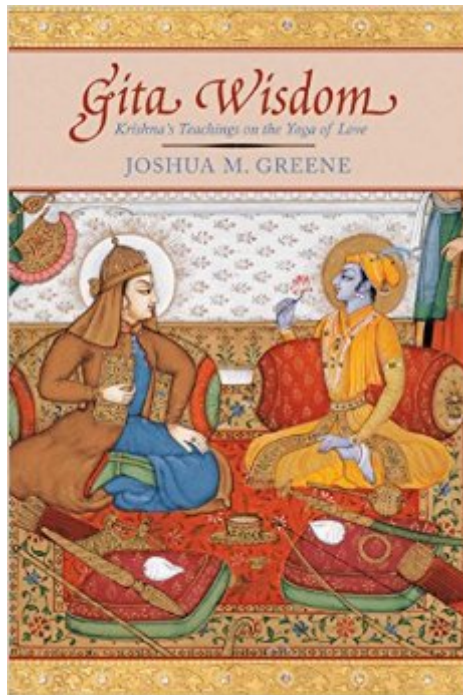


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Gita Wisdom: An Introduction To India's Essential Yoga Text



Synopsis

Joshua M. Greene has taken one of the most venerable and revered texts of all times -The Bhagavad Gita, and presents it in a completely new way. Greene reveals that the Gita, which can easily be obtuse to the modern reader, is really a simple conversation between two friends about the meaning of life. This fresh new view helps the 21st century seeker relate to the Gita and offers new ways of understanding this essential wisdom. The Gita is a discussion between Krishna and his devoted friend Arjuna on a battlefield known as Kurukshetra, a sprawling tract of land two hours north of Delhi, India. Scriptural calculations put the date of this famous discussion at around 3000 BCE. Like all great literature the Gita explores the human condition: who we are, where we come from, and why we are here. And as with all great literature, the more we study the main characters the more real and human they become. From related works we learn that Krishna and Arjuna played together as children. They were close friends in youth and became family when Arjuna married Krishna's sister. We learn that later in life they shared extraordinary adventures, including a journey through subtle pathways to places outside the known universe. Plainly put, India's most revered scripture is a heart-to-heart talk between two men who were closer than brothers and were the best of friends. Above all, The Sacred Conversation is practical and features a very helpful glossary in the back for terms, names, and places. Whether you are an expert on The Bhagavad Gita or a first-time reader, this unique contribution to spiritual literature offers deep knowledge in a highly accessible way.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I found Gita Wisdom to be a perfect introduction to the Bhagavad-gita. The author's insights provide a very practical application of this ancient wisdom into 21st century life. I also found it helpful that the author is a practitioner rather than merely a scholarly eye looking in from the outside. This is a great book.

"Bhagavad Gita" translates into English as "Song of the Supreme Person" and is a founding document upon which the Hindu religion and Yoga traditions are based. It is also the story of an epic war between two massive armies of four million soldiers with all the panoply of an ancient battlefield that included warrior elephants, gold-plated war chariots, beating drums, men grimly bent on killing other men with bows and arrows, spears and clubs. "Gita Wisdom: An Introduction To India's Essential Yoga Text" translated and provided with extensive footnoting by Joshua M. Greene is the 'story within the story' of prince Arjuna who foreseeing the carnage to come and turns to his friend and advisor Krishna (who also serves as Arjuna's charioteer). Their extended dialogue is what comprising the "Bhagavad Gita", and whose enduring ethical message is one of love's transformative power with respect to the hearts of men in even the most dire of circumstances. "Gita Wisdom" offers scholars and non-specialist general readers with a superb presentation and is therefore a welcome, recommended, and thoroughly 'reader friendly' addition to personal, academic, and community library Philosophy & Spirituality Studies reference collections and supplemental reading lists.

If your new to the concepts in the Bhagavad Gita then this might be a good place for you to start. It's an easy way to read some of it. The author putting his thoughts at the beginning of each section acts as quick summary of the proceeding passages. If you're familiar with reading philosophic topics then I'd jump straight to the source for reading and reflection. Mainly because the author doesn't add a new interpretation of topics than what can be seen at face value from the text.

I love this author's views and easy explanations of this classic epic. Within the setting of a battlefield, so much food for thought elicited prior to war re: the consequences of each individual life, our duties within this life and the meaning of our deeper relationship with a Supreme Loving Being. Great Job!

This is a great introduction to the teachings of the Gita. Joshua Greene writes masterfully. I am pleased in the way this book remains true to the spirit of the Gita.

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