

Dr. Shuddhananda
Bharati

The Secret of Karma

Interpretation of Karma Yoga



ASSA
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Editor's notes

We submit *The Secret of Karma (Gita Yoga)* at the divine feet of God and bow our heads in worship. The *Bhagavad Gita* is the Bible of India; it is an incomparable tome of Vedic philosophy which the entire world should follow; it has been interpreted in several different ways but it still allows scope for new interpretations.

The *Gita* is an explanation of the Supreme Soul's Yoga. It explains in detail the three distinct types of yoga, namely karma, devotion and wisdom in the chapters 1-6, 7-12, 13-18.

We should study the *Gita* and its origin to understand its meaning. With this objective in mind, the Kavi Yogi has written and presented *The Secret of Karma (Gita Yoga)*.

This rare book will be published in three parts. The first part will throw light on *The Secret of Karma* in the chapters I – IV. The second part consists of the chapters VII – XII in which the practice of devotional yoga is explained. The third part will deal with the yoga of wisdom in the chapters XIII – XVIII.

Special features of this publication:

The slokas (Sanskrit verses) are written in Tamil script to enable the Tamil people to read the text easily.

This book shows that the Devanagari language can be written with the Tamil script.

Since the text and explanations are written first, followed by the Sanskrit verses, it will be easier to understand even for those who need to learn Sanskrit. We have presented the musical compositions separately as much as possible.

The *Gita* incorporates elements of the *Vedas* and the *Upanishad*. In the elucidations provided in *Gita Yoga*, readers will be able to perceive the essence of divine books relating to the Hindu principles of life in many places.

Meditational verses are given at the beginning of the book to enable our people to realize the spiritual path envisioned by Hindu sages and to meditate on God. These have been uttered by divinely-endowed sages. Clarity of mind can be obtained by chanting them in the mornings and evenings.

The profound doctrines found in each chapter have been separated into small sections for elucidation so that everyone is able to read them daily without difficulty.

This book also deals with the path shown by the *Gita* and covers several new topics.

The philosophy of the *Gita* and ways to incorporate it in everyday life is touched upon in the book, which is an excellent guide for righteous conduct.

The crisis of war created many hurdles in our way as did also the shortage of paper. With God's grace, we have managed to bring out the first part. (The first edition is dated on 24th April 1942).

We have made all efforts to publish this edition in a proper way and are making every effort to bring out the second and third parts as soon as possible. May our efforts be crowned with success with the grace of God and the love and support of well-wishers.

For the attention of readers:

The Secret of Karma (Gita Yoga) is a beautiful book translated by Savitri. It was not easy to translate a book meant for the Tamil people. But she does that very nicely, thank you to Savitri for her translation.

Devanagari slokas have been written in the Tamil script. The Tamil language does not have loud sounds. For this reason, Kavi Yogi is following a simple method for a long time. All the letters are in Tamil and known to Tamil people. Only loud sounds have been denoted by a dot and a line (.-). Readers may please note.

Table

Only these 15 letters are new.

According to the Sanskrit script, the second letter is denoted by 2 dots, the third letter by 1 dot, the fourth letter by a line. In this way, all letters can be correctly and easily written and read. Thanks to this method, there is no problem of combined letters and new letters; all the letters are known to the Tamil people. We have struggled a lot to enunciate Sanskrit sounds in Tamil and spent more resources than we could afford. But a great bottleneck in the Tamil language has been removed.

Now no one can mock our mother tongue. Not only Indian but international languages can also easily be written in Tamil with the help of 30 combined letters in the method adopted by Kavi Yogi, which is a great boon to the Tamil world. This book is also written in the same way.

With the support of people and by the grace of God, we intend to publish great books like the Upanishad and Sri-mad Bhagavatham in Tamil. Everything is God's doing.

It is a real pleasure for me to present *The Secret of Karma* to you. We have so much to learn from this drama! Thank you to Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati for having transmitted *The Secret of Karma* to us. With the blessing of *Aum Shuddha Shakti Aum*.

Christian Piaget

Courage!

