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SOULMATTERS

Message of Lokmangal



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To understand, analyse, interpret, adopt and speed up the social message of Lokmangal (public wellbeing) from Gita and Ramcharitmanas, we need to read the book "Manas Evam Gita- Lokmangal-Gunjita (Hindi)" by Columbia (USA) based scholar Dr Satya Parkash Agarwal ISBN:81-208-1640-4.

For purification of India, we need to strive for holistic development including

spirituality which calls for *Saatvik Guna* otherwise missing in people including the politicians in power and opposition.

It is pertinent to note that the message of public welfare remained ignored by the *Pandits* and *Purohits* who promoted distorted '*Karmfal*' theory and spread wrong notions for the existence of poor, weak and meek due to their *karma* in the last births. Therefore, showing mercy and sympathy for them is not necessary. On the other hand, the poor became victim of dogmas and kept sitting without work and lost self-confidence. Many understood the message of soul purification difficult to overcome their weaknesses. The fear of hell and expectations of *swarag* (heaven) created by the *Pandits* and *Purohits* kept public in the vicious circle. It was Raja Rammohan Roy who started movement to remove social evils in 1818 by promoting *nishkam karma* (fruitless action) based on Gita.

It is reminded by Gita that great people like Janak conducted public welfare activities throughout their lives without expecting *swarag* (heaven). It needs to be noted that *sanyaas* (renunciation) is not to remain inactive but just sacrificing the fruit of action. Let us note that by making honest efforts with faith certainly leads to protection and progress. Lord Krishan says in *sloka* no 31 of chapter 9 that my devotee never perishes and becomes virtuous and attains abiding peace.

We need to oppose the crimes in the name of religion. Based on the sermons of Gita, service of mankind is the service of God as conveyed by Swami Vivekananda in 1897. The message of Gita and Manas was used by Lokmanya Tilak in his speech in 1897 for advocating the need for freedom of India. Acharya Vinoba's Bhudan Aandolan was based on Gita and Manas. The people of Trinidad Island got motivation from Gita and Manas for protecting the society and working hard.

Let the *karmyogis* be identified and be given the opportunities to prove their worth and potential to work for public wellbeing by avoiding partiality based on ideology, caste and creed. Let *tamshik* behaviour of the *brahmins* and politicians be checked for making appointments on merit cum seniority at all levels of operation in the Indian economy from top to bottom. Let teachers act as managers for making the students and youth climb the stairs of success with morality, opulence, victory and empowerment (MOVE) by believing that Lord Krishan and Arjun are with them. The mantra for the weak is to become unique for surviving, existing and excelling in the present times of competition (healthy as well as unhealthy) where survival of the fittest is the mantra. We need to create and enhance our capacities and capabilities by concentrating on the wisdom in our epics with awakening from the sleep of ignorance.