

The Bhagavad-Gita on Equality and Justice

The Human Values Scripture



The Bhagavad-Gita teachings comply with USA and International human rights Laws. This makes it the most suitable scripture to take oath on, read, and follow in the USA and worldwide.

The Worst Crimes Against Humanity

The following are the most barbaric actions and ideologies that have existed in human society.

- Human slavery
- Human trading
- Taking females captive (wives and daughters of fallen soldiers) and raping them
- Stoning people to death
- Burning people
- Eternal punishment
- Religious intolerance
- Dividing humanity into believers and unbelievers based on religion
- Instilling fear
- Terrorizing
- Looting
- Conversions by use of force or deception
- Taxation based on religion
- Adults sleeping with children
- Female genital mutilation

All the above are against USA and international human rights laws.

The Bhagavad-Gita DOES NOT advocate any of the above and these are all considered barbaric by Bhagavad-Gita standards. The speaker and God of the Bhagavad-Gita is Lord Krishna and He very clearly instructs His followers to be kind and loving to all living beings. The Bhagavad-Gita is the scripture on human values, and even the animals and trees have the right to freely exist.

Human Values Teachings in the Bhagavad-Gita

Always be truthful Be kind to all living beings Be a servant to everyone Be humble Be satisfied with what you have Consider the well being of others Be clean	The Family must always come first Forgive and forget the mistakes of others Tolerate it Let go of grudges Reduce desires for material things Give to others Appreciate what others have done for you
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"One who is beyond duality and doubt, whose mind is engaged within, who is always busy working for the welfare of all sentient beings, and who is free from all sins, achieves liberation in the Supreme." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 5.25)

The self-effulgent Vaikuntha planets, by whose illumination alone all the illuminating planets within this material world give off reflected light, cannot be reached by those who are not merciful to other living entities. Only persons who constantly engage in welfare activities for other living entities can reach the Vaikuntha planets. (Shrimad-Bhagavatam 4.12.36)

"The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: Fearlessness, purification of one's existence, cultivation of spiritual knowledge, charity, self-control, performance of sacrifice, study of the Vedas, austerity and simplicity; nonviolence, truthfulness, freedom from anger; renunciation, tranquility, aversion to faultfinding, compassion and freedom from covetousness; gentleness, modesty and steady determination; vigor, forgiveness, fortitude, cleanliness, freedom from envy and the passion for honor—these transcendental qualities, O son of Bharata, belong to godly men endowed with divine nature." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 16.1-3)

The Teachings of the Bhagavad-Gita

What is The Bhagavad-Gita?

- **"Bhagavad-Gita" means "song of God"**
- **The word of God in person**
- **Directly spoken by God (Lord Krishna)**
- **The conversation between man (Arjuna) and God**
- **18 Chapters, 700 Verses**
- **Not a once only delivery scripture, eternally existing**
- **Already spoken millions of times in many universes**
- **Last spoken 5,000 years ago in Kurukshetra (India)**

In the Bhagavad-Gita, Lord Krishna commands equality and justice towards all living beings.

1. The highest level of equality and justice teachings are in the Bhagavad-Gita.

The first teaching of the Bhagavad-Gita is that we are the soul and not the body. The soul is eternal, and the body is temporary. The soul has no material designations; thus the soul is not white nor black, not male nor female, not Indian nor American, one soul is not superior nor inferior to another. All souls are equal, and part of the family of God (Bhagavad-Gita 15.7). Eventually all souls get liberated and go back to the spiritual manifestation to live in complete bliss. There is justice for all living beings with the infallible law of karma. For every action we take, we will face a reaction.

