

## Value Education Concepts as reflected in Sri Sundara Kanda of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana



### Education

**KEYWORDS :** Value, Value Education, Value Education Concept, reflected.

S. Srinivasan

Research Scholar, Department of Education, Alagappa University, Karaikkudi (TN) 630003, India

### ABSTRACT

*Values include all important religious beliefs, moral attitudes, philosophies of life and political ideologies. Values help in sustaining the society and its culture. Any significant change in society brings about corresponding change in the culture. Similarly in individual life, values have occupied an important place. If individuals confide their feelings and emotions, transformation will take place and peace and tranquility will be achieved. Thus Values are the treasure of life making humans healthy and wealthy. Due to value deterioration in our present way of mechanical life, time has come for researchers to reflect on the golden messages of ancient Indian literature. Srimad Valmiki Ramayana is an invaluable asset with universal application. The emphasis in this investigation is to identify Value Education Concepts as reflected among the various characters of Sri Sundara Kanda of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana. This study provides with values required in different life situations at school (institution/office) or in the society. It also presents strategies for value inculcation.*

### INTRODUCTION

The German Philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche first used the word 'values' in 1880. The word 'value' comes from Latin root word 'valere' which means something desirable, to be worth, to be strong. Values influence choices and provide a framework for life goals. They are largely culturally oriented, and are formed through the example of others (modeling).

Allport (1950) defines "anything that yields a satisfaction (or provides a means for such satisfaction) is designated as value. Values are what people like or dislike, need, enjoy, desire or what their culture prescribes for them.

Values are closely related with aims of education. Values are part and parcel of the philosophy. Hence aims of education are naturally concerned with values.

Value education consists of developing right feelings and emotions in man. In short, it is the 'training of the heart / mind only'.

### NEED FOR THE STUDY

Ramayana has been studied by many scholars for research purpose from several angles such as a religious text, as an ethical literature, as a literary piece etc. However from the point of view of value education concepts there are practically no studies. So, it was felt that researches on value education in relation to our great epics such as Ramayana, Mahabharata etc should be attempted. This investigation is one such attempt. So the investigator decided to bring out the Value Education Concepts as reflected in Sri Sundara Kanda of great this epic.

### SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study was restricted to 65 verses out of 2865 verses in Sri Sundara Kanda of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana, which are analysed for their Value Education Concepts. This is because Value Implication is very strong in these 65 verses.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

To identify value education concepts as reflected in the verses of Sri Sundara Kanda of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana.

### METHODOLOGY

Content Analysis was the method adopted for the present study. Bernard Berelson defined Content Analysis as "A research technique for the objective, systematic, and quantitative description of manifest content of communications" (Berelson, 74). According to Bernard Berelson there are two types of content analysis: Conceptual Analysis and Relational Analysis. The present study is a conceptual analysis of Sri Sundara Kanda of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana.

The analysis has been done adopting the following steps.

1. Identifying the values in the original 65 verses
2. Describing the philosophical/psychological/sociological

background of each Value Education Concept.

3. Validating the meaning of each value with appropriate description with the help of Bilingual scholars.
4. Providing Transliteration (with suitable accents) of the verses.
5. Describing the context of an event/ statement/ idea in each verse
6. Giving the meaning of each verse reflecting one or more values

### FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The value education concepts identified in Sri Sundara Kanda of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana are given below:

1. Prayer (*Prārthanā*)
2. Offering Salutation (*Namaskārah*)
3. Forbearance (*Kshamatā*)
4. Service to Spouse (*Pati- patni paraspara sevā*)
5. Chastity (*Pātivratyam*)
6. Resisting Intoxicants (*Madirānusevanam*)
7. Treating Women as Mothers (*Mātr-bhāvana*)
8. Right Messengership (*Sudautyam*)
9. Bravery/Courageousness (*Dhairyam*)
10. Helping Attitude (*Sāhāya mano bhāvah*)
11. Duty Consciousness (*Kartavya parāyanatā*)
12. Presence of Mind (*Samayocita Buddhihi*)
13. Ability to differentiate Good and Bad (*Vivekah*)
14. Keen Observation (*Sūkshmekshiyānirīkshanam*)
15. Right Governance (*Samyak-Prasāsanam*)
16. Beauty (*Soundaryam*)
17. Orderliness (*Kramatā*)
18. Discipline (*Anusāsanam*)
19. Bachelorhood / Celibacy (*Brahmacaryam*)
20. Right Guessing (*Samyak-Anumānam*)
21. Non- Stealing (*Asteyah*)
22. Self Control (*Svasamyamah*)
23. Consoling (*Sāntvanam*)
24. Alertness (*Jāgratā*)
25. Dedication (*Arpanam*)
26. Perseverance (*Udyamah*)
27. Concentration (*Dhyāna - Nishthā*)
28. Humbleness (*Vinamratā*)
29. General Obedience (*Sāmānya Vidheyatā*)
30. Showing Love as Teacher (*Guru Sishya Bhāvah*)
31. Grace (*Karunā*)
32. Shedding Tears (*Pralāpah*)
33. Blessing (*Asirvadah*)

