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**Moksha Dharma Parva**  
**The Story of Manki**  
**Shānti Parva**  
**Chapter 171**



Swami Tadatmananda  
Arsha Bodha Center

**युधिष्ठिर उवाच**  
Yudhishtira said,  
yudhiṣṭhira uvāca

**ईहमानः समारम्भान्**

One who desires to undertake great deeds,  
īhamānaḥ samārambhān

**यदि नासादयेद्धनम् |**

if he fails to get the necessary wealth  
yadi nāsādayed dhanam

**धनतृष्णाभिभूतश्च**

and is overcome by desire for wealth,  
dhana-trṣṇābhibhūtaś ca

**किं कुर्वन्सुखमाप्नुयात् ||**

how can he gain happiness?

kiṁ kurvan sukham āpnuyāt (171.1)

**भीष्म उवाच**

Bishma said,  
bhīṣma uvāca

अत्राप्युदाहरन्तीमम्

Regarding that is an example  
atrāpy udāharantīmam

इतिहासं पुरातनम् |

from an old story

itihāsaṃ purātanam

निर्वेदान्मङ्किना गीतं

told by Manki, based on his dispassion.

nirvedān maṅkinā gītam

तन्निबोध युधिष्ठिर ||

Listen to it, O Yudhishtira.

tan nibodha yudhiṣṭhira (171.4)

सुसम्बद्धौ तु तौ दम्यौ

The two bulls were yoked together  
susambaddhau tu tau damyau

दमनायाभिनिःसृतौ |

and brought out for training.

damanāyābhiniḥsṛtau

आसीनमुष्ट्रं मध्येन

Reaching a camel laying in the middle of the road,

āsīnam uṣṭraṃ madhyena

सहसैवाभ्यधावताम् ||

they suddenly ran.

sahasaivābhyadhāvatām (171.6)

ईहमानो धनं मङ्किर्

Manki desired wealth

īhamāno dhanam maṅkir

भग्नेहश्च पुनः पुनः |

but his desires were frustrated again and again.

bhagnehaś ca punaḥ punaḥ

केनचिद्धनशेषेण

With whatever money he had left,

kenacid dhana-śeṣeṇa

क्रीतवान्दम्यगोयुगम् ||

he purchased two bulls.

kṛitavān damyago-yugam (171.5)

तयोः सम्प्राप्तयोरुष्ट्रः

The angry camel, with the two bulls

tayoḥ samprāptayor uṣṭraḥ

स्कन्धदेशममर्षणः |

on its neck,

skandha-deśam amarṣaṇaḥ

उत्थायोत्क्षिप्य तौ दम्यौ

got up, dragging the two bulls,

utthāyotkṣipya tau damyau

प्रससार महाजवः ||

and ran off quickly.

prasaśāra mahājavaḥ (171.7)

ह्रियमाणौ तु तौ दम्यौ

The two bulls, carried off  
hriyamāṇau tu tau damyau

तेनोष्ट्रेण प्रमाथिना ।

by the powerful camel,  
tenoṣṭreṇa pramāthinā

म्रियमाणौ च सम्प्रेक्ष्य

died. Seeing this,  
mriyamāṇau ca samprekṣya

मङ्किस्तत्राब्रवीदिदम् ॥

Manki had this to say...  
maṅkis tatrābravīd idam (171.8)

मङ्किर् उवाच

Manki said,  
bhīṣma uvāca

न चैवाविहितं शक्यं

If not destined, it is not possible to get  
na caivāvihitaṁ śakyaṁ

दक्षेणापीहितुं धनम् ।

desired wealth, even by a skillful,  
dakṣeṇāpīhitaṁ dhanam

युक्तेन श्रद्धया सम्यग्

powerful, confident person  
yuktena śraddhayā samyag

ईहां समनुतिष्ठता ॥

pursuing that desire.  
īhāṁ samanutiṣṭhatā (171.9)

तस्मान्निर्वेद एवेह

Therefore, dispassion alone  
tasmān nirveda eveha

गन्तव्यः सुखमीप्सता ।

is to be reached by one who desires happiness.  
gantavyaḥ sukham īpsatā

सुखं स्वपिति निर्विण्णो

The dispassionate sleep happily,  
sukhaṁ svapiti nirviṇṇo

निराशश्चार्थसाधने ॥

being free from desire for gaining wealth.  
nirāśaś cārtha-sādhane (171.14)

अहो नु मम बालिश्यं

Oh! How foolish I am.

aho nu mama bālīśyaṃ

योऽहं क्रीडनकस्तव ।

I have become your plaything.

yo 'haṃ krīḍanakas tava

मा मां योजय लोभेन

Do not burden me with greed,

mā māṃ yojaya lobhena

वृथा त्वं वित्तकामुक ॥

uselessly, O Desire!

vṛthā tvaṃ vitta-kāmuka (171.19,21)

