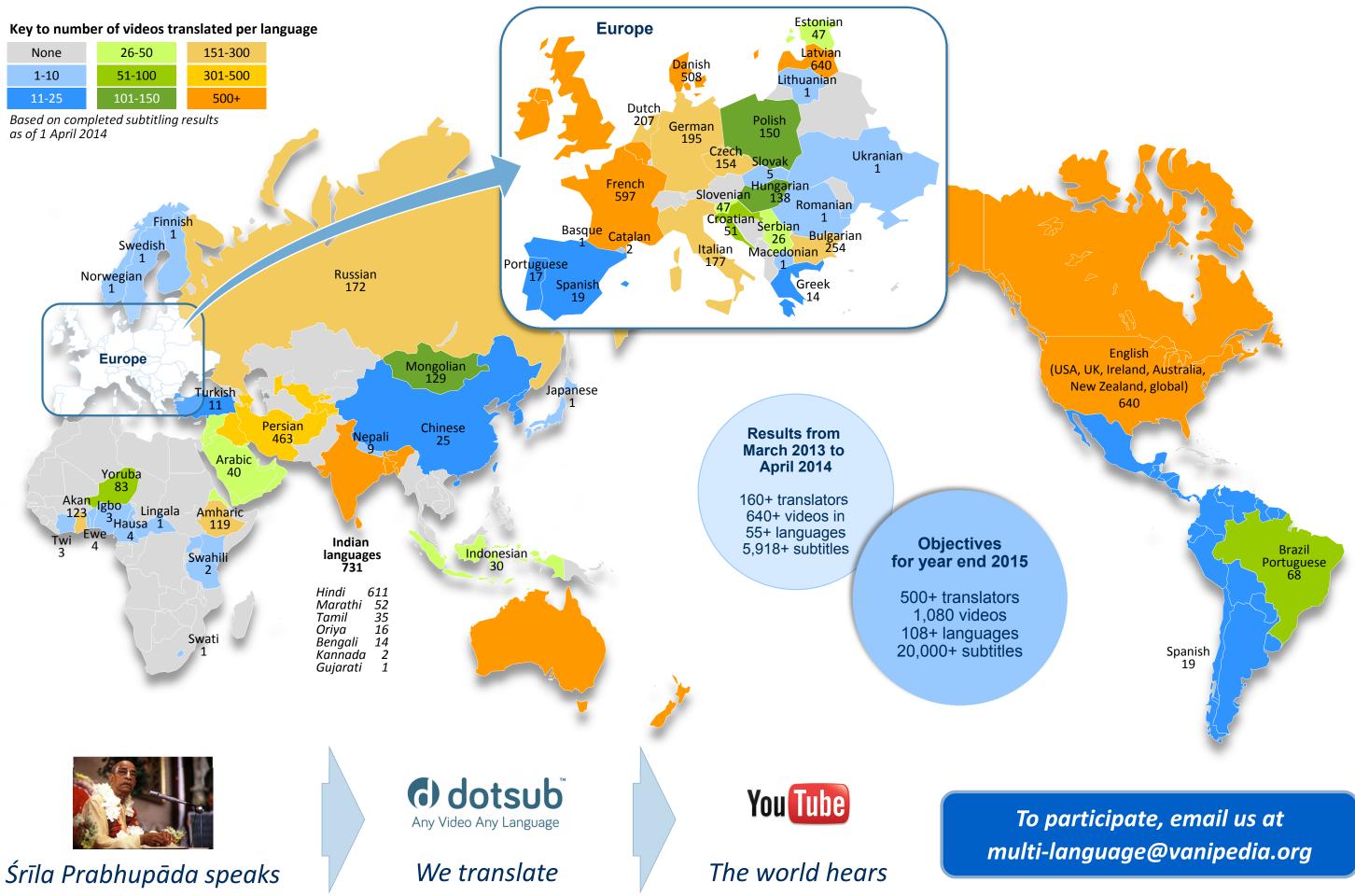
# His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupāda's The Essence of Vedic Knowledge

# Uniting Śrīla Prabhupāda's Multi-lingual Family







Vanipedia is creating video clips (1 to 10 minutes long) of Śrīla Prabhupāda's audio messages subtitled in multi-languages. It is a collaborative service being offered by devotees from around the globe to facilitate people, irrespective of which language they speak, to directly hear and understand Śrīla Prabhupāda's sublime message of truth and love.

### 1,080 videos

We aspire to offer 1,080 of these video clips of Śrīla Prabhupāda's spoken words to his worldwide followers - all subtitled with at least 16 and up to 108 or more languages. **Our goal for completion is 4th October 2015 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Śrīla Prabhupāda's arrival in the West**. The total number of subtitles will range from 16,000 to an optimum of 116,000.

