An Introduction to the Prabhupada-vani vision and the Vanipedia project

Gaura Purnima 2013
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The Prabhupada-vani vision
Prabhupada-vani vision statement

**Srila Prabhupada is our pre-eminent siksa-guru**

- We accept all of Srila Prabhupada’s followers can experience his presence and shelter within his teachings – individually and when discussing them with each other.
- We learn to live with Srila Prabhupada as our guiding conscience as we purify ourselves to establish a firm relationship with him.
- We encourage devotees feeling separation from Srila Prabhupada to take the time to seek solace in his association within his Vani.
- We share Srila Prabhupada’s compassion with all his followers, including those who take initiation in his line as well as those who follow him in different capacities.
- We educate devotees in the truths of Srila Prabhupada’s position as our pre-eminent siksa-guru and our sisya relationship with him in separation.
- We establish a succession of siksa-empowered disciples to uphold Srila Prabhupada’s legacy throughout successive generations.

**Srila Prabhupada is the Founder-Acharya of ISKCON**

- We promote his Vani as the primary driving force that keeps the members of ISKCON connected and faithful to him, and thus inspired, enthused and determined to make his Movement everything that he wished it to be – both now and in the future.
- We encourage the sustainable development of Vaishnava-brahminical standards centered on Srila Prabhupada’s teachings and his preaching strategies – a “vani-culture.”
- We educate devotees in the truths of Srila Prabhupada’s position as the Founder-Acharya of ISKCON and our service to him and his Movement.
Suppose you have got now ten thousand. We shall expand to hundred thousand. That is required. Then hundred thousand to million, and million to ten million. So there will be no scarcity of acharya, and people will understand Krishna consciousness very easily. So make that organization. Don’t be falsely puffed up. Follow the acharya's instruction and try to make yourself perfect, mature. Then it will be very easy to fight out maya. Yes. Acharyas, they declare war against maya's activities.

-- Srila Prabhupada lecture on Sri Caitanya-caritamrta – 6 April, 1975
Vani, personal association and service in separation

“So far personal association with the Guru is concerned, I was only with my Guru Maharaja four or five times, but I have never left his association, not even for a moment. Because I am following his instructions, I have never felt any separation.”
– Srila Prabhupada letter to Satyadhanya das – 20 February, 1972

“I shall remain your personal guidance, physically present or not physically, as I am getting personal guidance from my Guru Maharaja.”
– Srila Prabhupada room conversation – 14 July, 1977

“My Guru Maharaja passed in 1936, and I started this movement in 1965, thirty years after. Then? I am getting the mercy of guru. This is Vani. Even the guru is not physically present, if you follow the Vani, then you are getting help.”
– Srila Prabhupada morning-walk conversation – 21 July, 1975

“In the absence of physical presentation of the Spiritual Master the Vaniseva is more important. My Spiritual Master, Sarasvati Gosvami Thakura, may appear to be physically not present, but still because I try to serve His instruction I never feel separated from Him. I expect that all of you should follow these instructions.”
– Srila Prabhupada letter to Karandhara das (GBC) – 22 August, 1970

“Please be happy in separation. I am separated from my Guru Maharaja since 1936 but I am always with him so long I work according to his direction. So we should all work together for satisfying Lord Krishna and in that way the feelings of separation will transform into transcendental bliss.”
– Srila Prabhupada letter to Uddhava das (ISKCON Press) – 3 May, 1970

Taking inspiration from Srila Prabhupada’s devotional service to his guru maharaja, we learn how to happily serve him in separation.
Devotees are Srila Prabhupada’s limbs, ISKCON is his body, and his Vani is his soul

“You are all my limbs of my body. Unless you cooperate, my life will be useless. The senses and life are correlative. Without life the senses cannot act and without sense, life is inactive.”
– Srila Prabhupada letter to Brahmananda das (TP) – 17 July, 1968

“I am fervently appealing to you all not to create fracture in the solid body of the Society. Please work conjointly, without any personal ambition. That will help the cause.”

“Make the covers of the book very much attractive so that automatically they will read the knowledge inside. The covers are like the mind and the senses, and the contents of the book are the soul.”
– Srila Prabhupada letter to Amogha das (TP) – 22 May, 1972

“I wish that it will be noted down in history that this Krishna Consciousness Movement is responsible for saving the world. Practically, our Movement is the only hope for saving the world from complete disaster.”
– Srila Prabhupada letter to Sucandra das (TP) – 17 July, 1968

“You should always remember that whatever we are doing, it is in the parampara system beginning from Lord Krishna, down to us. Therefore, our loving spirit should be more upon the message than the physical representation. When we love the message and serve Him, automatically our devotional love for the physique is done.”
– Srila Prabhupada letter to Govinda dasi – 7 April, 1970

When limbs are properly cooperating with the body, the body is strong to act. However, if there is no soul within the body one’s life will be useless, and the limbs will not be able to function. Our holistic success strategy is for everyone to love the messages within Srila Prabhupada’s teachings and boldly place them within his Krishna Consciousness Movement. In this way Srila Prabhupada’s devotees can flourish properly in their respective services and make ISKCON a solid body through which to fulfill Srila Prabhupada’s desire to save the world from complete disaster. The devotees win, the GBC wins, ISKCON wins, the world wins, Prabhupada wins, and Lord Caitanya wins. There will be no losers.
“From the very beginning I was strongly against the impersonalists and all my books are stressed on this point. So my oral instruction as well as my books are all at your service. Now you GBC consult them and get clear and strong idea, then there will be no disturbance. Disturbance is caused by ignorance; where there is no ignorance, there is no disturbance.” – Srila Prabhupada letter to Hayagriva das (GBC) - 14 September, 1970
A political, social and educational culture is vital to establish Srila Prabhupada’s natural position

- We believe our society needs a political, social and educational culture to facilitate and nurture Srila Prabhupada’s natural position with his followers and within his Movement. It will not happen automatically or by wishful thinking. It can only happen by intelligent, concerted and collaborative efforts offered by his pure-hearted devotees.

- We identify 5 key obstacles concealing Srila Prabhupada’s position within his Movement:

  1. ignorance of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings – he has given instructions but we are not aware they exist.
  2. indifference to Srila Prabhupada’s teachings – we know the instructions exist but we do not care about them. We walk past them.
  3. misunderstanding of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings – we apply them sincerely but due to our over-confidence or lack of maturity they are misapplied.
  4. a lack of faith in Srila Prabhupada’s teachings – we do not believe in them. We think they are neither realistic nor practical. They are only theory. Or they are for his diksa-disciples and not for me, or they were valid for the ’60s and ’70s but not for now.
  5. in competition with Srila Prabhupada’s teachings – we go in a completely different direction than what Srila Prabhupada has instructed, and we do it with full force and conviction – and we enthusiastically take others with us.

- We believe these obstacles can easily be overcome with the introduction of integral, structured educational programs aimed at nurturing our relationship with, and increasing our knowledge of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings. This will only succeed however if fueled by serious political commitment to create a culture whereby proper education and training are emphasized and valued as essential. And then Srila Prabhupada’s natural position will become, and remain, apparent to all generations of devotees – through his Vani.
Distributing the teachings of parampara

