihari. The President also expressed her pleasure and thanks for the wonderful work being done by ISKCON.



Indian President Receives Bhagavad Gita As It Is

By Damodara Dasa on 12 Sep 2009

Mr. Premal Thacker (Parmanada Dasa), legal advisor to the President of India, gifted a copy of Srila Prabhupada's Bhagavad Gita As It Is to Mrs. Pratibha Devi Singh Patil earlier this year. It was the first time the President received one of Srila Prabhupada's books. She was grateful and kept the copy in her personal temple room.



## Mails to the Editor

“...keep up the efforts, I am sure it is pleasing to Srila Prabhupada and Krsna.”

- HG Hari-Sauri Das, Manager BRC

“I like the newsletter very much. While looking at it I was wondering about its circulation. It is obviously for Iskcon devotees. How far does it go? Try to increase circulation as widely as possible -- especially to those in the city so it can help to create some appreciation of the need for varnashrama culture.”

-HG Daneswara Das

“I would like to congratulate on release of Varnasrama Newsletter on the eve of Janmastmi. Thank you for all your efforts for launching excellent and very informative Newsletter.”

- HG Ramasarana Dasa

“This is a great effort in bringing out this important newsletter in spite of indisposition and other constraints. This medium, over a period of time, should fulfill the need for a forum for communication across the community. We can definitely see a maturation of a concept and efforts in the coming times.”

- HG Rasamandal Das

“Finally VRT newsletter has been released with so much hard efforts from Vrindavan Lila Mataji..”

- HG Sri Ram Das

“Great work" you have put in for the Newsletter.”

- Bhakta Ramana Kumar

“Hare Krsna mataji, i am from Prahlada and Kunti Devi Asram Lampung Indonesia... Thank you very much for the newsletter. We have already copied it. I hope you would like to give us more information about varnasrama dharma. Wish you a happy Janmastami and Radhastami Festival.”

- Kalahansi Devi Dasi

“I have already got the newslter, thanx a lot for ur help, i will soon share it to all prabhus and matajis in Prahlada and Kunti Devi Ashram. I do really hope to have a continuous communication with you to know more about varnasrama dharma. Thanx a lot ... Jay Srila Prabhupada.....”

- Sita Sundari Devi Dasi

“Congratulations on this issue. It is very nice. Is there anyway you can send it to me in the word document?”

- Mother Gandharidasi

“... the newsletter looks very good. The sloka on the “Janmastami and the Varnasrama Mission” page was not displayed in Sanskrit or Balaram font though. Also the temple president of the ISKCON Farm here near Sydney is interested in the newsletter and the project. He might be able to contribute in the future. If thats OK with you, I can forward him the final newsletter and your email address for any future correspondence directly with you.”

- Ranganath Das, TP, ISKCON Melbourne

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E-mail: vrindavanlila.brs@gmail.com

Varnasrama Websites:

[www.sahyadriksetra.org](http://www.sahyadriksetra.org)

[www.varnasrama.org](http://www.varnasrama.org)

[www.bhakticambodia.com](http://www.bhakticambodia.com)

[www.bysindia.org](http://www.bysindia.org)

[www.varnasramabooks.com](http://www.varnasramabooks.com)

