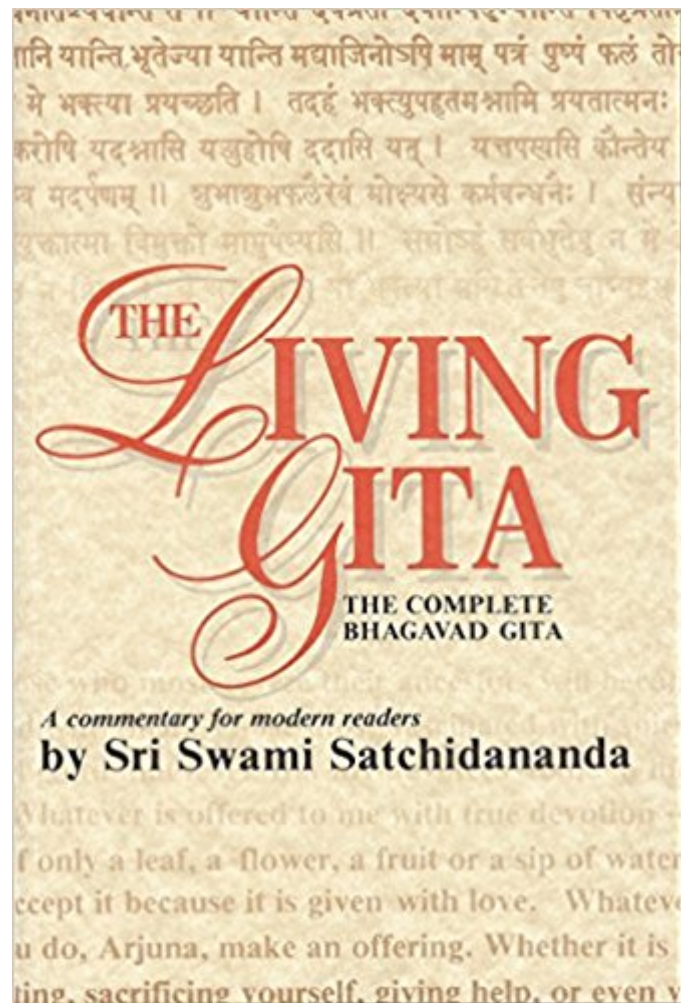


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# The Living Gita: The Complete Bhagavad Gita - A Commentary For Modern Readers



## Synopsis

The Bhagavad Gita tells the story of how Arjuna, the great warrior, is seated in his chariot about to engage in battle, when he sees his own kinsmen and his revered teacher arrayed in battle against him, and feels that he cannot fight. It is then that Krishna, the Cosmic Lord, comes to counsel him. Arjuna represents the human soul seated in the chariot of the body and Krishna is the inner Spirit, the God within, who is there to counsel him. Today we see humanity divided against itself and threatened with nuclear war and mutual destruction. No political means are adequate to deal with this problem, and many are driven to despair. It is then that the message of the Gita comes to teach us that it is only when we rise above human schemes and calculations and awake to the presence of the indwelling Spirit that we can hope to find the answer to our need.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Just as the many great yogis of the past bequeathed commentaries on the Bhagavad Gita to the people of India, Swami Satchidananda, who is a master of communicating the way of yoga with western words and images, has finally done the same for us. All popular English editions of the Gita must now take a backseat to this exquisite new edition. -- Meditation Magazine

His Holiness Sri Swami Satchidananda is one of the most revered Yoga Masters of our time. A much-loved teacher, well known for his combination of practical wisdom and spiritual insight, he gave his life to the service of humanity, demonstrating by his own example the means of finding abiding peace. His message of peace, both individual and universal, has been heard worldwide.

Each year, he received hundreds of invitations to speak at conferences, colleges, medical groups, and houses of worship around the globe.

As a student of yoga it is always recommended that the Bhagavad Gita be read. I had tried many different translations and could not quite determine why it was so essential. However, when I started teacher training in earnest my instructor required this reading and I am so grateful she did. It finally gives a "modern" approach to the Gita in a form that is readable and easy to understand. I now feel as though I know why it's required reading for yoga students - it lays the foundation for all that yoga is. It discusses not only the physical practice but also the psychological and spiritual practice of yoga. It also compares to the other religious documents that are used currently - the Bible, the Torah, the Koran and the Dharma of the Buddha. It has been a huge help to me in the studies and also in my asana practice.

