# Key Characters in the Mahabharata

## The Pandavas

The five sons of Pandu: Yudhishthira, Bhima, Arjuna, Nakula, and Sahadeva. They are the central protagonists of the epic.

## The Kauravas

The hundred sons of the blind king Dhritarashtra and his queen Gandhari. Duryodhana is the eldest and most prominent among them, acting as the primary antagonist.

## Krishna

A divine incarnation (avatar) of Vishnu, Krishna is a key figure who serves as a guide and charioteer for Arjuna. His counsel is pivotal to the Pandavas' efforts.

## Draupadi

The wife of the five Pandava brothers. Her humiliation at the hands of the Kauravas is a critical event that leads to the war.