

DRONA PARVA

There are 8 Uparvas, 202 Adhyayas and 9743 slokas in this Parva.

Dhrtarashtra has become very much miserable by listening to the news of the fall of Bhishma. After seeing him so sad, Sanjay tried to console him. After the deliberations with the warriors like Karna, Duryodhana, made Dronacharya as the commander-in-chief, as laid down by the scriptures. Dronacharya made a roaring like lion to please Duryodhana and said, "O son of Kurus'clan! Convey the desire that you have in your mind." Then, Duryodhana replied, "I need boon in the form of Yudhishtira. Having won over him I would again send him to the exile along with his brothers so that, I can rule the kingdom without any trouble." Dronacharya was startled listening to that mean answer of Duryodhana and said thus with a distressed mind - O king! I can hold Dharmaraja Yudhishtira on a condition. In view to protect him, Arjuna should not be there in the battle field and Yudhishtira should not flee away from the battle, because if he is protected by Arjuna, not only myself, Indra too cannot hold him."

Thereafter, on the eleventh day of the battle, preceptor Dronacharya, made a deployment called 'Sakata' and Pandavas made 'Krauncha' as their deployment. Both these strategies were built in large. Arjuna, along with Srikrshna, was standing at the main door of Pandava's army. Both of them are gazing at the enemies angrily. Through spies, Yudhishtira came to know that he will be caught by Dronacharya in the battle field and he immediately, informed the same to Arjuna. Having heard this, Arjuna asked him not to worry. He also said that, as long as he had Gandiva in his hand, not only Dronacharya, even, lord Shiva too could not touch him. He also assured him to fight without any fear. Having been satisfied with the words of Arjuna, Yudhishtira started wandering fearlessly, in the battlefield. Thereafter, a fierce battle started between the two teams. The sharp arrows of Dronacharya, the commander-in-chief, were destroying the army of Pandavas. Even the army of Kauravas has been destroyed with the arrows of Arjuna. The war between Salya and Bhimasena was wonderful. Bhima brought a great destruction by killing the charioteer of Salya and others with his mace. Thereafter, Salya could not stay in the battle field hence, he immediately flew, subsequently, hubbub arouse in Kauravas's army. Thereafter, the battle was stopped as the sun has set.

On that day, Kauravas were defeated badly. Though Yudhishtira was caught, he was protected. Seeing this, Duryodhana ran to Dronacharya and said thus, 'O preceptor! Though Yudhishtira was caught, he was protected. Why did you leave him?' With a distressed mind, Dronacharya replied thus, 'O Duryodhana! I have already told you that it was not possible for me to catch hold of Yudhishtira, when he was under the protection of Arjuna. If you some how, see that Arjuna is moved from the battle field, I can easily capture Yudhishtira.' After listening to this, Susharma, king of Trigarta has decided strongly that he along with his five brothers would at any cost take Arjuna, far from the battle field. Having decided thus, Satyaratha, Satyavarma, Satyeshu and Satyakarma, the warriors of Trigarta moved ahead by taking thousands of charioteers with them. Similarly, the other valorists also,



along with their charioteers moved with Susharma. No sooner they entered the battle field they started provoking Arjuna for the war. As Arjuna could not tolerate their provoking words, he decided to fight with them by taking Srikrishna with him. After seeing this, Yudhishtira thus asked Arjuna, 'O brother! Who will protect me from Dronacharya if you go to fight with Trigartas?' Having heard this, Arjuna, while consoling him, said thus, 'As long as there is life in the body of Satyajith, Dronacharya cannot harm you. But, if this valor dies in the battle field, you immediately, go away from here.' Thus, after convincing Yudhishtira, Arjuna climbed the chariot and with his wonderful valor, he defeated them and has sent them to the world of Yama. Thereafter, with his weapon called 'Vishwakarma', he made those of valors of Trigathas to fall on the earth. Srikrishna was very much pleased by his valor and he praised him very often. Further, Arjuna turned his chariot towards Bhagadatta. In the meanwhile, Dronacharya killed the warriors such as, Sathaneeka, Vrka, Vasudan, Satyajith and others, who were the younger brothers of Virata. No sooner, Satyajith was killed, Yudhishtira moved away from the battle field. When Ghatotkacha saw the distressed condition of Pandavas, he went and stood before Dronacharya. Then Dronacharya called Alambusha to fight with him. There was a terrible fight between those sorcerer demons. When Bhagadatta was attacked by Arjuna, he angrily threw such arrows on him, by which, Arjuna's crown turned reverse. While setting his crown, Arjuna showered sharp arrows on Bhagadatta. Out of anger, Bhagadatta, used his full strength and attacked on Arjuna's chest with a weapon called 'Vaishnavastrta'. With the release of this weapon, hubbub was spread everywhere. When this weapon was proceeding nearby, then Srikrishna took it on his chest, because of which, Arjuna became panic. Krishna took a vow that he would not fight. He encouraged Arjuna to kill Bhagadatta and told him the mystery as how to kill Bhagadatta. Thereafter, Arjuna pierced Bhagadatta's heart by throwing an arrow, which was in the form of half-moon. By the death of Bhagadatta, again hubbub roused in Kauravas' army, but the battle was stopped due to the sun set. Duryodhana became more panic as Sakuni's brothers were also killed.

His failure did not make Duryodhana to sleep that night. He immediately, went to his teacher Drona and said thus, 'Fie! That you consider us as your enemies. Otherwise, atleast today, you would have not left Yudhishtira.' After listening to the harsh words of Duryodhana, Dronacharya with a distressed mind said thus, 'Today at any cost, I will either capture Yudhishtira or kill any one of their warriors. But on one condition that Arjuna should be taken far away from the battle and should be made engaged elsewhere.' Thus listening to Dronacharya's words, Samsaptakas took a vow that they would some how, take Arjuna far from the battle field and would provoke him to fight. Early in the morning, Dronacharya created a deployment called 'chakra', where four princes who were splendorous as sun, were appointed. And Dronacharya and Jayadratha stood in the door steps of that deployment called 'parakote'. Except Arjuna and Srikrishna no one could break this deployment that was built by Drona. Having known this, Yudhishtira was very much worried and said thus to the warriors of his army, 'O warriors! Now, Arjuna has gone far away to fight with Samsaptakas. Except Srikrishna and Arjuna no one



