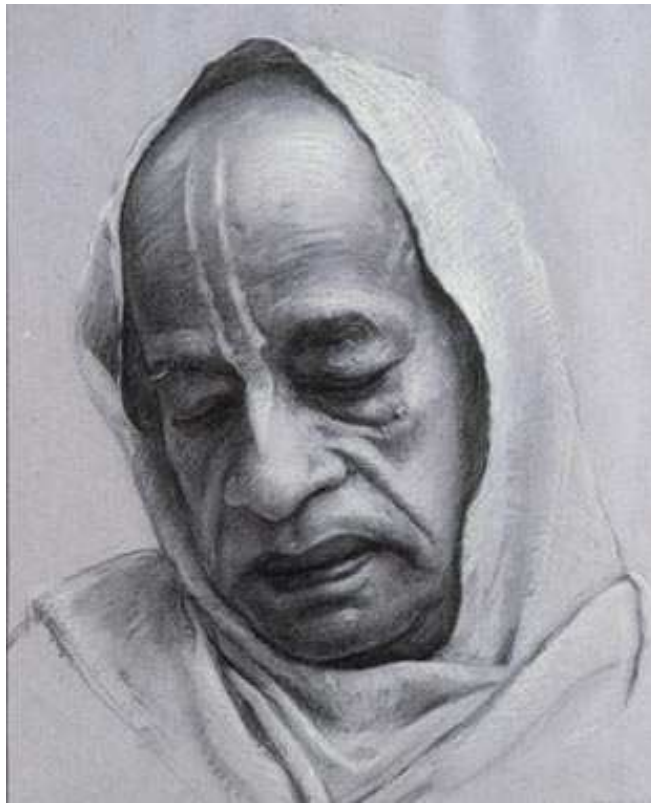


International Society for Krishna Consciousness

Founder-Acarya: His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada



ISKCON LEADS

ISKCON Leadership Education And Development System

A GBC Succession Committee Initiative

INVOCATION

*yad yad ācarati śreṣṭhas
tat tad evetaro janaḥ
sa yat pramāṇam kurute
lokaḥ tad anuvartate*

SYNONYMS

yat yat—whatever; *ācarati*—he does; *śreṣṭhaḥ*—a respectable leader; *tat*—that; *tat*—and that alone; *eva*—certainly; *itaraḥ*—common; *janaḥ*—person; *saḥ*—he; *yat*—whichever; *pramāṇam*—example; *kurute*—does perform; *lokaḥ*—all the world; *tat*—that; *anuvartate*—follows in the footsteps.

TRANSLATION

Whatever action a great man performs, common men follow. And whatever standards he sets by exemplary acts, all the world pursues.

- Bhagavad-gītā As It Is, 3.21

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Why the name, “ISKCON LEADS”?

Srila Prabhupada clearly wanted ISKCON to lead the world:

“Just as all parts of the body cooperate to keep the body fit, in the ideal state all sections of society cooperate under the leadership of the brāhmaṇas At present this Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement is training brāhmaṇas. If the administrators take our advice and conduct the state in a Kṛṣṇa conscious way, there will be an ideal society throughout the world.

Śrīla Prabhupāda
Beyond Illusion & Doubt

“Being cultured, educated, very active and religious means developing natural love for Kṛṣṇa.’ (Caitanya-bhagavata, Antya-lila 3.44) Everyone has dormant love for Kṛṣṇa, and by culture and education that has to be awakened. That is the purpose of this Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement. Once Lord Caitanya asked Sri Ramananda Raya what the best part of education was, and Ramananda Raya replied that the best part of education is advancement in Kṛṣṇa consciousness.”

(SB 4.29.50 purport)

The mission of ISKCON LEADS is to systematically train and educate dynamic, cultured, and effective spiritual leaders, who will inspire our devotees to take ISKCON to a position of world prominence, as Srila Prabhupada envisioned, whereby our Society will powerfully influence every sector of this world’s misguided population by awakening the dormant Kṛṣṇa consciousness of people everywhere.

ISKCON LEADS is an acronym for ISKCON Leadership Education And Development System. *ISKCON LEADS* meets the parameters for an effective acronym because it conveys the ethos of our leadership training both in the acronym and the full name.

In this context *system* should be taken to mean "a combination of related parts organized into a complex whole," as defined in the *Encarta Dictionary*. This accurately describes our intention to tap into the resources and invaluable experience of our leaders in India to train ISKCON India’s future leaders.

