



# The Yaksha's Questions 17 - 48



## Mahabharatha Collection



**Date:** 2025-12-06



**Description:** A detailed exploration of Yudhishtira's wisdom through the Yaksha's profound queries on Vedic rituals, dharma, relationships, and eternal truths from the Mahabharata



**Tags:** mahabharata, yaksha-prashnam, yudhishtira, vedic-wisdom, dharma, philosophy



## Section 1: Yajna, Nature, and Existence (Q17-30)

No.	Question (English / Sanskrit)	Answer	Wisdom / Explanation
17	<b>What is the Sama beneficial for sacrifice?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Ekam Yajñīyaṃ Sāma?</i> )	<b>Prāṇa</b> (Life Breath)	Life breath is essential for chanting the Sama Veda; it follows the physical body in Vedic classification.
18	<b>What is the Yajus beneficial to yagna?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Ekam Yajñīyaṃ Yajuḥ?</i> )	<b>Manas</b> (Mind)	The mind is equated to the Yajur Veda because ritual formulas require total mental focus.
19	<b>Which is chosen for the yagna itself?</b> ( <i>Kā Ca Enām Vṛṇute Yajñam?</i> )	<b>Rik Eka</b> (One Verse)	Refers to the <b>Gayatri Mantra</b> . The "One Rik" embraces the essence of the Yajna.
20	<b>What can the sacrifice not be without?</b> ( <i>Kāṃ Yajño Nāti Vartate?</i> )	<b>Rik Eka</b> (The Gayatri)	Without the knowledge and chanting of that specific Rik, the sacrifice cannot be completed.
21	<b>What is the best among those that shower?</b>	<b>Varsham</b> (Rain)	Rain is life's sustenance. Legend says a King once imprisoned clouds until they agreed to rain on time.

No.	Question (English / Sanskrit)	Answer	Wisdom / Explanation
	( <i>Kiṃsvid Avapatām Śreṣṭham?</i> )		
22	<b>What is the foremost put into the ground?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Nivapatām Varam?</i> )	<b>Bījam</b> (Seed)	Like a seed for crops, <i>Shraddha</i> (ancestral rites) is the seed for a flourishing lineage.
23	<b>What is the best among four-footed animals?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Pratiṣṭhamānānām?</i> )	<b>Gāvah</b> (Cows)	Cows represent being "well-settled" and prosperous ( <i>Samriddhi</i> ) in a home.
24	<b>What is the best among those begotten?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Prajavatām Varam?</i> )	<b>Putrah</b> (Child)	A child (son or daughter) is the highest blessing, as seen with Janaka (Sita) and Drupada (Draupadi).
25	<b>Who breathes but does not live?</b> ( <i>Uśvasan Ko Na Jīvati?</i> )	<b>The Negligent Man</b>	A "living corpse" is one who fails to serve Gods, Guests, Dependents, Ancestors, and the Self.
26	<b>Which is weightier than the earth?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Gurutaram Bhūmeḥ?</i> )	<b>Mātā</b> (Mother)	A mother's patience and burden-bearing capacity exceed that of the Earth itself.
27	<b>What is higher than the sky?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Uccataram Khāt?</i> )	<b>Pitā</b> (Father)	The Father initiates the child into knowledge ( <i>Brahmopadesam</i> ), elevating their stature above the sky.
28	<b>What is swifter than the wind?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Śīghrataram Vāyoḥ?</i> )	<b>Manah</b> (Mind)	The mind can travel vast distances instantly (e.g., remembering home while far away) faster than air.
29	<b>What is more numerous than grass?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Bahutaram Tṛṇāt?</i> )	<b>Chintā</b> (Worry)	Grass blades are uncountable, but the mind's unnecessary anxieties are even more infinite.

No.	Question (English / Sanskrit)	Answer	Wisdom / Explanation
	<b>What does not close its eyes while asleep?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Suptam Na Nimiṣati?</i> )	<b>Matsyaḥ</b> (Fish)	In the natural world, the fish sleeps without closing its eyes.



## Section 2: Motion, Friends, and Truth (Q31–48)

No.	Question (English / Sanskrit)	Answer	Wisdom / Explanation
31	<b>What does not move after birth?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Jātam Na Chopati?</i> )	<b>Aṇḍam</b> (Egg)	Unlike a human baby, an egg remains motionless after being laid until it hatches.
32	<b>What is that which is without heart?</b> ( <i>Kasyasvit Hṛdayam Nāsti?</i> )	<b>Aśmanah</b> (Stone)	Physically heartless. Poetically, duty can make one appear as heartless as a stone (e.g., Rama banishing Sita).
33	<b>What swells by its own force?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Vēgēna Vartatē?</i> )	<b>Nadi</b> (River)	A river flows with speed and naturally expands in volume as it progresses.
34	<b>Who is the friend of a traveler?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Pravāsato Mitram?</i> )	<b>Vidyā</b> (Education)	Knowledge (like language skills) supports one in foreign lands where they are otherwise alone.
35	<b>Who is the friend of one at home?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Mitram Gṛhē Sataḥ?</i> )	<b>Bhāryā</b> (Wife)	The wife is the "best friend" ( <i>Sakhā</i> ), managing the home and relationships with mutual respect.
36	<b>Who is the friend of the sick?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Mitram Āturasya?</i> )	<b>Bhīṣak</b> (Physician)	A patient trusts the doctor to remove suffering, even if the treatment (surgery) causes pain.

