

Gita Global Family

A General Charitable Trust

Established: The 1st of July, 2022.

Excerpts from the Trust Deed

2. THE VISION

Spiritual and material poverty afflict different parts of the world in various measures. Spiritual poverty is as damaging as material poverty. The spiritual poverty of humankind promotes covetousness and a consumerist lifestyle that leads to global warming and catastrophic climate change. Spiritual poverty leads to hatred, violence, genocides, and terrorism, whereas the world needs peace, non-violence, love, compassion, and fraternity among nations and different faiths and communities. Spiritual poverty also causes erosion of human and moral values, leading to massive corruption and plunder of public funds, resulting in the aggravation of mass poverty. Material poverty often leads to malnutrition, hunger, indebtedness, and dehumanization. Such dehumanization sometimes may lead to criminality and erosion of moral and spiritual values, as does the surfeit of personal wealth. Thus, spiritual and material poverty both bring an equal diminution in general human happiness. There is, therefore, a need to address both since often, if not always, the two are interlinked.

Spirituality, especially of the kind espoused by the Bhagavad-Gita—a universally admired Book often called the “Holy Book of Humanity”—prompts people to work hard to become prosperous without being covetous and self-indulgent. This approach alone can

save the planet from devastation and damage to its ecology, which is today pushing the world towards becoming an unlivable place. Therefore, the GITA GLOBAL FAMILY seeks to address the twin problems of spiritual and material poverty across the globe and create a global Gita family imbued with Gita values.

Such a philosophy of life can only be translated into reality when the peoples of different countries and continents are brought together in a network, and two-way communication and collaboration begin. A lasting external change can only come when there is a change at the level of the mind and the spirit.

3. OUR MISSION

The mission of GITA GLOBAL FAMILY and all its ORGANS is to augment humankind's general happiness by eliminating spiritual and material poverty in light of the ideas espoused by the Bhagavad-Gita and by creating a global family that seeks to bring peace, moderate prosperity for all, spread love, compassion, togetherness, and non-violent behavior.

4. OUR CORE PRINCIPLES

- a) Belief in the spiritual unity of humankind as, according to the Gita, the same God is lodged in all humans as their souls.
- b) Even trees, birds, and animals have souls that are portions of God. Therefore, they all deserve to be loved and respected.
- c) Being the miniature manifestations of God, all humans are essentially good, even though they might have strayed away from goodness temporarily.
- d) Each nation, faith, and community has enough wisdom which can enable them to come out of spiritual and material poverty if they focus on the good parts of their beliefs and practices and stay away from what is harmful and inhuman.
- e) Every community should begin its quest for truth and justice as it elevates human existence to a higher level.

- f) Human action can solve individual and social problems with adequate planning, cooperation, love, and non-violence.
- g) The principal goal of life is happiness, for which peace is a pre-condition. Conflict and violence take away this peace and, therefore, happiness.
- h) Human life is highly precious. Every human life deserves to be protected and helped in achieving general happiness.
- i) Inter-faith and inter-community dialogue helps learn from each other and solve mutual adjustment problems.
- j) The climate crisis is the result of the failure of humankind to see the earth as a creation of God, to be nurtured and respected. Compassion includes caring for the earth as well.

5. DEFINITIONS

- a) "GGF" will mean GLOBAL GITA FAMILY.
- b) "GITA GLOBAL FAMILY" will mean all the members formally and informally participating in and benefiting from the activities of the GITA GLOBAL FAMILY TRUST'S various ORGANS, CHAPTERS, and their social media groups.
- c) "GITA GLOBAL FAMILY TRUST" will mean the legal entity registered under the Indian Trusts Act 1882 and the collectivity of its Trustees.
- d) "TRUST" will mean the GGF TRUST.
- e) FOUNDER PRESIDENT will mean the author of this Trust Deed or the SETTLER BrahmBodhi @ Pradeep Karan Siddharth, who will be the President-for-life of the TRUST and policy decisions of the TRUST during his lifetime will have to be endorsed by him or a group of TRUSTEES authorised by him. The SETTLER will also be deemed to be a FOUNDER TRUSTEE during his lifetime and will enjoy a FOUNDER TRUSTEE'S prerogatives.
- f) "FOUNDER TRUSTEES" will mean the TRUSTEES whose names figure in the original Trust Deed.
- g) "REGULAR TRUSTEES" will mean Trustees with a con-

tinuous tenure of four years or more other than the FOUNDER TRUSTEES

h) “GLOBAL TRUSTEES” will mean the TRUSTEES who are citizens of countries other than India and are living in their country of citizenship and who normally have a continuous tenure of two years as a GGF TRUSTEE. They may be appointed as REGULAR TRUSTEES after at least two tenures as GLOBAL TRUSTEES, totaling four years. These tenures may or may not be consecutive.