ISKCON LEADS Committee Members

All India Coordinating Team

Chairman Brhat-mrdanga Dasa	Brhat.mrdanga.grs@pamho.net
First Vice-Chairman Radheshyam Dasa	Radheshyam.rns@pamho.net
Second Vice-Chairman Janmastami Dasa	Janmastami.sdg@pamho.net
Secretary Vamsi Vadan Dasa (RNS)	ISKCON.LEADS@pamho.net vvd@voicepune.com

Southern India

Revati Raman Dasa	Revati.Raman.jps@pamho.net
Vedantacaitanya Dasa (JPS)	Vedantacaitanya@pamho.net

Eastern India (Including Bangladesh)

Sankarshan Nitai Dasa	Sankarshan.Nitai.jps@pamho.net
Janmastami Dasa	Janmastami.sdg@pamho.net

Northern India (Including Nepal)

Devamrita Dasa	Devamrita.rns@pamho.net
Mohanrupa Dasa (GKG)	Mohanrupa@pamho.net

Western India

Mukunda Madhava Dasa	Mukunda.Madhava.bsds@pamho.net
Radheshyam Dasa	Radheshyam.rns@pamho.net

Facilities and Finance

In India, the following ISKCON centers have agreed to host all ISKCON LEADS courses for their respective division by providing office space, classroom facilities, accommodations, and *prasadam*.

Southern India

ISKCON Tirupati

Northern India

ISKCON New Delhi & ISKCON Noida

Eastern India

ISKCON Mayapur

Western India

ISKCON Juhu

Quota of Candidates

Each division will have a minimum enrollment quota of 30 and a maximum of 45 candidates.

Courses

	Courses	Days	Class Hours
Module One:			
Inter-Personal Spiritual Development	5	33	189
Module Two:			
Missionary & Family Spirit Development	7	37	192
Module Three:			
ISKCON Institutional Development	5	19	114
Totals	17	89	495

The ISKCON LEADS Committee Members recommend that participants complete all 17 courses within three years of finishing the first course.

Attendees, Divisional Coordinators, course organizers, and facilitators will consult to determine the order of course offerings. At the end of the each course, participants will finalize the dates and venue for the next course.

Course credits will be given to candidates who have already successfully completed any courses below.

Each course will be certified (see sample on page 17) as a credit towards the final DIPLOMA as a Leader in ISKCON (see sample on page 18).

**** Courses marked with (**) are homework self-study plus assessment with a local or regional examiner – not classroom based.**

Module One: Inter-Personal Spiritual Development

Comprises five courses covering the “Five Most Potent Forms of Devotional Service” described in the *Caitanya-caritamṛta* and the *Nectar of Devotion*.

sādhu-saṅga, nāma-kīrtana, bhāgavata-śravaṇa
mathurā-vāsa, śrī-mūrtira śraddhāya sevana

One should associate with devotees, chant the holy name of the Lord, hear *Śrīmad-Bhāgavatam*, reside at Mathurā and worship the Deity with faith and veneration. (CC Madhya-lila 22.128)

sakala-sādhana-śreṣṭha ei pañca aṅga
kṛṣṇa-prema janmāya ei pāñcera alpa saṅga

These five limbs of devotional service are the best of all. Even a slight performance of these five awakens love for Kṛṣṇa. (CC Madhya-lila 22.129)

1) *Bhakti-Sadācāra (Kṛṣṇa Conscious Behavior) Course*

Sādhu-saṅga (association with devotees)

Facilitator: Brhat-mrdanga Dasa

4 days, 6 hours daily = 24 hours

The 'Bhakti-Sadacara (Krishna Conscious Behavior) Course primarily deals with the process of 'self-revealing' followed by 'self-healing' in Krishna consciousness.

* Interactive * PowerPoint * Dramas * Group Work * Debates * Q & A

Topics include:

- Foundation of Bhakti-sadacara
- Breaking a Lesser Rule for a Higher Rule
- Qualities of a Devotee
- Decorations and Dress of a Vaisnava; Imitation and Following
- Vaisnava Aparadha and Forgiveness
- Offering and Accepting Correction
- Honoring and Serving Prasadam
- Association with Materialists and Non-devotees
- Devotee's Attitudes
- Association with Different Levels of Devotees
- Devotional Friendship and Mentorship; Follow-up
- The Way Forward for Future Courses .

