



Purity

Monthly Journal of the Brahma Kumaris Hqs. Mount Abu, Rajasthan, India

Grand Convention of Saints and Scholars

Exploring the Truth about Srimad Bhagavad Gita



A three-day grand convention of saints and scholars was organized at Om Shanti Retreat Centre, Gurugram, Haryana from January 26th to 28th on the theme 'Exploring the truth about Srimad Bhagavad Gita'. Gita scholars, exponents, saints and other experts on the subject came from all over India to dwell on the relevance of the wisdom of Gita in the present times and to explore the truth about God and God's task of world transformation as described in the scripture.

The inaugural session was on the theme 'Call of Time - Awaken Bharatwasis, Awaken'. The following dignitaries shared their views.

Yoga Guru Dr. H R Nagendra,
Chancellor, S-VYASA, Bengaluru

Science has discovered many deep secrets of the physical world, but science does not have a remedy for stress or stress-related ailments. Spirituality can provide the remedy for such ailments. Understanding the truth about the soul is the basis of holistic wisdom and holistic well-being. We have to increase the divine qualities, the *sato guna*, in our nature and eliminate the *asuri* nature - *rajo* and *tamo*. For that we must learn to control the mind through meditation. Generosity, compassion, and control over desires and sense organs - these three things are essential to become satoguni. All spiritual



organisations must join hands in creating awareness about changing lifestyles and combating diseases like cancer by using the wisdom of the Gita.

MM Sri Sri 1008 Dr Swami
Swaroopanand Saraswati, Jodhpur

Without change there is no progress. Today, everything in people's homes is set, but they themselves are upset. Strong cultural and spiritual roots will make our nation strong. Going inwards and stabilizing the self in the true nature of the soul is essential. We have to look inwards and change ourselves and not get distracted by what is happening around us. We need *satoikta* (purity), peace and truth in order to create harmony and unity. Through the wisdom of Bhagavad Gita we can bring about cultural and spiritual awakening.

Rajyogini Dadi Janki,
Chief of Brahma Kumaris

Peace leads to love, which leads to true happiness. We have to live a simple life and be a sample for others. God gives us *shrimat* (elevated directions). One who follows *shrimat* will be free from the influence of the mind's dictates and the dictates of others; we have to be stable in our true nature. When we live the true wisdom as imparted by the God of the Gita, our life will be a reflection of that truth, and then we need not talk about Gita.

Rajyogi BK Brijmohan,
Convener, Gita Convention

God gives us a solution to create a world that is completely free from disease. When the world reaches a state of extreme

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Exploring the Truth about Bhagavad Gita

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degradation, God comes to destroy the evil and unrighteousness and re-establish a peaceful and pure world. Gita is a memorial to God's direct task of creating a *satoguni* (pure) world. God has come to awaken the people of Bharat – He says lust is the greatest enemy. Today, due to lust, men are committing barbaric acts against women. Only God can perform the task of purifying this viciousness in humans today. It is time for the people of Bharat to recognize God, who is purifying Bharat.

Mahamandleshwar Jeevan Das, Rishikesh

Truth, non-violence and purity are essential for establishing a righteous society. Purity gives us the power to create a positive influence. Meditation, along with a disciplined and pure lifestyle, is essential to living a peaceful life. Inner cleanliness is the key to cultivating peace in the world, and it comes by remembering God. Vedantacharya Swami Sarvanand Saraswati, Delhi

The people of Bharat need to change negative attitudes to positive attitudes, only then can *dharma* be established. Inculcate good virtues, good conduct, sweet speech, a healthy lifestyle and pure food habits. We have to create a culture of respect for everyone as well as share spiritual wisdom with others every day.

BK Sister Usha, Mount Abu

Why did Sri Krishna impart wisdom to Pandavas, who were already righteous? He had first gone to Duryodhana, who said that he knew what *dharma* was but he could not follow it. Similarly, we all know what *dharma* is, but how many of us walk the path of *dharma*? It is the time of extreme unrighteousness. Greed, selfishness, lack of generosity are symptoms of *Kaliyuga*. Spiritual power is the only power that can resolve all problems. God is now giving us that power. Saints and spiritual leaders should join hands to awaken people about the fact that God has come in Bharat in order to transform the world through true spiritual wisdom being imparted by Him.

Swami Vishwa Anand, Rajkot

It is the call of time for us to wake up. We who belong to religious orders have to spiritually empower ourselves and transform the world to establish *Satyuga*. All sadhus should join hands with Brahma Kumari sisters to tell the world the truth about Gita and complete the task of world transformation.

