

Chp 1. Fondly Reminiscing a Previous Cordial Exchange

Haribolo Dhira Govinda Prabhu,

Please accept my obeisances.

All Glories to Srila Prabhupada!

The last time we communicated was in November of 2021. I am writing you now out of affection as an old friend.

A lot has occurred since then, and I am hoping you will agree to read the entire contents of this letter based on that original friendship. I feel an obligation to share with you why the majority of senior devotees do not accept any aspect of the Poison Conspiracy that you have been aggressively promoting. It pains me to see you on what I and many of your well-wishers' feel is a futile and self-destructive path.

Satvatove Attendance

I attended your Introductory Satvatove seminar in the spring of 2015, where I had the opportunity to meet Brajarani, whom you trained in professional counseling, and I eventually married! That set off a robust exchange between us, where I expressed my appreciation for how you were pioneering an important field: attracting people born with Western handicaps into Krishna Consciousness (KC). For several years we explored a variety of topics, which I understood that you appreciated as much as I did. I often shared how I considered your Satvatove work to be a KC version of the "Landmark Forum." That organization attracted the attendance of a lot of devotees towards the end of the millenia, and I often referred to it as a secular version of the New Bhakta program.²

After three years of earlier correspondence, circa 2018, you were inspired to send me copies of the four books you had published. You specifically asked that, if I read them, you would appreciate me sharing my comments and/or criticisms with you. I accepted all of this as a genuine act of kindness on your part, and I dutifully took the time to read your books carefully. In May of 2021, I responded with the only type of critique that I felt a professional, such as yourself, would consider valuable for each of your books. I identified specific points you made, identified where they came from and shared what it was that caught my attention. A few examples are given below with the book title/date and total comments made given in violet, what you published with pertinent page numbers in green, and my comments in blue. Many of the thoughts I shared expressed an agreement with what you wrote. On the occasion I disagreed, I was very clear about the specific points you made and why I objected to them. Again, Driven by a friendly bond, I took the time to do this in the pursuit of helping you perfect your communication skills.

Our Book Review Exchange

Dhira Govinda's Book #1: The Power of Bhakti

(286 pages): 30 detailed comments were presented in response to your quotes, such as...

Example: Dhira Govinda (DG) "I'm not really interested in states of consciousness. I'm really not so interested in specular states of consciousness... More important is what is our state of consciousness? Where are we at steadily? (p.64) mayesvara (md) Well said! I often ask people to inquire seriously into what is the best person you can strive to become, and what do you base your answer on and why? You integrate this into your conversation on p.67 'Para-upakara' meaning highest welfare work.

Example: (DG) "Emotion is driven by thought, and actions are driven by emotion." (p.135) (md) Good observation and why we need to be particularly careful because emotions are driven by conditioning. Bad experiences drive us to do things, which may be premature or ill-founded simply because ONE person did something inappropriate... the mind is often quick to assume that all people like that the offensive person one faces are also bad. But that is what we all condemn as prejudice or bigotry! We must remain very astute in order to not allow that to happen!

² Which got the attention of Hridayanada Goswami who was so intrigued by it he agreed to attend the 4 day course.

Deleted: Open Letter to Dhira Govinda

Re: Why Ruin Your Reputation Endorsing Axiomatic Dishonest, Shameless Fraud & Repetitive, Blatant, Intentional **DECEPTION**?

c/o mayesvara dasa ACBSP, September 2025

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Reading Notes:

Unless otherwise Noted

Green Font: ISKCON Opposing Objections & Opinions &

Citations

Scriptural References



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Dhira Govinda's Book #2: Srila Prabhupada The Prominent Link

(161 pages): 13 detailed comments.

Example: (DG) "The Prominent Link" suggests that if every member of ISKCON makes Srila Prabhupada the "sole object of unconditional surrender" ISKCON will be more united - and Srila Prabhupada more pleased. (p.26) (md) I can understand why you wrote this in 2002, but, by now, I hope you realize how naive it would be to make that argument today. There are currently at least 3 or 4 diverse RtVik camps, and they are not all sitting around the fire happily in agreement on many things. singing kum-by-ya together

Commented [MU1]: Parenthetical citation go inside of terminating punctuation; please fix this and do the same throughout

Example: (DG) Can someone be called "Srila Prabhupada's disciple" if he didn't receive formal initiation from Srila Prabhupada? (p.65) (md) Can someone be called a Dentist if they did not go to Dental School? Can someone add PhD on the end of their name if they didn't do the work you had to do to add those credentials to your signature? Can someone wear a police officer uniform and pretend to be an officer without getting arrested for impersonating an authority?

