

# Vaisnava Manifesto

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- To hell with trying to secure a comfortable situation within this temporary world of shadowy afflictions
- To hell with heavenly delights on earth, elevation to *Svargaloka* or residence on any of the highest planets in this cosmos
- To hell with the achievement of mystic perfections
- To hell with all our exuberant eating, sleeping, mating and defending on the plea of keeping body and soul together for the performance of sacrifice
- To hell with the attempt to curtail our generally excessive eating, sleeping, mating and defending with the aim of practicing the principles of practical renunciation
- To hell with undergoing severe penances and austerities for the sake of self-realization and God Consciousness
- To hell with The achievement of five kinds of liberation
- To hell with the attainment of *Vaikuntha-loka* in the eternal kingdom of God
- To hell with having been born on earth as some kind of dull headed humanoid in this most glorious age of Kali in which Lord Caitanya has appeared to make self-realization easy by inaugurating the *Sankirtan* movement of the Holy Name
- To hell with Conceitedly boasting of our descent from a most venerable disciplic succession of eternally perfect *Gaudiya Vaisnava Acaryas*
- To hell with exploiting the prestige of sitting at the feet of such a topmost *Rasik Vaisnava* as His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada or any other for that matter
- To hell with strictly following the principles of *Varnashram-dharma*, that is for the *kanishta-adhikaris* having meagre pure devotional *shraddha*
- To hell with playing mommy and daddy in the material world
- To hell with our having opened hundreds of temples, restaurants and farm communities with the aim of delivering all the fallen conditioned souls in the universe from the cycle of repeated birth and death
- To hell with animal husbandry
- To hell with following from A to Z all the damn rules and regulations of the International Society for rules and regulations
- To hell with trying to become a Hare Krishna clone
- To hell with our having 'advanced' through the fires of years upon years of ordeal in almost intolerable association of blundering neophytes
- To hell with attempting to express our love for guru and Krishna in terms of endlessly bearing the brunt of relentless institutional strife
- To hell with towing the party line
- To hell with the institutionalism of the institutionalists

- To hell with religio-institutional corporateaocracy
- To hell with trying to reconcile ourselves to neoteric drift of a movement's henpecked leadership
- To hell with being a Hare Krishna 'yes man'
- To hell with all the superficial role modelling
- To hell with our profiling as advanced devotees when we know damn well we're not
- To hell with palming off self-effected spiritually gutless macho *Kali-yuga* so-called heroism as inspirational devotional dignity. Real heroism aims exclusively to conquer the heart of Krsna
- To hell with grappling for socio-religious eminence
- To hell with institutional rubber-stamping of *sampradaya* supra-men
- To hell with the necessary evil of 'poorly' organized religion
- To hell with all the meetings, resolutions, revolutions, dissolutions and no solutions ad infinitum
- To hell with ever abounding, all entangling crisis mismanagement syndrome. What could be expected of an institution that currently runs rather like a decapitated donkey?
- To hell with our having supposedly heard and regurgitated hundreds and thousands of bhagavatam classes, dutifully attended thousands and millions of *mangal-arati* and *guru-puja* kirtans and perfunctorily chanted millions and billions of rounds of maha-mantra japa – "shnik shnik ram ram"
- To hell with all our vehemently preaching about preaching about how we're supposed to preach about preaching about how we're supposed to preach about how we're supposed to preach. What are we preachers supposed to be preach-preachity-preaching about? To what extent have we actually understood?
- To hell with the profiteering of the cash covetous business brain mongers of transcendental knowledge
- To hell with the hindu bindu society for currency... oops I mean Krsna Consciousness
- I say to hell with milking the hindu cash cow
- To hell with the cost effective bhog-wise Hare Krishna phobia
- To hell with the painfully put on Sankirtan smile
- To hell with it, like infatuated children avidly engrossed in the perpetual pastime of competitively collecting rare and unusual coinage, we accumulate the hundreds and thousands of unqualified, neophyte disciples under the pretext of perpetuating the *sampradaya*. I say to Hell with it.
- To hell with, on the plea of concern for others, becoming so blunderingly bogged down with all the petty little problems that we don't find time and space required to complete even the minimum *nam bhajan* expected of a new Bhakta then what of achieving the advanced internal devotional realizations needed to become for the benefit of ones disciples anything better than a half-baked cookie

