

2nd Initiation Candidate Pre-Requisites

Cover Sheet

Candidate's Name:

Temple>Nama Hatta Recommending:

- Recommendation Sheet from Temple Authorities
 - Recommendation Sheet from 3 Brahmans (optional)
 - Practical Check list for 2nd Initiation
 - Personal Questionnaire
 - Philosophical Test (full unabridged test for Educated candidates -- 60% minimum)
 - Philosophical Test (Alternate short test for uneducated candidates-- 90% minimum)
 - Initiation Oath for 2nd Initiation (optional)
 - Up to date Disciple Census Form/bio-data and address
 - Interview appearance
 - Photo (digital or hard copy)
-

Examiner's/ Reviewer's Approval: Complete Incomplete

Examiner's Name: Title:

Signature.....

Gopal Krishna Goswami's Decision after Interview:

- Accepted/ Okay for receiving initiation.
- Unaccepted for current initiation. Should improve in following area(s):

1.

2.

3.

4.

Thankyou,

.....

Gopal Krishna Goswami (initial)

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KRISHNA CONSCIOUSNESS

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

Center: _____

Date: _____

OFFICIAL RECOMMENDATION FOR SECOND INITIATION

To (Name of Diksa Guru): _____

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. It is my pleasure to recommend:

for second initiation by you. I find that he/she has fulfilled the necessary qualifications for this initiation to the best of my understanding. Specifically, for the last twelve months he/she has been engaged in favorable devotional service, has chanted sixteen rounds of japa daily, and has adhered to the four regulative principles. It has been more than one year since he/she received first initiation. These qualifications have either been observed by me personally or I have heard of them from sources I know to be reliable.

Your servant, _____ (Name) _____ Title)

_____ (Place) _____ (Date)

General and Spiritual Information

Spiritual Name: _____ Date/Place of 1st Initiation: __/__/__|_____

First Name: _____ Family Name: _____

Date of birth: __/__/____ Male Female Age: _____ Nationality: _____

Devotional services: _____ Occupation (if working): _____

Present Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Country: _____ Phone No's: home: _____ office: _____ Fax: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Country: _____ Phone No's: home: _____ office: _____ Fax: _____

Marriage status Single Seeking Engaged Married Separated/ divorced Widow;

Name of spouse (if applicable): _____ Spouse KC Status[_____]

Name of children and their birth year / age: _____

Is child of ISKCON Devotee Yes No Devotee relative name: _____

Is in contact with Krishna consciousness for _____ years/months. Does'nt live in a temple

Yes, lives in a temple or temple community. Yes, is connected to a temple? _____

Did you get Harinama from another Guru? Yes; No. If Yes then give name: _____

Siksa Guru(s): _____

Guiding devotee(s): _____

E-mail (COM) Internet services

E-mail (personal / contact): _____

Preliminary Qualifications for Being a Brahmana:

<i>Notes for making a 2nd initiation checklist:</i>	OK'D	DATE
PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE & BEHAVIOR:		_/_/_
1. Attend the temple a minimum number of times per week (unlessb there are approved reasons for not being able to).		_/_/_
2. Being a good example of enthusiasm for offering to render and rendering service in the Temple or Nama Hatta or other authorized ISKCON activities.		_/_/_
3. Has read as a minimum the following books the required number of times <i>[the books and number of times should be discussed and finalized]</i>		_/_/_
• BG - 3+		_/_/_
• SB 1 st Canto = 2+		_/_/_
• SB other Cantos = ? times		_/_/_
• TLC = 1 time		_/_/_
• Upadesamrita = 1 time		_/_/_
• NOD first part = 2 times		_/_/_
• Other books = ? times		_/_/_
4. Avoids degrading and non-devotional activities including the following, but not limited to them alone:		_/_/_
• Watching mundane television without KC reason;		_/_/_
• Going to mundane Movies w/o KC reason;		_/_/_
• Being negligent in KC activities and other related responsibilities like one's asrama's duties;		_/_/_
• Domestic violence or other unauthorized violence;		_/_/_
• Excessive arguments without KC cause;		_/_/_
• Dishonesty or failure to tell the truth to devotees;		_/_/_

