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The Bhagavad-Gita**

“... every sincere translator of the Universal Gita should have Dr. Ramananda Prasad’s translation for constant reference. **This rendition of Gita is original and authoritative.** It is a concise reference tool for every seeker, and every translator. The Eternal Truth is plainly brought forward, and, at the same time the best and most easily read translation in English ...”

— *Dr. Philippe De Coster, D.D, Belgium*

“ **A wonderful translation.** It's about time that we get a new translation of the Bhagavad-Gita. Dr. Prasad takes a much more low-key approach, simply translating the Gita to the best of his ability and allowing the reader to make sense of it rather than forcing his own opinions on others. Any time there is the possibility of confusion, Prasad defines his terms and goes to the extra effort to make sure that what Vyasa was trying to describe is clear to even ones not familiar with Indian/Eastern philosophy. **More accurate than most other translations and rendered into modern prose,** this makes an excellent place to start with if you're new to Eastern thought.”

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“ American Gita Society now offers a translation, rendering thought provoking delicacy for the scholar, and at the same time provides unbiased commentaries that can be easily understood by the layperson. This rendition does not endorse, propagate, or oppose any causes, and **delivers a translation that is devoid of all personal motivation and speculation**”

— *Douglas Remington, Los Angeles, 1997*

“ this translation has an excellent format. **It is very simple, compact, nice, and comfortable to read.** Your book is Maha Prasada. I like it very much”

— *Ojasvi Dasa, Divine Life Society of Brazil*

“.... I want to implore your organization to continue spreading the truth found in the Gita to those who seek **spiritual transcendence from the fetters of commercialism....**”

— *Steven Blackwell, New York*

“ ... **this rendition is a product of a meditative brooding to convey the spirit of the original.** As a result, clarity and simplicity characterize the translation. The author's explanation of the verses does not suffer from any distortion of meaning or interpretation. Judicious use of Sanskrit in the translation conveys its majestic beauty to the reader. His lucid English prose style makes a pleasant reading. **It is marked by terseness and clarity and is devoid of superfluity.** This book is refreshingly free from any sectarian slant .”

— *Vedanta Kesari, Calcutta, May 1997*

" I am currently creating a textbook on ancient world cultures on the World-Wide Web. I would like to include the translation of the Gita by Dr. Ramananda Prasad in my site. I am interested in representing India fairly, and I fear that the translation of the Gita by Sir Edwin Arnold that is distributed all over the net will do more to **turn students away rather than introduce them fairly to the text....**"

— *Prof. Anthony Beavers, University of Evansville, Indiana, USA*

"..... Dr. Prasad brings the ancient wisdom and insights of divine message into modern applicability. **A beautiful blend of melodic and compelling commentary.....**"

— *H. H. Swami Chidanand Sarasawati (Muniji)
Rishikesh, India*

".....I have read several editions of the Gita, and never have I sprung upon such **a simple and lucid description of the essence of the Gita** and its background....."

— *R. Puran, Williamsville, Trinidad*

Henry David Thoreau said:

"In the morning I bathe my intellect in the stupendous and cosmogonical philosophy of the Bhagavad-Gita, in comparison with which our modern world and its literature seem puny and trivial."

Mahatma Gandhi said:

"When disappoint stares me in the face and all alone I see not one ray of light, I go back to the Bhagavad-Gita. I find a verse here and a verse there, and I immediately begin to smile in the midst of overwhelming tragedies."

ABOUT THIS RENDITION

This lucid rendition allows the average person and the scholar an easy entry into a vast ocean of transcendental knowledge. The important verses are printed in **red** for the convenience of the first-time readers and concise commentaries are made only on key verses that enable a reader to get directly to the point. Simultaneously, this work is intended for advanced readers, presenting the original Sanskrit text in an easy to read format along with the Roman transliteration. The sayings of saints and sages of major religious denominations as well as world leaders and scholars are included.

Quotations from the Vedas, Upanishads, BrahmaSutra, YogaSutra, BhaktiSutras, Puranas, ManuSmriti, Ramayanas, Mahabharata, as well as other major scriptures of the world such as the Bible, Dhammapada, and Koran have been incorporated to highlight the basic unity of all religious views and help propagate the Universal Fellowship of humankind. Several mantras, a guide to meditation, and forty verses of the Holy Gita (Gita Chalisa) are included for daily reading and contemplation.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
of
International Gita Society
(Formerly: American Gita Society)

Founded in 1984, the International Gita Society (IGS) is a registered, non-profit, tax-exempt, spiritual institution in the United States of America under Section 501(c) (3) of the IRS Code. Membership is free of charge and open to all. The Aims and Objectives of IGS include:

1. Publish and distribute, The Bhagavad-Gita in simple and easy to understand languages, to anyone interested in the Gita.
2. Spread the basic Non-sectarian Universal teachings of Shrimad Bhagavad-Gita and other Vedic scriptures in easy to understand languages by establishing branches of the Society in other countries.
3. Provide support and guidance in establishing Gita Study and Discussion (Satsang) Groups, including a free Gita correspondence course.
4. To provide inspiration, cooperation, and support to persons and non-profit organizations engaged in the study and propagation of Vedic knowledge.
5. To break the barriers between faiths, and establish unity of races, religions, castes, and creeds through the immortal non-sectarian teachings of the Vedas, Upanishads, Gita, Ramayana, as well as other major world scriptures such as the Dhammapada, the Bible, the Koran, etc.; and to promote the Universal Brotherhood.

*Readers interested in promoting the ideals of the
society are invited to correspond with the
secretary: gita@gita-society.com*

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THE BHAGAVAD-GITA

(The Sacred Song)

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by

Ramananda Prasad, Ph.D.

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