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Dear Dr Yatendra Sharma

Thank you so much for your edition of the Bhagavadgita. A tremendous achievement, replete with translations of shlokas into chands.

The work is an admirable labour of love and dedication and indicates the kind of work that can be done with single-minded dedication and, even, personal sacrifice.

I have listened to people discussing the Gita along the lines of your commentary but no one has actually transformed their verbal commentaries into a written text. Indeed, the one commentary that Hindus in Perth use for their Gita discourses (bhashans) is Chidbhavananda's 1,000-page long commentary on the Gita but reading your work Chidbhavananda's commentary fades into insignificance.

Of course, as a colonial with training in the tradition of the European Enlightenment (and someone for whom manak Hindi is not a mother tongue), I may have written about and interpreted the Gita differently (see my *Devotional Poetics and the Indian Sublime*, New York, 1998) but this statement of scholarly difference should not in any way detract from your remarkable achievement.

With much affection and respect

Vijay

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