

**NATIONAL SEMINAR** 

ON

"ETHICS OF BHAGAVAD GITA: THEORY AND PRAXIS"

Organized

By

Department of Philosophy

Khallikote Unitary University, Berhampur (760002), Ganjam, Odisha

10th & 11th January, 2025

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## **About University**

Khallikote Unitary University (KUU) officially commenced its operation on August 1, 2021, following Government notification no. 31432/HE, dated August 6, 2021. This historic institution, with a legacy of over a century, began as a modest school in Berhampur, Ganjam in 1856 and evolved into an intermediate college in 1878 under the name Native College. In 1893, it was renamed as Khallikote College, in recognition of the generous contribution by the Raja of Khallikote, who donated 16.5 acres of land for its expansion. Over the years, the college steadily grew up in stature. Degree classes in Arts, Commerce and Science were introduced in 1944. This Institution Achieved its Autonomous status in the year 1990. This institution has a rare distinction achievement of being the foremost college of the state for getting NAAC accreditation with "A" Grade. In 2015, it became a lead institution under the name Khallikote Cluster University. Its transformation into Khallikote Unitary University in 2021 marked a significant milestone, rejuvenating the institution with a mission to foster teaching excellence along with innovation, creativity, and academic success. KUU now aspires to continue its legacy by embracing modern education while maintaining its historic roots.

# **About Department**

The Department of Philosophy at Khallikote Unitary University, Berhampur, which dates back its origin to 1951, is a distinguished center of learning for exploring profound understanding regarding the various dimensions of life, knowledge, reality, and morality. Offering postgraduate education since 2017 with an intake capacity of 32 students annually, this department blends the richness of classical Philosophy with contemporary relevance. Specialized in Applied Logic, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Applied Ethics, it equips students to tackle the ethical and logical challenges of the modern world. With a commitment of nurturing critical thinkers and ethical leaders, the department fosters intellectual curiosity and empowers students to bridge the gap between tradition and innovation, making Philosophy a tool for meaningful change in the society. As per the NEP guidelines the department provides teaching facility in honors, core, minor and MDC. The MDC syllabus, there is a "Philosophical paper of Bhagavad-Gītā" in which more than two hundred students from different disciplines like Arts, Science and commerce have enrolled showing keen interest. This department is a leading hub for innovative research, education & collaboration in life sciences. This department comprise astute faculty members & talented students working together for the advancement in gaining comprehensive knowledge and addressing real-world challenges. This department provides excellence in catering knowledge and providing wide array of experience through various academic activities like seminars, symposiums, projects, exhibitions and publishing of journals and magazines.

#### **About Seminar**

The Bhagavad-Gītā, often regarded as one of the most profound philosophical and ethical texts in the world literature, stands as a cornerstone of Indian thought. Comprising of 700 verses, the Mahabharata in the Gītā transcends its immediate narrative context—a dialogue between Arjuna and Krishna in the battlefield of Kurukshetra—to offer universal teachings on life, duty, morality, and spirituality. Its exploration on ethical dilemmas and its prescriptions for righteous actions have inspired countless individuals and communities across centuries, making it a timeless guide for navigating the complexities of existence. At its core, the Bhagavad-Gītā addresses the quintessential human question: "What ought to be done?" It does so by delving into the concept of dharma (duty or moral responsibility), emphasizing the importance of fulfilling one's role in society without attachment towards outcomes. This principle of detached action, or karma yoga, has resonated widely, finding relevance not only in personal life but also in social and organizational contexts in a broader sense. The teachings in Gītā on self-discipline, detachment, and equanimity serve as a foundation for being judicious in ethical decision making, offering clarity at moments of moral conflict.

The Bhagavad-Gītā is not merely a philosophical treatise; but it is a guide for ethical living and meaningful engagement in the world. Its timeless teachings hold immense potential for addressing the moral crises of our time, fostering a culture of responsibility, compassion, and resilience. This seminar is an opportunity to revisit profound wisdom in the Gītā, examine its enduring relevance, and explore its transformative potential for individuals and societies alike.

### Relevance in Contemporary Contexts:

In the modern world, where ethical challenges are pervasive—be it in politics, business, education, or personal relationships—the teachings of the Bhagavad-Gītā provide a framework for introspections and actions. Gītā's ethics are particularly pertinent in addressing issues such as leadership crises, moral relativism, the growing breach between material success and spiritual fulfillment, Leadership and Governance, Personal Well-being and Mental Health, Education and Values, Business and Customer Social Responsibility and Global Challenges.

## Practical Applications of Gītā's Ethics:

The Bhagavad-Gītā's teachings are not confined to abstract philosophy; they offer actionable guidance for living a meaningful and ethical life. This seminar will explore how these principles can be construed into practice across various domains of life like:

- Policy-making: Alignment of laws and regulations with universal principles of justice and equity.
- Workplace Dynamics: Encouragement of right-mindfulness, teamwork, and ethical conduct.
- Interpersonal Relationships: Resolves conflicts and fosters harmony through empathy and understanding.

