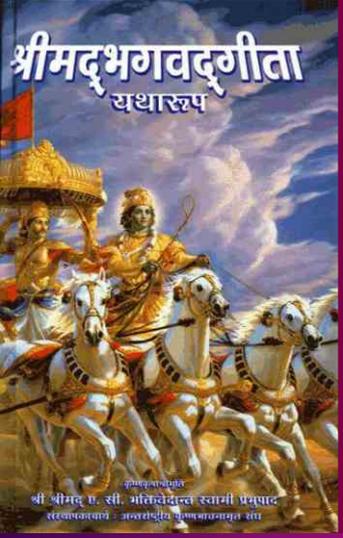
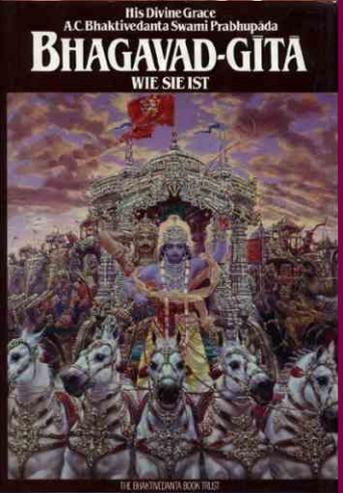
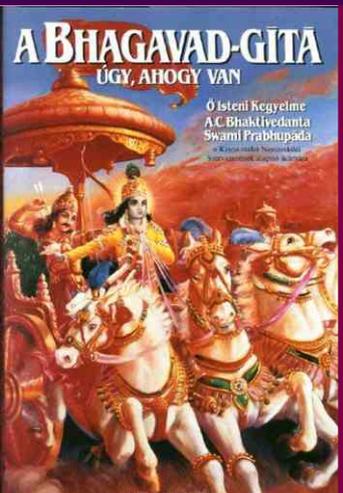




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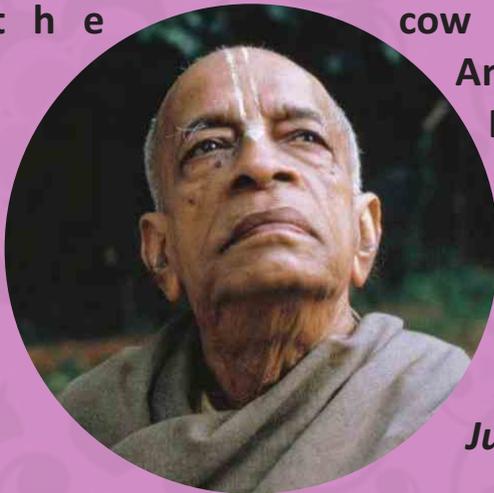
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International Society for Krishna Consciousness
Founder-Acharya: His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

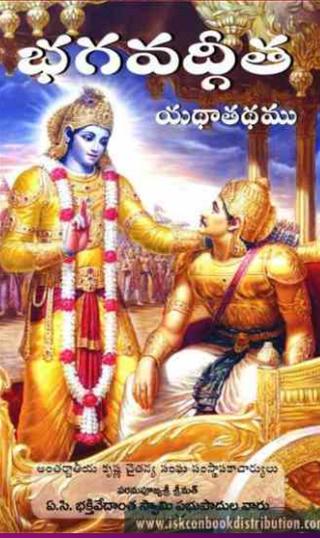
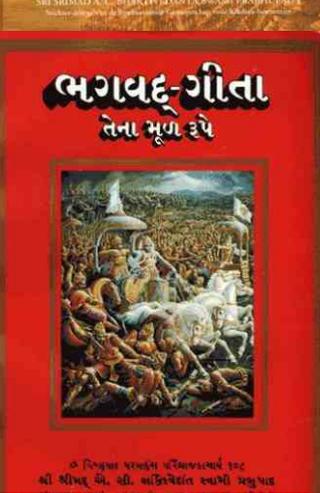
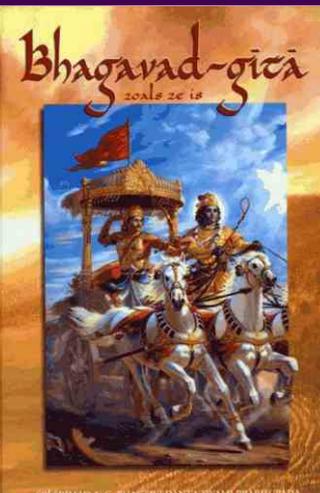