• Rumor mongering or tendency towards kuti-nati;		__/__/__
• Political or offensive activities against spiritual authorities;		__/__/__
• Other degrading and non-devotional activities for which one doesn't have previous permission from the Spiritual Master and local authorities.		__/__/__
5. Shows an interest in and tendency for preaching Krishna consciousness and accepts training to give devotional classes.		__/__/__
6. Is one or more of the following:		__/__/__
• Resident in good standing of a temple or temple community.		__/__/__
• An active member of the congregation who regularly attends and offers service at the temple.		__/__/__
• Is an active member in good standing of an authorized Nama Hatta group or Nama Hatta Bhakti Branch Group.		__/__/__
• Has a program which is not one of the above which is previously authorized by local spiritual authorities and the Spiritual Master (where possible in writing).		__/__/__
7. Is known to chant his/her 16 rounds daily and follow all the regulative principles sincerely.		__/__/__
8. Hasn't had a major fall down in the past 2 years or broken any regulative principle in the past year.		__/__/__
9. Passes the philosophical examination with 66% minimum mark.		__/__/__
10. Passes the practical examination (prayers, parampara, vaisnava etiquette, and basic knowledge of practices) with 90% minimum mark;		__/__/__
11. Has answered the Personal questionnaire appropriately and no insurmountable or serious obstacle has arisen.		__/__/__
12. Has the recommendation of the local Temple President or in case of congregational members the local Nama Hatta leaders designated for this purpose and the local Temple President or Regional Director of Nama Hatta.		__/__/__

PERSONAL QUESTIONNAIRE FOR
HH Gopal Krishna GOSWAMI'S
2ND INITIATION CANDIDATES

This is the version to be take with
 Brahmana Check List.

1. Which applies to you? (*Check all that apply*)
 - I live in the Temple Asram and do service there.
 - I live at home and regularly do devotional service at:
 - The ISKCON Temple. {If yes, Temple Name: }
 - The local Nama Hatta {If yes, Nama Hatta Name: }
 - I also belong to a local Bhakti Branch (Cell) group and regularly attend.
 - Other:.....
2. Have you regularly chanted 16-rounds of Hare Krsna mahamantra japa during the past two years or since taking Harinama Initiation (whichever is shorter)? (--Yes/ --No)
 - a) In a month how many did you miss on the average?
 - b) Did you make up the missed rounds? (--Yes/ --No)
3. Have you avoided breaking the 4-regulative principles during the past two years? (--Yes/ --No/ --Usually)
4. a) Do you regularly attend Temple or Home Mangal Arati? (--Yes/ --No)
 b) How many days missed in a month on the average? Days.
5. Have you had a fixed or steady devotional service during the past 12-months? (--Yes/ --No)
 What have been your services?

6. a) Have you ever left the temple, stopped attending Nama Hatta or stopped performing your responsibilities and services without permission of the spiritual authorities? (--Yes/ --No)
 b) Have you ever willfully disobeyed or neglected to follow an order of the spiritual master since your first initiation? (--Yes/ --No); if Yes, give

- details [time, place, etc.]:
7. Do you regularly bathe early in the morning and otherwise maintain cleanliness (fingernails, hair, clothes, etc.) {-Yes/ -No}
 8. Are you implicated or involved in any dishonesty such as theft, breaking state laws etc. during the past two years? {-Yes/ -No} (If Yes, give detail).....
 9. Did you abuse a child?{-Yes/ -No}
 10. Have you lied/ told untruth, to senior devotees during the past 2 years? {-Yes/ -No}
 11. How many times have you read the following books:
 - a. Bhagavad Gita as it is
 - b. Srimad Bhagavatam 1st canto.....
 - c. Srimad Bhagavatam 2 to 5 cantos (or which cantos)
 - d. Srimad Bhagavatam 6 to 9 cantos (or which cantos)
 - e. Krsna book.....
 - f. Caitanya Charitamrta (which volumes if not all)
 - g. Teachings of Lord Caitanya
 - h. Nectar of Devotion.....
 - i. Which other BBT books have you read?.....
 12. Are you prone to depression and material anxiety? {-Yes/ -No}
 13. Have you ever considered committing suicide or leaving ISKCON during the previous 24-months? {-Yes/ -No}
 14. Are you presently particularly agitated by any of the senses to the extend that you fear that you are in eminent danger of falling down? {-Yes/ -No} If yes, mention source(s) of agitation:
 15. Do you avoid offending vaisnavas and un-constructive criticism of devotees? {-Yes/ -No} If no mention what:.....

