

B.A. Semester-I

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Krishna

Q. 8. Discuss the character and role of Krishna in The Mahabharata.

Ans. The character and role of Krishna in The Mahabharata are of paramount importance, as he plays a central and multifaceted role in the epic. Krishna, also known as Lord Krishna, is a divine figure in Hindu mythology and is revered as the eighth avatar of Lord Vishnu. His presence in the Mahabharata is characterised by his wisdom, guidance, and divine intervention. Krishna is depicted as a divine incarnation, born in human form to fulfil a specific divine purpose. He enters the mortal world to restore dharma (righteousness), guide humanity, and uphold the cosmic balance. Krishna forms a deep and intimate bond with the Pandavas, especially with Arjuna. He becomes their trusted friend, philosopher, and guide. Krishna provides wise counsel, moral support, and spiritual teachings to the Pandavas, particularly during moments of crisis and moral dilemmas. One of the most significant episodes in The Mahabharata is the Bhagavad Gita, which occurs on the battlefield of Kurukshetra. Arjuna is conflicted about fighting in the war, and Krishna imparts profound philosophical and spiritual teachings to him. The Bhagavad Gita addresses various themes, including duty (dharma), the nature of the self (atman), the path to liberation (moksha), and the principles of righteous action (karma yoga). His divine form (Vishvarupa) is revealed to Arjuna during the Bhagavad Gita showcasing his cosmic majesty.

Throughout the epic, Krishna serves as a divine protector and advisor to the Pandavas. He helps them overcome numerous challenges, provides strategic guidance during the war, and safeguards their welfare. His divine Interventions play a crucial role in ensuring the triumph of the dharma. Before the war, Krishna attempts to negotiate peace between the

Pandavas and the Kauravas to avoid bloodshed. However, Duryodhana's stubbornness and refusal to compromise led to the war.

The Mahabharata portrays Krishna as an embodiment of divine love and compassion, even towards those who oppose him, seeking to bring about the restoration of righteousness. Krishna's life and teachings serve as an inspiration for millions of Hindus, emphasising devotion, selfless action, and surrender to the divine will. Overall, Krishna's character in The Mahabharata represents divine wisdom, compassion, and divine intervention in the affairs of mortals. His role in imparting spiritual wisdom through the Bhagavad Gita and guiding the Pandavas in their pursuit of righteousness makes him a revered and beloved figure in Indian mythology and religious