

Arjuna said :

Prakriti and Purusha, also the Kshetra and Kshetrajna, knowledge and that which ought to be known, these, O Kesava, I desire to learn.

This stanza is not found in all the editions of the Gita. Hence it is kept unnumbered.

श्री भगवानुवाच

इदं शरीरं कौन्तेय क्षेत्रमित्यभिधीयते ।

एतद्यो वेत्ति तं प्राहुः क्षेत्रज्ञ इति तद्विदः ॥ १

इदम् शरीरम् कौन्तेय क्षेत्रम् इति अभिधीयते ।

एतत् यः वेदति तम् प्राहुः क्षेत्र-ज्ञः इति तद्विदः ॥

*śrī bhagavān uvāca*

*idaṁ śarīraṁ kaunteya kṣetram ity abhidhīyate ।*

*etat yo vetti taṁ prāhuḥ kṣetrajña iti tadvidaḥ ॥*

श्री भगवानुवाच *śrī bhagavān uvāca* Sri Bhagavan said:

इदम् *idaṁ* this शरीरम् *śarīraṁ* body कौन्तेय *kaunteya* O Kaunteya क्षेत्रम् *kṣetram* the field इति *iti* thus अभिधीयते *abhidhīyate* is called एतत् *etat* this यः *yaḥ* who वेत्ति *vetti* knows तम् *taṁ* him प्राहुः *prāhuḥ* (they) call क्षेत्रज्ञः *kṣetrajñaḥ* the knower of the field इति *iti* thus तद्विदः *tadvidaḥ* the knowers of that

The Blessed Lord said :

This body, O Kaunteya, is called Kshetra, the field; he who knows it is called Kshetrajna by the sages. 1

The literal meaning of *Kshetra* is that which is protected from perishing. The body of beings is called *Kshetra* because it is saved from destruction