16. Have you completed the practical checklist when you got first initiation?---
--- {-Yes/ -No I am not sure}

17. REGARDING RTVIKISM:

- a. Have you heard about Rtvikism?: No, haven't heard. Yes, I've heard through:
- b. Newspaper Internet Rtvik adherents talked to me. Devotees
 Other:
- c. If you have heard, what is your opinion about Rtvikism?
- d. By pro-rtvik preaching have ever you become doubtful or believed in rtvikism? {-Yes/ -No}

18. FOR DEVOTEES WHO LIVE OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE:

- a. How often do you visit the temple?
- b. How often do you attend the nama hatta meetings?.....
- c. Do you practice a daily sadhana routine of rising before sunrise chanting, etc.? {-Yes/ -No}
- d. Which local ISKCON temple or Nama Hatta sangha do you attend on a regular basis?
- e. Are you connected to any other religious organization/s? Which ones? What kind of service do you offer to them?
- f. Are you married? {-Yes/ -No}
- g. If are are not married do you plan to or would like to get married in the near future? {-Yes/ -No/ Not applicable}
- h. If you are not married and do not intend to get married, do you plan to join a temple? {-Yes/ -No} When or why not?
- i. Do you contribute any percentage or amount from your income to Lord Krsna's service? {-Yes/ -No} If so, give details:
- j. Do you have capacity, plans or the idea for increasing your devotional service?- {-Yes/ -No} If yes, what?

k. Do you generally avoid eating anything but prasadam? {-Yes/ -No} If No what exception?

19. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ONLY FOR THOSE WHO MAY MARRY:

- a. If you ever get married, would you first try to marry only an initiated vaisnava devotee (ISKCON) and if not available then only marry a pious vegetarian person? {-Yes/ -No}
- b. Would you consult with ISKCON authorities and the guru before/while making such decision? {-Yes/ -No}
- c. Do you know the rules of Krsna conscious life including reg's for Krsna conscious sex life? {-Yes/ -No}
- d. Do you feel capable of following # c above? {-Yes/ -No}
- e. Do you think the married life will affect your present service? {-Yes/ -No}; If yes, how? Give details:

QUESTIONS FOR GRIHASTHAS LIVING WITH WIFE (NOT TOTALLY CELIBATE):

(Leave blank if not Grhastha)

[NOTE: This can be presented to the guru in a closed envelope since it is personal details not suitable for everyone's vision.]

20. PRACTICING REGULATED FAMILY LIFE:

- a. I am totally Celibate (no sexual activity). [You can go to Section 22.]
- a. Vaisnava Grihastas who practice sex-life according to vedic literatures for the purpose of procreation of Krishna conscious children are doing a devotional service to Lord Krishna and are considered to be "grihastha brahmacharis". There is no hard and fast rule limiting how many children a grihastha may have, but it is recommended that they only try to have children one day per month. That day "garbhodhana samskara" is practised by increasing spiritual activities and chanting extra rounds and praying to Guru and Krishna for sending a pure devotee child. Do you practice this

standard of grihasta life? [Yes / No/ Trying]

b. If you have not been following the above standard at present are you prepared to do so [YES / NO / Will try/.]

c. If you are not able to commit to following the above standard due to any extenuating circumstances, after initiation are you committed to practicing a regulated sex-life using only natural methods of planning a family and to avoid excesses? [Yes / No / See Note]

d. If you are not able to practice standard "a." above kindly explain what obstacle(s) you face that prevent you from doing so. Do you face any of the following obstacles in practicing regulated family life [Check all that apply, or indicate if you prefer explaining personally to the Guru.]

1. My spouse (marriage partner) is not a practicing devotee which makes it difficult.

2. We cannot have children (more children), but cannot remain fully celibate.

3. We do not want more children but cannot remain fully celibate.

4. In order to preserve the marriage more relations are required.

5. I am personally not able to commit to that level of celibacy.

6. Other obstacle in following:

7. I prefer to explain personally to the Guru.

e. If you are not able to follow standard "a." above then which of the following levels are you able to follow [Check all that apply, or indicate if you prefer explaining personally to the Guru.]:

1. Generally follow but only occasionally not able to follow.

2. Relations once per month (although not necessarily for procreation).

3. Relations more than once per month (although not necessarily for procreation).

4. Relations according to the Manu Samhita codes (non-ekadasee, etc.)

5. Relations without any strict regulation within marriage.

6. Any other standard: _____

7. I prefer to explain personally to the Guru.

21. Regarding family planning matters: a. Do you use modern family planning techniques, contraceptives or do you intend to use them or have an abortion in the future? {-Yes/ -No}

b. Have you or your spouse undergone a sterilization operation? {-Yes/ -No}

c. Are you sure and committed that you will never undergo sterilization in the future or perform an abortion? (If you have any doubt on this then answer NO.) {-Yes/ -No}

22. Are you/will you train your dependent children to be Krsna conscious devotees? {-Yes/ -No/ -Trying}

b. Do you feed them only prasadam and vegetarian food?{-Yes/ -No}

Gopal Krishna Goswami's 2nd Initiation Philosophical Examination **{V2.0}**

A. About the material nature

1a) Explain in a general way the three modes of nature. Include a specific description of the qualities found in the three different modes?