#### **Results so far**

We launched this project at the beginning of March 2013 and by the 27th of March for Gaura Purnima we had our first video clip with 34 subtitles ready. Our second video was ready by May 2013. Since then we have been enthusiastically engaged and as of the 1st April 2014 we now have 640 video clips and so far 162 translators, assisted by 6 others, have translated over 5,900 subtitles in 55 languages. That is impressive and the momentum is growing.

#### Collaborate with us and become a translator.

#### You...

- are familiar with translation from English into your mother language;
- are not so familiar but you are confident that you could make a translation;
- want to help your fellow countrymen to hear Śrīla Prabhupāda;
- love to, or would love to, associate with Śrīla Prabhupāda's audio;
- want to render some personal service to Śrīla Prabhupāda;
- want to see Śrīla Prabhupāda's teachings distributed to every corner of the globe;
- have an hour or two of spare time;
- appreciate the power of collaborative efforts facilitating lots of people doing a little work to get super-excellent results.

If so, here is a great opportunity waiting for you, no matter the amount of time you are able to offer. We are recruiting translators who want to be part of this historical initiative.

#### You will experience...

- direct association with Śrīla Prabhupāda as you translate his words;
- a personal offering, made by you, for the pleasure of Śrila Prabhupāda;
- the joy of serving, with your multi-language family members, in a dynamic project;



160 devotees are already translating. We need 1,600!

### **Introducing Dotsub**

In order to facilitate the large volume of work needed to achieve our goals Vanipedia has chosen to use **Dotsub.com** 

Dotsub offers 495 languages that devotees can use to translate Śrīla Prabhupāda's messages and make them available for the whole world.

Dotsub is easy to use. You simply have to sign up for free on the website. Please do so today.

#### Starting your seva

Once you have registered with Dotsub, send us an email. We will add you to our list of international translators and you will be able to start translating straight away. Welcome to the international community of online devotee translators!

- a team of enthused translators who stimulate you to offer your service with joy;
- a user friendly process;
- all assistance to perform your service nicely.

#### You will create...

- an opportunity for people of your language to directly hear Śrīla Prabhupāda;
- a never before existing multi-language repository of Śrīla Prabhupāda's recorded words;
- a possibility for over 75% of the people of this planet to directly hear Śrīla Prabhupāda;
- the opportunity for Śrīla Prabhupāda to personally (via his sound vibration) enter into millions of peoples homes and hearts.

As you get used to translating, your confidence will increase and you will become better and faster at it. We cannot wait to hear of your blissful experiences.

- 1. Sign up with Dotsub today
- 2. Contact us at multi-language@vanipedia.org
- 3. Start translating





The following are some sample emails and feedback we have received from devotees around the world who are experiencing the benefits of translating Śrīla Prabhupāda's words

#### Gunamani Devi Dasi, Danish

First listen, then understand, then explain it to others. This is the essence of this service, which came to this fallen soul, praying for some association. A wonderful opportunity to associate with Śrīla Prabhupāda and become enlivened in Krishna consciousness.

Now the people of my country - friends, family, neighbors, colleagues can hear the voice of the pure devotee, the voice which reveals his mood, humor and kindness even when he uses words as "rascal", and they can read the subtitles and become Krishna conscious. Instead of a tombstone, my children and grandchildren, whom I love very much, will be able to hear of Krishna, if they want to remember me, when I am gone.

It is like putting your money in the most safe bank account in the world. Even if the world of electricity and oil collapses as could be expected, there is still no loss or diminution, since the result for this soul is everlasting and on top it is joyfully performed. I pray for the blessings of the Vaisnavas to be able to continue.

#### Rohit, French

I just finished the December marathon subtitling into French. It was a very ecstatic month despite the fact I couldn't translate as much as I wanted to, but still this will remain as a very beautiful memory and experience. Now I can feel why this month was very special to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

#### Irina, **Russian**

I like it. We have to think and then speak, not opposite :) And we have to tell what we've heard to others. Very nice.

#### Vijaya Baladeva Dasa, Czech

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to use some of my translating skills and at the same time to have direct association with Śrīla Prabhupāda through his teachings. Let's flood the internet with this wisdom, let's try to make Śrīla Prabhupāda's teachings well known to everybody.

#### Micha, **Arabic**

When I translate I feel it is amazing to be hearing Śrīla Prabhupāda's voice. It is as if I am present in his lectures. I feel so blessed to be able to do this seva and to hear his voice and hear how he explains everything in detail. The way that he speaks is very directed to the soul. These videos are amazing and a great seva so again thank you so much. All glories to Śrīla Prabhupāda.

