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Certificate of Commendation

Pandit Prabhu Dina-Anukampana Dasa generously gave a one-day workshop on Sanskrit Pronunciation in the College of Asia and the Pacific at the Australian National University on 25th November 2010. The course attracted over 20 participants, including past, present and future ANU Sanskrit students, and members of the local Indian community. Prabhu's lively and engaging style and his novel approach which emphasises the kinaesthetic aspects of pronunciation were very well received by the participants. I would strongly recommend Prabhu's courses, especially for those with little or no knowledge of Sanskrit but who nevertheless wish to pronounce the language accurately. This approach is also most useful for more experienced students who wish to improve their pronunciation.

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CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

As a teacher of Sanskṛt for 15 years in Chennai, it gives me great pleasure to commend Śrī Dina-Anukampana Dās (also known as Daya Senan):

- for publishing the Bhagavad Gitā Ślokas Book with his own unique format
 of Simplified Romanized Sanskṛt. (This has been proven as very helpful for
 guiding persons who are unfamiliar with Sanskṛt to pronounce it correctly easily
 and confidently);
- for leading the singing of the entire Bhagavad Gitā annually at the Aṣṭa
 Lakṣmī Temple in Besant Nagar, Chennai. (This program has been so well-received by the devotees and management of the temple that it has been declared an official item in the temple's annual calendar of events);
- for developing the method of singing the Gitā verses in a simple tume with the accompaniment of musical instruments. (This enables ordinary persons to easily sing the Gitā as a part of their daily sādhana);
- and for propagating the singing of the Bhagavad Gitā en-masse on Gitā Jayanti Day as an annual event in Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Penang, Ipoh, Auckland, Cambodia and Bali.

I would also like to make special mention that his **pronunciation of Sanskrt** is perfect. He has demonstrated that the Romanized Sanskrt script is suitable for representing Sanskrt sounds perfectly, thus corroborating the well-known Sanskrt adage that lepi (script) is not important so long as the original sound is represented without ambiguity and reproduced accurately.

I wish him well in his endeavours for propagating Simplified Romanized Sanskṛt, the singing of the Gītā, as well as the mass observances of Gītā Jayanti Day as an annual spiritual event that will unite not only all Hindus but all humanity and all living beings as well, in peace, prosperity and happiness. These will go a long way in both popularizing Sanskṛt and propagating Sanātana Dharma. Hariḥ om tat sat.

S. Mohan M.A., M.Phil., B.Ed., Nyāya Siromani

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CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

From S. Mohan (M.A., M. Phil., B. Ed., Nyaya Siromani)

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राष्ट्रियसंस्कृतविद्यापीठम्, तिरुपतिः Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha

Department of Visistadvaita Vedanta

Prof. (Dr.) Ram Sajiwan Tripathi B.A. (Sanskrit & English Litt.),
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om vishvam vande

15th September, 2008, Tirupati

In Recognition Of A Commendable And Unique Mission For The Bhagavad Gita Propagation

I am privileged to state that in December 2007, His Grace Dina-Anukampana Das Prabhu conducted a demonstration of his unique one-day Sanskrit Pronunciation workshop at our university. It was attended by several students, two guests of French origin and a nearby village school headmaster. All of them expressed great appreciation for the workshop's effectiveness and his teaching methods. They were able to greatly improve their pronunciation and understand how to rectify their pronunciation defects within just a few hours.

In that program, even our H'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Hare Krishna Satapathy was present as the Guest of Honour and he appreciated this simple method of presenting and singing the Gita slokas. He expressed his hope that our institution may also join, later or sooner, in this mission of teaching Bhagavad Gita to the masses in a perfect and scientific way. He had remarked, "Now you will conquer the whole world with Bhagavad Gita." I attended this workshop and took personal interest to interact with Dina Prabhu on the correct pronunciation of Sanskrit words, particularly those used in the Bhagavad Gita.

In my opinion, Sri Bhagavan (Sri Krishna) has used the perfect terminology to communicate His divine teachings for the good of the society, but sometimes common people are not able to pick up the same *in toto*. Therefore, proper guidance is a must for getting the full benefit of the Gita's teachings. Even a single letter, when not properly received and digested, cannot yield the desired result, but when it is properly adopted, it can produce amazing results.

