



Use of Bhagvad Geeta on Smartphone as daily activity

Prof. (Dr.) Subhash Desai

SAL Institute of Technology and Engineering Research

Opp: Science City, Village – Bhadaj, Ahmedabad – 380 060

subhash1948@yahoo.com, sgdesai48@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

Mobile phones are one of the most acceptable interfaces for internet user. A number of mobile apps are available for offering information. People can read Holy Bhagvad Geeta in various translations and listen to its verse by verse audio recitation anywhere, anytime. In it almost every theme related to Bhagvad Geeta consisting of 18 “Addhyaya” based on 18 days long “Maha Bharat” battle. No doubt recitation of the Bhagvad Geeta along with Shivyog has healing powers for various psychological diseases. It has been observed that people are adopting latest technologies to access their favorite applications to enhance their knowledge in their busy & free time.

The conversations between Lord Krishna and Arjuna are not limited to themselves but applicable to all mankind. Feeling of joy and enhancing our inner power to fight against difficult situations is the gift from Bhagvad Geeta. Experience indicates that repeated study and understanding this Holy book will improve our life style and attitude toward others. This paper makes you aware of

what would happen if we interact with Bhagvad Geeta the same ways as we are interacting with Smart Phones.

Key words: Bhagvad Geeta, Discipline, Mobile apps, Modern Management

INTRODUCTION:

In this modern era everybody is depending upon the technology for every single move. Where the world moves forward with their engagements more deeply but everyone have to fulfill the responsibilities according to their religion. Due to busy schedules people are not able to recite Bhagvad Geeta daily. It is important worship in Hindu. We need a modern and Technological approach that able to enrich the study time and improve the learning process.

“When doubts haunt me, when disappointments stare me in face, and I see not one ray of hope on the horizon, I turn to “Bhagvad-Geeta” and find a verse to comfort me; and I immediately begin to smile in the midst of overwhelming sorrow. Those who meditate on the Geeta will derive fresh joy and new meanings from it every day.”

- MAHATMA GANDHI

The Bhagvad Geeta apps on phones are the new method for all of us and we can use it anywhere easily. It is therefore essential to make better use of it since it is portable. The advantages are seen (1) during travelling from one place to another. And (2) during waiting for something etc. All these short little slots can be utilized and we can do our duty as well.

The Bhagvad Geeta is the most popular and sacred book of the Hindus and is contained in the Bhishma-Parva of the Mahabharata. The Geeta tries to build up a philosophy of karma based on janana and supported by Bhakti in a beautiful manner.

TEACHER AND BHAGVAD GEETA [2]:

The teacher must teach his subject with great competence but when the issue of judgment is involved he should let the student free as Arjun was finally left to decide himself whether to fight or not. The concept of the teacher in the Geeta is that he must be most balanced.

The true teacher not only teaches truth but also demonstrates it. In short, the teacher is vigilant enough to keep the soul and body of his student as well as his own together. The student,

according to Geeta, is not a disciple but a learner. But the first and the last characteristic of an ideal student are to surrender before the teacher accepting his ignorance of the subject he wants to know. Genuineness, humanity, obedience, faith in his teacher is the essential characteristics of a good learner. He must also poses an intense urge to know without which he will not be able to digest what the teacher gives.

The student, according to Geeta, must shun three great vices: Kama, Krodh and Lobha in his personality. Obedience means respect to the teacher. However, it does not mean the foolish obedience in which everything is accepted by the student blindly. The eager intellect of the student must be satisfied.

BHAGVAD GEETA CONCEPTS IN THE PRESENT SCENARIO OF PROFESSIONAL LIFE [1]:

In the Bhagvad Geeta, I noticed that some of the basic components of educational philosophy are present. Meaning of 'education' that can be found in the Bhagvad Geeta. Interpretation of a comprehensive meaning education consisted within it can contribute to look behind the curtain of history for searching valuable knowledge.