1486  Caitanya Mahaprabhu appears in order to teach the world Krishna Consciousness – 527 years ago
1488  Sanatana Goswami appears in order to write books on Krishna consciousness – 525 years ago
1489  Rupa Gosvami appears in order to write books on Krishna consciousness – 524 years ago
1500  Mechanical printing presses begin to revolutionise the distribution of books throughout Europe – 513 years ago
1834  Bhaktivinoda Thakura appears in order to write books on Krishna consciousness – 179 years ago
1874  Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati appears in order to write books on Krishna consciousness – 139 years ago
1896  Srila Prabhupada appears in order to write books on Krishna consciousness – 117 years ago
1914  Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati coins the phrase "brhat-mrdanga" – 99 years ago
1935  Srila Prabhupada receives the instruction to print books – 78 years ago
1944  Srila Prabhupada starts Back to Godhead magazine – 69 years ago
1956  Srila Prabhupada moves to Vrndavana to write books – 57 years ago
1962  Srila Prabhupada publishes his first volume of Srimad-Bhagavatam – 51 years ago
1965  Srila Prabhupada arrives in the West to distribute his books – 48 years ago
1968  Srila Prabhupada publishes his abridged Bhagavad-gita As-It-Is – 45 years ago
1972  Srila Prabhupada publishes his full version of Bhagavad-gita As-It-Is – 41 years ago
1972  Srila Prabhupada establishes the BBT to publish his books – 41 years ago
1974  Srila Prabhupada's disciples start the serious distribution of his books – 39 years ago
1975  Srila Prabhupada completes the Sri Caitanya-caritamrta – 38 years ago
1977  Srila Prabhupada stops speaking and leaves his Vani in our care – 36 years ago
1978  The Bhaktivedanta Archives is established – 35 years ago
1986  The world's digitally stored material amounts to 1 CD-ROM per person – 27 years ago
1991  The World Wide Web (brhat-brhat-brhat mrdanga) is established – 22 years ago
1992  The Bhaktivedanta VedaBase version 1.0 is created – 21 years ago
2002  The Digital Age arrives - worldwide digital storage overtakes analogue – 11 years ago
2007  The world's digitally stored material amounts to 61 CD-ROMs per person – 6 years ago, that makes 427 billion CD-ROMs. (all full)
2007  Srila Prabhupada's Vani-temple, the Vanipedia begins construction in the web – 6 years ago
2010  Srila Prabhupada's Vapu-temple, the Temple of the Vedic Planetarium begins construction in Sridhama Mayapur – 3 years ago
2012  Vanipedia reaches 1,906,753 quotes, 108,971 pages and 13,946 categories – 1 year ago
2013  500,000,000 of Srila Prabhupada's books have been distributed by ISKCON devotees in 48 years – an average of 28,538 books every single day
Using media to spread Krishna’s message

“So go on with your organization for distribution of my books through press and other modern-media and Krishna will certainly be pleased upon you. We can use everything – television, radio, movies, or whatever there may be – to tell about Krishna.”
– Srila Prabhupada letter to Bhagavan das (GBC) - 24 November, 1970

“The mass-media can become such an important instrument in spreading our Krishna Consciousness movement and I am glad to see that you are endeavouring to explore how this can be done.”
– Srila Prabhupada letter to Nayanabhirama das (TP) - 9 January, 1971

“We are modern day Vaishnavas and we must preach vigorously using all the means available.”
– Srila Prabhupada letter to Rupanuga das (GBC) - 10 December, 1971

“His Divine Grace was very pleased to hear your proposal for systematically amassing a subject by subject encyclopedic compilation of all of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings and instructions as found in his books.”
– Letter from Srila Prabhupada’s secretary to Subhananda dasa - 7 June, 1977

There is still more to be done to make Srila Prabhupada’s teachings accessible and prominent in the world today. Now with collaboration and the help of web technologies we have an opportunity to surpass all our previous successes.
Modern-media, modern opportunities

For Srila Prabhupada, in the 1970s the terms **modern-media** and **mass-media** meant the printing press, radio, TV and movies. The world has since gone digital, and the modern mass-media is the web and its associated technologies – internet, social networking sites, VoiP, streaming videos, interactive TVs, wireless touch-screen tablets and android phones.

The web is akin to a gigantic reference library and Google the prominent library assistant. As the world increasingly depends on Google to find information, how to maintain visibility in web search results has become a key concern for all types of institutions – commercial, educational, governmental, charitable and religious.

The key to maintaining visibility and higher ranking in web search engines depends on elements known as search engine optimizers (SEO). They include (i) key words (ii) titles (often concealed in the source code) (iii) links with other webpages (iv) key words in links and (v) webpage traffic.

Using the above elements, we have been, since 2007, compiling, indexing and categorizing Srila Prabhupada’s Vani into a dynamic searchable online encyclopedia.

Vanipedia’s aim is to increase the visibility and accessibility of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings on the web by offering a free, authentic, one-stop resource for:

- ISKCON preachers
- ISKCON leaders and managers
- devotees studying devotional courses
- devotees wishing to deepen their knowledge
- devotees involved in inter-faith dialogues
- curriculum developers
- devotees feeling separation from Srila Prabhupada
- executive leaders
- academics
- teachers and students of religious education
- writers
- searchers of spirituality
- people concerned about current social issues
- historians
Vani projects – to complete and to create

- Complete the preservation work of Srila Prabhupada's Vani – Bhaktivedanta Archives
- Complete the full translations of all of Srila Prabhupada's books, lectures, letters and conversations in 8? 16? 25? languages and complete all the books in 64? 108? other languages – E-books and/or hardcopy – BBT
- Complete the Vanipedia in 16 languages and partially in 108 other languages – PVRA
- Complete the oral history of Srila Prabhupada's memories from his disciples in a central website and in another section of this website create the facilities for Srila Prabhupada's followers post 1977 to document their dedication to, realizations of, and relationship with Srila Prabhupada. One possible name of this site is "Vanimemories"
- Build 6-10 Founder-Acharya memorials in different continents which present the life and teachings of Srila Prabhupada – tentative places include North America, South America, Western Europe, Russia, India (3 places), Africa, South East Asia, Australasia
- Create 108 educational courses and training initiatives established to teach the theological, philosophical and practical application of Srila Prabhupada's premises found within his teachings
- Create clay plaques of Srila Prabhupada’s Bhagavad-gita As-It-Is which will survive the elements for 5,000 years plus
- Create a comprehensive history of ISKCON from 1965 to 1977 (12 years)
- Create a comprehensive history of ISKCON from 1978 to 2027 (50 years)
- Create the Acharyapedia in English – an encyclopedia of the works of the Gaudiya Vaishnava Acharyas

If we really want to see an oceanic smile on Srila Prabhupada's face, then let him see us working together, with proper commitment to bring his teachings to their pristine condition. In this way we can pragmatically fulfill his desire to see us cooperate.
Vani projects – to complete and to create by 2027

Complete the work of the Bhaktivedanta Archives’ preservation of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings

Create a comprehensive history of ISKCON from 1965 to 1977 (12 years)

Create clay plaques of Srila Prabhupada’s Bhagavad-gita which will survive the elements for 5,000 years plus

Complete the full translations of all of Srila Prabhupada’s books, lectures, letters and conversations

Create 108 educational courses and training initiatives based on Srila Prabhupada’s teachings

Complete the Vanipedia in 16 languages and partially in 108 other languages

Create the Acharyapedia in English

Complete the oral history of Prabhupada’s memories

Create a comprehensive history of ISKCON from 1978 to 2027 (50 years)

Build 6-10 Founder-Acharya memorials in different continents

If we can complete all these projects by 2027, it will be a glorious achievement to celebrate the first 50 years of serving Srila Prabhupada’s Vani in separation
Vanipedia – the Vani-temple
What is motivating us to build Vanipedia?

- We accept that
  - Srila Prabhupada is a pure devotee directly empowered by Lord Sri Krishna to engage living entities in loving devotional service to God. This empowerment is proven in his unparalleled exposé on the Absolute Truth found within his teachings.
  - There has been no greater exponent of Vaishnava philosophy in modern times, and no greater social critic who explains this contemporary world AS IT IS, than Srila Prabhupada.
  - Srila Prabhupada wanted his teachings to be profusely distributed and properly understood.
  - A thematic approach to Srila Prabhupada's teachings greatly enhances the process of understanding the truths within them, and that there is immense value in exploring, discovering and thoroughly compiling his teachings from every angle of vision.
  - Srila Prabhupada's teachings will be the primary shelter for millions of his followers for many future generations.
  - In his physical absence, Srila Prabhupada requires many vaniservants to assist him in this mission.
- Thus we are committed to create a truly dynamic platform to facilitate the profuse distribution and proper understanding of the perfect knowledge and realizations found within Srila Prabhupada’s teachings so they may be joyfully acted upon. It is that simple.
- The only thing separating us from the completion of Vanipedia is time and the many sacred hours of vaniseva that is yet to be offered by the devotees who commit themselves to this vision.

