

CMDFW Gita Chanting Competition: General Guidelines & Judging Criteria

1. Participants must plan to arrive at Chinmaya Mission D/FW Saaket 30 minutes prior to the start of the competition to allow time for check-in, name-tags, participation order, etc.
2. REMINDERS to Parents:
 - Cell phones OFF
 - NO Photography OR videography allowed during chanting, in the interest of minimizing disruptions and distractions during the competition.
 - NO entry/exit while any participant is chanting
 - NO prompting by anyone other than judges, lest automatic disqualification of the Participant
3. Panel leader will call the names of the participants in the order determined by lottery, i.e., not in alphabetical order of last name. We will try to accommodate requests for early or late chanting due to scheduling conflicts.
4. Participants may elect to sit or stand during their presentation: no penalty for either choice.
5. **It is expected that participants begin and end their chanting with the appropriate *Shlokas***; it is an integral part of their presentation. For example,
 1. Beginning *shloka* : *Om shree paramaatmane namah, atha*
 2. Ending *shloka*: *Om tatsaditi sreemad bhagavadgeetasu...Om shaantih shaantih shaantih.*
6. Each participant is expected to correctly chant the selected *Shlokas* from the selected Chapter of the Bhagavad Gita, for which he/she may earn a maximum total of 100 points based on the criteria described below:
 - Memory: fluency, number of times prompting required
 - Pronunciation: clarity and correctness of the syllables; pausing at the right place (appropriate *sandhi-viccheda*)
 - Presentation: posture, attitude, mannerism, confidence, clarity, pace, etc.
7. Tune: Many participants will probably chant in the tune of Swami Brahmanandaji's audiotape/CD, but anyone chanting in a different tune will not be penalized, as long as their tune is consistent throughout their chanting.
8. Please keep hallways clear and quiet when the competition is in progress.
9. Please keep infants and younger children away from the competition rooms.

10. To maintain consistent environment and encourage all participants, we request parents to remain in their respective rooms until the competition for that grade ends.

11. **Judges' decision is final.**