

Hare Krishna.

On behalf of our presiding Deities – Sri Sri Radha Nilamadhava, Sri Sri Radha Giridhari, Sri Giriraja, Sri Sri Nitai Caitanya Candra and Sri Sri Nitai Gaura Candra, Houston devotees, our extended congregation, we wish to express our sincere and deepest condolences to the disciples of HH Bhakti Charu Swami, Kalindi devi dasi, Subhra devi dasi, Gopinath Acarya dasa, Lalita Preyasi devi dasi, Manmatha dasa, Sundari Radha devi dasi and aspiring disciples.

Bhakti Charu Maharaja is a close associate of HH Tamal Krishna Goswami. Together they served Srila Prabhupada in many projects and intimately during his final pastimes in Vrindavan. Maharaja used to come to Texas and visit Tamal Krishna Maharaja in Dallas and Houston. He was present during the installation of Sri Sri Radha Nilamadhava in 1986. But due to his greater responsibilities as GBC of several countries and various projects like Abhay Caran series, farm projects and temple building projects around the world, he could not visit Texas as much as he wanted.

After several requests, both from the Houston management and his disciples, Maharaja made a rare trip to visit us in early 2019. Thereafter having visited and recollected many of his association with Tamal Krishna Maharaja, he committed to visiting and helping the Houston project as a service to his dear Godbrother.

Last year, in August, he made a second special trip here to give his valuable time and association by conducting a very important seminar entitled 'The Priceless Gift' that is given to us by the acaryas, Mahaprabhu and Sri Krishna. The seminar was presented to help us recognize the purpose why we are doing devotional service.

HH Bhakti Charu Swami was a saintly devotee and a greatly compassionate person who tirelessly traveled all over the world to help so many devotees to attain Krishna's lotus feet. We are grateful for his dedicated life to spread the holy name and the numerous spiritual projects he supervised that we pray he has now gone to serve Krishna and Srila Prabhupada in the spiritual world. And that he will continue to bless us with his mercy always.

We will forever miss his enlightening discourses and personal association. We will savor all his valuable instructions and follow them consistently for the rest of our lives.

Bhaktivinoda Thakura also wrote a short stanza about the influence that a Vaisnava (a pure devotee of the Lord) carries in this world even after his passing:

“He reasons ill who says that Vaisnavas die
When thou art living still in sound!

The Vaisnavas die to live, and living try to spread the holy name around!”

Srila Prabhupada also remembers his own spiritual master Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Saraswati Thakur:

“He lives forever by his divine instructions, and the follower lives with him.”

With overwhelming heartfelt farewell,

For ISKCON of Houston Temple Management,

Syamasundar dasa, Temple President