

Bhakti is for Those Who are Atmically Disordered

Letter from Sadananda 4.1.1961

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My dear, dear Vamandas,

May Krishna give you strength! [...] You must not feel too sad when poor fellows as this “Maharshi” catch the foul fishes from the surface of the water; when the idiotic worship of the so-called Indian has gone so far that the poor souls are stupid enough to think and believe that a so-called *mantra* without shakti [can lead to Bhagavan], without having any notion of *who*, *what* and *how* Bhagavan is, and *who* it is that is to be led to Him, without realizing that this cannot be more than a curiosity, as foreigners in India get souvenirs in the form of tiger claws and relics from Taj Mahal.

We want *serious people*, who truly *have the ability* to search, understand and believe. At first all kinds of neurotic types probably have to turn up at your lectures – the faster they drop off the better. Bhakti is for those who are *atmically* disordered, for those who are in want of knowledge of the atma and the Paramatma, as they are not able to serve Bhagavan, and for those who understand that all kinds of exploitation are nothing but delusion – but not for those who are *mentally* disordered and people who first of all should consult a psychiatrist in order to become decent, normal people, so that they later could long for bhakti. [...]

It is so enormously important that people come to Krishna *through* you, and not stick to *you* for *your* sake and don't proceed any further. Your strong, noble personality is a danger [...]

Hella seems to bother herself about the fact that Prabhupad's [Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati] "disciple" failed. Prabhupad *knew* this and warned, and he anticipated that nothing of this large group as such would remain after his departure. It is surprising, though, how many noble and good people who carry deep in their hearts his power and message *without* appearing to be more than seemingly ordinary citizens; *strength* in *crises* and a clear answer to the deepest questions, *these* are the signs of true Grace.

The modern malady consists of perpetual thirst for activity, restlessness. There are many things that *we also would like to do* but which are impossible to be performed, as puja, serving of the Murti [God's Image form], partaking of sacramental meals, and many other things, whose neglect or violation make us feel we have failed. But Krishna sees it differently. It's about inner honesty and the right decision, supported by ones inner attitude, world view, focus, heart. Pragmatism is the death of all true life and culture! You must help *those* who are in need of it, to bring a *meaning* into their lives. You must set the stone in motion – HE will do the rest (?). [...]

Blessings, love, strength and thanks to everyone! [...]

Shri Shri Guru-Gaurangau jayatah!