Observing the Armies on the Battlefield of Kurukşetra

[1-11] Comparison of the opposing armies

- 1. Dhṛtarāṣṭra inquires about the battle from Sañjaya
- 2-3. Sañjaya begins by describing what Duryodhana is saying
- 4-6. Assessment of the Pāṇḍava's army
- 7-9. Assessment of the Kaurava's army
- 10-11. Duryodhana's faith and concern for Grandfather Bhīsma

[12-19] Blowing of the conchshells

- 12-13. Kauravas blow their conchshells
- 14-18. Pāṇḍavas blow their transcendental conchshells
- 19. Effects of the blowing of Pandavas conchshells

[20-27] Arjuna observes the opposing army

- 20-23. Arjuna requests Lord Kṛṣṇa to place his chariot in the middle of both armies
- 24-25. Lord Kṛṣṇa fulfills Arjuna's request
- 26-27. Arjuna observes the opposing army

[28-46] Arjuna refuses to fight and gives his reasons

- 28-30. Reason 1 Compassion
- 31-35. Reason 2 Enjoyment
- 36-38. Reason 3 Sinful reactions
- 39-43. Reason 4 Destruction of the family traditions
- 44-46. Arjuna gives up his determination to fight

Chapter 2 Contents of the Gītā Summarized

[1-10] Arjuna's confusion and surrender

- 1-3. Lord Kṛṣṇa criticizes Arjuna and orders him to fight
- 4-6. Arjuna restates his reasons against fighting
- 7-8. Arjuna is confused and surrenders to Lord Kṛṣṇa
- 9-10. Arjuna reveals his mind to Lord Kṛṣṇa

[11-30] Sānkhya-yoga

- 11-13. Basic instructions on the soul
- 14-25. Lord Kṛṣṇa restates and strengthens his previous points
- 26-30. Even if there is no soul or reincarnation

[31-38] Why Arjuna must fight

- 31-32. Reasons for fighting
- 33-36. Consequences of not fighting
- 37-38. Benefits of fighting

[39-53] Buddhi-Yoga / Niṣkāma-Karma-Yoga

- 39-41. Glories of Buddhi-Yoga
- 42-44. Faults of acting without Buddhi-Yoga
- 45-46. Contents and purpose of the Vedas
- 47-49. How to act in Buddhi-Yoga
- 50-51. Results of acting in Buddhi-Yoga
- 52-53. How to achieve Buddhi-Yoga

[54-72] Sthita-prajña

- 54. Arjuna asks four questions regarding a Sthita-prajña
- 55. Answer 1 Ones general symptoms
- 56-57. Answer 2 How one speaks
- 58-63. Answer 3 How one sits / restrains oneself
- 64-71. Answer 4 How one walks / engages in activity
- 72. Glories of a Sthita-prajña

Chapter 3 Karma-Yoga

[1-8] Performance of duty / Sāṅkhya-Yoga vs. Karma-Yoga

- 1-2. Arjuna's confusion
- 3-6. Inferiority of Sānkhya-Yoga
- 7-8. Superiority of Karma-Yoga

[9-16] Vedic sacrifices

- 9. For achieving freedom from material bondage
- 10-12. For the prosperity of man and demigods
- 13. Results of performing and not performing
- 14-15. For the natural balance
- 16. Conclusion

[17-24] Prescribed duties for the self-realized and the Lord

- 17-21. Prescribed duties for the self-realized
- 22-24. Prescribed duties for the Lord

[25-29] Character of the learned and the unlearned

- 25-26. How the learned should behave
- 27-29. Difference between the learned and the unlearned

[30-35] Prescribed duties without attachment or hatred

- 30. How to be free from attachment to work and the results
- 31-33. Results of following and not following Lord's teachings
- 34-35. Achieving freedom from attachment and hatred

[36-43] Lust - the sinful enemy

- 36. Arjuna inquires about the root cause of sin
- 37. Lord Kṛṣṇa mentions lust as the root cause of sin
- 38-39. Workings of lust
- 40. Sitting places of lust
- 41-43. Conquering lust

Chapter 4 Transcendental Knowledge

[1-15] Transcendental knowledge about Lord Kṛṣṇa

- 1-2. 1-His song: Origins of Bhagavad-gītā
- 3. 1-His song: Qualifications to hear Bhagavad-gītā
- 4-5. 2-His appearance: He knows everything
- 6-8. 2-His appearance: Nature of and reasons for His appearance
- 9-10. 2-His appearance: Result of knowing His appearance and activities
- 11. 3-His activities: How He deals with everyone
- 12. 3-His activities: Why some people take shelter of the demigods
- 13-14. 3-His activities: Understanding His divine activities
- 15. 3-His activities: Following the great personalities

