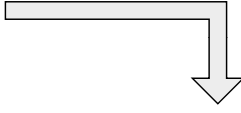


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**Duryodhana's envy
& Dhritarashtra's
weakness**

**Sabhā Parva
Chapters 45, 46, 50**

Swami Tadatmananda
Arsha Bodha Center

शकुनिरुवाच
Shakuni said,
śakunir uvāca

दुर्योधनो महाराज

O King, Duryodhana
duryodhano mahārāja

विवर्णो हरिणः कृशः ।

has become colorless, pale, thin,
vivarṇo hariṇaḥ kṛśaḥ

दीनश्चिन्तापरश्चैव

depressed and anxious.
dīnaś cintā-paraś caiva

तद्विद्धि भरतर्षभ ॥

Understand that, O King.
tad viddhi bharatarṣabha (45.4)

धृतराष्ट्र उवाच

King Dhritarashtra said,
dhṛtarāṣṭra uvāca

दुर्योधन कुतोमूलं

O Duryodhana, for what reason
duryodhana kuto-mūlaṁ

भृशमार्तोऽसि पुत्रक |

are you so afflicted, my son?
bhr̥śam āрто 'si putraka

श्रोतव्यश्चेन्मया सोऽर्थो

I want to know the reason.
śrotavyaś cen mayā so 'rtho

ब्रूहि मे कुरुनन्दन ||

Tell me, dear one.
brūhi me kuru-nandana (45.6)

दुर्योधन उवाच

Duryodhana said,
duryodhana uvāca

सन्तोषो वै श्रियं हन्ति

Contentment destroys prosperity.
santoṣo vai śriyaṁ hanti

अभिमानश्च भारत |

Pride, too, O King.
abhimānaś ca bhārata

अनुक्रोशभये चोभे

Affected by compassion and fear,
anukrośa-bhaye cobhe

यैर्वृतो नाश्रुते महत् ||

one never enjoys greatness.
yair vṛto nāśnute mahat (45.14)

न मामवति तद्भुक्तं

Whatever I have does not please me,
na mām avati tad-bhuktaṁ

श्रियं दृष्ट्वा युधिष्ठिरे |

having seen Yudhishtira's wealth.
śriyaṁ dr̥ṣṭvā yudhiṣṭhire

ज्वलन्तीमिव कौन्तेये

Yudhishtira's splendor
jvalantīm iva kaunteye

विवर्णकरणीं मम ||

is the cause for my paleness.
vivarṇa-karaṇīm mama (45.15)

न क्वचिद्धि मया दृष्टस्

Nowhere have I seen
na kvacid dhi mayā dr̥ṣṭas

तादृशो नैव च श्रुतः ।

nor have I heard of such
tādr̥śo naiva ca śrutah

यादृग्धनागमो यज्ञे

wealth coming in the rajasuya yajna
yādr̥g dhanāgamo yajñe

पाण्डुपुत्रस्य धीमतः ॥

of that wise son of Pandu (Yudhishtira).
pāṇḍu-putrasya dhīmataḥ (45.22)

शकुनिरुवाच

Shakuni said,
śakunir uvāca

तां दृष्ट्वा पाण्डुपुत्रस्य

Having seen Yudhishtira's
tām dr̥ṣṭvā pāṇḍu-putrasya

श्रियं परमिकामहम् ।

tremendous wealth, I
śriyam paramikām aham

शान्तिं न परिगच्छामि

find no peace
śāntim na parigacchāmi

दह्यमानेन चेतसा ॥

due to the burning of my heart.
dahyamānena cetasā (45.35)

यामेतामुत्तमां लक्ष्मीं

That tremendous wealth
yām etām uttamām lakṣmīm

दृष्टवानसि पाण्डवे ।

of Yudhishtira which you have seen,
dr̥ṣṭavān asi pāṇḍave

तस्याः प्राप्तावुपायं मे

to obtain that, my own scheme
tasyāḥ prāptāv upāyam me

शृणु सत्यपराक्रम ॥

hear now, O Duryodhana.
śṛṇu satya-parākrama (45.36)

