

MORNING BRIEF

Thursday, 19 March 2026

BHAGAVAD GITA — VERSE 1.4 (4/12)

*atra shura maheshvasa bhimarjunasamayudhi
yuyudhano viratashcha drupadashcha maharathah*

Here are heroes and mighty archers equal in battle to Bhima and Arjuna — Yuyudhana, Virata, and Drupada, all great warriors.

Focusing obsessively on competitors' strengths breeds anxiety. Acknowledge competition, but focus energy on your own excellence rather than others' abilities.

LAW 40: DESPISE THE FREE LUNCH (40/48)

What is offered for free is dangerous—it usually involves either a trick or a hidden obligation. What has worth is worth paying for. By paying your own way you stay clear of gratitude, guilt, and deceit.

PAUL GRAHAM — HOW TO BE AN EXPERT IN A CHANGING WORLD (40/97)

Experts get things wrong not because they're stupid but because they cling to models that were once correct but the world changed. To stay right in a changing world: focus on the delta (what's changing, not what's static), be willing to update your beliefs, and have your own first-hand experience rather than relying on received wisdom. The best experts are the ones who act like perpetual beginners.

Beware of expertise calcifying into dogma. The world changes and your models must change with it. Cultivate the habit of noticing when your predictions are wrong and updating immediately rather than defending outdated beliefs.

paulgraham.com/ecw.html

GIFT NIFTY 23,244.50 -555.50 (-2.33%)

Gap from NIFTY close: -533 pts (-2.24%)

INDIAN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHANGE	%
NIFTY 50	23,777.80	+196.65	+0.83%
Sensex	76,704.13	+633.29	+0.83%
Bank NIFTY	55,326.05	+450.05	+0.82%
India VIX	18.72	-1.07	-5.39%

FII / DII Flows

	NET (CR)
FII / FPI	-2,714
DII	+3,253

India Market Mood: 27 (Fear)

US & GLOBAL MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHANGE	%
S&P 500	6,624.70	-91.39	-1.36%
Nasdaq	22,152.42	-327.11	-1.46%
Dow Jones	46,225.15	-768.11	-1.63%
S&P Futures	6,672.50	-49.25	-0.73%
Nikkei 225	53,643.86	-1,595.54	-2.89%
Hang Seng	26,025.42	+156.88	+0.61%

US Fear & Greed: **18** (extreme fear)

COMMODITIES & FOREX

ASSET	PRICE	CHANGE	%
US 10Y Yield	4.26	+0.06	+1.36%
Gold	4,838.50	-162.50	-3.25%
Silver	75.71	-3.82	-4.80%
Crude Oil	97.92	+1.71	+1.78%
USD/INR	93.06	+0.67	+0.72%

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- GIFT Nifty trading below prev NIFTY close by 533 pts (-2.24%) — signals a gap-down open.
- NIFTY closed mildly positive at +0.83%.
- India VIX at 18.7 — moderate zone.
- FII sold 2,714 Cr, DII bought 3,253 Cr — domestic absorbing foreign outflows.
- Wall Street fell (S&P -1.36%) — could weigh on sentiment today.
- S&P futures pointing lower (-0.73%).
- Gold down -3.25% at \$4,838.
- Crude oil surged +1.78% — watch energy stocks.
- Rupee weakened to 93.06 — watch IT exporters.

CRYPTO

COIN	PRICE	24H
BTC	\$71,041.00	-4.06%

Fear & Greed Index: **23** (Extreme Fear)

- BTC down -4.1% — risk-off, check leveraged positions.
- Fear & Greed at 23 (Fear) — sentiment cautious.

HACKER NEWS

1. **Have a fucking website**

Look, I get it. The foundations of the internet are broken and we've somehow gotten to a place where having a website is either expensive, complicated, or perceived as unnecessary, whereas social media platforms are cheap and easy.

847 pts · 481 comments

2. **Rob Pike's Rules of Programming (1989)**

Rob Pike's 5 Rules of Programming - Rule 1. You can't tell where a program is going to spend its time. Bottlenecks occur in surprising places, so don't try to second guess and put in a speed hack until you've proven that's where the bottleneck is.

839 pts · 409 comments

3. **Nightingale – open-source karaoke app that works with any song on your computer**

Features 🎤 Stem separation Vocals are isolated from instrumentals using the UVR Karaoke model or Demucs. Guide vocal volume is adjustable. 📄 Word-level lyrics WhisperX transcribes and aligns every word to the audio.