knows to break this deployment of Dronacharya. Hence, I am very much worried as to how to break this.’ No sooner, Abhimanyu heard this, he saluted Yudhishtira and said thus, ‘I can easily break this. I know to enter into this, but I do not know to return back. I heard this, when I was in my mother’s womb, while my father was narrating to her. I could not hear the method of returning back, as my father stopped narrating that, because my mother slept by that time. So, you need not worry as I will easily break this deployment.’ After listening to his words, Yudhishtira said thus, ‘Child! It is certainly difficult to break this deployment. The warriors of our army will accompany you and will certainly bring you back from that.’ Abhimanyu was very much pleased by these words and while making a thud from his bow, he marched forward to break that deployment, along with, Bhimasena, Dhruvadyumna, Yudhishtira, Nakula, Sahadeva and others. This sixteen year old son of Arjuna, who was like a lion, went and stood in front of Dronacharya. Then, Bhimasena, fought terribly with Dronacharya and threw his chariot, because of which, Abhimanyu could march forward without any obstacles. Though Jayadratha tried to obstruct him, he failed as he became helpless because of the sharp arrows of Abhimanyu. Though, Abhimanyu could easily enter that deployment, Bhima and others could not, as Jayadratha obstructed them with his boon. Though, Bhimasena tried a lot to move from there, he could not. Abhimanyu was presenting a wonderful valor that no body could stop him. By seeing his valor, the army of Kauravas started fleeing away, while crying for help. Dronacharya, Aswathama, Karna, Buddhal and Krupacharya came forward to obstruct him. All these warriors, at once, started fighting with Abhimanyu. Though, he was surrounded by the enemies, he fought with them valorously. He angrily, sent the warriors of enemies to the world of Yama, because of which, even the great warriors like Karna, Drona and others started running away. At this juncture, Lakshmana kumara was also killed by Abhimanyu. Seeing this, Duryodhana angrily approached Dronacharya and said thus while lamenting, ‘O teacher! Don’t you see that a small boy has destroyed our entire army?’ At that time, Karna, who was hurt, approached Dronacharya and said thus, ‘O teacher! I have never experienced this kind of distressed circumstance. Unless you stop this lion’s cub, undoubtedly, today itself, the entire Kauravas’s army will be destroyed.’ Having heard this, Dronacharya said thus, ‘O Karna! This young prince is extremely valorous. Apart from this his armor is also wonderful. His father, Arjuna endowed him with the process of armor that he has already learnt. As long as, he holds his bow and arrow in his hand and the chariot he uses, so long, not only you, but no one from all the three worlds can defeat him. Hence, first and foremost, if his bow, chariot and other things are destroyed, then, he becomes weaponless and can be killed easily.’ After listening to this, Karna once again daringly stood in front of Abhimanyu and broke his bow. Then Krtavarma came forward and killed his horses. Then all the seven great warriors, having joined together, at a stretch, showered arrows on that weaponless child. But valorous Abhimanyu, who was all alone, followed the duty of Kshatriya, took his shield and sword and terribly fought with the enemies, while wandering here and there in the battle field. Thereafter, Dronacharya made his sword into pieces by using a weapon called ‘kshurapra’. Karna also pierced his shield. Now, he had no sword in his hand and all his organs were struck by arrows. Even in that situation, he angrily jumped



on Dronacharya with a wheel in his hand, where, he resembled lord Vishnu. All the kings became scared on seeing him and all of them, at once, broke his wheel. Then Abhimanyu took a big mace into his hand and threw it on Asvatthama. After seeing the thunder like mace coming towards him, Asvatthama went three steps back from his chariot, with which, he could survive but his chariot was broken into pieces. At last, Abhimanyu threw a mace on Dussasana's son and he too threw mace on Abhimanyu. As a result, both the warriors fainted and fell on the ground. The son of Dussasana got back the conscious first, because of which, he attacked the fainted Abhimanyu with his mace. As a result, the child warrior Abhimanyu died. No sooner Abhimanyu died, the gods spoke from the sky- "the seven warriors like Drona etc. killed this child Abhimanyu, against the rules of war. Hence, it cannot be considered as a lawful war." O! King, you all are happy by the death of Abhimanyu. But Pandavas are lamenting a lot. Later, in the evening, the armies of both the teams returned back to their camps. Having, killed the Samsaptakas, Arjuna, while talking to Srikrshna, returned to his camp in the evening. Suddenly, his left eye and left shoulder started throbbing. He also started seeing some bad omen, because of which Arjuna was very much distressed and said thus, 'O lord! I feel that today some evil might have

occurred. My heart is becoming panicky. I feel that today any one of our warriors might have died or our king Yudhishtira might have got arrested.' Srikrshna consoled him saying thus, 'O! Arjuna, don't worry. That which is to be happened will certainly happen. However, Yudhishtira will be fine as no one from the three worlds can really kill him. One of our warriors might have died.' Having said thus, Srikrshna drove the chariot fast and took him to the camp. When Arjuna saw that there were no holy drum beats, he understood that certainly some evil might have occurred. He immediately got down from the chariot and went to Yudhishtira's camp. Then, he saw that everybody was sad with their eyes filled with tears. He then asked the cause for their cry and said thus, 'Where is my son Abhimanyu, who always comes to me on my return? Let me know the reason.' Except Yudhishtira, nobody was dare enough to answer him. Yudhishtira replied while lamenting, 'Subhadra's lovable son, Abhimanyu, the delight of our eyes is no more.' Listening to this, grief-stricken Arjuna got fainted. Everybody too started crying. When Arjuna regained his senses, Srikrshna consoled him and said thus, 'I explained you the real and supreme knowledge. Why do you unnecessarily lament? O Arjuna, you should not at all lament for this as whoever, comes in this world certainly passes away. Even the great sages find it difficult to obtain the great death that Abhimanyu obtained. Yes, the cause of sorrow is that he was killed unlawfully. Indeed, now your duty is to take revenge of those. Now get up and console everyone. Yudhishtira, Bhima, Nakula, Sahadeva and other warriors and kings are distressed by your grief.' Then Arjuna realized and asked Yudhishtira that who was that, desiring the death killed his son so cruelly. Then Yudhishtira replied, 'When you went to kill Samsaptakas, Dronacharya created a deployment to arrest me. None of us knew to break it. Obliging my order, Abhimanyu was ready to break that. Thereafter, Bhimasena, Nakula Sahadeva, myself and other warriors went along with him to protect him. No sooner Abhimanyu entered there, he started fighting with them like a lion's cub. But by the boon of lord Shiva, Jayadratha stopped us at