No.	Question (English / Sanskrit)	Answer	Wisdom / Explanation
37	<b>Who is the friend of the dying?</b> <i>(Kiṃsvid Mitram Mariṣyataḥ?)</i>	<b>Dānam</b> (Charity)	When the body turns to ash, only the charity performed in life accompanies the soul.
38	<b>Who is the guest of all creatures?</b> <i>(Ko Atithiḥ Sarva Bhūtānām?)</i>	<b>Agni</b> (Fire)	Fire is the central guest in all rituals, from birth ( <i>Punyahavachanam</i> ) to death ( <i>Cremation</i> ).
39	<b>What is the eternal Dharma?</b> <i>(Kiṃsvid Dharmam Sanātanam?)</i>	<b>Krishna</b>	Vedic scholars proclaim " <i>Kṛṣṇam Dharmam Sanātanam</i> "—Krishna is righteousness itself.
40	<b>What is Amrita (Nectar)?</b> <i>(Kiṃsvid Amṛtam Rājendra?)</i>	<b>Soma / Gavamritham</b>	Soma juice (used in Yagnas) and cow's milk products symbolize true ritual purity.
41	<b>What is this entire Universe?</b> <i>(Kiṃsvid Sarvam Idam Jagat?)</i>	<b>Vāyu</b> (Air/Wind)	Air is omnipresent and pervades the entire universe.
42	<b>What is that which journeys alone?</b> <i>(Kiṃsvid Eko Vicarati?)</i>	<b>Sūrya</b> (Sun)	Though surrounded by planets, the Sun acts as a single, powerful entity ( <i>Ekah</i> ).
43	<b>What is that which is born again?</b> <i>(Ko Jāyatē Punaḥ Punaḥ?)</i>	<b>Chandra</b> (Moon)	The Moon waxes and wanes, seemingly dying and being reborn due to Daksha's curse.
44	<b>What is the remedy against snow?</b> <i>(Kiṃsvid Himasya Bhaiṣajyam?)</i>	<b>Agni</b> (Fire)	Fire is the essential cure for <i>Hima</i> (cold) to survive freezing conditions.
45	<b>What is the large receptacle?</b>	<b>Bhūmi</b> (Earth)	

No.	Question (English / Sanskrit)	Answer	Wisdom / Explanation
	( <i>Kiṃsvid Āvapanam Mahat?</i> )		The Earth is the biggest vessel, bearing the weight of millions without complaint.
46	<b>What is the all-comprehensive virtue?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Ekam Padam Dharmyam?</i> )	<b>Dākṣyam</b> (Skill)	Goodness needs skill to succeed. Nala survived exile because he had skills (driving/cooking).
47	<b>What is the foundation of fame?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Ekam Padam Yaśaḥ?</i> )	<b>Dānam</b> (Charity)	To sustain fame ( <i>Yasha</i> ), one must give back to society. Charity keeps fame alive.
48	<b>What leads to Heaven?</b> ( <i>Kiṃsvid Ekam Padam Svargyam?</i> )	<b>Satyam</b> (Truth)	Unlike lies which vary, Truth never changes. It is the singular path to Heaven.



## Bonus Insights

### The Soma Yajnam 🌿

The Soma Yajnam is a significant sacrifice where the result, **Soma Rasam**, is equated to Amritam. \* **Result:** A sacred liquid from a creeper, distinct from alcohol. \* **Power:** Grants "undying youth" to the consumer. \* **Healing:** Bath water from the performer of this Yagam was historically used as medicine.

### Krishna as Sanatana Dharma 🙏

Learned scholars of the Vedas and Upanishads proclaim with one voice:

**"Kṛṣṇam Dharmam Sanātanam"**

This asserts that the great soul Krishna *is* Sanatana Dharma; the eternal religion is inseparable from him.

## The Concept of "Better Half"

In the context of Perumal (Vishnu) and Piratti (Lakshmi), Piratti is the "Better Half." 1. **Mathematical Analogy:** While they appear equal (0.5 each), Piratti is metaphorically derived from **0.52**, while Perumal is **0.48**. 2. **The Meaning:** The difference exists because Piratti is unaware of *dhandana* (punishment). Her nature is purely infinite compassion and grace, making her the superior part of the divine whole.

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**Reference:** [Watch on YouTube](#)



### Acknowledgment & Disclaimer

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