



After the death of Krishna, the Pandavas along with Draupadi felt that life was not worth living. They lost interest in everything. They made Parikshit, son of Abhimanyu, the emperor and decided to leave Hastinapur for great journey. Dressed in tree **barks** (rough skin) and deer skin, they stopped at the palace where the people of the city **bade them farewell** (said good bye).

The Pandavas traveled towards the north. In a few days, they reached the Himalayas. They started climbing the mountains. When they came to the mountain Meru, all of them were **tired and exhausted** (used up all energy). And then, a **dreadful** (terrible) thing happened. Draupadi fell down dead. The Pandavas were shocked, but they could do nothing. They had to continue their journey. Sahadeva was the next to fall. "He was proud of his wisdom. That is why he had to die," said

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Yudhishtira. Nakula died next. Yudhishtira told Bheema, "Nakula died because he was proud of his beauty." Then came Arjuna's turn. Yudhishtira remarked, "Arjuna had said that he could kill the enemies all by himself. He had insulted all the great heroes by that remark. That is why he had to die."

Bheema and Yudhishtira continued walking. Bheema was the last to fall. He called out to Yudhishtira, "Why should I fall? What have I done?" Yudhishtira said, "My dear Bheema, I have always loved you. But you also had one fault. You always **boasted** (*talked with too much pride*) about your strength." Leaving them behind Yudhishtira went on. On and on he went alone, in search of peace.

Why does everybody else but Yudhishtir fall and die ?

A dog had been following Pandavas since they left Hastinapur. It accompanied them all through the journey. It followed Yudhishtira even when he was left alone.

Yudhishtira continued to climb up the mountain-path. When he was at the end of his journey, he saw a strange light all around him. He recognized Indra, the king of the gods, coming towards him in his **chariot** (२५). When he came close, Indra stepped down from the chariot and said, "Get into the chariot, Yudhishtira. I have come here to take you to heaven." But Yudhishtira refused to do so because he did not want to go to heaven without his brothers and Draupadi. He, therefore, said, "If they all do not come with me, I will not go with you."

When Indra heard this, he smiled and said, "My dear Yudhishtira, why do you worry about them? They are already in heaven. You alone will be allowed to enter heaven with your living body. Please get into the chariot."

When Yudhishtira was about to take his seat in the chariot, he saw the dog following him. Then suddenly Yudhishtira turned to Indra and said, "Please let me take this dog into the chariot. It has been with me ever since I left Hastinapur. I would not like to go to heaven without him." Indra laughed at his love for dog. He said, "How can a dog enter the heaven ? Leave it alone and come with me." Yudhishtira, however, remained **unmoved** (firm). He shook his head and said, "My Lord, I

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cannot do that. This dog has shared all my troubles so far. He has been faithful to me. I cannot leave him behind. If I do so, all the good I have done so far will be destroyed."

"For Yudhishtir a dog was more important than his own wife and brothers." Do you agree to the statement ? Why ?

As soon as Yudhishtira uttered these words, a strange thing happened. The dog standing beside Yudhishtira took the shape of his father, Dharma. He addressed Yudhishtira, "My son, I am proud of you. You have always observed 'dharma' in your life. Even today you've observed it. It was a kind of a test and you have been successful. Go with Indra to the heaven, you deserve it."

Do it Yourself

Q.1 (A) Replace the underlined words with a suitable word from the brackets :

1. Ravana always took too much pride about his strength. (bosted, felt, talked)
2. Indra tried to convince Yudishtir to go with him in the heaven without the dog. However, he remained unmoved. He did not go with him. (insulted, firm, silent)
3. Draupadi fell down dead. (rose, died, lying)
4. "The dog has shared my troubles", said Yudhishtir. (difficulties, adventure, worries)
5. All the good I have done so far will be destroyed. (ruined, increased, removed)

(B) Answer these questions :

1. About what does your friend boast ?
2. On which of your beliefs do you remain unmoved ?
3. How long can you run without getting exhausted ?
4. What do people do when they bid farewell to their relatives ?
5. What was your last dreadful experience ?

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Q.2 (A) Complete these sentences selecting the remaining part from the box given below them:

1. Yudhishtir had lost all his brothers but the dog _____
2. Yudhishtir refused Indras proposal because _____
3. Yudhishtir's father was pleased with Yudhishtir because _____
4. All the Pandavas with Draupadi stopped near the palace because _____
5. Yudhishtir wanted to leave everything because _____
6. Yudhishtir wanted to take the dog to heaven with because _____

- ☐ he could not go to heaven without his brother.
- ☐ the people of Hastinapur came to bid them farewell.
- ☐ They wanted to go for a great journey with his brothers.
- ☐ the dog was with him since he left hastinapur.
- ☐ was alive.
- ☐ he always observed 'dharma'.

(B) Match 'A' with 'B' with an arrow:

Characters	Reason for falling dead
<input type="checkbox"/> Bheem	<input type="checkbox"/> He was proud of his wisdom.
<input type="checkbox"/> Nakul	<input type="checkbox"/> He was proud of his beauty.
<input type="checkbox"/> Sahadeva	<input type="checkbox"/> He insulted great warriors/ fighters.
<input type="checkbox"/> Arjuna	<input type="checkbox"/> He boasted of his strength.

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