## Holy Geeta by Swami Chinmayananda

and defeat must arise in the waters of life or else it is complete stagnation --- it is almost death.

If life be thus a tossing stormy sea at all times, and it should be so, then we, who have entered life, must know the art of living it, unaffected either by the rising crests, or by the sinking hollows in it. To identify ourselves with any of them is to be tossed about on the surface, and not to stand astride like a light-house, which has its foundations built on the bed-rock of the very sea. Here Krishna advises Arjuna, while inviting him to fight, that he should enter the contest and keep himself unaffected by the usual dissipasting mental tendencies that come to everyone, while in activity. This equanimity of the mind alone can bring out the beam of inspiration, and give to one's achievements the glow of a real success.

It is very well-known that in all activities, inspired work gathers to itself a texture of divine perfection which cannot be imitated or oft-repeated. Be he a poet, or an artist, a doctor or a speaker, irrespective of his profession, whenever an individual is at his best, his master-piece is always accepted by all as a 'work of inspiration.' When we thus work with the thrilled ecstasy of an unknown mood called 'inspiration,' the ideas, thoughts and activity that come out of us have a ringing beauty of their own, which cannot be otherwise mechanically repeated by us. Thus, Da Vinci could not repeat for a second time and copy on another piece of canvas the enigmatic smile of his Mona Lisa; Keats' pen could no more re-capture for a second