

# Culture III Class Summary

Dear Parents,

Namaste,

Next week we have mid-terms at balvihar! Suhasini and I have broken the format into two sections:

1) Multiple-Choice quiz with **50** questions to be delivered in the classroom on **Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>**. If students finish the test early, they will remain seated till 5.01pm, quietly. The 50 questions will be on Mahabharata and Indian Geography both. Please read the previous email summaries for revision, these are posted on the web-site already.

2) Project on one of the heroes from Mahabharat due on **Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>**. Yesterday, we assigned the names of Mahabharata heroes for the students to work on. They will have to write about two-paragraphs on this person. No more than 10 sentences in total. They can draw pictures and are encouraged to be creative. Please check with your kid to see which person he/she should work on. For absentees, contact Suhasini or me and we shall provide the assignment names.

Summary,

We covered several topics yesterday:

1) Drona:

He was a poor Brahmin who learns that Lord Parshurama is giving away his wealth. By the time Drona reaches the spot Parshurama has only two things left. His life and other his weapons including "Divya Astras". Drona chooses weapons and acquires all the weapons and their mastery, from Lord Parshurama, making him very powerful. Has one son named "Ashwathama". Story of Drona pulling the ball out of the well was told. Later, Bheesma appoints Drona as the teacher of all the princes. (100 + 5).

Lord Parshurama is also the teacher of Bheesma.

2) Vichitravirya's wives give birth to 1) Dhritarashtra 2) Pandu and 3) Vidur

Dhritarashtra is blind from birth, Pandu is weak, but Vidur is the wise one. Vidur grows up to be wise and intelligent. Others frequently go to Vidur for advise.

Dhritarashtra later on has hundred sons including 1) Duryodhana and 2) Dushasana.

### 3) Karna:

Kunti is daughter of Raja Kuntibhoja (name failed me yesterday), she pleases the Sage Dhurvasa, who in return gives her a powerful Mantra. This Mantra when directed at a god, will give Kunti a baby boy.

Kunti decides to test it on the Sun God. Surya comes down with a baby boy in his hand. Kunti is scared so she secretly puts the baby in a basket and releases it in the river downstream. A charioteer named Adhiraath finds the baby and names him “Radheya” and he raises him as his own.

Radheya later becomes Karna. Radheya is born with Kavach and Kundala (Armour and Earrings) that protect him from any harm.

Later, Kunti marries Pandu the weak brother of Dhritarashtra and they have five sons from Kunti’s Mantra. 1) Yudishtir (from god Yama), 2) Bhima (from god Vayu), 3) Arjuna (from god Indra), 4 & 5 Nakula and Sahadeva are twins, (from twin gods Ashwin Kumars).

Pandu dies soon after.

Kunti and her five sons move to Hastinapura where they grow up along with their jealous cousins the 100 Kauravas. Drona becomes their teacher at this time.

We also did a quick revision on Indian Geography: Main Rivers, Distinguish States from Cities, Neighbouring Countries and Capitals of few states.

Thankyou

Let me know if you have any questions.

Please revise the class summaries, this one and already put on the web so far!!!!!!

Vaibhav