

News

1. ISKCON Participates in Inaugurating Indo-Iranian Interfaith Dialogue (1st Dec)

Over two hundred guests including spiritual leaders, scholars, university students and journalists came together at the India International Centre in New Delhi to participate in the inaugural session of a two day dialogue between spiritual leaders and scholars from India and Iran on the theme of "Spirituality in Hinduism and Islam". Jointly organized by the Indian and Iranian governments through Indian Council for Philosophical Research and Iran Culture House, the inaugural session consisted of speeches by various guests including India's Minister for Minority Affairs, Mukhtar Abbas Nagvi. A special message sent by the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi was also read out. Speaking at the event, ISKCON India's Deputy Director of Communications, HG Yudhistir Govinda Prabhu stressed on the need for having interfaith dialogues and shared his views as a student of the Gaudiya Vaishnava tradition where love for a Supreme personal God is recognized as the highest form of religious expression and Gaudiya Vaishnavas respect this expression in other traditions wherever it is manifested. The discussions and papers presented at this dialogue would be published as a book by the Indian Council for Philosophical Research. The organizers also informed the delegates that an attempt would be made to convert this dialogue into an annual event.



2. Book Marathon continues in December (ISKCON Delhi-NCR Temples)

To combat the onslaught of Maya and ignorance which goes on incessantly, the devotees continued to distribute transcendental books. All across Delhi and NCR, sankirtan devotees including those from the congregation were

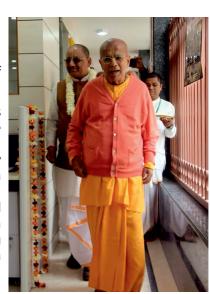


seen distributing books Travelling dedicatedly. long distances and hours, sometimes more than 12 hours, devotees gave up comfort of all kinds to participate in the distribution of Srila Prabhupada's books. Even little children were seen emulating their parents and convincing strangers to take books. The book

marathon month asks for neglecting hunger and other bodily needs to work overtime in order to get mercy through book distribution.

3. Inauguration of sankirtan office (3rd Dec) (ISKCON, East of Kailash)

A sankirtan office was inaugurated in the premises of ISKCON, East of Kailash, by H.H. Gopal Krishna Goswami Maharaja. This office will be used to oversee sankirtan programmes including distribution of Srila Prabhupada's books.



4. Bhagavad Gita Shloka Recitation (3rd Dec Onwards) (ISKCON, Dwarka)

On the occasion of the month of Bhagavad Gita Marathon, Sloka Recitation is being done on each weekend (Sunday) starting from 3rd of December by Gopal Fun School. In this program, various students from different colleges in Dwarka along with Gopal Fun School students are participating.



Students memorize the slokas at home and recite Slokas along with English and Hindi translation in the event. They are also provided with the participation certificate at the end of the event. It is helping them in imbibing spiritual values in the early stages of their life and also it is inspiring to the audience to see small students reciting the verses.

5. Disappearance Day of Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura (7th Dec) (ISKCON, East of Kailash and ISKCON, Gurugram)

At the time when India was struggling to attain independence from the British Raj, Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura was preaching the significance and urgency to engage in bhakti. He too was battling for independence, independence from the bodily conception of life, from the shackles of birth and death. It was by his endeavour and effort that Vaishnava philosophy and culture began to rise like a phoenix. His contribution to the resurrection of Vaishnavism is well established.



As one of the pioneers of the bhakti movement, his place in the disciplic succession is of prime importance. His disappearance day was celebrated with pushpanjali, kirtan, glorification and Vaishnava bhajans. His serious mood of taking to bhakti with urgency and sincerity was remembered. It was his purity and faith that bore fruits in the form of the dissemination of Krishna consciousness all around the world through his worthy disciple Srila Prabhupada.

6. Dignitaries visited the Temple (13th December) (ISKCON, East of Kailash)

Srimati Arti Mehra, the former Mayor of Delhi, celebrated her birthday at ISKCON, East of Kailash. The celebration was attended by several dignitaries including Sri L.K Advani, his



daughter Pratibha Advani, Dr. Harshvardhan, a senior BJP member and many others. Sri Advani, took darshan of the Lord and paid respects to Srila Prabhupada.