I thank you very much, all of you, for appreciating my humble service which I am trying to render as a matter of duty ordered by my Guru Maharaja. I request all my disciples to work cooperatively and I am sure our mission will advance without any doubt. – Srila Prabhupada letter to Tamala Krishna das (GBC) - 14 August, 1971
Different ways to study

The 60 ways Srila Prabhupada instructs the devotees to study his books:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>again and again • always • as much as possible • as soon as you get time • at least one hour daily • at least one or two hours daily • at least three hours a day • constantly • continuously • in small installments • more and more • once-twice-thrice • one after another • over and over • profusely • reading twenty-four hours • regularly • repeatedly • repeatedly whole life • throughout the day as much as possible • whenever there is time</td>
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<tr>
<th>Mood</th>
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<tr>
<td>as it is spoken by Krishna • adeptly • attentively • carefully • critically • deeply • devotedly • diligently • expertly • faithfully • intensely • nicely • penetratingly • persistently • philosophically • profoundly • profusely • seriously • sincerely • step-by-step, cautiously • submissively • thoughtfully • with adherence • with due care</td>
</tr>
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<th>Method</th>
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<tr>
<td>from all angles of vision • from different lights of directions • from every point of view • from varieties of angles • inspecting the subject matter from all angles of approach and savouring the new understandings • to understand the subject matter from different angles of vision • by discussing them • in the association of devotees • with the cooperation of your God-brothers and -sisters • with the help of other devotees • with the help of your senior God-brothers and -sisters • minutely • scientifically • scrutinizingly • thoroughly</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Better to boil the milk now very vigorously and make it thick and sweet, that is the best process. So let us concentrate on training our devotees very thoroughly in the knowledge of Krishna Consciousness from our books, from tapes, by discussing always, and in so many ways instruct them in the right propositions. – Srila Prabhupada letter to Hamsadutta das (GBC) - 22 June, 1972
Vanipedia mission statement

- To offer Srila Prabhupada a continual worldwide platform to preach, educate and train people in the science of Krishna consciousness in all languages of the world.
- To explore, discover and comprehensively compile Srila Prabhupada's teachings from multiple angles of vision.
- To present Srila Prabhupada’s Vani in easily accessible and understandable ways.
- To offer a repository of comprehensive thematic research to facilitate the writing of many topical books based on Srila Prabhupada’s Vani.
- To offer curricular for various educational initiatives into Srila Prabhupada's Vani.
- To collaborate with other educational institutions to help them improve the quality of their courses that are based on Srila Prabhupada's Vani.
- To instil in the first, second and subsequent generations an unequivocal understanding of the necessity to consult Srila Prabhupada’s Vani for personal guidance and to become sufficiently learned to represent him on all levels.
- To attract Srila Prabhupada's followers from all nations to collaborate globally with the view to achieve all the above.

In the absence of a suitable king to curb irreligious tendencies, educating the people systematically in the teaching of Srimad-Bhagavatam will clear up the hazy atmosphere of corruption, bribery, blackmail, etc. – *SB 1.17.27, purport*
Summary of the Vanipedia project

Vanipedia is the online collaborative endeavour of a group of devotees working on the development of a comprehensive, thematic and interactive encyclopedia of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings on the web. Vanipedia is presented as a lotus flower with 7 divisions or petals.

Vanisource

- The archived collections of Srila Prabhupada’s books, lectures, letters and conversations which provides the linking and cross-referencing foundation for Vaniquotes and the other petals of Vanipedia.

Vaniquotes

- A comprehensive compilation of quotes by Srila Prabhupada categorized by subject, themes, personalities, scriptures and usage of language. All quotes are cross-referenced to Vanisource, and some to Vanibooks, Vanimedia, etc. Ideal for quick search and reference for essays, lectures and discussions.

Vanibooks

- Will offer compendiums on specific topics, drawn from Vaniquotes. Chapters and pages will have links to Vaniquotes for in-depth studies, and all quotes will be cross-referenced to Vanisource. Ideal for topical study, discussions and presentations.

Vanipedia – the petal

- Portal for all other 6 petals. Will offer thematic articles researched from Vaniquotes.

Vаниctionary

- Will offer automatic lookup for specific words in Srila Prabhupada’s books cross-referenced to Vanisource, Sanskrit and Bengali synonyms.

Vaniversity

- Will be an educational resource providing curriculums and training materials based on Vaniquotes, Vanibooks, and Vanisource. Three levels of courses envisioned: Vanifun, Vanischool and Vaniversity.

Vanimedia

- Repository for images, audio and video of Srila Prabhupada compiled and categorized by subject, linked to Vaniquotes and all other Vani petals. Additional projects include a Vaniradio and VaniTV.
Vanipedia petals overview
Vanisource

- The Vanisource petal features archived collections of Srila Prabhupada’s books, lectures, letters and conversations presented in a similar navigable format to Vedabase.com and Vedabase.net but with the additional benefit of cross-referenced links to other petals of Vanipedia.
- Vanisource is the foundation upon which all linking and cross-referencing in Vaniquotes and other petals of Vanipedia are built.
- Still to be added:
  - Back to Godhead magazines
  - Some miscellaneous books
  - PDF files of original letters
  - Legal documents
  - Original manuscripts

Gradually, we shall replace the literatures which are currently popular with our own style of transcendental literature. I have tried it: any page you open, that is wonderful reading matter. My ambition is to spread these books far and wide all over the world so that everyone shall read at least one of our books and that will change his life. If only 1% become devotees, that will change the world. – Srila Prabhupada letter to Karandhara das (GBC) - 2 May, 1972
SB 7.11.2

Srimad Bhagavatam, Seventh Canto, Chapter 11: The Perfect Society: Four Social Classes

TEXT 2

Śrī-yudhisthira uvāca
bhagavan śrītum icchāmi
nedād dharmaṁ saṁśātanam
vartāṇām-kāraṇa-yugam
yat pumāṁ vināde param

SYNONYMS
Śrī-yudhisthira uvāca—Mahārāja Yudhisthira inquired; bhagavan—O my lord; śrītum—to hear; icchāmi—I wish; śrīnam—of human society; dharmaṁ—the occupational duties; saṁśātanam—common and eternal (for everyone); vartāṇām-kāraṇa-yugam—based on the principles of the four divisions of society and the four divisions of spiritual advancement; yat—from which; pumāṁ—the people in general; vināde—can enjoy very peacefully; param—the supreme knowledge (by which one can attain devotional service).

TRANSLATION
Mahārāja Yudhisthira said: My dear lord, I wish to hear from you about the principles of religion by which one can attain the ultimate goal of life—devotional service. I wish to hear about the general occupational duties of human society and the system of social and spiritual advancement known as vāyāśrama-dharma.

PURPORT
Saṁśātra-dharma means devotional service. The word saṁśātra refers to that which is eternal, which does not change but continues in all circumstances. We have several times explained what the eternal occupational duty of the living being is. Indeed, it has been explained by Śrī Caitanya Mahāprabhu. Jevra 'kṣārākula pālano kṛṣṇo tillitā'. (CC Madhya 26.100) of the living entity is to serve the Supreme Personality of Godhead. Even if one prefers to deviate from this principle he remains a servant because that is his eternal position; but one serves with the illusory, material energy. The kṛṣṇa consciousness movement, therefore, is an attempt to show human society the Personality of Godhead instead of serving the material world with no real profit. Our actual service is that every man, animal, bird and being—indeed, every living entity—is engaged in rendering service. Even though one’s body or one’s superficial religion may change, every living entity is always engaged in the service of someone. Therefore, the mentality of service is called the eternal occupational duty. This eternal occupational duty can be organized through the institution of vāyāśrama, in which there are four varīgas (brāhmaṇa, kṣatriya, vaiśya and śūdra) and four tīrthas (brahmacārya, gṛhastha, vānprastha and sannyāsa). Thus, Yudhisthira Mahārāja inquired from Nārada Muni about the principles of saṁśātra-dharma for the benefit of human society.