[16-23] Types of actions

- 16-17. Why one must understand them
- 18. Intelligent people can distinguish between them
- 19-23. Actions of the intelligent people

[24-33] Types of sacrifices

- 24-29. Twelve types of sacrifices
- 30-32. Importance and results of sacrifices
- 33. The best type of sacrifice

[34-42] Acquiring transcendental knowledge

- 34. Method
- 35-38. Results
- 39-40. Eligibility
- 41-42. Practice

Chapter 5 Karma-Yoga

(Action in Kṛṣṇa Consciousness)

[1-6] Sāṅkhya-Yoga vs. Karma-Yoga

- 1. Arjuna's confusion
- 2-6. Sāṅkhya-Yoga and Karma-Yoga are same; however, Karma-Yoga is better

[7-12] Performance of Karma-Yoga and Sānkhya-Yoga

- 7. Performance of Karma-Yoga
- 8-9. Performance of Sānkhya-Yoga
- 10. Performance of Bhakti-Yoga
- 11-12. Performance of Karma-Yoga and its results

[13-26] Sāṅkhya-Yoga and its results

- 13-17. How to be detached from ones actions and their results
- 18-22. Characteristics of an enlightened soul his vision
- 23-26. Characteristics of an enlightened soul his behavior

[27-29] Dhyāna-Yoga and Bhakti-Yoga

27-28. Perfection through Dhyāna-Yoga

29. Perfection through Bhakti-Yoga

Chapter 6 Dhyāna-Yoga

[1-4] Nișkāma-Karma-Yoga / Character of an elevated yogī

- 1-3. Nișkāma-Karma-Yoga
- 4. Character of an elevated yogī

[5-9] Deliverance of the self

- 5-6. How and why to deliver the self
- 7-9. Results of delivering the self

[10-32] Dhyāna-Yoga

- 10. Introduction
- 11-12. Where and how to sit
- 13-15. Personal meditation and its results
- 16-17. Regulations for eating, sleeping, and recreation
- 18-23. Achieving Samādhi and its results
- 24-28. Impersonal meditation and its results
- 29-32. Vision and actions of a successful Dhyāna-Yogī

[33-36] Controlling the mind

- 33-34. Arjuna doubts the possibility of controlling the mind
- 35-36. Kṛṣṇa assures the possibility of controlling the mind

[37-45] Fate of an unsuccessful yogī

- 37-39. Arjuna desires to know the fate of an unsuccessful yogī
- 40-45. How an unsuccessful yogī achieves success

[46-47] Glory of a Dhyāna-Yogī and a Bhakti-Yogī

- 46. Glory of a Dhyāna-yogī
- 47. Glory of a Bhakti-yogī

Chapter 7 Knowledge of the Absolute

[1-12] Phenomenal and numinous knowledge

- 1-3. Complete and rare knowledge of Kṛṣṇa
- 4-7. Material elements, the living entities, and their relationship to each other and to Kṛṣṇa
- 80-12. Kṛṣṇa the source of everything

[13-19] Surrender to Kṛṣṇa

- 13-14. Kṛṣṇa the controller of three modes
- 15. Four kinds of impious people who do not surrender to Kṛṣṇa
- 16-19. Four kinds of pious people who surrender to Kṛṣṇa

[20-25] Surrender to the demigods / Impersonal conception

- 20-23. Surrender to the demigods
- 24-25. Surrender to the impersonal conception

[26-30] Bewilderment and freedom

- 26-27. Bewilderment of those who do not recognize and serve Kṛṣṇa
- 28-30. Freedom of those who do recognize and serve Kṛṣṇa

Chapter 8 Attaining the Supreme

[1-7] Arjuna's eight questions and Lord Kṛṣṇa's answers

- 1-2. Arjuna inquires about:
 - 1. brahma [Brahman];
 - 2. adhyātma [the self];
 - 3. karma [fruitive activities];
 - 4. adhibhūta [the material manifestation];
 - 5. adhidaiva [the demigods];
 - 6. adhiyajña [the Lord of sacrifice];
 - 7. how does adhiyajña live in the body;
 - 8. how can Kṛṣṇa be remembered at the time of death
- 3-4. Lord Kṛṣṇa answers the first seven questions
- 5-7. Lord Kṛṣṇa answers the eighth question

[8-16] Remembrance of Kṛṣṇa / Glories of attaining Him

- 8-9. Remembrance of Kṛṣṇa through personal meditation
- 10-13. Remembrance of Kṛṣṇa through impersonal meditation
- 14. Remembrance of Kṛṣṇa through devotional service
- 15-16. Glories of attaining Kṛṣṇa

[17-22] Material and spiritual worlds

- 17-19. Creation and annihilation of the material worlds
- 20-22. Glories of the supreme spiritual abode