Srila Prabhupada Vaani

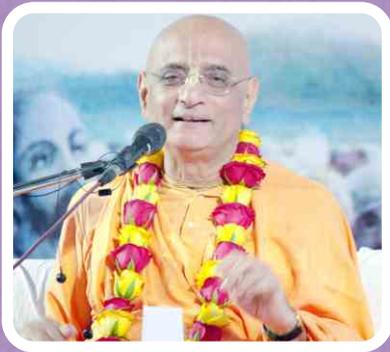
Just like there is vast Atlantic Ocean in front of your country, and if you take one drop of Atlantic Ocean water and taste it, then you can understand at least what is the taste of this Atlantic Ocean. That is a fact. If you are intelligent enough, by tasting one drop of water of the Atlantic Ocean you can understand that the taste of the Atlantic Ocean is salty. Similarly, this Bhagavad-gita is the essence of all Vedic literature, just like milk is the essence of the blood. Blood... The milk is nothing, but it is cow's blood transformed. Just like mother's milk. The mother's milk, wherefrom it comes? It comes from the blood, but transformed in such a way that it becomes nutritious to the child, tasteful to the child. Similarly, cow's milk also, a most nutritious and valuable food. So it is compared that this Bhagavad-gita is the milk of the cow of Vedic literature.



And the milkman is Krsna Himself. And the drinker of the milk is..., we are, Arjuna, through Arjuna. (Lecture on BG 7.3, Montreal, June 2, 1968)



# Stories of Bhagavatam... Seminar by HH Bhakti Charu Swami Maharaj



HH Bhakti Charu Swami Maharaj gave an enlightening three days seminar in Bengali on various stories from Srimad Bhagavatam from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> December at ISKCON Kolkata. His Holiness elaborately discussed and went into the intricacies of various loving pastimes of the Lord and His devotees, as expounded in the Bhagavatam.

The seminar was attended by more than 800 devotees, who were transported to the spiritual world because of mesmerising narrations by Maharaj. On 21<sup>st</sup> December, Gita Jayanti, Maharaj gave initiation to 130 devotees and eternally connected them to Lord Krishna, in service of Srila Prabhupada. At the end, everybody was heartily grateful to Maharaj for his association and year-after-year seminars on different topics.

## Life Members Retreat: Mayapur

On 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 ISKCON Life Members connected to Kolkata temple had a very wonderful retreat at Sri Dham Mayapur, where they got the opportunity to hear from HG Dauji Kripa Prabhu, on "Ideal Family Life".



Devotees visited the Sri Sri Radha Madhav temple, Srila Prabhupada Puspa Samdhi and TOVP Construction Site. The most enchanting part of the trip was Ganga Puja on 20<sup>th</sup> December morning, in which devotees went for a boat ride and offered worship to Mother Ganga followed by delicious prasadam. At the end, everyone felt delighted and spiritually rejuvenated.



## Well Wisher Camp : REMUNA



Well wishers' FORUM held a small yatra in the pleasure pastime place of Lord Ramchandra, at Remuna from 25th to 26th of December 2015. 45 congregation devotees and well wishers took opportunity to spend their Christmas holidays in visiting different places viz Khirchora Gopinathaji temple, samadhi of Srila Madhavendra puri... Also Pancaligeswar mahadev, which is 40km away from Balasore.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Youth Convention: MAYAPUR

The second ISKCON Kolkata Annual Youth Convention was held in Sri Dham Mayapur from 31st December 2015 to 2nd January 2016. More than 220 youth boys from various colleges in and around Kolkata enthusiastically participated in the convention. They got to hear from many eminent ISKCON leaders like HH Bhakti Purushottam Swami, HG Jananivas Prabhu, HG Mahatma Prabhu, HG Atul Krishna Prabhu, HG Srivas Prabhu & HG Vamsi Vadan Prabhu, etc. Apart from hearing, the participants got an opportunity to visit different places of Lord Chaitanya's pastimes, attend enchanting mangala aarti and get a glimpse of the Spiritual World.

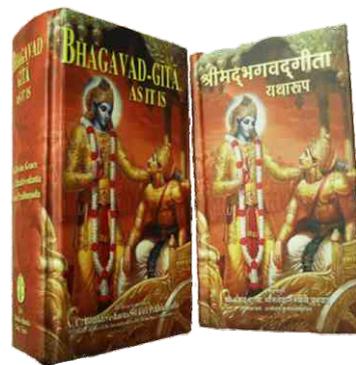


## Other Events

### Prerna Festival

ISKCON Youth Forum organised their 21st Prerna Festival on 5th December, which was attended by over 100 students from various prestigious colleges of Kolkata. HG Ekalavya Prabhu & HG Acharya Ratna Prabhu addressed the attendees on the topic "Be Unstoppable", in which they explained how spiritual empowerment can make us really unstoppable. The program also consisted of drama presentation, dancing kirtans and sumptuous prasadam for all.

