Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Do I need to install any additional font or software on my PC?

Answer:

The content files are in Adobe Acrobat Portable Document File (pdf) format including the necessary fonts already bundled in them. Therefore, there is no need to install any additional font on your Personal Computer. However, if you wish to create your own content using Devanagari fonts, then we encourage you to install Sanskrit2003 font from the

URL: http://www.sanskritweb.net/itrans/index.html#SANS2003

You can also download **Itranslator 2003** program that will help you create and edit Devanagari script based text document in Marathi, Hindi and Sanskrit languages.

To read the comprehensive document on this font please visit http://www.sanskritweb.net/itrans/itmanual2003.pdf

However, in order to read Adobe Acrobat pdf files, you need Adobe Acrobat Reader. In case you have not already installed it on your Personal Computer, then you are requested to install the latest Adobe Acrobat Reader Version 9 from the URL:

http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html?promoid=BUIGO

Alternatively,

You can download the Acrobat Reader from this website, by clicking on the following file name: **AdbeRdr90_en_US_Std.exe.** We have already signed Adobe Reader Software License Distribution Agreement with Adobe Systems Incorporated, USA for this purpose.

2. What are the alphabets used in Devanagari script based text documents?

Answer:

You may refer URL:
http://www.sanskritweb.net/itrans/itmanual2003.pdf

ITX	D.	T.	ITX – Devanagari –Transliteration – English Translation
k	क	k	kusumam – कुसुमम्‌ – kusumam – *flower*
kh	ख	kh	khalu – खलु – khalu – *indeed*
g	ग	g	gadyam – गद्यम्‌ – gadyam – *prose*
gh	घ	gh	ghoShaH – घोषः – ghoṣaḥ – *noise*
~N, N^	ङ	ṅ	a~NgulI or aN^gulI – अङ्गुली – aṅgulī – *finger*
c, ch	च	c [1]	cAraH or chAraH – चारः – cāraḥ – *spy*
Ch, chh	छ	ch [1]	ChAttraH or chhAttraH – छात्रः – chāttraḥ – *pupil*
j	ज	j	jihvA – जिह्वा – jihvā – *tongue*
jh	झ	jh [2]	jhaTiti – झटिति – jhaṭiti – *suddenly*
~n, JN	ञ	ñ	ra~njayati or raJNjayati – रञ्जयति – rañjayati – *he/she dyes in red*
T	ट	ṭ	kaTaH – कटः – kaṭaḥ – *straw mat*
Th	ठ	ṭh	kaNThaH – कण्ठः – kaṇṭhaḥ – *neck*
D	ड	ḍ	daNDaH – दण्डः – daṇḍaḥ – *stick*
Dh	ढ	ḍh	leDhum – लेढुम्‌ – leḍhum – *to lick (infinitive)*
N	ण	ṇ	varNaH – वर्णः – varṇaḥ – *color*
t	त	t	talam – तलम्‌ – talam – *floor*
th	थ	th	sthAnam – स्थानम्‌ – sthānam – *place*
d	द्‌	d	sarvadA – सर्वदा – sarvadā – *always*
dh	ध	dh	dhanam – धनम्‌ – dhanam – *wealth*
n	न	n	nArI – नारी – nārī – *woman*
p	प	p	pashyati – पश्यति – paśyati – *he/she sees*
ph	फ	ph	phalam – फलम्‌ – phalam – *fruit*
b	ब	b	bAlaH – बालः – bālaḥ – *boy*
bh	भ	bh	bhadraM te – भद्रं ते – bhadraṁ te – *good luck!*
m	म	m	mitram – मित्रम्‌ – mitram – *friend*

