

Comments on Sloka 10 of Chapter1

**“Aparyaptam tad asmakam balam bhishmabhi raksitam
Paryaptam tvidam etesam balam Bhimabhi raksitam”**

Here Duryodhana is addressing Dronacharya comparing the strengths of Pandavas and kawravas army.

There seems to be a difference of opinion in the interpretation of this sloka among well known commentators. Some commentators give the meaning “unlimited” for the word “aparyaptam” and “limited” to the word “paryaptam”. These commentators view that Duryodhana became fearful at the strength of the Pandavas army and discribed their strength in three verses (4.5,6) and briefly mentioned his strength in just one verse (9). They interpret:

1. Duryodhana realized that “dharma” is on the side of Pandavas.
2. Even though Bhishma is the greatest of all the warriors and can defeat Pandavas single handed , Bhishma has soft corner to Pandavas.
3. Bhima on the other hand is so ferocious he will not hesitate to kill even Bhishma.

Some others give the exact opposite meaning ; for “aparyaptam” they give the meaning “complete, insufficient or “ASUMPOORNAM” and for “paryaptam” they give the meaning complete, sufficient or “SAMPOORNAM” .

This is direct meaning to these words and more appropriate for the context when the Bhishma parva and Udyoga parva of MAHABHARATHA was kept in mind in which Duryodhana,clearly convinces his father and Drona charya about the superiority of his army. Duryodhana was a very arrogant about the superiority of his strength and never doubted his victory.. He knew very well that Bhishma, Drona and Karna can win the battle for him. He also knew that he had 11 divisions of army while Pandavas was only 7 divisions.

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