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KEY=QUOTES - RAMOS SUMMERS

THE BHAGAVAD GITA

FOR THE FIRST-TIMER

Educreation Publishing This is a verse rendering of the scripture par excellence of Hinduism, namely, The Bhagavad Gita. The verses are accompanied by detailed notes and chapter-wise comments. The book also carries introductory and explanatory essays along with a consolidation of its sayings under various heads of interest.

BHAGAVAD GEETA

Commentary on 'The Bhagavad Geeta' by Swami Mukundananda

THE GREAT INDIAN NOVEL

Simon and Schuster In this award-winning novel, Tharoor has masterfully recast the two-thousand-year-old epic, The Mahabharata, with fictional but highly recognizable events and characters from twentieth-century Indian politics. Nothing is sacred in this deliciously irreverent, witty, and deeply intelligent retelling of modern Indian history and the ancient Indian epic The Mahabharata. Alternately outrageous and instructive, hilarious and moving, it is a dazzling tapestry of prose and verse that satirically, but also poignantly, chronicles the struggle for Indian freedom and independence.

PARVA

A TALE OF WAR, PEACE, LOVE, DEATH, GOD, AND MAN : KANNADA NOVEL

It Is A Transformation Of An Ancient Legend Into A Modern Novel. In This Process, It Has Gained Rational Credibility And A Human Perspective. The Main Incident, The Bharata War, Symbolic Of The Birthpangs Of A New World-Order, Depicts A Heroic But Vain Effort To Arrest The Disintegration And Continue The Prevailing Order. It Is Viewed From The Stand Points Of The Partisan Participants And Judged With Reference To The Objective Understanding Of Krishna. Narration, Dialogue, Monologue And Comment All Are Employed For Its Presentation. Shot Through With Irony, Pity And Understanding Objectivity, The Novel Ends With The True Tragic Vision Of Faith In Life And Hope For Mankind.

KRISHNA CHARITAM

Jaico Publishing House The e-book featured here is an English translation of a version of the Story of Krishna - one of the most colourful personalities in the Hindu Epics. The original text was composed by the famous, 18th century poet and pithy philosopher, of South India, Sri KunjanNambiar. In his composition, Nambiar compressed the voluminous, narratives of the story of Krishna, into twelve chapters of poetry - Sri Krishna Charitam. In essence, KunjanNambiar, provided a literary platform from where a reader can comprehend the entire epic story of Krishna. Nambiar's original text remained open only to a few local intellectuals. However, this English translation of Sri Krishna Charitam, has opened up the stories of Krishna to a global audience. In twelve easy chapters, the entire story of Krishna comes alive to the readers. Within these chapters one can read about the birth, frolics, erotic indulgences and various adventures of Krishna. In sections, Krishna is portrayed to be playful, loveable, provocative, adventurous, amorous, kind and as a fearsome warrior. By

reading this translation, the reader can verily get a snap shot of the entire story of Krishna. Within these pages one also finds colourful narratives, descriptions of nature, delightful episodes, jovial anecdotes and analyses of human behaviour, so true to life.

GRANDMA'S RĀMĀYAṆA

M.A. Center Children, The Rāmāyaṇa Is A Carrier Of Our Cultural Values, And Not Just Advice. When We Read Or Listen To A Narration Of The Rāmāyaṇa And Imbibe Its Sweetness, Our Inherent Nobility Is Awakened Without Our Knowing. The Rāmāyaṇa Has The Power To Turn Us Towards The Truth. That Is Why It Has Been Translated Into So Many Languages, Become Popular In So Many Countries, And Struck A Chord In The Hearts Of So Many People. May The Stories Of Śrī Rāma, The Embodiment Of Dharma, And Sītā Dēvī, The Personification Of Chastity, Take Root In The Hearts Of The Younger Generation Through Our Mothers, Fathers And Families. Then Social Life Will Become Meaningful. Published By The Disciples Of Mata Amritanandamayi Devi, Affectionately Known As Mother, Or Amma The Hugging Saint.