Bhagvad Geeta literally means the philosophical discourse of Lord Krishna to persuade the reluctant Arjun to fight. In the battle field Arjun was strucked when he saw his relatives as the opponents. To motivate him the Bhagvad Geeta is preached in the Kurushetra. Lord Krishna did counseling to do his duty. Krishna gave education to perform his duty as a prince, as a warrior, as a righteous man to fight against evil and restore peace and order. Consequently we are in constant need of counseling and proper education to move into correct direction in our professional life. True direction would provide not only an intellectual stimulation but also a real purpose in life. Bhagvad Geeta is providing the purest knowledge and gives direct understanding of the self realization.

Devotion is defined as disinterested service to God. So it is a form of Karma. Hence we must continue doing our work at our best. It is known that below average people will only talk more and do nothing. Average people always try to prove themselves by putting best efforts to perform and complete task. Above average people talk less, do less but get tasks completed from others. This is an art which every professional must learn and practice it.

Human child inherits the certain tendencies, instincts, propensities of character, mental disposition etc. from past life. Parents give to child only his body but his physical apparatus and soul's doing are his own. This explains individual differences. As a result we find uneven professional growth of person even though both having same qualifications and experience in same organization. Hence the simple concepts of Geeta may alter the future of a person in terms of health, wealth and everything else.

The moral of Bhagvad Geeta entails upon the discipline of the life and performance of one's duty without attachment to the result in sattvic way. Geeta rightly strikes at the root of the problem. So it is implied that professional decisions are taken after careful study the root cause of the problem. We need correct and complete information. Both western and eastern thoughts and theories are hold good in their geographical areas. Many scholars in the East and West seem to be interested in studying and interpreting the educational aspect of Bhagvad Geeta. A Vedic scholar, Prabhupad (1986) argues that the Bhagvad Geeta is a popular source of knowledge and wisdom for the global community.

The Bhagvad Geeta is appropriate for all. It is not for some specific community, caste, creed, sex, country but it is a common asset of all human beings. Even though the Bhagvad Geeta was created on the battlefield before the commencement of the war, its relevance in present context is still meaningful and considerable. Therefore, it is very important in our daily and professional life.

MODERN MANAGEMENT AND BHAGVAD GEETA [3]:

Bhagvad Geeta has inspired many of our national leaders and provided them strength, moral courage and clarity of thoughts. Let us look at a pair of famous shlokas – famous because it was a title song for the Mahabharata serial.

‘Yada Yada hi dharmasya glanirbhavati bharat !

Abhutthanam dhrmasya tadatmanam srujamyaham !!’

‘Paritranaya Sadhunam Vinashaya ch duskrutam !

Dharma Snsthapanarthaya Sambhavami yuge yuge !!’

The same shlokas could be understood as a profound management concept because that is what you will find in the instructions of many engineering and management schools. Stability and

long term sustainability of the system happens because there are *regenerative points*. When the system attains disequilibrium and shows signs of being unstable and going out of control measures have to be taken to restore the equilibrium in the system. This is a classical systems engineering idea according to which there are regenerative points in the system. If the regenerative points are not there, the system will go unstable.

One can easily relate this to some well known concepts in Economics & Management. The demand – supply equilibrium, pricing decisions in alternative market structures, the way in which organizations continue to root out bad CEOs or Managers over time, the mechanisms to prevent opportunistic behaviors in the long run could all be explained by this basic axiom laid out in this shloka.

In order to be successful and sustainable organizations need to continuously engage themselves in discarding old ideas (mind set!) & embrace new ones. This is the fundamental building block of innovation and creating competitive advantage. The most important issue in management of change is one of mind set. The biggest challenge in organizations is mind set inertia. You can discard many things but mindset is very difficult to discard. This puts realistic limits to creating better organizations over time.

Geeta also offers perspectives on how to manage certain things in life, understand complex things that we go through in simple terms. Stress management is a big issue. Most of the knowledge and help we get from the modern day thinking is to suppress or divert our attention from the issue of stress. They implicitly operate with an assumption that stress will be inevitably generated and the solution lies in doing something about it once we are stressed. Let us kill it or run away from it by some means after it happens is the basis for stress management. We do not seem to address why one should get stressed in the first place.