the door-step itself. Though, we tried a lot, Jayadratha did not allow us. Then Drona, Karna, Kripacharya, Asvatthama, Krutavarma, Bruhadbala and Duryodhana captured Abhimanyu from all the four sides. Even then, Abhimanyu fought a terrific fight and killed many warriors. But, at last Dussasana's son disloyally killed the fainted Abhimanyu. Hence, Jayadratha is the main cause for Abhimanyu's death.' Thus listening to the words of Yudhishtira, Arjuna took a vow that he would certainly kill the killer of his son before the next day's sunset otherwise he would kill himself by entering into fire. After taking a terrific vow Arjuna made the sound of his bow and Srikrishna blew his Panchajanya conch. Jayadratha was very much worried when he came to know about Arjuna's vow and he immediately went to Duryodhana and said thus-'O King! You might have heard about the vow of Arjuna. You may also know that one may escape from time but one cannot escape from the arrow of Arjuna. My entire body is trembling by hearing the vow of Arjuna. Even the gods, semi-gods, demons cannot make that vow false.' After seeing distressed Jayadrath, Duryodhana replied thus, while consoling him-'O valor! You need not fear this much. Who can really capture you when Dronacharya is in support with us?' Having consoled him thus, Duryodhana took him to Dronacharya and said thus, 'O preceptor! Arjuna took a vow that he would kill Jayadratha before the next day's sunset. You alone are the protector of this great warrior.' Then Dronacharya replied thus, 'O great warrior! You need not worry. As long as I exist, no one can really harm you. I would create such a deployment in tomorrow's war that Arjuna cannot reach there. Actually, the warriors like you should not fear like this.' Thus obtaining courage from Dronacharya, Jayadrath started roaming without fear. After listening to Arjuna's vow Srikrishna said thus, while smiling-'O Partha! In fact, without giving a thought, you took a vow to

kill Jayadratha. You didn't know that even Dronacharya took a vow to protect Jayadratha. In tomorrow's war he will be protected by six warriors in the deployment of lotus and at that time it will be certainly difficult to kill him.' Then Arjuna replied- O Madhava! I certainly believe that my vow would be fulfilled with your blessings. O lord! May you now please console Subhadra and Uttara.' Having heard this, Srikrishna went to Arjuna's camp and spoke thus to Subhadra-'O sister! You and Uttara need not lament at all, as death is certain to everyone. Indeed, the great death that was obtained by Abhimanyu cannot be obtained even by the great ascetics. Hence, it's not fair to shed tears for him.' At that particular time, other queens like Draupadi and others came there and started crying. Then Srikrishna said thus, while consoling them again-'O Subhadra! Your husband has already taken a vow that he would certainly kill the enemy of Abhimanyu by the next day's sunset.' Having thus explained to every one, Srikrishna called his charioteer and said, 'O Daaruka! Tomorrow you arrange my chariot properly. Don't forget to put my weapons such as, wheel, the mace Kaumodaki, Sharanga the bow, Panchajanya the conch, as these will be very much useful to kill Jayadratha.

Arjuna slept while thinking about slay of Jayadratha. Then he dreamt that Srikrishna came to him and said, 'O Arjuna! Why are you very much worried? Your vow will certainly be fulfilled because it is indeed my vow. Now you come with me.



Having said thus, Srikrshna took him to the mountain called Kailasha, where lord Shiva said thus, while receiving them- 'O lord of lords! Tell me in what way can I serve you?' Then Srikrshna replied-'O Asutosh! Arjuna took a vow that he would kill Jayadratha by next day's sunset. Hence, you kindly bless Arjuna by giving him the weapon called Pasupata.' Then lord shiva replied that their wish would certainly be fulfilled, if they go to a nearby lake and get his bow and weapon called Pasupata. But, when they both reached the nearby lake, instead of bow and weapon they found two snakes. Then having saluted Lord Shiva, Arjuna recited Satarudriya following the precept, the result of which, both the snakes turned into two weapons. Then he took those divine weapons and gave them to lord Shiva. Later, a celibate emerged from rib of Lord Shiva. Having seated in the posture of an ascetic, he taught Arjuna to use that wonderful Pasupata weapon. Later, lord Shiva gave him that Pasupata weapon. Having saluted lord Shiva, both of them returned back. No sooner the dream was over; when Arjuna opened his eyes, he saw Srikrishna standing in front of him. Arjuna saluted his feet and offered him a seat to be seated. Later, both of them planned the strategy of that day's battle. Thereafter, having completed his daily rites, Arjuna went to see Yudhishtira. No sooner Yudhishtira too completed his daily rites the door-keeper informed him the arrival of Srikrshna. Having welcomed him and serving him with all kinds of hospitalities, Yudhishtira offered him a seat and said, 'O Janardana! Arjuna's vow and his protection are now in your hands. You are certainly the incarnation of Vishnu and May you prove it by making it a fact.' Then Srikrishna replied, 'O Dharmaraja! You need not worry. Undoubtedly, Arjuna's vow will be fulfilled.' When Arjuna also came there, Yudhishtira embraced him and said, 'by seeing the smile on your faces, it appears that you will certainly be victorious.' After hearing thus, Arjuna told him about the dream he saw in the previous night. Yudhishtira considered the dream as a good omen. Later, having given the responsibility of Yudhishtira to Satyaki, Arjuna and Krshna climbed the chariot.