INDIAN ANTIQUARY

SMILING WITHIN

M A Center In Her Down-To-Earth, Humorous Style, Swamini Krishnamrita Prana Shares A Wealth Of Wisdom In Her Fifth Book Highlighting The Spiritual Teachings Of The Holy Mother, Sri Mata Amritanandamayi. She Reveals A Unique Perspective, Gained Through Living So Closely With Amma For Over Thirty Years. Swamini Krishnamrita Makes Amma's Teachings Easily Accessible And Shows Us Through Practical Examples, How To Incorporate Them Into Our Daily Lives. Amma Constantly Inspires And Amazes Us With The Positive Energy She Continuously Offers The World. Her Smile Radiates The Bliss She Has Found Within. Amma Teaches Us Through Her Shining Example That, Happiness Is A Decision Just Like Any Other Decision. She Reminds Us That There Is No Path To Happiness, But Rather Happiness Is The Path. If We Simply Change Our Attitude And Decide To Be Happy, We Can. Discover Ultimate Joy And Freedom, Learn To Look Within Your Self And Smile. Published By The Disciples Of Mata Amritanandamayi Devi, Affectionately Known As Mother, Or Amma The Hugging Saint.

UNNAYI WARRIER

Sahitya Adademi

THE MAHABHARATA

A SHORTENED MODERN PROSE VERSION OF THE INDIAN EPIC

University of Chicago Press The Mahabharata tells a story of such violence and tragedy that many people in India refuse to keep the full text in their homes, fearing that if they do, they will invite a disastrous fate upon their house. Covering everything from creation to destruction, this ancient poem remains an indelible part of Hindu culture and a landmark in ancient literature. Centuries of listeners and readers have been drawn to The Mahabharata, which began as disparate oral ballads and grew into a sprawling epic. The modern version is famously long, and at more than 1.8 million words—seven times the combined lengths of the Iliad and Odyssey—it can be incredibly daunting. Contemporary readers have a much more accessible entry point to this important work, thanks to R. K. Narayan's masterful translation and abridgement of the poem. Now with a new foreword by Wendy Doniger, as well as a concise character and place guide and a family tree, The Mahabharata is ready for a new generation of readers. As Wendy Doniger explains in the foreword, "Narayan tells the stories so well because they're all his stories." He grew up hearing them, internalizing their mythology, which gave him an innate ability to choose the right passages and their best translations. In this elegant translation, Narayan ably distills a tale that is both traditional and constantly changing. He draws from both scholarly analysis and creative interpretation and vividly fuses the spiritual with the secular. Through this balance he has produced a translation that is not only clear, but graceful, one that stands as its own story as much as an adaptation of a larger work.

THE MODERN REVIEW

Includes section "Reviews and notices of books".

AJAYA

EPIC OF THE KAURAVA CLAN -ROLL OF THE DICE

One Point Six Technology Pvt Ltd THE MAHABHARATA ENDURES AS THE GREAT EPIC OF INDIA. But while Jaya is the story of the Pandavas, told from the perspective of the victors of Kurukshetra; Ajaya is the narrative of the ŪnconquerableŪ Kauravas, who were decimated to the last man. At the heart of IndiaŪs most powerful empire, a revolution is brewing. Bhishma, the noble patriarch of Hastinapura, is struggling to maintain the unity of his empire. On the throne sits Dhritarashtra, the blind King, and his foreign-born Queen Ū Gandhari. In the shadow of the throne stands Kunti, the Dowager-Queen, burning with ambition to see her firstborn become the ruler, acknowledged by all. And in the wings: Parashurama, the enigmatic Guru of the powerful Southern Confederate, bides his time to take over and impose his will from mountains to ocean. Ekalavya, a young Nishada, yearns to break free of caste restrictions and become a warrior. Karna, son of a humble charioteer, travels to the South to study under the foremost Guru of the day and become the greatest archer in the land. Balarama, the charismatic leader of the Yadavas, dreams of building the perfect city by the sea and seeing his people prosperous and proud once more. Takshaka, guerilla leader of the Nagas, foments a revolution by the downtrodden as he lies in wait in the jungles of India, where survival is the only dharma. Jara, the beggar, and his blind dog Dharma, walk the dusty streets of India, witness to people and events far greater than they, as the Pandavas and the Kauravas confront their searing destinies. Amidst the chaos, Prince Suyodhana, heir of Hastinapura, stands tall, determined to claim his birthright and act according to his conscience. He is the maker of his own destiny Ū or so he believes. While in the corridors of the Hastinapura palace, a foreign Prince plots to destroy India. And the dice fallsŪ

