

Also on Jan. 7, 1977 Srila Prabhupada told Jagadisha GBC, and Trivikram Maharaj was also present: “But this hypocrisy should be stopped. First of all, there will be no sannyasi anymore. I have got very bad experience. And, at least we are not going to create new sannyasis. And those who have fallen, let them marry, live like respectable gentlemen. I have no objection. After all, young man, fallen down—that’s all right. It is by nature’s way. But marry that girl...etc. (page 331, Vol 28, Conv. Books).

And earlier , during the same meeting on Jan. 7th, page 318: “This should be strictly outlawed, no more sannyasis. And those who have fallen, you get them married...etc.” Srila Prabhupada goes into considerable detail regarding his reasons during this conversation. And there were no recommendations for sannyas that upcoming Gourpurnima.

However, Srila Prabhupada himself made an exception when he initiated a few sannyasis in India. Within the year, Srila Prabhupada disappeared, and I surmise he wanted to strengthen the Indian Yatra for the future and there is no evidence that he “changed his mind” about the above general instructions. It was his prerogative to make an exception, but that exception was later used as an excuse to continue sannyas initiations everywhere after his

disappearance. And the exception was made the rule-- surreptitiously. This was cheating and the result has been the formation of an unauthorized elitist priesthood with wealth, followers and prestige. In other words, Srila Prabhupada stopped his "battlefield commissions." Before he left.

And during that conversation, Srila Prabhupada spoke strongly and positively about the grhastha asram. Actually, the history is that the movement was spread by grhasthas. And when Tamal Krishna, took sannyas, Srila Prabhupada wanted him replaced on the GBC, but he refused to leave. That is a fact; I was there, but Srila Prabhupada knew how far he could bend certain bamboos without breaking them, and Tamal Krishna could not bend very far.

In my opinion, as a former sannyas (1972-1974), the unauthorized continuance of sannyas has been a major cause of Iskcon's endless "neglect of the spiritual master's order," which has become the major general Iskcon aparadha. And has resulted in belittling the grhastha asram, defined by Srila Prabhupada in 2nd chapter of the Gita as a spiritual asram intended for the peaceful regulation of the human mind. It requires considerable restraint and should be respected. Srila Prabhupada likened it to going to a feast without being able to eat

anything. That is pretty clear.