

# **VALUE EDUCATION IN BHARTIYA KNOWLEDGE SYSTEM [BKS]**

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**Semester : 2**

**Shukla Neha**

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# **The Story of a Blue Jackal** **(from Panchatantra)**

**Once upon a time, there lived a jackal in the jungle. One day, a jackal reached a nearby village in search of food. As soon as he reached there, the dogs in the neighbourhood surrounded him and started attacking him. The jackal ran for his life and reached a washerman's house. He noticed tubs of blue dye kept in the backyard and jumped into one of them. When he came out, the dogs could not recognise him and were terrified. They started panicking and ran away.**

**After some time, a jackal reached the jungle and noticed similar reactions from his fellow jungle mates. He was unable to understand what was happening with him. When he went to drink water, he saw his reflection in the river and understood what was happening.**



**He thought to play a prank on the animals and announced that he was sent by Bramha, the creator of the universe who had asked him to be the king of the jungle. All the animals obeyed to all his instructions and served him with respect. This went on for some days. Jackal was**





**One day, while a jackal was sitting with the animals surrounded by him, he heard a pack of wolves howling at a distance. Hearing this, he could not control himself and started howling too. Hearing him, all the other animals realized that they had been fooled by an ordinary jackal. They all attacked and killed him.**



## **Management Lessons from the story) Inference drawn from the story:**

**In the story, the jackal's instinct to howl could not control himself from howling and ended up losing his life. Similarly, in life, we come across many people who are not what they pretend to be. However, one day or the other, their true selves come out to the public, and the results are beyond imagination. Hence, we should always try to stay away from such people.**

**The jackal lied to the animals about being sent by the creator of the world and lived the life of his dreams. Ultimately, when his truth was exposed, he was not forgiven by all the other animals. The story teaches us that in life, we should always try to speak the truth since lies may give us comfort for a short period, but as soon as the truth is revealed, it causes problems.**

**The story teaches us to always speak the truth, no matter how difficult the circumstance is because lying can lead to worsen the issues. It is obvious that, honest people are always trustworthy, loyal and well- liked by everyone.**



## **Moral of the Story:**

- 1. True nature cannot be hidden for long time.**
- 2. Excess of greed is always harmful.**
- 3. One who abandons one's own folk will perish.**
- 4. Life full of lies is very short-lived.**

# **The Brahmin and the Crooks (from Panchatantra)**

**In a small village, there lived an extremely religious brahmin named Rishi Sharma. Each and every morning, he would offer prayers to the Sun God. One day a rich man from another town asked him to carry a pooja ceremony at his residence. After performing the rituals, the rich man served the brahmin with a great food and gifted him a plump goat. So, the brahmin thanked the wealthy man and left to his village.**





**While returning home, the brahmin did not want the goat to walk all the way to his village, so he carried the goat on his shoulders. On the way, three crooks spotted him. They were very hungry and had not eaten anything for several days. So, they decided to play a trick to take away the goat from the brahmin. The plan was to scare the brahmin so that he would leave the goat and run away.**





**The first crook went up to the brahmin and said, "You look like a spiritual man. So why would you carry a dog on your shoulders ?" The brahmin was surprised and replied, "Are you blind? It is not a dog. It is a goat". The crook further said, "Please carry on your journey. if you believe that it is a goat. But anybody can easily see that it is a dog" The brahmin neglected his words and kept walking ahead.**



