

Let us turn to the opponents of Dharmaraja, Arjuna, Bhima and others. The uncle who is leading the cousins and their wicked brood against the Pandavas is Dhrtharashtra, the blind ruler. He has no 'Vision' that only righteousness can confer! The Pandavas made up for their inferior military strength by faith in God's Omnipotence. And, so, God Himself led them into the field and won for them victory from the jaws of defeat!

Dharmakshetra, it was mentioned, is being developed as an International Centre for Sadhaks and inquirers, eager to learn the Sanathana way of life. India has no dearth of temples and institutions claiming to guide the pilgrims to God. In Granthalaya (Library), only people interested in books will gather; the Bhojanalaya (Boarding House) is frequented only by those who want a meal; the Vaidyalaya or Hospital is resorted to only by the sick; but in the Devalaya or Temple of God, we do not find today neither devotees nor God! This is the only House where the legitimate owner is absent. Temples were the centres for the spread of Bharathiya culture, and, when the attraction for western culture became strong, they were deserted, and left open to the ravages of times.

Bharathiyas can get peace best through the folkways that have been prescribed as a result of centuries of observation and experience, trial and error. Bharathiya culture emphasises the valid ways in which one has to spend energy and money for service of the distressed, the diseased, hungry, illiterate, ill-housed and the ill-clothed. It condemns the spending of energy and money, for pomp, vengeance, competitive action or for material triumphs. Wealth is to be held on trust, and used for promoting the brotherhood of man and the Fatherhood of God. This culture also lays down that nothing should be done to damage anyone's faith in God or in His own self. Faith is a tender plant and it needs all the nurture that you can give. My desire is that you should not censure other religions. Develop brotherly feelings, with all. God is One.

Dharmakshetra has a great part to play. It is in Bombay, which is the stomach of Bharath. The Himalayas are the Head and the Kanyakumari is the feet. When the stomach is inefficient the entire body suffers the consequences. So, keep the Dharmakshetra efficient and strong. Do not allow it to degenerate into a Kurukshetra; let not friction and faction raise their heads here. Let the high ideals of Dharma be upheld here. This is the real Seva I expect from you and through you. If this is done, our land will have peace and security.

Dharmakshetra, Bombay 12-5-1969

Do not fritter the days in attaining affluence in material possessions,
which are often impediments in the journey of life.



Swami lights the Lamp of Love - Divine Illumination - inaugurating the Prayer Hall, Shanti Deep, and commencing an Akhand Bhajan session (12 May 1969)