When the night has passed away Dronacharya has created the deployment called Sakata. Jayadrath was put under the protection of six warriors in a pericarp of a lotus. Dronacharya stood at the door-steps of the deployment that was spread up to ten Krosas distance. Behind that there was another wonderful deployment named Padmagarbha, in which, a deployment named as Suchimukha was built. Jayadratha hid in its pericarp. Satanika and Dhrshtadyumna from the side of Pandavas made a war-shout. Arjuna and Srikrshna also appeared in their terrific form and blew the conches Devadatta and Sankhadhvani respectively, because of which, all the three worlds started trembling and many warriors of Kauravas were fainted. Arjuna asked Srikrshna, 'drive my chariot to Durbharshana, who is the protector of the army of elephants. Having destroyed him first, I will break the deployment so that I can reach Jayadratha.' Having listened to this Srikrshna turned his horses to that direction. The terrific fight has started when they reached there. The battle-field was filling with the dead bodies of the warriors. Arjuna's chariot was moving fast towards the enemies' army. In the battle field Arjuna showed his valor in such a way that it was as if, he alone was appearing there. The shower of Arjuna's sharp arrows made the entire elephant-army scattered. He used to make a path very quickly for his



chariot. When Dronacharya saw that his army is fleeing away from the battle-field, he came in front of Arjuna and said, 'O Arjuna! Where are you going? You cannot go without defeating the enemies.' Arjuna replied, 'You are not my enemy but you are my honorable preceptor. I am also your student who is like your son.' Having said thus, very fast he entered into Kaurava's army, with an intention to kill Jayadratha. Yudhamanyu and Uttamauja too followed him. Having seen Arjuna, who was marching forward like this, the king Srutayudha brought a large army and stood before him. But, within no time, Arjuna could break all their weapons. Then, he took his mace and attacked Arjuna. The great valor Srutayudha was the son of Varuna. His mother was a great river named as Parnaasa. Once, out of affection, she requested Varuna that her son should not be killed in the hands of any enemies. Having pleased Varuna said, 'O Srutayudha! I am giving you this mace because of which, you cannot be killed by anyone. But, it is not possible to be immortal here. So, remember that you should not throw this mace on a person, who is not fighting. If not, you will only be killed by the same mace.' Srutayudha hit Srikrshna's chest with the same mace. Having hit Srikrshna, it went and hit Srutayudha, because of which he obtained death. Thereafter, with the death of Srutayudha, Kauravas' army was scattered and started fleeing away from the battle-field. Later, Arjuna sent Sudakshina to the world of Yama. At this juncture, Srutayu threw a Javelin on Arjuna and Achyutayu attacked him with a Trident. Arjuna was hurt when he was at once attacked with those two weapons. So, having took the help of his flag stick he sat there. Srikrshna, with his pleasing words tried Arjuna to regain his conscious. When he regained his conscious, he saw that he was made hidden in the bushes along with Srikrshna and his chariot and his enemies were standing in front of them. Immediately, Arjuna threw a weapon called Aindrastra on them, because of which, the arrows of all the enemies were broken. Thereafter, Arjuna killed Srutayu and Achyutayu the result of which, a hubbub and a cry for protection arouse in Kauravas' army. Thereafter Arjuna even killed his two sons Niyattayu and Dirghayu. Thus, having experienced a terrific defeat, Druyodhana was scared. Having got down from his chariot, he gave a thought and met Dronacharya and said thus, 'O preceptor! You could have told me earlier, if you had an intention to bless your disciple Arjuna like this.' Dronacharya said thus, 'There is no doubt that you are like my son. But, the fact is that Srikrshna is the charioteer of Arjuna. Apart from this, his chariot and horses are also too fast and strong enough and even Arjuna is also foremost in the art of archery and weapons. Though a small path is given to his horses, they move so fast that even I cannot catch hold of them. Moreover, I took a vow to capture Yudhishtira but not Arjuna. So I will prove myself by capturing Yudhishtira as he is standing in front of his army. Meanwhile, you have to fight with Arjuna and try to stop him.' After listening to this, Duryodhana replied, 'O Preceptor! Arjuna is a great archer. I cannot withstand before him, even for a moment.' Then the preceptor said, 'O King! Don't fear. I will make you wear the unbreakable armor given by lord Siva. Including the gods, demi-gods and demons, no one can break this.' Having convinced him thus, Dronacharya made him to wear the unbreakable armor given by lord Shiva and sent him to fight with Arjuna. Sanjaya said to Drutarashtra, 'O King! There was no one in Kauravas' army, who could really stop the movement of Arjuna. By that time the sun has set and even the



horses were tired and were running with saliva from their mouth.’ After seeing the horses that were very much tired, Arjuna said to Srikrshna, ‘O lord! Our horses are very much tired. Let them take rest now. Jayadratha is far from us. So, you let these horses take rest without any worry. I will stop the enemies’ army with my arrows.’ Having said thus, Arjuna made a fort with his arrows. Lord Srikrshna took the horses into that fort and let them take rest. Later, he removed arrows from their bodies and applied medicine on them. When the enemies’ army saw that Arjuna had got down from his chariot, at once they attacked Arjuna with a force. They were showering their arrows on Arjuna from all the four sides. But Arjuna, the progeny of Kurus, showed a wonder by releasing a single arrow on them, he made the entire army fainted. Having stood like the mountain Sumeru, he was destroying the enemies’ army. At this juncture, Srikrshna said, ‘O Arjuna! The horses are thirsty. Please arrange water for them.’ Then Arjuna took a sharp and divine arrow from his quiver and having pierced the earth he made a lake. After drinking water from that lake, the horses became energetic. Thereafter, Srikrshna tied them to the chariot and made Arjuna to sit in the chariot and started driving it fast. Both of them were marching forward without any fear. No sooner they saw Jayadratha, they made applause. Then Duryodhana who was wearing the unbreakable armor, came and stood in front of them. After seeing him in front of them, Arjuna, with an intention to kill him, released sharp arrows on him. But, after hitting him, those sharp arrows of Arjuna started falling on the earth. Srikrshna was surprised by seeing this. Then Arjuna said, ‘O Achyuta, don’t be surprised. The preceptor Drona made him to wear the divine and unbreakable armor. Hence, he cannot be killed with these arrows. Let me think for any other idea to kill him.’ Thereafter, Arjun fastened Duryodhana’s fingers with his sharp arrows and killed his charioteer along with his horses, because of which, Duryodhana was very much worried and flew away from the battle-field. On the other side, there was a terrific fight between Bhima and Alambusha, in which, the latter hurt the former. At this juncture, Bhima’s son Ghatotkaca, came and stood fiercely, in front of Alambusha. The battle went on for a long time between these two sorcerer demons. At last, Alambusha destroyed the chariot of Ghatotkaca. Out of anger, Ghatotkaca, having jumped from his chariot, attacked Alambusha rashly, because of which, his body was scattered into pieces and he died. No sooner Alambusha died, uproar again aroused in Kauravas’ army and Pandavas made applause. When Yudhishtira did not get any information about Arjuna since morning, he became panic. When Srikrshna was blowing Panchajanya, very often, he thought that either Arjuna might be in trouble or he was killed. Having distressed, he asked Satyaki to get the information of Arjuna. But Satyaki said, ‘Dharmaraja! As Drona wanted to capture you, Srikrshna and Arjuna have left me here to protect you. But having obliged your order, I am going. But, be cautious with Drona.’ Having said thus, Satyaki moved from there by taking some army with him. When he entered the battle field, he first met the preceptor Drona, who stopped him by moving ahead and told him that your teacher Arjuna left the battle field like a coward by making a circumambulation around me. After listening to this, Satyaki too made a circumambulation to Drona and moved ahead. Thereafter, Krtavarma came and stood in front of him. As Krtavarma could not withstand before his valor, he flew from there having been hit by Satyaki. As a result of this, Satyaki got