### Gita Jayanti



On 21st December, the auspicious day of advent of Bhagavad-gita, over thousand devotees assembled at ISKCON House to recite

all the 700 slokas of Srimad Bhagavad-gita. The program was presided by HG Ashraya Gauranga Prabhu, who also gave a short talk on the significance of this most important Vedic Literature.

## Center for Value Education @ ISKCON Kolkata

Center for Value Education of ISKCON Kolkata started regular value education program at WWA Cossipore English School for classes V, VI and VII, consisting of 360 students. Weekly classes throughout the year shall be conducted for these students, without charging any fees, as an act of responsibility to cater to the missing value education needs. HG Sundar Nimai Das, co-ordinator of the program, explained, "The aim of this program is Character Development by instilling the values, morals and ethical principles from the time tested ancient teachings of India. We are going to start similar program in other schools soon. This is just the beginning of the long journey that we intend to traverse."

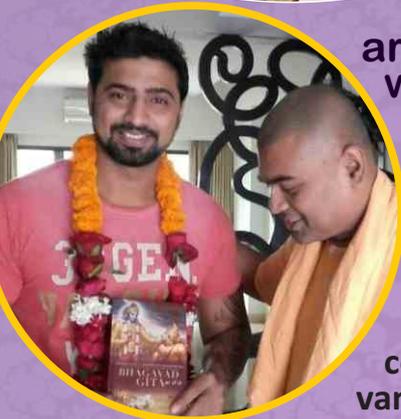
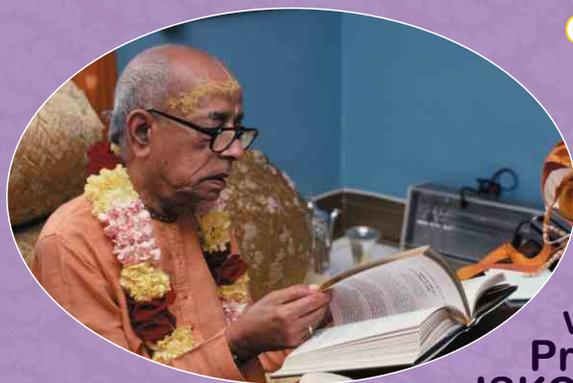


"Books are the basis of our Movement. Without our books, our preaching will have no effect."

Srila Prabhupada

(Letter to Mandali Bhadra, Jaipur, January 20, 1972)

Srila Bhaktisidhanta Saraswati Thakur professed Krishna Conscious books to be Brihat-mridanga, the larger mridanga and instructed Srila Prabhupada to print books whenever he has money. Whole-heartedly, Srila Prabhupada made his books as the foundation of ISKCON. As a tribute to Srila Prabhupada, devotees around the globe celebrate December, being the month in which Bhagavad-gita was spoken, as the month of Srila Prabhupada Book Distribution Marathon.



Devotees at ISKCON Kolkata tirelessly participated in the Srila Prabhupada Book Distribution Marathon, by coming up with innovative ideas to widely distribute the books of it's Founder-acharya. The large congregation of the temple distributed the books to their family, friends and acquaintances, in addition to putting up stalls in the residential complexes and offices. The brahmacharis went out every day to various vantage places like Howrah and Sealdah stations, different metro stations

and other important crossings to set up stalls and give an opportunity to general masses to purchase these books. During the marathon this year, Srila Prabhupada Books were also presented to Dev, Tollywood Superstar and Member of Parliament.



On 6th December, HG Navina Nirada Prabhu, one of ISKCON's leading book distributors, gave a motivational talk to the devotees of Kolkata to inspire them to put their heartiest efforts in distributing Srila Prabhupada Books, especially during the marathon time.



The total number of Bhagavad Gita As It Is, distributed by ISKCON Kolkata, as on 10th January, 2016, during the marathon was 13,770

Vaisnava Calender- January 2016

- 5th Jan: Sri Devananda Pandit- Disappearance
- 6th Jan: Saphala Ekadasi
- 10th Jan: Sri Locana Dasa Thakur- Appearance
- 12th Jan: Sri Jiva Goswami- Disappearance; Sri Jagadisa Pandit- Disappearance

- 20th Jan: Putrada Ekadasi
- 21st Jan: Sri Jagadisa Pandit- Appearance
- 24th Jan: Sri Krsna Pusya Abhishek
- 29th Jan: Srila Gopala Bhatta Goswami- Appearance
- 30th Jan: Sri Jayadeva Goswami- Disappearance
- 31st Jan: Sri Locana Dasa Thakur- Disappearance

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