

Bagawat Geeta, Class 9

Chapter 1 Sloka 38

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But though men these do not understand see things with
 intelligence overpowered by greed in the
 destruction of families men evil men in hostility to
 friends and sin

Swamiji explains that Vyasarcharya shows the intensity of Arjuna's samsaara in the battlefield. Samsaara is raga, shoka and moha (attachment, sorrow and conflict).

Attachment was shown in the 1st line of Verse 28: ॥॥॥॥
॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥ ॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥ The intensity of attachment grows in Arjuna when he thinks of the possible loss of his relatives that have assembled on the battlefield. He always had this attachment but it remained hidden. But once this attachment overpowers him, he suffers the immediate consequence of sorrow. Sorrow is directly proportional to the attachment. Hence, his sorrow was equally intense and it affected his physical body (his limbs were trembling, his arms are weak, etc.). This is shown starting with Verse 29. Vyasarcharya shows how raga and shoka is leading him to moha: conflict or confusion.

Moha is मोह मोहो मोहोमोहो “dharma adharma avivekaha” aviveka – absence of judgement or discrimination, not being able to judge between dharma and adharma. When there is a confusion, dharma appears as adharma and vice versa.

Arjuna's duty as a kshatriya is to fight this war and this

yuddham is dharma for Arjuna. But Arjuna sees this dharmayuddham as adharma. This is the first conflict.

Secondly, a kshatriya should never run away from the battlefield. This is shirking his duty. Arjuna is seeing **adharma palaayanam** as punya karma. Arjuna's confusion is complete.

When the emotional mind(attached and confused) begins to overpower a person, it stifles even the educated and well informed intellect. The intellect, not being able to overcome the emotional mind, begins to support the mental weakness. If the mind has a feeble addiction, the intellect can fight and overcome this weakness. If the addiction is intense, the intellect will justify the mental weakness.

From Verse 38 through 46, Arjuna, having been deceived by his intellect, talks about the evils of war. He says to Krishna, the Kauravas do not see the evils of war. **heads of the family are killed, thus destroying the families, and the consequences of destroying families are terrible.**

hurting our own kith and kin; another mahapaapam which they are not seeing but we are seeing clearly. We should help our friends. Let us decide to withdraw from war.

Chapter 1 Sloka 39

1.39

why I not should be learnt by us from sin this to turn away in the destruction of families evil clearly seeing O Janardana.

Arjuna, feels that the Kauravas are confused but now that his

thinking is clear, he says to Krishna:

Hey Janardana, [REDACTED] we are able to clearly see the negative consequences of [REDACTED] destroying families.

明明明明 明明明明 明明明明 明明明明明明明明 明明 明明明明 Having seen
 this evil clearly, why can't we withdraw? 明明 a sin(this war)
 which involves 明明明明 the destruction of families..

Why should we have a false ego? Regardless of what others may say, let us withdraw from war. Arjuna is pleading for Krishna's support to retrieve. Krishna, however remains silent because he feels that Arjuna is not yet ready to hear his advice. Talking to a non receptive person is called वान वाना वाना rodana – crying in the forest.

Chapter 1 Sloka 40

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在家庭的毁灭中 家庭宗教仪式 精神性 被毁灭 整个家庭 不敬 克服 确实。

Arjuna further explains the consequences of family destruction. What are the consequences if there are no healthy families in society (have broken families)? Arjuna wants to say that without family life, dharma, religion and culture can never grow. Spirituality is never possible. These grow in a society where the family is strong, stable and long lasting.

Our scriptures give a lot of importance to family life. Without good family structure, cultural growth is inhibited. A stable family is required for Cultural/Ethical growth, Dharmic growth and Spiritual growth. These are known as कूलधर्म Kuladharm (practice or observance particular to a group or

family).

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So Arjuna says, **कुलधर्मो न विद्यते** without a stable family, kuladharma will perish.

□□□□ □□□□ – when this dharma is destroyed

दुष्कर्म दुष्कर्म - adharma (life in which importance is given to दूष्कर्म and दुष्कर्म); only material values become important. This materialistic lifestyle will overpower all the good values.

Chapter 1 Sloka 41

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॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥ from the prevalence of impiety ॥॥॥॥ ० Krishna
 ॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥ become corrupt ॥॥॥॥॥॥॥॥ the women of the
 family ॥॥॥॥॥॥ in women ॥॥॥॥॥॥ (being) corrupt ॥॥॥॥॥॥ ०
 Varshneya ॥॥॥॥ arises ॥॥॥॥॥॥॥ caste mixture.