*The night is through,
The chain of slavery
It is already broken -
I am full of courage!*

*Peace in the morning,
A golden sun rises
Like a lion superhuman
To accomplish my dream.*

*A hopeful smile,
Docile as a child
Who plays in the infinite
With a fiery star.*

*My journey is over;
I enjoy time;
The universe is my nest;
Of eternal spring.*

Song of Unity

*Unite. Unite, Unite, Oh Souls
Unite and play your roles
Unite in mind, unite in heart
Unite in whole, unite in part
Like words and tunes and sense in song
Let East and West unite and live long
Trees are many; the grove is one
Branches are many; tree is one
Shores are many; sea is one
Limbs are many; body is one
Bodies are many; self is one
Stars are many; sky is one
Flowers are many; honey is one
Pages are many; book is one
Thoughts are many; thinker is one
Tastes are many; taster is one
Actors are many; the drama is one
Nations are many; the world is one
Religions are many; Truth is one
The wise are many; Wisdom is one
Beings are many; breath is one
Classes are many; college is one
Find out this One behind the many
Then life shall enjoy peaceful harmony.*

Peace Anthem

*Peace for all, peace for all
For all the countries peace
Joy for all, joy for all
For all the nations joy
A rosy morning peace
A smiling summer joy (Peace for all)*

*All for each and each for all
This is the golden rule
Life and Light and Love for all
For all that live our love (Peace for all)*

*Work and food and clothes for all
Equal status for all
Health and home and school for all
A happy world for all (Peace for all)*

*No idle rich, no more beggars
All are equal workers
No more tears, no more fears
The heart is full of cheers (Peace for all)*

*No atom scare, no fat mammon
No room for war demon
Like leaves in trees, like rays in the sun
We are one communion,
One Divine communion (Peace for all)*

*The good in you is good for all
Your life is life for all
The God in you is God for all
Your love is love for all (Peace for all)*

*For he or she or it or rest
This collective life is best
This Universal Life is best
North or South, or East or West (Peace for all)*

*Peace for plants and birds and beasts
For hills and streams and woods
Peace in Home - land and air and sea
Dynamic peace we see*

Peace for all, peace for all

Immortal Peace for All

Presentation of Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati

11th May 1897 – 7th March 1990

The wise one to the cosmic age

Although more than 90 years old, in his school in the south of India, *Kavi Yogi Maharishi* (great divine visionary, wise poet), Dr. Shuddhananda Bharati worked like a young man of twenty. When he was asked his age, he answered: "My age is Courage!" The Yogi wrote several hundred works in English, French, Tamil, Hindi, Telugu and Sanskrit; five thousand songs, and fifteen hundred poems in French. The magnum opus of the man conscious of the presence of God in him, *Bharata Shakti*, (in 50,000 verses) described his ideal: only One Humanity living in communion with only One God in a transformed world! *Bharata Shakti* is a monumental and unique work. The Yogi depicts the essence of all the religions, of all the prophets and saints, all the approaches of yoga and all the cultures on an allegorical fabric. It is a book for any age which all spiritual researchers and all nations should read and meditate on. His commitment is summarized in his book celebrating his life, *Pilgrim Soul*. The three poems mentioned in the opening express perfectly his ideal. His mantra, *Aum Shuddha Shakti Aum*, nourishes our souls and guides our steps toward the inner joy *Ananda*. It means: The light of Grace and power of the pure supreme Almighty bless us of peace, happiness and prosperity! Let the beauty and greatness of soul of Dr. Bharati Shuddhananda bloom and scent the entire Earth of its divine message and his spiritual and unifying benefactor!

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Yogi Shuddhananda Bharati



The Secret of Karma

Part I – Arjuna’s agitation

1. Meditation

Om poornamadha: poornamidham
Poornasya poorna maadhaaya
Poorna mewa visishyathe
Om shanthy shanthy shanthy

Aum; that which is God is complete in itself, that which is the world is complete; from that completeness, this complete object has come into being. Even after taking out completeness out of completeness, it still remains complete. Aum Shanthi! Shanthi! Shanthi! (1)

Om brahma vidhapnodhi param
Barahmavin brahmaivabavathi
Satyam nyanan anandham brahma

He who perceives the Aum Brahma attains a superior state. A truly enlightened one becomes one with God; God is truth, wisdom, happiness. (2)

Asathoma sadhgamaya
Tamasoma jyotirgamaya
Mrutyurma amrutham gamaya
Rudra yathe dhakshinam mugam
Thena maam maahi nithyam

Lead me from falsehood to the truth; from darkness to light, from death to immortal life. O Lord Shiva, protect me always with Your compassionate face. (3)

Sarve bhavathu sukitha
Sarve sandhu niraamaya
Sarve bhathrani bhavyanthu
Maa kwasith dhukka paghbhaveth

May everyone be happy! May everyone be rid of disease!
May everyone experience prosperity! May no one suffer! (4)

Kali sayano bhavathi
Samji hanasthu dwapara
Uthishta sathretha bhavathi
Grutham sampath yathe charan saraivedhi!

