

सुभाषितम् SUBHĀṢITAM

शकटं पञ्चहस्तेन दशहस्तेन वाजिनम् ।
हस्ती शतहस्तेन देशत्यागेन दुर्जनम् ॥
śakaṭam pañcahastena daśahastena vājinam ।
hastī śatahastena deśatyāgena durjanam ॥

Keep away from a bullock cart by five armlengths, a horse by ten arm lengths, an elephant by thousand arm lengths. And in case of an evil person get out of the place right away.

सन्तोषस्त्रिषु कर्तव्यः स्वदारे भोजने धने ।
त्रिषु चैव न कर्तव्योऽध्ययने तपदानयोः ॥
santoṣastriṣu kartavyaḥ svadāre bhojane dhane ।
triṣu caiva na kartavyo'dhyayane tapadānayoḥ ॥

Be content with what you have already got as wife, food and income. But don't ever be content with your knowledge, self-improvement and charity.

सुश्रान्तोऽपि वहेद् भारं शीतोष्णं न च पश्यति ।
सन्तुष्टश्चरते नित्यं त्रीणि शिक्षेच्च गर्दभात् ॥
suśrānto'pi vahed bhāraṁ śītoṣṇam na ca paśyati ।
santuṣṭaścarate nityaṁ trīṇi śikṣecca gardabhāt ॥

The donkey teaches us three things; to work tirelessly for the master, stoicity and contentedness.

इन्द्रियाणि च संयम्य बकवत् पण्डितो नरः ।
देशकालबलं ज्ञात्वा सर्वकार्याणि साधयेत् ॥
indriyāṇi ca saṁyamya bakavat paṇḍito naraḥ ।
deśakālabalam jñātvā sarvakāryāṇi sādhayet ॥

A clever man must concentrate his attention on his goal just like a crane. When it spots a fish it stands immobile eyes fixed on the target.

प्रत्युत्थानं च युद्धं च संविभागं च बन्धुषु ।
स्वयमाक्रम्य भुक्तं च शिक्षेच्चत्वारि कुक्कुटात् ॥

pratyutthānaṃ ca yuddhaṃ ca saṁvibhāgaṃ ca bandhuṣu ।
svayamākramya bhuktaṃ ca śikṣecatvāri kukkuṭāt ॥

The cock imparts four lessons; rising early, being ever ready to defend or attack, giving due shares to others and grabbing own share of food.

बह्वाशी स्वल्पसन्तुष्टः सुनिद्रो लघुचेतनः ।
स्वामिभक्तश्च शूरश्च षडेते श्वानतो गुणाः ॥

bahvāśī svalpasantuṣṭaḥ sunidro laghucetanaḥ ।
svāmibhaktaśca śūraśca ṣaḍete śvānato guṇāḥ ॥

When dog gets food, it overeats. If it does not get to eat anything, it is not worried. It just goes to sleep contentedly. But even a slight noise wakes it up. The dog is a very loyal pet and never is shy of fighting feorciuously. Learn these six lessons from a dog.

प्रभूतं कार्यमल्पं वा यन्नरः कर्तुमिच्छति ।
सर्वारम्भेण तत्कार्यं सिंहादेकं प्रचक्षते ॥

prabhūtaṃ kāryamalpaṃ vā yannaraḥ kartumicchati ।
sarvārambheṇa tatkāryaṃ siṃhādekaṃ pracakṣate ॥

Whatever the project a person has to execute, the lion teaches us to begin it with full thrust of your power and not to relax till the task is completed.

अर्थनाशं मनस्तापं गृहे दुश्चरितानि च ।
वञ्चनं चाऽपमानं च मतिमान्न प्रकाशयेत् ॥

arthanaśaṃ manastāpaṃ gr̥he duścāritāni ca ।
vañcanaṃ cā'pamānaṃ ca matimānna prakāśayet ॥

A wise person must not reveal to others the loss of money, the deep wound of heart, scandal of the family, the incidents of getting cheated or insulted.

अनभ्यासे विषं शास्त्रमजीर्णो भोजनं विषम् ।
दरिद्रस्य विषं गोष्ठी वृद्ध्य तरुणी विषम् ॥
anabhyāse viṣaṁ śāstramajirṇo bhojanaṁ viṣam ।
daridrasya viṣaṁ goṣṭhī vṛddhasya taruṇī viṣam ॥

Learning without exercise is poison; a meal without appetite is poison; living in society of a poor man is poison and for an old husband, a young wife is poison.

संसार तापद्धानां त्रयो विश्रान्तिहेतवः ।
अपत्यं च कलत्रं च सतां संगतिरेव च ॥
saṁsāra tāpadgdhānāṁ trayo viśrāntihetavaḥ ।
apatyaṁ ca kalatraṁ ca satāṁ saṅgatireva ca ॥

In this world, the hot hell of miseries, only three things provide some cool relief: good offspring, devoted wife and the company of noble people.

किं तया क्रियते धेन्वा या न दोग्धी न गर्भिणी ।
कोऽर्थः पुत्रेण जातेन यो न विद्वान् न भक्तिमान् ॥
kiṁ tayā kriyate dhenvā yā na dogdhī na garbhinī ।
ko'rthaḥ putreṇa jātena yo na vidvān na bhaktimān ॥

What is the use of a barren cow that can't give milk? What is the use of giving birth to a son who neither is a scholar nor devoted?

मूर्खश्चिरायुर्जातो तस्माज्जातमृतौ वरः ।
मृतः स चाऽल्पदुःखाय यावज्जीवं जडौ दहेत् ॥
mūrkhāścirāyurjāto tasmājjātamṛtau varaḥ ।
mṛtaḥ sa cā'lpaduḥkhāya yāvajjīvaṁ jaḍau dahet ॥

A son dead soon after birth is preferable to an idiot son with a long life. The dead son causes grief once for a brief period. But the living idiot is a life long grief.