



AT THE PIER...

Are you ready to board?



JANUARY 31, 2020

**ISKCON PHOENIX – AT THE PIER
100 S Weber Dr., Chandler, AZ 85226**

January 31, 2020 [Edition 1, Volume 1]

FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the first edition of "At the Pier", the newsletter of ISKCON PHOENIX.

"At the Pier" is dedicated to our Founder-Acarya, His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, who taking the instructions from his spiritual master to heart, at the age of 69, he boarded the cargo ship Jaladutta and came to America, to give us the most precious and everlasting gift, Krishna Consciousness.

In a span of 14 years following his arrival, he travelled around the globe fourteen times, visiting 6 continents and giving countless lectures on Vedic knowledge, giving 1st (Harinam), 2nd (Brahminical), and Sannyasa (Renounced Order) initiations to thousands of people. He founded the Bhaktivedanta Book Trust, and established more than 108 temples, farm communities and Ratha-Yatra festivals before his departure in 1977.

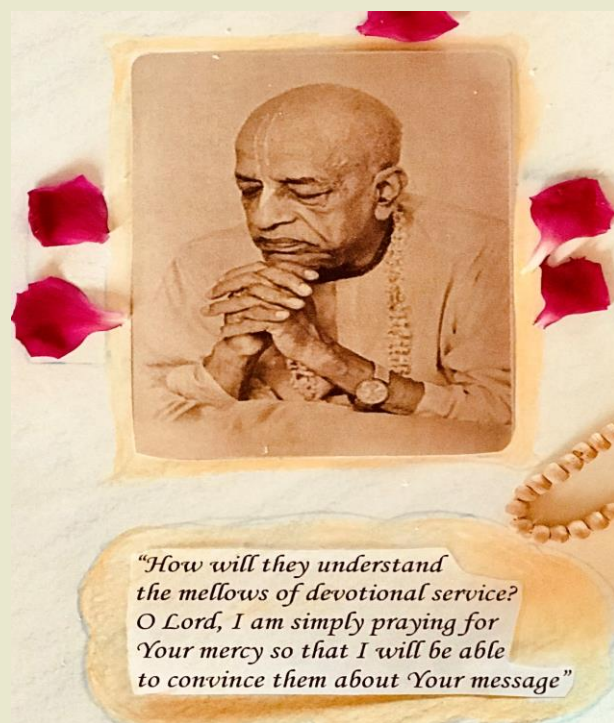
To know more about this special personality, please visit <https://iskconphoenix.com/our-founder/>



Mark your calendar!

RATHA-YATRA FESTIVAL

Sunday, March 1, 2020
Circle of Life, Steele Park
300 E Indian School Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85012



"...Somehow or other, You have brought me here to speak about You. Now it is up to You to make me a success or failure, as You like. You are the Lord of the whole creation, so if You like You can make my power to speak suitable, so that they can understand. By Your causeless mercy only my words may become transcendently pure, and I am sure that when such a transcendental message penetrates their hearts, certainly they will feel englanded and thus become liberated from all unhappy conditions of life. I am just like a puppet in Your hands; You have brought me here, and now You can make me dance as You like. I have no devotion, nor have I any knowledge, but still I have been designated Bhaktivedanta. Now if You like You can just fulfill the real purport of Bhaktivedanta.

The most unfortunate, insignificant beggar,
Bhaktivedanta Swami, onboard the ship Jaladuta,
Commonwealth Pier,
Boston, Massachusetts (U.S.A.).
Dated 18th September 1965"

HARE KRISHNA HARE KRISHNA KRISHNA KRISHNA KRISHNA KRISHNA HARE HARE
HARE RAMA HARE RAMA RAMA RAMA HARE HARE

A KIND RESOLUTION

Are we ready to change?

Another year has come to an end and a “New Year” has begun with new resolutions! Or with the same resolutions as we had last year, or the year before, or the year before that. Some people take this time to meditate on the previous year’s activities, the plus and the minus, the mistakes and the achievements. But by January 15, most of the resolutions begin to fade away and the deep reflection that we once had on the eve of the new year is now being replaced with worries of the next scheduled holiday, vacation, work or tax season. And then, spring & summer arrive and when we realize it, half year is gone; and we are getting ready for another “holiday season”.

So, what happened to our resolution?

ALWAYS REMEMBER KRISHNA
NEVER FORGET KRISHNA

Maybe we are not hitting the right one or maybe our will power is not that powerful; maybe it is not a “reachable” goal. It could be a “work-in-progress” and it may take years, and that’s ok.