Dhira Govinda's Book #3: Effects of Hare Krishna...

...Maha Mantra On Stress Depression and the Three Gunas (282 pages): 4 detailed comments.

Example: (md) I was particularly interested in perusing through all the alternative similar metaphysical studies you listed in the Appendix A. such as the effects of prayer on coronary operations in the Judeo/Christian community. (p156). I noted that "Mindfulness Meditation" (p169) has become all the rage with neo-Buddhist types, where the results appear to have been compromised by bias screening. It was also interesting to see that apparently some others have attempted to quantify mantra-meditation (p191) with other nondescript mantras, although that research appears to have been far less rigorous than what you accomplished.

Commented [MU2]: On the whole, I am not sure why you have particularly chosen this and possibly some of the other quotes or correspondence. Some of it is hard to track, and, while they do give examples of your correspondence, they don't appear to relate thematically to the thrust of your communicate up to this point

Dhira Govinda's Book #4: Relationships that Work

2008 (1st Edition 188p, 2nd Edition 248p): 26 detailed comments.

Example: (DG) "Concreteness is another important principal in effective communication." (1st Edition p.58 / 2nd Edition p.75) (md) When people are incapable of talking about tangible specifics there is usually a good reason for it. They are either hiding or running away from something and if it is significantly embarrassing, illegal, unethical, or even their own crazy inability to focus on the issues... then you are engaging in a superficial futile conversation. Except maybe for therapeutic reasons."

Example: (DG) "We need to *own our emotions and experiences* before we can genuinely transform them." (1st Edition p.131 / 2nd Edition p.159) (md) I particularly appreciated this statement!

This concludes my examples of our previous correspondence and most importantly my sincere review of your work. What follows are my current comments relevant to your behavior over the last several years since we shared this exchange.

Jnana-Vijnana (Knowledge & Transcendental Realization) -SB 11.7.12 Synonyms

Your last comment regarding "...our emotions and experience..." provides an excellent example of the difference between Jnana and Vijana. You acknowledge the impact emotions and experiences have on us and how we need to be aware of them (own them) in order to transform them. (or grow beyond how they have conditioned us.) This is a profound observation on your part and explains why so much misinformation is being circulated about ISKCON. Individuals who had a bad experience, were offended, or suffered a serious loss of trust from someone in ISKCON, and, thus, may have developed deep emotional or psychological wounds. Therefore, it is likely that after that occurs, when left uncorrected, that individual becomes an unforgiving ISKCON-Basher and the purpose of their life changes. These are the members of the diaspora who perpetuate the Poison Conspiracy Fraud, the RtVik-Charade, or whatever the latest controversial thing is in ISKCON.

When the spirit of a trusting surrendered soul gets callously crushed it can lead one to disparage the



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devotees in ISKCON who have, otherwise, dedicated their lives to propagating the holy name.³ But those who retaliate in this misguided manner fail to realize:

"The killer of the soul, whoever he may be, must enter into the planets known as the worlds of the faithless, full of darkness and ignorance." – Sri Isopanisad #3.

If someone has indeed done something very inappropriate that derailed one from the pursuit of pure devotional service, that aggressor is destined toward the appropriated hellish karma for such misbehavior. What is relevant to our exchange is how did you react when your devotional service was quashed, exploited, or subjected to insult and criticism? By your own admission, you developed a more critical eye, became cynical and your attitude towards ISKCON changed radically. In the purport to the above verse, Srila Prabhupada elaborates on what occurs when subtle material pride distorts our ability to understand. "...all these devotees are undoubtedly magnanimous souls,"⁴

"...those who do not even make an attempt, who want to be covered by illusion, who are too materialistic and too attached to material enjoyment, must enter into the darkest regions of hell, as confirmed throughout the Vedic literature. Such materialistic asuras sometimes make a show of religion, but their ultimate aim is material prosperity."

The tribulations ISKCON-Bashers suffered may have indeed been very tragic, but that is not an excuse to blaspheme devotees and torpedo the entirety of ISKCON—this is according to ALL our acharyas! So, one can run off and appear to be chanting, following the principles, and reading regularly, but if their consciousness is: "I'm going to show them... I don't need the likes of ISKCON," that is NOT Krishna Consciousness. Instead, it is a reflection of a demoniac material agenda that, predictively, will set them on the path to hell.

