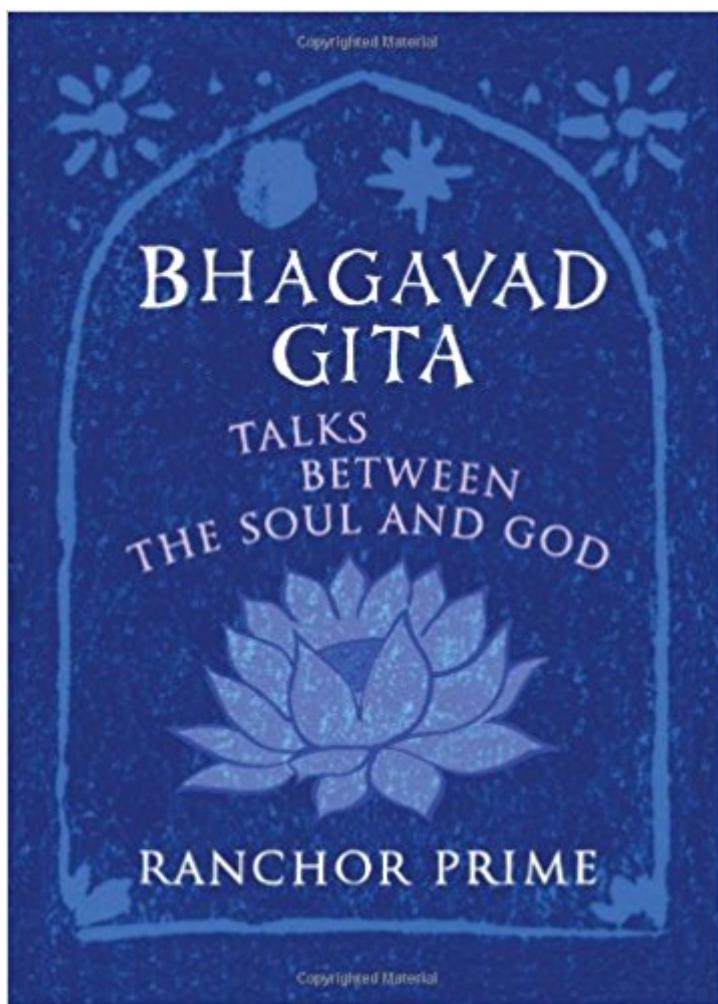


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Bhagavad Gita: Talks Between The Soul And God



Synopsis

An ancient conversation for a modern audience - anyone who has ever asked 'what is the purpose of life? or 'who am I?' will find something in this book. The Bhagavad Gita has been around a long time, but remains little known outside India. This edition sets out to change that. The ancient Gita is a world text dealing with the mysteries of life. At its heart is a conversation between the soul and God. Ranchor Prime's version adopts a non-sectarian approach, making the Gita relevant to those of all religions or none, and emphasising the link between religion and self-development. It is distinguished by its easy accessibility. His section-by-section commentary opens the text to the spiritual seeker. He never loses sight of the audience for his book, and that he wants his readers to understand the Gita in a personal way.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

'Prime began this translation as a way of sharing the Gita with his own children, and his commentary exudes a fatherly and caring spirit.' Publishers Weekly 'This translation of the Gita brings this vital Hindu text alive for Western audiences. It may be the best English edition of the Gita for enticing customers to take a dip into a dazzling river of divine knowledge.' New Age Retailer
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Ranchor Prime worked as an environmental project manager in Britain and India, and has published ten books on Hindu spirituality and ecology. His books include Hinduism and Ecology, 1992, and Ramayan, A Journey, 1997. He lives in London where he is a regular broadcaster and public speaker.

I've been attending weekly classes held at our local public library based on Ranchor Prime's, BHAGAVAD GITA, TALKS BETWEEN THE SOUL AND GOD, for the past three months. My first ever copy of the Bhagavad-gita (Song of God) was BHAGAVAD-GITA, AS IT IS, translation and commentary by his Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, was given to me in 1968 at the Boston Airport by a Hare Krishna devotee; and, although I tried to read it during my flight to Toronto, I mostly studied the pictures which were, I thought at the time, somewhat strange and scary. I was at a loss to know how one with a Christian background should engage in reading sacred Vedic literature which, in this case, opens on a battlefield in which Krishna (God) is speaking to His dear friend and pure devotee, Arjuna, about the moral and philosophical issues inherent in/to warfare. Keep in mind, too, that 1968 was not a great year for young American troops fighting in Vietnam and their family members and friends anxiously awaiting their return, not to mention the fact that the Krishna Consciousness Movement itself was relatively new to the collective American psyche and, as such, potentially threatening to many. Personally, I never could 'unpack' my first copy of the Bhagavad-gita, although I returned to it intermittently over a span of forty plus years before I eventually found myself in the company of advanced devotees who were able to help 'open' Srila Prabhupada's wonderful book for me. Having written this, I urge anyone who is even remotely interested in becoming familiar with the Bhagavad-gita to read this book. Ranchor Prime was inspired to write it for the benefit of his own children. He, a Krishna conscious devotee of long standing, elected to pare-down the text by deleting the verses written in Sanskrit as well as the awesome and rather heavy pictures one finds in Srila Prabhupada's work while remaining faithful to the essential spiritual/philosophical messages held within the original sacred Sanskrit verses. This work brings a refreshing and non-threatening sense of Vedic scripture to 21st Century readers of all ages. And, advanced devotees will find new discussions points and enriched meaning/s in the Bhagavad-gita by acquainting themselves with this contemporary work; plus, it makes a super nice gift!

The Bhagavad Gita has been around for 5,000 years, offering spiritual guidance for all aspects of life. Originally writing this version for his teenage children, Ranchor Prime has brought the ancient wisdom down to a level where it can be easily understood and applied. While the Bhagavad Gita originates from what is now India, its wisdom goes beyond any region or religious path and offers spiritual guidance and encouragement for anyone wishing to lead a God-conscious life. I recently purchased this book for a jail inmate, who promptly started to share it with fellow inmates because

of its usefulness and applicability in all situations of life.

I read the Bhagavad Gita in my twenties. We were protesting the Vietnam War at the time, and I didn't like Krishna telling Arjuna he must fight. I didn't understand the idea of illusion. There were few translations available back in the 1960's, none able to find common ground where we Westerners might enter the ancient dialogue. This translation is the one I wish had been around back then. This gives a few verses of the Gita and then a few paragraphs of explanation, like notes, opening them to the reader. This is one for all spiritual seekers, in this time.

Simply wonderful.

Bhagavad-Gita's flow of philosophy and the connections between the verses and the logic are uniquely brilliant. Bhagavad-Gita is meant for the enlightenment of humanity and remains vital today. In the West, the Gita has had profound influence on philosophy and literature and has been studied by virtually all of the major thinkers. For more than a decade, I, as a seeker of truth, have been sincerely searching for an easily accessible Bhagavad-Gita translation which also faithfully retains the original message of the Gita without speculation/vagueness. After extensive comparative studies of numerous translations, I found out that this book is a definitive translation:- It's easy-to-read as well as faithful to the original spirit of the Gita- The verses have been arranged into small logical sets and given thematic topics which I find it very helpful- The presentation is brilliant, engaging and universal in its appeal- This is not from an arm-chair philosopher. The author is a practitioner which means he's put his heart and soul into this work.

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