[23-28] Attaining the Supreme through mystic yoga and Bhakti-yoga

23-26. Attaining the Supreme through mystic yoga

27-28. Superiority of Bhakti-Yoga in attaining the Supreme

Chapter 9 The Most Confidential Knowledge

[1-3] The supreme knowledge

- 1-2. Qualification to hear / Glory of supreme knowledge
- 3. Disqualification to hear

[4-10] Kṛṣṇa's supreme position

- 4-6. Kṛṣṇa's mystic opulence
- 7-10. Creation and annihilation of the material world

[11-15] Fools, devotees, and others

11-12. Fools

13-14. Devotees

15. Others

[16-25] Indirect worship / Direct worship

16-20. Indirect worship

21-25. Indirect worship is inferior / Direct worship is superior

[26-34] Devotional service

26-28. How to perform devotional service and its results

29-31. Kṛṣṇa's special mercy to those who engage in His devotional service

32-33. Everyone can and must take up devotional service to Lord Kṛṣṇa

34. Summary of devotional service

Chapter 10 The Opulence of the Absolute

[1-7] Kṛṣṇa's supreme position

- 1-3. Kṛṣṇa—the mysterious origin of everything
- 4-6. Kṛṣṇa's opulence and mystic powers
- 7. Result of knowing Kṛṣṇa's opulence and mystic powers

[8-11] Devotional service / Essence of Bhagavad-gītā

- 8-9. Understanding Kṛṣṇa and engaging in His devotional service
- 10-11. Kṛṣṇa's special mercy to those who engage in His devotional service

[12-18] Arjuna accepts Kṛṣṇa's supreme position and requests to hear more of His opulence

- 12-15. Arjuna prays and accepts Kṛṣṇa's supreme position
- 16-18. Arjuna requests Kṛṣṇa to describe more of His opulence

[19-42] Kṛṣṇa's opulences and mystic powers

- 19-40. Kṛṣṇa's opulences
- 41-42. Kṛṣṇa's mystic powers

Chapter 11 The Universal Form

[1-4] Arjuna acknowledges Kṛṣṇa's supreme position and requests Him to show His universal form

- 1-2. Arjuna acknowledges Kṛṣṇa's supreme position
- 3-4. Arjuna requests Kṛṣṇa to show His universal form

[5-34] Vision of the universal form

- 5-8. Kṛṣṇa describes the universal form and gives Arjuna divine eyes
- 9-14. Sañjaya describes the universal form as seen by Arjuna
- 15-31. Arjuna's vision of the universal form)
- 32-34. Kṛṣṇa explains purpose of the universal form and tells Arjuna to fight

[35-46] Arjuna prays, begs for forgiveness, and requests to see the four-armed form

- 35-40. Arjuna prays
- 41-44. Arjuna begs for forgiveness for past behaviors
- 45-46. Arjuna requests to see the four-armed form

[47-50] Glory of the universal form and display of the four-armed and two-armed forms

- 47-48. Glory of the universal form
- 49-50. Display of the four-armed and two-armed forms

[51-55] Kṛṣṇa's two-armed form / Qualifications to see and understand Kṛṣṇa

- 51-53. Supremacy of Krsna's two-armed form
- 54-55. Qualifications to see and understand Kṛṣṇa

Chapter 12 Devotional Service

[1-7] Personal worship vs. Impersonal worship

- 1. Arjuna inquires about personal and impersonal worship
- 2. Superiority of personal worship
- 3-5. Inferiority of impersonal worship
- 6-7. Special mercy of Kṛṣṇa for personal worshippers

[8-12] Stages of devotional service

- 8. Fixing the mind and intelligence on Kṛṣṇa
- 9. Following the regulative principles
- 10. Working for Kṛṣṇa
- 11. Surrendering the results of ones work
- 12. Cultivating meditation or knowledge

[13-20] Qualities of a pure devotee

- 13-14. Twelve qualities of a pure devotee
- 15. Six qualities of a pure devotee
- 16. Six qualities of a pure devotee
- 17. Five qualities of a pure devotee
- 18-19. Ten qualities of a pure devotee
- 20. Kṛṣṇa's most dear devotee

Nature, the Enjoyer, and Consciousness

[1] Arjuna's 6 questions

- 1. Arjuna inquires about:
 - 1. prakṛti [nature]
 - 2. purușa [the enjoyer]
 - 3. kṣetra [the field]
 - 4. kṣetrajña [the knower of the field]
 - 5. jñāna [knowledge]
 - 6. jñeya [the object of knowledge]

[2-7] Kșetra & Kșetrajña (3 & 4)

- 2-5. Description of Kşetra and Kşetrajña
- 6-7. Summary of Kşetra

[8-19] Jñāna & Jñeya (5 & 6)