## Invitation to Dialogue:

This seminar invites scholars, philosophers, researchers, and practitioners to delve into the multifaceted ethical teachings of the Bhagavad-Gītā and its relevance in contemporary settings. It aims to provide a platform for interdisciplinary discussions that bridges traditional wisdom with modern challenges. Through paper presentations, panel discussions, and interactive sessions, participants will examine how the principles in the Gītā can address pressing issues such as social inequality, environmental sustainability, and other different issues of human life. Furthermore, the seminar seeks to explore the confluence of theory and praxis, shedding light on how the teachings of the Gītā can be adapted to diverse contexts without compromising their core essence. This involves a critical examination of the canon's interpretations, its applicability across cultures, and its potential to inspire transformative change.

# Objective of the Seminar

- ❖ To critically analyze the ethical framework of the Bhagavad-Gītā.
- ❖ To explore the relevance of its teachings in contemporary global challenges.
- ❖ To foster dialogue between traditional and modern ethical perspectives.
- ❖ To identify practical applications of the principles of Gītā in personal, social, and organizational contexts.
- ❖ To encourage interdisciplinary research and collaboration on the themes of ethics, spirituality, and leadership.

# **Key Areas of Seminar**

The seminar encourages submissions on, but not limited to, the following themes:

- ❖ Foundations of Ethics in the Bhagavad-Gītā
- \* Karma Yoga: Ethics in Action
- ❖ Leadership and Governance: Lessons from the Gita
- ❖ Mental Well-being and Detachment in the Bhagavad-Gītā
- ❖ Intersections of Spirituality and Secular Ethics
- ❖ The Gītā and Modern Organizational Culture
- ❖ Comparative Ethics: Gītā and Other Global Philosophical Texts
- ❖ Application of Gītā's Teachings in Educational Practices
- ❖ Bhagavad-Gītā and Legal Ethics
- ❖ Challenges in Translating the Gītā's Ethical Principles into Praxis
- ❖ Dharma and Duty: Understanding Moral Responsibility in the Bhagavad-Gītā
- ❖ The Bhagavad-Gītā on the Interplay of Free Will and Destiny
- ❖ Jnana Yoga: The Pursuit of Knowledge and Wisdom in the Gītā
- ❖ Bhakti Yoga: The Essence of Devotion and Surrender in the Gītā
- Managing Stress and Anxiety Through the Teachings of the Bhagavad-Gītā
- ❖ The Balance Between Spirituality and Materialism in the Gītā
- ❖ Bhagavad-Gītā: Ethical Teachings for Global Harmony and Sustainability
- ❖ Dialogue and Discourse: Lessons on Communication from the Gītā
- ❖ Bhagavad-Gītā: A Timeless Guide to Ethical Leadership
- ❖ Dharma and Duty: Understanding Moral Responsibility in the Bhagavad-Gītā
- ❖ The Concept of Dharma: Ethical Dilemmas and Resolution in the Bhagavad-Gītā
- ❖ Bhagavad-Gītā: A Framework for Decision-Making and Leadership
- ❖ From Conflict to Clarity: Lessons on Inner Peace from the Bhagavad-Gītā
- ❖ The Concept of Detachment: Practicing Non-Attachment in the Modern World
- ❖ The Bhagavad-Gītā's Relevance to Contemporary Ethical Dilemmas
- ❖ Soul, Mind, and Body: A Holistic Approach from the Bhagavad-Gītā
- ❖ Bhagavad-Gītā: A Blueprint for Harmonizing Individual and Collective Goals

# **Important Dates**

Last Date for Abstract Submission: 28/12/2024

Full Paper (With PPT, If Possible) Submission Deadline: 08/01/2025

Conference Date: 10/01/2025 and 11/01/2025

#### **Submission Guidelines**

Abstract: 300 words.

Full Paper: Maximum 3000 words, Times New Roman, 12 pt, line spacing 1.5, Reference Style: APA style, MS Word format.

Including the author's name, designation, affiliation, email address, and contact number.

Note: The incomplete submissions will not be sent for the review process.

All are required to send their abstract, full paper and PPT to "<a href="mailto:philosophykuu123@gmail.com">philosophykuu123@gmail.com</a>" For any further queries, contact us at the following mobile number: 9337568052, Asst prof Mr. Pinku

Kumar Sahu / 9337734107, Asst prof Mr. Akash Chandra Jena.

Dr. Jatin Bishoyi: 9437276377 (Abstract and full paper submission and acceptance)

**Registration Details** 

UG and PG Students: ₹500 (EXCEPT KUU)

Faculty and Research Scholars: ₹700

The registration fee includes conference kit, certificate, breakfast, tea, Lunch and Dinner

UPI Payment Details: 9668987768@ybl

Registration Link: <a href="https://forms.gle/b2hKhz8FS8sCenS17">https://forms.gle/b2hKhz8FS8sCenS17</a>





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#### **Organizing Team**

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### ORGANIZING SECRETARIES

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