BK Basavraj, Hubli

When unrighteousness prevails over the whole world, God comes. We have to become like Arjuna, who imbibes God's wisdom and leads the way to victory over unrighteousness.

The convention included several plenary sessions and workshops on topics such as 'Does the verse of the Gita, 'Yada Yada Hi...' indicate the significance of the present time?'; 'Who is the Incorporeal God of Gita?' and 'Who is the Purifier - river Ganga or the rivers of knowledge (Gyan Gangas) that have emerged from God?' *

(Purity Report)



Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh : Yogi Adityanath, Hon'ble Chief Minister, being presented a frame of Incorporeal Shiva by Brahma Kumari Sisters.



Mysuru, Karnataka : A mega 'Karnataka Santa Samagama' was organised by Brahma Kumaris, Mysuru Sub-zone, at Gyan Sarovar to mark 102nd birthday of Dadi Janki, Chief of Brahma Kumaris. More than 200 seers from all parts of Karnataka participating in the programme were felicitated by Dadiji for their exemplary service to the society.

Shivaratri celebrates God's descent to destroy all evil

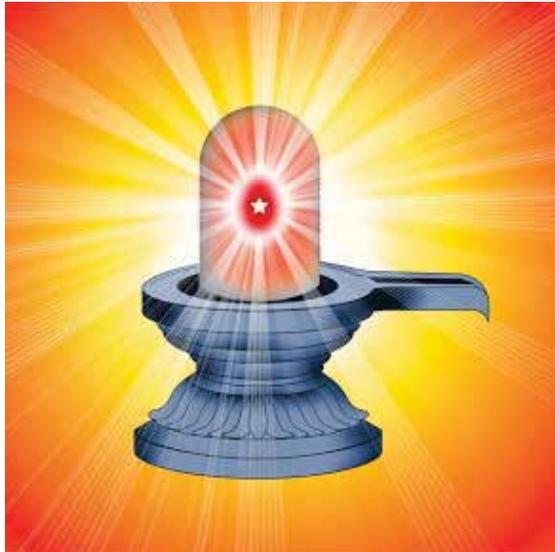
Life today has become very challenging and stressful. More than ever before, people are insecure and anxious about their future. As humans struggle to find solutions to the mounting problems, it is evident that we need a higher wisdom and power to deal with the emerging crises.

It is said in the scriptures that God comes at the time of extreme moral degradation. There is a very famous shloka in Bhagavad Gita: "Yada yada hi dharmasya glanirbhawati bharat, abhyuthannam adharmasya tadatmanam srijamyaham". Looking at the deteriorating condition of the world, we can realise that the time has come when God's intervention is necessary to bring about a transformation in the world.

Mahashivratri or Shiv Jayanti is the most significant of all festivals, for it marks the descent of the Highest on High God Shiva in the human world to liberate human souls from sin and suffering and re-establish heaven or Satyuga on earth. The deep spiritual meaning of Shivratri is that God descends on earth at the time of extreme darkness (ratri) when the condition of the world has become critical.

God is incorporeal and immutable. The Shiva lingam denotes the incorporeal form of God Shiva. It signifies the form of God as a point of light, which is very similar to the description of God in many faiths. This is why the twelve well-known Shiva temples in India are also known as Jyotirlingam Math, signifying his form of light. The eternal light that hangs above the ark in every synagogue, the altar lamps in churches, and light symbols associated with Egyptian, Babylonian, Druid, and Norse gods corroborate the widespread belief in the divine light being the image of the one, incorporeal, Supreme Being.

The literal meaning of the word Shiva is benefactor, or one who does good to all. Supreme Soul Shiva brings benefit to all souls by performing the divine functions of creating and sustaining a new, pure world



The good news is that God is already in the process of bringing a revolutionary change in this world.

and destroying all vices and evil in the old, impure world, i.e., He gives liberation and salvation to all human beings.

The true fasting (upvaas) on Shivratri is that we abstain from vicious thoughts and stay in His company. The true *jagran* or awakening means to awaken from the slumber of spiritual ignorance and to protect the self from the evil influence of vices such as lust, anger, greed, ego and attachment.

The good news is that God has already arrived in this world to establish one divine culture of peace, purity, love and prosperity. He is in the process of bringing a revolutionary change in this world through His elevated teachings in the form of Rajyoga. Shivratri thus commemorates a momentous occasion, marking the beginning of a new cycle of time, when the world passes from the Iron Age or Kaliyug

into the Golden Age or Satyug, when the negative gives way to the positive.