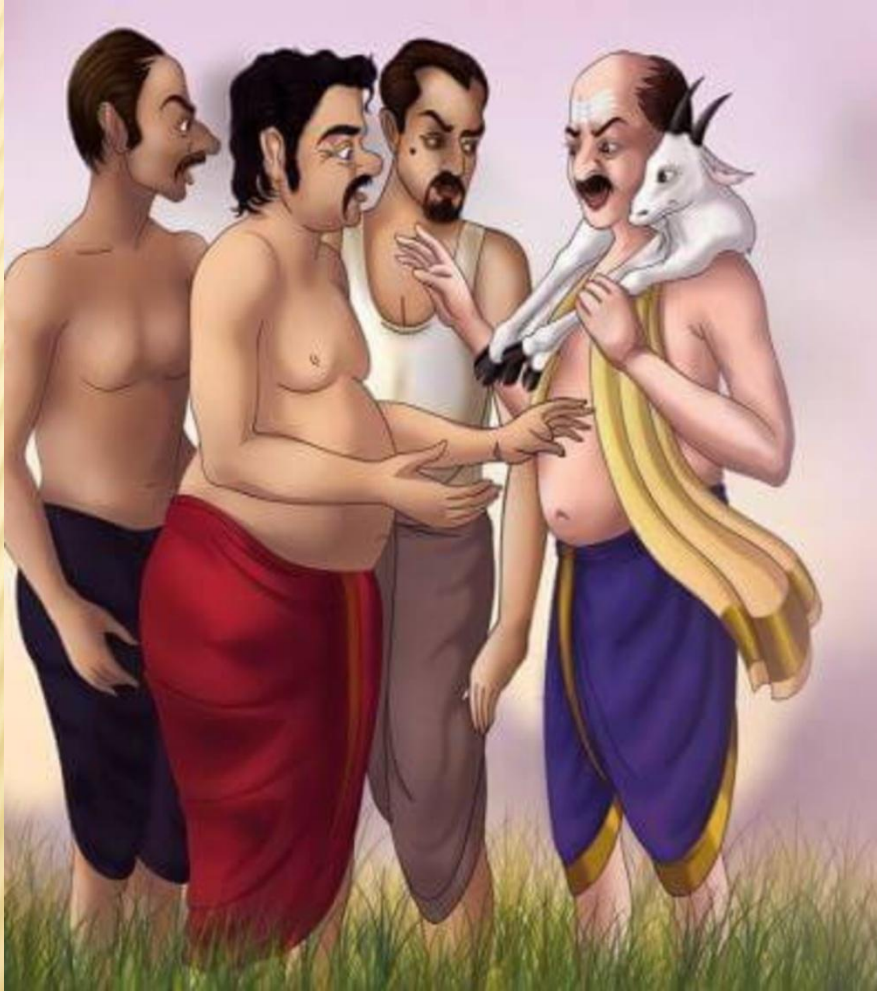
**After some time , the second crook approached the brahmin and said, "Is it right for man like you to hold a dead calf on your shoulders?" The brahmin was shocked and wondered that why the goat could not look like a goat to the other people. So, he said, "It is not a dead calf. It is a goat". The crook answered, "Do you think I would waste my precious time to come and inform you that it is dead calf?" The brahmin, started thinking that there was something wrong with what he was holding.**





**After some time again, the third crook came up to him and asked, "Why on earth a person would carry a donkey on his shoulders ?" Listening to this, the brahmin was feared whether he was holding a goat or a monster and suddenly dropped the goat on the floor and ran away shouting, "It's a ghost! It changes from a goat to a dog to a calf and a donkey!"**





**The crooks then came together and carried the goat, laughing at the stupidity of the highly educated brahmin. Thereafter they happily feasted on the goat.**

► **(Management Lessons from the story) Inference drawn from the story:**

**In the story, although the brahmin was knowledgeable, he thought that he was carrying a monster and was easily carried away by the crooks. The story teaches us that acquiring bookish knowledge is not sufficient.**

**But one should also have common sense.**

**In the story, the crooks tried to play with the sacred image of brahmins to make the brahmin get rid of the goat, which happened so at the end. The story conveys the message that some beliefs of our caste system can sometimes be easily used against us, hence one should be careful to analyse the things and act accordingly.**

**In the story the three crooks repeatedly attempted to convince the brahmin that he was not carrying the goat, for which the brahmin believed. The story teaches us that one should always believe in self and do not get carried away with others even if it is continuous hammered on you.**