delayed and he could not get any information about Arjuna. Thereafter, Yudhishtira called Bhima and said, 'Brother Bhima! I didn't get any information about Arjuna, since this morning. I think he might have fallen in any trouble. I have sent Satyaki to know his whereabouts but, he too didn't turn up till now. So, you now go and help Arjuna and let me know his welfare by making a lion's roar.' After seeing the distress of Yudhishtira, Bhima entrusted Dhrshtadyumna to protect Yudhishtira and took his mace, bow and arrows and jumped on enemies' army like a lion. While fighting in the battle field, he came in front of Drona, where he obstructed Bhima with his arrows. Then having got down from his chariot, Bhima threw Drona far along with his chariot. Considering it as a play, Bhima thus threw Drona's chariot eight times like a toy. The other warriors, who were present there, were surprisingly seeing Bhima's deed but could not do any thing. Thereafter, he started burning the enemies' army like a blazing fire. After which, he went in front of Karna. A terrific fight has started between both the warriors. Having defeated Karna, Bhima made a lion's roar. While destroying Kaurava's army he went near Arjuna. When at once Jayadratha saw the three warriors Arjuna, Bhima and Satyaki, he understood that his death was nearby. After destroying the enemies' army, Arjuna also got prepared to kill Jayadratha. Jayadratha too, was protected by six warriors. Having seen this situation, Duryodhana was very much scared and approached Drona and said, 'O Preceptor! Our army is crying for protection like orphans. Satyaki, Arjuna and Bhima have already reached Jayadratha. These three are cutting our army like vegetables. Now it is your responsibility to protect Jayadratha. I am surprised that, having bound you, how could they reach up to here.' Having seen the distressed Duryodhana, Drona said thus, 'At any cost, we should now protect Jayadratha. So, you go to those three warriors and fight with them. You are also a valorous warrior. So, you should not be fearful. Having stood here, I will obstruct the entire army of Pandavas.' After listening to his teacher's words, Duryodhana understood that it was his duty to protect Jayadratha. So, he immediately went to Arjuna. Though Karna was defeated by Bhima once, he again started fighting with Bhima, where he used many harsh words on Bhima. As a result, Bhima got anger and killed Karna's charioteer Dusa and others by cutting them into pieces. Once again, having left the fight, Karna flew away from the battle field and came back again by climbing on a chariot and stood in front of Bhima. When the army of Kauravas saw Karna's anger; they thought that it was impossible for Bhima to escape. But, at that time Bhima recollected his life during the period of exile and fell on Karna like an arrow and broke his chariot and killed his charioteer. Then he took his terrific mace to kill Karna. Then after seeing Karna in trouble, Duryodhana sent his brother Durjaya to protect him. But Bhima has immediately sent him to the world of Yama and destroyed Karna's chariot. Once again Karna brought a new chariot to fight with Bhima. He repeated this many times. He threw such an arrow on Bhima that he went into the earth. Then Bhima got angry and he killed six of his horses. Then having stood on the earth, Karna started fighting. When Duryodhana saw Karna falling in trouble again, he sent his brother Durmukha to help him. Bhima immediately killed him too. When Karna saw that Duryodhana's sons were dying, he got angry and showered sharp arrows on Bhima and killed his charioteer along with horses and also destroyed his bow. Thus, Bhima got angry and threw a strong weapon but,



Karna has cut even that. Now Bhima has started fighting with sword. Karna was scared by seeing Bhima's wonderful valour and hid in his chariot. Then Bhima went and stood on Karna's chariot and started pulling it down like an eagle pulling a snake. Then Karna started showering sharp arrows on Bhima. Though he had enough ability, he left Bhima, as he was weaponless. But, he made Bhima faint with his sharp arrows. As he recollected the words of Kunti, he did not kill Bhima in that situation. Thereafter, Karna went to Bhima and put a sign of his bow on his body. No sooner he was touched by Karna, Bhima got angry and beat him with the same bow. Then Karna too got angry and said, 'hey fool! If you do not know to handle your weapons, then why do you come and fight?' Then Bhima replied, 'though you were defeated many times, you are still here. Gods too get the victory and defeat. You come and do boxing with me. If I don't lead you to the path of Kichaka, then my name cannot be Bhimasena.' Thereafter, Karna understood the intention of Bhima and he moved from there and started fighting with the other kings. Bhima climbed the chariot of Satyaki and reached Arjuna. When Arjuna saw Bhima and Satyaki with him, he was very much worried about Yudhishtira. At that time, Bhurisrava started fighting with Satyaki. Satyaki fought valorously. When their chariots and weapons were destroyed, they got ready for boxing. At last, Bhurisrava made Satyaki to fall on the ground and started beating him. Thereafter, when he was about to kill Satyaki, Srikrshna gave a hint to Arjuna that he was going to kill Satyaki. Seeing this, Arjuna cut his sword-holding shoulder with his arrow. Seeing this, people started blaming Arjuna that he shouldn't have cut Bhurisrava's shoulder, when he was fighting with Satyaki. After listening to their words, Satyaki thus shouted at them, 'O people of disloyal! Where was your law when seven warriors got together and killed that small boy Abhimanyu? Was it fair on your part?' Then Bhurisrava left Satyaki and took a vow that he would observe Pranayama till his death. But, Satyaki had cut his head with a sword and hit it with legs. After seeing thus, Kauravas started blaming the deed of Satyaki. Then Satyaki said, 'O fools! I took a vow that, whoever rejects me in the battle field and makes me a slave on this earth and beats me, I will certainly not leave him alive, though he follows any vows of sages.' Dhrshtadyumna and Satyaki blew the conch, while increasing the distress of Kauravas. Later, Srikrshna marched his chariot towards Jayadratha. There was a fierce battle between Arjuna and Jayadratha. Six other warriors came in support of Jayadratha and started fighting. As there was very less time for the sun to set, all the Kauravas were fighting with a full strength. Having seen thus, Arjuna came in front of Jayadratha while creating a distress in Kauravas' army. At that time, Jayadrath was being protected by the warriors like Asvatthama, Vrshasena, Krpacharya, Salya, Karna and others. In this war, Arjuna threw fifty arrows on Asvatthama, three on Vrushsena, nine on Krupacharya, sixteen on Salya, many such on Karna and sixty-four on Jayadratha. They too showered the rain of arrows on Arjuna. Then Srikrshna said to Arjuna, 'Hey Arjuna! These warriors have covered Jayadratha. Unless these warriors are killed, it would be difficult to kill Jayadratha. The sun is also above to set. Hence, we have got only one idea. I will cover the sun with my illusion. Then Jayadratha will think that the sun has set and he will certainly come to you without any fear. Then you kill him. Then, there will be sunrise again. Other than this, there is no other idea to kill Jayadratha.' Arjuna