अहमक्षेष्वभिज्ञातः

I am the most expert player of dice
aham akṣeṣv abhijñātaḥ

पृथिव्यामपि भारत |

in all the world, O Duryodhana.
pṛthivyām api bhārata

हृदयज्ञः पणज्ञश्च

I know how to throw, how to wager,
hṛdayajñaḥ paṇajñaś ca

विशेषज्ञश्च देवने ||

and all the details of play.
viśeṣajñaś ca devane (45.37)

दुर्योधन उवाच

Duryodhana said,
duryodhana uvāca

द्यूतप्रियश्च कौन्तेयो

Yudhishtira is fond of dice
dyūta-priyaś ca kaunteyo

न च जानाति देवितुम् |

but he doesn't know how to play.
na ca jānāti devitum

आहूतश्चैष्यति व्यक्तं

If invited, he will come.
āhūtaś caiṣyati vyaktaṁ

दीव्यावेत्याह्वयस्व तम् ||

Invite him to come play.
dīvyāvety āhvayasva tam (45.38)

अयमुत्सहते राजन्

O King, he (Shakuni) is able -
ayam utsahate rājañ

श्रियमाहर्तुमक्षवित् |

- being expert in dice, to steal the wealth
śriyam āhartum akṣavit

द्यूतेन पाण्डुपुत्रस्य

of Yudhishtira in a dice game.
dyūtena pāṇḍu-putrasya

तदनुज्ञातुमर्हसि ||

You should give him permission to play.
tad anujñātum arhasi (45.40)

धृतराष्ट्र उवाच

King Dhritarashtra said,
dhṛtarāṣṭra uvāca

क्षत्ता मन्त्री महाप्राज्ञः

Vidura is an extremely wise minister.
kṣattā mantrī mahāprājñaḥ

स्थितो यस्यास्मि शासने ।

I depend on his advice.
sthito yasyāsmi śāsane

तेन सङ्गम्य वेत्स्यामि

Having consulted with him, I will know
tena saṅgamyā vetsyāmi

कार्यस्यास्य विनिश्चयम् ॥

exactly what is to be done.
kāryasyāsyā viniścayam (45.41)

दुर्योधन उवाच

Duryodhana said,
duryodhana uvāca

निवर्तयिष्यति त्वासौ

But he will dissuade you
nivartayiṣyati tvāsau

यदि क्षत्ता समेष्यति ।

if Vidura advises you.
yadi kṣattā sameṣyati

निवृत्ते त्वयि राजेन्द्र

O King, if you are dissuaded,
nivṛtte tvayi rājendra

मरिष्येऽहमसंशयम् ॥

I will certainly kill myself.
mariṣye 'ham asaṁśayam (45.43)

स मयि त्वं मृते राजन्

O King, if I die, you

sa mayi tvaṁ mṛte rājan

विदुरेण सुखी भव ।

can enjoy Vidura's company.

vidureṇa sukhī bhava

भोक्ष्यसे पृथिवीं कृत्स्नां

You will enjoy the entire world.

bhokṣyase pṛthivīm kṛtsnām

किं मया त्वं करिष्यसि ॥

What need do you have for me?

kiṁ mayā tvaṁ kariṣyasi (45.44)

वैशम्पायन उवाच

Rishi Vaishampayana said,

vaiśampāyana uvāca

आर्तवाक्यं तु तत्तस्य

Duryodhana's distressing statement

ārta-vākyaṁ tu tat tasya

प्रणयोक्तं निशम्य सः ।

uttered pleadingly - having heard this,

praṇayoktaṁ niśamya saḥ

धृतराष्ट्रोऽब्रवीत्प्रेष्यान्

Dhritarashtra spoke to his servants

dhṛtarāṣṭro 'bravīt preṣyān

दुर्योधनमते स्थितः ॥

influenced by Duryodhana's state of mind.

