

PUBLISHER'S PREFACE.

THE Career and teachings of the Supreme Lord Sree Krishna-Chaitanya have been faithfully recorded by His associates and best beloved servants, *viz.*, the former Āchāryyas. But the version of the subject that has been presented by modern writers who base their narrative on the empiric study of the Gauḍiyya Vaishnav literature and their experience of the practices of the different hereditary sects of the Gauḍiyya Vaishnava Community, presents only the external and necessarily misleading aspect of the transcendental subject. His Divine Grace Paramahansa Paribrajākāchāryya Shree Shreemad Bhakti Siddhānta Saraswati Goswāmi stands for the strictly transcendental exposition of the Religion of unalloyed devotion of the congregational chant of the Name of Krishna taught and practised by the Supreme Lord, as the Divine Dispensation of the present age. His Divine Grace's editions and commentaries of the original works of the school and numerous other publications embody his transcendental exposition of the universal religion in strict pursuance of the scriptural method followed by all the former Āchāryyas.

The present volume is an attempt to convey an idea of certain features of the Transcendental Personality of the Supreme Lord through the medium of the English Language by Professor N. K. Sānyāl, M.A., of the Ravenshaw College of Cuttack. The work has been a labour of love in the strict sense as Professor Sānyāl performed it during the intervals of leisure from the intellectual pre-occupations of his official duties by neglecting the claims of a naturally fragile health. But the book written by him deserves to be placed before the world for the reason that it offers the experience of a Transcendental subject as realised by an empiric scholar and teacher of a recognised standing. Professor Sānyāl is, therefore, well-qualified to meet the requirements of empiric scholars for understanding a transcen-

dental subject. The Publisher hopes that the sterling worth of the volume will be quickly appreciated by all sincere persons as offering a most helpful and reliable introduction to the spiritual literatures of this and other countries, that is essentially different in its point of view and estimation of spiritual values from the fashionable idealistic and materialistic philosophies of to-day. The work has the unique distinction of being recognised by Shrila Paramahansa Goswāmi Mahārāj as containing an exposition of the subject on the true lines.

The Publisher has been working as the preacher of the Gauḍiya Mission in the Madras Presidency during several years and has been encouraged by the keen general interest that has been taken in the activities of the Mission by all sections of the cultured classes. This has led him to undertake the publication of this reliable version of the career of Sree Chaitanya in the English language which will remove a long-felt want and indicate the real relation of the Teachings of the Supreme Lord to all current schools of theological and philosophical thought. All the pecuniary proceeds of the work will be available for the purpose of the Mission for spreading the true knowledge of the principles and practices of the Religion of unalloyed devotion to all corners of the world.

The publication of the volume has been helped by the generous pecuniary aid offered by Rāo Saheb T. Rājagopālāchāri, B.A., Srotriendār of Ernavur, Washermanpet, Madras, who has cheerfully borne the entire cost. He has not been content with extending his financial patronage, but has followed the progress of the printing of the work with watchful anxiety, regarding it as his most sacred duty. His child-like simplicity and genuine whole-hearted desire to make the tidings of the eternal religion available in a really intelligible and reliable form suited to the mentality of the present generation have made a great impression on the members of the Mission. May he be enabled to realise the Mercy of Śree Gaursundar by means of this sincere serving disposition.

The Madras Law Journal Press has given every facility to the Publisher in bringing out the volume in the midst of his

missionary activities which entail frequent and long absences from the city of Madras. In spite of the difficulties that were put in the way of the Press by such occurrences and by the fact that it was necessary to revise the matter itself after it had been composed, especially the Introduction and early chapters, the Proprietor of the Madras Law Journal Press did not grudge to give every help towards the early publication of the work. The finish of the work both as regards print and binding has been truly admirable and exceeds even the very high record of this famous establishment. The publisher accordingly takes this opportunity of offering his grateful thanks to the Proprietor and the management of the Madras Law Journal Press for their valuable help in bringing out this exquisitely printed volume within such a short time.

Mr. C. V. Krishnaswami Iyer, B.A., Superintendent in the Secretariat of Fort St. George, Local Self-Government, has given very valuable assistance in going through the proofs, in connection with the revision of the manuscript and in preparing the Index. The sincere thanks of the Publisher are due to this devoted servant of the Lord.

SREE GAUDIYA MATH,
MADRAS,
Jan. 20, 1933.

TRIDANDI-SWAMI,
BHAKTIHRIDAYA BANA.

PREFACE.