#### Mahalaxmi Devi Dasi, Serbian

I am very grateful for this opportunity to sprinkle my heart with a few drops from the shore-less ocean of refreshing nectar of Śrīla Prabhupāda's words. Translating one video a day enables me not only to do some minute yet very personal service to Śrīla Prabhupāda by making his words available to those uneasy with English; but it has also become something like a daily transcendental surprise - unpacking what is hidden in each drop of mercy. Despite being more and more in awe at Srīla Prabhupāda's expertise in presenting transcendental discourses with each contact with his words, I must sadly admit that many times due to varied reasons I have failed to hear him everyday.

#### Sheela Ravishankar, Hindi

I feel very fortunate to be able to hear from Śrīla Prabhupāda on so many topics, or is it just One? :-) I never tire of hearing him. He talks to us through his lectures and like Krishna he too is unlimited - in knowledge, in compassion - in everything. I hope and pray that Krishna willing I can continue to do this minuscule service for dear Śrīla Prabhupāda till he so desires.

Prahlada Bhakta Dasa, Akan (Ghana)

Kindly permit to share some thoughts about the multi language project.

I had the fortune of being invited as a translator in July, 2013 when Visnu Murti Prabhu kindly invited me to do a 3 –week vani retreat at Radhadesh. To say the least, this retreat has made a significant impact on my life as an aspiring devotee. Somehow, I had already read (from Śrīla Prabhupāda's teachings) some of the texts that I am currently translating. However, I must admit that, the direct translations of the videos have offered me a rare opportunity to reflect rather deeply on what Śrīla Prabhupāda said.....or, meant. It is really amazing, how blissful it is to associate with Śrīla Prabhupāda via this means (of translating).

I depart for my home country, Ghana with a deep feeling of separation from my new friends...Saha, Rishab, Visnu Murti (and his good wife) and very recently, Linda. My prayer to Śrīla Prabhupāda and to this wonderful team of VANI WARRIORS is that They heal my grieving heart from this feeling of separation by offering me further opportunities to serve them even, in separation. I am extremely fortunate to be able to associate with Śrīla Prabhupāda at such a profound level. Many thanks to the vani team for giving me the opportunity to do this seva.

This service is very simple. And it is very profound. It allows me to spend time with Śrīla Prabhupāda, serving time. For someone aspiring to become his servant, there is no greater gift than this.





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#### Serene, Tamil

I started from compiling with Visnu Murti Prabhu's team, they then taught me to create pages and compile at the same time. As I was involved in this seva I had the opportunity to read the books and lectures given by Srīla Prabhupāda in different parts of the world. It was very inspiring that I never stopped doing it even for a day. I realized one thing. The specialty of Srīla Prabhupāda are all the valuable treasures (Books) that he has given us. When distributed it can multiply and multiply into many millions. It is ever lasting, even after us the next generation will benefit. It's very blissful. When I was given the opportunity to translate I felt like directly associating with Śrīla Prabhupāda. I felt it as a gift. And it is very profound. For someone aspiring to become his servant of servant, there is no greater gift than this.

#### Madana-mohana Mohini Devi Dasi, Polish

Śrīla Prabhupāda is saying in one of his short video clips that this is his practical experience, that while doing his reading and writing work he doesn't feel fatigued and he takes pleasure in doing that. Well, as a new mother to a wonderful baby girl I can't relate to it fully, as feelings of fatigue accompany me twenty four hours. Not much time and energy is there to spare for any new projects. But the pleasure in doing this translation seva... works as an addiction. Once I tried I can't stop. One clip per day. Pleasure is bigger than fatigue. That must be the difference Srīla Prabhupāda is talking in his lecture between material work and spiritual purpose. I wish all of you to get your spiritual sense, taste, to be part in this great project, to give to people speaking in your native languages these Pearls of Wisdom. Even if you think you have no time for it, I believe you can find it once you give it a try. That is my practical experience.

#### Linda Bērce, Latvian

Sharing my experience in translation of Śrīla Prabhupāda's nectarean messages from Vanimedia, this possibility is truly wonderful. From my studies I have understood that translation also is an art- one can use such translation means as domestication, literal translation, addition, deletion, etc. But when we translate such an exalted personality, there must be careful consideration made, how should the target text be adapted and which words should be chosen so that it is harmonically suited to the message Śrīla Prabhupāda is giving in the video. Another important thing is that Śrīla Prabhupāda is speaking in the conversational style, which means not all the aspects can be rendered directly as they are, but should be presented in the style listeners can understand as well as the punctuation marks should be chosen accordingly...undoubtedly changes there have to be made. But the system you all have given is very well thought out.

I like the system that we can see which languages are taken, how far the subtitle making process is done. Another thing is also when we see already added subtitles, sometimes the "whole picture" asks for some more changes in the target language- then you kindly offer to check and, if needed, make the necessary changes. Because from my experience, when we read the translated text over and over again, sometimes we tend not to see some minor slips, as we know the text. Then this "whole picture" helps a lot. Therefore I can say that my experience with this project is truly positive. I just wish you all the strength and enthusiasm to further this beautiful service. Of course a very nice motivation for me is that translation in so many languages can be used by so many... and when i see the clearly formulated target, it is easier to get enthused.

