



FRIENDS OF THE
OXFORD CENTRE
FOR HINDU STUDIES

BIRMINGHAM

Yudhishtira & Dharma

Understanding the Mahabharata

In this talk we will consider the different ways in which the Mahabharata explores the subtleties of dharma and exposes the tensions that can appear between the dharma of virtue, the dharma of duty and the dharma of moksha. Here the character of Yudhishtira is central to Mahabharata's teaching as he is shown to be a man of inherent virtue whose duty forces him to take courses of action that conflict with his highest ideals. And in the Bhagavad Gita we find a detailed consideration of the ways in which dharmic duty is to be accepted even by a person who is pursuing the highest spiritual goal of freedom from rebirth. The Mahabharata is surely one of the greatest works of religious literature ever produced and in this short session we will try to highlight some of the main ideas it seeks to explore and convey.

Talk given by

Dr Nick Sutton Ph.d., B.A. (Hons) of the
Oxford Centre For Hindu Studies

Organised by Friends of OCHS (Birmingham)

Date: Saturday 18th September 2010

Time: 7.00pm to 9.00pm

Followed by refreshments

Venue: Shree Birmingham Pragati Mandal,
10 Sampson Road, Sparkbrook, B11 IJL

Email: bf@ochs.org.uk *Web:* www.ochs.org.uk