7. Hare Krishna Movie released (15th Dec)

Hare Krishna- The Mantra, the movement and the swami who started it all, released in Delhi and NCR. Reviews trickled in continuously, from all around the world from audience whom the movie left spell bound. It reportedly touched the hearts of all who were witness to the magic of Srila Prabhupada. The devotees in Delhi and NCR waited with bated breath for the mania of this splendid production to take over. It opened to full houses at various PVR movie halls. To some it was a nectarean reminder of how Prabhupada had created the fortune of millions, whereas to some it was a sneak peek into the transcendental realm of a believer's world. Movie halls were thronged by followers and inquisitive audience alike. All primary newspapers carried a write up on Prabhupada. ISKCON movement, its contribution in the spreading of Vedic philosophy and knowledge as well as its continuous and significant presence in the realm of spiritual enlightenment was eulogised and acknowledged.



8. Discover Your Permanent Happiness (DYPH) (16th Dec)

(ISKCON, Dwarka)

A systematic spiritual seminar designed for the modern intellectuals, "Discover Your Permanent Happiness" (DYPH) was delivered by H.G. Amal Krishna Prabhu



(Dr. Abhinav Grover). The participants attended the seminar was very enthusiastically resulting in an overcrowded

hall. The seminar systematically presented various topics including "Does God Exist" and "Why Bad Things Happen to Good People". After the seminar, participants clustered around the speaker for their further queries and were delighted by getting satisfying answers.

9. Bhakti Vriksha Vyuha Program (17th Dec) (ISKCON, Gurugram)

A Vyuha Program was organized in which the participants of Bhakti Vrksha groups participated in a cultural program, quiz competition, drama and kirtan. It was a wonderful opportunity for the members to render different services while organizing the program. This increases their service attitude, co-operation with other devotees and gives them an opportunity to learn different skills in the service of Krsna.



10. Free Medical Camp (17th Dec) (ISKCON, Gurugram)

A free medical camp was organized to provide free tests for full-health check-up, diabetes, blood pressure. The patients were offered counselling & treatment by a team of trained Doctors and Specialists headed by Dr. Suresh, Dr. Vahini and Dr. Rajani. Many visitors took consultation and treatment from doctors at the camp.

11. Rural Development Program (20th Dec) (ISKCON, Gurugram)

Under its Rural Development Program, ISKCON Gurugram organized a "Students Welfare Camp" and distributed school bags, spiritual books with stationery items to about 175 students from low income families in Sohna Village. The teachers and students were very appreciative of receiving such useful gifts.

12. Disappearance Day of Srila Jiva Goswami (21st Dec) (ISKCON, East of Kailash)

Devotees sought the mercy of Srila Jiva Goswamion the occasion of his disappearance day. He is one of the principle six Goswamis, who through his books and instructions

strengthened the foundation stone of Vaishnavism. He paved the way for people to take to, understand and follow Krishna consciousness. By his divine mercy, all the aspects of bhakti, as brought down through the parampara, could be passed on to the modern generation. The day was celebrated with pushpanjali, kirtan, Vaishnava bhajans and glorification.



13. Kirtan for Kids from DPS Maruti Kunj School (21st Dec)

(ISKCON, Gurugram)

A special Musical Kirtan program was organised for almost 350 kids from DPS Maruti Kunj School. All of them along with teachers enjoyed dancing and chanting the Holy Name of the Lord. They could hear beautiful pastimes of Lord Sri Krishna and learn moral values.

14. IYF Camp at Jagannatha Puri (21st-27th Dec) (ISKCON, Punjabi Bagh)

A camp of 50 youths from various engineering colleges like IIT, NIT, etc was organized at Jagannatha Puri. This is place of special spiritual and historic significance, especially for all Gaudiya Vaisnavas.



The purpose of the camp was to lay the foundation of strong character among the youth through education, devotion and culture.

15. New Year celebrations (31st December) (ISKCON, East of Kailash)

All over the world people bring in the new year with fun, frolic and enjoyment. At ISKCON, East of Kailash, the New Year party is given a spiritual twist. Every year devotees bring in the New Year by chanting the names of the Lord and dancing ecstatically. Spiritual discourses, dance,



drama, rock show, will be organized in the auditorium. Attended by hundreds, this is the perfect way to bid farewell to a year spent in the service of the Lord and to

welcome a new year with the promise of sincere effort and perseverance on the devotional path.

