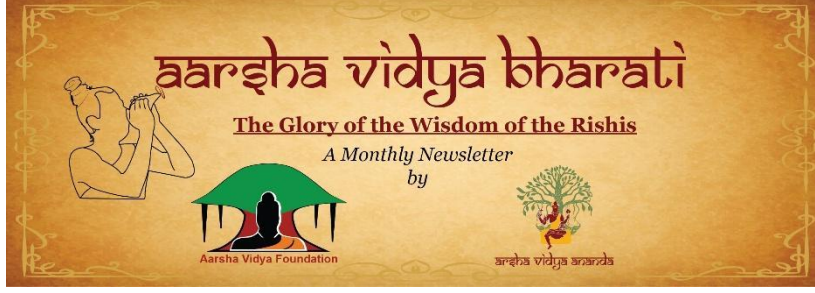

Aarsha Vidya Bharati - September 2024

Bhadrapada - Ashvina 2081

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 [sep 2024 issue](#) or read any of [the articles](#).

Janmashtami Celebrations Report

By Prashanth Mohan, Australia

Janmāṣṭamī marks the day when *Bhagavān* took the *avatāra* of *Śrī Kṛṣṇā* to destroy *adharma* and restore *dharma* in the world.

A group of about 35 *Vedānta* students of Swami Brahamavidananda ji and Swamini Brahma-prajnananda ji chanted the entire *Bhagavad Gītā* as part of *vāṅmaya pūjā*, a verbal offering of worship. The participants joined an online meeting and took turns to chant the verses.

Swamiji opened the session with his remarks. Quoting a mantra from the *īśāvāsya upaniṣad*, he said that, for someone engrossed in the glory of *Brahman*, the real nature of *Brahman* appears as covered. Likewise,

for those who are only interested in *Bhagavān Śrī Kṛṣṇā*'s glories, the real nature of Him is not known. He also said that *īśvara*'s *svarūpa* can never be known unless it is directly revealed by Him alone. *Śrī Kṛṣṇā* precisely does that in the *Gītā* revealing His real nature.

Swamini ji explained how words form sentences and to a knower, the meaning of the sentences reveal the reality. The verses of the *Gītā* revealed by *Bhagavān* is nothing but the reality. We are in touch with the reality when we chant the *Gītā*.

Sharing by some of the participants –

I have only recently started learning to chant the Gita and now I can confidently say that it has made a difference to my ability to be able to sit and be focused on something for a longer period of time! It has been a blessing to receive this prasada and be part of a community that enables this learning.

- Jahnvi Mukundan, Kolkata, India



It's been a few months since I started chanting the Gita in Swaminiji's group. It gives me immense satisfaction and a heart filled with a kind of contentment and bliss. It was manifold during the janmashtami chanting...I felt that it was an ode to Bhagavan Krishna, the Jagadguru and also immense gratitude to Him for having put me in the right place to do my chanting. In the process I also get to hone my chanting skills.

- Sharada P, Chennai, India