सञ्चितं सञ्चितं द्रव्यं

Whatever wealth is accumulated

sañcitaṃ sañcitaṃ dravyaṃ

नष्टं तव पुनः पुनः ।

for you is lost again and again.

naṣṭaṃ tava punaḥ punaḥ

कदा विमोक्ष्यसे मूढ

O Fool! When will you be free

kadā vimokṣyase mūḍha

धनेहां धनकामुक ॥

from the desire for wealth, O Desire?

dhanehāṃ dhana-kāmuka (171.20)

न पूर्वे नापरे जातु

No one in the past or future will ever

na pūrve nāpare jātu

कामानामन्तमाप्नुवन् ।

fulfill all their desires.

kāmānām antam āpnuvan

त्यक्त्वा सर्वसमारम्भान्

Having renounced all undertakings,

tyaktvā sarva-samārambhān

प्रतिबुद्धोऽस्मि जागृमि ॥

I am now enlightened, I am awake.

pratibuddho 'smi jāgṛmi (171.22)

नूनं ते हृदयं काम

O Desire! Your heart is certainly

nūnaṃ te hṛdayaṃ kāma

वज्रसारमयं दृढम् ।

as hard as diamonds.

vajra-sāra-mayaṃ dṛḍham

यदनर्थशताविष्टं

Even though afflicted by hundreds of losses,

yad anartha-śatāviṣṭaṃ

शतधा न विदीर्यते ॥

it does not break into hundreds of pieces.

śatadhā na vidīryate (171.23)

त्यजामि काम त्वां चैव

O Desire! I renounce you  
tyajāmi kāma tvāṁ caiva

यच्च किञ्चित्प्रियं तव |

and whatever is dear to you.  
yac ca kiñcit priyaṁ tava

तवाहं सुखमन्विच्छन्

Seeking happiness for you,  
tavāhaṁ sukham anvicchan

आत्मन्युपलभे सुखम् ||

I will find it in the Self.

ātmany upalabhe sukham (171.24)

न युष्मास्विह मे प्रीतिः

I have no love for you  
na yuṣmāsv iha me prītiḥ

कामलोभानुसारिषु |

who is driven by greed to fulfill desires.  
kāma-lobhānusāriṣu

तस्मादुत्सृज्य सर्वान्वः

Therefore, renouncing everything,  
tasmād utsrjya sarvān vaḥ

सत्यमेवाश्रयाम्यहम् ||

I take refuge in truth alone.

satyam evāśrayāmy aham (171.30)

सर्वभूतान्यहं देहे

Seeing everything in my body  
sarva-bhūtāny ahaṁ dehe

पश्यन्मनसि चात्मनः |

and my mind,  
paśyan manasi cātmanaḥ

योगे बुद्धिं श्रुते सत्त्वं

fixing my intellect on yoga, my heart on teachings,  
yoge buddhiṁ śrute sattvaṁ

मनो ब्रह्मणि धारयन् ||

and my mind on brahman ...

mano brahmaṇi dhārayan (171.31)

विहरिष्याम्यनासक्तः

I will enjoy the world, free from attachment,  
vihariṣyāmy anāsaktaḥ

सुखी लोकान्निरामयः |

happy, free from suffering,  
sukhī lokān nirāmayāḥ

यथा मा त्वं पुनर्नैवं

so that you will never again  
yathā mā tvāṁ punar naivaṁ

दुःखेषु प्रणिधास्यसि ||

plunge me into suffering.

duḥkheṣu praṇidhāsyasi (171.32)

अतत्त्वज्ञोऽसि बालश्च

You are ignorant and childish,  
atattvajño 'si bālaś ca

दुस्तोषोऽपूरणोऽनलः |

greedy and insatiable like fire,  
dustoṣo 'pūraṇo 'nalaḥ

नैव त्वं वेत्थ सुलभं

You do not know what is easy  
naiva tvaṁ vettha sulabhaṁ

नैव त्वं वेत्थ दुर्लभम् ||

or hard to acquire.

naiva tvaṁ vettha durlabham (171.38)

निर्वेदमहमासाद्य

Becoming depressed  
nirvedam aham āsādyā

द्रव्यनाशाद्यदृच्छया |

due to the accidental loss of my wealth,  
dravya-nāśād yadṛcchayā

निर्वृतिं परमां प्राप्य

then gaining supreme fulfillment,  
nirvṛtiṁ paramāṁ prāpya

नाद्य कामान्विचिन्तये ||

I no longer think about desires.

nādyā kāmān vicintaye (171.40)

एष ब्रह्मप्रविष्टोऽहं

I have entered brahman,  
eṣa brahma-praviṣṭo 'haṁ

ग्रीष्मे शीतमिव हृदम् |

like entering a cold lake in the summer heat.  
grīṣme śītam iva hradam

शाम्यामि परिनिर्वामि

I am content, I am desireless.  
śāmyāmi parinirvāmi

सुखमासे च केवलम् ||

I rest in happiness alone.

sukham āse ca kevalam (171.50)