i) “BOARD OF TRUSTEES” will mean the collectivity of Trustees.

j) A “GGF MEMBER” will be anyone—of any country, race, faith, caste, creed, class, or gender—who has a curiosity and eagerness to know about the Bhagavad-Gita, its philosophy or spirituality, and who is an existing member of any GGF SOCIAL MEDIA GROUP created by an authentic account of the GGF TRUST or any of its ORGANS or CHAPTERS, or who has become a member otherwise, and who has not been removed from the relevant social media group or chapter or ORGAN for being impolite, indecent or offensively aggressive or grossly unethical or unlawful behavior. The expression will also include all the BENEFICIARIES of the GGF’s intellectual or practical activities. An active and interested GGF MEMBER may be accorded priority in being appointed a “DELEGATE.”

k) A “DELEGATE” will mean a GGF MEMBER who is formally appointed by the TRUST or its authorized body or one of its authorized CHAPTERS as a DELEGATE from a particular continent, country, or province of a nation. Thus, there will be “CONTINENTAL DELEGATE(S)” to represent a continent, “COUNTRY DELEGATES” to represent a country, and “PROVINCIAL DELEGATES” to represent the province of a nation. The definition of a “DELEGATE” is as given in the Oxford Advanced Learner’s Dictionary, which is as under: “A person who is chosen or elected to represent the views of a group of people

and vote and make decisions for them.” The Trust accepts the same definition.

l) A “GGF SOCIAL MEDIA GROUP” will mean any social media group created and run on social media platforms like WhatsApp, Telegram, Facebook, or any other by a GGF “ORGAN” or “CHAPTER” or authorized persons.

m) A GGF “ORGAN” will mean a semi-autonomous unit created by the TRUST through this Trust Deed or, after registration of the TRUST, through a formal resolution of the Trust, for fulfilling one of the several objects of the TRUST. An ORGAN of the Trust may be an integral unit or a separately registered legal entity. Suppose the GGF TRUST gets an ORGAN of the GGF TRUST formally and separately registered. In that case, the ORGAN’S Trust Deed will specify that it will be run according to the mission and vision of the GGF TRUST, subject to the rules drafted and framework set by the GGF TRUST.

n) A “NATIONAL CHAPTER” of the GGF will mean the collectivity of the GGF members of a particular country. A “STATE CHAPTER” will mean the collectivity of all the GGF MEMBERS of a state or province or an equivalent unit of a nation.

o) The “GGF GLOBAL COUNCIL” will mean the Council set up at the world level by the TRUST with at least one member from each country as far as possible. Its job will be to monitor the different NATIONAL CHAPTERS’ work, report it to the GGF TRUST, coordinate between different GGF NATIONAL COUNCILS, and advise the TRUST on all policy matters.

p) A “GGF NATIONAL COUNCIL” will mean the decision-making body of a NATIONAL CHAPTER.

q) A “GGF PROVINCIAL COUNCIL” will mean the decision-making body of a PROVINCIAL CHAPTER.

r) A “GGF CLUB” will mean the decision-making and implementing body at the district level that will be the executive body at the cutting-edge level for bringing people together for fulfilling the TRUST’S objectives and envisaging and implementing projects

under the general guidance and help of the PROVINCIAL and NATIONAL CHAPTERS.

s) “A “BENEFICIARY” means anyone who benefits from the intellectual or practical activities of the GGF, like students, teachers, poverty-stricken men and women, ailing humans, animals, birds, violent communities that turn non-violent, and every other section of humanity.

6. OBJECTIVES OF THE GGF TRUST

A. CORE OBJECTIVES

The GGF TRUST will work for holistic development and not just sectoral growth, as the different elements of human development are closely interlinked. However, it may first take up human development at the level of consciousness to facilitate external, material development, which may follow later. For the said purpose, the GGF aims to bring together peoples of the world to share and disseminate the Gita ideology of the spiritual unity of humankind and the immense inherent potential of all humans.

