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## SHIKSHAPATRI BHASHYA SHLOK 37

|| *One shall not go empty handed to a religious preacher, deity or ruler nor commit a breach of trust or indulge in self-praise* ||

### **Discuss:-**

Who is a Guru?

Who is a Deity?

Who is a King?

When we go to any of the above we never go empty handed as stated by the Shrutis. This shows a sign of respect and gratification, the deity for sustaining our life and giving us the chance to realise and worship Him, the guru for giving us the right teachings and the ruler for protecting us. By taking a gift you are proclaiming your faith, devotion and duty to such persons. It is not what you give but with what love and devotion you give which is most importance. Bhakta Sudama was poor but gave a handful of rice with so much love that Lord Krishna was awe struck.

A breach of trust means committing yourself to some act for another and then betraying such trust. By breaching trust, we often hurt others and put them in awkward positions. By building their hopes with your promises, only to be broken can lead to shattering consequences. One who is always true to his word is always famed and adorned in this world.

One shall never indulge in self-praise and slander others to make themselves superior. This is said to destroy ones punya. Bhisma has said 'Those who never slander nor praise themselves attain great qualities achieving everlasting fame and respect.

Shatanand Swami also goes onto say that others should be praised in a justifiable amount. E.g. Praising great saints who are mountains of spirituality. It is always better to praise the Maharaj as he is the one who has given you the qualities to prosper in life. Without Him you would be nothing, so the best one to praise is Maharaj and His saints. It is this shlok that makes a person desirable and gives fame.