In this regard, HG Dina Prabhu has embarked upon a commendable mission to disseminate the knowledge of the Gita through a scientific method of correct pronunciation. Thus the vibrations of the Gita can work on the individual's nervous system to benefit that person as well as the cosmological or universal nervous system, bringing about auspiciousness for the entire humanity, and indeed, for all living and non-living beings. The Gita is praised as 'Sarvopanishado gavo...' - the Upanishads are the essence of the Vedas, and the Gita, in a nutshell, contains the nectar extract of all the Upanishads. Thus the Gita is more effective than even Vedic texts for bringing about good for one and all.

If the whole world starts chanting the Gita's mantras properly and sincerely, it would be a great yajna and surely the burning problems of our planet, like the on-going wars in Afghanistan etc. and global-warming will be resolved. This is a great contribution of HG Dina Prabhu to the entire universe as a jnana yajna. May Lord Venkateshwara help us and give full strength to Dina Prabhu for a grand success of his mission. Hari om tat sat.

I remain in the service of Govinda Prabhu,

Prof. Dr. R. S. Tripathi

Head: v Vedanta Deptt. Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeeths (Deemed to be University) rupati-517507 (A.P.) INDIA

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PERSATUAN CARA HIDUP KETUHANAN CAWANGAN MALAYSIA தெய்வீக வாழ்க்கைச் சங்கம், மலேசியா கிளை

THE DIVINE LIFE SOCIETY, MALAYSIA BRANCH Object: Dissemination of Spiritual Knowledge

Headquarters: Divine Life Society, Sivanandangar, 249192 Dt. Tehri Garhwal, U.P. Himalayas



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17th May 2007 Kuala Lumpur

The Respected Trustees, Shri Ashta Lakshmi Kovil, Besant Nagar, Chennai & All Hindu Leaders in Chennai

Dear Sirs / Madams,

ANNUAL GITA SINGING PROGRAM IN CHENNAI

It gives me great pleasure to hear that for the third consecutive year, the Shri Ashta Lakshmi Kovil is organizing the program for singing the entire Bhagavad Gita for the benefit of the masses.

- 2. I would like to send my best wishes and blessings for this program. We feel a special joy to know that two of our Malaysian Gita Jayanti team are coming to Chennai to help lead the singing of the Gita. We have found that this simple method of singing the Gita bhajan-style is indeed appealing and easy for one and all to join in. At the same time, it provides a much-needed platform of unity for Hindus to pray together.
- 3. All Christians have Christmas Day as a common devotional religious holiday although there are many, many different sects of Christianity. Similarly, we should promote the birthday of our Mother Gita as a common day for Hindus of all sects, indeed all humanity, to unite in devotion to the Supreme.
 - Almost all Muslim children learn to sing the Koran in their tender years. Similarly, we should take advantage of the simplified method of Sanskrit pronunciation, which is especially easy for children to learn.

This would give us good reason to hope that in the not too distant future, at least every educated Hindu should know how to recite and explain word by word at least one verse, if not one chapter, of the Gita.

- 4. Shri Dina-Anukampana Das, who first conceived of and implemented this program in Singapore in 1997 (where it has become an annual event now in its 10th year, with a month-long series of events and a 100 page magazine published each year [please see their website at www.gitajayanti.com]). With his consistent effort, this program of singing the Gita en-masse especially on Gita Jayanti Day has become an annual event in these countries:
 - Singapore (10 years);
 - · New Zealand (Auckland, 4 years);
 - Malaysia (5 years in Kuala Lumpur, 1 year in Ipoh & Penang);
 - · India (3 years); (Chennai)
 - · Cambodia (1 year); and
 - Indonesia (Bali, 1 year).
- 5. In this connection, please note that the tithi for Gita Jayanti (Marga Sirsha Sukla Paksha Ekadasi Tithi) this year falls on Thursday, 20th December 2007. I humbly request all Hindu leaders and Hindu temples to include this event in their annual calendar of festivals and do their utmost to propagate its observance at all levels family, neighbourhood, schools, towns, cities and nationally.

Thank you very much.

Yours in spiritual brotherhood,

Swami Guhabhaktananda

President, Divine Life Society

& Organizing Chairman for Gita Jayanti KL 2006