

A Panacea for Modern Misgovernance

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ABSTRACT

Man is blinded by his arrogance and pride ,his un-curtailed and insatiable greed has made him reckless and ruthless . His deliberate ignorance has alienated himself from the sacred and divine knowledge of peace , love and honesty .Man is aimlessly wandering away into the deep woods of material pleasure and profit maximization. Man has become corrupt and crooked. Yet on other side we have visionaries and teachers who are selflessly ascertaining and establishing the magnitude of truth and morality. Moral unfoldment within, spiritual fulfillment in life , artistic self-improvement , ethical growth in the personality –these are the goals for mankind to attain now. The Moral and ethical rules of the sages were to chasten men to become God-men even while living in this very embodied existence :pure at heart , noble in thoughts , magnanimous in attitude ,and dynamic in action .Profit maximization is the aim of any business concern, but the ‘MEANS’ adopted must be rechecked .One must not forget , the inevitable universal fact ‘the law of KARMA”. The deeds of his action will undoubtedly bear fruit –whether positive or negative , constructive or destructive ,it all depends upon how sinfully or divinely the deed has been implemented. The intention behind the action , how honestly and sincerely the result has been achieved? .How selflessly the organization is taking care of its resources? Are the organizations adhering to norms and values , Corporate Social Responsibility , HRD .Money is an essential part of our life but Money is not everything. Money will follow if one energize ,activates and invoke the divinity in oneself . Man is lost and alienated from the GOD almighty .Unless man lives a sincere, honest life, and consistently nurturing optimism and a unshakable faith in oneself , he will live in fear and insecurity .What we need today is to redefine our educational pattern? Besides imparting academic excellence , the institutions must also encourage in children and youth a broad vision of clarified thinking , transcending the rigid customs and religious values and beliefs trying compete with another to establish ones supremacy over other and constantly corrupting the mind of the people to confute and contradict other cast, creed and religion, resulting in utter chaos and confusion. The very institutions who are responsible for shaping the minds of the young are themselves ruthlessly competing and compromising on values and ethics. Reiterate the importance of value and ethics , ensure the importance of value and ethics everywhere- in schools , colleges , institutions and governments offices and on corporate levels.

Key words:- Karma . Corporate Governance , Vedas ,Upanishads, Dharma.

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Sage Vyasa in the concluding stages of the Mahabharata :

*“All my life I have been crying
out With upraised arms :
Follow dharma ,practice dharma.
Artha and Kama will surely follows you !
Alas! Who cares, who listens”*

Adhering to values and ethics is not one time process but life -long mission and commitment . According to Indian Cultural values , there are FOUR “PURUSHARTHAS”:

- I. DHARMA:- Duty, selfless service .
- II. ARTHA:- Money , Wealth.-make money through proper channel
- III. KAMA:- Desire /sex, Passion.
- IV. MOKSHA:- Emancipation , liberation of oneself from the material world. According to the VEDAS the final mission of the Humans on Earth is to liberate themselves from the physical body by doing selfless service to humanity .

Dharma-Artha-Kama-Moksha this is how it has been followed but unfortunately today the order has been changed and are re-arranged as , “ **Artha-Kama-Dharma-Moksha**” .

When man as a person becomes an employee of public service institution, human values become manifest and qualitatively enrich the work of these institution . Such a person must not think mere himself as an employee, but a free citizen of INDIA to perform a particular service to the people . This is the philosophy of work taught, in the HOLY TEXT. If each and every one is inspired with self-respect, a sense of honor , self-discipline then all the people in the institutions and organization can make this country a better place , to live a life of peace and complete satisfaction. Indian ethos for Governance means the application of principles of management as revealed in our ancient wisdom brought forth in our sacred books - **Gita, Upanishads, Bible and Quran.**

What we are witnessing in today ‘s business corporations and government institutions are corruptions, nepotism , red-tapism ,bribery , exploitations of both properties and human beings. Sham, pretense and hypocrisy is prevailing everywhere and in all sectors and institutions. Men in power are corrupting the very system of our country. Young minds are poisoned and misled , they are not guided properly and wisely . They are not told about the importance of values and ethics in our day to day life . They themselves are confused with

the right and wrong . In this cut-throat competitive environment , to strive and to succeed , means adopted are least important . “By hook or by crook “ achieve the ends ,one man’s failure is other man’s success, one man’s pain is other man’s pleasure. Heartless manipulation is going everywhere .Man is concerned about himself , least bothered about other emotions and plight . Sadism has overshadowed pity .What he preach , he himself feels hard and reluctant to practice .His children suffer because of his misdeeds. Yet he fails to understand the fact materialism has its inevitable saturation point . Slowly he will be averse to what he has achieved.