### STRATEGIES FOR VALUE INCULCATION

The following characters in Sri Sundara Kanda of Srimad Valmiki Ramayana have revealed the values in various contexts which are given below:

1. Sita--Prayer, Forbearance, Service to spouse, Chastity, Beauty, Discipline, Self- control, Dedication, Concentration, Grace and

## Blessing

2. Sri Rama--Courageousness, Right governance, Discipline and Showing love as teacher.
3. Hanuman-Prayer, Offering salutation, Resisting intoxicants, Treating women as mothers, Right messengership, Bravery, Helping attitude, Duty consciousness, Presence of mind, Ability to differentiate good and bad, Keen observation, Self-control. Discipline, Bachelorhood/Celibacy, Right guessing, Non-stealing, Consoling, Alertness, Detachment, Perseverance, Concentration, Humbleness and General obedience.
4. Lanka Devi--Blessing, Bravery, Helping attitude, Keen observation, Concentration and Grace.

## STRATEGIES:

1. All Faith Prayer (which is a mass – congregation consists of prayers from major religions of the world) may be organized in all schools and colleges to gain communal harmony.
2. Children are fond of hearing stories. But stories should be told not only for entertainment but also for moral value. To inculcate values like Offering salutation, Resisting intoxicants, Ability to differentiate good and bad, Discipline, Celibacy, Alertness, Dedication, Perseverance, Showing love as teacher etc biographies of national leaders, great scientists, artists, sportsmen, teachers, social reformers, freedom fighters should be made known to children. Personal interaction with great scientists and leaders in every field help the students a lot to learn. For example we can remember how Dr. APJ Kalam inspires young learners. Students must be encouraged to watch films on great personalities and social reformers.
3. The values such as Forbearance, Treating women as mothers, Right Messengership, Bravery, Helping Attitude, Duty Consciousness, Presence of mind, Right Governance, Beauty, Orderliness, Non – Stealing, Self control, Humbleness, General obedience and Grace can be inculcated through co – curricular activities like Role – playing, Elocution, Drawing and Painting, Extempore speech, Dramatization, Music, Story – telling, Fancy dress, Mono acting etc.
4. This is also important to inculcate values that a deep introspection about teachers' own value system can be done. It

will enable to develop morality in the student community.

5. Student community can be encouraged to take part in Extra – Curricular Activities such as NCC., NSS., Scouts, Red – cross and Lions club so that values like Service to others, Grace, General obedience, Forbearance etc can be inculcated in youths. There are ample opportunities for the youngsters to take part in these activities and make use of their energy positively.
6. Regular practice of yoga will develop values like Concentration, Keen observation, Discipline, Right guessing, Chastity and Alertness in children.
7. Media Influence destroys values when not checked. We should nullify it consciously which is the need of the hour e.g. Use of Television, Cell-phone, Internet, Face book, etc.
8. We can show films of people who are suffering from chronic – diseases like cancer etc caused by consuming intoxicants. The fear of disease may warn them to resist intoxicants. Also by taking children to Cancer Treatment Hospitals evils of tobacco consumption and other intoxicants may be taught.
8. Our focus should be on classical music, dance, drama, yoga and mediation. It is everyone's duty to safeguard our (Indian) rich, eminent and valuable culture.

## CONCLUSION

Value is a basic guide to moral behavior. It is an idea about the good and the bad and how things should be. It is an ethical standard to judge the system around and operate accordingly. And when this value becomes principle of living it is called real value.

**Dr. A.P.J. Abdulkalam** says, "The further of India lies in the classroom". The first sentence of **Kothari Commission** begins thus: "The destiny of a nation is being shaped inside the classrooms". The researcher concludes here that each child gradually assimilates what is taught in the classroom, along with what he or she sees and experiences to create their own individual set of values. These values will determine the children's attitudes and actions for the rest of their life.

## REFERENCE

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