

HUMAN VALUES

We are just about to celebrate Diwali Festival. Now a days celebration has become a phenomenon. We may get joy out of celebration but not happiness. Today, one does not have time to look into his own self (Spiritually) . The distance between two places in the world is shortening but the distance between two human beings is ever increasing. The obvious reason is life has become too much materialistic. Life can be lived driven by desires or knowledge. If life is lived based on desires, it is easy and provides instant gratification. When one tests the life based on luxury and comforts, he does not dare to venture in to a life based on knowledge (*Gyana*). A lifestyle based on desire gives quick and visible result but in the process human values are eroded whereas the life style based on *Gyana* may appear to be difficult however, at the end of the journey it ensures abundant happiness which is a part of eternal satisfaction as against more tangible joy derived with materialistic approach.

Life is a Festival bestowed by Almighty to *Jiva*. One should live life with human values. **Human values are the virtues that guide us to take into account the human element when one interacts with other human beings.** The legacy of how to inculcate human values is found in our *Shastra*. In today's fast moving life, we as parents do not have time to interact even with our children on daily or weekly basis. We are overlooking our

parents. We hardly interact with our neighbours. The human touch is ignored in all our day today life. We are so much concentrated on our goal of wealth accumulation completely ignoring the wealth of human relationship.

We are missing one point that we are human beings and we need human beings to live on this earth. There is hardly anything that is not covered in our rich legacy of *Shastra* to discover new ways and means for human value appreciation. The common ground of all Religions is human value. The human values are embedded in traditions; Human values can't be equated with rituals and symbols. One should follow such traditions and rituals without any advocacy to follow Religion blindly and one need to look at the customs and tradition with a scientific approach.

India has preserved human values by introducing festivals, traditions and customs. As we know, *Smriti* (memory) has limited life with reference to place and time, while process of practicing values through other modes known as *Shruti*, is timeless.

Practicing Human Values are social, ethical and spiritual process in the mankind. The Western world needs to have more experience in practicing human values. They are creating opportunities based on their social requirements. Unless the society respects each human being, human value chain can not be tied up. For example a marriage ceremony is an acceptance of natural need of human being, prevalent with utmost dignity, for years in India. The relationship between two families is at

paramount with dignified human values. Other examples of human value appreciation are respecting elders, teachers, parents , helping needy person in society.

The reality is, Western world has been practicing Dharma (to act), Arth (Creation of money) and Kaam (desire). They are far ahead in following this path with full of enthusiasm but they know less about MOKSH (Spiritual eternity or happiness within soul). We follow them till they travel and stop there. We need to recall our rich legacy of practicing human values. We need to see whose are we rather than who are we. Money has limited purchasing power. Let us respect relationship and follow the call of conscience. Some retrospection is suggested by posing question to ourselves whether birth has taken as per our choice, whether death is as per our expected time, whether the result of our efforts is as per our expectation andHave faith in Supreme Power .

Let us progress by respecting human values.