When one sleeps, he is in Kali Yuga, when awake, in Dwa-
para Yuga; when he stands, he is in Thretha Yuga and
when he walks, he is in Grutha Yuga. O life traveller, go
forward! (5)

Varnanaam arthasanganum
Rasaanum sandhasamabhi
Mangalanumsa kartharau
Vandhe vaani vinayakane!

I worship Goddess Saraswathi and Lord Ganesha who
create letters, the collections of matter, the tastes, musical
verses and good fortunes. (6)

Athmaathavam girijaamadhi sahasara
Prana sareeram gruham
Poojaathe vishayobha bhogarasana
Nithra samaadhisthithi
Sanjaara padhaya pradhakshinavidhi
Sthothraani sarvaghira
Yathyath karma karomi dhathathathakilam
Sambo dhavaaradhagam!

O God of happiness, Lord Shiva, You are my soul, my intelligence is Your wife Parvathi, my life force is Your family, my body is Your house, all the physical, mental and worldly experiences I undergo are a form of Your worship. My sleep is the state of oneness obtained by merging with You; the steps taken by my feet are to circumambulate You; my speech is all about reciting words in Your salutation; all the trades I ply are but a form of Your worship. (7)

Sarandhakaaram Bhujagasayanam
Padmanabham sooresam
Visvadhaaram gaganasatrusam
Meghavarnam soopaangham
Lakshmikaantham kamalanayanam
Yogipirthyana kamyam
Vandhe vishnum bhavyaharam
Sarva logaikanaadham

A picture of calm, He who reclines on the serpent, Padmanabha, Lord of all celestial beings, the fountainhead of the world, He who is omnipresent like the sky, He who has a complexion like the clouds, He who is endowed with exceptional physical beauty, He with the lotus eyes, He who is the object of penance undertaken by the sages, He who erases fear, He who is the God of the universe, He who is the husband of Lakshmi and He who is Lord Vishnu, I worship Him.

Sarva mangala maangalye
Sarve sarvartha saadhake
Charanye thrayambike gauri
Narayani namosthutte

Goddess of prosperity, You who bestows all wealth and success, the consort of Lord Shiva, You who are the refuge of all devotees, the three-eyed Goddess, You who are Gauri and Narayani Devi, I worship You.

Ahimsapradhamam punyam
Punya mindhriya nikraha
Sarva bhoo dhadhaya punyam
Kshamapunyam vivoshatha
Nyanam punyam thapa punyam
Dhyanam punyam thadhaivasa
Sathva mashtavidham punyam
Vishnopreethikarambavedh

Non-violence is the first among good deeds, then comes control of the senses, followed by kindness shown to all human beings, forgiveness of others' sins (this is a special attribute), attainment of spiritual wisdom, undertaking penance, and meditation on God in the heart. These eight good deeds serve to please Lord Vishnu, who is omnipresent.

Rooso hayo vedha savedha devaan
Yajoom shiyo vedha savedha yakyam
Saamaani yovedha savedha sarvam
Yo maanasam vedha savedha brahman

He who has studied the *Rig Veda* will be familiar with angels, he who has studied the *Yajur Veda* has knowledge of sacrifice; he who has studied the *Sama Veda* will have knowledge of everything else; only he who has knowledge of *Maanasa Veda* (inner enlightenment) will perceive God.

Vasudevasoodham devam
Kamsa sanoormarathanam

Devaki paramaanandham
Krushnam vandhe jagathgurum

Son of Vasudeva, the joy of Mother Devaki; He who killed the murderous demon Kamsa, Krishna; He is the Lord of the universe. I worship Him.