The Science of You (The Soul)

- **The living entity is the eternal soul and not the temporary body.**
- **The body is like a vehicle, and the soul is the driver.**
- **All living beings (humans, plants, and animals) have a soul.**
- **All souls are equal; one soul is neither inferior nor superior to another.**
- **All souls have the same qualities to the same degree: Eternality, knowledge, and blissfulness.**
- **It is the soul which illuminates the whole body with consciousness.**
- **The soul is situated in the heart of all living beings.**
- **The soul is not Brahmin, nor Ksatriya, nor Vaisya, nor Sudra, nor any class.**
- **Every soul is a spark of God; thus all souls are divine.**
- **Every soul is accompanied by the super soul (God) in the heart. He is the witness, and the permitter of all actions we take.**
- **Every soul eventually gets liberation, there is no eternal punishment.**
- **The soul is unbreakable and cannot be destroyed by any weapon, burned, blown, nor moistened.**
- **Every soul is of the same size.**
- **The soul is neither male nor female.**
- **The soul is neither black nor white.**
- **The soul is not Indian, nor American, nor African, nor Chinese, nor Russian.**
- **The soul is not Hindu, nor Christian, nor Muslim, nor atheist.**
- **The soul is not old, nor young, and does not age.**
- **The soul has no weight and cannot be seen with the naked eye.**
- **The soul has no material designations.**

We Are the Eternal Soul and Not This Temporary Body

When a person dies, we say 'he passed away', but the body is right in front of us. This implies there are two entities, the 'body' and the 'he'. The 'he' is the soul, the living entity, and not the body. This is the first teaching from the Bhagavad-Gita. The body is temporary, but the soul is eternal. Where has he (the soul) passed away to? Another body.

"Never was there a time when I did not exist, nor you, nor all these kings; nor in the future shall any of us cease to be. As the embodied soul continually passes, in this body, from boyhood to youth to old age, the soul similarly passes into another body at death. The self-realized soul is not bewildered by such a change." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 2.12-2.13)

"For the soul there is never birth nor death. Nor, having once been, does he ever cease to be. He is unborn, eternal, ever-existing, undying and primeval. He is not slain when the body is slain." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 2.20)

The Fundamental Law of Physics (Conservation of Energy)

Energy cannot be destroyed but it can change forms. We (the soul) are the energy, and the body is the form. When our current form (the body) is destroyed, we (the soul) move into another form (another body).

"As a person puts on new garments, giving up old ones, similarly, the soul accepts new material bodies, giving up the old and useless ones." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 2.22)

"For one who has taken his birth, death is certain; and for one who is dead, birth is certain. Therefore, in the unavoidable discharge of your duty, you should not lament." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 2.27)

Number of Species (bodies) That the Soul Can Occupy

"jalaja nava lakshani, sthavara laksha-vimshati, krimayo rudra-sankhyakah, pakshinam dasha-lakshanam, trinshal-lakshani pashavah, chatur lakshani manavah" (Padma Purana)

Jalaja (Water based life forms) - 0.9 million
Sthavara (Immobile implying plants and trees) - 2.0 million
Krimayo (Reptiles) - 1.1 million
Pakshinam (Birds) - 1.0 million
Pashavah (animals) - 3.0 million
Manavah (human-like) - 0.4 million

Total 8.4 million species of living beings.

A soul occupies a particular body, exactly based on its desires, and deserves.

"The living entity in the material world carries his different conceptions of life from one body to another as the air carries aromas." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 15.8)

"The living entity in material nature thus follows the ways of life, enjoying the three modes of nature. This is due to his association with that material nature. Thus, he meets with good and evil amongst various species." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 13.22)

2. There is no caste system, only a social work order system to assign people for roles in society, based on their qualifications, to ensure proper functioning of society. This system is used by every organization in the world.

"Peacefulness, self-control, austerity, purity, tolerance, honesty, knowledge, wisdom and religiousness – these are the natural qualities by which the brahmanas work. Heroism, power, determination, resourcefulness, courage in battle, generosity and leadership are the natural qualities of work for the ksatriyas. Farming, cow protection and business are the natural work for the vaisyas, and for the sudras there are labor and service to others." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 18.42-44)

3. The truly wise person sees all living beings with equal vision.

"The humble sages, by virtue of true knowledge, see with equal vision a learned and gentle brahmana, a cow, an elephant, a dog and a dog-eater [outcaste]." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 5.18)

The genuine followers of the Bhagavad-Gita will not discriminate against anyone due to their race, origin, color, religion, community, and class. They will see everyone as eternal souls, part of the eternal God (Bhagavad-Gita 15.7).