#### Sarvabhauma Dasa, Bulgarian

I am really happy that I have the opportunity to share some words of experience and appreciation from my participation in this wonderful project. It has been an honor and delight to come in contact with this service opportunity and become a member of this united team of translators from all over the world with the mission to represent the immortal vani of His Divine Grace to as many languages as possible. I am really excited that my fellow countrymen and women will get in touch with the instructions and voice of Śrīla Prabhupāda which, if taken seriously, can deliver them from all kinds of problems and anxieties in life. The submissive oral reception of the sweet message of Lord Krishna transmitted by His pure devotee is all we need to become happy in this world and be transferred to the spiritual kingdom at the time of death. So I can see how great and important is this opportunity, firstly for myself to purify my own consciousness by the words emanating from the lotus mouth of the spiritual master and then to pass on those same words, as they are, in my native language for those who are eager to hear and understand them.

I would like to thank profusely to the group of devotees at VaniMedia who are putting forward so much effort and bright ideas to create opportunities for us to get involved in service to the instructions of Śrīla Prabhupāda, the greatest spiritual master in all history. It is a pleasure to associate with and assist all the devotees in their glorious service. May the fame of Śrīla Prabhupāda be spread all over the world.





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#### Mahabhava Svarupa Devi Dasi, Bulgarian

I have been praying to Krishna to engage me in some service and make some use of me and by the mercy of Śrīla Prabhupāda and his sincere and dedicated devotees I got the opportunity to participate in this wonderful project. Very soon I realized that I have been missing this kind of association with Śrīla Prabhupāda. Listening to his words, simple and yet charged with such deep realizations and knowledge and feeling his warmth, caring, compassion and generosity are truly life -and heart- changing. I thought how lucky I am to be able to perform this inspiring and lovely service. Every time before starting the translation I pray to Krishna and Śrīla Prabhupāda to give me intelligence so I can do my best. It is a huge responsibility to translate the words of a pure devotee and so rewarding at the same time. First I listen to the video, then I translate and in the end I listen to the video again. Just by his intonation Śrīla Prabhupāda stresses and enriches so much the meaning of the words. With just a few sentences he has the power to destroy long-lasting doubts and insecurities. When we engage our mind by listening to his words it surely becomes our best friend. I feel spiritually safe and at home.

#### Revati Devi Dasi, German

This service, this translating of Śrīla Prabhupāda's quotes for Vanipedia, is truly direct association with Śrīla Prabhupāda. I started only some days ago, and immediately I found that whatever was in my mind, Śrīla Prabhupāda was giving some answers for my questions - forty years ago! It's not that I did not read his books, but still, this translating is much more personal.

Like in one of the first translations I did, Śrīla Prabhupāda explained, how just reading is not enough. We have to go very deep, try to really understand. And then – explain it to others! In some way, when we translate, we do exactly like this, we make Śrīla Prabhupāda's words understandable (we explain, without change) in our language. That is perfection, Śrīla Prabhupāda said. So, at least in this point I came to perfection! I feel very much blessed by being allowed to do this service!

So, in order to translate one has to penetrate very deeply into the subject matter, otherwise the result will not be understandable for others. And this absorption is connecting me - to Śrīla Prabhupāda, to Lord Caitanya's mission and to Krsna Himself. And immediately some new ideas are coming – about how to use what I read, what I learn, what I understand on a deeper (or higher) level in preaching.

That's what I like most, when I am translating, this feeling of being connected. Sometimes it's not easy. The translation must be correct, but on the other hand understandable. And sometimes it is even difficult to understand what Śrīla Prabhupāda wanted to say. But then, when I really don't know at all how to do it – then suddenly, the inspiration is there. Not just which words to use to create the proper text, but also the deeper understanding, what Śrīla Prabhupāda wanted to say. And that's not just on an intellectual level. In these moments I feel the connection is there, I just have to be open to receive help.

For me personally, in my present situation, this is the perfect service, because I can do it, whenever there is some time and since it is quite addictive, it saves me from wasting any time. As soon as I start ("just a little bit today") I can't stop anymore. I did some translations before, song texts, small books and even started to translate a bigger one. But it is not the same. Not like service, but rather like just for my own pleasure. Because no one asked me to do it. No one was asking me "how is it going on?" and - last but not least when will I be able to print it?

This is different now, because what ever I translate can be read by others immediately. Furthermore this working in a team is more binding, saves one from becoming idle, gives such a deep satisfaction. I am "worried" only about one point: What will I do with my life, when this translation service will be done? I wonder where this will lead to.