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# *The Bhagavad Gītā*

WINTHROP SARGEANT

*Foreword by Huston Smith*

Editor's Preface by Christopher Key Chapple



# BOOK I

धृतराष्ट्र उवाच ।

*dhṛtarāṣṭra uvāca*

Dhṛtarāṣṭra spoke:

1

धर्मक्षेत्रे कुरुक्षेत्रे

*dharmakṣetre kuruṣetre\**

when in the field of virtue, in the field of  
Kuru

समवेता युयुत्सवः ।

*samavetā yuyutsavaḥ*

assembled together, desiring to fight

मामकाः पाण्डवाश्चैव

*māmakāḥ pāṇḍavāś cāiva*

mine and the Sons of Pāṇḍu

किम् अकुर्वत संजय ॥

*kim akurvata saṁjaya*

what they did? Saṁjaya?

**Dhritarashtra spoke:**

**When they were in the field**

**of virtue, in the field of the Kurus,**

**Assembled together, desiring to fight,**

**What did my army and that of the**

**Sons of Pandu do, Sanjaya?**

*dhṛtarāṣṭras* (m. nom. sg.), Dhṛtarāṣṭra, the blind Kuru king to whom the Bhagavad Gītā is to be related by Saṁjaya, his minister. The name, a BV cpd., means “He by whom the kingdom is held.”

*uvāca* (3rd sg. perfect act. √*vac*), he said, he spoke.

*dharma* (m.), duty, law, righteousness, virtue, honor.

*kṣetre* (n. loc. sg.), in the field, on the field.

*kuru* (m.), Kuru, the royal dynasty to which Dhṛtarāṣṭra belongs.

*kṣetre* (n. loc. sg.), in the field, on the field.

*samavetās* (m. nom. pl. p. pass. participle *sam ava* √*i*), come together, assembled.

*yuyutsavaḥ* (m. nom. pl. desiderative adj. from √*yudh*), desiring to fight, battle-hungry, desiring to do battle.

*māmakās* (m. nom. pl.), mine, my.

*pāṇḍavās* (m. nom. pl.), the Sons of Pāṇḍu. *ca*, and.

*eva*, indeed (used as a rhythmic filler).

*kim* (interrog.), what?

*akurvata* (3rd imperf. middle √*kr*), they did.

*saṁjaya* (voc.), Saṁjaya, minister to King Dhṛtarāṣṭra, who relates to him the bulk of the Bhagavad Gītā. The name means “completely victorious.”

\* Kurukṣetra is an actual place, a small plain in the Panjab north of Delhi near Panipat.

यत्र योगेश्वरः कृष्णो

*yatra yogeśvaraḥ kṛṣṇo*

wherever the Lord of Yoga, Krishna,

यत्र पार्थो धनुर्धरः ।

*yatra pārtho dhanurdharaḥ*

wherever the Son of Pṛthā, the archer,

तत्र श्रीर् विजयो भूतिर्

*tatra śrīr vijayo bhūtir*

there splendor, victory, wealth

ध्रुवा नीतिर् मतिर् मम ॥

*dhruvā nītir matir mama*

surely (and) righteousnes, the thought of  
me.

Wherever there is Krishna, Lord of  
Yoga,

Wherever there is Arjuna, the archer,  
There will surely be

Splendor, victory, wealth, and

righteousness; this is my conviction.

*yatra*, where, wherever.

*yogeśvaras* (m. nom. sg.), the Lord of Yoga.

*kṛṣṇas* (m. nom. sg.), Krishna.

*yatra*, where, wherever.

*pārthas* (m. nom. sg.), the Son of Pṛthā,  
epithet of Arjuna.

*dhanus* (n.), bow.

*dharas* (m. nom. sg.), holder.

(*dhanurdharas*, m. nom. sg., TP cpd. archer,  
bowman.)

*tatra*, there.

*śrīs* (f. nom. sg.), splendor, radiance.

*vijayas* (m. nom. sg.), victory.

*bhūtis* (f. nom. sg.), wealth, well-being,  
riches.

*dhruvā* (f. nom. sg.), sure, eternal.

*nītis* (f. nom. sg.), prudence, moral conduct,  
righteousness.

*matir* (f. nom. sg.), thought, opinion, mind.

*mama* (gen. sg.), of me, my.

End of Book XVIII

The Yoga of Renunciation

Here ends the Bhagavadgītā Upanishad