Namo vivaavasava rupaaya
Visvasthithyantha hedhave
Visvesvaraaya visvaaya
Govindhaaya namonamaha

He who personifies the world, He who protects and destroys the world, He who is the master of the world and its form, He is Govinda, and I worship Him.

Prapanna paarijaathaaya
Thothra vedhraika paranaye
Nyana mudraaya krushnaaya
Gitamrutha thuhenamaha

He who bestows sweet fruit to His devotees, He who carries a stick in His hand to steer the cows, He who devised the wisdom sign, He who brought forth the nectar of *Gita*, Krishna, I worship Him.

Mugamkrodhi vaasaalam
Pangum sankhyadhekirim
Yath krupa thamaham vandhe
Paramaanandha madhavam

He whose grace can give speech to a dumb person and make a lame person cross a mountain, He who is the embodiment of supreme happiness, Madhava, I worship Him.

Yambrahma varunendhra rudhramarudha
Sthunvanthi divya sadhaiva
Vedha saangapadhakromba nishathair
Gayanthi yam saamaga
Dhyanaavasthitha thathkadena manasa
Bhavyanthi yamyoghino
Yasyantham thavithu sooraa sooraganaa
Devaaya thasmai namaha

He who is worshipped with divine verses by the celestial beings such as Brahma, Varuna, Indra, Rudra and Vayu, He whose glory is eulogized by poets versed in Sama Veda, He who is perceived in the mind by sages immersed in meditation, He whose intention cannot be divined by celestial beings or asuras, He who is the God of all souls, I worship Him.

Karacharana krutham, vaak, kaayajam,
karmajam vara
Sravana nayajam vara
maanansam vara aparaadham
Vihitham avihitham vara sarvamedha kshamasva
Jaya jaya karunaapje sri maha devasambo

O Mahadeva, Shiva, ocean of kindness, jaya jaya, please overlook the mistakes I commit with my hand, foot, speech, ears and mind, and shower Your grace.

Dhvameva maadhaasa pitha dhvameva
Dhvameva mathuvasa sagaathvameva
Dhvamevasarvam mamadeva deva

O God, You are my Mother, You are my Father, You are my family, You are my companion, You are my education, You are my wealth, You are everything.

Gurubrahmaguruvishnu
Gurudevo maheswara
Guru saakshaath parabrahma
Dhasmai sri guruve namaha

The teacher is Brahma, Vishnu and Maheswara; the teacher is God incarnate, so I salute my teacher.

Namosthuthethe vyaasa visaalabuddhe
Pulsaara vindhaaya dhapathra nethra
Yena dhvayaa bharatha thaila poorna
Prajvaalitho nyanamaya pradheepa

O God Vyasa, You who lit the lamp of the *Gita* filled with the oil of the *Mahabharata* and made it glow with wisdom, You who are like the fully-bloomed petals of a lotus, You who have an exceptional intelligence, I worship You.

Parthaaya prathi bodhithaam bhagavathaam
Narayanena swayam
Vyaasena krathithaam puraanamuninaam
Madhye mahabharatham
Adhvaithaamrutha varshineem bhagavatheem
Ashtaa dhavaathyayineem
Amba dhvaam anusandhadhaami bhagavath
Githe bhavathveshineem

That which was taught to Arjuna by none other than Lord Narayana himself, that which was incorporated by Vyasa midway in the *Mahabharata*, that which overflows with pure nectar, that which has 18 chapters, that which is against sinful acts, Goddess of virtue, Mother Gita, I meditate on You always.

Bheeshma dronathadaa jayathrath jalaa
Gandhaara neelothpala
Valya kraavathi krupena vahanee
Karnena velaakula
Aswathaama vikarna loramakara
Duryodhanaavarthi
Sotheerna kalu paandavai
Ranathi kaivarthaka kevaava

The battle of *Mahabharata* is a river of blood; Bhishma and Drona are its two banks; Jayathrathan is the water; Sakuni of the Gandhara court is the blue lotus; Salliyana is the crocodile; Krupachariyaar is the flood; Karna is the wave cluster; Ashwathaama and Vikarna are all dangerous sharks; Duryodhana is the water eddy; the Pandavas crossed this bloody river because Lord Krishna Himself acted as the boatman and helped them with the crossing.

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