Today, when corruption, unrighteousness and immorality have spread all over the world, when ethical and moral values have declined drastically, the Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya is celebrating the 82nd Shivratri commemorating the year when Godly revelations first came through the human medium of Prajapita Brahma in 1937.

Let us celebrate this Shivratri and experience the blessings and benevolence of God Shiva by carrying out in our personal life what Shivratri commemorates, that is, destroying negative ways of thinking and nurturing a pure and positive attitude to illuminate our lives with God's wisdom and divine virtues.★ (Purity Features)



What a Paradox!

On the one hand, the Sadhu is chanting 'Shivoham' (I am Shiva) and on the other, he is taking bath in the Ganga so as to purify himself. In reality, no human being is entitled to call himself Shiva, for no man can be God, Who is Ever-pure.

Pause 'n' Ponder

A lost battle is a battle one thinks one has lost. - Ferdinand Foch

Beggar that I am, I am even poor in thanks. - Shakespeare

To persevere in one's duty and be silent is the best answer to calumny. -George Washington

Thoughts cannot be suppressed, but sublimated. -Brahma Kumari Sarla

I am an atheist, thank God! - Anonymous

There is no cosmetic or beauty like happiness. - Lady Blessington



Mumbai, Raj Bhawan : BK Rukmani presenting Brahma Kumaris literature and invitation to Hon'ble Vidyasagar Rao, Governor and Hon'ble Devendra Phadnavis, Chief Minister, of Maharashtra.



Shantivan, Abu : At Convocation ceremony 2018 held in Conference Hall are (R-L) Dr. Harish Shukla, Mr. Umesh Rajderkar, Director, YR Chavan Open University, Dr. M.Arul, Director, Annamalai University, Dr. C.Venkateshwar Rao, VC, Dr. NTR Health University, BKMruthyunjaya, Vice Chairperson, Education Wing, Dadi Ratan Mohini, Jt. Chief of Brahma Kumaris and BK Sheilu Didi, HQ Co-ordinator.



Bali, Indonesia : BK Janaki giving blessing cards to young priests after giving a spiritual discourse.



Perfect balancing.

Mr. Wise



Mr. Wise?
 Yes.
 There's a lot of confusion about God?
 So much that many have begun to doubt His existence.
 Who, after all, is responsible for all this mess?
 I cannot say.
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And Mr. Wise?
 Yes.
 How does God allow so much suffering to take place, some would ask.
 And there are others who ask why is God causing this suffering?
 They also ask why humanity should suffer if God is the motivator of all our actions.
 I cannot say.
 ♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦

Lastly...
 Yes.
 The confusion is confounded when God is considered to be omnipresent.
 True. In that case there would be no difference between sinners and saints, criminals and victims, worshippers and God.
 Don't you think God alone can reveal the truth about Himself and His creation?
 Yes. And the good news is that God is doing exactly that now.
(For details, please contact any Rajyoga centre of the Brahma Kumaris)
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Tailpiece



A rich and miserly resident of a posh colony of the city went out for his morning walk. He saw his milkman on a cycle with the milk cans. He asked him to stop. The milkman got down from his cycle. "Why have you increased the price of milk so drastically?" asked the rich man.
 The milkman said, "Sir, we often hear on TV about water pollution and its dangerous effects. Considering the health of our VIP customers, we, the milkmen in our neighbourhood, decided that we must not mix tap water with milk anymore. The municipal board's water may contain germs. So we started mixing mineral water. That's why the price rise."
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It seems that a lawyer had a little too much of drink and on his way home, rear-ended the car in front of him.
 The lawyer got out of his car, walked over to the driver of the other car and said, "Boy, are you in trouble! I'm a lawyer!"
 The driver looked out of his window and said, "No, you're in trouble. I'm a judge."
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A rather smallish man was hauled into court charged with picking a man's pocket. The complaint was very nearsighted and didn't seem very sure of his facts. He couldn't positively identify the other man as the one who stole his purse.
 The judge, faced with the lack of evidence was forced to discharge the alleged pickpocket. While the man stood there, not understanding the judge's words, the judge repeated his remarks.
 "All right," he said, "You're free to go. You are judged not guilty. You may leave." The man still wasn't sure. "Does that mean," he asked, "that I can keep the purse?"
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