

— September 2025 —



Founder-Acharya: His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

Devi Darpan

—reflecting the many faces and voices of Vaishnavis—



Welcome!

Hare Krishna!

This month, we joyfully commemorate the 60th anniversary of the arrival of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada in the United States.

Reflecting on this auspicious milestone, we are reminded of the extraordinary journey that began six decades ago—one that continues to inspire, uplift, and transform lives across the globe.

Srila Prabhupada's unwavering vision and tireless mission ignited a spiritual revolution that transcends time, culture, and geography.

As we honor his legacy, may we find renewed purpose in his teachings and deepen our own connection to devotional life.

With much gratitude, your aspiring servants at the

Vaishnavi Ministry North America



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Srila Prabhupada's Mission of Love and Service

In August of 1965, at the age of 69, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada boarded the cargo ship Jaladuta at the Calcutta (Kolkata) Port in West Bengal, India, embarking on a mission that would forever transform the spiritual landscape of the world.

With just a trunk with books, a few personal belongings, and a heart full of devotion, he set out for the United States to fulfill the instruction of his spiritual master, Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura, who had asked him to preach the message of Lord Krishna to the English speaking people.

It was a transcendental mission fueled by deep faith and surrender. At an age when most seek rest and retirement, Srila Prabhupada chose to fulfill his spiritual duty. He had no backing of an established institution, no wealth, and no association; but he carried the greatest wealth of all: the instruction of his spiritual master, the teachings of the Bhagavad-Gita and Srimad Bhagavatam, and the unflinching desire to share Krishna consciousness with the world.

The voyage across the Atlantic was full of trials. While on board the Jaladuta, Srila Prabhupada suffered two heart attacks. The pain was severe, and at one point it seemed unlikely he would survive.

On Thursday, September 9, Srila Prabhupada wrote in his diary, "This afternoon, we have crossed over the Atlantic Ocean for twenty-four hours. The whole day was clear and almost smooth. I am taking my food regularly and have got some strength to struggle. There is also a slight tacking of the ship and I am feeling a slight headache also. But I am struggling and the nectarine of life is Sri Chaitanya Charitamrita, the source of all my vitality."

After 35 days at sea, the Jaladuta arrived at the Boston Harbor on September 17, 1965. Standing on the dock, Srila Prabhupada wrote a most beautiful poem in Bengali filled with love & humility, "Markine Bhagavata-dharma". He questioned why he had come to such a foreign land, but reaffirmed his purpose: to carry out the order of his spiritual master and spread Krishna consciousness to the Western world.

In the coming months and years, Srila Prabhupada would face immense challenges, cultural barriers, indifference, and even ridicule. But gradually, his sincerity and spiritual depth attracted seekers, especially the youth of America, who were disillusioned with materialism and searching for higher meaning; and in July 1966, just a year after his arrival, he founded the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) in New York City.

What began as a lone journey transformed into a global spiritual movement. Srila Prabhupada translated a number volumes of sacred texts, established over 100 temples worldwide, and initiated thousands of disciples—all in just twelve short years.

His arrival in the West was not just a moment in history—it was the beginning of a revolution in consciousness. And today, 60 years later, his mission continues to inspire millions to live a life rooted in devotion, service, and love of God.

To read more about this amazing journey, please visit iskcon.org





Mārkine Bhāgavata-dharma

(Sriḷa Prabhupada, Boston Harbor, September 18, 1965)



My dear Lord Kṛṣṇa, You are so kind upon this useless soul, but I do not know why You have brought me here. Now You can do whatever You like with me.

But I guess You have some business here, otherwise why would You bring me to this terrible place?

Most of the population here is covered by the material modes of ignorance and passion. Absorbed in material life, they think themselves very happy and satisfied, and therefore they have no taste for the transcendental message of Vāsudeva. I do not know how they will be able to understand it.

But I know Your causeless mercy can make everything possible, because You are the most expert mystic.

How will they understand the mellows of devotional service? O Lord, I am simply praying for Your mercy so that I will be able to convince them about Your message.

All living entities have come under the control of the illusory energy by Your will, and therefore, if You like, by Your will they can also be released from the clutches of illusion.

I wish that You may deliver them. Therefore if You so desire their deliverance, then only will they be able to understand Your message.

The words of Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam are Your incarnation, and if a sober person repeatedly receives it with submissive aural reception, then he will be able to understand Your message.