accepted Krishna's opinion. Srikrshna covered the sun with illusion. Every where, the darkness was spread. Jayadratha thought that the sun has set and he happily came to Arjuna and said thus, 'the sun has set. Now you leave me and arrange for your death.' Then Krsna gave a hint to Arjuna and said, "Hey Partha! The ocean is still seeing the sun. The Sun has not yet set. You immediately kill him. But do remember that his head should not fall on the earth. His father who was popular as Vruddhakshatra heard a voice from heaven as, 'O King! Your son is as virtuous as any other king of the Chandravamsa (Moon's clan). But, his head will be cut in the battle field by the best of Kshatriyas.' Having heard this, Vruddhakshatra said that through whose hands his son's head falls on the earth, his head will be broken into hundred pieces. Having said thus, Vruddhakshatra gave the kingdom to his son Jayadratha and left for forest to perform penance. Now he is performing a terrible penance in the forest of Samantapanchaka. Hence, cut his head with a divine weapon and let it fall on the lap of Vruddhkshatra." Having heard this, Arjuna took an arrow in the form of Kala (The Death God), from his quiver and released it on Jayadratha. This arrow cut Jayadratha's head and made it to fall in the lap of Vruddhakshatra. When he got up from his penance, it fell on the ground and immediately, his head only was broken into hundred pieces. As soon as Jayadratha was killed, Srikrshna removed the darkness. Kauravas started flooding their tears. On that day, Arjuna killed seven army corps. Later, Srikrshna took Arjuna, Satyaki and Bhima and went to Yudhishtira. Having embraced Arjuna, Yudhishtira praised Srikrshna. Sanjaya says, 'With the death of Jayadratha, grief has spread in Kauravas' army. Duryodhana came to Drona while crying and said thus, 'O the best teacher! Today Arjuna destroyed our seven army corps and he killed Jayadratha also. If you would have wished, you could have certainly stopped slay of Jayadratha. In fact, you never wanted to help us. My brother Karna is extending his heartfelt help. Sir, my death is also confirmed.' Having heard the enraged words of Duryodhana, Drona said thus, 'hey Duryodhana! You always torment me with your sarcastic words of arrows. But, you don't know that there is no such person in all the three worlds, who can kill Arjuna. This is not the game of dice, which can be played deceitfully through Sakuni and won over Pandavas disloyally. This is a war, where it is not that easy to win Pandavas. Though I am nearing to my death, I will fulfill my responsibility till my death.' Having said thus he left the place. Then Duryodhana said to Karna that Drona was not fighting whole heartedly and hence he allowed Arjuna to enter into the deployment. As a result, Jayadratha was killed.' Karna replied, 'You are unnecessarily blaming the teacher. Your sins and wicked deeds having formed together are making you to obtain such kind of destructions. What ever has to happen will certainly happen.' Having said thus, Karna also left for war. That night, there was a fierce fight between the two armies. Bhima took a terrific form and started destroying the enemies. Satyaki was facing Asvatthama, where the latter hurt the former. Having seen thus, Ghatokaca came and stood in front of Satyaki. The son of Drona has cut Ghatokaca's supernatural power. Then Ghatokaca and his friends tried to kill Asvatthama he did not move even a little. Then Asvatthama hit Ghatokaca with an arrow in such a way that he fell on ground. Having thought that Ghatokaca has died, the army of Pandavas started fleeing away from the battle field. With an intention to kill Drona, Pandavas captured him from