Cross-referenced link
Links to previous and next verses
Links allow to backtrack to indexed lists
Page views
Photo randomly selected from Vanimedia
Names of speaker and listener of each verse indicated at the bottom of each page
Vanibooks and Vanictionary

◆ Vanibooks

- A Vanibook is a clear and conclusive compendium of a particular subject researched and compiled from Vaniquotes, Vanisource and Vanimedia, covering all the angles of vision.

- Chapters and pages will have links to Vaniquotes for in-depth studies, and all quotes will be cross-referenced to Vanisource.

- The Vanibook has all of the natural elements of a book, introduction, chapters, index and glossary and compilers can write brief commentaries to aid in the flow of the quotes.

- Ideal for topical study, discussions and presentations.

◆ Vanictionary

- Will offer automatic lookup for specific words found in Srila Prabhupada’s books and cross-referenced to Vanisource, Sanskrit and Bengali synonyms.

- Vanictionary will offer Sanskrit and Bengali glossary, synonyms with reference, the possibility to browse by verse or translation and see where the verse is quoted and descriptions of personalities.

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Prabhuapada’s usage of the English language

Introduction

Language is a substantial element of any culture giving it both character and depth.

A Vanibook is a clear and conclusive compendium of a particular subject researched and compiled from Vaniquotes, Vanisource and Vanimedia, covering all the angles of vision.

Chapters and pages will have links to Vaniquotes for in-depth studies, and all quotes will be cross-referenced to Vanisource.

The Vanibook has all of the natural elements of a book, introduction, chapters, index and glossary and compilers can write brief commentaries to aid in the flow of the quotes.

Ideal for topical study, discussions and presentations.

Vanibooks and Vanictionary
Vanimedia and Vaniversity

◆ Vanimedia

- Will be very appealing and an easy-to-use repository of media:
  - 50 hours of video
  - 1,700 audio clips
  - 20,000 photos
  - Thousands of short audio clips with subtitles in multiple languages. Current project is to complete 1,080 files by Gaura Purnima 2013.
  - We are still in search of qualified and enthusiastic devotees who would like to build the most fun and dynamic way to browse through Srila Prabhupada's pictures, audio and video.

◆ Vaniversity

- This is the educational petal of Vanipedia. As Vaniquotes and Vanibooks develop, Vaniversity will organize their content in educational format, functioning both as a curriculum resource as well as providing customized courses into Srila Prabhupada's Bhaktivedanta translations and purports. User feedback via tests and polls will enable constant improvement of the educational faculties.
  - For ages 3-99, we will have Vanifun programs where learning takes place by having fun!
  - Teenagers aged 12-99, will probably want to attend Vanischool. Educational faculties can set up portals for independent teaching programs, or individual devotees can start their own program for guiding readers into Vaniquotes or Vanisource, etc.
  - Adults aged 18-99 wishing to deepen their knowledge will benefit from thoroughly developed curriculum and be provided training in all social fields.

In the western countries many Ph.D.'s are out of employment because they did not get any service. We do not want to become great philosophers but rather to understand the philosophy in our own books. If we remain strong in our own literature, we can meet anyone else without any fear. – Srila Prabhupada letter to Damodara Pandita das - 17 July, 1976
Vanipedia – the petal

- The Vanipedia petal is now beginning to unfold. Glancing through the first two completed articles – *Animal-Killing in Human Society*\(^{(1)}\) and *Buddha: A Vaisnava Perspective*\(^{(2)}\) – one can experience the high standard of devotional research within Vaniquotes, complete with source notes and extensive references for additional reading and study. Just imagine the power of delivery to have 500 to 1,000 similarly compiled thematic articles translated into multiple languages, all interlinked with each other and accessible in one place and under one platform for preachers, students, teachers and publishers!

- The article entitled *Animal-Killing in Human Society*\(^{(1)}\) has already inspired the Northern European BBT to publish a book on the subject.

- Vanipedia will also have introductory articles using samples, lists and graphs to acquaint the user with the wealth of content in Vaniquotes.

- We envision Vanipedia to be the preferred resource of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings for all devotees as well as students and teachers of oriental philosophy, social studies, religious studies, Indology, etc.

---

**I am very pleased that you are inclined to read and study our books with such seriousness. Thank you very much. And your conclusion is very nice. So continue it whole-heartedly. We want good preachers also. Preaching shouldn't depend on me only. My disciples should become all good preachers, and that depends on studying the books nicely so that you can arrive at the right conclusion.** – *Srila Prabhupada letter to Hrdayananda das (TP) - 5 July, 1971*

\(1\) [http://www.vanipedia.org/wiki/Animal-Killing_in_Human_Society](http://www.vanipedia.org/wiki/Animal-Killing_in_Human_Society)

What is Vaniquotes?

◆ The Vaniquotes petal offers an unparalleled compilation of quotes drawn exclusively from Srila Prabhupada’s books, lectures, conversations, morning walks and correspondence and organized into categories and pages.

◆ Vaniquotes are grouped together via themes, personalities, scriptures and the usage of language. Each quote is linked to its original source, thus keeping everything within its proper context.

◆ Vaniquotes is an ideal tool for quick searching and reference for lectures, discussions, etc.

◆ We have introduced in the Vanipedia petal two ready-made topical articles based on Vaniquotes research. We will be inviting devotees with academic drive to participate in building a library of similar articles.

◆ Some research projects already within Vaniquotes:
  
  • 10,185 questions asked to Srila Prabhupada
  • 4,243 entries in the Sanskrit dictionary
  • 2,908 entries in the English dictionary
  • 1,679 names of 1st initiates of Srila Prabhupada
  • 1,536 questions posed by Srila Prabhupada
  • 902 different kinds of devotees
  • 851 verses from CC with their scriptural origins
  • 679 names of 2nd initiates of Srila Prabhupada
  • 649 analogies given by Srila Prabhupada
  • 588 verses cited from Bhagavad-gita As-It-Is
  • 488 verses cited from Srimad-Bhagavatam (cantos 1 – 3)
  • 207 appointed leaders receiving training from Srila Prabhupada
  • 187 meanings of the Krishna consciousness movement
  • 185 different kinds of disciples
  • 81 stories told by Srila Prabhupada
  • 78 proverbs quoted by Srila Prabhupada

I am very much stressing at this point that all of my students shall be very much conversant with the philosophy of Krishna Consciousness, and that they should read our books very diligently at least one or two hours daily and try to understand the subject matter from varieties of angles. – Srila Prabhupada letter to Madhudvisa das (GBC) - 16 June, 1972
What is Vaniquotes? (cont’d)

The quotes on “prescribed duties” are copied from Vedabase into Vaniquotes pages and then linked to Vanisource. Categories hold pages and related-categories. A-Z Pages regrouped and indexed under the category showing “prescribed duties” in their original context.

1. Overview pages of all references to “prescribed duties”

Links to other petals

Select to view the vast compilation achieved to date
A self-realized man has no purpose to fulfill in the discharge of his prescribed duties, nor has he any reason not to perform such work. Nor has he any need to depend on any other living being.

Expressions researched:
“A self-realized man has no purpose to fulfill in the discharge of his prescribed duties, nor has he any reason not to perform such work. Nor has he any need to depend on any other living being.”

Bhagavad-gita As It Is

BG Chapters 1 - 6

A self-realized man has no purpose to fulfill in the discharge of his prescribed duties, nor has he any reason not to perform such work. Nor has he any need to depend on any other living being.

BG 3.18, Translation and Purport: A self-realized man has no purpose to fulfill in the discharge of his prescribed duties, nor has he any reason not to perform such work. Nor has he any need to depend on any other living being.

A self-realized man is no longer obliged to perform any prescribed duty, save and except activities in Krishna consciousness. Krishna consciousness is not inactivity either, as will be explained in the following verses. A Krishna conscious man does not take shelter of any person—man or demigod. Whatever he does in Krishna consciousness is sufficient in the discharge of his obligation.

