

Dec 20-22, 1974

SANKIRTAN NEWSLETTER

All glories to Sri Guru & Gauranga!

jaya jaya mahaprabhu sri Krsna caitanya
tanhara caranasrita sei bada dhanya

param vijayate sri Krsna sankirtanam

SANKIRTAN NEWSLETTER NO. 39

Dear Srila Prabhupada:

nama om visnu-padaya krsna-presthaya bhutale
srimate bhaktivedanta-svamin iti namine

namas te sarasvate devam gaura-vani-pracarine
nirvivesa-sunyavadi-pascatya-desatarine

We most humbly prostrate ourselves at your lotus feet and offer our worthless obeisances unto you again and again. Before coming to your lotus feet our minds were filled with anxiety. But now, as you give us your merciful association through your books, our fearful minds are being soothed by the nectar flowing from your lotus mouth. You are so kindly translating the glorious Vaishnava literature to cleanse our nonsense minds and hearts and fill them up with the wonderful name, pastimes, philosophy, etc., of the Supreme Personality of Godhead. The value of your association through your books can not be equaled even by the charity of King Nrga or the wealth of King Indra or even by the opulence of Vaikuntha itself! For you are benedicting us with the highest treasure, love of Sri Sri Radha and Krishna.

So how can we repay you? What words can we say? What gift can we give you? You have already given us the answer, "Please distribute books, please distribute books, please distribute books."

We most respectfully come before you with bowed heads and offer the results of this week-end's book distribution as the biggest week in sankirtan history. Our only desire is that you may be pleased with us.

* Book Distribution *
December 20 - 22

* Totals: 133,586 Books (7151 B, 29,976 M, 96,459 S) !!!!!

* Top Distributors:

B - Sriman Gajahanta das - 1197½ pts. (227 B, 50 M, 50 S)
NEW WORLD'S RECORD FOR BIG BOOKS AND POINTS!!! (BBT Atlanta)

M - Mother Urvasi Dasi - 284 M (Montreal)

S - Sriman Carane Das - 787 S (In sub-zero Winnipeg)

* GBC: Hridayananda das Goswami - 80 pts. (3 B, 50 M, 40 S)

- (1) Los Angeles - 12,694½ pts. (1070 B, 1691 M, 22,450 S)
NEW WORLD'S RECORD FOR POINTS AND SMALL BOOKS!!!
- (2) New York - 12,035 pts. (1047 B, 2236 M, 19,054 S)
- (3) BBT TSKP - 9154¼ pts. (1662 B, 556 M, 1153 S)
NEW WORLD'S RECORD FOR BIG BOOKS!!!
- (4) San Francisco - 6811 3/4 pts. (306 B, 2654 M, 457 S)
Vaisesika Das - 640¼ pts. (107 B, 63 M, 169 S)
- (5) Chicago - 5988 pts. (622 B, 1313 M, 6288 S)
Devananda Pandit Das - 900 pts. (153 B, 115 M, 80 S)
(On Saturday - 125 B, 100 M!)
- (6) Toronto - 5165 pts. (307 B, 2342 M, 6400 S)
Mother Sriyani - 477 3/4 pts. (45 B, 190 M, 433 S)
- (7) Vancouver - 3798¼ pts. (142 B, 4002 M, 2523 S)
NEW WORLD'S RECORD FOR MEDIUM BOOKS!!!
- (8) Denver - 3568 pts. (220 B, 1504 M, 4224 S)
- (9) Detroit - 3293 pts. (271 B, 2206 M, 36 S)
Yamunatacara Das - 473½ pts. (76 B, 121 M)
- (10) Boston - 3155 pts. (26 B, 2700 M, 4000 S)
- (11) Atlanta - 2990 pts. (453 B, 120 M, 1487 S)
- (12) Montreal - 2568 pts. (102 B, 1297 M, 3355 S)
Urvasi Dasi - 466¼ pts. (5 B, 284 M, 652 S)
- (13) Dallas - 2095 pts. (174 B, 326 M, 1355 S)
- (14) Seattle - 1998 pts. (167 B, 997 M, 460 S) 4 Men!!
- (15) San Diego - 1747 3/4 pts. (104 B, 767 M, 2224 S)
Sonapuri Dasi - 357¼ pts. (59 B, 36 M, 105 S)
- (16) New Vrndavana - 1691½ pts. (18 B, 804 M, 3190 S)
- (17) Washington, D.C. - 1657½ pts. (92 B, 189 M, 4258 S)
Sudas - 314½ pts. (53 B, 31 M, 67 S)
- (18) Philadelphia - 1568½ pts. (62 B, 1227 M, 182 S)
- (19) St. Louis - 1562 pts. (11 B, 858 M, 2598 S)
- (20) Cleveland - 1220 pts. (105 B, 25 M, 3099 S)
Divyanga Das - 233¼ pts. (31 B, 457 S)
- (21) Pittsburgh - 994 pts. (102 B, 242 M, 1086 S)
Brahma Das - 308½ pts. (47 B, 61 M, 95 S)
- (22) Buffalo - 897 pts. (37 B, 473 M, 1320 S)
Lokavarnottama Das - 230 pts. (26 B, 128 M, 25 S)
- (23) Winnipeg - 772 pts. (1 B, 10 M, 3037 S)
- (24) Portland - 573½ pts.
- (25) Ann Arbor - 563 3/4 pts. (2 B, 545 M, 525 S)
- (26) Austin - 455 3/4 pts. (15 B, 269 M, 530 S)
Prahlanananda das - 208 3/4 pts. (5 B, 172 M, 78 S)
- (27) New Orleans - 309 pts. (33 B, 60 M, 360 S)
Mitravinda das - 108 pts. (14 B, 25 M, 55 S)
- (28) Baltimore - 265 pts. (63 M, 808 S)

