

Srila Bharati Maharaja's response to his being quoted as saying that Srila Prabhupada is in sakhya-rasa

Sri Caitanya Gaudiya Matha, Pahar Ganj, Delhi
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To hear the soundfile: <https://soundcloud.com/.../2015-march-23-srila-bharati-mahara...>

[For readers who do not know Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Gosvami Maharaja, he is a senior disciple of Srila Bhakti Dayita Madhava Gosvami Maharaja, who is a prominent disciple of Srila Bhakti Siddhanta Sarasvati Thakura Prabhupada and the founding acarya of Sri Caitanya Gaudiya Matha. He is also the god-brother of Srila Bhakti Ballabh Tirtha Gosvami Maharaja, the Sri Caitanya Gaudiya Matha's present acarya, and he is a friend of our Srila Gurudeva. He is greatly honored by devotees and acaryas of Gaudiya Matha institutions throughout India, and he is considered the encyclopedia of the Gaudiya Matha.

The transcription below has been less than barely edited, because we are also posting the soundfile of Srila Maharaja's darsana. In this way, if the respected reader wants to hear and read at the same time, he can do so.]

Present in Srila Maharaja's darsana room: Sripada Sajjana Maharaja, Narahari dasa, Bhavatarini dasi, Syamarani dasi, Madhava-priya dasa, Ananta dasa (UK), Sundara Gopala dasa (Australia), Navneet dasa, Sanjaya dasa (Delhi), Navina Krsnadasa (Delhi), Vasanti dasi, Anupama dasi (Russia)

Syamarani dasi: Srila Bharati Maharaja, members of the Krsna-Balarama Mandira in Vrndavana are saying that on many occasions, like in 1998, 2000, and 2002, you have personally said that our Srila Prabhupada is in sakhya-rasa, he is a cowherd boy.

Madhava-priya dasa: Which Krsna-Balarama Mandira?

Syamarani dasi: The one with Krsna-priya didi and Madhusudhana Maharaja, in Seva Kunja. [To Srila Maharaja] What is your comment?

Madhava priya dasa: (translating the question in Hindi for Srila Maharaja) She is asking – in Vrndavana there is a Krsna Balarama mandir, managed by a person who has taken shelter of our gurudeva [Srila Bhaktivedanta Narayana Gosvami Maharaja]. He is a diksa-disciple of Srila Bhakti Jivana Janardana Gosvami Maharaja and he took sannyasa from our gurudeva [Srila Bhaktivedanta Narayana Gosvami Maharaja]. His name is Bhaktivedanta Madhusudana Maharaja, and he is staying there with Krsna-priya Didi.

They said that you have said in different places and times – 2002, 2001, 1998 – that Srila Swami Maharaj is in sakhya-rasa. Many people are hearing this, and cannot understand whether you have said this or not, and if yes, then on which basis have you said this? They want to know your view.

Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Maharaja [In Bengali]: First of all I want to say....

Madhava-priya dasa: Can you please speak in English?

Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Maharaja: Yes. Svami Maharaja is our guru-varga. I never dared [to make] any statement about them [meaning all guru-varga.] That is my principle.

Madhava-priya dasa: Maharaja is saying, "According to my principle, I never ever speak anything about any of my guru-varga regarding these svarupa things at all. What to speak of Svami Maharaja, I have never spoken about my Guru Maharaja or any other guru-varga at all regarding this."

Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Maharaja: Yes. So, if anybody speaks like that [that I have said something about his svarupa], it is his own mental concoction.

Madhava-priyadasa: (in Bengali to Srila Maharaja) Earlier, you were mentioning about dhrsta [meaning "not conforming with generally accepted standards of behavior"]. (To the audience in

English) Maharaja was mentioning the word, and saying that, “I had never ever done this kind of dhrsta.”

Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Maharaja: Dhrsta means ‘talking [about that] which is beyond my capacity.’

Madhava-priya dasa: Not in adhikara (qualification).

Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Maharaja: Adhikara.

Madhava-priya dasa: Speaking something which is beyond one’s adhikara. So Maharaja said, “I never ever do that. That is my principle.”

Syamarani dasi: (To Madhava-priya dasa) You also said you asked him about the meaning of the Jaladuta prayer.

Madhava-priya dasa: We are only going to speak what Maharaja wants to speak at this time.

Syamarani dasi: I see. Okay.

Madhava-priya dasa: First of all, [regarding] the meaning of that [Jaladuta prayer], Maharaja is saying, “It does not matter what meaning comes [of the prayer]. Why? Because if just by one prayer, one says that he is in sakhya-rasa...” Maharaja is mentioning that if he [himself] focuses on this point, then he can find out in the writings of Bhaktivinoda Thakura and so many other acaryas that they are praying in so many different ways in this particular way [manner]. So he does not want to...he is saying that (In Bengali to Srila Maharaja) You mentioned that you do not want to waste time.

Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Maharaja [speaks in Bengali]: Yes, I said, regarding the view of these kinds of people, I am not willing to waste my time.

Madhava-priya dasa: He is saying that “According to my understanding, whatever they are speaking in my name, I don’t want to waste even a single moment to give the answer as to why they are using my name. That’s their own thing. I don’t want to discuss it.”

Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Maharaja: [speaks in Bengali] I can say one more thing. I don’t consider them worthy of being my opponents, so I will just neglect them.

Madhava-priya dasa (translating): “They are not even such people whom I can even consider an opponent, or feel even bound to give an answer to whatever they speak. Why? Because giving them that position even will be making them too much superior; why would I do that?”

Srila Maharaja gives one example again and again. I think you have also heard, that in Jagannatha Puri, earlier, the King had three or four elephants.

Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Maharaja: Four elephants.

Madhava-priya dasa: “Four elephants,” Maharaja mentions. “And the King used to give them foodstuffs, like sugarcane and other things, to eat. At that time, if a bull or a cow....”

Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Maharaja: Small bull.

Madhava-priya dasa: “If a small bull is coming and sharing, taking, their sugarcane and this and that, they don’t react at all. Why? Because they consider that ‘Such an insignificant animal; why would we have to say something?’ But, if another elephant comes and wants to take something from their food, then and only then they react.”

So Maharaja is saying that “The words which are going on, and that I am hearing about these things, I don’t even consider they are fit to be my opponent, and that I have to answer them.”

Srila Bhakti Vijnana Bharati Maharaja: Neglect.

Madhava-priya dasa: Maharaja is saying, “Just neglect whatever they say, or what I have to do with that.” This is what Maharaja wanted to speak.