

## **CHAPTER 3: KARMA YOGA**

There are so many different angles one can look into to understand “karma” and “Karma Yoga”. Herein I have tried briefly to go into some of the different ways to explain the same and hope this helps in understanding the slokas in the chapter.

1.) The word “Karma” has a number of different meanings and in the context of this chapter we should take it as “action.”

“Yoga” means “Union”.

As the sacred text is about union with the Parabrahman, which is “Liberation”, we should consider “Karma Yoga” as the actions that assist the seeker towards “Liberation.”

The word “Karma” is pronounced with the emphasis on the letter “R” in it. For those who are not familiar with the Indian scripture, the pronunciation to include “r” might be difficult but not impossible. Making the “r” silent, what is said sounds like “kama” and gives a totally different meaning. “Kama” is “desire” and “karma is “action.”

Some of the other meanings of the word “karma”:

- a) Practice of religious duties.
- b) Destiny/fate.
- c) Moral duties.
- d) A ritual.
- e) Funeral rites (antya karma)

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