2a) Is the living entity controlled or free, or is he a combination of both? Explain how free will and predestination exist simultaneously in the material life of the conditioned soul.

3a) What is action (karma), prohibited action (vikarma), and inaction (akarma)?

4a) What are the 8 material elements?

5a) Describe the five senses for acquiring knowledge, their objects, and the five working senses.

6a) What is the function of the mind, the intelligence, and the false ego?

7a) Explain the basic structure of the universal egg in terms of its different planetary systems and the covering layers of universe. How is the earth situated in this system?

8a) Describe the different species of life. What are they and how many are they? How does the spirit soul travel through the forms lower than the human form?

9a) How does the human being change his body at the moment of death?

10a) Explain karma. How is the law of karma affecting the living entity?

11a) What are the reactions which occur when one perform pious and impious activities? Give some examples of pious and impious activities and their resultant reactions.

12a) Explain what are devas or demigods. What are the names,

qualities and activities of at least five of them?

13a) What is varnasrama? What are the duties of each varna and asrama. What do you think is your natural position within this system and why? What is the proper asrama for each Varna and therefore what do you think is your best situation within the asrama?

14a) Write something about the Vedic conception of time in terms of the lifetime of Brahma. How would one calculate a day of Brahma according to our conception of time? Explain the yugas and their duration, as well as a description of spiritual processes to be performed in each one.

15a) What are the special qualities of Kali-yuga? Who is the personality of Kali (yuga) and what does Srimad Bhagavatam tell about him? What are the advantages and disadvantages of this Kali-yuga?

B. Topics on soul and Supersoul

1b) Write as many qualities of the soul as you know. Explain how these qualities are different from the qualities of the material body.

2b) Explain totally the significance of the Bhagavad-Gita verse dehino 'smin yatha dehe, "As the embodied soul continually passes, in this body ..." etc.

3b) What is the function of the Supersoul in reference to the verses isvara sarva bhutanam, sarvasya caham hrdis sannivisto, and upadrstanumantas ca? If you don't know the Sanskrit verses, write an answer explaining about the Supersoul.

4b) How does the Supersoul regulate the karma of all the conditioned living entities?

5b) What is the example of the two birds in the tree, and what is its explanation?

C. Questions about Krsna and the Absolute Truth

1c) Who is Krsna? Why is He described as Isvara, Purusa, Bhagavan, Adidevam? What other qualities of krsna can you think of? Try and answer in the context of the verse, aham sarvasya prabhava.

2c) What is the purport of the verse, ye yatha mam prapadyante, "As they surrender unto Me I reward..."

3c) What is the ultimate goal or highest perfection of life? How can one achieve it?

4c) What are the qualities of the personal forms of Krsna and Visnu?

5c) Explain as many characteristics as possible about the ten incarnations of Godhead. How many incarnations of Godhead are there? Explain the different kinds of incarnations of Godhead.

6c) Describe the Panca-tattva. Who are they and Who are they in Krsna-lila.

7c) What are the symptoms of an actual incarnation of the Lord and what are those of a rascal claiming to be one and how would we challenge him to show he is God?

8c) Describe the three manifestations of the Absolute Truth Also, explain the specific yogic process by which one realizes each manifestation.

9c) Out of the three realizations, i.e. paramatma, Bhagavan, or Brahman which is more complete? Which path of

self-realization is more appropriate for today?

D. About the disciplic succession

1d) What is the disciplic succession and why is it important? What is the name of our sampradaya and the other vaisnava sampradayas? If you can, name the main sampradaya acaryas.

2d) Name the sampradaya acaryas in our sampradaya from Srila Jagannatha dasa Babaji to today? if possible, list the whole succession from the time of Caitanya Mahaprabhu. Also list from Krsna to Madhvacarya.

3d) What is the purport of the verse, tad viddhi pranipatena, just try and learn the truth from a ...

