

with all the available data gathered from different points of view. Throughout the Geeta, Krishna plays the part of the "discriminative intellect" in an individual, a true charioteer in the *Upanishad*-sense of the term.

After thus placing all the possible points of view upon the problem --- the spiritual, the intellectual, the ethical and the traditional for Arjuna's consideration --- Krishna concludes in the earlier stanza that Arjuna must fight. In this stanza Krishna tries to explain how he should conduct himself in this undertaking. It has been said that he should fight the war with perfect detachment from all anxieties which generally come to an individual, when he identifies himself with the non-Self (*Anatma*) --- at the level of his intellect with the concept of pain and pleasure, at the level of his mind with the fears of gain and loss and at his body-level with the restlessness of conquest and defeat.

Equanimity in all such mental challenges is a factor that ensures true success in life. We have explained earlier how the human mind is to be kept open, while working in its given field of life, so that, while living in the midst of life's battle, it can exhaust the *vasanas* that are already in it. This purgation --- catharsis of the Soul --- is the compelling purpose for which every living creature has arrived on the platform of manifested life. Viewed thus, each individual living creature --- plant, animal or man --- is but a bundle of *vasanas*.