Facts about A self-realized man has no purpose to fulfill in the discharge of his prescribed duties, nor has he any reason not to perform such work. Nor has he any need to depend on any other living being

Compiled by Madhusudana
Completed sections ALL
Date of first entry 30 August 2012
Date of last entry 30 August 2012
Total quotes 1
Total quotes by section BG: 1, SB: 0, CC: 0, IDB: 0, ID: 0, BS: 0, CC: 0, CS: 0, and CC: 0
Categories: Self-realized | Man | Have No | Purpose | Fulfill | Discharge | His | Prescribed Duties | Any | Reason | Not | Perform | Such | Work | No Need | Depend On | Any Other | Living Beings
A related category is also a complete category. It is called a related category only when it is placed within another category. We place categories within Umbrella categories and within normal categories.
Umbrella and related categories (cont’d)
Umbrella and related categories (cont’d)

Category: Disciples of Srila Prabhupada (Our) - Umbrella Category

No pages are placed in this category

Contents:  Top · A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Related categories

This category has the following 200 related categories, out of 215 total.

A
- [+] Our Advancement (Disciples of SP) (134)
- [+] Our Appreciation (Disciples of SP) (25)
- [+] Our Austerities (Disciples of SP) (20)
- [+] Our Association (Disciples of SP) (60)
- [+] Our Attempts (Disciples of SP) (20)
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- [+] Our Arrangements (Disciples of SP) (47)
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- [+] Our Activities (Disciples of SP) (160)
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- [+] Our Attitude (Disciples of SP) (38)

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- [+] Our Branches, Centers And Temples (514)
- [+] Our Boys (Disciples of SP) (91)
- [+] Our Belief (Disciples of SP) (15)
- [+] Our Behavior (Disciples of SP) (32)
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- **Srila Prabhupada lectures**: 642,312 quotes
- **Srila Prabhupada conversations**: 390,448 quotes
- **Srimad-Bhagavatam**: 375,245 quotes
- **Srila Prabhupada letters**: 240,699 quotes
- **Sri Caitanya-caritamrita**: 140,683 quotes
- **Other books by Srila Prabhupada**: 126,509 quotes
- **Bhagavad-gita As-It-Is**: 36,760 quotes

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<th>Prabhupadavani .org</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is exclusively for Srila Prabhupada’s Vani</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is part of a larger project</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offers a thematic presentation</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Openly invites collaboration</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has an index of search words and quotes linked to source</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides an index of source page titles with linked access</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Search terms are highlighted on source pages</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source pages provide cross-referencing to other source pages and additional matching categories</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provides accurate search results</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has Help and Tutorials(^{(1)}) section</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:**

\(^{(1)}\) Vaniquotes tutorials are in development
Vaniquotes on the web

- Although still a work in progress, web traffic based on daily score of unique visitors is steadily increasing
  - Jan-Mar 2012: average of 362 a day
  - Apr-Jun 2012: average of 438 a day
  - Jul-Sep 2012: average of 693 a day
  - Oct-Dec 2012: average of 813 a day

- A recent test search for “prescribed duties” using Google returned the following:
  - Vaniquotes.org appeared on the first result page
  - it ranked fifth out of 38.1 million results
Vaniquotes on the web (cont’d)

- A recent test search for “duty of a disciple” using Google returned the following:
  - Vaniquotes.org appeared on the first result page
  - it ranked third out of 7.2 million results
  - Vaniquotes is the only non-Christian webpage in the listing
Evolution of Vanipedia (2006-2013)

2006
- Bhaktivedanta Library Services (BLS) establishes the Prabhupada Vani Research Academy (PVRA)

2007
- Vanipedia is born
- MediaWiki(1) software is adopted
- BBT Trustees approve the project
- Vanisource is created and the compilation process starts

2008
- Vanipedia is publicly launched at the Gaura Purnima festival in Radhadesh

2009
- BLS finances the construction of a 150 square metres office and volunteer living facilities to support the Vanipedia project

2010
- June 2007 – March 2013
- 257 volunteers from 44 nationalities have performed over 95,000 hours of devotional service to compile
  - 14,127 categories
  - 111,244 pages
  - 1,952,656 quotes
  - 464,288 edits
- Page viewings for the same period on Vanipedia have reached
  - Vaniquotes - 11,568,857 views
  - Vanisource - 6,010,506 views
  - Vanipedia - 382,839 views

2012
- Year filled with many milestones and record-breaking compiling scores
- Thematic mapping of the 10,000 questions asked to Srila Prabhupada completed
- English and Sanskrit Dictionaries completed with 2,908 and 4,227 entries
- Vanipedia Facebook group reached 2,530 members in December
- Vaniquotes pages reached 10,235,593 views

Note:
(1) MediaWiki is the software that runs the Wikipedia website. For more information, visit MediaWiki.org. At Vanipedia, we are very satisfied with our inspired choice.
Evolution of Vanipedia (2013-2027)

2013–2014
- IT development and web promotion (Vanipedia is setting up office in Sridhama Mayapur to facilitate this)
- Write Vanipedia articles (we need writers)
- Develop the Vanimedia audio files (lots of opportunity to hear)

2013–2022
We hope to complete:
- the compiling in Vaniquotes
- the links from Vanisource to Vaniquotes
- the Vanictionary
- the Vanimedia with all of Srila Prabhupada’s audio, video and photos
- the thousands of short audio clips of Srila Prabhupada’s Vani
- the compendiums in Vanibooks
- the 1000 thematic and introductory articles in Vanipedia
- the educational courses in Vaniversity
- Vanipedia in many languages

October 2015:
50th anniversary of Srila Prabhupada’s arrival in America

May 2022:
50th anniversary of Srila Prabhupada founding the BBT

November 2027:
50th anniversary of serving Srila Prabhupada in separation.
We would love to see:
- the completion of all outstanding Vani projects
- the first generation of disciples leaving behind a solid “vani-culture” driven by Srila Prabhupada’s teachings being in their pristine condition
- the first, second and subsequent generations unequivocally understanding the necessity to consult Srila Prabhupada’s Vani for personal guidance and being sufficiently learned to represent him on all levels
Appreciations for Vanipedia

I have been immersing myself in Srila Prabhupada's Vani at Vanipedia. You have undertaken a most significant and monumental undertaking, and from what I have seen, you are executing it with great conviction, intelligence, and skill.

We are deeply indebted to you.

Giriraja Swami

After doing a Google search for 'tatastha' I chanced to find the Vanipedia site. I was so very pleased beyond words, and impressed and joyful and uplifted to see such an amazing meaningful project. I am now old and poor, but I would like to extend all my good wishes for all success with this endeavour and indeed with your relationship with Lord Sri Krishna.

Lord Caitanya has created this gigantic mridanga, the internet, to save this sad sad world. Your efforts are completely aligned with His vision and He is undoubtedly very pleased with your service.

Me, I am still in awe. Thank you again.

Gaura Hari das

First, I want to thank whomever I should thank for the kind acknowledgement at the bottom of the "About" page. I am Steven Gelberg, formerly Subhananda das, who Srila Prabhupada approved to compile the encyclopedia of his teachings all those years ago. I'm glad to see that such work has been carried on to the high point of development evinced in the Vanipedia site.

Steven Gelberg / Subhananda das

The “BEST” book distributor cannot possibly personally distribute all the Vani that is being presented in any of the 3 ‘Vani’ links: Pedia, Quotes or Source! However the same distributor can distribute these 3 links to multitudes of persons WORLDWIDE in a single day!!!

This is intelligent service… Out of those multitudes, MANY will learn “bhakti” principles, buy books online in growing numbers, and apply devotional principles in their own home town or village – in every corner of the globe…

Langaganesh das
Organization
Organizational structure of Vanipedia

Bhaktivedanta Library Services (BLS)
(non-profit organization registered in Belgium since 1995)

Prabhupada Vani Research Academy (PVRA)
(internal department of BLS established in 2006)

Vanipedia
(started in 2007, the first project of PVRA)
Bhaktivedanta Library Services (BLS)

- The Bhaktivedanta Library Services a.s.b.l. is a non profit organization established in 1995. It is situated adjacent to the ISKCON Radhadesh community in Petite Somme, Durbuy in Belgium.

- BLS was established for the “soul” purpose of facilitating the propagation and preservation of the transcendental knowledge propounded in the life and teachings of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, Founder-Acharya of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness.

- BLS works collaboratively with the North European BBT for the distribution of Srila Prabhupada’s books in English throughout Europe and also acts on behalf of the BBT to supply the French yatra with their sankirtan books.