(ISKCON, Punjabi Bagh)

To commemorate the arrival of new year as per English calendar, a special spiritual program was organized which consisted of talk by senior devotees, 5 performances by Hare Krishna Sunday School's kids, a musical performance and a drama. More than 1000 devotees participated in the program.

(ISKCON, Gurugram)

"Carnival of Bliss - Welcoming New Year 2018" was celebrated on 31st December 2017 from 12pm to 3PM. More than 700 devotees &youngsters from different part of Gurugram started their New Year with Maha Sankirtan and enjoyed singing and dancing amidst spiritual ecstasy, participated in events and relished sumptuous delicious prasadam at the food court. Children enjoyed different games and cultural activities.

EXTREMISM IS TO BE REJECTED NOT RELIGION

Question: Some religions have been more violent and intolerant than others and because of that some people may label the whole religion itself as bad. We know that such conception is not true because there are devout followers in all religions. How do we deal with this contradictory aspect of such religious people?

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(sattva-guna, rajo-guna, and tamo-guna). People all over the world are found in these three modes. In every country, every race, every religion, there will be some people in goodness, some in passion and some in ignorance. Therefore, to call a particular religion ignorant, is to be ignorant of the reality that in every religion there

will be people in the mode of goodness, passion and ignorance.

There are extremists and moderates in all religions. Thereby validating the existence of three modes in all religion types. Inter religious communication is easier between moderates, whereas extremists are impervious to even intra religious talks. Hence, people in goodness cannot sit and talk with people in ignorance, even if they belong to the same religion.

Further, we also need to consider the historical context through which different religions originate. Traditionally, in Vedic culture, there has always been a separation of religious power and martial power. The Brahmanas had spiritual power and

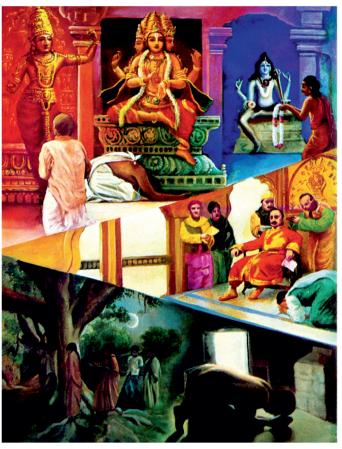
Answer: We all have certain biases. These biases could be based on our birth, our upbringing, our experiences in life etc. Hence it is possible that if there are some people who have been victims of some religious riots, communal violence, terrorist attacks etc., they may feel that such a religion is bad.

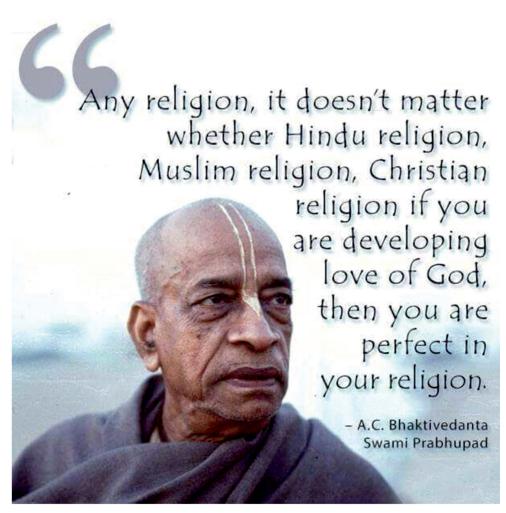
One of the characteristics of prejudice (or bias) is that there is an unwarranted extrapolation from a real experience.



For example, I experience some people are irrational or some people are fanatical and I say – everyone is fanatical among them. Such kind of extrapolation is unwarranted.

The Bhagavadgita teaches us to see things in terms of three modes – goodness, passion and ignorance





Kshatriyas had martial power. In Christianity also, Jesus was a spiritual teacher and later on one of his disciples Paul, did a lot of preaching and expanded Christianity. Even in Buddism, Buddha was a spiritual teacher, and Ashoka was a Kshatriya who spread Buddhism.

