

ESSAY COMPETITION 2010-2011

ESSAY TOPIC: - What can I learn from the Ramayana?

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As being a student in a foreign country, there are some things that are important without being from where you are. The culture that affects the society of being no matter where you are from is the true values which connect all the ethics together. There are some things which change and also have different meanings; however have the same goal to make one understand. As how some people say that there is always something new to learn in different types of society and culture. We get our culture and our fundamental concepts from our holy books, no matter which religion you belong in. In Hinduism, there are the two major bibles which we follow and they are The Mahabharata and The Ramayana. Ramayana is the immortal tale of Shri Rama that teaches us the values of love, devotion, duty, relationships, dharma and karma. It is a legendary story about Ram, who is a big worshipper of Dharma. Recitation of the Ramayana earns great peace in the soul. It was noted to have been happened in 1500th BC. Rama and Sita are seen as the ideal married couple. There are a lot of good values to learn from "The Ramayana", however these are some of them and they are leadership qualities, brotherly love and the value of a promise. I have learned all these good qualities from the Ramayana.

Firstly, Lord Rama is known as the best leader of all times. The qualities of Sri Rama are a model and a guideline for every leader at any levels of organization, society and country. The leader is an important part of the project. Napoleon once stated that he would have an army of rabbits led by a lion that an army of lions led by a rabbit. I found this very interesting and something to sit and think about. Rama was a leader with rules which he followed himself and also applied to others. He was firm and brave to take all the risk to protect the words his father (king Dasaratha) gave to Kaikeyi. He not only had these extra ordinary qualities but also had believed in people, never left his words and learned everything as time passed and which also made him loyal to his people and he never let them down. Many of these things are tough to find in everyone, that's why there are few people who have the ability to be a leader. He had all that takes to be a good leader with great qualities and also to be an ideal husband, son and a king.

Secondly, brotherly love is a big value which was found between Rama and Laxman. Laxman compromised his 14 years with Rama and for Rama. This is the love and respect which everyone learns from the Ramayana. Similarly when Bharat learned of how his mother Kaikayee had banished Rama from Ayodhya, he was devastated. He immediately made plans to go to Rama and bring him back to rule. When Rama refused to return until his exile period was up, Bharat placed Rama's slippers on the throne and ruled Ayodhya in the name of Rama - keeping his place until he returned. When In today's materialistic world, where property disputes are common between siblings then these stories is something which has a great impact

in today's society. They show a lot of affection for each other and always stood next to each other in bad times as well as good times, which show that they have true devotional love for each other.

Thirdly, Rama stood up on what Dashrath had promised Kaikayee. He had promised her that he would fulfill her two wishes whenever she would like to ask for them. She knew that Rama was going to become the king of Ayodhya and to prevent that she asked Dashrath to make Bharatha (her son) to become the king and also that Rama goes to exile for 14 years. He couldn't disappoint Kaikayee on what she wanted. After, a few years of Rama's exile, she visualized that she had done wrong. The most interesting part for me of this exile was that Rama did not return until his 14 years was not over. This is a true devotion and commitment for one to finish his task. He had to finish his job and not to complain about it.

In conclusion, there are a lot of good values to learn from "The Ramayana", however these are some of them and they are leadership qualities, brotherly love and the value of a promise and commitment. I have learned all these good qualities from the Ramayana. Ramayana is not only an epic of all times but also a book of values which every man in the world can learn from.

Thank You,
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