

Upbringing of children

By Acharya Dr. Umesh Yadav

There are some important teachings to be adopted by our children and students. A good relation alone between a teacher & a taught makes the purpose fulfilled. Our purpose is to give good education and sacrament. By the grace of God, we have got children who can be our glory and pride. They can be proud of nation and society but we will have to pick the duties to educate them rightly. This is also a big task as challenge for parents. We should accept it happily and should be aware of all norms of educational ways of our children, So that, we could differentiate between good & bad and right & wrong. Then, we would be able to instruct our kids properly to go ahead towards right path of life.

Acharya manu said in manusmriti- Drishti putam nyashet padam, vastra putam jalam pivet Satyaputam vaded vacham manah putam samacharet
Look down carefully while you walk. Filter water before you drink it. Speak in accordance with truth and think well before you act.

These are four teachings taught in this sloka. First, during walking we should look down carefully. There could be some obstructions in the path like stones, rocks, etc. or may be ditches any where in the way. We can remove those obstructions in the path and go ahead or we can protect ourselves from ditches or other problems. Actually these rocks, stones and ditches are symbolic of problems. There are so many problems in the way of life. We have to watch them carefully and remove them first then we can be successful.

Second one is vastra putam jalam pivet. Means- purifying the water with clothes,we should drink--means water needs to be filtered by any means. Today we have so many means to filter the water we can utilize any source and get water filtered or purified for use. This will make us healthy otherwise we can fall ill because unfiltered water can be caused for diseases. Now next two teachings are very important. Satyaputam vadet vacham manah putam samacharet. Speak all that is truth if the truth is in your speech, your life will shine. You will be very nearer to the divinity and fourth one is to think well before you act. Good thinking will give you perfection in your action. You will be able to be perfect and progressive in life. So it has been preached effectively in Tateriye Upnishad .

“ dharmam chara , stayam vada.”

We should start to give teachings to our kids from childhood. Always adopt the way of righteousness and speak the truth. It means, we should always follow the right paths shown by righteous or great persons as said in Mahabharata---Mahajano yena gatah sa panthah. The way, through which,

the Great persons go, is to be followed. Learned and glorious persons have shown the right ways to others. To speak the truth is the base of good life but this is still a tough task to speak the truth but we have to realize the truth first and know how to apply that in our daily behaviours. The day on which, we will learn to imply the truth in life then we would be enlightened, a man of a real character and righteousness.

There are also some practices to instil goodness in kids. As parents and teachers use to inspire the children that they should always associate with goodness and avoid wickedness. We should love a true man even he is weak physically and hate the bad or the wicked weather he is a king or in power. In this way, spirit would be strong, bright, enlightened and approached to the supreme divinity.

Yanyasmakam Sucharitani tani tvayopasyani no itarani—Tatariya Upanishad—In this statement, the mother, father and preceptor intends to preach this good counsel and advice to the children that they should always imbibe their virtues and avoid their vices. Such a way the child would be proud of his mother, father and preceptors such as Matriman, Pitriman, Acharyawan. So we should try again and again for this. Friends, it has been truly said in Chanakyaniti—Mata shatru pita vairi yen balo na pathitah, Na shobhate sabha madhye hans madhye vako yatha.—means parents who neglect the education of their children, are their enemies. In company, uneducated child is like a goose among swans. So it's our duties to refine our children in character and manners with good teachings and true efforts.