duryodhana-mate sthitaḥ (45.45)

धृतराष्ट्र उवाच

King Dhritarashtra said,

dhṛtarāṣṭra uvāca

स्थूणासहस्रैर्बृहतीं

A spacious hall with one-thousand pillars
sthūṇā-sahasrair bṛhatīm

शतद्वारां सभां मम ।

and one-hundred doors,
śata-dvārām sabhām mama

मनोरमां दर्शनीयाम्

beautiful and splendid,
manoramām darśanīyām

आशु कुर्वन्तु शिल्पिनः ॥

make the architects build quickly.
āśu kurvantu śilpinaḥ (45.46)

दुर्योधनस्य शान्त्यर्थम्

To pacify Duryodhana,
duryodhanasya śāntyartham

इति निश्चित्य भूमिपः ।

having decided thus, King
iti niścitya bhūmipaḥ

धृतराष्ट्रो महाराज

Dhritaratshra
dhṛtarāṣṭro mahārāja

प्राहिणोद्विदुराय वै ॥

summoned Vidura, O King.
prāhiṇod vidurāya vai (45.48)

वैशम्पायन उवाच

Rishi Vaishampayana said,
vaiśampāyana uvāca

अपृष्ट्वा विदुरं ह्यस्य

Without asking Vidura, Dhritarashtra
aprṣṭvā viduram hyasya

नासीत्कश्चिद्विनिश्चयः ।

could make no decision.
nāsīt kaścīd viniścayaḥ

द्यूतदोषांश्च जानन्स

He understood the harm of dice play,
dyūta-doṣāmś ca jānan sa

पुत्रस्नेहादकृष्यत ॥

but he was persuaded by love for his son.
putra-snehād akṛṣyata (45.49)

विदुर उवाच

Vidura said,
vidura uvāca

नाभिनन्दामि ते राजन्

I do not approve of your
nābhinandāmi te rājan

व्यवसायमिमं प्रभो |

decision, O King.
vyavasāyam imam̐ prabho

पुत्रैर्भेदो यथा न स्याद्

To avoid conflict among sons
putrair bhedo yathā na syād

द्यूतहेतोस्तथा कुरु ||

due to dice play, you should act accordingly.
dyūta-hetos tathā kuru (45.52)

धृतराष्ट्र उवाच

King Dhritarashtra said,
dhṛtarāṣṭra uvāca

क्षत्तः पुत्रेषु पुत्रैर्मे

O Vidura, among my sons
kṣattaḥ putreṣu putrair me

कलहो न भविष्यति |

there will never be a quarrel.
kalaho na bhaviṣyati

दिवि देवाः प्रसादं नः

The gods in heaven
divi devāḥ prasādam̐ naḥ

करिष्यन्ति न संशयः ||

will certainly bless us.
kariṣyanti na saṁśayaḥ (45.53)

अशुभं वा शुभं वापि

Auspicious or inauspicious,
aśubhaṁ vā śubhaṁ vāpi

हितं वा यदि वाहितम् ।

beneficial or harmful,
hitaṁ vā yadi vāhitam

प्रवर्ततां सुहृद्भूतं

let this dice game among friends occur.
pravartatāṁ suhṛd-dyūtaṁ

दिष्टमेतन्न संशयः ॥

This is certainly what fate has ordained.
diṣṭam etan na saṁśayaḥ (45.54)

वैशम्पायन उवाच

Rishi Vaishampayana said,
vaiśampāyana uvāca

न वार्यो व्यवसायो मे

My decision cannot be changed.
na vāryo vyavasāyo me

विदुरैतद्ब्रवीमि ते ।

O Vidura, I tell you this -
viduraitad bravīmi te

दैवमेव परं मन्ये

I consider fate to be supreme.
daivam eva paraṁ manye

येनैतदुपपद्यते ॥

This dice game will take place due to fate.
yenaitad upapadyate (45.57)