- The Bhaktivedanta Library Program was developed by BLS to ensure that the teachings of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada become a focus in temples and in the homes and hearts of disciples and followers.

- Since 1995 BLS has continued to expand in order to supply a wider range of books, videos, CDs, MP3s, DVDs, computer programs and presentations. It aspires to continue to develop into a strong, stable asset assisting many souls to connect to the wonderful principles and practices of Krishna consciousness.

- Over the years BLS has supported various authors, communication preaching, the Bhaktivedanta Archives and the Bhaktivedanta College.

- BLS has been developing the Vanipedia project since 2007.

- To discover more, go to http://blservices.com
Mission statement

◆ To offer a global platform for Srila Prabhupada to profoundly inspire millions of human beings to awaken their dormant love for Krishna by taking up the process of devotional service.

◆ To offer a global platform for Srila Prabhupada to clearly express his vision for the spiritual upliftment of human society via the establishment of daivi-varnasrama and the sankirtana-yajna.

◆ To follow the Vaishnava-brahminical principles of simplicity, straightforwardness, mercy, truthfulness, and action from a non political platform.

◆ To present in compiled form the multifarious Krishna-conscious truths established by Srila Prabhupada in his teachings.

◆ To facilitate the understanding of these philosophical truths on essential and various subjects.

◆ To facilitate the education and training of Srila Prabhupada's followers to assist him as empowered servants of the Krishna Consciousness Movement.

◆ To assist in identifying the essential principles from Srila Prabhupada's teachings in concise form with the hope that one day they will be established as the guiding principles for the worldwide Krishna Consciousness Movement, via a constitutional process and other forms of implementation.

Note: PVRA is the internal department of Bhaktivedanta Library Services. PVRA is developing the Vanipedia project.
How did Vanipedia come about?
## The history behind Vanipedia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>He visits the Bhaktivedanta Archives in Los Angeles and is moved to learn they have a lot more of Srila Prabhupada's teachings that have still not been released.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May</td>
<td>He finishes the compilation from the letters, consisting of 200 (A4) pages divided into 17 subjects, prints 150 copies and distributes them to the devotees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>He teams up with Ekanath and Ranjit at Bhaktivedanta Archives in Los Angeles to help with the production and distribution to the devotees of Srila Prabhupada's remaining archived teachings. Settling in England, he also teams up with Ajamila who is working on a far superior compilation from Srila Prabhupada's letters, the ‘Siksamrta’.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1988-95 | | Visnu Murti travels throughout Europe to assist in the publication and distribution of the following titles of Srila Prabhupada's teachings:  
Books:  
- *Conversations with Srila Prabhupada* (37 volumes)  
- *Collected Lectures on Bhagavad-gita As It Is* (7 volumes)  
- *Collected Lectures on Srimad-Bhagavatam* (11 volumes)  
- *Collected Teachings of His Divine Grace AC Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada* (7 volumes)  
- *Srila Prabhupada Siksamrta* (3 volumes)  
- *Back to Godhead 1944-1960 The Pioneer Years*  
- *The Jaladuta Diary*  
- *The Beginning*  
- *Festivals with Srila Prabhupada*  
Audio:  
- *Sets of the lecture tapes of Srila Prabhupada* (711 cassettes)  
- *Sets of the new realized lecture tapes of Srila Prabhupada* (320 cassettes)  
- *Srila Prabhupada's bhajans on CD (the first CD's in Iskcon)*  
Other:  
- *The VEDAbase search index software* |
| 1995 | Sep 14 | He moves to a property adjacent to Radhadesh in Belgium, where he registers the non-profit organization Bhaktivedanta Library Services a.s.b.l. (BLS) to further facilitate the distribution of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings to the devotees. |
| 1995-2003 | | BLS solidifies its distribution network by developing a mail order service, a shop, and wholesale outlets. |
**The history behind Vanipedia** (cont’d)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2000-2003</strong></td>
<td>Convinced that systematic training and education in Srila Prabhupada’s books is a very good way to help the devotees imbibe his teachings, Visnu Murti involves the BLS in developing and managing the Bhaktivedanta College in Radhadesh. He experiences that more curriculum resources are needed to be developed in order to facilitate the education in Srila Prabhupada’s teachings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2004</strong></td>
<td>BLS stops its involvement with the College.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2005</strong></td>
<td>While pondering over the need for a serious research facility Visnu Murti compiles Srila Prabhupada teachings within Excel and Word files and from that develops a comprehensive, word-based thematic methodology for more compilations.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **2006** | Jun: He decides that the Web is the best platform for developing a research facility.  
Sep: Eivind Morland from Norway joins BLS. After due consideration, they decide to inaugurate the project.  
Nov: BLS establishes Prabhupada Vani Research Academy (PVRA) as an internal department.  
Oct-Dec: Eivind starts researching for a Web-based software for the execution of the research. |
| **2007** | Jan-Apr: Eivind concentrates fully on the development. He concludes that MediaWiki is the best software, and starts to familiarize himself with it. Visnu Murti shares the vision with different devotees and receives a lot of encouragement to perform the sacrifice.  
Jan 15: Visnu Murti decides on the name Vanipedia and BLS buys the domain name.  
May: Acyutananda Caitanya from Colombia joins the PVRA team in Radhadesh and starts the process of building Vanisource by extracting the data from Vedabase.  
May: In Los Angeles, Visnu Murti presents the project to the BBT Trustees at their annual meeting receiving an enthusiastic response and a license to develop the project. |
| **2007–to date** | The Vanipedia project is taking form with the support of devotees from many nations. |
This page is intentionally blank
Wikipedia – an inspiration
Wikipedia – goodwill properly engaged and expressed

Since its creation in 2001, Wikipedia has grown rapidly into the world’s largest reference website

- 4,141,132 articles in English (that’s only 19% of all articles)
- 29,243,296 pages in total
- 800,168 uploaded files
- 587,077,045 edits
- Totaling over 22,000,000 articles in 285 languages

Wikipedia attracts people

- 470 million unique visitors monthly
- 18,198,204 registered users

Wikipedia attracts volunteers

- 77,000 active contributors
- 1,456 administrators

Wikipedia’s organization

- non-profit organization
- 150 staff members – working in technology, community, management, finance, and administration
- every month over 30,000 volunteers participate to write the articles – includes research, editing and coordination
- already five billion more articles planned

Wikipedia’s finances

- funded by a small percentage (.02%) of their satisfied users giving an average of only $22 each annually
- Returns to people who give large donations whatever is in excess of budget
- budgets always collected before the new year begins
- no advertisements
- no corporate funding

Wikipedia’s organizational, financial and managerial strategies are working. They are obviously doing something right. What can we take from Wikipedia’s model to present Srila Prabhupada's teachings in a way that would make him proud of our efforts to distribute his Vani?
Wikipedia reports that their audience includes a high level of students and teachers who browse for schoolwork and postgraduates in education researching their subjects.

Wikipedia ranks the popularity of its pages by number of views. Wikipedia’s Top 500 pages under Hinduism and Religion show:

- Among spiritual leaders, Srila Prabhupada is still not so well known. Page views for him represent a mere 0.8% under Hinduism and his name does not appear at all in the ranking under Religion.

- Swami Vivekananda died in 1902, 75 years before Srila Prabhupada’s departure. His high ranking under both Hinduism (5) and Religion (53) show his followers are successfully keeping him alive and vigorously spreading his impersonalist teachings.

