

Speech by the Ambassador of India to Hungary at the event to mark Celebration of Gita Jayanti & Bhagavad-gita Recitation

Krishna Temple, Budapest

13 December 2025

Namaste, Jó napot kívánok, and Hare Krishna.

Respected Leaders of the Bhaktivedanta College, Distinguished Guests, Scholars, and Friends of India,

It is a profound honor to join you today in this spiritual sanctuary to celebrate **Gita Jayanti**—the auspicious day commemorating the advent of the *Srimad Bhagavad-gita*, the timeless song of the Divine.

As we gather here in the heart of Europe, amidst the sacred flames of the traditional fire yajna and the rhythmic chanting of Sanskrit verses, we are reminded that wisdom knows no borders. The *Bhagavad-gita* is not merely a Hindu scripture; it is a universal manual for life, a beacon of clarity in moments of confusion, and a philosophical bridge that connects humanity across time and geography.

I am particularly delighted to note the synchronicity of our celebrations. Just recently, on the holy banks of the Brahma Sarovar in Kurukshetra—the very birthplace of this dialogue—the **International Gita Mahotsav** was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi. It was a magnificent confluence of spirituality and governance, emphasizing the Gita's message of *Karma Yoga*—selfless action—as a guiding principle for nation-building and global peace.

What brings special warmth to my heart, and indeed pride to our bilateral relations, is that this grand event in India was graced by the participation of the leadership of ISKCON Hungary. To see the head of this community standing in Kurukshetra represents the living bridge between India and Hungary. It signifies that the wisdom of the Gita does not belong to India alone but finds a resonant home here in the Hungarian soul.

The relationship between our two nations is deeply rooted in a shared intellectual curiosity. Hungary has long been a cradle of Indology in Europe. Today, that legacy flourishes through institutions like the Bhaktivedanta College. The fact that we are about to hear the Gita recited today not just in its original Sanskrit, but also in the lyrical Hungarian language, is a testament to this enduring bond.

In India, we often quote the ancient maxim: *“Ayam nijah paroveti ganana laghu chetasam, Udara charitanam tu vasudhaiva kutumbakam.”*

(“This is mine, that is yours—such calculation belongs to the narrow-minded. For the magnanimous, the entire world is one family.”)

ISKCON has been a tireless embodiment of this spirit of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*. I wish to extend my heartfelt kudos to the International Society for Krishna Consciousness for your relentless efforts in taking this universal message of duty, devotion, and compassion to every corner of the globe. Whether through the distribution of knowledge or the distribution of

food (*prasadam*), you serve humanity with the spirit of the Gita—seeing the Divine in all beings.

The *Bhagavad-gita* teaches us equilibrium of mind. As Lord Krishna says in Chapter 2, Verse 47:

“Karmanye vadhikaraste ma phaleshu kadachana, Ma karma-phala-hetur bhur ma te sango 'stv akarmani.”

(“You have a right to perform your prescribed duty, but you are not entitled to the fruits of action. Never consider yourself the cause of the results of your activities, and never be attached to not doing your duty.”)

In a world often grappled by conflict and anxiety, this message of performing one’s duty without attachment to the outcome is the ultimate antidote. It is the secret to true peace and mental resilience.

I congratulate the organizers—the Krishna Temple and Bhaktivedanta College—for curating this solemn event. May the recitation today purify the atmosphere, and may the fire yajna ignite the light of knowledge in our hearts.

Om Shanti, Shanti, Shanti. Hare Krishna, Thank you. Köszönöm.