

Way Forward: Rethinking ISKCON's Culture

1. Most changes as described below will be applied to all newly authorized initiating gurus within ISKCON. Present initiating gurus are encouraged to follow what is described below.
2. Initiation is to be understood as part of the process of connecting one with Srila Prabhupada and the acaryas in our disciplic succession.
3. The primary role of the diksa and siksa gurus is to connect their initiates with the teaching of Srila Prabhupada. The initiate is expected to surrender to the instructions of their gurus. Guru's instructions should be in harmony and cooperation with the instructions of the authorities that Srila Prabhupada authorized to manage ISKCON.
4. ISKCON representatives are encouraged to support the siksa and diksa gurus in ISKCON.
5. All daksina given to representatives of ISKCON whether diksa or siksa should be considered the property of ISKCON.
6. All donations collected by representatives of ISKCON should be accounted for and used under the authorization of those authorized by the structure Srila Prabhupada created to manage ISKCON's resources.
7. When dealing with finances relating to preachers, managers should prioritize efficiency over mere bureaucracy.
8. The connection to the disciplic succession is through Srila Prabhupada.
9. The qualification to give first initiation is not based on gender.
10. Qualified women who are under the protection of a husband, father or grown-up son can give first initiation to other women.
11. The process will be reviewed by the GBC after three years. Meanwhile in these 3 years, a male siksa guru of the woman, who is an authorized diksa guru, shall give 2nd initiation to the women initiated by the woman who is authorized to give 1st initiation.