Now, is the resolution on the material platform or on the spiritual one? Which one would be “easier” to accomplish? If we start from the point that material existence is temporary, then it would be more attractive to choose something that may benefit our soul; after all, unlike the material body, the soul is eternal:

“For the soul there is neither birth nor death at any time. He has not come into being, and will not come into being. He is unborn, eternal, ever-existing and

primeval. He is not slain when the body is slain” (BG 2.20)

A common quote says: “healthy mind in healthy body”, so what happens when we don’t have a healthy mind? We may have a healthy body, but if our mind is not under control, then how are we going to control our body, our thoughts, our actions? Above the mind, however, there’s intelligence.

In a world where technology and artificial intelligence seems to be taking over human intelligence, it is vital to apply and protect the universal values, to keep the human element alive so that we do not become humanoids and let machines tell us what to do or how to lead and live our lives. No, technology is not bad, it is great, the problem arises when we abuse it. Like anything else,

the problems do not arise from the correct use of

resources, power, etc., it is the abuse or misuse that bring about the problems in the society. And everyone and everything is connected. Let’s take a moment to pause and see the real world around us. Maybe we can resolve to be more kind to others -animals & mother nature included-, to be more thankful for what we have, to understand the difference between our desires and our needs, to understand the difference between reality and virtual reality. To be God-loving and not God-fearing.

Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu instructed in CC Adi 17.31 (Verse 3 Siksastakam):

“One can chant the holy name of the Lord in a humble state of mind, thinking oneself lower than the straw in the street.

One should be more tolerant than a tree, devoid of all sense of false prestige and should be ready to offer all respects to others. In such a state of mind one can chant the holy name of the Lord constantly.”

Humility, Respect, Tolerance, these 3 values are very nicely highlighted. And if we think about it, we can connect these words to care for or to cause pain.

(HRT) = When we apply these values, we could read it as **HEART**, and a kind heart always cares.

However, if we choose to ignore them, then, we could read them as **HURT**, and this is associated in pain.

Srila Prabhupada writes in his purport of SB 4.6.46:

“The Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement has been started to deliver the envious persons of the world from the clutches of māyā, and even though devotees are sometimes put into trouble, they push on the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement in all tolerance”

A kind resolution could be:

“ALWAYS REMEMBER KRISHNA, NEVER FORGET KRISHNA”. When we remember Krishna, it means that Krishna (God) is present in our heart and mind always; therefore, our thoughts and actions will be in Krishna consciousness. And when we develop love for Krishna, we develop love for all His creation; we connect to a higher path and we’ll develop a higher taste.



Invest in Our Children

They are the future of our society

The month of January was dedicated to our "Invest in our Children" campaign. The objective of this campaign is to emphasize the importance of taking care of our youngsters and to implement & promote programs that will nurture & protect our children by joining hands with parents, Sunday school teachers and experts in various children's programs.

For a few years now, ISKCON Phoenix has been following the requirements from ISKCON's CPO (Child Protection Office) by having a local CPT (Child Protection Team) representation and by observing the CPO guidelines aimed at the well-being & protection of our children. It's said that "*it takes a village to raise a child*", well, we have many children in our society, so let's join hands for the well-being of these children, who are our future.



Our thanks to Officer Dueker and Commander Heikes from the Chandler Police Department for the important and very informative talk on Child Protection Awareness. This was

well received by parents and kids, and for many, an eye-opener. Please see the links shared in the temple's Facebook page, and at the end of this newsletter for more information. We are looking forward to having them back!

On a different note, we were so happy to have our Sunday School children leading Kirtan (Gaura Arati) and bhajan. They did such a wonderful job that they are now in rotation to lead kirtan every now and then! 😊

Our 3 groups, Gopala, Giri-Govardhan and Madhava presented their Bhagavad-Gita slokas very nicely. Great job! Our thanks to them and to our dedicated teachers. It was not just a memorization and/or recitation of the slokas, but they presented -in their own words/ways- how they understood the slokas. This is a very good way for them to understand and apply the teachings of Bhagavad-Gita in their lives.



Have you discussed BG with your child today? If you haven't, try reading one sloka a day or once a week



with your children and let them explain to you how they understand it and how they think it can be applied in their

day-to-day activities. Wonderful conversations get started this way and many parents are surprised at the responses/comments/questions from the children, even the little ones.