4. A person is spiritually advanced when he regards honest well-wishers, affectionate benefactors, the neutral, mediators, the envious, friends and enemies, the pious and the sinners all with an equal mind.

"A person is said to be still further advanced when he regards all—the honest well-wisher, friends and enemies, the envious, the pious, the sinner and those who are indifferent and impartial—with an equal mind." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 6.9)

5. If one sees everything with equality, such a person has conquered material life and is situated on the spiritual platform.

"Those whose minds are established in sameness and equanimity have already conquered the conditions of birth and death. They are flawless like Brahman, and thus they are already situated in Brahman." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 5.19)

6. A spiritually advanced person (a yogi), empathizes with all living beings.

"He is a perfect yogi who, by comparison to his own self, sees the true equality of all beings, in both their happiness and their distress, O Arjuna!" (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 6.32)

7. One who realizes that God is in all beings is the true seer and he becomes qualified to enter the spiritual manifestation.

"One who sees the Supersoul accompanying the individual soul in all bodies, and who understands that neither the soul nor the Supersoul within the destructible body is ever destroyed, actually sees. One who sees the Supersoul equally present everywhere, in every living being, does not degrade himself by his mind. Thus, he approaches the transcendental destination. (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 13.28-29)

8. One who is fixed on equality of everything becomes free from desires and is joyful in all situations. Such a person has attained the highest devotion to God.

"One who is thus transcendently situated at once realizes the Supreme Brahman and becomes fully joyful. He never laments or desires to have anything. He is equally disposed toward every living entity. In that state he attains pure devotional service unto Me." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 18.54)

9. Lord Krishna Himself sets a perfect example of equality and justice. He treats everyone equally and fairly.

"I envy no one, nor am I partial to anyone. I am equal to all. But whoever renders service unto Me in devotion is a friend, is in Me, and I am also a friend to him." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 9.29)

10. Lord Krishna is the dearest friend of everyone and does not incite hatred.

"I am the goal, the sustainer, the master, the witness, the abode, the refuge and the most dear friend. I am the creation and the annihilation, the basis of everything, the resting place and the eternal seed." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 9.18)

11. Lord Krishna does not curse, nor force, nor hate, nor instill terror, nor threaten anyone who does not want to follow Him. He gives us free will to follow Him or not.

"Thus I have explained to you the most confidential of all knowledge. Deliberate on this fully, and then do what you wish to do." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 18.63)

Lord Krishna NEVER says that those who don't follow Him will go to hell or burn. One takes birth in a particular situation (rich or poor, nature of parents and family members etc..) and material conditions (bodily features, location, health etc..); one dies, and the soul goes to a particular destination (spiritual planets, hellish planets, heavenly planets, earthly planets etc..). All this is based on how the person treated others and what he did for the benefit of others. The label attached to us due to our birth in a particular religion (Hindu, Christian, Muslim, Buddhist etc..) has no value, nor does it influence the true God.

It's the actions we take that matter and not the label attached to us.
Sweet words are worthless, sweet actions are priceless.
Do good to others and the true God will be most pleased with you.

12. Those who do not give pain or trouble to anyone, are very dear to Lord Krishna.

"He for whom no one is put into difficulty and who is not disturbed by anxiety, who is steady in happiness and distress, is very dear to Me." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 12.15)

13. Show appreciation for what nature has given you by giving back.

"In charge of the various necessities of life, the demigods, being satisfied by the performance of yajna [sacrifice], will supply all necessities to you. But he who enjoys such gifts without offering them to the demigods in return is certainly a thief." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 3.12)

The demigods are living beings who are like invisible forces that work in the universe to maintain everything like plants, sun, wind, our bodies etc. Nature gives us oxygen, fruits, water, vegetables, wind, rain, heat, cold, etc. All living beings are part of the ecological system, and we must give something back by giving water and food to birds, cows, monkeys, and other living beings. We must also help nature by saving and planting trees.

