

The Message

Letter from Sadananda to Hella
18 February 1954

Into English, within square brackets, footnotes and

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Dear Hella, [...]

You must not feel dejected when You perceive that many who listen to Vamandas' message are driven into helplessness and rationalization. What we have to say is so completely against what is called man's "natural" (?) instinct, his instinctive thinking.

Except for God Himself – Shyama Krishna and Gaura Krishna, when They make Themselves directly visible – *no one* can arouse a movement of bhakti in human beings.¹ There will only be a few elevated souls², who will be able to truly perceive something of the exquisite nature of the seva that intensifies to infinity – for most persons it will be an intellectual and emotional novelty, a sensation that will soon fade.

Vamandas and his Hella are those I admire, because they do seva – for His and Her sake – and that Both [Radha and Krishna] accept your seva is beyond all doubt. If people understand, praise or criticise is irrelevant, but if one or two turn up, then this is the outer proof that They Both are within and stand behind you. Something about Shyama Krishna and Gaura Krishna must come into Western literature, so that, in the near or the remote future, those who are truly seeking can dig out this odd literature in the libraries.

My best thoughts for you both,

always Sadananda

¹ Note: Bhakti is not dormant in the atma; it has to be transmitted by God or His bhakta. An uttama-bhakta, a bhakta of the highest rank, can bestow bhakti upon an atma. Krishna-Caitanya Himself can bless a great number of atma-s in both moving and non-moving living beings, not only with bhakti, but even prema-bhakti.

² Those who have seeds of bhakti from previous lives.