Investing in our children is not just putting money aside in an account to invest in their education or buying the most expensive presents. It is much more than this. It means, investing our time and energy in giving them the right values -yes, including the magic words: "please & thank you" 😊

We live in a very demanding & high paced society; however, we can afford to put social media & non-essential things aside for some time; what we cannot afford is to put our children aside. We cannot jump in front of them and pave their way to success, they will have to learn how to build this path on their own while building their character as well. Therefore, it is essential that we give them the tools needed for their growth and development -good samskaras & discipline included-

It is also important to keep the channels of communication open and to have good listening skills to ensure that they are and feel protected and that they understand that even when they make mistakes, their parents will always be there to listen to them, to guide them, to love them.



Reminder:

- 1) Children under 12 must always be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- 2) Children are not allowed in the Pujari room, kitchen or resident rooms.

For full guidelines, please check the bulletin board located at the temple hallway.

Thank you for your cooperation!

ONGOING PROGRAMS



- ❖ Bhagavad-Gita Class (A 20-weeks course every Wednesday from 7:15pm to 8:00pm Program began Jan. 15, 2020) For more information, please contact Ishvara Gauranga das at igd.rnsm@gmail.com
- ❖ Srimad Bhagavatam Reading – Everyday (Teleconference)* 5:55am to 6:15am
 - * Teleconference Details:
US Dial in number: 605.472.5721
Access Code: 726701#
- ❖ Sunday Feast Program (Join us for Arati/Kirtan/Discourse/Prasadam every Sunday from 5:00pm to 7:00pm) Please visit our Facebook/Instagram pages for up-to-the-minute information
- ❖ Bhakti-Vriksa Program (Bhagavad-Gita studies every Friday 7:00pm to 9:00pm at a location near you. For information contact:

Sri Govinda Das
281.799.1777 (All)

Ishvara Gauranga Das
480.519.3975 (Chandler/Gilbert)

Nama Priya Devi Dasi
480.299.4074 (Chandler)

Manoranjan Swain
425.324.7556 (North Phoenix/Scottsdale)

Bhakta Krithivasan
201.312.5987 (Ahwatukee/Tempe)

- ❖ Vedic Sunday School. 5:30pm to 6:45pm
- ❖ Sunday Hindi Class. 4:30pm to 5:30pm
- ❖ Yoga Classes:
Wednesday: 7:00pm to 8:00pm
Saturday: 8:30am to 9:30am
- ❖ Piano/music lessons.
Wednesday: 3:30pm to 6:30pm
- ❖ Indian Music Classes
Saturday: 3:30pm to 6:30pm

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- ❖ **RATHA-YATRA** – March 1, 2020. See attached flyer
- ❖ February 9 at 5:00pm - Kirtan & Discourse by HG Bhadra das
- ❖ February 16 at 5:30pm Discourse by HG Amarendra das. For information on home programs, contact Isvara Gauranga das at igd.rnsm@gmail.com

Discourse Topics in February

| Date | Speaker | Topic |
|--------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Feb 2 | Radha Madhava das | Dis. Madhvacarya |
| Feb 9 | Bhadra das | Nityananda Prabhu |
| Feb 16 | Amarendra das | Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu |
| Feb 23 | Syama Mohini devi dasi | Lord Jagannatha |

Vaisnava Calendar – February 2020

| | |
|--------|--|
| Feb 1 | Bhimastami |
| Feb 2 | Dis. Madhvacarya |
| Feb 4 | Dis. Ramanujacarya |
| Feb 5 | Bhaimi Ekadasi (fast from grains and beans) Fast till noon for the appearance of Lord Varaha on Feb 6 |
| Feb 6 | App. Lord Varaha |
| Feb 7 | App. Nityananda Prabhu (fast till noon) |
| Feb 8 | Purnima App. Narottama Dasa Thakura |
| Feb 13 | App. Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura (fast till noon) Dis. Purusottama Dasa Thakura |
| Feb 19 | Vijaya Ekadasi (fast from grains and beans) Dis. Isvara Puri |
| Feb 21 | Siva Ratri |
| Feb 24 | Dis. Jagannatha Dasa Babaji Dis. Rasikananda Thakura |
| Feb 27 | App. Purusottama Dasa Thakura |

"In the absolute world there is no distinction as me, or he, and I. Krishna and His representative is the same. Just like Krishna can be present simultaneously in millions of places. Similarly, the Spiritual Master is the principle, not the body. Just like a television can be seen in thousands of places by the principle of relay monitoring"
Sri Prabhupada