all the four sides. Arjuna captured him from the south Bhima from the north. Drona failed to obstruct both of them. After seeing this, Duryodhana said to Karna, 'you protect Dronacharya.' Then Karna replied, 'you please behold courage. Today, I will certainly capture all the Pandavas, along with Arjuna. Even Indra will not save them. When Arjuna dies, automatically all the other four brothers will die. You will obtain the entire kingdom.' Having heard this, Kripacharya said, 'How many times were you defeated by Arjuna and you flew from the battle field?' Listening to this, Karna replied furiously, 'Kripacharya! You talk after giving a thought. You do remember that if you ever insult me like this in future, I will cut your tongue. You are so mean that you always praise Pandavas.' Asvatthama could not bear the insult done to his uncle. So he moved forward to kill Karna. In the meanwhile, Duryodhana separated both of them and made them peaceful. Having forgiven him, Kripacharya moved for war. Midnight passed away while battling. Having lit the lamp, they continued the fight. Sanjaya said, 'O King! When the army of Kauravas was being destroyed by Ghatotkaca, Bhima and Arjuna, Duryodhana went to Karna and said thus, 'See how my army is being destroyed. You alone can do something now.' After listening to this, Karna immediately ran to protect Drona. Seeing thus, Srikrshna and Arjuna went in the midst of Drona. But Krishna thought that it would not be good to battle with Karna, so he took Arjuna's chariot in front of Drona. Karna took the opportunity to bring the army of Pandavas into ashes like the forest of Khandava. Out of fear, Pandavas' army was fleeing away from the battle field. Then Yudhishtira said to Arjuna, 'O Brother! In spite of your presence, our army is fleeing away. Karna has sent many of our warriors to the world of Yama. May you now plan for slay of Karna.' Krishna said, 'Arjuna! Either you or Ghatotkaca only can kill Karna.' Arjuna called Ghatotkaca and said, 'Child! I consider you and Satyaki are really important for my army. This night you fight with Karna on two chariots and with the help of Satyaki and kill Karna.' Then Ghatotkaca said, 'Father! Indeed I alone am enough to kill Karna and his army.' Today I will fight fiercely with Karna, whose stories will always be sung by the great warriors.' Having said thus, he moved fast. No sooner Duryodhana came to know that Ghatotkaca is moving ahead to kill Karna, he immediately sent Dussasana to help him. Then Alambusha, son of Jataayu spoke thus, to Duryodhana, 'O King! His father Bhima has killed my father. Hence, today I will take revenge by killing him.' Having said thus, he started fighting with Ghatotkaca. At last, Ghatotkaca killed him by throwing him on the earth. He cut his head and threw it on Duryodhana's chariot in the form of a gift. 'O king! Ghatotkaca was as huge as a mountain and face was in copper color, his eyes were red, his hair turned in upwards direction, his beard and mustache were sharp and were black in color. Karna and Ghatotkaca started fighting fiercely. Though Karna was a warrior; impact of phantom was more as it was a night. With his full strength, he showered arrows on Karna. At that juncture, a demon named Alaayudha came and stood in front of him because of which, Ghatotkaca left Karna and started fighting with that demon. He tormented Ghatotkaca with his arrows. Seeing thus, Bhima called Alaayudha for a fight and started fighting with him. Taking an opportunity, Alaayudha destroyed Bhima's chariot, charioteer and horses. While out crying, Bhima attacked him with his mace. With that attack, he stopped fighting with Bhima and started fighting with Mukthas. Having seen this, Krishna asked



Ghatokaca to first help his father Bhima in killing Alaayudha and could later fight with Karna. Listening to this, Ghatotkach attacked on Alaayudha. Alaayudha kicked Ghatotkaca with a mace, because of which, he himself was fainted for a moment. Later, Ghatotkaca too attacked him with a mace. As a result, his chariot, charioteer and horses were destroyed. Thus, having fought for a long time, Ghatotkaca killed him in a duel fight and threw him on Duryodhana's chariot. Again, a terrific fight started between Karna and Ghatotkaca. Though Karna tried a lot, he could not defeat him; instead he was troubled many times with his attack. As a result, Kauravas' army, while crying for protection started fleeing away. With a pretext to kill Karna, Ghatotkaca was making a flow of river of blood by destroying the army of Kauravas, with his phantom weapons. Thereafter, Ghatotkaca attacked Karna with a weapon Sataghni, because of which, Karna's horses fell on the earth and died. When his horses died, Karna became distressed and got down from his chariot. Seeing this, Kauravas said to Karna, 'Kill this demon quickly. If not, the entire army of Kauravas will be destroyed. We can protect ourselves from Bhima and Arjuna. But, it is not possible to save our lives with this phantom.' Then Karna was in trouble. He released a weapon named Vijayanti, which was given by Indra. In fact, he wanted to store this weapon to kill Arjuna. But, as he was helpless he did so. No sooner it touched Ghatotkaca he made a huge cry and died while falling on Kauravas' army. A huge army corps was killed when he fell on them. He did not forget to help Pandavas even at the time of death. After killing Ghatotkaca, Vijayanti weapon reached back to Indra.

Sanjaya said, 'O King! By the death of Ghatotkaca, Pandavas sorrow increased. But, Srikrshna happily roared like a lion. Having seen this, Arjuna was very much shocked and said, 'Why are you so much happy with the death of Ghatotkaca?' Then Krihna replied, 'Partha, great warrior Ghatotkaca, having died made you immortal. Karna wanted to kill you with Vijayanti weapon that was given by Indra. Because of that weapon only, I always used to stop you to go in front of Karna. Arjuna! You do not know my polity. You should have killed many kings on the earth. But, I already killed many strong kings who were like demons. Some were killed by Bhima. If the kings like Jarasandha, Sisupala, Hidimba, and Baka were alive by this time, they would have certainly supported Kauravas, which would certainly become fearful for us. Hence, the death of that fearful demon Ghatotkaca is certainly for a good cause. Otherwise, he would have troubled many Brahmins, cows and virtuous people. Now I will destroy all disloyal people and certainly make Dharmaraja as a king.' Having said thus, he drove Arjuna's chariot in front of Karna. Dhrtarashtra asked, 'O Sanjaya! If Karna wanted to use that wonderful weapon on Arjuna, why didn't he use this earlier?' Sanjaya replied, 'Karna always used to assure that he would certainly kill Arjuna. Whenever, he used to return from the battle field Kauravas used to ask him that why he didn't use that weapon on Arjuna. Then he replied that, whenever Srikrshna and Arjuna came before him, he never recollected that weapon. To make it futile, Srikrshna has sent Ghatotkaca to fight with. It's due to the divine influence, Karna might have forgotten that weapon.' Thereafter, the army of Arjuna was tired and as it was night, both the armies too announced a break for the battle till the rise of the moon and