It is said in the Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam (1.2.17–21): “Śrī Kṛṣṇa, the Personality of Godhead, who is the Paramātmā [Supersoul] in everyone’s heart and the benefactor of the truthful devotee, cleanses desire for material enjoyment from the heart of the devotee who relishes His messages, which are in themselves virtuous when properly heard and chanted. By regularly hearing the Bhāgavatam and rendering service unto the pure devotee, all that is troublesome to the heart is practically destroyed, and loving service unto the glorious Lord, who is praised with transcendental songs, is established as an irrevocable fact. At the time loving service is established in the heart, the modes of passion [rajas] and ignorance [tamas] and lust and desire [kāma] disappear from the heart. Then the devotee is established in goodness and he becomes happy. Thus established in the mode of goodness, the man rejuvenated by loving service to the Lord gains liberation from material association [mukti] and comes to know scientifically of the Personality of Godhead. Thus the knots of the heart and all misgivings are cut to pieces. The chain of fruitive actions [karma] is terminated when one sees the Self as master.”



He will become liberated from the influence of the modes of ignorance and passion and thus all inauspicious things accumulated in the core of the heart will disappear.

How will I make them understand this message of Kṛṣṇa consciousness? I am very unfortunate, unqualified, and the most fallen. Therefore I am seeking Your benediction so that I can convince them, for I am powerless to do so on my own.

Somehow or other, O Lord, You have brought me here to speak about You. Now, my Lord, it is up to You to make me a success or failure, as You like.

O spiritual master of all the worlds! I can simply repeat Your message, so if You like You can make my power of speaking suitable for their understanding.

Only by Your causeless mercy will my words become pure. I am sure that when this transcendental message penetrates their hearts, they will certainly feel engaddened and thus become liberated from all unhappy conditions of life.

O Lord, I am just like a puppet in Your hands. So if You have brought me here to dance, then make me dance, make me dance, O Lord, make me dance as You like.

I have no devotion, nor do I have any knowledge, but I have strong faith in the holy name of Kṛṣṇa. I have been designated as Bhaktivedanta, and now, if You like, You can fulfill the real purport of Bhaktivedanta.

Signed – the most unfortunate,
insignificant beggar
A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami,
on board the ship Jaladuta,
Commonwealth Pier,
Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.
dated 18th of September, 1965



To read the full prayer
click the scan code.
Thank you Vedabase!





Mindfulness and Parenting: Finding Peace in the Everyday

By Pinky Khatri

Parenting is one of the most joyful experiences a woman can have. Truly, it is Krishna's mercy when we are blessed with multiple children. I am a mother of three—twin 5-year-old girls and a 7-year-old boy. Parenthood, as I have discovered, is profoundly beautiful and rewarding, yet it can also be exhausting and stressful when combined with running a business and working full time.

As parents, we often seek ways to nurture not only our children's growth but also our own peace of mind. Mindfulness can be a simple yet powerful tool in this journey. Neuroscience shows that mindfulness practices, even brief ones, activate areas of the brain responsible for attention, emotional regulation, and stress reduction. Regular practice can decrease cortisol levels—the hormone associated with stress—and enhance our ability to respond rather than react. In other words, mindfulness literally rewires our brains to parent more calmly and consciously.

In my experience, introducing mindfulness to young children—or even engaging their peers—can be met with skepticism. “My kids won't sit still that long,” or “They're too young for meditation or yoga,” are common refrains. But mindfulness doesn't have to be complicated or time-consuming. Starting small makes a difference. Even a few deep breaths, or a single humming bee breath, can reset and ground both parent and child. Over time, these small moments create a ripple effect of calm and presence throughout the home.

The Bhagavad-gītā teaches us to act with awareness and perform our duties without attachment to outcomes. Parenting is the perfect arena to live this teaching. We cannot control every tantrum, argument, or messy room, but we can respond with patience, compassion, and intention. Mindfulness gives us the ability to do just that.

Ultimately, mindful parenting is not about perfection. It's about noticing, breathing, and choosing conscious responses instead of reacting from stress or fatigue. Through mindfulness, we can transform ordinary moments like playtime, meals, and bedtime into opportunities for connection, growth, and devotion. As Vaishnavis, this is a natural expression of our practice: serving our children, our families, and ourselves with love, patience, and awareness.

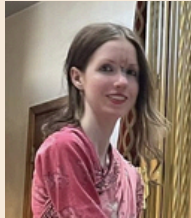
By starting small, embracing mindfulness, and practicing compassion for both for our children and ourselves, we cultivate a home that is not only more peaceful but also more joyful.



Pinky Khatri is an audiologist and entrepreneur based in Virginia. Growing up, her childhood was deeply influenced by stories from the Vedic scriptures, with the Bhagavad Gita always close by—in her grandfather's hands, as he spent much of his time immersed in its wisdom.

Being a parent, she knows the challenge of leading by example. That inspired her to write books with the hope that it will serve as a strong foundation for her own children—and she is grateful to share these teachings in a simple, creative, and accessible way for families everywhere. Her books are available in amazon.