► **Moral of the Story:**

- 1. All the bookish knowledge is useless without common sense.**
- 2. Do not believe anyone blindly. Use your brain and intelligence.**
- 3. If a lie is repeated numerous times, it becomes the truth for a fool.**

# **Satyakama: The Seeker of Truth** **(from Chandogya Upanishad)**

**Satyakama was a boy who lived in the dense forests with his mother Jabala. Satyakama had a strong desire to learn meditation and know the nature of the brahman. So, he went to the ashrama of Sage Haridrumata Gautama and said, "Sir. I desire to live under you as a Brahmacharin. Please accept me as your student." The sage asked him, "Of what family are you, my boy ?" Satyakarma fearlessly answered, "My mother said that I should tell you that her name is Jabala and my name is Satyakama and I do not know more about my family. Hence, I am Satyakama Jabala."**

**Appreciating his honesty and courage to speak the truth, the sage accepted him**







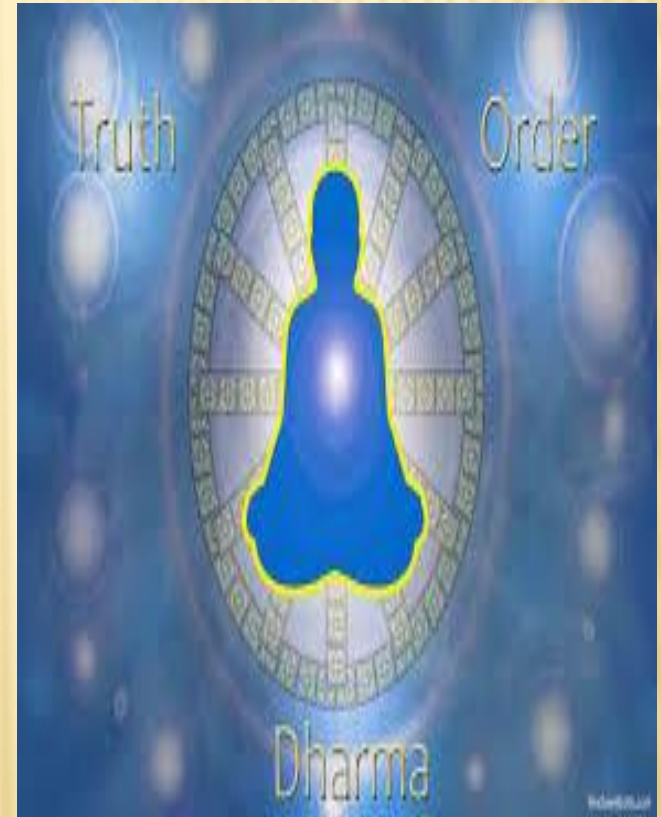
**The next day, sage Gautama initiated Satyakama into a meditation to quiet his mind. This was the first step to the knowledge of the Brahman, that is Brahma Vidya Knowing the Self. This went on for some days.**

**One day, Rishi Haridrumata Gautama took Satyakama to the pasture where hundreds of cows were grazing. To the surprise of Satyakama, Gautama sorted out four hundred lean and weak cows and said to Satyakama, "Dear boy, take these cows to the forest and graze them. Return the cows when they are multiplied to thousand cows".**

**Gautama then told Satyakama that he was about to enter a different type of journey. To this, Satyakama had many doubts in his heart, but in respect to his Guru's words, he left the gurukul with the cows for the deepest part of the forest.**

**Deep in the forest, Satyakama lost all sense of time. At the beginning, Satyakama felt lonely, but soon he sought companionship in the cows and the surrounding nature. He even forgot the human language.**

**In due course of time, his mind had become completely silent and even the very goal of his journey was forgotten. He began enjoying his life in the forest. He became one with the nature around him and completely alive in the moment, lost in ecstasy and joy.**





**He took care of the cows. His cows ate fresh grass and drank pure water from the streams and soon became very healthy.**

**Satyakama stayed in the deep forest for many years, living a peaceful and happy life, so much so that he even forgot the goal of returning to his guru with a thousand cows. Satyakama never felt alone. Every living creature became a part of his family.**