5 DAY TOTALS
(Fri - Tue)
(Dec. 20 - 24)

Los Angeles - 1427 B, 3082 M, 43,092 S
New York - 2232 B, 5063 M, 30,994 S
Toronto - 932 B, 6037 M, 16,236 S
Chicago - 1224 B, 2761 M, 14,325 S

Seattle: "Accept my doggish obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada! The only way we can stay in pure consciousness is to declare war on maya. Fighting maya means distribute hundreds and thousands of millions of Srila Prabhupada's transcendental books everywhere. Just like in the wartimes they'd drop the bombs like anything. Hari Hari Bol!"

Philadelphia: "In response to Srila Prabhupada's request to double and triple distribution - the devotees at Philadelphia yatra by simply trying to follow Srila Prabhupada's desire to save the fallen conditioned souls from the clutches of illusory energy by wide-spread distribution of Srimad Bhagavatam etc. tripled our big book total for the week (343) and distributed over 1200 KBT's this weekend. At our two day George Harrison concerts we distributed over 250 Hard Krishna trilogys. We would like also to pay our respectful obeisances to all the devotees of Iskcon who are endeavoring with great compassion to engage the fallen souls in the service of Their Lordships Sri Sri Radha-Krishna."

Dallas: The Nitai pada kamala SKP (5 devi dasis 10 to 13 years old and 2 teachers) in 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours at a parking lot distributed 5 SB, 37 KBT and 235 BTG's. Hari Bol!!

Winnipeg: "I'd like to explain our schedule and program which, I think, is unique except for Winnipeg and Ottawa. It is centered around and geared to door-to-door sankirtan every evening, especially on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights; on Friday and Saturday some devotees still do door-to-door but others take advantage of malls and concerts. During the day from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. there is regular sankirtan programs, Hare Nama, street, malls, etc., and at 3:45 we have prasadam. Then, at 4:30 everyone goes out, no one excluded except for a cook and pujari. From 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. we go door-to-door either in residential areas or in high rises - both are good. Each devotee easily does at least thirty-five books and some as many as sixty. Donations average one dollar per book. Per person this might not seem like a lot of books but when twenty-four prabhus go out everynight the totals add up. This is definitely the devotees' favorite type of Sankirtan, following in the footsteps of Lord Nityananda and Haridas Thakur, Lord Caitanya's chief whips who were ordered by Him to go door-to-door asking everyone to please chant Hare Krishna. Previously, book distribution was confined mostly to a small specialized group but with this program everyone takes part. A number of householders who hadn't gone on Sankirtan for two years are now going out every night and becoming very enlivened. At 8:00 p.m. everyone rushes home, takes a quick shower and is in the temple room by 8:30 p.m. for kirtan and Bhagavad Gita class until 9:30 p.m. Everyone is in bed by 10:00 p.m.

