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BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE, PILANI (RAJASTHAN)
I SEMESTER 2023-2024

COMPREHENSIVE EXAM PART-A (CLOSED BOOK)

Course No.: HSS F334

Course Title:

Shrimad Bhagavad-Gita

Date: 12th Dec (9-10.50 AM)

Maximum Marks: 86M

- This part is built in. After submitting Part-A collect Part-B. Expected time for **Part-A:100 min.**

1		12		Marks of Q1 (1-22): Marks of Q2: Marks of Q3:
2		13		
3		14		
4		15		
5		16		Recheck:
6		17		
7		18		
8		19		
9		20		
10		21		
11		22		

Q1. Answer the following MCQ questions in the above grid. A question may have more than one correct option. Overwritten answers will not be considered for recheck. Marks will be awarded only if **all** correct options **and only** correct options are chosen. [2Mx 22 = 44M]

- Arjuna overcame his miserable situation by
 - hearing from the supreme Lord Krishna
 - his archery expertise
 - his vedic knowledge
 - his deep moral values
 - by surrendering to Supreme Lord
- Supreme Lord directly doesn't take charge of this material world because
 - it is too complex a task
 - He doesn't want to be prominently present in this world.
 - it is autonomous and moves on its own.
 - He wants to give a chance to some living entities who want to be controllers
- Which of these elements can be experienced by the sense of touch?
 - air
 - ether
 - fire
 - water
 - earth
- Soul needs a material body because
 - without a material body it can't survive in adverse conditions
 - it is incompatible with material world
 - soul doesn't have a form
 - it can't fulfil its material desires without a material body
 - it doesn't have senses
- The following indicated the victory of Pandavas in the war
 - Kurukshetra is a place of Pilgrimage
 - Hanuman ji was part of Pandava's army
 - Krishna is driving Arjuna's Chariot
 - Pandavas blew conch shells first
 - Arjuna's chariot was given by Agni which could conquer all sides
- Following are true w.r.t to demigods
 - immense benefit if one worships demigod on the same level as Supreme Lord.
 - demigods are living entities
 - Bhagavad-gita doesn't claim demigod and God worship as equal.
 - one can be spiritually elevated by worshipping demigods.

7. Which of the following is/are true with respect to jiva and Supreme Lord Krsna?
- Jiva is part and parcel of Krsna.
 - Jiva is eternal, Krsna is also eternal.
 - Jiva will merge into Krsna at the end of life.
 - Jiva is not conscious but Krsna is.
 - Jiva is not eternal, but Krsna is eternal.
8. Number of slokas and chapters in the Bhagavad-gita are _____ and _____, respectively.
- 600, 20
 - 700, 17
 - 700, 18
 - 800, 16
9. "Discrimination between right and wrong" is the function of:
- Intelligence
 - Ego
 - Mind
 - Senses
10. Following are true with respect to soul
- It is a light and formless
 - It is eternal
 - It has a beautiful spiritual form
 - It has freewill at all times to act the way it wants
 - It is always dependent on Supreme Lord for its existence
11. Demigods are
- different forms of the same supreme Lord.
 - meant for universal administration.
 - living entities empowered for rendering their functions.
 - independent of the Supreme Lord.
 - to be respected as much as the Supreme Lord is respected.
12. The word 'yoga' indicates:
- Approaching Supreme Lord for fulfilling material desires
 - Waking up early and doing physical exercises
 - Process for developing relationship with the Supreme Lord
 - Morning-evening performing breathing exercises
13. Which is best associated with the mode of passion?
- Greed
 - Knowledge
 - Foolishness
 - Madness
14. A person in sattva guna (mode of goodness) is characterized by which of the following?
- One is bound by one's likes and dislikes
 - Discrimination between right and wrong
 - Faith in God
 - Senses are free from urges for sense gratification
 - One puts all his might to achieve one's ambitions
15. Krsna doesn't speak immediately to Arjuna in 2nd chapter of Bhagavad-gita
- because He was too tired
 - because Arjuna was in the mood of friendship
 - because Krsna needed time to think
 - because Arjuna didn't submit himself
16. The function of mind is
- it accepts or rejects
 - it stores previous impressions
 - it gives determination
 - it gives discrimination
17. Supreme Lord doesn't force anyone's hand because
- He doesn't have power to do so
 - He doesn't interfere in freedom of living entity
 - Lord wants a loving relationship
 - He wants voluntary submission
18. Following is/are true
- mind is subtler than intelligence
 - false ego is subtler than mind
 - intelligence is subtler than false ego
 - intelligence is subtler than mind
19. Identify true statement(s).
- Supreme Lord is not accountable
 - Supreme Lord is accountable when He comes to material world
 - Supreme Lord never grows old
 - Supreme Lord falls sick because of reactions coming from violating rules.
20. Krishna becoming chariot driver of Arjuna exemplifies the
- opulence of beauty
 - opulence of knowledge
 - opulence of renunciation
 - opulence of fame
21. The essential qualification(s) of a bona fide spiritual master/teacher are:
- Being a Sanskrit scholar
 - Having birth in high family
 - Sense controlled
 - Should have heard in disciplic succession.
 - Should have many followers
 - Teaches that just coming to him is sufficient, even if one does not follow scriptures.
22. Mark the true statement(s).
- Soul is always conscious except during dreams.
 - Soul is always conscious.
 - Body is always conscious.
 - Body is always unconscious.
 - Body is always unconscious except during dreams.

