

# The School of Caitanya-Bhakti

Letter from Sadananda

24 June, 1955

Into English, within square brackets and

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[...] Dear Vamandas,

Several times I have noticed that You write "in the opinion of Caitanya-bhakti". Then I have to grip the old mallet again. The School of Caitanya-bhakti does not give the words [of the Shastram-s] a signification that shall be or serve as a foundation or support for a particular theology or dogmatics. Jiva Goswami has often pointed out that there cannot be a more serious offence against God and His Word Revelation than to accept certain Shruti-s and refuse others – in favour of a certain theology or philosophy – to give the words a meaning that is not evident from the entire text and its context. One of the tasks that Mahaprabhu and the original Goswami-s set themselves was to give what the *Shruti-s* actually say, without confining them to a monistic or dualistic interpretation – against all traditional ways of thinking and deeply rooted tradition-bound misinterpretations.

One cannot speak of a Caitanya theology at all, only a *theology of the Shastram-s*, as they give it themselves, completely objectively, a meaning which reveals itself and becomes accessible to the person who listens to the Revelation with love and perceives every word *without* a preconceived theology, a *completely objective* conception of the meaning the Author Himself = Bhagavan, really aims at. [...]

Always Your Sadananda