This week we advented a new Sankirtan which proved to be incredibly exciting. We rented costumes and the men dressed as Santa Claus and the women as Mrs. Santa Claus and others dressed as Santa's helpers. Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus go to different parts of the city and malls along with a few helpers and the response is huge! People flock from blocks around to see Santa, especially the kiddies - Santa gives out candy cane prasadam, collects laxmi for the needy kiddies, because Xmas is for the kids, and gives out presents (books). At night we blitz bars with teams of Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus and helpers, which is really good for laxmi although we didn't hand out books this time. Santa Claus or St. Nicholas is all-attractive to the karmies, yong and old alike. We found that as devotees we can make Christmas a real festival for the karmies. Ordinarily, Christmas is full of

so much anxiety for the karmies. Although Xmas is meant to be the time to enjoy, because they don't know the Reservoir of Pleasure, all their attempts to enjoy meet with frustration, especially at Christmas time when they are trying even harder to enjoy. But a devotee dressed as Santa Claus immediately frees them from all their anxiety and makes them happy and gives them the highest Christmas gift, love of God."

Los Angeles: "Srila Prabhupada wrote to Sri Govinda Prabhu that His immediate program for spreading Krsna Consciousness is to publish and distribute as far as possible these transcendental books. He declared that He is blindly following His Guru Maharaj in this regards, as He was instructed to emphasize this book distribution as the highest important form of preaching work. Devotees all over the movement have taken these words to heart, and sacrificed everything to participate in the world's greatest Sankirtana Festival since the days of Lord Sri Caitanya. In L.A. on Saturday, over 90 devotees left everything behind and ran into the streets and malls to distribute over 15,000 BTGS!!! For five incredible days in L.A. the SKP parties stormed the stores and became absorbed in distributing love of Godhead until the late hours of the night. Each morning a special Sankirtana Festival Feast was held in the huge prasadam room, attended by brahmacharis, grhastras, children, everyone in the temple. While the devotees relished the sumptuous prasada, fantastic demonstrations were conducted by the temple's best BTG distributors, men who were averaging over 500 BTGs daily at the stores, and averaging about 50¢ - 75¢ per BTG! Simple "mantras" were taught to all the new book distributors, so that in 5 days time over 47,000 books were sold in L.A. alone!!! Who can measure the effect of such distribution, how the consciousness of the conditioned souls is being bombarded with pictures of Krsna and Srila Prabhupada and gradual changes? Nowadays, almost any karmi in the USA can see a picture of the Supreme Personality of Godhead and immediately recognize Him to be Sri Krsna!!! By Srila Prabhupada's grace, millions and millions of mlechas are being trained to see God! So if we can just understand the desire of Srila Prabhupada's Guru Maharaj and help Him in that way then our lives will become perfect by pleasing Srila Prabhupada in the best way. All Glories to the Sankirtana Movement, the transcendental pastimes of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu!"

* NEWS FLASH!!! This week-end South American GBC Hridayananda Das Goswami flew into Washington, D.C. He took off his saffron and put down his danda and put on Karmi clothes and a wig. Why? To join Sriman Tripurari prabhu at National Airport!!! His comments after the week-end's distribution: "SKP is bliss! Book distribution is self-realization. I am managing 8 temples and the growing Spanish division of BBT but I am going to sell books daily. Surely other managers and GBC can go out. I humbly challenge the other GBC members around the world to send in their scores. Hari Bol. Hridayananda das Goswami"

Editor: A new feature of the Sankirtan Newsletter will be instituted to encourage all types of book distribution. If a devotee does a large number of Big, medium, or small books, send his results in and a short explanation of how it was done.

The Thursday deadline had been temporarily stopped because of Christmas mailing problems but starting this week it will be back in effect in order to get the Newsletter to Srila Prabhupada and you as soon as possible.

108 glories to the wandering mendicant and topmost swan-like devotee, the great preceptor Sri Srimad Bhaktivedanta Swami Maharaja Prabhupada, who has taken shelter at the Lotus Feet of Visnu.

"Preaching is the essence.
Books are the basis.
Purity is the force.
Utility is the principal."

cc: Srila Prabhupada
: All Temples

Srutadeva Das
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SD: Sd