THE writer does not intend the book for the Indianists only, nor for any particular sect or group of people. His appeal is to all persons, in every country, of both sexes, young and old including children, for accepting the unique chance of self-acquaintance offered by the living words of the present Most Revered Spiritual Head of Sree Mādhva-Gauḍīya Community, His Divine Grace Paramahansa-paribrājakāchāryya Sree Srimat Bhakti Siddhānta Saraswati Goswāmi Mahārāj. No one can be more alive to the endless imperfections of the book than the unworthy writer. He has only one apology to offer to all his readers, *viz.*, that he was compelled to write by the overpowering necessity of placing his experiences of the Personality and Activities of His Divine Grace and His associated counterparts before the world by way of his humble service, in response to the great and causeless mercy of Sree Guru towards a confirmed rationalist whose case is more or less typical of that of his brethren. It is also for the same reason that the work will be found to embody the method of rational enquiry being committed to the apparently vain attempt of measuring the unlimited by its admittedly incompatible resources. This performance would never have seen the light of the day of actual publication but for the causeless kindness of the Āchāryya who was pleased to accept this unworthy offering and thereby impart the real value to the gropings of irreclaimable egotism.

My only request to the reader is that he or she may not really doubt that the above words are penned by an unrepentant rationalist who has been unable to find for himself the relief that he has the hardihood of declaring to be within the reach of all. In his own case this is, no doubt, the real and unparadonable piece of inconsistency. He is something like a privileged onlooker, by unsolicited permission, of a secondary aspect of the transcendental activities of the group of *bona fide* devotees of the Supreme Lord

Sree Krishna-Chaitanya, who have been unaccountably pleased to appear in the midst of the polemical generation of the present wrangling Age, for making real enlightenment available to all persons who are compelled seriously to seek for the same by the driving pressure of a denying rationalism.

It is the submission of this slight and imperfect narrative that the needed relief is to be sought from the living source who is no other than the Transcendental Agent of Godhead Himself. It is possible for the rational judgment also to be satisfied, so far as such satisfaction is at all possible, if the Office of the Āchāryya is really, even though at first necessarily tentatively, admitted by the establishment of personal communion, by temporary unreserved abeyance of one's assertive judgment, with His Divine Grace, through the enlightening help of His associated counterparts. The narrative seeks to set forth some of the rational grounds in favour of the universal adoption of such course.

As the writer had to stay at a long distance from the publisher and printers by the pressure of his official duties, many small and a few major inaccuracies, for which the writer is responsible, have unfortunately escaped detection. The kind forgiveness of the reader is solicited for these regrettable shortcomings which should be avoidable in a work of this nature.

RAVENSHAW COLLEGE, CUTTACK, NISIKANTA SANYAL,
November 15, 1932.

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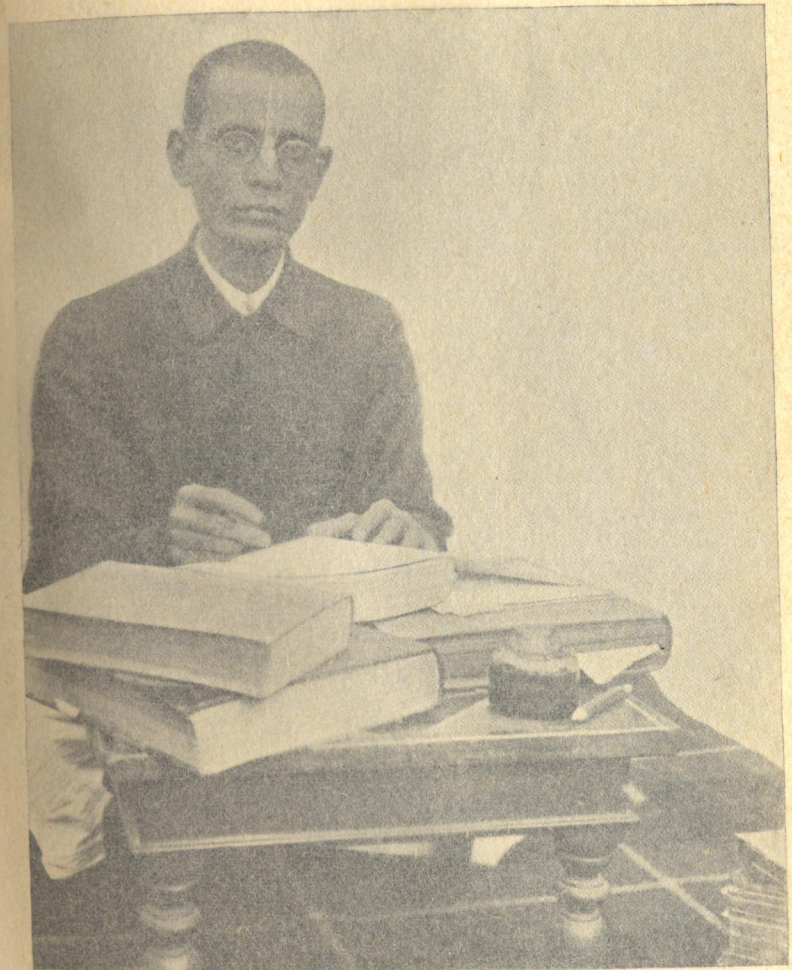
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The Author.