## The Mahabharata

## A battle of fate

The role and depiction of Karna in the Mahabharata is quite intriguing considering how he has always kept his word irrespective of the situations. However, his alliances have often caused him trouble in the epic. On the other hand, Arjuna has been consistently favoured by the gods and other characters to put him forth in favourable positons.

The visualization below depicts the narratives of Karna and Arjuna in a chariot race across the books. It attempts to portray them based on their social circle (closest associates), their descriptions and how

The protagonist holds his chariot and advances through the battlefield.

**THEME** 

"The horse drawing the chariots define its strength and presence , similar to how the protagonists's allies define his social space "

"The darker the leash gets, stronger is its association with horse and chariot. "

"Arrows fired by the archer reflect his traits and qualities in the battlefield."

**PROTAGONISTS: CLOSEST ASSOCIATIONS:** 



**LEGEND** 





**CHAPTER CO-OCCURENCE:** 

The leash darkness depicts the no. of chapters shared between the protagonist and his closest associations.

How to read the visualization?

**QUALITATIVE DESCRIPTIONS:** 



|   | author mention them           |  |                               |   |                           |  |                         |   |   |  |   |   | The size of th of the closest                                    | e horses denotes the no. o<br>associates.  | f mentions Len<br>part   | gth of the fired arrows depi<br>ticular adjective is used for             | icts the no. of times a the protagonist.   |
|---|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|---|--|---|---|--|--|--|---|--|
| No. of Mentions in the Books  Mighty  Rain  Mighty  Mighty  Illustrious |                               | Mighty Survive Street Transfer of the Property | tht)                          |   | /a                        | Drorr Kesan Krishr Wighty Duryodhana Drona Bhima | ra l                    | Karna has died.  Application of the control of the | Tyudhishthira Shikhandi Bhima  Ganga Bhishma Dhrishtadyumna | A great  Mighty  Mighty  Mighty  Mighty  A great  A great | Augin Karna Yudhishthira Bhima  Drona Arjuna                            | Narayana Krishna Nara  Duryodhana                                 | flerce ↓  Sinful ↓  British great  Mighty sire                   | Associates.  Agrange A | \(\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \left\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ | Narayana<br>Pandu   | truthful policy Solider Name Property Solide |
| Adi<br>Parva  | Sabha<br>Parva                | Vana<br>Parva  | Virata<br>Parva               | Udyoga<br>Parva                                     | Bhishma<br>Parva          | Drona<br>Parva                                   | 8<br>Karna<br>Parva     | 9<br>Shalya<br>Parva  | Sauptika<br>Parva   | Stri<br>Parva  | Shanti<br>Parva   | Anusasana<br>Parva  | Aswamedha<br>Parva   | 15<br>Asramavasika   | Mausala  | Mahaprasthanika   |  |
| One of their early encounte   |                               | Arjun vists heaven and   | Palva Pandavas spent the year | Karna suppports                                     | Mahabharata Begins!       | Drona leads the Kauavas.                         |                         | Shalya is the final   | Ashwathamma attacks   | Gandhari, Kunti and  |   |   |  | Parva  | Parva  | Parva  Pandayas renounce their  | Parva  Yudhishthira finds his  |
| occurs during Drona's class wherein Karna is made the                   | s, at the 'game of dice' with | gathers weapons from   |                               | Duryodhana for the war<br>,is against returning the | Perplexed on fighting his | Arjuna's son Abhimanyu                           | leads the Kauravas now. | commander for Kauravas.   |   | Draupadi express<br>immense grief.   | Exhuasted by the war,<br>Yudhishthira wants to<br>renounce his kingdom. | Arjuna has an argument with Yudhishthira over his future actions. | Arjuna and the other<br>Pandavas receive<br>wisdom from Bhishma. | Arjuna and the Pandavas<br>meet Kunti, Dhritarashtra,<br>Gandhari at the hermitage.  | Gandhari's curse takes<br>shape.However, Arjuna<br>manages to rescue Daruko                                      | Pandavas renounce their kingdom and begin their journey to the Himalayas. | family in hell, but soon   |

king of Anga by Duryodhana. and Shakuni.

wherein Karna is made the Duryodhan, Dussasana various deities.

While, Karna urges Duryodhana to confront the Pandavas in exile.

kingdom.

Virata's daughter Uttara marries Arjuna's son Abhimanyu

> Mocked constantly by Drona and Bhishma in war discussions.

kingdom to Pandavas.

Krishna about his true

mother Kunti, meets her.

Karna learns from

Perplexed on fighting his Arjuna's son Abhimanyu relatives, Arjuna receives dies in the 'Chakravyuh'.

the 'Bhagwad Gita' sermon Shikhandi, led by Arjun kills Ghatotkach, using 'Shakti'.

Karna finally joins the war, now that Bhishma is dead. Bhishma advises him to end the war.

Karna slays Bhima's son

Karna's chariot wheel gets stuck, urges Arjuna to pause. battlefield Due to his curse, he forgets all his grants and chants.

Arjuna kills Karna!

Karna finally fights Arjuna on the battlefield.

Arjuna, Bhima begin hunting for Duryodhana, as he fled from the

night. However, the five Pandavas, Satyaki, Krishna and Draupadi

Draupadi express immense grief. Yudhishthira while describing the fallen,

speaks highly of

Bhishma, Drona, Karna

renounce his kingdom. Arjuna has an argument with Yudhishthira over

his future actions.

his future actions.

Gandhari at the hermitage. manages to rescue Daruka, journey to the Himalayas. realizes it as a gimmick.

Krishna's wives and the children of Dwarka.

by a band of robbers.

meets Vyasa who

mentions that he has

served his purpose in life.

Although, he is defeated Depressed by his loss, he

He is delighted to meet his family and relatives in heaven.

> Hardik Chandrahas Information Design