The Nature of Lord Krishna

The nature of a person is their thoughts, actions, teachings, and behavior which includes how one treats others and what one is doing for the benefit of others.

From the pastimes and teachings of Lord Krishna, it is very clear that Lord Krishna has the purest good nature, God is all good. It is important to know that He also wants us to develop our nature to be all good. Thus, we should be truthful, kind to all living beings, charitable, tolerant, forgiving, grateful, satisfied, humble, considerate, and be a servant to everyone.

Lord Krishna is the well-wisher of everyone – The Most Beneficent

"The benefactor and well-wisher of all living entities..."
(Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 15.29)

Lord Krishna is the dearest friend of everyone – The Most Kind

"I am the most dear friend... [to everyone]" (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 9.18)

Lord Krishna treats everyone equally – The Most Gracious

"I envy no one, nor am I partial to anyone. I am equal to all..." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 9.29)

The true God is one who treats all His creations (all living beings) equally and is partial to none.

Lord Krishna does not command the killing of animals – The Most Benevolent

"If one offers Me with love and devotion a leaf, a flower, a fruit or water, I will accept it." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 9.26)

A devotee of Lord Krishna eats foods that are first offered to Him (Bhagavad-Gita 9.27-28), and He only takes vegetarian food, because the animals are living beings with a soul and feelings. They also have the right to live freely. The genuine devotees of Lord Krishna are pure vegetarian. The plants are also living beings with a soul, but with a plant-based diet, in most cases the plant is not killed, only the by product is taken and eaten. For example, if we take apples from a tree, we don't kill the apple tree. When we take the leg of a chicken, we kill it.

Lord Krishna commands His devotees to love all living entities – The Most Loving

"One who is not envious but is a kind friend to all living entities – such a devotee of Mine is very dear to Me..." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 12.13-14)

"Being purified by his intelligence and controlling the mind with determination, giving up the objects of sense gratification, being freed from attachment and hatred, one who lives in a secluded place, who eats little, who controls his body, mind and power of speech, who is always in trance and who is detached, free from false ego, false strength, false pride, lust, anger, and acceptance of material things, free from false proprietorship, and peaceful – such a person is certainly elevated to the position of self-realization." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 18.51-53)

Lord Krishna forgives – The Most Forgiving

"Even if you are considered to be the most sinful of all sinners, when you are situated in the boat of transcendental knowledge you will be able to cross over the ocean of miseries." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 4.36)

Lord Krishna has no enemies and commands His devotees to love the enemies too – The Most Merciful

"Who treats alike both friend and enemy..." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 14.22-25)

"One who is equal to friends and enemies, who is equipoised in honor and dishonor, heat and cold, happiness and distress, fame and infamy, who is always free from contaminating association, always silent and satisfied with anything, who doesn't care for any residence, who is fixed in knowledge and who is engaged in devotional service – such a person is very dear to Me." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 12.18-19)

Even the most sinful people can go back to the Kingdom of God if they simply stop sinning from this moment on. By following the instructions in the Bhagavad-Gita, we can elevate our consciousness to a higher level. Basically, become a decent human being by being truthful, kind to all living beings, humble, charitable, tolerant, forgiving, and develop a service to all nature.

Lord Krishna considers everyone to be His family member – The Lord of Pure love

"The living entities in this conditioned world are My eternal fragmental parts. Due to conditioned life, they are struggling very hard with the six senses, which include the mind." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 15.7)

Lord Krishna gives us all free will – The Most Responsible

"Thus, I have explained to you knowledge still more confidential. Deliberate on this fully, and then do what you wish to do." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 18.63)

Lord Krishna does not force anyone to follow Him, nor curse, nor torment, nor instill fear. This is because Lord Krishna is not a dictator, He is a responsible and caring person.

