

BHAGAVADGITA

-PROSE-



CONCISE COMPILATION BY

MALLADI VENKATA KRISHNA RAO

Bhagavadgita Prose

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Malladi Venkata Krishna Rao



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**Telugu prose & Concise Compilation by
Malladi Venkata Krishna Rao**



Translation by
Smt. Padmashri Maddala



Dedication

This book 'Bhagavadgita Prose' is dedicated to the lotus feet of Lord Krishna and also to all the readers who are willing to read the sacred text in this new and simple prose version.



About the Author

M.V. Krishna Rao is an engineer by profession and retired as a senior executive from an MNC. His passion for writing made him take up writing as a hobby after retirement which culminated in his first endeavor, a light English science fiction novel named 'Gama' published by Power Publishers, Kolkata which is available in book stores and on Flipkart. His zeal for writing took him to another level as did his inclination for spirituality. He took upon himself the onerous task of translating the Bhagavadgita Slokas. The aim of this book is to be able to reach the common man in all age groups by presenting them in an easy to read language. He lives with his wife in Hyderabad, Telangana and is blessed with a son and daughter who are married and settled.



About the Translator

Smt.Padmashri is a graduate in English and also holds an MBA. She resides with her husband in the beautiful coastal city of Visakhapatnam, India.



Authors Note

These words are spoken by Lord Krishna. There are only two paths for a man to lead his life. One path is the materialistic one which we all are now leading. A path which gives priority to 'I and mine'. Our education and occupation are based on these tenets. Since it is not possible in Kaliyuga to set aside this materialistic life, we will go forward by being in the same path.

The other path is the path of Self-enlightenment. The path to realize 'Self' (Atma). It is the same path which has been preached by Lord Krishna to Vinaswantha earlier which has again been shown to Arjuna. Once we strive to realize the Self and seek to attain this path, the study of Bhagavadgita becomes essential. Many of us are only aware of the existence of the sacred text Bhagavadgita, but are not able to read it. This book is an endeavour to cater to those who are enthusiastic about knowing what is greatness of Gita. My vision to familiarize this text to this audience has led to the Telugu prose writing of the Bhagavadgita and then translation to English. I hope you will read this book and will inspire others to read it as well.

Please note that there are 700/701 slokas in Bhagavadgita. In the prose part meaning of select slokas are merged to maintain continuity hence the numbers indicated within the chapters may not numerically match.



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Foreword

As everyone is aware, many learned people have written the Bhagavadgita along with their interpretations in various languages. I am blessed to have studied some of the texts.

I would in particular like to mention, ‘Gita Makarandam’ by Sri Vidyaprakasa Anandagiri Swami, ‘Srimad Bhagavadgita’ by Dr. Munjuluri Narasimharao, ‘Gita Taatparya,(Telugu) by Gita Press Gorakhpur, ‘Bhagavadgita Yathathadham’ by His Holiness Bhakti Vedanta Prabhupada Swami of ISKON. I have also had the privilege of listening to the fifty six CDs of Bhagavadgita by Sri Paripoornanda Swamiji.

There is abundant knowledge to be learnt by all, from the Gita. In order to understand the sea of knowledge in the Gita, one must first read the Sloka and meaning of every word, then the essence of the Sloka and also the explanation . Unless one reads the meaning and explanation one cannot comprehend the Sloka. This is reason the Bhagavadgita text written by great authors is voluminous. I have tried to make it easier for the hesitant reader to understand the words of Lord Krishna. So I have written the ‘Bhagavadgita Prose’ in an effort to scale down the sea of knowledge to coherent levels.

As was explained in the sacred Gita, our lifestyle is being led by one path of obscurity. Our education and occupation have reinforced this path. This can definitely not be changed. Hence it is necessary that we learn the other path of knowledge espoused by Lord Krishna in the Gita. So my vision to write the Gita in prose seemed to be a cogent solution. To be able to read and understand the Bhagavadgita in its original form entirely depends on the individual effort of the learned reader. But my endeavour primarily is to inspire an enthusiast to at least read this book and gain rudimentary insight of the text. I believe this book is a step in that direction. After reading this book, I request readers to translate this enthusiasm into knowledge, by reading and listening the above mentioned books also.