ITX	D.	T.	ITX – Devanagari –Transliteration – English Translation
y	य	y	yogaH – योगः – yogaḥ – *Yoga*
r	र	r [1]	**a) rakāra** (*r not before/after consonant*): rAjA – राजा – rājā – *king* **b) repha** (*r before consonant*): sarvam – सर्वम् – sarvam – *all* **c) vattu** (*r after consonant*): prati – प्रति – prati – *before*
l	ल	l	likhati – लिखति – likhati – *he/she writes*
v, w	व	v	vanam or wanam – वनम् – vanam – *forest*
sh	श	ś	shukaH – शुकः – śukaḥ – *parrot*
S, Sh, shh, Z	ष	ṣ [2]	SaT or ShaT or shhaT or ZaT – षट् – ṣaṭ – *six*
s	स	s	svapnaH – स्वप्नः – svapnaḥ – *sleep*
h	ह	h	hantA – हन्ता – hantā – *killer*

Sanskrit Vowels

ITX	D.	T.	ITX – Devanagari –Transliteration – English Translation
a	अ	a	arthaH – अर्थः – arthaḥ – *money*
A, aa	आ	ā	AnandaH or aanandaH – आनन्दः – ānandaḥ – *bliss*
i	इ	i	iti – इति – iti – *thus*
I, ii	ई	ī	IkShate or iikShate – ईक्षते – īkṣate – *he/she watches (present tense)*
u	उ	u	uDupaH – उडुपः – uḍupaḥ – *boat*
U, uu	ऊ	ū	UcuH or uucuH – ऊचुः – ūcuḥ – *they said (perfect tense)*
R^i, RRi	ऋ	ṛ	R^itvik or RRitvik – ऋत्विक् – ṛtvik – *priest*
R^I, RRI	ॠ	ṝ [1]	svasR^INAm or svasRRINAm – स्वसॄणाम् – svasṝṇām – *of sisters*
L^i, LLi	ऌ	ḷ [2]	kL^iptam or kLLiptam – कॢप्तम् – kḷptam – *prepared*
L^I, LLI	ॡ	ḹ [3]	Not used in Sanskrit words
e	ए	e	ekadA – एकदा – ekadā – *once upon a time*
ai	ऐ	ai	aikShata – ऐक्षत – aikṣata – *he/she watched (imperfect tense)*
o	ओ	o	odanaH – ओदनः – odanaḥ – *boiled rice*
au	औ	au	auShadham – औषधम् – auṣadham – *herbal medicine*
OM, AUM	ॐ	om	This special ligature ॐ is used instead of om ओम् or aum औम्

3. Which Devanagari font has been used and why that particular font is being recommended?

Answer:

It was a challenge to select the right Devanagari font and Devanagari Script Editor that will be able to generate text document compatible with Microsoft Office Word processing programme called "MS Word".

Many of the Devanagari fonts and Devanagari script editors that are developed do not properly transfer files to other word processing programmes. Some of the fonts do not permit creating half alphabets in Sanskrit language with the help of operator called 'Virama' (ृ). Such shortcomings do not permit creation of documents that can be properly digitized and transferred over the Internet.

Therefore, after careful analysis and judicious selection process, Sanskrit2003 font was selected. This font has been developed by Dr. Ulrich Stiehl, a renowned Sanskrit scholar from Heidelberg, Germany.

4. Which Devanagari script editing software programme has been used?

Answer:

Itrans2003 Devanagari Script editor has been selected after careful analysis and judicious selection process. Itrans2003 editor permits flawless transfer of Devanagari script based text documents to MS Word. This Devanagari Script editor has been developed by a team led by Swami Omkarananda Saraswati from Omkarananda Ashram at Hrushikesh, India. Omkarananda Ashram Himalayas is located in Muni-ki-reti, the sacred place near the bank of the holy river Ganga, in the proximity of Rishikesh, the ancient place of pilgrimage and the famous Lakshmanjhula. This Ashram was established in 1967.

Please visit URL: http://www.omkarananda-ashram.org/Sanskrit/Itranslt.html

5. What is the point in offering yet another *Shreemad Bhagawad Geeta*?

Answer:

There are number of scholars who have written commentaries on Bhagawad Geeta. However, most of them are meant for those who already possess knowledge of Sanskrit language and have exposure to ancient philosophies of India. For those who are uninitiated and yet are interested in learning Bhagawad Geeta in baby steps, at their own comfort and convenience; here is an attempt to make their "self study" enjoyable.