In Islam, on the other hand, the spiritual power and martial power were invested in one person. And subsequent generation of Muslim leaders have focused

more on Mohammed's political actions or his martial activities rather than his spiritual activities. At an individual level, there are many Muslims who practice Islam diligently as spiritual search for the truth or God, but at a social level (because many of its leaders had focused more on martial aspect or political aspect of Mohammed) Islam often acts as less of spiritual search for truth and more of a political search for power. It can be concluded that any religion in which leaders diverted their attention from the spiritual aspect fell into the clutches misinterpretation fanaticism.

as an inherent fault. There are people who have raised their consciousness even by practicing Islam. In fact, Srila Prabhupada appreciated Islam. When he was in Iran, Prabhupada was talking with some devotees and suddenly in the background there was namaz being chanted. A loud chant was going on. Prabhupada just folded his hands and closed his eyes. Throughout the namaz Srila Prabhupada kept his eyes closed and was fully absorbed. After some time when the namaz got over, Prabhupada opened his eyes and mentioned to the devotees -"Wasn't that beautiful?" Hearing this, devotees were taken aback! One of the devotees said – "Prabhupada wouldn't it be better if they chanted 'Hare Krsna'?" Hearing this Prabhupada looked hurt. He said, "Why are you making me sectarian? They are worshiping God in their way and we are doing it in our way".

However, this may not be seen

There are religious traditions in the world where people are approaching God sincerely and this is the principle that matters the most. We acknowledge, philosophically and practically, that there may be abuse of religion for power and political purposes. We can't be blind to that reality. Those who are taking those measures cannot be stopped, but we shouldn't let prejudice rule our perception.

RELIGIOUS EXTREMISM





Upcoming events:

1. Srila Gopala Bhatta Goswami appearance (6th January)

Srila Gopal Bhatta Goswami met Mahaprabhu on his tour to South India. The Lord bestowed special mercy upon him, empowering him to spread the instructions of the



golden avatar. He went to Vrindavan, to unearth the glorious dhaam. He lived an austere life dedicated to the service of the Lord. Propagating the glories of the holy name, preaching by example and creation of Vaishnava literature were some of the services he engaged in. His appearance day will be celebrated with pushpanjali, kirtan and feast at the East of Kailash temple.

2. Udgaar festival (6th January) (ISKCON, East of Kailash)

Iskcon Youth Forum or IYF will celebrate its annual fest at ISKCON auditorium on 6th January, 4 p.m to 7 p.m It is christened 'Selfie Re- clicked' for this year. A conglomeration of over 2500 youngsters from all over the city, this is one of the most looked forward to events of IYF. Discourses by dignitaries such as Sri Vijay Goel, a senior member of Bhartiya Janta Party, dance rendition 'Kaliya', drama 'Madman' as well as a rock show, are some of the highlights of this event. The event will be graced by the presence and association of His Holiness Gopal Krishna Goswami Maharaja. The event is aimed at providing spiritual insight to the demographically prominent youth of India today.



3. Discover Your Permanent Happiness (DYPH) (13thJan) (ISKCON, Gurugram)

A systematic spiritual seminar designed for the modern intellectual, "Discover Your Permanent Happiness" (DYPH) will be organized to systematically present various topics including "Does God Exist" and "Who is God?". After the seminar, a sumptuous prasadam will be served.

4. Yatra to Jagannatha Puri (19th January to 21st January) (ISKCON Delhi-NCR Temples)

It is only by association that the right mood and attitude towards devotional service can be acquired. In order to provide this opportunity, the devotees go for an annual dhaam yatra with His Holiness Gopal Krishna Goswami Maharaj. This year disciples from all around the country will assemble in Puri, to celebrate this pristine association. The

three days will be packed with kirtan, discourses, question and answer sessions, drama and visits to holy places. This yatra is a chance to interact with senior devotees and attain a condensed dose of spiritual guidance. All devotees including children participate in this yatra and enjoy the nectarean devotional mood.

5. Srila Raghunath Dasa Goswami appearance (22nd January) (ISKCON, East of Kailash)

The appearance of great personalities is an occasion to celebrate. Just as the appearance and pastimes of the Lord are transcendental, the appearance of his devotees is also transcendental. The acharyas appear to guide, instruct and establish tenets of pure devotional service. Srila Raghunath Dasa Goswami, one such acharya in the Gaudiya Vaishnava tradition, lived an exemplary life. He dedicated himself to Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's mission. Following principles of devotional life, he exhibited extreme attachment to Mahaprabhu's words and instructions. His appearance will be celebrated with pushpanjali, kirtan and feast.

