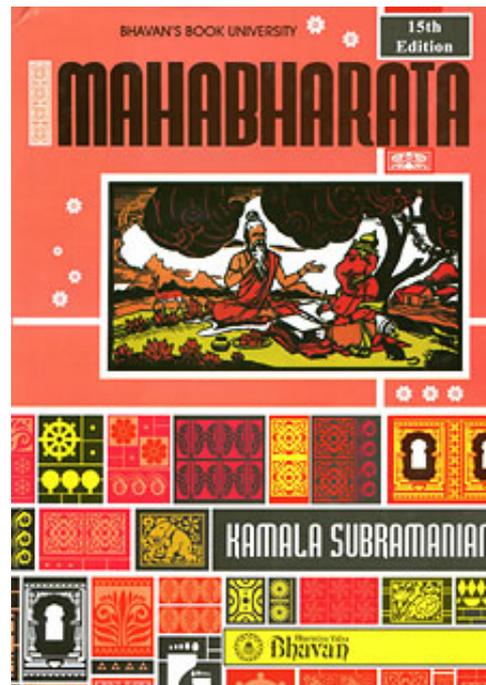


Kamala Subramaniam Mahabharata

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FOREWORD

s

Smt. Kamala Subramaniam has attempted not only a summary of the great and wonderful epic, *Mahabharata*, but has also brought out the magic of its human interest and spiritual profundity. Besides bringing the central story into relief, she has given due place to all important conversations and episodes.

To quote, what I wrote about Mahabharata in 1951:

"The Mahabharata is not a mere epic; it is a romance, telling the tale of heroic men and women and of some who were divine; it is a whole literature in itself, containing a code of life, a philosophy of social and ethical relations, and speculative thought on human problems that is hard to rival; but, above all, it has for its core the Gita, which is, as the world is beginning to find out, the noblest of scriptures and the grandest of sagas the climax of which is reached in the wondrous Apocalypse in the Eleventh Canto. Through such books alone, the harmonies underlying true culture, I am convinced, will one day reconcile the disorders of modern life."

To an English reader, this volume will bring home the validity of the comment made by generations of Indian authors that "what is not there is nowhere to be found".

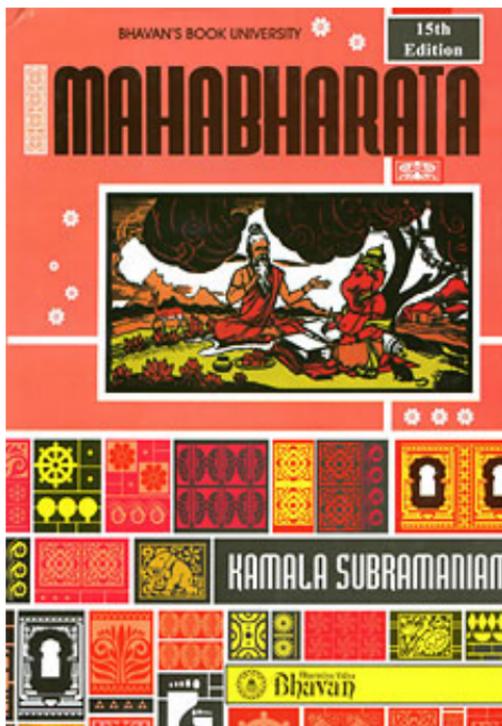
Smt. Subramaniam's style is lucid and expressive. At places, it reads not as a summary, but the original.

Smt. Subramaniam has rendered great service to the English-knowing public which has neither the time nor the ability to read the original.

I congratulate her on the conscientious labour that she has put in preparing this volume.

Bombay:
May 26, 1965

K. M. Munshi



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