THE PALACE OF ILLUSIONS

A NOVEL

Anchor Taking us back to a time that is half history, half myth and wholly magical, bestselling author Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni gives voice to Panchaali, the fire-born heroine of the Mahabharata, as she weaves a vibrant retelling of an ancient epic saga. Married to five royal husbands who have been cheated out of their father's kingdom, Panchaali aids their quest to reclaim their birthright, remaining at their side through years of exile and a terrible civil war. But she cannot deny her complicated friendship with the enigmatic Krishna—or her secret attraction to the mysterious man who is her husbands' most dangerous enemy—as she is caught up in the ever-manipulating hands of fate.

BHIMA

LONE WARRIOR

Harper Collins This is the story of Bhima, the second son, always second in line -- a story never adequately told until one of India's finest writers conjured him up from the silences in Vyasa's narrative. M.T. Vasudevan Nair's Bhima is a revelation -- lonely, eager to succeed, treated with a mixture of affection and contempt by his Pandava brothers, and with scorn and hatred by his Kaurava cousins, Bhima battles incessantly with failure and disappointment. He is adept at disguising his feelings, but has an overwhelmingly intuitive understanding of everyone who crosses his path. A warrior without equal, he takes on the mighty Bakasura and Jarasandha, and ultimately Duryodhana, thus bringing the Great War to a close. However, all of Bhima's moments of triumph remain unrecognized and unrewarded. If his mother saw glory only in the skills of Arjuna and the wisdom of Yudhishtira, his beloved Draupadi cared only for the beautiful Arjuna.

BHAGAVAD-GITA AS IT IS

KRISHNA-CHARITRA

On Krishna (Hindu deity).

YAJNASENI

THE STORY OF DRAUPADI

Rupa Publications Pratibha Ray makes a determined effort for a portrayal of the epic character and brings to the surface the broader and deeper aspects of Draupadi's mind that lay submerged in the majestic sweep of the grand Mahabharata. The novel won her the Bharatiya Jnanpith's prestigious ninth Moortidevi Award in 1993.

THE BHAGAVAD GITA

A WALKTHROUGH FOR WESTERNERS

New World Library

ACCENT

AJAYA - RISE OF KALI (BOOK 2)

One Point Six Technology Pvt Ltd "THE MAHABHARATA ENDURES AS THE GREAT EPIC OF INDIA. While Jaya is the story of the Pandavas, told from the perspective of the victors of Kurukshetra, Ajaya is the tale of the Kauravas, who were decimated to the last man. From the pen of the author who gave voice to Ravana in the national bestseller, ASURA, comes the riveting narrative which compels us to question the truth behind the Mahabharata. THE DARK AGE OF KALI IS RISING and every man and woman must choose between duty and conscience, honour and shame, life and death... o The Pandavas, banished to the forest following the disastrous games of dice, return to Hastinapura. o Draupadi has vowed not to bind her hair till she washes it in the blood of the Kauravas. o Karna must choose between loyalty and gratitude, friend and Guru. o Aswathama undertakes a perilous mission to the mountains of Gandhara, in search of the Evil One. o Kunti must decide between her firstborn and her other sons. o Guru Drona has to stand with either his favourite disciple or his beloved son. o Balarama, having failed to convince his brother about the adharma of violence, walks the streets of Bharatavarsha, spreading the message of peace. o Ekalavya is called to make the ultimate sacrifice to uphold a woman's honour. o Jara, the beggar, sings of Krishna's love while his blind dog, Dharma, follows. o Shakuni can almost see the realization of his dream to destroy India. As the Pandavas stake their claim to the Hastinapura throne, the Kaurava Crown Prince, Suyodhana, rises to challenge Krishna. As great minds debate dharma and adharma, power hungry men prepare for an apocalyptic war. The women, highborn and humble, helplessly watch the unfolding disaster with deep foreboding. And greedy merchants and unscrupulous priests lie in wait like vultures. Both sides know that beyond the agony and carnage the winner will take all. But even as gods conspire and men's destinies unfold, a far greater truth awaits. ***** One of the six most remarkable writers of India. DNA An Amazing read. The WEEK Unique voice of a rebellious author telling the story from the other side, a feat a few have dared or managed so well. Bihar Times"

