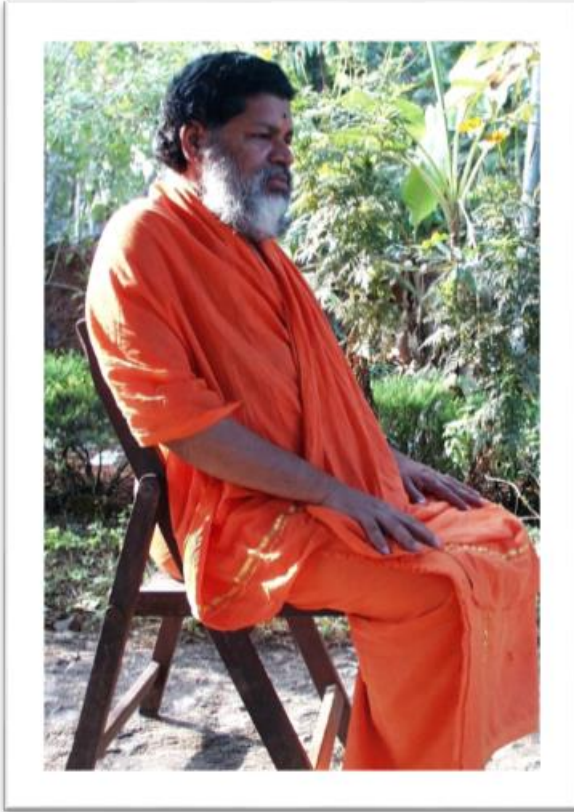


# BHAGAVAD GITA – CH 15

SWAMI BODHANANDA

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. . . When Arjuna became self-reflective, he paused for a minute between the impending action and his present status. And when he paused he suddenly realised that the war he was going to start is not going to solve any of his problems. War and violence is no solution to human problem.

There are conflicts in our daily lives, in our minds, at our homes, in the family, in the government...There are conflicts because we are all individuals. We have our own personalities and individualities, and we want full expression. When you try to express your individuality, to discover your self, to unfold your potential, there is going to be strife, struggle and conflict. But war is not the mechanism for solving conflicts. The two super powers had tried that for the last fifty years. They misdirected the resources of the world for accumulating nuclear stockpile and created a balance of terror. Finally they discovered the foolishness they have been practising.

Arjuna discovers in the battlefield that war is no solution: "I may win the war, I may get my kingdom back but I have to kill a lot of people--innocent people, innocent children, youth, women and all of them-- for my own glory".

Arjuna thinks about this situation, the consequences of his actions. This is the meaning of reflection--to think about the consequences of your action...

(Selection from the Gita Jnana Yajna lecture on Bhagavad Gita:Ch.15 given by Swami Bodhananda 6 February 1994)

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