

This Arjuna who pleads so much now for the saving of a family, does not yet know that he himself is going to exterminate that very family in a few days to come. Goaded by greed of kingdom the Kauravas want to kill the Pandavas. Prompted by attachment to kith and kin Arjuna wants to spare the desperadoes. Are greed and attachment the only guiding forces in life?

कुलक्षये प्रणश्यन्ति कुलधर्माः सनातनाः ।

धर्मे नष्टे कुलं कृत्स्नम् अधर्मोऽभिभवत्युत ॥ ४०

कुल-क्षये प्र-नश्यन्ति कुल-धर्माः सनातनाः ।

धर्मे नष्टे कुलम् कृत्स्नम् अ-धर्मेः अभि-भवति उत ॥

*kulakṣaye praṇasyanti kuladharmāḥ sanātanāḥ ।*

*dharme naṣṭe kulam kṛtsnam adharmo 'bhibhavaty uta*

कुलक्षये *kulakṣaye* in the destruction of a family प्रणश्यन्ति *praṇasyanti* perish कुलधर्माः *kuladharmāḥ* family religious rites सनातनाः *sanātanāḥ* immemorial धर्मे *dharme* spirituality नष्टे *naṣṭe* being destroyed कुलम् *kulam* the family कृत्स्नम् *kṛtsnam* the whole अधर्मेः *adharmāḥ* impiety अभिभवति *abhibhavati* overcomes उत *uta* indeed

In the decline of a family, its time-honoured usages perish; with the perishing of sacred rites impiety overtakes the entire family. 40

अधर्माभिभवात् कृष्ण प्रदुष्यन्ति कुलस्त्रियः ।

स्त्रीषु दुष्टासु वार्ष्णेय जायते वर्णसङ्करः ॥ ४१

अ-धर्मे-अभिभवात् कृष्ण प्र-दुष्यन्ति कुल-स्त्रियः ।

स्त्रीषु दुष्टासु वार्ष्णेय जायते वर्ण-संकरः ॥