MAHABHARATA

Retelling of the Mahabharata, first written under the title Viyacar viruntu, with much of the translation done by the author.

YUDHISTHIRA

THE UNFALLEN PANDAVA

Readomania Though the Kuru family survived on Vyasadeva's seeds, he never belonged to the house. Moreover, being an ascetic, he was even exempted from obligations of the complicated dynamics of human relationships. This armed him with a ruthless dispassion and he could go on telling his stories with stoical detachment, free from any bias and uncontaminated by quintessential human dilemmas. But had any of his characters given his own account of the story, would not that have lent a different dimension to the events seducing ordinary mortals like us to identify, if not compare, our private crises with those of our much celebrated heroes? The Unfallen Pandava is an imaginary autobiography of Yudhishtira, attempting to follow the well-known story of the Mahabharata through his eyes. In the process of narrating the story, he examines his extremely complicated marriage and relationship with brothers turned co-husbands, tries to understand the mysterious personality of his mother in a slightly mother-fixated way, conducts manic and depressive evaluation of his own self and reveals his secret darkness and philosophical confusions with an innate urge to submit to a supreme soul. His own story lacks the material of an epic, rather it becomes like confession of a partisan who, prevailing over other more swashbuckling characters, finally discovers his latent greatness and establishes himself as the

symbolic protagonist.

BIBLIO

THE VIDUR-GITA

Sri Satguru Publications

COMPACT ANTHOLOGY OF WORLD LITERATURE

PART THREE, THE RENAISSANCE

"The introductions in this anthology are meant to be just that: a basic overview of what students need to know before they begin reading, with topics that students can research further. An open access literature textbook cannot be a history book at the same time, but history is the great companion of literature: The more history students know, the easier it is for them to interpret literature. In an electronic age, with this text available to anyone with computer access around the world, it has never been more necessary to recognize and understand differences among nationalities and cultures. The literature in this anthology is foundational, in the sense that these works influenced the authors who followed them. A word to the instructor: The texts have been chosen with the idea that they can be compared and contrasted, using common themes. Rather than numerous (and therefore often random) choices of texts from various periods, these selected works are meant to make both teaching and learning easier. While cultural expectations are not universal, many of the themes found in these works are."--Open Textbook Library.

MAXIMS OF VIDUR

Abhinav Publications The Scriptures Have Recorded That Vidur In His Previous Birth Was "Dharma Deva" The God Of Justice Himself. Once The Great Ancient Sage "Mandavya" Was Wrongly Apprehended By The Then King'S Officers As Leader Of A Robber Gang Who Had Concealed Themselves In His Hermitage. He Was Impaled To A Spear By The King'S Order. When The Sage Went To Dharma Raj After Two Days The Sage Was Released From The Punishment Still Alive On The Strength Of His Great Spiritual Merit. The Sage Went To Dharma Raj And Asked What Crime He Had Committed To Deserve The Punishment. He Was Told That As He Had Tortured Birds And Bees As A Child He Got The Punishment. The Sage Was Angry And Cursed Dharma Raj Saying You Shall Be Born On Earth For The Inordinately Harsh Punishment Meted Out For A Child'S Crime Committed In Ignorance. As A Result Of The Curse, Dharma Deva Had To Be Born As "Vidura" To The Palace Maid Of Vichitra-Virya Son Of King Santanu, The Forerunner Of Pandavas And Kouravas. Vidura Was So Well Up In Knowledge Of Dharma That He Was Given The Appellation Of "Mahatma" For His Unparalleled Knowledge Of Dharma Or Righteousness And For Being Devoid Of Attachment And Anger. He Worked As Counsellor To The King Emperor Dhritarastra Of Hastina To The Satisfaction Of All Concerned. The Rulings Given By Him Satisfied All. The Maxims Selected For The Book Are From His Counsels.