2) *Kirtana and Japa Retreat*

Nāma-kīrtana (chanting the holy name)

4 days, 10 hours daily = 40 hours

3) ***Srimad Bhagavatam: Canto One Course***

Bhāgavata-śravaṇa (hearing *Bhāgavata-śravaṇa*)

Course credit towards Bhaktivaibhāva Degree

25 days, 5 hours daily = 125 hours

5 units @ five days per unit

Prerequisites:

- Bhakti-śāstrī degree (participants without degree may complete sometime before ISKCON LEADS certification)
- Completion of Preliminary Self-study Questions

Attendees will have:

- Daily reading assignments
- Weekly open-book and closed-book assessments.

4) ***Śrīla Prabhupāda-līlāmṛta Course***

Sādhu-saṅga (association with our Founder-Acarya, his Mood and Mission)

Self-study program and to answer homework questions

CLOSED BOOK ASSESSMENT

Total of 7 closed book assessments - the average pass percentage is 65%.

Program is already underway in the Western & Southern Divisions. Students will complete the six volumes of Śrīla Prabhupāda Līlāmṛta in a year thus completing one volume every two months.

5) **** *Deity Worship Basic Standards Course***

śrī-mūrtira śraddhāya sevana (worshiping the Deity with faith and veneration)

Course done in Local Temple (or Region). Duration of Course should not exceed 24 hours. Course Content and Assessment may be determined by local experienced Pujaris in consultation with Nrsimha Kavaca Prabhu, GBC Minister for Deity Worship. It is to be noted that the course is simply meant for leaders to be aware of Deity Worship Basic Standards.

Module Two: Missionary and Family Spirit Development

“The prediction of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu will triumph: *pr̥thivīte āche yata nagarādi grāma / sarvatra pracāra haibe mora nāma*. ‘In every town and village, the chanting of My name will be heard.’ No one can check the spread of the Kṛṣṇa consciousness movement because upon this movement is the benediction of the Supreme Personality of Godhead, Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu.”

(CC Adi-lila 17.203 purport)

6) **Graduate Book Distribution Course**

Focuses on personal interaction, foundational principles, psychology of book distribution, communication, customer care, follow up, dealing with challenges, different methods of distribution, proper standards & aims.

5 days, 6 hours daily = 30 hours

7) **Full Protection Course**

Protection for *brahmanas*, children, women, cows (bulls), the elderly, sick and disabled persons.

4 days, 6 hours daily = 24 hours

8) **Friend and Fund Raising Course**

4 days, 5 hours daily = 20 hours

9) **Brachmacari Asrama Leadership Course**

Bhakta program, recruitment policies and strategies

4 days, 6 hours daily = 24 hours

10) **University/College Preacher Training Course**

8 days (2 x 4 days), 5 hours daily = 40 hours

11) **Congregational Development Course**

a) Devotee Care (includes counseling)

b) Mentoring system for transition from *brahmacari-asrama* to *grhastha-asrama* to *vanaprastha-asrama*

c) *Nama-hatta*(*Bhakti-vrksha*) preaching program & *Shraddha-kutir* system

8 days (2 x 4 days), 6 hours daily = 48 hours

12) **Farming Community Development Course**

4 days, 6 hours daily = 24 hours

Module Three: ISKCON Institutional Development

"Your love for me will be shown by how much you cooperate to keep this institution together after I am gone."

(SPL, Volume 6, Chapter 52, "I Have Done My Part")

13) ** *Administrative Development Course*

- a) ISKCON Organisational Structure
- b) Basic Accounting
- c) Legal Procedures and Compliances

Booklets or Manuals will be provided for self-study, followed by closed book assessment under the guidance of a local or regional examiner

14) *Teacher Training Course One (TTC1)*

Presentation, Meeting, Listening, Speaking and Facilitation Skills

6 days, 6 hours daily = 36 hours

15) *Leadership and Management Course*

6 Days, 6 hours daily = 36 hours

16) *Communications Course*

4 days, 6 hours daily = 24 hours

17) *ISKCON Resolve Course*

3 days, 6 hours daily = 18 hours

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ISKCON Leadership Education And Development System (ISKCON LEADS)

Eligibility and Recruitment Guidelines for Candidate's Acceptance

Necessary criteria. The candidate must...

