

MORNING BRIEF

Monday, 18 May 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 4: ALWAYS SAY LESS THAN NECESSARY (4/48)

When you are trying to impress people with words, the more you say, the more common you appear. Powerful people impress and intimidate by saying less. The more you say, the more likely you are to say something foolish.

PAUL GRAHAM — DO THINGS THAT DON'T SCALE (3/97)

Startups should do things that don't scale in the early days: manually recruit users one by one, give extraordinary personal attention to early customers, and do hacky manual processes behind the scenes. The Airbnb founders went door to door in New York photographing listings. Stripe personally installed their code on users' laptops. These unscalable efforts are what create the initial critical mass that eventually does scale.

Don't wait for the scalable solution. The path to a million users starts with manually delighting your first ten. What feels awkward and unscalable is often exactly the competitive advantage that bigger companies can't replicate.

paulgraham.com/ds.html

GIFT NIFTY 23,529.50 -178.50 (-0.75%)

Gap from NIFTY close: -114 pts (-0.48%)

INDIAN MARKETS

| INDEX | CLOSE | CHANGE | % |
|------------|-----------|---------|--------|
| NIFTY 50 | 23,643.50 | -46.10 | -0.19% |
| Sensex | 75,237.99 | -160.73 | -0.21% |
| Bank NIFTY | 53,710.35 | -418.60 | -0.77% |
| India VIX | 18.79 | +0.18 | +0.97% |

FII / DII Flows

| | NET (CR) |
|-----------|----------|
| FII / FPI | +1,329 |
| DII | -1,959 |

India Market Mood: 57 (Neutral)

INDEX MOMENTUM (20D) — TRADE NIFTY

NIFTY: -2.3% BankNIFTY: -4.2%

US & GLOBAL MARKETS

| INDEX | CLOSE | CHANGE | % |
|-------------|-----------|---------|--------|
| S&P 500 | 7,408.50 | -92.74 | -1.24% |
| Nasdaq | 26,225.14 | -410.08 | -1.54% |
| Dow Jones | 49,526.17 | -537.29 | -1.07% |
| S&P Futures | 7,381.50 | -50.75 | -0.68% |
| Nikkei 225 | 60,616.68 | -792.61 | -1.29% |
| Hang Seng | 25,962.73 | -426.31 | -1.62% |

US Fear & Greed: **63** (greed)

COMMODITIES & FOREX

| ASSET | PRICE | CHANGE | % |
|--------------|----------|--------|--------|
| US 10Y Yield | 4.59 | +0.13 | +3.00% |
| Gold | 4,502.30 | -53.50 | -1.17% |
| Silver | 74.52 | -2.64 | -3.42% |
| Crude Oil | 103.92 | -1.50 | -1.42% |
| USD/INR | 95.96 | +0.25 | +0.26% |

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- GIFT Nifty trading below prev NIFTY close by 114 pts (-0.48%) — signals a gap-down open.
- NIFTY ended flat (-0.19%) — range-bound session.
- India VIX at 18.8 — moderate zone.
- FII bought 1,329 Cr, DII sold 1,959 Cr — foreign money in, domestic booking profits.
- Wall Street fell (S&P -1.24%) — could weigh on sentiment today.
- S&P futures pointing lower (-0.68%).
- Gold down -1.17% at \$4,502.
- Crude oil dropped -1.42% — watch energy stocks.
- Rupee weakened to 95.96 — watch IT exporters.

CRYPTO

| COIN | PRICE | 24H |
|------|-------------|--------|
| BTC | \$76,878.00 | -1.39% |

Fear & Greed Index: **28** (Fear)

- BTC dipping -1.4% — mild correction territory.
- Fear & Greed at 28 (Fear) — sentiment cautious.

HACKER NEWS

1. [Mozilla to UK regulators: VPNs are essential privacy and security tools](#)

In the context of concerns around young people's interactions with digital technologies, the UK's Department for Science, Innovation and Technology is consulting on additional measures to prepare young people for growing up in a digital world.