THE RECOGNITION OF SHAKUNTALA

NYU Press The play Shakuntala was one of the first examples of Indian literature to be read in translation in Europe. Shakuntala's story is a leitmotiv that recurs in many works of Indian literature and culminates in the master Kali-dasa's drama for the stage. The virtuous heroine is forgotten by her betrothed, the king Dushyanta, only to be refound thanks to a distinguishing signet ring discovered by a fisherman in the belly of one of his catch. The final act distills the essence of human forgiveness, in Shakuntala's gracious release of her husband from his guilt.

WHAT CHINA AND INDIA ONCE WERE

THE PASTS THAT MAY SHAPE THE GLOBAL FUTURE

Columbia University Press In the early years of the twenty-first century, China and India have emerged as world powers. In many respects, this is a return to the historical norm for both countries. For much of the early modern period, China and India were global leaders in a variety of ways. In this book, prominent scholars seek to understand modern China and India through an unprecedented comparative analysis of their long histories. Using new sources, making new connections, and reexamining old assumptions, noted scholars of

China and India pair up in each chapter to tackle major questions by combining their expertise. *What China and India Once Were* details how these two cultural giants arrived at their present state, considers their commonalities and divergences, assesses what is at stake in their comparison, and, more widely, questions whether European modernity provides useful contrasts. In jointly composed chapters, contributors explore ecology, polity, gender relations, religion, literature, science and technology, and more, to provide the richest comparative account ever offered of China and India before the modern era. *What China and India Once Were* establishes innovative frameworks for understanding the historical and cultural roots of East and South Asia in global context, drawing on the variety of Asian pasts to offer new ways of thinking about Asian presents.

UNTIL THE LIONS

ECHOES FROM THE MAHABHARATA

Archipelago A dazzling and eloquent reworking of the Mahabharata, one of South Asia's best-loved epics, through nineteen peripheral voices. With daring poetic forms, Karthika Nair breathes new life into this ancient epic. Karthika Nair refracts the epic Mahabharata through the voices of nameless soldiers, outcast warriors and handmaidens as well as abducted princesses, tribal queens, and a gender-shifting god. As peripheral figures and silent catalysts take center stage, we get a glimpse of lives and stories buried beneath the dramas of god and nation, heroics and victory - of the lives obscured by myth and history, all too often interchangeable. *Until the Lions* is a kaleidoscopic, poetic tour de force. It reveals the most intimate threads of desire, greed, and sacrifice in this foundational epic.

THE BHAGAVAD GITA

Vintage Dialogue between the warrior, Arjuna, and his charioteer, the god Krishna, covers the purpose of war, the importance of duty, and the spiritual nature of existence, in this ancient Hindu poem that forms one section of the epic Mahabharata. Reprint. 10,000 first printing.

THE BHAGAVAD GITA ACCORDING TO GANDHI

North Atlantic Books The Bhagavad Gita, also called The Song of the Lord, is a 700-line section of a much longer Sanskrit war epic, the Mahabharata, about the legendary conflict between two branches of an Indian ruling family. Framed as a conversation between Krishna, an incarnation of the god Vishnu, and a general of one of the armies, the Gita is written in powerful poetic language meant to be chanted. Equally treasured as a guide to action, a devotional scripture, a philosophical text, and inspirational reading, it remains one of the world's most influential, widely read spiritual books. *The Bhagavad Gita According to Gandhi* is based on talks given by Gandhi between February and November 1926 at the Satyagraha Ashram in Ahmedabad, India. During this time—a period when Gandhi had withdrawn from mass political activity—he devoted much of his time and energy to translating the Gita from Sanskrit into his native Gujarati. As a result, he met with his followers almost daily, after morning prayer sessions, to discuss the Gita's contents and meaning as it unfolded before him. This book is the transcription of those daily sessions.