It is definitely possible to work in harmony and make money honestly . But unfortunately , a good number of people do not have the patience and persistence , they are impatient and are ready to strike rich in a short period of time . There are many short cut methods to make money , people have degraded and degenerated themselves for wealth and that will unquestionably and undoubtedly bring misery upon themselves and on their children . To cheat your people , misuse their trust , cheat the society and public , betray your nation , Oh! Dear brothers and sisters , wake up ! none will escape the karma , “retribution and reprisal” will follow you before you die away , you will experience the sufferings and miseries of your deeds. You will see your children’s suffer , yet you will be paralyzed and impotent to anything to stop .

Competition is required to bring the best in you , and not to better your rival . Compete with yourself , understand your or yours organization strength , weakness, opportunities an threat . One can learn from others failure and success , but one cannot blindly follow others path or solutions. You or your company has to understand whether others success formulas and solutions are applicable ,or practical and possible for you or in your organization ?.

If your vision is clear , your intention is honest and authentic , following a clear and unambiguous moral path , nothing will stop you from success . Undoubtedly that organization will succeed prosperously and profitably . Stick on to values , employee satisfaction will result in quality products and service , finally leading to customer satisfaction , thereby generating income .

For the sake of **power, pelf and position** , do not betray your nation , your people , your society . Moral values and Ethical codes of Conduct are foundation stones of any organization’s sustenance and survival , anything that is built on mistrust , greed, dishonesty and fraud will fall and crumble . None has survived and escaped the retribution ,it is unquestionable and unavoidable law of nature , a karmic reaction , a divine interference .

Do not forget the Golden Rules and learn and implement .Each of these rules forms the basis of all human values.

1. Everything you want others to do to you, you should do to others.
2. Do not do to others anything, which you do not wish them to do to you.
3. Do not do anything to others that, if done to you, would cause harm to you

Our ancients text are filled with priceless treasures of values , that will bring nothing but peace ,prosperity and happiness. Unfortunately we have not understood the

real meaning of these values, we are confused . At very outset, Our teachers, first of all must educate themselves well. Convey the real meaning of such values and its importance in our personal and professional life.

Some ideas and thoughts of Indian Ethos revealed by our ancient scriptures are:

1. *Atmano Mokshartham, Jagat hitaya cha*: All work is an opportunity for doing good to the world and thus gaining materially and spiritually in our lives
2. *Archet dana manabhyam*: Worship people not only with material things but also by showing respect to their enterprising divinity within.
3. *Atmana Vindyate Viryam*: Strength and inspiration for excelling in work comes from the Divine, God within, through prayer, spiritual readings and unselfish work.
4. *Yogah karmashu Kaushalam, Samatvam yoga uchyate*: He who works with calm and even mind achieves the most.
5. *Yadishi bhavana yasya siddhi bhavati tadrishi*: As we think, so we succeed, so we become. Attention to means ensures the end.
6. *Parasparam bhavayantah shreyah param bhavapsyathah*: By mutual cooperation, respect and fellow feeling, all of us enjoy the highest good both material and spiritual.
7. *Tesham sukham tesham shanti shaswati*: Infinite happiness and infinite peace come to them who see the Divine in all beings.
8. *Paraspar Devo Bhav*: Regard the other person as a divine being. All of us have the same consciousness though our packages and containers are different.

Immense potential, energy and talents for perfection as human being has ,the spirit within his heart. Divine virtues are inner resources. Capital, materials and plant & machinery are outer resources. *Karma Yoga* (selfless work) offers double benefits, private benefit in the form of self- purification and public benefit.

*“Udhareta aatmana aatmaanam, na aatmaanam avasadayet
Aatmev hyaatmano bandhur aatmev ripuh aatmanah”*

“ One should elevate one- self to a higher level and listen to the true inner conscience and never allow oneself to be degraded. You can be your own best friend and at the same time, your worst enemy”. Understand moral values in vedas. Vedas constitute God’s pure speech. The knowledge contained therein forms the basis of our civilization and culture. . The Vedas are the ultimate source to which all religious knowledge can be traced. Religion is of divine origin. It belongs to everyone and not to ‘hindus’ alone .