---

**Rank** | **Spiritual leaders (Hinduism)** | **Views**
--- | --- | ---
1 | Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi | 550,096
3 | Gautama Buddha | 234,215
5 **Swami Vivekananda** | 199,612
30 | Sai Baba (Shirdi) | 81,401
48 | Sai Baba (Sathya) | 52,907
94 | Ravi Shankar (spiritual leader) | 32,607
95 | Adi Shankara | 32,330
103 | Ramakrishna | 30,721
116 | Maharishi Mahesh Yogi | 28,473
129 | Sri Aurobindo | 25,304
143 | Ramana Maharshi | 23,372
157 | Dayananda Saraswati | 21,504
173 | Paramahansa Yogananda | 20,133
179 | Mahavatar Babaji | 19,227
216 | Tukaram | 15,474
238 **A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada** | 14,140
242 | Narayana Guru | 13,848
258 | Swami Nithyananda | 13,168
259 | Neem Karoli Baba | 12,906
272 | Raghavendra Swami | 12,528
276 | Kanada | 12,240
282 | Shankaracharya | 11,858
285 | Kashyap | 11,779
288 | Ramanuja | 11,614
346 | Swaminarayan | 9,446
348 | Sri Chinmoy | 9,410
434 | Shri Swami Samarth | 7,576
495 | Harishchandra | 6,468
496 | Pramukh Swami Maharaj | 6,454

**Rank** | **Spiritual leaders (Religion)** | **Views**
--- | --- | ---
9 | Jesus | 571,641
11 | Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi | 550,096
14 | Martin Luther King, Jr. | 393,286
20 | Muhammad | 289,732
34 | Sigmund Freud | 239,526
35 | Gautama Buddha | 234,215
53 **Swami Vivekananda** | 199,612
155 | Dalai Lama | 119,880
174 | Confucius | 110,203
257 | Sai Baba of Shirdi | 81,401
316 | Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh | 69,654
337 | Deepak Chopra | 65,887
427 | Sathya Sai Baba | 52,907
?? | Srila Prabhupada | None

“We must learn all of us, to defeat these nonsense rascals, and curtail this epidemic of impersonalism, which is fatal to the innocent people. We can stop this epidemic with this information of Krishna Consciousness, and it is our duty to do it.” – Srila Prabhupada letter to Upendra das (TP) - 1 March, 1968
• Bhagavad-gita is a very popular scripture under both Hinduism and Religion. One wonders which version of Bhagavad-gita is the most consulted?

• In the Top 500 ranking under Religion, the beliefs of Buddhism and Hinduism rank highly but Vaisnavism does not appear at all.

• The Hare Krishna maha-mantra attracts 6 times less interest than the mantra Om.

“From the very beginning I was strongly against the impersonalists and all my books are stressed on this point.” – Srila Prabhupada letter to Hayagriva das (GBC) - 14 September, 1970
Among worshippers, Lord Shiva is the most popular deity. Lord Chaitanya however draws only 1% of interest.

Among holy places of pilgrimage, Varanasi attracts 400% more interest than Vrindavan. Sridhama Mayapur does not appear in the ranking.

Among festivals, Diwali is still more popular than Sri Krishna Janmastami and although Rathayatra festivals run every year in major cities around the world, it does not appear in the Top 500.

---

**Wikipedia – Hinduism & Religion (cont’d)**


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Deities (Hinduism)</th>
<th>Views</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Shiva</td>
<td>193,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Krishna</td>
<td>175,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ganesha</td>
<td>140,216</td>
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<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Vishnu</td>
<td>94,586</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Kali</td>
<td>82,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Hanuman</td>
<td>69,532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Rama</td>
<td>54,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Ayyappan</td>
<td>53,608</td>
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<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Surya</td>
<td>52,793</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Lakshmi</td>
<td>42,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Brahma</td>
<td>41,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>Ravana</td>
<td>37,405</td>
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<tr>
<td>73</td>
<td>Murugan</td>
<td>36,484</td>
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<tr>
<td>76</td>
<td>Durga</td>
<td>36,137</td>
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<td>100</td>
<td>Garuda</td>
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<td>Radha</td>
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<td>107</td>
<td>Saraswati</td>
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<tr>
<td>118</td>
<td>Indra</td>
<td>28,215</td>
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<tr>
<td>160</td>
<td>Narasimha</td>
<td>21,300</td>
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<tr>
<td>186</td>
<td>Sita</td>
<td>18,724</td>
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<tr>
<td>190</td>
<td>Parashurama</td>
<td>18,455</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Radha-Krishna</td>
<td>17,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>208</td>
<td>Chaitanya Mahaprabhu</td>
<td>16,542</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Holy places (Hinduism)</th>
<th>Views</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Ganges</td>
<td>80,391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Varanasi</td>
<td>71,686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>Kanchipuram</td>
<td>39,573</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>104</td>
<td>Mount Kailash</td>
<td>30,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>108</td>
<td>Ayodhya</td>
<td>30,249</td>
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<tr>
<td>127</td>
<td>Dwarka</td>
<td>25,396</td>
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<td>136</td>
<td>Rishikesh</td>
<td>23,672</td>
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<td>141</td>
<td>Jagannath Puri</td>
<td>23,397</td>
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<tr>
<td>167</td>
<td>Mathura</td>
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<tr>
<td>183</td>
<td>Badrinath</td>
<td>18,801</td>
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<tr>
<td>201</td>
<td>Vrindavan</td>
<td>17,206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>202</td>
<td>Yamuna</td>
<td>17,203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>204</td>
<td>Lake Manasarovar</td>
<td>16,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>278</td>
<td>Srirangam</td>
<td>12,149</td>
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<tr>
<td>223</td>
<td>Srilanka</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Holy festivals (Hinduism)</th>
<th>Views</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Diwali</td>
<td>156,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Kumbh Mela</td>
<td>72,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Holi</td>
<td>56,153</td>
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<tr>
<td>135</td>
<td>Makar Sankranti</td>
<td>23,898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>145</td>
<td>Ganesh Chaturthi</td>
<td>22,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>207</td>
<td>Durga Puja</td>
<td>16,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>271</td>
<td>Onam</td>
<td>12,589</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>331</td>
<td>Krishna Janmashtami</td>
<td>9,933</td>
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<tr>
<td>334</td>
<td>Raksha Bandhan</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Maha Shivaratri</td>
<td>9,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>335</td>
<td>Jagannath Ratha Yatra</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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“I am the only one in India who is openly criticizing, not only demigod worship and impersonalism, but everything that falls short of complete surrender to Krishna.” – Srila Prabhupada letter to Giriraja das (TP) - 3 January, 1972
Yoga and meditation attract high levels of interest under Hinduism and Religion, but bhakti yoga attracts only 0.6% of interest.

“Regarding competition with other so-called yoga groups, certainly we have to win the race because we represent Krishna directly, and others are all mostly impersonalists or less than that.” – Srila Prabhupada letter to Janaki - 18 January, 1969
About Vaniseva
Collaboration – the key to our success

To date, 257 volunteers from 44 nationalities have offered vaniseva to build the Vanipedia

Argentina 1
Bangladesh 1
Belgium 12
Bosnia 1
Brazil 4
Bulgaria 1
Canada 1
Chile 2
Columbia 1
Croatia 1
Czech Rep. 2

Denmark 1
England 13
Finland 1
France 4
Germany 5
Hungary 1
India 110
Indonesia 2
Ireland 4
Italy 3
Lithuania 2

Mauritius 1
Mexico 2
Morocco 1
Netherlands 14
New Zealand 9
Norway 3
Poland 3
Portugal 1
Russia 5
Serbia 3
Singapore 2

Slovakia 1
Slovenia 5
South Africa 1
Spain 3
Swaziland 1
Sweden 3
Switzerland 2
Tunisia 1
Uruguay 2
USA 20
Wales 1

Actually, the United Nations or united people can be possible only in Krishna consciousness. Otherwise it is not possible. – Srila Prabhupada lecture on SB 2.9.2 - 4 April, 1972
Vaniseva – the sacred act of serving Srila Prabhupada’s Vani

Srila Prabhupada stopped speaking on the 14th of November 1977 but the Vani he gave us remains ever fresh. As yet, these teachings are not in their pristine condition nor are all of them readily accessible to his devotees. Srila Prabhupada’s followers have a sacred duty to preserve and to distribute his Vani to everyone. We are inviting you to perform this vaniseva.

“Always remember that you are one of the few men I have appointed to carry on my work throughout the world and your mission before you is huge. Therefore, always pray to Krishna to give you strength for accomplishing this mission by doing what I am doing. My first business is to give the devotees the proper knowledge and engage them in devotional service, so that is not very difficult task for you, I have given you everything, so read and speak from the books and so many new lights will come out. We have got so many books, so if we go on preaching from them for the next 1,000 years, there is enough stock.”