- To hell with the undignified, artfully employed, hardnosed, cunningly politic, cold-shouldering, dog-eat-dog, bureaucratic, ecclesiastical, oligarchic spin control. Has anyone ever achieved *Prema* by this approach?
- To hell with religio-institutional mass consensual trance
- To hell with being a pawn on the religio-managerialist chess board of any stool passing mortal
- To hell with coyly compromising the truth to curtail to the cacophonous misconclusions of dullheaded underenlightened ecclesiastics of religio-executive clout.
- To hell with all the rubbish, time wasting power politicking religio-institutional, inter-institutional hostilities. Are there not yet innumerable grumblers intent on being inexorably encumbered by such endless trivial affairs
- To hell with in-house, party spirited pseudo disciplic partiality
- To hell with the materially concocted nation of having so-called friends and enemies among the vaisnavas
- To hell with the perfidiously inflicted, heartless top heavy, centralised manipulation of man power and money on the threadbare plea of spreading Love of Godhead to the extent that such scheming preoccupations now indispensably supersede our life's mission of becoming mad after Krsna
- To hell with scrambling to savour varieties of mundane *rasa* on the pretext of fostering socially feasible spiritual enrichment
- To hell with the fools who conscientiously avoid hearing chanting and remembering the Lord's *Rasa-lila* and other *madhurya* pastimes with the gopis. They will never attain perfection. If by chance I encounter the likes of such imposter vaisnavas I will close my ears to their philosophical absurdities, refuse to see their faces and scorn the dismal air about their corpse-like material bodies
- To hell with fashionably passing off sub-religious, quasi-Krsna Conscious eclecticism as harmonious devotional practice
- To hell with being anyone's giggling guru
- To hell with being anyone's giggling disciple
- To hell with the deliberate dumbing down of the Krsna Consciousness movement
- To hell with pandering to the psycho-physical indulgences of the movement's lowest common denominator
- To hell with the deaf ears of the conceited, self-complacent, ivory towered religio-administrative elitists.
- To hell with spineless, self-serving, ecclesiastical political correctitude
- To hell with our having distributed billions and trillions of transcendental literatures all over the world in scores of languages to give everyone ELSE a chance to become fully Krsna Conscious
- I say to hell with it all

Much of the afore denounced may be wonderful, meritorious or pressingly/depressingly important on one level or another, but if in the end, after all is said and done, we ourselves as individuals could not effectively grasp, take to heart, factually realize and blissfully relish the deepest essential living import of the *Gaudiya Vaisnava Siddhanta* – learning to love *Vrajendranandan Shyam* by carefully pursuing the *bhavas* of the supra-exemplary damsels of Vraja, what would we have really gained from the whole affair? Truly speaking, what would be the sense or significance of any other allegedly laudable undertaking or feat? Are we merely amassing *Sukriti* or *Duskriti* for another valiant try in some future birth or what? An inconvertible step in hopefully the right direction? Do we really know what we are doing? Do we want Krsna Prema or not? Kindly do not hastily suspect these questions to be in any way inconsequential.

Ok, Krsna Consciousness is a gradual process, as gradual as we make it for ourselves and others. It really doesn't have to be that gradual though, candidly speaking, charity really begins at home. It's true that the highest realization is to take all risk to go out of one's way to save the world - that is our mission for sure. Even so, still higher than that, ultimately the very highest realization, the profoundest mission, is to save oneself. First make yourself spiritually fit – doctor, heal thyself. First chant and dance in ecstasy like a madman, then worry about saving the rest of the world.

Higher than becoming Guru is to become an accomplished, fully self-realized disciple, and that hardly implies that one should pompously pose as a king with no clothes to passingly impress the little neophytes with how much one might have superficially garnered from the lines of letters on the pages of piles of books. A mesmerizing, ostentatious, cerebral miscellany indeed.

Nowhere is it mentioned in any *sastra* that neophytes and intermediate devotees achieve *prema* by initiating hundreds and thousands of disciples. It is really best not to accept any disciples at all. Better by far as a matter of common decency, we humbly endeavour to chant *Suddha Nam* via the intent prosecution of Yuga Dharma Nam Sankirtan with a view to achieve ultimate *Rag-Maya* perfection at the lotus feet of Srila Prabhupada. Then by his grace we may hope to become truly empowered, superlatively empowered instruments in the hands of the predecessor Acharyas.

May these few sharp but truthful words serve to stimulate in the guileless devotee an increased sincerity of approach to his mission.

***Param Vijayate Sri Krsna Nam Sankirtan Srila Prabhupada Ki Jay!***