- 1) be following the four regulative principles and visibly chanting 16 rounds daily, thus setting a good example for others.
- 2) be currently rendering tangible and effective service within an ISKCON temple(s) for the last five years.
- 3) fully accept following ISKCON's line of spiritual and managerial authority.
- 4) have leadership qualities like an accommodating temperament, enthusiasm and patience in service and *sadhana*, a cheerful attitude that spreads to others, readiness to take responsibilities in ISKCON, and a missionary spirit born of love for Śrīla Prabhupāda.
- 5) have trustworthy character with no history of misappropriating money or assets or misbehaving with women or children since joining ISKCON.
- 6) have firm and genuine faith and loyalty in accepting Śrīla Prabhupāda, our scriptures, and the process for advancing in Kṛṣṇa consciousness as presented by Śrīla Prabhupāda.
- 7) be free from politics; specifically he must be free from duplicity, envy, and the tendency to criticize others and spread rumors.
- 8) have good command of spoken and written English.
- 9) have reasonably good health.
- 10) be 25 years or older.

Preferred criteria. The candidate should...

- 1) have a university degree.
- 2) have some experience in leading a department or team of devotees.
- 3) be a team leader, not just a team player or an individual performer.
- 4) be tasting Kṛṣṇa conscious nectar through studying and explaining Śrīla Prabhupāda's books.
- 5) be self-disciplined in eating, sleeping, recreation, etc.
- 6) be polite but firm in expressing his opinions, avoiding immature, hot-tempered exchanges and thus be able to associate nicely with all types of devotees.
- 7) have identified a service that gives him stability and a higher taste in spiritual life.
- 8) be preaching at least on a small scale.
- 9) be emotionally balanced and fulfilled.
- 10) have pure and straightforward dealings with everyone, especially women and children.

Note: The two Divisional Representatives in consultation with the Coordinating Committee may make careful exceptions to the above criteria.

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ISKCON Leadership Education And Development System (ISKCON LEADS)

Authorized Recommendation for a Candidate Entering Training in ISKCON LEADS

(Please use additional paper if required)

Note: An authorized recommendation may come from a temple president, RGB member, or zonal secretary. Recommendations from spiritual leaders (sannyasis, diksa/siksa gurus, etc) via the above service authorities are also welcome.

- 1) Name of the candidate I am recommending : _____
- 2) Please circle the best description(s) of the caliber of your candidate :
Natural leader / Team builder / Visionary / Individual performer / Team player
- 3) His strengths and room for improvement as a *sadhaka* and as a leader:

- 4) In which aspects of leadership would you like us to specifically train him?

- 5) My observations of my candidate particularly in reference to the accompanying 10 plus 10 criteria:

Your Signature

Date

Phone Number(s): _____ E-mail: _____

Temple Address: _____

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ISKCON Leadership Education And Development System (ISKCON LEADS)

Candidate's Application for Entering Training

(Please use additional paper if required)

- 1) Your Initiated Name: _____
- 2) Your Legal Name: _____
- 3) Date of Birth: _____ Date of joining ISKCON as a full-time devotee _____
- 4) Educational Qualifications: _____
- 5) Different services rendered up to the present (with dates): _____

- 6) Please list any outstanding achievements in your material career or after joining ISKCON: _____
- 7) Please describe any particular expertise or taste you have developed in a service(s)?

- 8) What am I hoping to achieve by participating in ISKCON LEADS training?

- 9) My observations of my personality and character particularly in reference to the accompanying 10 plus 10 criteria:

Your Signature: _____

Date: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

E-mail: _____

Temple Address:

Your Address (if different):

[Sample Draft Certificate]

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ISKCON LEADS

ISKCON Leadership Education And Development System
A GBC Succession Committee Initiative

Certifies that

Krsna Dasa

has successfully completed the

Bhakti-Sadācāra (Kṛṣṇa Conscious Behavior) Course

A Credit towards the Leader in ISKCON Diploma

ISKCON Juhu, Mumbai

20th March, 2009

On behalf of the GBC Succession Committee

On behalf of ISKCON LEADS

[Sample Draft Diploma]

International Society for Krishna Consciousness
Founder-Acarya: His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

The GBC Succession Committee

On the authority of ISKCON's Governing Body Commission certifies that

Krsna Dasa

has successfully completed all the requirements of the

**ISKCON Leadership Education And Development System
(ISKCON LEADS)**

Program and is hereby entitled to serve as a

Leader in ISKCON

Presented at ISKCON Mayapur, Gaura Purnima Festival, 15th March, 2012

On behalf of the GBC Succession Committee

On behalf of ISKCON LEADS