

Geeta Jayanti Margasira Shukla Ekadasi

Srimad Bhagavad Gita, loosely translated as (The Song of God) has inspired millions of people worldwide. While the seekers of spirituality were always amazed by the insights the book gave them, many thinkers, scientists, astronauts, physicists, entrepreneurs, business tycoons, musicians, actors, military generals, philosophers, and many other innovators were inspired by the teachings of this conversation between Sri Krishna and Arjuna. Many of them laud this book for showing them direction in their troubled times.

On the auspicious occasion of Gita Jayanti on Margasira Shukla Ekadasi which falls on 23rd December 2023, let us look at some of the teachings of SrimadBhagavadGita that can help us shape our lives better.



I am working hard, but I am not always successful; these failures are taking me down and are killing my motivation. This is a familiar feeling for most of us. Sri Krishna addresses it in the following verses.

*karmaṇy-evādhikāras te mā phaleṣhu
kadāchana
mā karma-phala-hetur bhūr mā te saṅgo
'stvakarmaṇi
yoga-sthah kuru karmani sangam tyaktva
dhananjaya
siddhy-asiddhyoh samo bhutva samatvam
yoga uchyate*

Here is what Sri Krishna is prescribing to us.

1. Do your duty. (Studying, appearing for the interview, working towards your aspiration, doing the assigned work in office, running your business, innovating, doing household activity etc.)
2. Do not be attached to the outcome. It is common that we have a vision for the outcome; having a vision for the outcome is different than having an attachment with the outcome. Having a vision for the outcome enables you to compare the results in the end, but when you attach yourself with the outcome, you start attaching yourself with factors out of your control.



Actually, a number of factors determine the results of an activity. The ability of the doer, the efforts put in by the doer, destiny (effects of our past karmas), the destiny of the people involved, the place where the activity is being done and the situations under which this is done, and above all, the Will of Paramatma. Given this scenario, isn't it foolish for the doers to attach themselves with the result? Hence, Krishna is saying you do not attach yourself to the outcome. Give up concern for the results and instead focus solely on doing a good job. We can focus entirely on our effort when we are not concerned about the results. Consequently, the result/outcome is often even better than before. Hence, be focussed and steadfast while performing your duties, don't worry about success or failure, don't be attached to the success or failure, this equanimity is called yoga or oneness with God. SriKrishna says "Samatvam yoga

uchyate". Again, never move towards inaction; from the day we are born, we have to work. There is no escape from this. So, never move towards Nishkriyata.

To conclude:

1. Never have self pity and emotions misguide you into inaction.
2. Work for the common good(dharma)
3. Even the smallest of the dharmic activities can save you from great dangers.
4. Remember, your work is in your hands, but the results depend on many factors.
5. Learn to work with equanimity.
6. Develop skills in the work that you are doing , and make this a daily practice.
7. Dexterity and equanimity at work is yoga or the union with Paramatma.
8. Never move towards inaction or nishkriyata

- Sri K. Subhramanyam

News Updates

HYDERABAD CHAPTER

- Dakshinapatha Studies (CSIS) along with Samvit Prakashan organized the book launches of four books during the months of November- December 2023.

KOCHI CHAPTER

- An online Talk-series on Sanathana dharma is being conducted, four sessions are already conducted, Dr Sushruthan, Dr Ramanand and Dr Shaji Narayanan were the chief speakers in the session which were well attended by over 70-80 participants.
- Theyyam, certain other temple traditions like 'kalamulattu' and other folklores are being studied to correct the distortions and misinterpretations. In a meeting held near kasargod, the issue was discussed in detail. A paper is being worked out on temple traditions.

CHENNAI CHAPTER

- Posters and videos are being made on the arrival of christianity in Tamilnadu during 15th century, there is also some information that churches were built over temples which were vandalized.
- Work is continuing on the preparation of English book on Gajula Lakshminarasimha Chetty; it maybe translated into Tamil and Telugu as well.
- The work on preparing the document on INA jawans and recruits from all over Tamilnadu is also proceeding smoothly.

Socio-cultural Histories of South India

10-11 December 2023

Dakshinapatha Studies - CSIS conducted a two-day workshop during 10-11 December 2023 at Kesava Nilayam, Bhagyanagar.

Sri Ayush Nadimpalli explained the purpose and scope of the workshop, he stated that there's a narrative on that somehow South is different from north. However, the Dakshin, the south of Vindhya, was always well-integrated in ancient India. As south was relatively less attacked by invaders, south was able to preserve cultural and spiritual unity of Bharat.

