

International Seminar
on
Making New India
Insights from Bhagavad - Gita

13th - 15th December, 2018

REPORT



KURUKSHETRA UNIVERSITY, KURUKSHETRA

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**Report
of International Seminar on**

**MAKING NEW INDIA:
INSIGHTS FROM BHAGAVAD GITA**

(13-15 December,2018)

Learned scholars from all over the world once again assembled on the pious land of Bhagavad Gita: Kurukshetra from 13-15 December, 2018 to celebrate International Gita Mahotsva and to share views on the topic "*Making New India: Insights from Bhagavad Gita*" in the third International Conference organized by Kurukshetra University. Gita's timeless wisdom makes it similar to the '*Kshira Sagar*' (Ocean of Milk) of Indian Mythology whose churning brings divine results. The more we delve into the mystery of Bhagavadgita, sooner we reach the ultimate goal of life-Moksha (Eternal Bliss). The divine scripture Gita was emerged out of the mouth of Lord Krishna on Eleventh day of the month of *Margashirsha*. Since then it is lighting the path of all human beings and has become one of the most popular religious book in the world. Mesmerized by the enigma of Bhagavadgita, people from faraway places come

to Kurukshetra and find solace in the holy city having many pilgrimage tourist spots. Department of Tourism, Sanskrit, Philosophy, Commerce & Management joined hands to organize this event and feel honoured to invite great scholars of the world giving message of spirituality, wisdom, truth and enlightenment. No plans can be fruitful and no development can be sustainable if there is no measure of spirituality or philosophy in it. The concept of making new India lacks foresightedness if postulated without vision and vision cannot be all-pervading without spirituality.

The following themes emerged from the deliberations during various technical sessions conducted by the Departments of Tourism & Hotel Management; Philosophy; Sanskrit, Commerce and Management of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra.

New India and the philosophy of Gita

(a) **Unity:-** Gita, the quintessence of Vedas and Upanishads spreads the message of unity of the world. It is the key to understand SatChit Anand. Gita gives the message of surrender to supreme God and shed away the barriers of caste, color etc. it makes us realize that love for humanity must supercede all

feelings. According to the perception of ancient Indian sages, the whole earth is a single family-*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*.

(b) Eternal Prosperity:- Gita teaches that eternal prosperity does not come from worldly possessions. It is measured by our state of inner peace, happiness, joy, self-satisfaction and fulfillment.

(c) Non-violence:- By inspiring Arjuna for war against Kauravas, Lord Krishna never meant to teach love for war. On the contrary, he believes in Ahimsa (non-violence) which is counted among the five basic principles of Indian Ethics and philosophy. Lord Krishna was an ambassador of peace.

(d) Undivided Global Family:- Many scholars have voiced that Gita teaches to overcome differences based on caste, colour, religion etc. and speaks of one united world i.e. world is an undivided global family in which larger interest is to be taken care of in contrast to selfishness. Social problems like suicide, rape, abortion, female feticide etc. are symptoms of unhappy society. But the right understanding of universal brotherhood can curb evils.

(e) The Art of Living:- Gita gives us the eternal wisdom of how to lead a good life through desireless action (*Karmayoga*). The practical aspect of Karmayoga