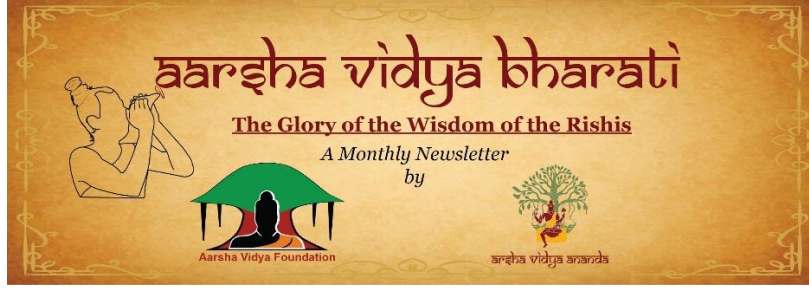

Aarsha Vidya Bharati - Oct 2021

A monthly newsletter that will bring you more happiness, more wisdom and more freedom



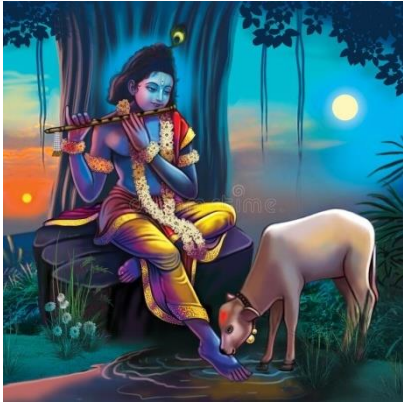
This is one of many articles from our monthly newsletter. Access the [Oct 2021 issue](#) or read any of the [articles](#).

Janmashtami Online Celebration - Report

By Prashanth Mohan, Australia

Janmāṣṭami is the day when *Bhagavān Viṣṇu* took the *avatāra* of Sri Krishna and was born to the blessed couple *Vasudeva* and *Devaki* in the previous *Dwāpara yugā*. The students of Swami Brahmavidananda ji and Swamini Brahmajnanananda ji participated in an online celebration to mark the occasion on 30th August. Students across many countries joined in offering worship to *Bhagavān* by chanting the entire Bhagavad Gita taught by Sri Krishna Himself to Arjuna.

The event started with opening remarks from Swamiji who explained the purpose of *Kṛṣṇāvatāra* and how phenomenally *Bhagavān* accomplished it. He described *Kṛṣṇā* as a *pūrṇāvatāra* who descended to establish *dharma*. *Śrī Kṛṣṇā* donned several roles as a son, king, warrior, beloved and above all as the greatest teacher to perfection and made sure that the highest *Vedānta* teaching continues in the next *yugā* as well.



Following this, Swaminiji quoted *Bhagavān* Himself and said that the best way of worship is to chant, study and assimilate the teachings of the *Gītā*.

The students took turns and chanted the entire *Gītā* in about three hours. It was wonderful to see so many who dialled in to listen to the *pārāyaṇam*. Also, some of them who could not attend the event live sent in their recordings to be played. The devotional fervour and commitment of the participants were very evident. The list of chanters included first timers who put in a lot of effort to learn the verses.

Here is what some of the participants had to say about their experience.

“It was a very nice and beautiful experience! Most fulfilling one!! I feel more connected to other participants.” Nirmala, Bengaluru

“ Very happy to be a part of the entire group which chanted the Gita. Although it

was my first time chanting, it went well. I 'll surely be a part of it again next year.” Yash, Mumbai

“I did the chanting of Geeta for the first time in a group. When I heard people from different background, culture, country, language chanting with same devotion and enthusiasm, I first time understood the meaning of oneness, all the differences dissolved. I believe this will definitely help in purifying the mind. I am thankful for the opportunity as well the graceful support provided by the seniors in preparation for the chanting. Meena, New Delhi

“I was not only delighted to be a part of this auspicious initiative led by Swamini ji but also, it made me realise how such opportunities are essential to keep one on the path of doing one's saadhana regularly. If not for this wonderful day, I doubt I would have taken the effort to memorise BG Chapter 15. I now chant it daily as part of my prayers. It sets the tone for my day and strengthens me from within. Thank you so much ” Kavitha, Singapore



“To offer just a few shlokas, originally said by Sri Krishna, was good in connecting with and being a part of a celebration, devoted to Lord Krishna.” Rikesh, London

“It was a wonderful experience. I was very skeptical initially, but it all turned out well. The vibrations I felt when reciting gave me a peace and calmness. I am so looking forward to participating actively in the future.” Uthra, Chennai

“Learning to chant the Gita was challenging but Prashanth helped me with my pronunciation and I am really glad I did it! It felt good to be able to chant the verses correctly and I was glad to be a part of it.” Sarah, North Carolina, USA