

Glory of Virtue

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31 Virtue yield fame and wealth besides; hence, what else can more of a blessing to people than virtue (dharma)? 32 Following the path of virtue, people get benefit; ignoring virtue, they get only evil. 33 Every one should do good in the right way, in mind, world and act, according to his ability and opportunity. 34 The act which is done with a pure heart alone is termed virtuous; that which is done with an impure heart will be considered only as an empty show. 35 The wise deem an act as virtuous, only when it is done, free from the four blemishes of wrath, desire, harsh word and envy. 36 If a good act is done in the early years, casting out thoroughly the inclination to put it off to later days, that act will stand one in good stead till the end of his life. 37 One rides in a palanquin; another bears it – this is visible testimony to the glory of virtue – Why seek support for it in sacred lore - Shastras and Vedas? 38 A good act steadily done in this life becomes a stone, blocking the gateway to re-birth, for the doer. 39 That which is got through the path of virtue will confer happiness. The wealth amassed through evil ways will yield neither fame nor happiness. 40 Every one should ever and in all ways do good; all evil actions leading to blame should be strictly avoided.