Supplementary Reading 01

The Story of Dharmavyadha

Important questions and answers

Q.I Answer each of the following in a sentence or two :

1. Why was Kaushika very angry with the bird?

Answer: Kaushika was very angry with the bird because it with its loud twitter disturbed his Vedic studies.

2. Why did the housewife delay in giving alms to Kaushika?

Answer: The housewife was serving her husband who had just come therefore she delayed in giving alms to Kaushika.

3. Who did she advise Kaushika to meet?

Answer: She advised Kaushika to meet Dharmavyadha in Mithila.

4. Why did Kaushika feel stunned at the words of Dharmavyadha?

Answer: Kaushika was stunned because Dharmavyadha knew who had sent him though he had not told him.

5. What did Kaushika do after his visit to Dharmavyadha?

Answer: Kaushika spent his days in the service of his parents and in teaching the Vedas to others.

6. What did Sage Markandeya tell Yudhishtira in the end?

Answer: Sage Markandeya told Yudhishtira that in every division of people, there are enlightened souls who can guide even scholars and masters of Vedic teachings.

Q.II Answer each of the following in a paragraph :

1. Narrate how Kaushika felt on listening to the lady.

Answer: Kaushika was shocked when the lady knew about the crane incident, even though she wasn't there. Instead of getting angry, he felt surprised and realized she was very wise. She told him to meet Dharmavyadha in Mithila, who could teach him about Dharma. Kaushika felt eager to learn and decided to follow her advice. This made him think more deeply about what is right and wrong.

2. What are the essentials of Dharma, according to Dharmavyadha?

Answer: Dharmavyadha taught that people should do their natural duties honestly. They should be truthful, patient, and kind. In good times or bad, one should stay calm and not let emotions take over. He also stressed the importance of praying, meditating, and seeing the good in others without boasting. He said people should visit holy places, bathe in sacred rivers, and most importantly, respect and serve their parents and the teacher who has given them knowledge.

3. What can we learn from the story of Dharmavyadha?

Answer: The story of Dharmavyadha teaches us several important lessons. We should always be truthful and honest in our actions. It reminds us to respect our elders, including parents and teachers, and to carry out our responsibilities with dedication. The story also encourages us to see the good in others and to remain humble, appreciating the positive qualities in people around us.

Extra questions and answers from The Story of Dharmavyadha lesson:

1. Why did Kaushika leave his home and aged parents?

Answer: Kaushika left his home and aged parents to surpass everyone in learning and to continue his studies of the Vedas in the forest.

2. What happened to the crane when Kaushika looked at it in anger?

Answer: When Kaushika looked at the crane in anger, the crane was reduced to ashes due to his ascetic power.

3. Why did Kaushika get angry at the lady when he went to beg for alms?

Answer: Kaushika got angry at the lady because she took some time to bring him alms, as she was attending to her husband's needs.

4. What did the lady tell Kaushika when he glared at her?

Answer: The lady told Kaushika that she was not a crane to get burned by his anger and advised him to learn the secrets of Dharma from Dharmavyadha in Mithila.

5. How did the lady know about the crane incident?

Answer: The story implies that the lady had great wisdom and insight, which enabled her to know about the crane incident without being present.

6. What did the lady advise Kaushika to do to understand Dharma?

Answer: The lady advised Kaushika to go to Mithila and meet Dharmavyadha to learn the mysteries of Dharma.

7. How did Dharmavyadha respond when Kaushika asked him to teach the secrets of Dharma?

Answer: Dharmavyadha humbly said that he was an ordinary man and could only share the path he followed, which included being truthful, patient, merciful, and respectful towards his parents and teacher.

8. What realization did Kaushika have after meeting Dharmavyadha and the learned lady?

Answer: Kaushika realized that he was not as great as he thought and understood the greatness of the lady and Dharmavyadha.

9. How did Dharmavyadha serve his parents, and why was this important to him?

Answer: Dharmavyadha served his aged parents with devotion, which he considered an important principle of Dharma.

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