

Gita Jayanthi Celebrations – 2016



Gita Jayanthi dawns on Shukla Ekadashi , also known as **Mokshada Ekadasi** - 11th day of the waxing moon of Margashirsha Masa. It is a most auspicious occasion celebrating the advent of the ever celebrated teaching of SrimadBhagavadgita.

Here is the short note of the celebration held on Saturday, 10th December 2016 at our 'Vyakhya' centre for Vedantic Studies, Hyderabad.

For the last several years, Arsha Vidya Vahini has been organizing the celebrations with Gita Jnana Yagnam and this year the celebration was done with **Gita Parayana Yagna**. Inaugurating the occasion, Pujya Acharya Sri Prem Siddharth ji maharaj mentioned that Srimad Bhagavad Gita is a wonderful scripture blessed onto us by Sri Bhagawan Veda Vyasa containing the quintessence of all the Vedantic Scriptures. It therefore occupies an important seat in the Prashtana Traya Adhyayanam that has to be done by every Vedanta Student without fail. If one can take to the indepth study of Srimad Bhagavad Gita alone, it greatly helps taking one towards moksha / self realization. Jagadguru Sri Adi Shankaracharya has also stressed on this point in his works – “Moha Mudgaram”, popularly known to us as “Bhaja Govindam”.

The Jyothi Prajwalanam was followed by the chanting of Prarthana mantras in the blessed presence of Sri Pujya Acharya. The devotees who assembled on this occasion chanted the entire Srimad Bhagavadgita containing 701 shlokas. The Gita parayanam began with the Dhyana Slokas and was completed with the chanting of Srimad Bhagavadgita Mahatmyam and Gita Aarathi, spanning over three and a half rich & fruitful hours. The wonderful pace in which the parayanam was done gave a great scope to the students reflecting upon the references in Bhagavad Gita to the ongoing Taittiriya Upanishad classes and



the Vedic method of Dhyana that is being taught by Sri Pujya Acharya, As mentioned by Sri Pujya Acharya in the beginning, the parayanam gave a wonderful opportunity to once again to refresh and recollect the various teachings from Veda that were disclosed to us by Sri Pujya Acharya all these years.

After this auspicious Gita parayanam, **Mokshada Ekadasi** was also celebrated with Rama Nama Sankeerthanam and Aarathi as we do on every Ekadasi at our centre. Concluding the occasion, Sri Pujya Swamiji blessed all devotees stating that it is a rare



occasion to do such complete Gita Parayana Yagna and one cannot do such a prayer without the blessings of Eshwara. **Pujya Swamiji mentioned that it is not due to our mere effort or punya that we become capable do such things. It is nothing but the Sankalpam of Eshwara that drives His devotees to perform such a Jnana Yagnam.**

Audio CD Released: During this auspicious Gita Jayanthi celebration, a new title from Sri Pujya Acharya's discourses was released. Please visit <http://www.shastra4u.in/Stores/> for more details and picking it up for your sravanam from the **Insights from Vedanta** section.

Samsarasagara Taranamu

"Mind should Transact with the world and be Transfixed on the Lord" says Pujya Acharya Sri Prem Siddharth ji, in these discourses that were delivered at Savalamar, Jamaica during Sri Adi Sankaracharya Jayanti in 2013. Pujya Acharya Swamiji has unfolded the most significant teachings that help us crossover the tyrannies of Samsara. Based on the first verse of Sri Vishnu Shatpadi Stotram, these discourses present to us the intricacies of Mind Management as taught by our scriptures. Some of the topics dealt with are: #Housefly & Honeybee #Purpose of Prayer #Nature of Samsara #The role of Vyavahara Shuddhi, Manojayam, Buddhibalam & Gunavardhanam in our growth..Highly recommended for beginners and the seekers of Vedanta.

Harih Om!

-KV Sriram, Vyakhya Student, AVV