विदुरस्य मतं ज्ञात्वा

Knowing Vidura's opinion,
vidurasya mataṁ jñātvā

धृतराष्ट्रोऽम्बिकासुतः ।

Dhritarashtra, the son of Ambika,
dhṛtarāṣṭro 'mbikā-sutaḥ

दुर्योधनमिदं वाक्यम्

said this to Duryodhanda
duryodhanam idaṁ vākyaṁ

उवाच विजने पुनः ॥

later in private.
uvāca vijane punaḥ (46.6)

धृतराष्ट्र उवाच

King Dhritarashtra said,
dhṛtarāṣṭra uvāca

अलं द्यूतेन गान्धारे

O Duryodhana, give up this dice game.
alaṁ dyūtena gāndhāre

विदुरो न प्रशंसति ।

Vidura does not approve of it.
viduro na praśaṁsati

न ह्यसौ सुमहाबुद्धिर्

Indeed, that extremely wise one
na hyasau sumahābuddhir

अहितं नो वदिष्यति ॥

would not say so if it would not help us.
ahitaṁ no vadiṣyati (46.7)

हितं हि परमं मन्ये

I consider most beneficial
hitaṁ hi paramaṁ manye

विदुरो यत्प्रभाषते ।

what Vidura says.
viduro yat prabhāṣate

क्रियतां पुत्र तत्सर्वम्

O son, all his advice should be followed.
kriyatāṁ putra tat sarvam

एतन्मन्ये हितं तव ॥

I think this is best for you.
etan manye hitaṁ tava (46.8)

द्यूतेन तदलं पुत्र

O son, give up this dice game.
dyūtena tad alaṁ putra

द्यूते भेदो हि दृश्यते ।

When dice is played, conflict arises.
dyūte bhedo hi dṛśyate

भेदे विनाशो राज्यस्य

When conflict arises, the kingdom is destroyed.
bhede vināśo rājyasya

तत्पुत्र परिवर्जय ॥

Avoid that, O son.
tat putra parivarjaya (46.12)

दुर्योधन उवाच

Duryodhana said,
duryodhana uvāca

न मां प्रीणाति राजेन्द्र

O King, it pleases me not
na mām prīṇāti rājendra

लक्ष्मीः साधारणा विभो ।

this ordinary wealth.
lakṣmīḥ sādharmaṇā vibho

ज्वलितामिव कौन्तेये

Seeing Yudhishtira's glorious wealth,
jvalitām iva kaunteye

श्रियं दृष्ट्वा च विव्यथे ॥

I am tormented.
śriyaṁ dṛṣṭvā ca vivyathe (46.19)

नामधेयानि रत्नानां

The names of the jewels (decorating his palace)
nāmadheyāni ratnānām

पुरस्तान्न श्रुतानि मे ।

I have never even heard of.
purastān na śrutāni me

यानि दृष्टानि मे तस्यां

Having seen those jewels in his palace,
yāni dṛṣṭāni me tasyām

मनस्तपति तच्च मे ॥

my heart burns with envy.
manas tapati tac ca me (46.35)

धृतराष्ट्र उवाच

King Dhritarashtra said,
dhṛtarāṣṭra uvāca

त्वं वै ज्येष्ठो ज्यैष्ठिनेयः

You are the eldest son of my first wife.
tvaṁ vai jyeṣṭho jyaiṣṭhineyaḥ

पुत्र मा पाण्डवान्द्विषः ।

O son, do not hate the Pandavas
putra mā pāṇḍavān dviṣaḥ

द्वेष्टा ह्यसुखमादत्ते

because he who hates gets unhappiness
dveṣṭā hyasukham ādatte

यथैव निधनं तथा ॥

and dies unhappy.
yathaiva nidhanaṁ tathā (50.1)