There are number of websites on Bhagawad Geeta. Please visit the following URLs:

http://acharya.iitm.ac.in/sanskrit/gita/gita_syn.php by IIT Madras
http://www.gitasupersite.iitk.ac.in/ by IIT Kanpur
http://www.bhagavad-gita.org/ by Bhagavad-Gita Trust, USA
http://www.dailyreadings.com/Gita.htm by Chiltern Yoga Trust
http://www.gitapress.org by Gita Press, Gorakhpur
http://www.gita-society.com by Gita International Society, USA
http://bhagavadgitaasitis.com by The Bhaktivedanta Book Trust International
http://www.chinmayauk.org/Resources/Downloads.htm by Chinmaya Mission

However, in the website www.bhagawad-geeta.com an attempt is made to address a larger audience by including the meaning of every word and its translation in English, Hindi and Marathi. All the self study material is provided in Adobe Acrobat Portable Document File format which will work on all types of computers irrespective of the operating systems and meager hardware resources. This will certainly increase its reach to maximum number of students who are desirous of learning the teachings of Lord Shree Krishna. In addition to that, we have included multi-media presentations of Geeta Original Verses on full screen with background audio in mp2, mp3 and mp4 formatted files for DVD players, Audio players and Mobile phones respectively.

6. Why a student of science & technology should not disregard the knowledge offered in *Shreemad Bhagawad Geeta* even though it does not pass the test of scientific inquiry, scrutiny and proof in the form of irrefutable, conclusive and repetitively demonstratable evidence?

Answer:

There is no doubt that Bhagawad Geeta has universal appeal as it addresses the basic issues facing the entire mankind. Geeta deals with the conflict between mind and intellect that arises due to challenges which are at odds with the obligatory duties that one has to perform in order to maintain social, cultural and religious conformity and harmony. As long as humanity will exist, such conflicts will continue to surface from time to time. Geeta provides solutions to rationalize our thoughts and bring us in an equilibrium state that removes such conflicts and as a result initiate the selfless actions without ego or expectations of favourable outcomes.

There are many concepts in Bhagawad Geeta like "Atman", "Brahman" and "Re-birth" which cannot be proven in the form of irrefutable, conclusive and repetitively demonstratable evidences. The definitions of "energy in Physics" and "infinity in Mathematics" are abstract. No one can show "Electricity" but everyone accepts the phenomenon of electricity. Yet these concepts are accepted to be the very basis of modern science and technology. In a similar manner, the concept of "Gunateeta i.e. beyond description in words" is to be treated as the very concept of the God.

7. What is the basis of this new format of *Shreemad Bhagawad Geeta*?

Answer:

All the languages based on Roman scripts like English, German are quite different from Devanagari script based languages like Sanskrit, Hindi and Marathi. In English language, a word is formed by concatenation of selective alphabets from the set of 26 alphabets. However, in Devanagari scripts based languages; words are formed by concatenation of selective alphabets from the set of 33 alphabets by additional operation by any one of the 14 operators or vowels.

On the basis of the Sanskrit2003 font and ITrans2003 Devanagari Script Editing programme the entire content of this website was created in MS Word 2007 file format. In order to optimise a file size, the content was transferred to Adobe Acrobat pdf file structures which are printer friendly.

