

We request you to offer the following prayer to Srila Prabhupada and Sri Sri Kisora Kisori twice daily. Thank you!

Dear Srila Prabhupada and Kisora Kisori, please accept our humble obeisances at your lotus feet.

In your service, we are faced with a challenge today. We seek your mercy and intervention in blocking the proposal of our neighbor to build a structure right up against our temple wall. If this proposal goes forward, we will find ourselves in a bind; our services to you would have to be muted in expression and enthusiasm out of a constant worry about struggles with the neighbors.

Kindly intervene to relieve us of this predicament, if you so desire. We are reminded of Bhagavad-gita, Chapter 18, verse 78:

*yatra yogeśvaraḥ kṛṣṇo yatra pāṛtho dhanur-dharaḥ
tatra śrī vijayo bhūtir dhruvā nītir matir mama*

Wherever there is Kṛṣṇa, the master of all mystics, and wherever there is Arjuna, the supreme archer, there will also certainly be opulence, victory, extraordinary power, and morality. That is my opinion.

INSPIRATION:

HH Giriraj Maharaja in his book, "I'll Build You A Temple - The Juhu Story" narrates the long history involved in the manifestation of what we know today as ISKCON Juhu. Almost everyone in Mumbai knows this temple as it is a landmark location in the heart of the Bollywood area. But the beginnings of it were far more modest, not without much strife.

Maharaja narrates how the seller of the land had double crossed the devotees with an intent to cheat them of hundreds of thousands of rupees. Then a local municipal official colluded with the corporation and began bulldozing parts of the temple demolished. A part of the roof over Sri Sri Radha-Rasabihari was torn down by the municipality! The police commissioner of Mumbai wouldn't issue a No Objection Certificate (NOC) for the devotees to begin construction despite their visiting his office multiple times and waiting for hours on end to see him to plead their case to him. These are only a few examples of the challenges thrown at the devotees, not to mention the plenty of other ones like the swamps of Juhu infested with huge rats, mosquitoes and other vermin that tested the faith of the devotees who were from the USA and Europe.

But they all stood firm in their service to Srila Prabhupada because he had committed to Sri Sri Radha-Rasabihari, "I will build you a temple." And he did!