We have to differentiate between signals and noise. We don't do so because we don't have the capability of signal processing. That does not mean we can turn off the apparatus and stop receiving the signals. That happens only when we are in a state of coma. Geeta never says run away from problems. On the other hand it seems that understanding problems in the right perspective is key to managing them. That is the greatest management lesson that one can learn.

Management is all about doing work, doing it efficiently and ensuring that results follow. Lord Krishna says enjoy complete degree of freedom and total joy while engaging in work. That is the

idea. While we are in the thick of work can we enjoy? Answer is YES.

This is again in contrast with our understanding of work and its effects on us today. One of the biggest problems that we are facing in our daily life, professional work and personal life is that we don't seem to enjoy what we are doing. Children say I am bored. Young professionals want to adopt the western model of "weekend getaway". Such a perspective can never get the best from work place that modern business management is worried about.

We cannot run away from work as there is nothing called "*no work*". There is no escaping from work. We are told that we need to work for results.

- Result orientation can make one worry of failures, we may refuse to undertake great activities (modern risk management issue comes into play).
- We have a tendency to excessively focus on ends instead of means. This is what most working in Multi-National Companies are busy doing. Modern day managers spend significant time to manager "performance reports" rather than "performance" itself.
- In order to be good in managing the performance report, "process orientation" must give way for "result orientation"
- What are results at the end of the day? They are issues of the future about which we spend our time in the present. Therefore, we may tend to escape the dynamics of "present" and go after "future".

Western thinking is that everything is under man's control. From a management perspective this is a very real idea. The CEO is dependent on other people in the organization. If the CEO throws too much of his/her weight, people in the organization will simply leave. Similarly, the boss is critically dependent on the sub-ordinates.

The world is full of interconnections. We need to develop the importance of these interconnections between man and nature. Nature (rock, rivers, forest and so on) have a huge role to play in this and are important variables in our equation of sustainability. If we don't understand this, then there is no management.

CONCLUSION:

In this age of intellectual capital you are busy acquiring the latest skills and expertise in the belief that it guarantees success. But success comes only when you put all the knowledge to use. The Geeta introduces you to your inner personality. The intellect, which reasons and discriminates the mind, is the centre of emotions and impulses. So go ahead connect with Geeta using mobile app on your smart phone and be SMART person. Faith on the instructions of Geeta can remove the problem of indiscipline.

After reading the Bhagvad Geeta, one can understand that it is our valuable historical asset of knowledge and it demands deep study and interpretation. We can enrich our philosophical, sociological, anthropological and psychological understanding through the readings of the Bhagvad Geeta. Bhagvad Geeta can be taken as an educational philosophy, because it has got all components of an educational philosophy.

Materialistic pleasure is temporary, can be lost any time but steady wisdom never drags us toward loss. The Bhagvad Geeta states that one who performs an action with controlled mind and wisdom is wise. Bhagvad Geeta makes human Dharmik thereby developing capacity to raise voice against injustice of any sort, involve in welfare of living being.

There are several other useful ideas in Geeta for management. There are specific ideas for management that addresses issues pertaining to self, self mastery and self assessment. There are also specific suggestions on the leadership traits. You can have spiritual progress; you can have material progress too in a very balanced way. You can have happiness, not only success. To me Indian wisdom is superior management and that is where we should perhaps focus more of our attention in the future.

REFERENCES:

- [1] Bhakti Vedanta A. C. & Swami Prabhu Pad, 'Bhagavadsandesh' Published by Bhakti Vedanta Granth Sansthan, Kandhivalli Bombay vol. 1, 1986.
- [2] Bhavna Sharma, M. Ramachandran, 'Need of Bhagvad Geeta Concepts in the Present Scenario of Professional Education', International Journal of Applied Engineering Research ISSN 0973-4562 Volume 10, Number 11 (2015).
- [3] Mahadevan, B (1999). The Economic worth of Indian Austerity, Hindu Business Line, August 19, 1999.