Q2. Examine each of the following statements and state if it is true or false. For false statement, also crisply state why is it so, or write the corrected statement. For true statements, just write true. [2M x4= 8M]

- a. The knowledge given in the Bhagavad Gita is so pure that regardless of who teaches it, hearing it always purifies the heart of the hearer, as much as the sun purifies any contamination.

- b. Being completely free from all vices (bad habits) is a pre-requisite for approaching a spiritual teacher to become his disciple.

- c. The Vedic scriptures are considered beyond the four defects of a living being of this mundane world because they were manufactured by highly elevated sages from the past ages.

- d. In the Bhagavad Gita, the Lord urges Arjuna to get ultimately situated in the mode of goodness.

Q3. Answer the following questions [3M X 10, h part is for 4 M, Total: 34 M]

- a. In the Bhagavad Gita when Arjuna speaks, Srila Vyasadeva writes "*Arjuna uvaca*", when Sanjaya speaks he writes "*Sanjaya uvaca*". What does he write when Krishna speaks, and what is its specific significance?

- b. There is a beautiful analogy which describes the position of a conditioned living entity in the material world through 5 horses, driver, ropes and passenger. In this analogy what is what:
Rope _____, **Driver** _____, **horses** _____, **passenger** _____
- c. What is proof from the Gita that it was not only Arjuna who saw the universal form, but others also saw _____
Mention 2 major responses/ reactions of Arjuna after he saw the universal form
Response 1: _____
Response 2: _____
- d. Work is externally carried out (actuated) by the modes of material nature as per the Bhagavad Gita, then why does the jiva get the reaction (good or bad) for that?

- e. What is the difference between Vibhuti and Avatar. Give 1 example of each. What is the proof at the end of Chapter 10 which establishes the difference between vibhuti and avatar.

- f. i. An eight-year boy while playing in the park kills many insects for fun. How does the law of karma work in this situation?
- ii. Consider 3 scenarios, a lion kills **a.** an old deer, **b.** a young deer, **c.** a baby deer. Comment on/ Contrast the quantum of karmic reaction he gets in these three situations. Justify your answer?
- g. How, based on the Gita, can one scientifically understand the non-doership as discussed in the Gita
- h. The Four class of people who submit to God as per the Chapter 7 are _____

 four which do not submit are _____

- i. In 18.69, Krishna says "There is no servant in this world more dear to Me than **he**, nor will there ever be one more dear". **a.** Whom is this "**he**" referring to and **b.** why is **he** most dear to Krishna. **c.** As per the last few verses of the Gita, how can one worship the Supreme Lord by his intelligence.
- a.
- b.
- c.
- j. Towards the end of 18th chapter of the Gita, Krishna asks Arjuna if he had heard the messages that Krishna had spoken with an attentive mind and if his ignorance was dispelled. *What was the specific significance of Krishna asking this to Arjuna? What was Arjuna's reply to this inquiry of Krishna*
- k. The last verse of the Bhagavad Gita is spoken by whom and what is the essence of that verse.

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COMPREHENSIVE EXAM PART-B (CLOSED BOOK)

Course No.: HSS F334

Course Title:

Shrimad Bhagavad-gita

Date: 12th December(10.50
AM – 12 Noon)

Maximum Marks: 40M

IMP: Answer all subparts of a particular question at one place and in the same sequence. If you want to attempt later, leave empty space for the same. Answer all questions crisply and to the point. Each subpart is for 2 marks.

Q1. Answer crisply and to the point following questions [2Mx10= 20M]

- a. "The living entity in material nature thus follows the ways of life, enjoying the 3 modes of material nature" (BG 13.22). Explain the exact import of this in a relatable way.
- b. What does it mean that in mode of goodness all the gates of the body are illuminated by knowledge?
- c. Regulation is very important for cultivating mode of goodness. In the 6th chapter of Gita, Krishna has pointed out the importance of regulation. Please mention what Krishna talks of regulation there.
- d. What are the characteristics of happiness in mode of goodness, passion and ignorance?
- e. What is the destination in next birth for one in mode of goodness, passion and ignorance?
- f. Contrast foodstuffs in modes of goodness, passion and ignorance as per the 17th chapter of Gita.
- g. Crisply mention specific features of sacrifice in mode of passion & mode of ignorance?
- h. Crisply mention specific features of austerity in mode of passion & mode of ignorance?
- i. What are the recommended austerities of body as per the 17th chapter of the Gita?
- j. What are the recommended austerities of mind and words as per the 17th chapter of the Gita?

Q2. Answer crisply and to the point following questions about yoga [2Mx10= 20M]

- a. Why is it important to understand & realize the science of soul for executing karma yoga properly?
- b. What experience does a living entity go through at time of death as per the scriptures? What decides at that point what next body/ destination he will get? (reference: Ch. 8 of Gita)
- c. What is the *core practice* one needs to do to ensure that one goes to spiritual world after death? (kindly answer with respect to the previous subpart).
- d. Which chapter of Gita deals with *Jyana* yoga. What specific aspects of *Jyana* does Krishna mention in that chapter.
- e. What is the specific significance of how the chapter that deals with *Jyana* yoga opens up/ begins (the initial few verses)?
- f. Why is one doing karma kanda better situated than a karmi?
- g. What are shortcomings of karma kanda. Why is it not feasible in this age (kali yuga)?
- h. Krishna condemns immature renunciation/ giving up work in name of spirituality in Ch 3. Scientifically explain the fundamental problems with this based on the logics Krishna gives in Ch3.
- i. What was Arjuna's response after Krishna described the astanga yoga process. What do we learn from this for us? Also, after Arjuna's response, what does Krishna start discussing (in forthcoming chapters).
- j. What are the three most important limbs of the bhakti yoga. Which of them is most important and why.