6. 26th January celebration (ISKCON, East of Kailash)

The national holiday of 26th January is an annual congregation of devotees of ISKCON at a farm house in Brijwasan. Devotees from all around the Delhi NCR region, spend the republic day every year as a spiritual picnic. In association of senior devotees, the day will be packed with discourses, kirtan, dance dramas and transcendental games. The day has something or the other in store for devotees of all age. It is an ideal family picnic. Children enjoy the lush green lawns and the radiant sun. The elderly benefit from the association of devotees while the young find enough food for thought in the spiritual discussions. The day will be fun filled, made most special by the presence of His Holiness Gopal Krishna Goswami Maharaj.

7. Nityananda Trayodashi (29th January) (ISKCON, East of Kailash)

Lord Balarama is the first expansion of the Lord. In all his incarnations Lord Balarama accompanies him, to serve and increase his transcendental pleasure. In the Gaur leela Lord Balarama appears as Lord Nityananda. In the form of an avadhuta Nityanand prabhu assists the Lord in the dissemination of the principles of bhakti. Delivering fallen souls like Jagai and Madhai, he establishes himself as the repository of mercy. It is impossible to achieve the mercy of Gauranga without the mercy of Nityananda Prabhu. As adi guru, he practices and teaches pure devotional service.

His appearance will be celebrated with abhishek, kirtan, transcendental chanting of the holy name and sumptuous feast. Devotees throng to the temple to attain darshan of the Lord in flower and dry fruit dress which is an annual feature. These dresses are prepared by devotees, they

meticulously work with love and devotion to adorn the Lord in these beautiful creations. More chanting, more service and prayers, mark this occasion as an opportunity for accumulating mercy and grace.



PREACHING CENTRES AROUND DELHI NCR

ISKCON, EAST OF KAILASH

Chirag Delhi-168, Sejwal Chowpal,

Near Subzi Mandi

Chirag Delhi, New Delhi-110017

Contact at: 9911717110, 9910381818, 9810484885 Program: Every Saturday, Evening 7 PM to 9 PM

Okhla- Chhuria Muhalla Chowpal, Tehkhand Village

Okhla, Phase – I, New Delhi-110020

Contact at: 8588991778, 9810016516, 9911613165,

9971755934

Program: Every Tuesday, Evening 7 PM to 9 PM

Kotla Mubarakpur- Shri Omkareshwar Shiv Mandir

(Panghat wala), Gurudwara Road

Opp. Sher Singh Bazar, Kotla Mubarakpur,

New Delhi-110003

Contact at: 9350941626, 9818767673, 9311510999 Program: Every Saturday, Evening 7 PM to 9 PM

Khanpur- B-192-B, Jawahar Park, Devli Road (Near Cambridge School), Khanpur, New Delhi-110062 Contact at: 9818700589, 9810203181, 9910636160

Program: Every Saturday, Evening 7 PM to 9 PM

Hari Nagar, Ashram- 217, Saini Chaupal, Ashram Or 119, VIIT Computer Institute (Basement) Hari Nagar, Ashram, New Delhi-110014 Contact at: 9811281521, 011-26348371 Program: Every Saturday, Evening 7 PM to 9 PM

East Vinod Nagar-E – 322, Gali No. 8, East Vinod Nagar, Delhi-110091 Contact at: 9810114041, 9958680942

Program: Every Saturday, Evening 6.30 PM to 8.30 PM

Sriniwas Puri-Sanatan Dharam Durga Mandir 1st Floor, J J Colony near to Gurudwara Sriniwas Puri, New Delhi-110065 Contact at: 9711120128, 9654537632

Program: Every Wednesday, Evening 7.30 PM to 9 PM

Sangam Vihar- E-6/102, Near Mahavir Vatika

Sangam Vihar, New Delhi-110080 Contact at: 9212495394, 9810438870

Program: Every Sunday: Evening 5 PM to 8 PM

(Kirtan & Bhagwat Katha)

Every Morning: 5 AM to 7 AM (Mantra Meditation)

Every Evening: 7 PM to 9 PM (Aarti)



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ISKCON, PUNJABI BAGH

Kirti Nagar- Shemrock heights Play School- E-77, opp. Kotak Mahindra Bank. Centre Coordinator- Krishna MurariPrabhuji-9868387810

Paschim Vihar- 344, Pragati Apartments, club road Punjabi bagh, Centre Co-ordinator- Jahanvi Mataji 9250637080, Parulprabhuji- 9971493379