638 pts · 270 comments

2. [I don't think AI will make your processes go faster](#)

I don't think AI will make your processes go faster I have the feeling that every organization out there is, at least partially, focusing on process optimization, something that often happens when the market is down.

492 pts · 348 comments

3. [Native all the way, until you need text](#)

I have been a native macOS / iOS developer for almost twenty years, and I want to say something about the usual "Oh, it is Node / Electron again... what a shame..." reaction.

388 pts · 255 comments

4. [AI is a technology not a product](#)

By John Gruber Manage GRC Faster with Drata's Agentic Trust Management Platform Steven Levy, writing for Wired last month after Apple's CEO transition was announced, under the provocative headline "Apple's Next CEO Needs to Launch a Killer AI..."

324 pts · 133 comments

5. [Apple Silicon costs more than OpenRouter](#)

Offline Agentic Coding part 3: Apple Silicon costs more than OpenRouter. Published 2026-05-17 Apple silicon costs more than OpenRouter. At ~50-100 watts under load, and ~\$0.20 per kWh, my M5 MacbookPro will cost a few cents per hour.

295 pts · 251 comments

MARKET NEWS

[Global Market Today: Asian shares slip, oil prices pile pressure on bonds](#)

A drone strike caused a fire at a nuclear power plant in the United Arab Emirates, while Saudi Arabia reported intercepting three drones, as U.S. President Donald Trump warned that Iran must act "fast" to reach a deal.

[Oil touches 2-week high after drone attack on UAE nuclear power plant](#)

Brent crude futures climbed \$1.44, or 1.32%, to \$110.70 a barrel by 2337 GMT after touching the highest since May 5 earlier in the session. U.S.

[Bond yield spike puts equities market at risk](#)

But a spike in bond market yields over the past week-which took the 30-year treasury bond above 5% and benchmark 10-year bonds above 4.5%-could change the picture for investors. That caused stock market caution on Friday.

[SBI Funds sets the ball rolling for up to Rs 13,000-cr IPO](#)

The fund house's senior executives, including deputy managing director D.P. Singh and chief investment officer-equities R.

[Pre-market action: Here's the trade setup for today's session](#)

Listen to this article in summarized format STATE OF THE MARKETS GIFT Nifty (Earlier SGX Nifty) signals a negative start GIFT Nifty on the NSE IX traded lower by 137 points, or 0.58 per cent, at 23,525, signaling that Dalal Street was headed for a...

CRYPTO NEWS

[The Clarity Act took a step forward: State of Crypto](#)

DeFi's new front: VerifiedX bets bitcoin's next chapter is programmable, private

Japan's SBI Securities, Rakuten Securities plan to offer crypto investment trusts

A Russian stablecoin built to dodge sanctions says it can survive even if they're lifted

TECH & STARTUPS

Apple's Siri revamp could include auto-deleting chats

Privacy will be a major theme when Apple unveils a new version of Siri at the Worldwide Developers Conference in June, according to Bloomberg's Mark Gurman.

Why trust is a big question at the Elon Musk-OpenAI trial

Lawyers for Elon Musk and OpenAI made their closing arguments this week, and now it's up to jurors to decide whether OpenAI did anything wrong as it's transformed into a slightly-more-for-profit organization.

If you're giving a commencement speech in 2026, maybe don't mention AI

Commencement season has come around again — and this year, a couple speakers have discovered that it's tough to get graduating students excited about a future shaped by artificial intelligence.

TechCrunch Mobility: The AI skills arms race is coming for automotive

Welcome back to TechCrunch Mobility — your central hub for news and insights on the future of transportation. To get this in your inbox, sign up here for free — just click TechCrunch Mobility!

For Eclipse, the \$2.5B Cerebras win is just the start of realizing its physical-world thesis

When Lior Susan started Eclipse Ventures in 2015, the firm's thesis of digitizing the physical world wasn't particularly popular in Silicon Valley.

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