Live in the spirit of the teachings of the scriptures. Learn to discriminate between the permanent and the impermanent. Behold the Self in all beings, in all objects. Names and forms are illusory. Share what you have,-physical, mental, moral or spiritual,-with all. Serve the Self in all. Feel when you serve others, that you are serving your own Self. Love thy neighbor as thyself. Remove all barriers that separate man from man. Mix with all. Embrace all.. Fix the mind on the Self when you work. This is the essence of the teachings of the

Vedas and sages of yore. This is real, eternal life in Atman. Put these things in practice in the daily battle of life. You will shine as a dynamic Yogi. None will corrupt you, the divinity inside you, will guard and guide you.

Human welfare and profit maximization must be clubbed together. Understand the meaning of 'sharing'. Treat equally, respect and recognize everyone, listen and understand your people. The authorities and men in power must wield their power wisely, proper governance will lead to prosperity of all. By practicing honesty and transparency, you will only become more powerful and strong. Keep aside evil thought of quick money making methods, curb your ego and you will be at peace. *We all are insincere in our life but it we who fix the limit of insincerity.* Cultivate the culture of discipline and dedication, it is not a one-time process but a life-long exercise

"Flowers blossom even in forest where there is no one to admire their beauty.

Let's continue our good work honestly even when nobody appreciates us" - written by some unknown person of utmost purity. Do not expect anything from anyone, do your duty, this is your **dharma**.

Lord Krishna in the Gita says:

"Karmanye Vadhikaraste, Ma phaleshou kada chana, Ma Karma Phala Hetur Bhurmatey Sangostva Akarmani"

"You have a right to perform your prescribed duty, but you are not entitled to the Result so factions.

Do not consider yourself the cause of the results of your activities, and never be attached to not doing your duty"

Attachment will misery and will pave way for your greatest enemy EGO. Erase the Ego by detaching yourself from desire and attachment. The factors that leads to mis-governance are poor planning, lack of vision, lack of knowledge, Prejudiced views, EGO - arrogance, greed, selfishness, narrow mindedness, rigid behavior, failing to understand others.

Let us impart value education everywhere. Ensure each and everyone understands and adopts sacredness of value and morality and their place in our life. Let us adopt a uniform ethical and moral code of conduct from the very kinder –garden onwards to organization we work in. Continually and repetitively make it available. Use reorientation classes at every level of educational strata. The authorities and governments must come together and encourage this sort of activities. Throughout the country follow a common and uniform pattern of values that are practical and possible for everyone to accept and exercise-irrespective of cast, creed and religion. May we live in peace and prosperity. Let our good deeds be a blessing to our posterity. Vedanta speaks of righteousness and dharma. No scripture speaks ill of any other religion or caste. It is we who have cunningly and dexterously manipulated and distorted our scriptures to exploit and misguide others.

The last stanza of Mathew Arnold poem, "Dover Beach", reflected the man plight:-

*Ah, love, let us be true
To one another! For the world, which seems
To lie before us like a land of dreams,
So various, so beautiful, so new,
Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor help for pain;
And we are here as on a darkling plain*

*Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight,
Where ignorant armies clash by night.*

Concluding with a Beautiful and Emotional Sioux¹ prayer:

*Oh, Great Spirit ,whose voice I hear in the wind,
Whose breath gives life to all the world .
Hear me; I need your strength and wisdom .
Let me walk in beauty,
and make my eyes ever behold the red and purple
sunset.
Make my hands respect the things you have made
and my ears sharp to hear your voice
Make me wise so that I may understand
the things you have taught my people .
Help me to remain calm and strong
in the face of all that come towards me .
Let me learn the lessons you have hidden in every
leaf and rock.
Help me seek pure thought and act with the
intention of helping others .
Help me find compassion without empathy
overwhelming me .
I seek strength , not to be greater than my
brother,
but to fight my greatest enemy -Myself(My fears and ,my doubts).
Make me always ready to come to you with clean hands and straight eyes
So when life fades, as the fading sunset,
my spirit may come to you without shame .*

(translated by Lakota Sioux Chief yellow Lark in 1887)
published in Native American Prayers –by the Episcopal Church

¹ **Sioux** are Native American and First Nations people in North America. The term can refer to any ethnic group within the Great Sioux Nation or any of the nation's many language dialects.

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