This is apt for modern readers, since...1) It directly presents the shlokas in very simple English (so we can understand it)2) Then explains Why Krishna/Arjuna recited that shloka3) Then explains how it relates to us in general (in case of some important shlokas)I always wanted to read a scripture that is an easy read, and I can understand the reasons behind the shlokas. This book is suitable in that sense.We are losing the essence of our religion only because most of the great books are still in their original heavy duty form.Unless we know the purpose behind the shlokas and how it relates to us, what is the point?So, I generally tend Not to go into heavy duty books, since I would not be able finish even the first chapter in that case....Thankfully, I bought the Kindle version, and I actually add my own notes of what I should or should not do in my own life, based on the knowledge gained from the important shlokas.Or I can even just highlight a shloka.I can bookmark the important pages.This will help me re-read just the important parts later on, when I feel like reading the book again. :)With the Kindle papaerwhite (with wifi), Kindle readability (with brightness adjustment) & usage is cool too. Its light weight and small size makes it far more suitable for reading than my Ipad. :)

Gita is a very difficult book to comprehend.Although it describes the advice given by Lord Krishna to Arjun on battlefiled, it is not a battle between good and bad guys. The battle is really within the mind of every human being, between our good thoughts and bad (negative) thoughts.This book is not for anyone looking for quick reading. The book is invaluable for those trying to live virtuous life. No one should buy this book for light reading. Take the time to read.The book has to be read slowly

absorbing spirituality. Swami Satchidanda's explanations are extremely helpful

I am not a member of the Hare Krishna movement, whatever that is, but I LOVE this translation and commentary. I have a different translation which was nice but I am a westerner from the US and the Indian Culture is a little difficult for me to understand, even when translated, however, Sri Swami Satchidananda's commentary makes this book of wisdom SO much more accessible and simple to understand without taking away any of the baffling mystery or spirituality from it. I HIGHLY RECOMMEND IT

This book is amazing. It contains the true teachings of the Bhagavad Gita. Though people may think that this is a spiritual book, in reality it is not. I would say this book is more philosophical than anything. Read this book regardless of your religion or even if your an atheist. Famous people read the Bhagavad Gita and bathe their intellect in in everyday: Such people include: Albert Einstein said, "When I read the Bhagavad-Gita and reflect about how God created this universe everything else seems so superfluous.", Ralph Waldo Emerson, Carl Jung Henry David Thoreau who was quoted saying, ""In the morning I bathe my intellect in the stupendous and cosmogonical philosophy of the Bhagavad-Gita, in comparison with which our modern world and its literature seems puny and trivial." All the greatest minds have read the Bhagavad-Gita , so maybe that tells you something. I'm not religious in any way and I was hesitant to buy this book, but after hearing about all the great men who read this; I had too! I will have this book forever!

After carefully sifting through the many translations available in English of the Srimad Bhagavad Gita, I finally chose to study the "The Living Gita..". I have read other works by the author, Swami Satchidananda, however this would have to be his best! Each verse is translated clearly and his commentaries which follow are explained in plain easy to understand English - amazingly easy to digest and once you pick up this priceless gem its near impossible to put it back down given its rich, inspiring, insightful, relieving, healing, encouraging, nourishing, nurturing content.. simply heart melting and at times way ecstatic you wouldn't know what to do with yourself :-)) Swami Satchidananda's commentaries go a long way in helping to practice/live the Srimad Bhagavad Gita!!

I found this an extraordinarily beautiful book. As someone quite familiar with the yoga sutras, and conscientiously dedicated to expanding my consciousness, I wasn't sure how much (more) I would get out of it. The answer was '...Plenty!!' A whole lot of concepts settled in at a much deeper

level for me, and I really enjoyed Swami Satchidananda's relaxed reflections. I spent several weeks thoroughly enjoying a wee morning imbibe! :-)

Fabulous book. I'd read a version years and years ago. This translation is superb. Wonderful knowledge and a timeless perspective with which all, regardless of religious belief/practice, should become familiar.

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