Lord Krishna gives the highest morality teachings – The Most Caring

"The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: Fearlessness; purification of one's existence; cultivation of spiritual knowledge; charity; self-control; performance of sacrifice; study of the Vedas; austerity; simplicity; nonviolence; truthfulness; freedom from anger; renunciation; tranquility; aversion to faultfinding; compassion for all living entities; freedom from covetousness; gentleness; modesty; steady determination; vigor; forgiveness; fortitude; cleanliness; and freedom from envy and from the passion for honor – these transcendental qualities, O son of Bharata, belong to godly men endowed with divine nature." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 16.1-3)

"Pride, arrogance, conceit, anger, harshness and ignorance – these qualities belong to those of demoniac nature, O son of Prtha." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 16.4)

The Bhagavad-Gita Teachings on World Peace and Unity

Give up hatred, and take up kindness

"One who is not envious but is a kind friend to all living entities – Such a devotee of Mine is very dear to Me..." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 12.13-14)

"Who is friendly to every living entity, certainly comes to Me..." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 11.55)

Become the well-wisher of everyone

"I am the benefactor and well-wisher of all living entities.." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 5.29)

Give up bodily discrimination

"Unlike an ordinary living entity, my Lord, You do not discriminate between friends and enemies, the favorable and the unfavorable, because for You there is no conception of higher and lower." (Shrimad-Bhagavatam 7.9.27)

All lives matter, we all belong to God

"The living entities in this conditioned world are My eternal, fragmental parts..." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 15.7)

"All living beings are but part of the Supreme, or, in other words, that they are Mine." (Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 4.35)

Become tolerant, like all, love all

"The Lord is very satisfied with His devotee when the devotee greets other people with tolerance, mercy, friendship and equality." (Shrimad Bhagavatam 4.11.13)

Consider everyone as your brothers and sisters

"One is my brother and the other is not – is the thinking of a narrow-minded person. For those who are broad-minded, liberals, or noble people, the entire world is a one big family." (Maha Upanishad, Chapter 6, Verse 72)

Develop the qualities of a saintly person

"The symptoms of a sadhu are that he is tolerant, merciful and friendly to all living entities. He has no enemies, he is peaceful, he abides by the scriptures, and all his characteristics are sublime." (Shrimad-Bhagavatam 3.25.21)

"A sober person who can tolerate the urge to speak, the mind's demands, the actions of anger and the urges of the tongue, belly and genitals is qualified to make disciples all over the world." (Nectar of Instruction, text 1)

"The Supreme Personality of Godhead said: O Uddhava, a saintly person is merciful and never injures others. Even if others are aggressive, he is tolerant and forgiving toward all living entities." (Shrimad-Bhagavatam 11.11.29)

Work for the benefit of everyone

"One who has taken his birth as a human being in the land of Bharata-varsha [India] should make his life successful and work for the benefit of all other people. It is the duty of every living being to perform welfare activities for the benefit of others with his life, wealth, intelligence and words. By his work, thoughts and words, an intelligent man must perform actions which will be beneficial for all living entities in this life and the next." (Caitanya-caritamrta Adi-Lila 9.41-43)

Do good to others

"May there be good fortune throughout the universe, and may all envious persons be pacified. May all living entities become calm by practicing bhakti-yoga, for by accepting devotional service they will think of each other's welfare. Therefore, let us all engage in the service of the supreme transcendence, Lord Sri Krishna, and always remain absorbed in thought of Him." (Shrimad-Bhagavatam 5.18.9)

A genuine follower of the Bhagavad-Gita will become a decent human being, and this is the qualification required to enter the spiritual kingdom of God. Everyone on the millions of spiritual planets is free from hatred, envy, anger, pride, and arrogance.

World Peace Prayer

***Om May all be happy
May all be free from illness
May all see what is good
May no one suffer
Om peace, peace, peace***

(Brihadhaaranyaka Upanishad 1.4.14)



***"One who is not envious but is a kind friend to all living entities – Such a devotee of Mine is very dear to Me..."
(Lord Krishna, Bhagavad-Gita 12.13-14)***