- 8-12. Jñāna
- 13-18. Jñeya
- 19. Prerequisite and result of knowing Kșetra, Jñāna, and Jñeya

[20-35] Prakṛti & Puruṣa (1 & 2)

- 20-23. Prakṛti and Puruṣa
- 24. Result of knowing Prakṛti and Puruṣa: liberation
- 25-26. Other methods of attaining liberation: Dhyāna, Jñāna, Karma, Bhakti
- 27-35. Result of liberation through knowledge: realized vision

Chapter 14 The Three Modes of Material Nature

[1-4] Glory of knowledge / Creation of the material world

- 1-2. Glory of knowledge
- 3-4. Creation of the material world

[5-20] Analysis of the three modes of material nature

- 5. Introduction to the three modes
- 6-9. Nature of the three modes and how they bind the soul
- 10-13. Recognizing a mode's supremacy
- 14-15. Result of dying in the three modes
- 16. Result of actions in the three modes
- 17-18. Result of the three modes summarized
- 19-20. Result of transcending the three modes

[21-27] Transcending the three modes of material nature

- 21. Arjuna inquires about:
 - 1. Symptoms
 - 2. Behavior
 - 3. Process of transcending the modes
- 22-25. Symptoms and Behavior: Answers 1 & 2
- 26. Process of transcending the modes: Answer 3
- 27. Conclusion

Chapter 15 The Yoga of the Supreme Person

[1-6] Material world and the spiritual world

- 1-2. Understanding the material world
- 3-4. Leaving the material world and going to the spiritual world
- 5-6. Spiritual world and the qualities required to go there

[7-11] Transmigration of the soul

- 7. Constitutional position of the soul
- 8-9. Transmigration of the soul
- 10-11. Wise can understand transmigration of the soul, fools cannot

[12-15] Appreciating Kṛṣṇa's position as the maintainer

- 12-13. External maintenance
- 14-15. Internal maintenance

[16-20] Summary of the Vedas

16. Two types of living beings: the fallible and the infallible

17-18. The Supreme living being is the Lord Himself

19-20. Essence of the Vedas

The Divine and Demoniac Natures

[1-5] Divine and demoniac qualities and their results

- 1-3. Divine qualities
- 4. Demoniac qualities
- 5. Results of divine and demoniac qualities

[6-20] Demoniac life

6-12. Belief and behavior

13-15. Thoughts and Mentality

16. Results of demoniac life

17-18. More behavior

19-20. Destination

[21-24] Freedom from demoniac life / Attaining perfection

21-22. Give up lust, anger, and greed

23-24. Act according to directions of the scriptures

Chapter 17 The Divisions of Faith

[1-6] Types of conditioned faith

- 1. Arjuna inquires about the faith of those who do not follow scriptures
- 2-4. Faith in the three modes
- 5-6. Behavior of a person who does not follow scriptures

[7-22] Symptoms of conditioned faith

- 7-10. Foods in the three modes
- 11-13. Sacrifices in the three modes
- 14-16. Austerities of the body, speech and mind
- 17-19. Austerities in the three modes
- 20-22. Charities in the three modes

[23-28] Freedom from the defects in sacrifice, austerity and charity

- 23. Introduction to "Om Tat Sat"
- 24. Use of "Om"
- 25. Use of "Tat"
- 26-27. Use of "Sat"
- 28. Conclusion / Definition of "Asat"

Conclusion — The Perfection of Renunciation

[1-12] Renunciation and the Renounced order of life

- 1. Arjuna inquires about renunciation and renounced order
- 2-3. Renunciation and renounced order according to learned men
- 4-6. Kṛṣṇa's opinion about renunciation
- 7-9. Renunciation in the three modes
- 10-12. Relationship between renunciation and renounced order

[13-18] Actions

- 13-17. Five factors of action
- 18. Three factors that motivate action and the three constituents of action

[19-40] Three modes control all activities

- 19-22. Knowledge in the three modes
- 23-25. Actions in the three modes
- 26-28. Performers of actions in the three modes
- 29-32. Understandings in the three modes
- 33-35. Determinations in the three modes
- 36-39. Happiness in the three modes
- 40. Conclusion

[41-48] Perfection through occupational work

- 41-44. Four classes of men and their occupational work
- 45-48. Occupational work should be performed with devotion and detachment

[49-54] Perfection through renunciation

- 49. Prerequisite
- 50-53. Process
- 54. Result

[55-66] Perfection through devotional service

- 55-63. Working in devotional service and its result
- 64-66. The most confidential knowledge

[67-78] Glory and Conclusion of Bhagavad-Gītā

- 67-71. Preaching and learning the Bhagavad-Gītā
- 72-73. Arjuna's ignorance dispelled
- 74-78. Sañjaya's conclusion and prediction