Swamiji first explains the importance of a stable family for cultural growth.

A stable family is needed for a cultural or a healthy personality trait to be formed in a child. This needs to be done at a very early stage in life. A baby or young child does not have the capacity to discriminate/judge what is important or valuable. A child learns to value things based upon the set of values of the parents (good like to the child). While child is developing values for various things, the respect it develops towards itself (self value) is also learned. The self image development is also very important. A newborn does not have an idea about itself – “am I a wonderful child or useless child; respectable or a rejected child”. This self opinion is developed based on the parent’s opinion of the child. If the life of the mother is centered on the child; parents respect

the child; treat as a VIP in the first 5 years of life; be at his beck and call; with all the needs fulfilled; etc., then the child develops a beautiful self image, self worth and self confidence. This self opinion developed within the first 5 years can never be erased. If this is not developed within those few years, the child will condemn itself and develop inferiority complex, lacking self confidence. This negative value is developed not due to the child's mistake – but they are the values the parents have imparted. A healthy mind is one which has self respect.

Swamiji refers to Chapter 6, Verse 5 where Krishna says:

आत्मैक्यं कुरुष्वैतन्मनो यः प्रपद्यते
सर्वथा विमुक्तो भवति ॥ ६.५ ॥

“Arjuna, once you condemn yourself, no one can help you”.

If you don't have self-confidence, no God, Guru, or Shastra can help. Ishvara kripa, Guru kripa, and Shastra kripa are secondary. These graces will be valid only when the most important grace “atma kripa” आत्मैक्यं – is there (self respect/self image/self confidence). This must be formed within the first 5 years of life with the help of a stable family and parents who respect the child. Therefore, family life is very important to develop psychologically healthy children that will become self respecting citizens in a society.

This is “ego nourishment” but nourishing the ego will enable the ego to grow, and as the ego grows it ripens, then the ripened ego can drop (like a ripened fruit falls from a tree, when it is ready).... leading to moksha.

The second importance of family is to impart cultural values, again done early in a child's life (nonverbal communication). The child learns by observing and imitating the parents. Even a newborn gets influenced by the thought of the mother during pregnancy, the manner in which the mother welcomes the child,

the manner in which the family greets the child, etc. All these nonverbal communications have a psychological impact on the child. Every word and action of the parents are being imbibed by the child. Parents have to serve as a model to teach the cultural values.

Matha, Pitha, Guru, Devyam.... Mother is the first model, then the father. If the parents are not available as the models, then they seek for a model elsewhere.

The parents(models) should be consistent and constant in their lives. The parents should have trust, understanding and harmony between themselves to provide a suitable and nurturing environment. A father or mother should not contradict each other in front of the child. This causes confusion to the child since both parents are Godlike and both are correct.

Here Arjuna says, among the parents, the mother is more important – because the mother is intimately attached with the child. And if the head of the families are destroyed, the women may become corrupt. A young girl growing up in a broken home does not develop cultural values. And when she becomes a mother without values, she will not be able to teach her children. Hence a vicious cycle is created where the generations to come have no values. All values will be utterly destroyed.

When the families are destroyed, a girl child gets spoiled, she will become an unhealthy mother.

corrupt women (destruction of entire society)

addressing Krishna, as descendant of Vrishni.
“vrishni kula samudbhoota”; you are born in a beautiful family; and know the importance of family

there will be utter confusion in regards to

varnaashrama dharma.

Sankara means confusion.

Varnashrama dharma – In varna dharma, the veda prescribes certain duties for each class of people. Brahmana have certain cultural duties, Kshatriya have political duties, Vysya have economic duties, Sudra have supporting duties towards the other three. All these duties are important for the growth of a society.

Veda says that everyone has to take one of these duties(profession) based on birth or based on character i.e. choose to be a politician, business man etc.

Imagine a society which values money. This will lead to everyone choosing a profession based on whichever brings them maximum money. Once a society is materialistic, a class that was devoted to cultural growth of a nation will diminish. Learning dharma shastra & the scriptures and following & propagating the dharma shastra will not thrive.

Varna sankara – everyone will take every other profession but no one will come forward to study the scriptures. There will be confusion among the duties and no one will preserve and propagate the religious and spiritual culture. Society will be corrupt leading to destruction of humanity.

All these will happen when families become unstable...due to the war...so lets abolish war...drive chariot away from battlefield.