OUR GRATITUDE TO THE 2019 JANMASTHAMI SOUVENIR SPONSORS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

ADARSHA ACADEMY
AMEET NAINANI, REALTOR
ARISTA QUARTZ & NATURAL STONES
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ASIA TODAY
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AZ EYEBROW THREADING LLC
AZ LEARN COMPUTER
BEST BRAINS LEARNING CENTER
BEST WESTERN INN OF CHANDLER
CHENNAI FUSION GRILL
CLOVES INDIAN GROCERIES & KITCHEN
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PRAVEEN GUPTA, REALTOR
RUSHI VEGAN & VEG S INDIAN CUISINE
SRI TAX SERVICES, LLC – PAYAL HARLALKA
Y-KNOT PARTY & RENTALS

"Spirituality is all about realizing our connectedness with God, the universe and each other" Anangamanjari Devi Dasi.AC BSP

Sponsorship Opportunities



Would you like to sponsor our 2020 Janmashthami Souvenir? This year, we are adding our sponsors directory to our e-newsletter and social media pages for anyone submitting the "2020 Sponsorship Form" with payment by February 28, 2020 and selecting "Souvenir & E-newsletter"

The dateline for submitting adds for souvenir only is May 31 (please, no late submissions)

First come, first served basis. For more information email Syama Mohini devi dasi at smdd@cox.net

Thank you for your cooperation!

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Sunday Feast</i> | <i>\$201.00</i> |
| <i>Sunday Feast with cake</i> | <i>\$251.00</i> |
| <i>Tulasi Puja</i> | <i>\$21.00</i> |
| <i>Flowers for a day</i> | <i>\$51.00</i> |
| <i>Bhagavad-Gita (Soft Copy)</i> | <i>\$6.00/book</i> |
| <i>Bhagavad-Gita (Hard Copy)</i> | <i>\$10.00/book</i> |

| <i>Description</i> | <i>Souvenir Only</i> | <i>Souvenir & E-newsletter*</i> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Inside front | <i>\$450.00</i> | <i>\$500.00</i> |
| Back cover | <i>\$500.00</i> | <i>\$550.00</i> |
| Inside back page | <i>\$450.00</i> | <i>\$500.00</i> |
| Full page color | <i>\$300.00</i> | <i>\$350.00</i> |
| Full page black/white | <i>\$250.00</i> | <i>\$300.00</i> |
| Center page color | <i>\$400.00</i> | <i>\$450.00</i> |
| Half page color | <i>\$175.00</i> | <i>\$225.00</i> |
| Half page black/white | <i>\$150.00</i> | <i>\$200.00</i> |

**Artwork/full add will be displayed in souvenir and Facebook. E-newsletter will have a listing format.*

**Lord Jagannatha is the Lord of the Universe,
so we can all welcome the Lord in our heart,
love Him, serve Him, and share His greatness
with others, that's why Ratha Yatra festival is so
important. Jai Jagannatha!**





HARE KRISHNA TEMPLE - ISKCON OF PHOENIX

February Events

100 S. Weber Drive, Chandler, AZ 85226 | (480) 705-4900 | www.iskconphoenix.com



Appearance of Lord Nityananda - fasting till noon

Friday, February 7th - 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Nityananda Prabhu is an incarnation of Krishna's principal expansion, Lord Balarama. He appeared as Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's principal associate for spreading the congregational chanting of the holy names of the Lord. He appeared in 1474 in the village of Ekachakra, now in West Bengal.

AARTI | KATHA | ABHISHEK | KIRTAN | PRASAD

Appearance of Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur - fasting till noon

Thursday, February 19th - 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur (1874 - 1936) was the spiritual master of A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. He was a scholar and excelled in math, astronomy, Sanskrit and many other languages. He was a lifelong celibate and a influential teacher of bhakti all over India. He wrote more than 108 essays and books, striving to present Bhakti as a theistic science. He established 64 temples, known as Gaudiya Math.

BHAJAN | KIRTAN | KATHA | AARTI | PRASAD



Amarendra Prabhu - visits Phoenix - Friday, February 14th thru Sunday, 16th



His Grace Amarendra Prabhuji is a disciple of HH Radha Govinda Goswami Maharaj. He is very well known all over the world for his nectarean Hari Katha on Srimad Bhagavatam and in-depth knowledge of scriptures and exalted acharyas commentaries. His Grace has traveled to many cities around the world spreading Krishna Consciousness in temple congregations.