501 pts · 147 comments

4. **Despite Doubts, Federal Cyber Experts Approved Microsoft Cloud Service**

Reporting Highlights - "Cloud First": To move federal agencies to the cloud, the government created a program known as FedRAMP, whose job was to ensure the security of new technology.

435 pts · 201 comments

5. **FBI is buying location data to track US citizens, director confirms**

The FBI has resumed purchasing reams of Americans' data and location histories to aid federal investigations, the agency's director, Kash Patel, testified to lawmakers on Wednesday.

393 pts · 143 comments

MARKET NEWS

Global Market Today | Asian stocks decline as oil's surge saps sentiment

Japan's Nikkei 225 slumped 2.4% ahead of a rate decision while a broader gauge of Asian shares also fell more than 1.3% as investors trimmed risk. US futures edged lower after the S&P 500 and Nasdaq 100 both declined 1.4% Wednesday.

Rupee sinks to new low as soaring Brent nears \$110

Traders said the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was seen protecting the 92.50/\$ level for the past three days, but mid-afternoon publication of the oil premium data tilted the scales heavily in favour of the greenback.

Iran's Yuan push for oil trade signals fresh challenge to dollar dominance

What is the petrodollar? US dollars earned by oil-exporting countries in exchange for crude oil exports are called petrodollar. This is not a different currency.

Stocks in news: Manappuram Finance, Kotak Bank, Nazara Technologies, United Breweries

In today's trade, shares of Manappuram Finance, Kotak Bank, Nazara Technologies, United Breweries among others will be in focus due to various news developments.

Pre-market action: Here's the trade setup for today's session

STATE OF THE MARKETS - Tech View: On the downside, immediate support is now placed at 23,250, followed by 23,000 levels.

CRYPTO NEWS

SEC approves Nasdaq's move to support tokenized securities trading

SEC approves Nasdaq's move to support tokenized securities trading The SEC's approval lets Nasdaq test blockchain-based versions of stocks that trade and settle like traditional shares.

Fairshake's \$10 million Illinois misfire marks first big hitch in crypto political surge

Fairshake's \$10 million Illinois misfire marks first big hitch in crypto political surge The crypto sector's leading political action committee devoted more than 5% of its war chest trying to defeat a Senate candidate who just won her primary.

Bitcoin sinks below \$71,000, stocks close at session lows, as 2026 Fed rate cut hopes fade further

Bitcoin sinks below \$71,000, stocks close at session lows, as 2026 Fed rate cut hopes fade further Fed chair Jerome Powell said rising energy prices are feeding into the inflation outlook, but "nobody knows" yet how lasting the impact will be.

Polymarket acquires Brahma to scale blockchain trading infrastructure

Polymarket acquires Brahma to scale blockchain trading infrastructure "Building reliable infrastructure across blockchain networks and traditional financial rails is hard — there are no shortcuts," said Polymarket CEO Shayne Coplan.

Sam Bankman-Fried's bankrupt exchange FTX set to repay creditors \$2.2 billion this month

Sam Bankman-Fried's bankrupt exchange FTX set to repay creditors \$2.2 billion this month The trust handling the bankruptcy proceedings detailed how much will be distributed to creditors and claimants at the end of March.

TECH & STARTUPS

Meta is having trouble with rogue AI agents

An AI agent went rogue at Meta, exposing sensitive company and user data to employees who did not have permission to access it.

Sam Altman's thank-you to coders draws the memes

If you need a cathartic release from the news that Amazon laid off 16,000 workers, Block chopped nearly half its workforce, Atlassian pared back 10% of staffers, and Meta is reportedly considering another massive round of layoffs, all in the name of...

Nothing CEO Carl Pei says smartphone apps will disappear as AI agents take their place

Carl Pei, co-founder and CEO of Nothing, is imagining a future beyond the iPhone — and it's a device powered by AI agents, not running apps.

Nvidia is quietly building a multibillion-dollar behemoth to rival its chips business

Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang was years ahead of the market when he pushed the company to start tinkering with building AI-specific chips back in 2010, more than a decade before the current buzz around AI.

FBI is buying location data to track US citizens, director confirms

The FBI has resumed purchasing reams of Americans' data and location histories to aid federal investigations, the agency's director, Kash Patel, testified to lawmakers on Wednesday.