However colonial invasions were mostly in South, in the intellectual and cultural spaces, Ravindranath Tagore called it 'aamoolagra invasion'. South was always called Dakshinapatha and north is Uttarapatha. CSIS is functioning from a few places in Dakshin, Cochin, Chennai, Bhagyanagar. Sri Arun Kumar, Sri Sunil Ambekar, Sri Mukul Kanetkar were the special invitees during the workshop attended by nearly 75 researchers.

The workshop focused on the following topics -

- Ancient traditions
- Distortions in academic narrative

- Glorious period of Tamil lands - Sangam, cholas etc
- Glorious period of Andhra lands
- Resistance movements
- Distortions of the Dravidianism ideologies

Researcher and writer Sri Sashi Bhushan spoke on the heritage and history of Kerala. Epigraphist and author from Chennai Sri Ramachandran spoke on the topic- Continuity of Traditions beyond linguistic frontiers. Scholar and historian Sri Veerender from Itihasa Sankalan Samiti spoke on the Glorious Past of Andhra Desa.

Historian and author Sri SM Pran Rao spoke on the topic of Kakateeya Empire. Author, scholar and researcher Sri Khandavalli Satyadev Prasad spoke on the topic of Musunuri Nayakas. Author and scholar Dr Rahul A Shastri spoke on the topic of Internal resistance during the Muslim rule and Colonial rule. Researcher Sri B. Prabhakaran from Chennai spoke on the topic of Impact of British Rule - Detrimental to South Indian society. Sri Arun Kumar delivered the valedictory address.

Maharshi Valmiki Jayanthi was celebrated on Aswayuja Pournami

28th October 2023

Dakshinapatha Studies – CSIS celebrated the Valmiki Jayanti in the Hyderabad Chapter office on the evening of 28th October 2023, on Aswayuja Pournami, the janma tidhi of Maharshi Valmiki, the Sanskrit epic poet of the adi-kavya Ramayana, by offering flowers to the portrait of Maharshi Valmiki, conducted Pooja and Harathi amidst chanting of Srirama Bhajans, and Prasadam distributed to all present in the event. Dakshinapatha Studies celebrates a few national heroes and icons, as the integrators of the ancient nation of Bharat. Sri Satish Inani,

Sri Madhavan and Ms Shailaja spoke briefly on Ramayana Kavyas written in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu, inspired from the original Valmiki's Ramayana.



Book Launches

Tippu Nijaswarupam- Telugu Book launch

CSIS Dakshinapatha Studies and Samvit Prakashan jointly organized the book launch of the Telugu book 'Tippu Nijaswarupam' on the evening of 5th November 2023 at Dadawadi Jain temple hall, Sikh village, Secunderabad. The book originally written in English 'Tippu as he really was' by Sri Gajanan Bhaskar Mahendale has been translated into Telugu by Smt Hemalatha Gooda and published by Samvit Prakashan. On the occasion, Dr Gopal Reddy, President CSIS, the chief guest, Dr Narra Bhupathi Reddy, the translator Smt Hemalatha Gooda spoke on the occasion.



Mahethihasam' and 'Charvakam' – Telugu books launch

CSIS Dakshinapatha Studies and Samvit Prakashan jointly organized the books launch event of two important books– Mahethihasam written by Sri Khandavalli Satyadev Prasad and Charvakam – Naati Nunchi Netiki, by Sri Arindama, on the evening of 2nd December 2023, at Sai Nagar colony, Nagole, Hyderabad. The two books were launched by the chief guests Sri Khandavalli Satyadev Prasad, Sri K. Venkatachala Phani and Sri B. Vidyadhara from Samvit Prakashan.

Reputed researcher, scholar and author of more than 10 books including Mahethihasam, Sri Khandavalli Satyadev Prasad in his main address stated that both books being

launched, are poles opposites to each other. The Maha Itihasam, that is Maharshi Veda Vyasa's Mahabharata is the grandest work of compilation of one lakh shlokas, it teaches us to follow Dharma. In the four Purusharthas, Dharma is predominant and guides the other Purusharthas such as Artha and Kama, kama means all desires. If we understand the present societal problems, it is evident that we have neglected to follow Dharma. It is imperative for us to understand Mahabharata and its teachings of Dharma.



'Hindu Jana Rakshakudu – Shivaji': Telugu Book Launch in Bhagyanagar

The book in English 'Savior of Hindu India' by Sri Gajanan Bhaskar Mahendale is translated into Telugu by Sri Kesavanath as 'Hindu Jana Rakshakudu Sivaji'. The book launch event was organized on the evening of 18th November 2023, at Hotel Suprabhat, Habsiguda in Secunderabad. Chief guests of the evening, Sri Ramalinga Reddy, Sri KV Subhramanyam, Telugu translator of the book Hindu Jana Rakshakudu – Shivaji, Sri Kesavanath Khandavalli spoke on the occasion.



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