If we truly realize how valuable Krishna Consciousness is for ourselves, and humanity at large, then we will remain eternally grateful and remain indebted to it... regardless of any individualized conflicts along the way. If it wasn't for ISKCON, it is likely very few of us westerners would have learned anything about the Supreme Personality of Godhead. That appreciation alone should always be the underlying factor that guides us in everything we do.

"Jnana, or knowledge, means to understand one's constitutional position, and vijnana refers to practical application of that knowledge in life." – SB 4.22.33p

Acknowledging how our emotions affect us is a part of the awareness (Jnana) that influences our behavior for good or bad. But without the practical awareness (Vijana) that the loss of emotional control can tinge our ability to reason clearly, we will become victims of aparada. This type of reckless behavior is spiritually suicidal.

Catalyst for 180 Degree Radical Flip?

Dhira Govinda, you have admitted many times:

"When I first heard rumors (Spring 1997) about Srila Prabhupada's disciples giving him poison, I regarded them as ridiculous." – Dhira Govinda, KGBG p28

It appears that only after you experienced a number of uncomfortable exchanges with ISKCON leadership that "Shocked You!", that your reasoning skills became impaired and your thought processes broke down.

"I remember in 2001, I spoke, in confidence, to an ISKCON guru/GBC/sannyasi. He confided in me that he thought that it was very likely that there was truth to the assertion that Srila Prabhupada was given poison, by Tamal, and perhaps others. And then he was quick to

Commented [MU3]: This whole quote is quite damning and threatening

Commented [MU4]: A question from me on the side: when was this "first," because the next date mentioned is 2001. S, I was wondering what the period of time was between the two

Commented [MU5]: We also talked about uniformity regarding citations, usually conforming to MLA & APA guidelines. Even some simple uniformity across the whole document aids the readers' understanding and flow. And, again, this is considering the entire breadth of your current and future audiences.

³ This is the first of the ten offenses that Vaishnava recite every morning congregationally: 1) To blaspheme the devotees who have dedicated their lives for propagating the holy name of the Lord. - Padma Purana (Section: Brahma Khanda 25.15-18)

⁴ All these devotees are undoubtedly magnanimous souls, but one who is situated in knowledge of Me I consider to be just like My own Self. Being engaged in My transcendental service, he is sure to attain Me, the highest and most perfect goal. – Bg. 7.16



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follow up that statement by stating that he felt certain that they (ISKCON) had gotten it right about the guru issue and initiations system. **This combination of statements was shocking for me to hear.**" -Dhira Govinda das, 2016 -KGBG p651, Dhira Govinda

Further deterioration in your decorum became evident after you had additional exchanges with ISKCON and perceived that it was ISKCON that was suffering from a decay in leadership!

"The decay of leadership in ISKCON was characteristic of much of what I witnessed and experienced during those 1999-2002 GBC meetings in my capacity as director of the ISKCON Central Office of Child Protection" - KGBG p615, Dhira Govinda

It may be inferred that experiences like these presumably had such a profound impact on you that you were left vulnerable to the absurdly vindictive and biased suggestion that *ALL these leaders were implicated in a conspiracy to murder!* That may have fulfilled an emotional cavity, but it is also a travesty of reason and justice. However, it does explain why you flipped 180 degrees from your original impression that the P-Con was ridiculous, to the truly ridiculous conclusion that what you perceived to be a decay in leadership is evidence of murder!

The tragic irony of all this, Dhira Govinda, is that you have spent many years of your life studying human nature and therefore should be very aware of the important point made above regarding how we react to the events occurring in our life. This is an important universal privilege of insight awarded to rational humans. Great thinkers over the millennia have expressed:

*"It's not what happens to you, but **how you react to it that matters.**"*
— **Epictetus**, Stoic philosopher (Enchiridion, c. 125 CE)

*"Between stimulus and response there is a space. **In that space is our power to choose our response.** In our response lies our growth and our freedom."* — **Viktor Frankl**

*"Life is 10% what happens to me and **90% how I react to it.**"*
— **Charles R. Swindoll**, Christian pastor and educator

"A self-realized person is not bewildered by happiness and distress, nor by honor and dishonor." — **Bhagavad-gītā 5.20**, spoken by **Śrī Krishna**

The intent of this letter is to reach out to you in the same affectionate mood we shared many years ago. At that time you stated:

"It's always healthy to endeavor to humbly consider how I can communicate more effectively." -Personal
Email July 9th, 2021

Towards that objective, my challenge is for you to consider how you might be more effective overall if you took careful notice of how you may have reacted to your exchange with *some* ISKCON leadership. Stop to consider how you have allowed the behavior of just a few individuals to cripple your reasoning skills so dramatically! It could be that prejudicial, illogical and perhaps prideful vindication has you to behave almost like a mindless puppet, thereby committing acts of deadly spiritual treason!

