

Hindus:

*On a larger scale, dharma means the essential **order of things**, an integrity and harmony in the universe and the affairs of life that cannot be disturbed without courting **chaos**. This it means [...]purpose rather than **chance**.¹*

Greeks:

The Ancient Greeks believed that in the beginning, the world was in a state of nothingness which they called Chaos. Suddenly, from light, came Gaia (Mother Earth) and from her came Uranus (the sky) along with other old gods (called primordial) like Pontus (the primordial god of the oceans).

Celts:

The deities were first conceived of as forces of nature. When druids chanted incantations or curses, they ritually invoked the

¹ Easwaran Eknath, ed., *The Bhagavad Gita*, 2nd ed, The Classics of Indian Spirituality (Tomales, CA: Nilgiri Press, 2007), 31.

power of parts of the cosmos, and humans were believed to be made from the elements of the cosmos. Seasonal feasts marked the essential points of the farming and herding cycles, and the rhythms of the natural world governed the lives and ritual behavior of the ancient Celts.

By clearing plains and keeping them clear, the ancient Celts created order out of a fertile, natural chaos, an order that made their settled way of life possible.