**One day, one of the Cow approached Satyakama and said, "Dear boy, we are now a thousand in number and we should return to the Master". The Cow also said to Satyakama, "I shall teach you one quarter of the Brahman or God. He is Prakashavan or the Radiant. He who meditates on Brahman as the Radiant, becomes radiant in this world." Thus, having spoken the Cow said to Satyakama, "A**

**teach you more".**



**He started his journey and was moving in the direction towards his Guru's ashrama. In the evening when the cows came together, kindled a fire there, added fuel to the fire, penned the cows and sat down near them behind the fire, facing east. The Fire addressed him and said, "Dear boy, I will teach you second quarter of the Brahman. He is Anantavan or the Endless. One who knows Him and meditates upon him as Endless, becomes endless in this world". Then the fire told him that a swan was going to tell him about the third quarter of the Brahman.**

**Satynkama continued to drive the cows towards the Guru's ashrama. Towards evening again when the cows came together, he kindled a fire there, added fuel to the fire, penned the cows and sat down near them behind the fire, facing east. All of a sudden, a swan came flying and said, "Satyakama ! I shall teach you the third quarter of Brahman. He is called Jyotishman or the Effulgent. One who knows him and meditates upon him as the Effulgent, becomes effulgent in this world." Then the swan told him that a waterfowl would teach him the last part of the Brahman.**



**On the following day, once again, Satyakama drove the cows in the direction of his Guru's ashrama. Towards the evening when the cows came together, he kindled a fire there, added fuel to the fire, penned the cows and sat down near them behind the fire, facing east. Then, a waterfowl came before him and said, "Satyakama ! I shall teach you the fourth and last part of Brahman. He is Ayatanavan or the All- supporting. One who knows him and meditates upon him as the All- supporting, becomes That in this world."**

**Satyakama reached the Guru's ashram with the thousand cows. Upon seeing them all, the master exclaimed that now one thousand and one cows had returned. He declared "Tat Tvam Asi" or "Thou art that". In other words, Satyakarma himself had lost all sense of his former identity, and had simply become one of the cows. Satyakama was so empty of identity, and in a state of pure listening, that the Guru's words just penetrated his being and became a reality in him. In that moment, Satyakama got enlightened. Guru further asked him, "Dear boy, your face shines with the knowledge of Brahman. Who taught you that ?"**

**Satyakama, told his guru about his four teachers and said, "Sir, I now request you to explain it to me personally. Because I know that the knowledge received directly from one's own Guru becomes perfect." Then Rishi Haridrumata Gautama, the respected teacher of Satyakama, taught him the same thing again by adding more meaning to all that was learnt by Satyakama. Thus, Satyakama got the full knowledge of Brahman from his Guru and later, he himself became a great teacher.**





► **(Management Lessons from the story) Inference drawn from the story:**

**In the story, Gautama tried to create the situation to learn by himself so he asked Satyakama to take the cows to the forest and graze them and return the cows when they are multiplied to thousand cows. The story teaches us that master has the power to create the right situation in which a disciple can flower. It is through the guidance and instruction of an enlightened master that a seeker can reach the state of the ultimate bliss.**

**In the story, when Gautama asked Satyakama to take the four hundred cows and return back when they turn to thousand, Satyakama had many doubts in his heart, but in respect to his Guru's words, he obeyed his guru. Hence, Satyakama was able to surpass the ordinary thinking and reach a higher level of consciousness. The story teaches us that, like any spiritual seeker, one should be intelligent enough to listen to his master's words and the courage to practice the Guru's instruction.**

**The story even teaches us that, although master supports in the process of transformation, but the first step is to be taken by the disciple. Once the step is taken, then the possibility towards enlightenment and eternal bliss becomes a reality.**

### **Moral of the Story:**

- 1. There is a necessity for commitment to the truth.**
- 2. Believe in yourself and believe in your guru whether it is your teacher, your parents or your elders.**
- 3. Taking the first step is really a need of an hour.**