Rani Bagh- OM Public School, Furniture Market, Rishi Nagar. Centre Co-ordinator Vikas Singhal- 9654690503, Sadhyavilasini Mataji - 9212400126

Vishal Enclave- Kidz Liliput- B33 Vishal Enclave, Rajouri Garden,

Centre Coordinator- Kavita Gulati Mataji -8447487375

Shastri Nagar WZ-38, opposite Mother Dairy,

Centre Coordinator-

Vaibhav Gupta Prabhuji- 9868036006, 9213432666, Sadhya Krishan Prabhuji- 9999840554

ISKCON, GURUGRAM

RADHA KRISHNA MADIR

New Colony, Guruaram Every Saturday-6:30 to 8:30PM Melodious Kirtan, Discourse on wisdom of Bhaqvad Gita and Krishna Prasadam

Rail Vihar Community Center

Sec 47, Gurugram Every Wednesday 7:00 to 9:30PM Melodious Kirtan, Discourse on wisdom of Bhagvad Gita and Krishna Prasadam

Nitya Seva

Nitya Seva-Niswartha Seva is a selfless monthly donation program for serving the Lord. It's purely voluntary, based on the desire, inclination and capability of the donor. The mode of donation could be through cash, cheque or ECS. One can choose to donate any amount as Lord Krishna sees our intent behind that donation. A formal receipt will be provided for each donation. For more details,

- For ISKCON, East of Kailash, Please contact HG Baladeva Sakha Prabhu @ 9312069623
- For ISKCON, Punjabi Bagh, Please contact HG Premanjana Prabhu @ 9999197259.
- For ISKCON, Dwarka, Please contact HG Archit Prabhu @ 9891240059.
- For ISKCON, Gurugram, Please contact HG Rameshwar Giridhari Prabhu @ 9899651230 / Ritesh Rampal @ 9654230342.
- For ISKCON, Faridabad, Please contact HG Ravi Shravan Prabhu @ 9999020059

Vaishnava Calendar

January - 2018

Jan 5 – Srila Gopal Bhatta Goswami Appearance

Jan 13 - Sat-tila Ekadasi (Fasting from grains and beans), Break fast time next day between 07.15-10.45 am

Jan 22 - Vasanta Panchami, Appearance of Srila Raghunatha Dasa Goswami

Jan 24 - Appearance of Advaita Acharya (Fasting till noon and Ekadasi prasad after that)

Jan 28 - Jaya Ekadasi (Half day full Fasting for Varaha Dwadasi and only Ekadasi prasad after that) Break fast time next day between 07.11-10.46 am

Jan 29 - Nityananda Trayodasi (Fasting till noon and Ekadasi prasad after that)



Temple Schedule

Program	Time
Mangala Arati	4:30 AM
Japa Meditation	5:15 AM
Darshan Arati	7:15 AM
Guru Puja	7:30 AM
Srimad Bhagavatam Discourse	8:00 AM
Raj Bhog Arati	12:30 PM
Usthapana Arati	4:15 PM
Sandhya Arati	7:00 PM
Bhagavad Gita Discourse	8:00 PM
Shyana Arati	8:30 PM
Temple Closes	8:45 PM



International Society for Krishna Consciousness

Founder Acharya - HDG A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

ISKCON, East of Kailash - Hare Krishna Hill, East of Kailash, New Delhi-110065 | Web: www.iskcondelhi.com | Live Darshan: live.iskcondelhi.com Facebook: www.facebook.com/iskcondelhi

Contact: 011-41625804, 26235133

ISKCON, Punjabi Bagh - 41/77, Srila Prabhupada marg, West Punjabi Bagh, Delhi-26

Contact Person: HG Premanjana Prabhu (8802212763)

ISKCON, Dwaka - Plot No.-4, Sector-13, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 Web: iskcondwarka.org, Facebook: www.facebook.com/iskcon.dwarka/ Contact: 9891240059, 8800223226

ISKCON, Gurugram - Sudarshan Dham, Main Sohna Road, Badshahpur, Gurugram

Contact Person: HG Rameshwar Giridhari Prabhu (9899651230) / Ritesh Rampal Prabhu (9654230342)

ISKCON, Faridabad - Sri Sri Radha Govind Mandir, Gita Bhawan, C-Block, Ashoka Enclave-II, Sector-37, Faridabad, Phone : 0129-4145231 Email : gopisvardas@gmail.com