

# PROTEST AGAINST A FABRICATED "REMEMBRANCE" OF SRILA GURUDEVA, IN THE "PREMANANDA PURANA"

By [BV SUDDHADVAITI SWAMI](#) · TUESDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2015

Recently Premananda dasa brahmacari published a biography of Srila Gurudeva, Sri Guru Darsana, in which he presents, in the section 1978-2010, pages 509-511, a fabricated story about Srila Gour Govinda Maharaja. He claims that, prior to meeting Srila A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, Srila Gour Govinda Maharaja approached Srila Gurudeva in Kesavaji Gaudiya Matha in Mathura and asked him for initiation. He says that Srila Gurudeva declined and instead directed Srila Gour Govinda Maharaja to go and take initiation from Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.

I wish to officially protest against this imaginary "remembrance". This is a blatant form of disrespect to all the saintly persons involved.

At that time, Srila Gurudeva was fully committed to working within the framework of the Gaudiya Vedanta Samiti, whose Acarya was Srila Vamana Maharaja. If Srila Gurudeva had directed Srila Gour Govinda Maharaja to anyone, then that person would have naturally been Srila Vamana Maharaja. To suggest otherwise implies that Srila Gurudeva had neither love nor respect for his senior Godbrother.

This fabricated story was never confirmed by either Srila Gour Govinda Maharaja, or by Srila Gurudeva. Srila Gour Govinda Maharaja said that he visited many asrams prior to meeting Srila Prabhupada, as quoted in his authorized biography by Nimai Pandita dasa released by Tattva-vicara Publications [www.tvpbooks.com](http://www.tvpbooks.com) [www.gourgovindaswami.com](http://www.gourgovindaswami.com); however he never mentioned meeting Srila Gurudeva at that time.

As far as Srila Gurudeva is concerned, he said in 1997, during the tirobhava mahotsava of Srila Gour Govinda Maharaja, "I heard he came to our matha, but I was not present, rather I was in Navadvipa at that time." Srila Gurudeva also said that they had only ever met once, and that was in Jagannath Puri in the 90s.

Had Premananda dasa's tale been true, then surely, Srila Gurudeva would have repeatedly told it to the many Western followers of Srila Gour Govinda Maharaja who came to him looking for shelter after their guru's departure.

This is just another one of the countless fabricated stories which Srila Gurudeva would often refer to as the "Premananda Purana". There are so many other fictitious "memories" contained in this so-called "biography" which is filled, page after page, of fictitious ramblings. Many new, innocent devotees will unfortunately accept these story-tales as genuine.

Pure Vaisnavas have unlimited glories, so what need is there to invent fictitious ones? Such an exalted personality as our Srila Gurudeva is actually minimized by these type of fairy-tales; in the future no one will know the difference between fact and fiction and thus his factual, transcendental lilas and qualities and even his teachings will be obscured.

I remember repeatedly hearing Srila Gurudeva interrupt different sannyasis while they were speaking hari-katha, asking them what was the source for what they were telling. When those sannyasis answered, "Premananda prabhu", Srila Gurudeva would dismiss it with, "Oh! The 'Premananda Purana'." He even repeatedly slapped in private one of them, for having spoken during class unbona fide things he had heard from Premananda dasa, strongly rebuking him, "He is making you crazy! Hearing from him is ruining your life!" Sripad Bv Madhava Maharaja told that sannyasi afterwards that he had not seen Srila Gurudeva that much angry in twenty years...

Premananda dasa's other book on Vilapa-kusumanjali is also filled with imagined lilas, which do not match with the moods or commentaries of any of our acaryas. Sadly, his wrong teachings are misleading many devotees in Srila Gurudeva's sanga.

Srila Gurudeva asked Premananda dasa why he was always making up stories. Premananda dasa answered that lying was a compulsive habit that he had developed and couldn't get rid of.

I remember Sripad Bv Tirtha Maharaja complaining to me during a bus ride to Varsna in 2011, "Premananda is constantly lying! Gurudeva could deal with it but we cannot! "

This compulsion of making up stories and inventing lilas seems pathological. Or it is due to the fact that Premananda dasa rarely sat and listened to Srila Gurudeva's hari-katha. (One sannyasi told me that in 16 years he saw him present on only one occasion of Srila Gurudeva's classes.) Perhaps it is one of the reasons why Srila Gurudeva never gave him sannyasa and thereby didn't encourage him to accept disciples.

I am writing this just to set the record straight, and with no intention of offending anyone, nor minimizing Premananda dasa's other services. However, as I said before, these wrong teachings are misleading Srila Gurudeva's sanga, therefore I feel the need to speak out boldly and protest.