ASHWATTHAMA'S REDEMPTION: THE RISE OF DANDAK

Om Books International Over a hundred years after the Mahabharata War, an ancient power threatens to destroy the new Age of Men, by establishing the Age of Terror of the asuras, long believed to be extinct. The only hurdle in its path is Guru Dronacharya's son, the mighty but accursed warrior Ashwatthama, who lost all his powers following Lord Krishna's curse, and who unwittingly finds himself drawn into the quest of the lost bow of Lord Rama—the Kodanda. As ghosts of the distant past return to haunt him, and the line between friends and enemies blurs, Ashwatthama must fight his inner demons to emerge victorious. He undertakes a perilous journey—across the vast plains of the Ganges, to the snow-capped peaks of the Himavant—where the price of failure is a fate worse than death, and death is a privilege not granted to Ashwatthama. Is this all part of Lord Krishna's great plan? Will Ashwatthama be able to regain his lost glory?

INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE QUARTERLY

THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS

A NOVEL

Vintage Canada The beloved debut novel about an affluent Indian family forever changed by one fateful day in 1969, from the author of *The Ministry of Utmost Happiness* **NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • MAN BOOKER PRIZE WINNER** Compared favorably to the works of Faulkner and Dickens, Arundhati Roy's modern classic is equal parts powerful family saga, forbidden love story, and piercing political drama. The seven-year-old twins Estha and Rahel see their world shaken irrevocably by the arrival of their beautiful young cousin, Sophie. It is an event that will lead to an illicit liaison and tragedies accidental and intentional, exposing "big things [that] lurk unsaid" in a country drifting dangerously toward unrest. Lush, lyrical, and unnerving, *The God of Small Things* is an award-winning landmark that started for its author an esteemed career of fiction and political commentary that continues unabated.

THE ART OF SOUTH AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

A RESOURCE FOR EDUCATORS

Metropolitan Museum of Art Presents works of art selected from the South and Southeast Asian and Islamic collection of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, lessons plans, and classroom activities.

BHAGAVAD GITA AS VIEWED BY SWAMI VIVEKANANDA

Advaita Ashrama (A publication branch of Ramakrishna Math, Belur Math) Swami Vivekananda's views on the Bhagavad Gita are scattered throughout 'The Complete Works of Swami Vivekananda' published in nine volumes. The present book, published by Advaita Ashrama, a publication branch of Ramakrishna Math, Belur Math, is an extensive compilation of these insightful views of Swami Vivekananda on this sacred scripture of the Hindus. The reader is, as it were, taken through several verses of the Gita along with the Swami's elevating and soul-stirring commentary. Note: This book has embedded fonts to display the verses in Devanagari. You may have to use the 'Original' Font option in Google Play Books app. "... The book is certainly not a commentary on the Gita, in the traditional sense. But, what is available is indeed a treasure house of wisdom. Swamiji was a living embodiment of the Gita. According to him, the Gita was 'practical Vedanta'. He demonstrated this through his life. Reading through the book is indeed a rewarding experience. One is in holy company, imbibing the words of one who is speaking from his heart. ... Just as Swamiji himself used to carry a copy of the Gita with him always, one cannot do better than carry a copy of this book with one always..." - from a Review in the Vedanta Kesari, November 2010, p.441 published by Sri Ramakrishna Math, Chennai. As of February 2017, the print book has undergone seven reprints and more than 27,000 copies have been sold.