– Srila Prabhupada letter to Satsvarupa das (GBC) – 16 June, 1972

In June of 1972 Srila Prabhupada said that we have got so many books that we have enough stock to preach from for the next 1,000 years. At that time, only 10 titles had been printed, so with all the extra books that Srila Prabhupada published from July ’72 to November ’77 the amount of years of stock could easily be expanded to 5,000. If we add to this his oral instructions and letters, then the stock expands to 10,000 years. We need to expertly prepare all these teachings to be accessed and properly understood, so that they can be preached from for this whole period of time.

There is no doubt that Srila Prabhupada has an unending enthusiasm and determination to preach the message of Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu. It does not matter that his vapu has left us. He remains in his teachings and via the digital platform, he can preach even more widely than when he was physically present. With complete dependence on Lord Caitanya’s mercy, let us embrace Srila Prabhupada’s vani-mission, and with more resolve than ever before, expertly prepare his Vani for 10,000 years of preaching.

Vaniseva is a wonderful opportunity for us to unite and to cooperate with other ISKCON devotees to perform this sacred service.
Vaniseva – the sacred act of serving Srila Prabhupada’s Vani (cont’d)

“Over the past ten years I have given the framework and now we have become more than the British Empire. Even the British Empire was not as expansive as we. They had only a portion of the world, and we have not completed expanding. We must expand more and more unlimitedly. But I must now remind you that I have to complete the translation of the Srimad-Bhagavatam. This is the greatest contribution; our books have given us a respectable position. People have no faith in this church or temple worship. Those days are gone. Of course, we have to maintain the temples as it is necessary to keep our spirits high. Simply intellectualism will not do, there must be practical purification.

So I request you to relieve me of management responsibilities more and more so that I can complete the Srimad-Bhagavatam translation. If I am always having to manage, then I cannot do my work on the books. It is document, I have to choose each word very soberly and if I have to think of management then I cannot do this. I cannot be like these rascals who present something mental concoction to cheat the public. So this task will not be finished without the cooperation of my appointed assistants, the GBC, temple presidents, and sannyasis. I have chosen my best men to be GBC and I do not want that the GBC should be disrespectful to the temple presidents. You can naturally consult me, but if the basic principle is weak, how will things go on? So please assist me in the management so that I can be free to finish the Srimad-Bhagavatam which will be our lasting contribution to the world.”

– Srila Prabhupada letter to All Governing Body Commissioners – 21 November, 1976

Here Srila Prabhupada is stating “this task will not be finished without the cooperation of my appointed assistants” to help him make our lasting contribution to the world. It is Srila Prabhupada’s books that have given us a respectable position and they are the greatest contribution to the world.

Over the years, so much vaniseva has been performed by BBT devotees, book distributors, and preachers who hold firmly to Srila Prabhupada’s words, and all devotees dedicated to distribute and preserve his Vani in one way or another. But there is still much more to do. By working together via the technologies of the brhat-brhat-brhat mrdanga (the World Wide Web) we now have an opportunity to build an incredible manifestation of Srila Prabhupada’s Vani in a very short period of time. Our proposal is to come together in vaniseva and build a Vani-temple to be completed sometime between 2015 and 2027 at which time we will also be celebrating the numerous 50th anniversaries of Srila Prabhupada’s achievements. This will be a very appropriate and beautiful offering of love to Srila Prabhupada and a glorious gift to all the future generations of his devotees.
Vaniseva – the sacred act of serving Srila Prabhupada’s Vani (cont’d)

“I am glad that you have named your printing press the Radha Press. It is very gratifying. May your Radha Press be enriched in publishing all our books and literatures in the German language. It is a very nice name. Radharani is the best, topmost servitor of Krishna, and the printing machine is the biggest medium at the present moment for serving Krishna. Therefore, it is really a representative of Srimati Radharani. I like the idea very much.”

– Srila Prabhupada letter to Jaya Govinda das (Book production manager) - 7 July, 1969

For the better part of the 20th century, the printing press provided the tools for successful propaganda from so many groups of people. Srila Prabhupada stated how expert the communists were to spread their influence in India via the pamphlets and books they distributed. Srila Prabhupada used this example to express how he wanted to make a large propaganda program for Krishna consciousness by distributing his books all over the world.

Now in the 21st century the power of influence has shifted to the Internet. Srila Prabhupada’s statement “at the present moment” was made long before the Internet started. In Vanipedia we are preparing Srila Prabhupada teachings for proper representation on this unparalleled modern-media platform. There is no doubt that the web has now become the biggest medium of the present moment for serving Krishna. Srila Prabhupada stated that the Radha Press of his devotees in Germany was “really a representative of Srimati Radharani”. We are therefore certain that he would consider Vanipedia as a representative of Srimati Radharani as well.

So many beautiful Vapu-temples have already been built by ISKCON devotees – let us now build at least one glorious Vani-temple. The Vapu-temples offer sacred darshans to the forms of the Lord and a Vani-temple will offer the sacred darshan to the teachings of the Lord and His pure devotees, as presented by Srila Prabhupada. The work of ISKCON devotees will naturally be more successful when Srila Prabhupada’s teachings are situated in their rightful, worshipable position. Now there is a wonderful opportunity for all his current appointed assistants to embrace the vani-mission of building his Vani-temple and to inspire the whole movement to participate.

Just as the enormous and beautiful Vapu-temple rising from the banks of the Ganges in Sridhama Mayapur is destined to help spread Lord Caitanya’s mercy all over the world, so too can a Vani-temple of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings strengthen his ISKCON mission to spread all over the world and establish Srila Prabhupada’s natural position for thousands of years to come.
Vaniseva – taking practical action to serve

- Completing the Vanipedia means Srila Prabhupada’s teachings will be presented in a way that no one has ever done for the works of any spiritual teacher. We invite you to take part in this sacred mission. Together we will give Srila Prabhupada a unique exposure to the world on a magnitude only possible via the web.

- Our desire is to make Vanipedia the No.1 reference encyclopedia of Srila Prabhupada’s teachings in multiple languages. This will only happen with the sincere commitment, sacrifice and support of many devotees. To date, a few committed vaniservants have been building Vanisource and Vaniquotes. Now in order to build the Vanipedia articles, the Vanibooks, the VaniMedia, and the Vaniversity courses we need the support of devotees with the following skills:

  - Administration
  - Compiling
  - Curriculum Development
  - Design and Layout
  - Finance
  - Management
  - Promotion
  - Researching
  - Server Maintenance
  - Site Development
  - Software Programming
  - Teaching
  - Technical Editing
  - Training
  - Translating
  - Writing

- Vaniservants can offer their service from home, temples, office, or they can join us full-time for certain periods in Sridhama Mayapur or Radhadesh.

Please spread the word! Talk to your contacts; take leaflets to distribute and display on temple notice boards; invite us for presentations and talks. To get in touch and to get involved, contact us at vaniseva@pamho.net
Vaniseva – taking practical action to serve (cont’d)

- For the past 6 years Vanipedia has been financed by the book distribution from Bhaktivedanta Library Services. To continue its construction, Vanipedia needs funding beyond the current capacity of BLS. Once completed, Vanipedia will hopefully be sustained by small donations from a percentage of many satisfied visitors. But for now, in order to complete the initial phases of building this free encyclopedia, the service of offering financial support is crucial.

- Supporters of Vanipedia can choose from one of the following options:

  **Sponsor:** A person donating any amount they desire

  **Supporting Patron:** An individual person or legal entity donating at least **81 euros**

  **Sustaining Patron:** An individual person or legal entity donating at least **810 euros**
  with possibility to make 9 monthly payments of 90 euros

  **Growth Patron:** An individual person or legal entity donating **8,100 euros**
  with possibility to make 9 yearly payments of 900 euros

  **Foundational Patron:** An individual person or legal entity donating **81,000 euros**
  with possibility to make 9 yearly payments of 9,000 euros

Donations can be received through our PayPal account titled vaniseva@pamho.net. If you prefer another method or have more queries before donating, then email us at vaniseva@pamho.net