अनर्थाचरितं तात

Dear one, leading to great disaster
anarthācaritaṁ tāta

परस्वस्पृहणं भृशम् ।

is the desire for the wealth of others.
parasva-spr̥haṇaṁ bhṛśam

स्वसन्तुष्टः स्वधर्मस्थो

Content with what one has, following one's dharma,
svasantuṣṭaḥ svadharmastho

यः स वै सुखमेधते ॥

a person grows more happy.
yaḥ sa vai sukham edhate (50.6)

तुल्याभिजनवीर्यश्च

You are equal to them in birth and strength.
tulyābhijana-vīryaś ca

कथं भ्रातुः श्रियं नृप ।

Why covet your cousin's wealth?
kathaṁ bhrātuḥ śriyaṁ nṛpa

पुत्र कामयसे मोहान्

O son, your desires are due to misunderstanding.
putra kāmayase mohān

मैवं भूः शाम्य साध्विह ॥

Don't be like this. Be at completely at peace now.
maivaṁ bhūḥ śāmya sādviha (50.3)

अव्यापारः परार्थेषु

Not striving for the wealth of others,
avyāpāraḥ parārtheṣu

नित्योद्योगः स्वकर्मसु ।

always engaged in one's own work,
nityodyogaḥ svakarmasu

उद्यमो रक्षणे स्वेषाम्

protecting one's own possessions --
udyamo rakṣaṇe sveṣām

एतद्वैभवलक्षणम् ॥

these are signs of greatness.
etad vaibhava-lakṣaṇam (50.7)

विपत्तिष्वव्यथो दक्षो

Undisturbed by calamity, skillful,
vipattiṣvavyatho dakṣo

नित्यमुत्थानवान्नरः |

always exerting effort, a man
nityam utthānavān naraḥ

अप्रमत्तो विनीतात्मा

who is vigilant and self-controlled
apramatto vinītātmā

नित्यं भद्राणि पश्यति ||

always gains prosperity.
nityam bhadrāṇi paśyati (50.8)

जानन्वै मोहयसि मां

You understand everything, yet you still confound me.
jānan vai mohayasi māṁ

नावि नौरिव संयता |

We are like two boats tied together.
nāvi naur iva saṁyatā

स्वार्थे किं नावधानं ते

Don't you understand what is best for yourself?
svārthe kiṁ nāvadhānaṁ te

उताहो द्वेष्टि मां भवान् ||

Or do you hate me, Sir.
utāho dveṣṭi māṁ bhavān (50.10)

दुर्योधन उवाच

Duryodhana said,
duryodhana uvāca

क्षत्रियस्य महाराज

O King, a kshatriya's
kṣatriyasya mahārāja

जये वृत्तिः समाहिता |

actions are for the sake of success,
jaye vṛttiḥ samāhitā

स वै धर्मोऽस्त्वधर्मो वा

whether he is righteous or unrighteous
sa vai dharmo 'stvadharmao vā

स्ववृत्तौ भरतर्षभ ||

in his actions, O King.
svavṛttau bharatarṣabha (50.15)

असन्तोषः श्रियो मूलं

Dissatisfaction is the cause for prosperity.
asantoṣaḥ śriyo mūlaṁ

तस्मात्तं कामयाम्यहम् ।

Therefore, I want to be dissatisfied.
tasmāt taṁ kāmayāmy aham

समुच्छ्रये यो यतते

One who strives for prosperity,
samucchraye yo yatate

स राजन्परमो नयी ॥

O King, has the best policy.
sa rājan paramo nayī (50.18)

नाप्राप्य पाण्डवैश्वर्यं

Without gaining the wealth of the Pandavas,
nāprāpya pāṇḍavaiśvaryaṁ

संशयो मे भविष्यति ।

I will be troubled by doubts.
saṁśayo me bhaviṣyati

अवाप्स्ये वा श्रियं तां हि

Either I will gain their wealth
avāpsyē vā śriyaṁ tāṁ hi

शेष्ये वा निहतो युधि ॥

or I will lay dead on the battlefield.
śeṣyē vā nihato yudhi (50.27)