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Do Things in Time and on Time

The most precious thing in life, more precious than even gold and diamond, is time. Every hour, every minute, every second is precious since life is made of seconds, minutes, hours, days and years. The time that is gone is gone for ever. It will never return howmuchsoever we try. Our destiny is written on seconds, minutes, hours, days, months or years. If we waste them or fritter them away as things of no value, we will have to repent for the whole life, as in those missed moments may have been hidden the secrets of our success. Procrastination is our enemy number one. Do day what you have to do tomorrow, because who knows whether the tomorrow may ever come again in your life. Here we have to distinguish between doing good things and doing bad things. Do not procrastinate doing good things till another time. But do procrastinate doing bad things. The same advice was given by Ravana, the King of Lanka, to Lakshmana, when the latter went to him at the behest of Ram at the time when Ravana was lying on the death bed. Ravana told Lakshmana that he erred in putting off building stairs upto the Heaven time and again. He erred again in hurrying to incur enmity with Ram. His erroneous decisions spelt doom for him and he could not accomplish the great task of erecting stairs upto the Heaven, though, of course, he was capable of doing it. The reversal of priorities brought about disaster in his life. Ravana's story has a great meaning for us all. We should never put off doing good things till another time, nor should we hurry doing bad things. So do all good things in time and on time, if you wish to fill your lives with honours, laurels and all good things life has to offer.

A needy man came to king Yudhisthra, the eldest of the Pandava brothers and begged help "All right, come tomorrow, your need will be fulfilled", said Yudhisthra.

Bhimsen, the second brother of the Pandavas got up and he sounded the gong denoting some great victory. "What is this Bhimsen ? Why this gong of victory," Yudhisthra asked surprisingly. "Sir, you have got the better of Kaal, the god of death. Hence, this gong. You are sure to live till tomorrow, you can flout and ignore Death for twenty four hours. Is it not a great victory ?" replied Bhimsen in his own style.

Yudhisthra realised the implication of Bhimsen's statements. Whatever I have to do, I must do it here and now. Why postpone it till tomorrow or some future date ?

He called back the man and did the needful. The common adage very nicely points to this fact of life, it is an important rule of conduct.

Do today what you postpone doing tomorrow. Do that just now, which you intend doing today. Deluge may come off any moment. In that case, when next would you do it ?

The value of time is often realised after the event or after the person concerned has suffered the consequences of being late. Ask the young man the value of a year, who failed in a class. He knows how painful it is to see those going to the

higher class, who till a month back, read with him. Ask the person the value of a month, who did not go to his work for a month and had a very difficult time for the whole year. Ask the incumbent the value of a day, who joined his service a day after his colleague had given the joining report. He had to be his junior for the whole life. Ask the candidate the value of an hour, who reached late the venue of interview and was rejected for not being serious about his job. Ask the examinee who was late by more than half an hour and was not allowed to enter the examination hall. Ask the traveller the value of time, who missed his train by one minute. The competitor, who wins or loses the gold at the olympics by a second or a fraction of a second will tell you what every moment means to succeed in life. We all know that the great general of all time, Napoleon Bonaparte, lost the battle of his life, because his regiment had reached the spot a few minutes late.