From: Kenneth Beck <kbdgoswami@icloud.com>
Date: 6 September 2023 at 09:06:32 BST
To: Daksina Devi Dasi <daksina@iskconcpo.org>
Subject:

Dear Daksina Devī Dasi,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada

Thank you for your response.

I apologize if I misled you or anyone else, especially [redacted], into thinking that I feel or ever felt that my offense against [redacted] was a simply part of other mistakes I made in Spain.

My face to face apology to [redacted] was a very deep thing to me. I understood and still understand how serious my behaviour toward her was. In fact, at one point I had purchased a ticket to go to India and drown myself in the same place as Junior Haridas did in Caitanya Lila.

The truth is that my decision to drown myself was made right after my apology to [redacted]. I felt as though I had ruined her life. But I decided not to drown myself after hearing a morning walk in which Srila Prabhupada said, in response to a devotee's suggestion that Visnujana had committed suicide, that he was simply avoiding service.

So right or wrong, that was my decision at the time, even though I felt so horrible even as I was apologizing to [redacted] and asking her to forgive me. I stopped misbehaving with her and continued my service. I thought she had accepted my apology and forgiven me. How naive of me!

[redacted], when I finally decided to step down, I felt as if I had died. And I took it that I was experiencing Krishna's statement in the Bhagavad-gita that "…for a respectable person, dishonour is worse than death." And I also thought of you and that I was paying for my misbehaviour with you. That's the truth. And I fall at your feet and beg you to forgive me.

In the beginning, I thought of you like a daughter. Your father was my driver and cook and with time I felt close to your family. I began to play with you in that mood, and then I lost control. I'm so sorry, truly sorry.

The process of devotional service is so powerful. After 38 years of serving after I left Spain, I feel like a different person than when I was in Spain. Honestly, when I left Spain and stepped down, I gradually changed and now I would never, ever do again what I did in Spain. I learned my lesson, for what it's worth.

Please, please, please forgive me.

Hare Krishna!

Your servant, Kesava Bharati Dasa Goswami