8. What are the basic terms frequently used in *Shreemad Bhagawad Geeta* and what is their meaning?

Answer:

जीव = सजीव प्राणी , living being

भूत = सजीव प्राणी, living being

जीवात्मा = प्राणशक्ती, चैतन्य, Energy in every living being

प्रकृती = सृष्टी, Matter, changeable nature

पुरुष = चैतन्य, Energy, unchangeable nature

ईश्वर = ईष्टे इति ईशः, सर्व सृष्टीवर सत्ता चालविणारा, जगन्नियन्ता, God

केशव = क म्हणजे ब्रह्म , श म्हणजे विष्णु आणि व म्हणजे शंकर

= ब्रह्मा –विष्णु – महेश = उत्पत्ती, स्थिती आणि लय; Trinity of God i.e. G for Generator, O for Organiser and D for Destructor

माधव = मा म्हणजे देवी लक्ष्मी आणि धव म्हणजे पती; Husband of the Goddess of wealth

हृषीकेश = हृषीक म्हणजे इंद्रिय. हृषीकाणाम् ईशः म्हणजे इंद्रियांचा स्वामी; Master of sensory organs

आत्मन् = आत्मा म्हणजे अविनाशी तत्त्वाचा अंश, microscopic form of energy

ब्रह्मन् = ब्रह्म अविनाशी तत्त्व म्हणजेच जगाचे मूळ कारण, macroscopic form of energy

विष्णु = विष् म्हणजे व्यापणे, विश् म्हणजे शिरणे. सर्व जगाला व्यापणारा तो विष्णु ; All pervading God Vishnu

महेश्वर = महान ईश्वर, God

महेश = महान् ईशः म्हणजे शिव, महादेव ; Lord Shiva

ब्रह्म = अक्षरं ब्रह्म परमम् । परमश्रेष्ठ तत्त्व ते ब्रह्म अक्षर म्हणजे अविनाशी आहे. The Supreme spirit that is indestructible and immutable.

अध्यात्म = अधि + आत्मा = आत्म्याविषयीचे श्रेष्ठ ज्ञान. अविनाशी परम ब्रह्माचा जो स्वभाव , त्यालाच अध्यात्म म्हणतात . प्रत्येक आत्म्याच्या आश्रयाने राहणारे परम सत्त्व म्हणजे अध्यात्म . Spiritual knowledge

कर्म = प्राणिमात्राच्या जीवनाला उच्चतम बनविण्याचा प्रयत्न; Action that sublimates a living being

पुरुष = पुरि शेते इति पुरुषः । आत्मा ; The Supreme Spirit

अधिभूत = संपूर्ण वस्तुसमूह, परब्रह्माचे विश्वरूप म्हणजे जड – सृष्टी, परा - प्रकृती, नाशवंत भाव म्हणजे अधिभूत आणि तेच या जगात वस्तुमात्र आहे. ते अष्टधा प्रकृतीचे रूप आहे आणि तेच अधिभूत आहे. Any living being or non living thing that constantly changes and eventually gets destroyed.

अधिदैवम् = सर्व प्राणिमात्रांना शक्ती आणि स्फूर्ती देणारा पुरुष; The all Pervading Spirit

अधियज्ञ = मनुष्याचे संपूर्ण जीवन हा विलक्षण यज्ञ आहे . त्याचा अधिष्ठाता परमेश्वर म्हणून तो अधियज्ञ ; The Supreme sacrifice

9. **Why WebPages are in Portable Document File (pdf) file format and not in html file format?**

Answer:

There is no uniform scheme to display Devnagari script based text document on different web browsing programmes. Microsoft Internet Explorer, Firefox Browser and Apple's Safari Web Browser treat Devanagari ligatures differently and therefore the display of texts in html files looks visually different on those three browsers.

Therefore, in order to have uniformity across various Internet Browsers on different make computers with variety of Operating Systems, it was decided to offer Devanagari text based files in Portable Document File (pdf) file format and not in html file format.

10. **How much time was taken to develop the entire contents of this website?**

Answer:

It took four years to compete from scratch.

11. **Can I print and distribute the content on this website "free of charge"?**

Answer:

Yes, you are encouraged to print and distribute the content of the website to your near and dear ones absolutely "Free of Charge". The very purpose of the website is to offer the knowledge imparted by Lord Shree Krishna, without any monetary considerations.

However, if you wish to use the content and print a book or create a CD or DVD under your own name and publication and sell it for monetary gains then you need to seek a written consent from us.

12. On similar lines, if I want to create content on *Shreemad Bhagawad Geeta* in a language other than English, Hindi and Marathi then what support can I get?