4d) What is a diksa guru, a siksa guru, and a vartmana pradarsaka guru? What is the difference in dealings with the above gurus?

5d) What is the special import of the words, 'Founder-acarya'? What relationship does Srila Prabhupada have with ISKCON devotees?

6d) Describe how Srila Prabhupada came to the West and started the movement of Krsna consciousness?

E. Related to Krsna Consciousness

1e) What is the function of desire in spiritual life?

2e) What is sanatana-dharma?

3e) Lord Caitanya compares devotional service to sowing a seed (bhakti-lata-bija) in the heart. The devotional creeper is watered by hearing, chanting, and other devotional service. Kindly mention the two types of dangers that Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu warns

against. How is a devotee to protect his devotional creeper from these dangers?

4e) What are the nine qualities of a Brahmin?

5e) Give three examples of how three of the above qualities of a Brahmin may be used internally and externally in devotional service?

6e) "Who am I?" is the basic question of self-realization. Kindly explain "Who you are?" according to Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu's teachings.

7e) Can a human being become God? If yes, explain the process. Is Lord Krsna's descent into the material world like a human beings? By what potency does he descend into the material world?

8e) Why is a brahmin called "dwija" or twice-born? A brahmin must be more careful as he will be held more responsible for his actions? What are the additional benefits which make it worthwhile to accept 2nd initiation?

9e) Since one can easily achieve liberation from devotional service, why does a devotee want to spread Krsna consciousness considering all the risks and troubles?

F. Questions about our personal lives

1f) What are the regulative principles? Why is it bad to break them?

2f) Describe the importance of chanting 16 rounds every day and the effects of not chanting.

3f) What are the important things to remember to do before and after eating?

4f) When is one contaminated and must take a bath? Explain different levels of contamination and how to purify oneself for each level.

5f) What is the acceptable form of cleanliness for a brahmana or in a temple?

6f) What is the correct mode of interaction between the men and women in different asrams or in a temple? Answer in regards to temple interactions and other interactions non-service oriented.

7f) What is the importance of sankirtana?

8f) Explain why this movement is called the sankirtana movement. What is the importance of a temple in this regard?

9f) Who are the Deities and what are some important points in Their service?

G. Extra important points to be answered

1g) Explain the processes of karma yoga, mystic yoga and bhakti.

2g) What is impersonalism? Why is this concept inferior and who originated this system?

3g) What is the philosophy of voidism, why is it false and who started it?

4g) Explain the dissatisfaction of Vyasadeva and what was done to correct it.

5g) Explain the circumstances around the speaking of the Bhagavad-Gita.

6g) Write out in Sanskrit and your own language (or English) as many verses as possible, but no less than 15 verses.

HH Gopal Krishna Goswami's 2nd Initiation Uneducated Candidates
Simplified Philosophical Exam (Oral or Written)

I. ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS { Both must be answered correctly to pass }:

- A. Describe the three manifestations of the Absolute Truth (Param Satya) in detail.
- B. Also, explain the specific yogic process by which one normally realizes each one of the three manifestations of the Absolute Truth mentioned above in "A".

II. Additional Questions (Give the Percentage of Correct Answers):

1. Out of the three realizations, i.e. paramatma, Bhagavan, or Brahman which is more complete? Which path of self-realization is more appropriate for today?
2. Lord Caitanya compares devotional service to sowing a seed (bhakti-lata-bija) in the heart. The devotional creeper is watered by hearing, chanting, and other devotional service. Kindly mention the two types of dangers that Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu warns against. How is a devotee to protect his devotional creeper from these dangers?
3. What are the nine qualities of a Brahmin?
4. Give three examples of how three of the above qualities may be used internally and externally in devotional service?
5. "Who am I?" is the basic question of self-realization. Kindly explain "Who you are?" according to Lord Caitanya Mahaprabhu's teachings.
6. What is the highest perfection of life? How can one achieve it?
7. Since one can easily achieve liberation from devotional service Why does a devotee want to spread Krsna consciousness considering all the risks and troubles?
8. Who are the Panca-tattwa? Explain who each of the panca-tattwa are representing.
9. Can a human being become God? If yes, explain the process. Is Lord Krsna's descent into the material world like a human beings? By what potency does he descend into the material world?
10. Why is a brahmin called "dwija" or twice-born? A brahmin must be more careful as he will be held more responsible for his actions? What are the additional benefits which make it worthwhile to accept 2nd initiation?