The elements of the core objectives of the TRUST will be as under:

- i) Create a global family dedicated to peace, compassion, togetherness, and friendship—based on the ideals espoused by the Bhagavad-Gita and form CHAPTERS of the GGF in different countries
- ii) Spread spirituality through Integrative Yoga that brings together elements of different Yogas like Devotional Yoga (Bhakti-yoga), Action-yoga (Karma Yoga), Knowledge-yoga (Jnana-yoga), Philanthropy-yoga (Paropkar-yoga), and Meditative Yoga (Dhyana-yoga), as enshrined in the Bhagavad-Gita.

iii) Print, publish, propagate, and disseminate the Bhagavad-Gita and its ideas and other literature considered fit by the TRUST in India and worldwide through books, magazines, newspapers, movies, T.V., C.D.s, DVDs, and all available media.

iv) Establish and operate GITA GLOBAL GURUKULS, GITA GLOBAL SCHOOLS, and GITA GLOBAL UNIVERSITIES, colleges, and technical training institutions in the country and around the world, where the character formation of students and teachers will be based essentially on the ideology of the Bhagavad-Gita.

v) Establish temples of the Holy Gita called “GITA DHAMS.” In these “DHAMS,” obeisance will be paid to the Holy Gita, all-faith prayers held, and programs conducted to disseminate the ideology of the Gita for spiritual development and life management. These DHAMS will also work for poverty alleviation, local cultural revival, and environmental protection through their connected Total Development Centres.

vi) Establish human and animal service centers, including hospitals and holistic health care centers, free or subsidized food centers for feeding the hungry, shelters for forsaken children and older men and women, and shelters for abandoned animals, to name a few.

vii) Provide relief to those who become victims of natural calamities such as flood, fire, drought, famine, cyclone, earthquakes, epidemics, storms, accidents, pestilence, etc.

viii) Establish spiritual seekers’ colonies and spiritual retreats to facilitate their spiritual development.

7. UNITS OF THE GGF:

The GITA GLOBAL FAMILY TRUST may have the following units to begin with:

a) GGF GLOBAL COUNCIL: This will be set up by the TRUST with ideally at least one member from each country. Larger nations may be represented by more members in the COUNCIL. Its job will be to monitor the work of the different NATIONAL CHAPTERS, report to the TRUST on the global developments in the attainment of the TRUST'S objectives, especially the spread of the Bhagavad-Gita, coordinate between various COUNTRY COUNCILS, and advise the TRUST on policy matters.

b) CHAPTERS: The numerical strength of the different CHAPTERS may be as under:

NATIONAL CHAPTER: It may ideally have a minimum of 20 members, or at least one from each province if the number of provinces in a country is more than 20.

PROVINCIAL CHAPTER: It may ideally have at least 20 members, or if a province has more than 20 districts, it may have at least one from each district.

All CHAPTERS may have representation from all communities and geographical regions as far as possible and desirable. All the affairs of the CHAPTERS will be run locally following the vision and mission of the TRUST and other guidance frameworks provided by the TRUST.

c) "GITA GLOBAL NETWORK" with Country Chapters for identifying and inviting people globally into this network.

d) “GITA GLOBAL GURUKULS”: These schools are to be established especially in the rural areas with the object of academic and all-round development of children. They will impart spiritual instruction based on the Gita. Through skill development and vocational trades training, they will also cater to adult education for poverty alleviation and self-employment. There will be no mandatory fees for these Gurukul Schools’ educational and training services, and the students and adults will be free to make voluntary contributions according to their capacity and willingness.

e) GITA GLOBAL SCHOOLS, GITA GLOBAL UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES: Though there may not be a shortage of private and public schools and colleges in many places, their curriculum often lacks total human development inputs. They also often lack value education and spiritual orientation. To address this need, the GGF may establish educational institutions, including GITA GLOBAL SCHOOLS, colleges, and universities.

f) GITA GLOBAL PUBLICATION: This unit will publish the Bhagavad-Gita and other books authored or interpreted by Brahm-Bodhi. It will also publish other books, journals, and materials approved by GGF TRUST.

g) GITA DHAM: It is a holy place for prayer, worship, and human service centered around the Bhagavad-Gita. Through the connected Total Development Centres, the DHAMS may also contribute to poverty alleviation, employment generation, inter-faith dialogue, and other acts of philanthropy.

8) DELEGATES

a) DELEGATES appointed to represent a nation in the GGF GLOBAL COUNCIL will be called NATIONAL DELEGATES. The GGF GLOBAL COUNCIL will nominate them.

The NATIONAL DELEGATES will have the privilege to attend the international meets and conferences of the GGF.

b) There will be no preconditions to becoming a “GGF MEMBER” as the GGF seeks to develop all human beings spiritually and morally. However, there will be preconditions to becoming a “DELEGATE” or a member of a “COUNCIL” or “CLUB” at any level. The DELEGATES for each level will be chosen based on the following conditions:

- i) They should agree with the vision and mission of the GGF.
- ii) They should be ready to be a part of the organizing committees for holding conferences and organizing CHAPTERS in their country.
- iii) They should not have a background that may cause embarrassment to the GGF or its concerned ORGANS or units.
- iv) The NATIONAL DELEGATES should be able to attend international GGF conferences.
- v) The PROVINCIAL DELEGATES should be able to participate in the national GGF conferences.