Answer:

We encourage you to develop content in the similar manner in different languages. We will be happy to offer you Microsoft Word document files so that your burden of typing is considerably reduced. This will be offered for a nominal fee which can be mutually agreeable. If you wish us to publish your content in our website then we will be glad to do so. However, we encourage you to publish your own website and maintain it yourself.

13. Is the content of the website available in the form of a printed book or Compact Disk (CD) or Digital Video Disk (DVD)?

Answer:

At present, the contents of the website are not available in the form of a printed book or Compact Disk (CD) or Digital Video Disk (DVD).

The objective is to achieve organic growth by implementing corrections based on feedback of readers which will happen over a period of time of at least few months from the launching date of 23rd August 2008, which is the birthday of Lord Shree Krishna.

We hope to publish the content as Collector's item in the due course of time.

14. What are the various misconceptions about *Shreemad Bhagawad Geeta*?

Answer:

The typical misconceptions about *Shreemad Bhagawad Geeta* are;

- It is meant only for those senior citizens who have nothing else to do in life after retirement.
- It is too complex to understand and comprehend; let alone implement it in real life.
- Lord Krishna brainwashed Arjuna to fight a war which could easily have been avoided.
- What is the use of its teachings when you find ardent believers ever-ready to preach to others without actually practicing its teachings?
- It is not a scripture of Hindu religion as there is no single mention of the word "Hindu" in the entire text of Bhagawad Geeta.
- Who needs it in the 21st century when the entire focus is on making money and how to beat the system?
- How the dialogue of 5,000 years ago can be relevant today?
- Who needs a "Mokshya"? All that I want is to have more fun!
- If the teaching of Geeta is try to do your obligatory duty without expectation of a favourable outcome then, I could not care less.

15. Who are the people involved in the creation of the contents of the website? How can I approach them?

Answer:

A core team of following four persons was formed to create the contents for the website;

- Shreemati Malatitai Trimbak Kunte, a renowned Sanskrit Scholar and a retired Sanskrit language teacher from Captain Ravindra Madhava Oak High school in Kalyan, Maharashtra, India. Her major contribution has immensely enriched the entire project. Her contact telephone number at Kalyan is +91-251-2231563
- Shreemati Kusum Hanumant Joshi, a retired Marathi and English language teacher from Captain Ravindra Madhava Oak High school in Kalyan, Maharashtra, India. Her contribution has equally enriched the entire project. Her contact telephone number at Mumbai is +91-22-2636-3829 and Mobile number is +91-98193-06349.
- Sudhir Madhukar Deshpande, a student of GEI's High school in Kalyan and an alumnus of Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay (M. Tech in Electrical Engineering, 1978 batch). He has been a recipient of "Jagannath Shankarsheth Scholarship" for outstanding performance in Sanskrit examination. He made valuable suggestions from time to time and helped in editing the content. His contact telephone at Pune is +91-20-2546-5763. His email address is sudhirdeshpande@gmail.com
- Shrikant Hanumant Joshi, a student of GEI's High school in Kalyan and an alumnus of Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay (B Tech in Electrical Engineering, 1979 batch). He compiled the contents in various computer file formats. His contact telephone number at Mumbai is +91-22-2636-3829 and Mobile number is +91-98200-90805. His email address is sjoshi@zenith-india.com or s.h.joshi@gmail.com

Later on Shree Bansi Lal Mahajan, a scholar of Bhagawad Geeta joined us to assist in editing the content in Hindi language. His email address is bansimahajan@rediffmail.com . Similarly Shree Jasawantbhai Damania, a reputed "Bhagawad Geeta" expert, who had opportunity to receive, training under "Dada Pandurang Shaastree Athavale"; joined us to assist in editing the content in all languages. His contact telephone number is +91-22-2631-2662.

16. If I have critical comments and suggestions to make then, to whom I should address them?

Answer:

Please address your critical comments and suggestions to:

Shrikant Hanumant Joshi.

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