

Lecturesheet-2**Date: 22/06/2020**

Paropakara (Benevolence): The attitude of doing good for others is called benevolence or paropakara. It is a part of religion. A benevolent person always think for others. They want nothing in exchange of it.

Importance of Benevolence: The importance of benevolence is immense. According to the Hinduism, Ishvara resides in all creatures. So to serve the creature means to serve Ishvara. Ishvara is pleased with serving the creatures. A great pleasure is derived out of benevolence. It enlarges our mind. It increases our devotion to Ishvara. Peace prevails in the society. It helps sympathize with others. It helps to love each other.

Benevolence of Bhima: In the Mahabharata, there was a severe enmity between the Kauravas and the Pandavas. The Kauravas were wicked. Once, they wanted to send the Pandavas with Kunti to the wood and kill them through an evil design. But the Pandavas were saved for their intelligence. Then they used to live in the city of Ekachakra in the guise of Brahmins. There they took shelter in the house of a Brahmin.

One day Kunti heard an uproar of crying in the house of the Brahmin. She went there and wanted to know the reason of the crying. The Brahmin said, "there is a wood near the city. A monster named Baka lived there. Everyday he was to be supplied with a man, two buffaloes and a large quantity of rice for his meals. Otherwise, he will swallow all. Today it's the turn of my family.

Listening to the Brahmin, Kunti said, "Don't worry. I have five sons. Among them, Bhima, the second is very strong and mighty. He will go to that monster. The Brahmin said, "No, no, it should not be. You are our refugee. We cannot do any harm to you. None will return if any one goes to him".

Kunti assured him and said, "Do not be afraid of. Bhima will return when he kills that monster. But you do not speak it to anyone. Then Kunti sent Bhima to the monster.

The monster was not in his den. Bhima sat and waited. He was taking monster's foods joyfully. At that time, the monster came and found him having his food. He grew very angry. He broke a stem of a tree and chased him. He threw the stem upon Bhima. Bhima smiled and caught it with his left hand. He threw it away. The monster grew more raged at that. He came running and caught hold of Bhima. Bhima stood up and killed the monster with a single dash.

As a result, all the city dwellers were saved and they started rejoicing hearing the news of the death of that monster. The other monsters too left the wood and went elsewhere. But for Kunti's forbidding, the Brahmin said to all, "A benevolent great man has killed the monster Baka thinking our welfare."