My effort was to compile and write Gita in prose form. You will see the influence of the above mentioned authors in this book. I will be ever grateful to all the learned people for showing me the path. This is an effort to bring forth the spiritual knowledge as explained by Sage Vyasa in Gita and also to make it easier for all to understand.

This book would not have been possible without the continued support of my wife Smt. Subbalakshmi and my son Suresh. I thank my good friends Sri M G Sastry and his wife Padmashri for extending their whole hearted encouragement in my endeavour.

My sincere gratitude to Smt. Padmashri Maddala for accepting my request to translate the script into English and for presenting it so well.

- Malladi Venkata Krishna Rao



Chapter 1

Arjuna Vishaada Yogam

Dhritarashtra asking Sanjaya about the war:

1. Sanjaya, tell me what you see in this Kurukshetra Dharmabhoomi where my sons and sons of my brother Pandu are assembled to wage a war.

Sanjaya replies:

2. Seeing the Pandava army, Duryodhana addresses Kuru head of army and his Guru Dronacharya and says.
3. Learned Guru! Behold King Drupada's son, your disciple the wise Drishtadyumna and his strategic army arrays.
4. Yuyudhana who is master archer and equivalent in valour to Bhima and Arjuna, and King Virata and Maharadhi King Drupada himself.
5. Drushtadyumna, Chekitaana and the skillful and brave King of Kasi, father of Kunti, the noble King Saibya and Purujeet are also here.
6. Not to forget the powerful Yudhamanyu and Uttamauja, the brave and one and only Abhimanyu and Draupadi's children the Upapandavas are all Maharadhis.

Explanation:

Maharadhi: A person who can fight ten thousand archers single handedly.

7. Noble Brahman! Let me now renew your memory and introduce you to the most important people and great warriors in our army.
8. Firstly I will name you my Guru , Bhishma, Karna then there are Kripacharya, Aswatthama, Vikarna, Somadatta's son Bhoorisrava and the great Jayadrada.
9. There are many more brave warriors and experts of warfare with all their weapons who are ready to lay down their lives for me.
10. I am proud that our undefeatable army has the protection of the noble Bhishma on our side while the Pandavas have only a weakling like Bhima to protect them.
11. I request the entire army to stay in strategic paths in your per-ordained places and protect Bhishma at all cost.
12. With that note, the head of the Kuru army, the eldest of the Kurus, Bhishma roars like a lion and blows his conch to generate enthusiasm to Duryodhana and his allies.
13. He is followed by the other army chiefs blowing their conchs, trumpets, bugles, kettledrums and bone instruments reverberating in all directions, announcing the beginning of the war.
14. Then seated in their great chariot drawn by white horses Madhava and Arjuna blow on their divine conchs.

Explanation:

During the course of the Bhagavadgita, Arjuna addresses Lord Krishna with a number of names like Hrishikesa, Achyuta, Madhava, Kesava Govinda, Madhusoodana, Janaardhana, Vaarshneya and Mahabaaho. Similarly Lord Krishna too addresses Arjuna with different names like Pandava, Kapidhwaja, Dhananjaya, Gudaakesa, Paartha, Kountheya and Mahabaaho.

15. Hrishikesa blows his conch Paanchajanyam and Dhananjaya the Devadattam while Bhima blows his conch, Poundram.
16. Similarly Kunti's son Yudhishtira blows his conch Anantha Vijayam while Nakaula and Sahadeva blow their conchs Sughosha and Manipushpakam.
17. Similarly King of Kasi, maharadhi Sikhandi, Drushtadyumna, King Virata, the undefeatable Saatyaki,
18. King Drupada , Daupadi's children the Upanandavas, the able limbed Abhimanyu and the rest of the army too blow their conch shells.
19. Their sound reverberates across the earth and sky and shakes the mighty Duryodhana.
20. Mighty Dhritarashtra! as the worriers gather their weapons to proceed, Kapidhwaja, holding his bow aloft,
21. Addresses Hrishikesa thus, Achyuta! Please take the chariot to the middle of the field.
22. I wish to see all those with whom I have to fight and those who are ready to fight me.

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Words spoken by Lord Krishna:

There are only two paths for a man to lead his life.

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