Program topic "Pastimes of Lord Chaitanya"

More details to follow soon.



Shiva Ratri - Friday, February 21st

6:00 PM - 8:30 PM @ the temple

ABHISHEK | KIRTAN | AARTI | PRASAD

Receive Shiva Lingam with Sponsorship of Abhishek - \$31

Ekadasi - fast from grains and beans - *Fast break next day

Bhaimi Ekadashi - February 5th - fast break - 7:04 AM - 9:57 AM

Vijaya Ekadashi - February 19th - fast break - 6:49 AM - 10:26 AM

Mark Your Calendars - Festival of Chariots

RATHAYATRA - Sunday, March 1, 2020

PARADE - 11 AM to 1 PM

STARTING POINT - Circle of Life - Steel Indian School Park
300 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix, AZ 85012

FESTIVAL - 1 PM to 4 PM

FESTIVAL VENUE - Circle of Life - Steel Indian School Park
300 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix, AZ 85012

*** FREE ADMISSION ***

The Festival of the Chariots, referred to as Ratha-Yatra, originated 5,000 years ago in India on the East Coast state of Orissa in a city called Jagannatha Puri. The Festival of Chariots is an invitation for the Lord Jagannatha, to enter into our hearts by pulling His cart down a street. It is an ancient Indian tradition, brought to the West by A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada (1896-1977), the founder-Acharya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness.



KIDS ACTIVITIES | FREE VEGETARIAN FEAST | LIVE MUSIC & DANCE | MAGIC SHOW | CULTURAL PROGRAM | HENNA | FOOD COURT | ETHNIC SHOPPING

For sponsorship & more information please call - Mathuravallabh Govinda Das (510) 833-8511, Manoranjan Swain (425) 324-7556 or visit - www.iskconphoenix.com

Rathayatra 2020
Festival of Chariots
Sunday, March 1st, 2020
Circle of Life - Steele Indian School Park
300 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix, AZ 85012

PARADE - 11 AM to 1 PM
FESTIVAL - 1 PM to 4 PM

FREE ADMISSION
FREE PARKING

FREE VEGETARIAN FEAST | FOOD COURT | LIVE MUSIC AND DANCE
CULTURAL PROGRAMS | ETHNIC SHOPPING | YOGA | KIDS ACTIVITIES
MAGIC SHOW | HENNA | BOUNCY AND MUCH MORE

Presented by ISKCON of Phoenix, 100 S. Weber Dr, Chandler, AZ 85226
Founder Acharya: His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada
For sponsorship and more information:
Please call Mathuravallabh Govinda Das (510) 833-8511, Manoranjan Swain (425) 324-7556 or visit www.iskconphoenix.com

Chandler Police Department
Guardian Academy
www.chandlerpd.com/guardian-academy/
&
https://youtu.be/d1AL_w7NrHA
(Beyond the Badge)

Pujari Floor Grand Opening
Feb. 13, 2020
Sponsor one of the Pujari Floor Rooms of Worship
<https://m.tovp.org/roomofworship>

This auspicious day also celebrates the 146th Anniversary Appearance Day of His Divine Grace Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur

TOVP Newsletter
January, 2020

10:30 - 10:45 Srila Prabhupada/Nityananda Svagata
Welcoming Srila Prabhupada and Lord Nityananda's Padukas
10:45 - 11:45 Invocation prayers and Vastu Puja/Homa yajna
11:45 - 12:45 Addressed by senior Vaishnavas
12:50 - 1:00 Pujari Mandala Udgatana (Pujari Floor opening)
1:00 - 2:00 Pujari Kaksha Udgatana (Pujari Rooms opening)
2:00 Bhandana - Celebration Feast

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(480) 705-4900 | www.iskconphoenix.com
Founder Acharya His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

"The Gita shows the best peak to seek and the best route to reach it"

BHAGAVAD GITA
20 Weeks Course
Starting Jan 15 | Every Wed 7:15 - 8 PM

REGISTRATION
♦ Free before Jan 10 | \$20/month after Jan 10
♦ Link to register: cutt.ly/BG20 or Scan QR code

♦ Join at Iskcon Phoenix or via conference call
♦ Free dinner and study notes
♦ Certificate provided

* Call details will be sent to your registered email id
** Certification requires 75% attendance and exam

Instructor:
Ishvara Gauranga Das
(Bhakti Sakti Deyan in Bhagavad Gita)

Text: +1 480 519 3975
Email: igdram@gmail.com