



S.K.S. SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE (LONDON) – BAL YUVAK MANDAL

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SHIKSHAPATRI BHASHYA SHLOK 26

|| One shall never speak the truth which might bring about harm to oneself or other, nor keep in the company of ungrateful people, nor take any bribe from anyone in social affairs ||

Honesty is certainly the best policy. However there are some expectations to this rule. Maharaj says there is no benefit in speaking the truth if it harms oneself or others and can lead to ahimsa dharma. There is no punya through such actions and all good deeds are nullified. This does not mean we lie when we feel appropriate to do so, only in the above statement. If by speaking truth it does not harm then we must speak the truth.

The second part to this shlok says not to keep in the company of ungrateful persons. Those who do not appreciate help given to them by others are known as a krutagni (ungrateful person). Vidurji explains that even after death the rakshases are not prepared to eat the flesh of these krutagni's. Therefore it is important to break away contact from these people. Maharaj has also mentioned this same thing in the Vachanamrut saying that we must stay away from krutagni's and he has also narrated a story of when he met a krutagni.

RECITE THE STORY FROM THE VACHANAMRUT

The final part to this shlok is not accepting any bribery. It can be bribery money or money from gambling. Money should always be earned honestly and never bribed out of a person. Money not belonging to you should not be taken unless it is earned through hard work. If this is not achieved it is said the person is made to suffer and it can affect their family and future generations.

Questions:

- 1. When can we not speak the truth? GIVE EXAMPLES**
- 2. When Maharaj was on Van vichran he met a krutagni, what was his name?**
- 3. What type of bribes can people offer?**