Hare Krishna all,

Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada!

This individual essay is due end October 2014. I pray this to happen.

Here are the questions:

**Answer ONE assigned question. You may discuss with each other but MUST produce your own version of the essay. Similar sounding and written essays will receive an automatic failure and a new essay will become due. All essays must be a minimum of 2500 words and a maximum of 3000 words.**

1. A friend of yours recently read the 2nd Canto and came across the verses SB. 2.1.2 – 4. Your friend became very unhappy with the statements of Sri Sukadeva Goswami and Srila Prabhupada’s purport. Your friend feels that s/he is not an envious person but a kind hearted individual who cares a great deal about others and who has a loving family. Explain in your own words how you would, using your knowledge from the 2nd Canto, appease your friend. Why do people either feel uncomfortable and unable to accept the statements of the Bhagavata or the acaryas?

2. Compare the first three chapters of Canto 2 and discuss how one can actually realize Sri Krishna or not realize Him within this lifetime using your own life as an example on the activities that you are doing and not doing. Why is impersonalism often denounced by Srila Prabhupada? In what ways have you displayed such impersonal tendencies and continue to do so? What are some steps that might help you overcome impersonalism?

3. Why did Maharaja Pariksit inquire how Lord Krishna created these material universes even though it was difficult even for the demigods to understand? In what ways does this help you in your preaching to the commoner who might happen to visit you or the temple? How does the false ego transform and into what does it transform to? Write briefly how you understand this material and phenomenal world came to exist and in what ways does this understanding differ from the scientific theory that is prevalent these days. In what ways are the scientists correct and incorrect? So what do you think are some of the problems of modern science that are in contention with religious understanding?

4. From the 2nd Canto describe briefly the steps Brahma took when he first awoke within the lotus flower from the navel of Garbhodakasayi Vishnu till he started the secondary creation. Also write briefly some of the things that the Lord revealed to Brahma? How can you achieve what Brahma achieved in this instance? Why did the Lord praise Brahma’s penance? What is the difference between our desires and Lord Brahma’s desire? How would you explain the Catur sloki to a lay person such that they also can understand the Supreme position of Lord Krishna?

Random assigned essays:

Amritananda dasa                           1                                          Syamala dasi                     2

Anuradha-sakhi devi dasi                2                                          Braja Kripa dasa                3

Balarama-lila dasa                           3                                          Paramananda dasa           1

Damodara Prasada dasa                4

Divya-drsti devi dasi                       4

Gauranga-candra dasa                   2

Harivallabha dasa                            4

Madhava-candra dasa                    3

Madhava-gauranga dasa                1

Nava Kishori devi dasi                    2

Naveena Krishna dasa                     3

Radhika Gopinath dasa                   4

Sudeva devi dasi                               1