went to sleep. Duryodhana said to Dronacharya, 'O teacher! The army of enemies is sleeping and is inattentive. It is better to attack them and destroy them at this time.' Drona replied, 'Though I became old, I never did this kind of disloyal. But still, if you order me, I would do it.' He further said that, after destroying all the kings of Panchala only, he would remove his armor. Duryodhana said, 'divide the army into two. In one of which, I, Karna and Dussasana will be there and in the other, you and my uncle Sakuni will be there.' They all left for battle. No sooner the moon rose, the fight started in the night only. After seeing Kauravas divided into two parts, by the advice of Srikrshna Bhima said, 'Arjuna! The time has come to fulfill the purpose of the cause of birth given by a mother of Kshatriya. Hence, by showing your valor, destroy enemies' army to obtain the truth, wealth, dharma and fame.' After listening to Bhima's words Arjuna had started a fierce fight. Drona killed Virat, Drupad and three of his grand sons. Seeing thus, out of anger, Dhrstadyumna moved ahead to kill Drona, so that he could take revenge of his father's slayer. Having heard Duryodhana's words, Drona used the weapon of Brahma. When Arjuna saw that his army was tormented, he gave them a relief by using his weapon of Brahma. Then a terrific fight went on between Arjuna and Drona. When the sons of Kunti were fearful Srikrshna said, 'Preceptor Drona is a perfect archer. As long as, he has bow and arrows in his hand, nobody can indeed defeat him. His slaughter can be possible only if he drops his weapons. He will drop his weapons if Asvatthama dies. So, it would be better if anybody announces the death of Asvatthama. No sooner he drops his weapons, Dhrstadyumna can easily kill him.' Though Arjuna did not like this idea, he kept quiet. Instantly, Bhima killed an elephant named Ashvatthama from his army and while making a lion's roar, he announced that Asvatthama was killed. Drona did not believe his words. He went to Yudhishtira. Bhima already informed Yudhishtira that he killed an elephant named Asvatthama. Then Krshna while explaining Dharmaraja said, 'It's a fact that if you fiercely fight for the whole day, your entire army will be destroyed. You won't commit any sin, if you speak false to protect the lives of others.' Then Yudhishtira first loudly said to Drona that 'Asvatthama was killed' later, he slowly added, 'but an elephant'. Then immediately, Bhima and Krshna blew the conches loudly. When Drona heard this news from the truth speaker Dharmaraja dropped his weapons. Having said the word Asvatthama he went into trance. Without any delay, Dhrstadyumna cut Drona's head. Prior to this Yudhishtira's chariot flew four feet height from the earth. But, on that day as he spoke false, it went down and moved unsteadily. For such action of Dhrstadyumna, everybody, including Arjuna, blamed him, as one should not kill the fainted and weaponless person. Arjuna only wanted to capture Drona, before somebody kills him. When Asvatthama heard the news of his father's death, angrily he marched ahead to kill Arjuna and others with the Divine weapon of Narayana. He said to Duryodhana, 'O son of Kurus! You assume that today Pandavas along with their army turn into ashes, as except me, neither Arjuna nor Krshna too knows either to operate or take back this weapon.' Due to the impact of that weapon, a terrific roar aroused. As a result of which, the earth, mountains, oceans, gods, demons were distressed while trembling. After seeing this annihilation, Dharmaraja asked Arjuna, 'Who is doing this?' Arjuna said, 'This is caused by the weapon of Narayana, which was released by Asvatthama, with a



pretext to take revenge of his father. You also deceived our preceptor and caused betray to him by speaking false. Though I was stopping him Drshtadyumna did unfair by cutting his head.' Everybody kept quiet. But Bhima said, 'though you are giving instructions today, but do remember that he is considered as a real Kshatriya, who kills his enemies at any cost. He should take care of his refugees' protection, protection of women and virtuous people. Having said thus, you are insulting the law of Kshatriyas. Everyone knows that you have sympathy and devotion towards your preceptor. But disloyally, you were defeated in front of that preceptor only and your kingdom was dragged. Draupadi, who was leading the period of menses, was insulted before him. In fact, these teachers only having supported immoral people, indulged in destroying us. Hence, killing him is certainly as per the law of Kshatriyas. Now you should stop this repentance and should move fast to the battle field. I will certainly destroy those disloyal people, by taking your help.' Dhrshtadyumna said, 'O Arjuna! The Brahmins are entrusted with six kinds of duties that include Practice and teachings of Vedas, performing sacrifices, to make others to do those, accepting and giving the donations. Drona never used to do any of these works. He is a Kshatriya by his deeds. Then how can we get the sin of a Brahmin's slay. I did a right job by killing him. The almighty has sent me here only to kill him. Unnecessarily, Drona has operated the weapon of Brahma on those, who do not know to operate that. So there is no fault in killing him. Why did you kill your father's friend Bhagadatta? I don't mind listening to your harsh words by seeing the faces of Draupadi and her sons. Neither Dharmaraja nor myself are the part of this slaughtering.' When this discussion was going thus among Pandavas, the weapon of Narayana came like a thunderbolt towards the army of Pandavas, emitting great fire. Yudhishtira saw that his army was fleeing, he stood being neutral. Yudhishtira said to those warriors, 'Dhrshtadyumna! You run away from here by taking Panchalas. Satyaki! You also flee by taking your army. Whatever, Srikrshna thinks right, we may do that. I am stopping all the soldiers to fight. Now I will burn in this battle along with my brothers as I was the cause to kill Arjuna's teacher.' Meanwhile, Lord Srikrshna having lifted his hand up, said loudly, O warriors! You all abandon your weapons and hide behind my chariot. This weapon of Narayana will not kill weaponless people. Whoever tries to attack this will be killed.' Having heard Srikrshna's words, having got down from the chariot, all the soldiers dropped their weapons. Then Bhima said loudly, 'O warriors! Don't drop your weapons. I will obstruct this weapon of Asvatthama with my arrows. Arjuna! You also don't let your weapon Gandevee down. Otherwise, you too will be blamed like the moon.' Arjuna said, 'O brother! I took a vow to drop my weapons in front of the weapon of Narayana, cows and Brahmins.' When Arjuna said thus, Bhima alone went in front of Asvatthama. While roaring, he started showering the arrows. When Bhima was releasing arrows in front of that weapon it attacked Bhima and entered his body with great flames to burn him. Then Srikrshna and Arjuna came there while running and dragged Bhima under his chariot. No sooner Bhima dropped his weapons, the weapon of Narayana turned cool. Seeing this, Asvatthama was very much surprised as Pandavas were not destroyed by this. Duryodhana insisted Asvatthama to operate the weapon of Narayana once again. But, Asvatthama replied that it can be operated only once. Thereafter, Arjuna angrily said to Asvatthama,



‘Today only you use all the weapons that you have with you. You have become very much rebellious. Today I will smash your arrogance.’ Having said thus, Arjuna showered violent arrows on him. Then Asvatthama released a weapon called Agneya, because of which, the earth started blazing. To stop its impact, Arjuna instantly operated the weapon of Brahma. As a result, the weapon Agneya was made cool. When Asvatthama saw that there was no sign of destruction he got surprised. Having dropped his weapons, he said, ‘everything is censure and false.’ Having said thus, he flew from the battle field. Then Veda Vyasa came there and explained him that those two were the divine sages Nara and Narayana. Hence, no weapon could really hurt them. He further advised him not to worry unnecessarily. Then Asvatthama saluted them in his mind and returned back to his camp along with his army.

