



# CHANGE MAKERS Teachers or Parents?

## Day: 1

**Teacher:** Did you all watch Mahabharat yesterday from 8:30pm to 9:00pm in the Star Plus Channel?

**Student 1:** No, I was in tuition.

**Student 2:** I had been to a birthday party.

**Student 3:** I had been to Jai Ho with my friend.

**Student 4:** I could not as my mom watches her daily serial at the same time.

**Student 5:** Is something like that coming these days? Oh, I don't know.

**Student 6:** My parents reach home very late and I find watching TV alone very boring.

**Teacher:** O.k. even if your schedule makes it difficult for you to watch the programme at 8:30pm, the same episode repeats the very next day at 5:30am in the same channel. Try watching if you can.

## Day: 2

**Teacher:** How many of you could watch Mahabharat yesterday?

**Student 1:** Waking up at 5:30am is not possible.

**Student 2:** Tried watching but could not understand anything.

**Teacher:** Then why did you not ask your parents?

**Student 2:** I had asked them but they said they were busy then and would think of it later.

Think! How would a teacher who is highly motivated to inculcate right values in his/her students feel in such a situation?

Should s/he give up discussing about moral values in the class? or Should s/he be perseverant in investing five minutes daily

to discuss about such value based topics?

I strongly feel that teachers should not give up their hopes because we all know very well that there can be only one Mahatma Gandhi or one Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam in our class. But who it would be can be known only after the efforts start bearing fruits and it may take years for the child to undergo this process of metamorphosis and evolve as what we wish him/her to be.

## Few Questions:

1. Which great sage of India has written the epic 'Mahabharat'?

2. What was the oath taken by Bhishma?

3. Who is the son of Guru Dronacharya?

4. Are Nakul and Sahadev the sons of Kunti?

5. Who is Dushala?

6. For how many days did the battle of Kurukshetra take place?

7. Who is the son of Abhimanyu?

Answers are mention below. There are many such questions for which it is difficult to get answers from the students of current generation. We need not be surprised even if some adults fail to answer

these questions. I am highly indebted to Delhi Doordarshan which has taken a great initiative to telecast both Ramayan and Mahabharat in Hindi every Sunday from 9:00am to 10:00am during the 80's. That was the time when televisions were found in very few homes. Still families even with a portable black and white TV used to fix it outside their home to enable all the nearby families to watch this one hour programme and I did watch in the same manner. With atleast one television in each and every house now, how many of us have time to watch the 30min programme of Mahabharat telecasted by Star Plus these days. Even if we watch, are we able to do it along with our entire family?

If yes, then I am grateful to all those parents because they know very well that each episode surely has atleast one value to be inculcated by each one of us in our lives.

Which child doesn't like to hear stories from Ramayan and Mahabharat from their parents or grandparents? It is we parents and teachers who are running short of time and ideas to narrate stories to our younger generation. I was surprised when I came to know that parents these days don't mind even spending Rs 1200/- per ticket to watch latest movies on the first day of their release that too with their kids. I find students these days wearing wrist watches and carrying gadgets which cost nothing less than ten thousand rupees. Students of senior

classes are found entering into exam halls without even carrying the necessary stationery items. These are only a few examples and the list is endless.

For a moment let us all think whether or not we are on the right path. If no, then where are we going wrong?

Is it because parents think that schools should take care of these aspects or because teachers feel that nothing can be achieved without the cooperation of parents?

I say both of us are collectively responsible for the current situation.

In that case then what should

be done?

The answer is very simple. Each one of us have to become good role models for our children i.e. we need to discipline our own selves however difficult it may be. Otherwise we better stop expecting the current generation to be better and be able to produce better individuals in future.

Let us all believe in what Mahatma Gandhi said – "Be the change you want to see in the world".



Satya Ramesh  
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The Open Page

## 'RECYCLE TODAY FOR A BETTER TOMMOROW'

**BEST FROM WASTE:** We believe that awareness, respect and understanding of the environment and the earth must be a key philosophy that underpins Chaitanya's educational rationale. The Director of



Chaitanya School, Ms Elizabeth Koshy has taken the initiative to develop a culture that encourages students, teachers and support staff of Chaitanya to reduce waste, reuse and recycle resources and take care when disposing of waste. Best from Waste is an on-going activity at Chaitanya from its very inception.

As a part of this activity, Young Chaitanyans are trained to make useful products from waste material. Their hands cast a magic spell and old shirts

and worn off jean pants turn into beautiful handbags and doormats, small disposed of pencils turn into a useful pencil holder, biscuit wrappers or milk pouches, which generally meet their fate in a dustbin turn into colourful flowers or pom-poms, the dustbin too is neatly and innovatively designed using cartons or boxes discarded as waste, the shells of dry fruits like pistachio which are thrown away as waste get a new look in fabulous show pieces or photo-frames. The students also use old invitation / greeting cards in their school projects or to make new cards. The empty bottles of mineral water are generally thrown away as waste, but Chaitanyans know how to create beautiful wall hangings or show pieces from them.

Through the Best out of Waste projects, eco-friendly Chaitanyans are setting an example in front of the society to reuse and recycle with the 'Mantra' - Recycle today for a better tomorrow!



6. Eighteen Days | 7. Parikshit

1. Sage Vedvyas | 2. Remain Unmarried | 3. Ashwathamma | 4. No, they are the sons of Queen Madri (Wife of King Pandu) | 5. Daughter of King Dhritarashtra |

ANSWERS:

Love is just a word until someone comes along and gives it meaning. ~ Unknown