To eat the beggar's bread even is far better in this world than to slay these great-souled masters. But if I kill them, my enjoyment of wealth and desires in this world itself will be stained with blood. 5

Bhishma is verily the embodiment of continence Chastity gets itself defined in this exemplary person. The boon that he has obtained is that death would not overtake him against his consent. Self-denial is his life-long austerity. The Preceptor Drona is a versatile genius, a man of right conduct. Arjuna owes his skill in archery to this teacher. Kripa is another eminent person on the other side. Arjuna has always been holding these men of merit in high veneration. To treat them as enemies now all on a sudden is well-nigh impossible to the noble minded. Arjuna. And if he should happen to kill them, this earthly life itself would become hell to him.

न चैतिदियाः कतरत्रो गरीयो यद्वा जयेम यदि वा नो जयेषुः । यानेव हत्या न जिजीविपामस्तेऽविश्वताः प्रमुखे धार्तराष्ट्राः ॥ ६ म च एतत् विद्य कतरत् न गरीय यद् श जयेम यदि वा न जयेषु । यान एव हत्वा न जिजीविषाम हे अव-स्थिता प्र-सुखे धार्तराष्ट्रा ॥

na caı 'tad vidmah kataran no gariyo yad vā jayema yadı vā no jayeyuh t yän eva hatvā na jijvişāmas te 'vasthitāh pramukhe dhārtarāstrāh ||

न na not च ca and एतत् etat this विद्या vidmah (we) know क्तरत् katarat which न nah for us गरीच gariyah better यत् yat that चा vā or जरेम jayema we should conquer यदि yadı if चा vā or न nah us जरेखु jayeyuh they should conquer यान् jān whom एव eva even हत्वा