"Kṛṣṇa does not accept the worship of a sinful person who blasphemes Vaisnavas."
VedaBase CB Antya-khanda 4.362

There is no other rational explanation for how a man of your astute capability could accuse the entire GBC of being co-conspirators to murder! **"Your Honor, every member of the GBC should be hung to die because they are flawed human beings!"** Really? Is that really the best example of compassion, forgiveness, patience, tolerance and cooperation that you can set for your own Satvatove disciples?

I grant you that, retrospectively, you probably had a much better understanding of how to protect ISKCON children then those you previously had to work under. I had my own shocking disappointments when working on the GBC level many years ago, too... but I was able to distinguish between any particular individual's immaturity and the greater good of the ISKCON mission. Your unre-

Commented [MU6]: Another aside for me: I don't understand this statement or reference. Has "incompetence" been bandied about between you two? Has incompetence been suggested as evidence of murder? What incompetence by who cause murder?

Commented [MU7]: Here's that color coding problem: This is a Dhira Govinda quote that is not in GREEN as outlined previously, and, furthermore, it is in the same BLUE as the illustrious quotes presented right before it!

Commented [MU8]: Green again... hmmm.... Dhira's comment?

Commented [MU9]: Here you've switched from him accusing ISKCON leadership to the GBC... just saying... maybe I'm missing something.

Commented [MU10]: This is in green and in quotes: I'm confused. Who said this? The Green attribution guy? It's in quotes, but is this actually a quote from someone? Who? I take it this is a rhetorical statement implying an equivalency to the irrationality of Dhira Govindas' assessments. But, I, the slightly average reader am once again confused. If this "quote" is to be used, if it is not an actual quote, the quotes should be removed and the interjection should simply be attributed with something like: It is as if you are otherwise stating: *your Honor, every member...*



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solved indignation has had a profound impact on who you have become. You have an advanced degree in Behavioral Sciences and you know how trauma can haunt a person for the rest of their lives ; yet, it is conceivable that this is exactly what has happened to you and your entrenchment only serves to blind you to this fact. Nico's display of schizophrenic and pathological behavior is beyond his ability to change. But you can change. You may have been painted into a very dark and tempestuous corner , but I am imploring you as a friend, prabhu, devotee, investigative researcher, and author on the poison conspiracy to look more closely at the level of consciousness you are exemplifying and now broadcasting world-wide. You have proclaimed yourself to be:

"...*I like to think of myself as an honest person, [I kn(o)]w that, to be sincere, I needed to give myself to this process of Krishna consciousness...*" - Dhira Govinda KGBG p20

If you can set your personal vexation and irrationality aside, you will realize there is absolutely NO court-worthy evidence to support the P-Con ruse. This fact should be readily apparent to you as it has been conclusively represented in both the book and movie *Deception* and through our correspondence.. This is besides the fact any so-called P-Con evidence has never been handled properly and would therefore be entirely inadmissible before a court of law.- Essentially, what you have is a few inaudible and subjectively understood whispers, contrived interpretations, lawfully inadmissible hair samples and a-collection of wild speculations from another potentially traumatized individual—Nico. So far, using only this type of biased speculation, you have chosen to entirely skip the normal due process of a proper court-trial and jump directly to a guilty verdict! And, that type of dishonesty, in this case, is far more egregious than the worst blunders of which the GBC has ever been accused! Shame on you! This type of shameful behavior is beneath you, and I wonder if your Satvatove disciples know this side of you?

Honest introspection on your side can save you from a most embarrassing disgrace and protect you from the potential liability of *corporate slander*.⁵ But, unfortunately, this may be impossible while you continue to pursue an excessive familiarity and entanglement with opprobrious individuals like Nico Kuyt⁶.

Commented [MU11]: If this is your parenthetical insert to correct a missing piece in this quote, the appropriate method is to use brackets vs parens in this case

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⁵ Corporate slander occurs when false, spoken statements are made about a business that damage its reputation and cause financial harm. It is a form of defamation that can be actionable in court, requiring proof that the statements were false, communicated to a third party, made about the business, and directly resulted in harm or financial loss.

⁶ This is a reference to one of Chanakya Pandits very wise maxims: "Even a pandit comes to grief by giving instruction to a foolish disciple, by maintaining a wicked wife, and by excessive familiarity with the miserable." Chanakya Niti Sastra 1.4



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