

People will ever recount your infamy. To the honoured, infamy is surely worse than death. 34

The characteristic of the ordinary man is to preserve life somehow. But different is the way of the hero. He knows well to safeguard life as well as sacrifice it for a great cause. By his willingly surrendering life to an ideal, his glory increases and fame spreads. It is bad enough for a warrior to cringe before the enemy and beg to be spared when being trampled to death by him; it is much worse for a hero to cling to life after losing honour and fame.

People who indulge in slander and calumny will choose to do so on any and every flimsy ground projected by their imagination. For example :—

भयाद्रणादुपरतं मंस्यन्ते त्वां महारथाः ।

येषां च त्वं बहुमतो भूत्वा यास्यसि लाघवम् ॥ ३५

भयात् रणात् उप-रतम् मंस्यन्ते त्वाम् महा-रथाः ।

येषाम् च त्वम् बहु-मतः भूत्वा यास्यसि लाघवम् ॥

*bhayād raṇād uparatam mamsyante tvām mahārathāḥ ।
yeṣām ca tvam bahumato bhūtvā yāsyasi lāghavam ॥*

भयात् *bhayāt* from fear रणात् *raṇāt* from the battle उपरतम् *uparatam* withdrawn मंस्यन्ते *mamsyante* will think त्वाम् *tvām* thee महारथाः *mahārathāḥ* the great car-warriors येषाम् *yeṣām* of whom च *ca* and त्वम् *tvam* thou बहुमतः *bahumataḥ* much thought of भूत्वा *bhūtvā* having been यास्यसि *yāsyasi* will receive लाघवम् *lāghavam* lightness

The great chariot-warriors will view you as one fled from the war out of fear; you that were highly esteemed by them will be lightly held. 35