REFLECTIONS: HANDICRAFTS, SUSTAINABILITY, AND LIVELIHOODS

A COLLECTION OF MY ESSAYS

Notion Press Reflections: Handicrafts, Sustainability, and Livelihoods is a collection of the author's previously published essays on arts, crafts, traditions, and anecdotal imagery inspired by nature. The work attempts to amalgamate the author's observations from her field experiences with some of her interpretations, as those have evolved over the years. The contents of this collection have previously appeared in various fora such as Down to Earth, and the online editions of publications such as Hindustan Times, and The Indian Express. Primarily, the work attempts to showcase the potential of artisans and the self-help groups (SHGs), their human and creative capital using the principles of entrepreneurship, sustainability, and natural resource management. It provides an insight into how the rural communities are adept at creating something beautiful with minimum resources despite being constrained with factors of capital and time. From the eco-friendly crafts of the central Indian plains, beads, and jewels of Alirajpur, to the unique Chhind and Khajoor crafts, artisans not only exhibit their finesse and deftness with these beautiful spectacles but also demonstrate their entrepreneurial and ecological acumen. Additionally, the dedicated sections on local tourism, nature, and sustainability capture the ethereal beauty of the fruits of ecology around us. From the f lower clocks and green infrastructure of Geneva; the blooming trees of Delhi; anecdotes associated with the flowers of Palash and 'Shravan Tal' in Kanha; legends associated with festivals, craft-fairs; to finally finding Mogli in the dense forests of Madhya Pradesh - the book is a modest attempt at condensing most of the author's field experiences.

THE PALACE OF ILLUSIONS

Pan Macmillan The Palace of Illusions takes us back to a time that is half-history, half-myth, and wholly magical; narrated by Panchaali, the wife of the five Pandava brothers, we are - finally - given a woman's take on the timeless tale that is the Mahabharata Tracing Panchaali's life - from fiery birth and lonely childhood, where her beloved brother is her only true companion; through her complicated friendship with the enigmatic Krishna; to marriage, motherhood and Panchaali's secret attraction to the mysterious man who is her husbands' most dangerous enemy - The Palace of Illusions is a deeply human novel about a woman born into a man's world - a world of warriors, gods and the ever manipulating hands of fate. 'A mythic tale brimming with warriors, magic and treachery' Los Angeles Times 'A radiant entree into an ancient mythology . . . Charming and remarkable' Houston Chronicle 'A woman's look at crime and punishment, loyalty, promises, love and vengeance . . . With The Palace of Illusions, Divakaruni has proven that her storytelling talents put her right up there with the best' Miami Herald

PICTORIAL MAHABHARATA

Sri Ramakrishna Math

AFTER KURUKSHETRA

THREE STORIES

Berg Publishers With the ancient epic Mahabharat as her source, and the battle of Kurukshetra as a central motif, Mahasweta Devi weaves three stories in which we visit unexpected alleys and by-lanes of the traditional epic saga, and look at events from the eyes of women marginalized, dispossessed, dalit. Their eyes condemn the wanton waste and inhumanity of war. This Kurukshetra is not the legendary Dharmayuddha of the popular imagination but rather a cold-blooded power game sacrificing countless human lives. How do the women s quarters of the palace, a colourless place of shadowy widowhood, appear to five peasant women whose lives are no less shattered by the Kurukshetra massacre, but who are used to dealing with trauma in a more robust manner? How does their outlook on life and survival influence the young pregnant princess who is abruptly plunged into the half-life of uppercaste widowhood? How does a lower caste serving woman, who was brought in to service king Dhritarashtra when his queen was with child, view her half-royal offspring and his decision to perform the last rites for a father who never acknowledged him as a son? How does an ageing Kunti, living out her last years in the forest, come to terms with her guilt over her unacknowledged son, Karna? And, having finally voiced her shame aloud, how then does she face up to a crime she has not even remembered: the murder of a family of nishad forest dwellers? These tales, brewed in the imagination of a master story-teller, make us look at the Mahabharata with new eyes, insisting as they do on the inclusion, within the master narrative, of the fates and viewpoints of those previously unrepresented therein: women and the underclass. MAHASWETA DEVI is one of India s foremost writers. Her powerful, satiric fiction has won her recognition in the form of the Sahitya Akademi (1979), Jnanpith (1996) and Ramon Magsaysay (1996) awards, the title of Officier del Ordre Des Arts Et Des Lettres (2003) and the Nonino Prize (2005), amongst several other literary honours. She was also awarded the Padmasree in 1986, for her activist work amongst dispossessed tribal communities. ANJUM KATYAL is as an editor who has also translated several plays and short stories.