

## **Significance of Bhagavad Gita in IKS**

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**Abstract:**

*India's National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 represents a major shift in education by prioritizing the inclusion of Indian knowledge such as the Vedas, Upanishads and Shri Bhagavad Gita in the curriculum framework. The policy promotes an integrated, multi-disciplinary approach to education by integrating traditional Indian wisdom with modern education. NEP 2020 also emphasizes the promotion of Indian languages, including Sanskrit, to promote a deeper understanding of ancient texts. It also emphasizes the importance of training teachers in Indian knowledge and supporting research in this field, thereby creating a strong educational foundation. NEP 2020 strives to promote global impact, cultural diversity and educational equity by integrating timeless teachings of Indian knowledge systems such as the Shri Bhagavad Gita with modern education. This change not only preserves and promotes India's intellectual heritage, but also empowers students to lead and contribute to a rapidly changing world. With its teachings of moral reflection, responsibility and justice, Shri Bhagavad Gita is a guide to developing morality and integrity in students. This article says how the teaching content of Shri Bhagavad Gita can be incorporated into educational institute curricula to support the development of all students and achieve the goals of NEP 2020.*

Reference to this paper should  
be made as follows:

**Received: 04.06.2025**

**Accepted on: 19.06.2025**

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Gita in IKS

Vol. XVI, Sp. Issue July, 2025  
Article No.18, Pg. 138-142

Similarity Check: 10%

**Online available at** <https://anubooks.com/special-issues?url=jgv-si-2-rgpg-college-meerut-july-2>

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.31995/jgv.2025.v16iSI07.018>

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*\*This article has been peer-reviewed by the Guest Review Committee of JGV.*

The Bhagavad Gita is a key component of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) because it provides a comprehensive philosophical and ethical framework for living a fulfilling life, encompassing spiritual development, ethical conduct, and self-realization. It offers guidance on navigating life's challenges, making ethical choices, and achieving inner peace. The Gita's teachings are highly respected and studied across various spiritual and philosophical backgrounds, inspiring individuals on their spiritual journeys.

### **Essence of Bhagavad Gita :**

The Bhagavad Gita offers timeless wisdom on fulfilling one's duty (Dharma) with detachment, cultivating inner peace, and understanding the nature of the soul and the Supreme. Key points include focusing on duty, not results; recognizing the impermanence of the physical world; and striving for self-realization through knowledge and practice.

### **Key Points with Examples:**

#### **1.Dharma (Duty):**

The Gita emphasizes performing one's duties as a warrior (like Arjuna) with dedication and without attachment to the outcome.

Example: Arjuna, on the battlefield, is encouraged to fulfill his duty as a warrior, even though he faces a moral dilemma.

#### **2.Karma Yoga (Selfless Action):**

Performing actions without attachment to the results, focusing on the act itself rather than the outcome.

Example: Lord Krishna highlights the significance of acting altruistically, with no expectation of reward or recognition.

#### **3.Inner Peace and Equanimity:**

Achieving inner peace through controlling one's mind and emotions, regardless of external circumstances.

Example: The Gita teaches that true contentment and tranquility originate internally, not externally, by mastering one's thoughts and desires.

#### **4.The Soul's Eternal Nature:**

Understanding that the soul is eternal and not bound by the physical body.

Example: The Gita teaches that the soul is reborn in another body after death, or achieves release (moksha) for those who have grasped the true teachings.

#### **5.Self-Realization:**

The pursuit of knowledge and wisdom to understand the true nature of reality and one's place in it.

Example: The Gita emphasizes the importance of self-realization and the pursuit of knowledge as a means to attain spiritual enlightenment.

#### **6.Surrender and Devotion:**

Offering one's actions and thoughts to the Supreme Lord, fostering a sense of detachment and surrender.

Example: The Gita encourages devotion to the Supreme Lord, while also emphasizing the importance of fulfilling one's duties in the world.

#### **7.Mindfulness and Meditation:**

Cultivating mindfulness and meditation to control the mind and achieve inner peace.

Example: The Gita highlights the importance of mindfulness and meditation as practices that can lead to spiritual growth and self-realization.

### **Key aspects of the Bhagavad Gita's significance in IKS:**

#### **1.Eternal Wisdom:**

The Gita is considered a source of everlasting wisdom, combining philosophy, ethics, spirituality, and cultural values.

#### **2.Guidance for Life:**

It provides practical guidance for personal, social, and spiritual lives, offering solutions to everyday problems and helping individuals balance their worldly needs with their spiritual goals.

#### **3.Ethical Framework:**

The Gita emphasizes ethical conduct, duty, and righteousness, serving as a guidebook for developing moral and ethical values.

#### **4.Path to Self-Realization:**

It highlights the importance of self-realization and the realization of the divine within oneself, guiding individuals on the path to spiritual liberation (moksha).

#### **5.Influence on Indian Culture:**

The Gita has profoundly influenced Indian culture and thought for centuries, with its universal themes and timeless wisdom resonating with people seeking spiritual understanding and personal growth.

#### **6.Relevance in Modern Education:**

The Gita is being integrated into school curricula and teacher education programs to promote the inclusion of Indian knowledge and cultural values in education.

#### **7.Multidisciplinary Approach:**

The Gita's teachings can be applied in various disciplines, promoting a multidisciplinary and multicultural approach to learning, as advocated by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

## **8. Inspiration for Leadership:**

The Gita's teachings on leadership, duty, and action can be applied to various fields, including business and management, inspiring individuals to lead with purpose and integrity.

In essence, the Bhagavad Gita is a cornerstone of IKS, offering timeless wisdom, practical guidance, and a framework for living a meaningful and purposeful life. It is not just a religious scripture but a guide for personal growth, ethical decision-making, and spiritual liberation.

This change not only preserves and promotes India's intellectual heritage, but also empowers students to lead and contribute to a rapidly changing world. With its teachings of moral reflection, responsibility and justice, Shri Bhagavad Gita is a guide to developing morality and integrity in students.

The Gita teaches the importance of adapting to change and embracing new opportunities, which is crucial for students navigating the ever-evolving academic landscape.

In essence, the Bhagavad Gita offers timeless wisdom that can empower students to not only excel academically but also to cultivate a well-rounded and fulfilling life.

At its core, the Bhagavad Gita teaches self-discipline, the pursuit of knowledge, and staying grounded in the face of challenges. Students, much like Arjuna in the Gita, face their own battles—exam stress, career decisions, peer pressure, and self-doubt.

### **Timeless Principles of Shri Bhagavad Gita Into NEP 2020:**

1. Promotes unity among humanity by teaching spiritual freedom, self-awareness and creativity.
2. Holistic, ethical and thoughtful.
3. Importance of moral and value education, teaching people responsibility, honesty and respect for others.
4. Encourages academic research, critical thinking, self-awareness and self-realization.
5. Teachers as mentors and guides.
6. Promotes mental health and overall well-being.
7. Lifelong learning and personal development, ensuring that people continue to pursue education throughout their lives.

### **Conclusion**

According to the Bhagavad Gita, living a Dharmik (morality, accountability, righteousness, and commitment to one's duty) life can be associated with education, and such an education develops human Dharmik, thereby developing the capacity

to raise a voice against injustice of any kind, involve in the welfare of living. The main objective of education “All Around Development “ can be achieved easily by using the teachings of Gita in education.

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