Recipie by
Audarya Gaurangi devi dasi
ISKCON Phoenix



Vegan Brownies



PREP TIME:
10 min



TOTAL TIME:
45 min



SERVINGS:
16

INGREDIENTS:

WET

- 4 tablespoons of ground flaxseed meal with $\frac{3}{4}$ of cup water (flax egg)
- 1 cup of sugar
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of water
- 1 cup of oil
- 2 teaspoons of vanilla extract

DRY

- 2 cups of flour
- 1 cup of carob powder
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of baking soda
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon of salt

OPTIONAL

Stir in carob chips, raspberries, top with sprinkles, or any other choice!



DIRECTIONS: Make flax egg first, then combine the rest of the wet ingredients, and then mix in the dry ingredients. Pour over two 8x8 inch baking sheets, evenly spread out, and bake at 325 for 30-35 minutes.

Spring roll recipe

Ingredients

Spring roll sheets (frozen, so need to be thawed)
Carrot, broccoli, cabbage-shredded
Ginger grated
Salt and pepper
Oil for frying

First, make the filling: cook the veggies in a little oil along with ginger, salt and pepper

Take one sheet at a time and place a spoon of filling in a corner leaving a little space, fold them to the desired shape while using a little bit of water (wet your fingertips while doing so) so the foldings stay intact

Deep fry

Offer to Krishna.



Recipie by
Nitya Kishori devi dasi
ISKCON Vancouver

Thank you, **ISKCON of Houston,**

for so graciously hosting the **North American Leadership Conference 2025**. Heartfelt gratitude goes to the dedicated organizers, the NA-RGB, all the presenters, and each and every attendee who contributed to making this gathering so successful.

The conference was not only inspiring and informative, but also deeply engaging—a true opportunity to exchange ideas, strengthen bonds, and envision the future of our movement together.

The participation of Vaishnavis in various forms was clearly visible and especially uplifting to witness—not only contributing, but also taking leadership roles in so many impactful ways. Such examples of service and empowerment enrich our communities and pave the way for a more inclusive and dynamic ISKCON.

Above all, we remember and honor our divine Hosts, **Sri Sri Radha-Nilamadhava**, under whose shelter and mercy all of these efforts become possible. Truly, all the amazing devotees served beautifully throughout the event, making it a memorable and heartening experience for all.







CURRENT EVENTS



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS
FOUNDER ACARYA: HIS DIVINE GRACE A.C. BHAKTIVEDANTA SWAMI PRABHUPADA

A Bond of Love
Interview Series

Her Grace
Sadhvi Devi Dasi

17 September 2025
7pm EST | 4pm PST

A Bond of Love
Srita Prabhupada and His Daughters

Vaishnavi Ministry NA
ISKCON Vaishnavi Ministry

Watch this space for more details
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Vínculos de amor
Grupo de Estudio

Un grupo para vaishnavis

domingos
15:00 Nueva York
visita
tinyurl.com/horadegrupo
para la hora de tu ciudad

Vínculos de amor
Srita Prabhupada y sus hijas

Para mas informacion
visite:
[www.joyelephant.art/
grupodeestudio](http://www.joyelephant.art/grupodeestudio)
o mande un email a
damodarpriyadevidasi08@gmail.com

tinyurl.com/
vinculosamorzoom

LADIES ONLY |
Think Gita
Circles |
Wednesdays
2.30pm BST |
with
Krishnabhava

Think Gita Circles Start Date: 23 July 2025
Language: English Frequency: Every Wednesday
for 38 weeks Time: 2.30pm - 3:45pm BST

Course Instructor: Think Gita Facilitator 04



Sri Caitanya
Caritamrita
Vaishnavi Reading &
Discussion
Monday-Friday
4:30pm - 5:15pm MST
/7:30pm -8:15EDT

SRI CAITANYA-CARITAMRITA

Zoom ID: 836 2121 6460
P/W: Krishna



CURRENT EVENTS





The International Society for Krishna Consciousness Founder-
Acarya His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
100 S. Weber Dr. Chandler, AZ 85225 480.705.4900



Talks & Crafts

"Pieces of our Life -Part Two"

Saturday, Sept 20, 2025
10:00am to 12:00pm

In life, we go through events that we manage to complete and accomplish. But there are also others that, for one reason or another, remain untouched. These are the pieces of our life that continue to resurface in our minds, the unfinished dreams, goals, or moments we've tucked away, almost as if we've placed them in a mental bucket. Why? What stopped us from accomplishing them? What changed? Do they still linger in our minds and hearts?

 Bring any pieces of fabric, scissors, beads, thread. We will be getting our Gopis & Gopas ready for Govardhan!

 For more information contact
Lilavati devi dasi at kandaptm@gmail.com
Please RSVP by Sep 19, 2025





Vaishavi Ministry NA

WhatsApp channel



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