

A Polite King

Chapter 6

Politeness is a divine quality. It makes both the persons happy - one who shows it and the other who receives it.

Politeness suggests that we should not hurt anyone. Politeness means we behave the way we expect others to behave. Politeness is to be gentle and loving and to show respect to others.

If someone asks you the way, show him the way. That is politeness.

If you do not know a thing, admit it humbly. That is politeness.

When an elder is standing in a bus, offer him or her your seat. That is politeness.

Once upon a time, a poor man who was travelling in a desert drank water from an oasis. It tasted sweet to him. He decided to take the sweet water to his King because he loved him. He took a goatskin full of water.

When he arrived at the

court, the King received

him. The man
presented the water
to the King. By this
time, the water had
become tasteless.
However, the king
showed pleasure in
drinking it. The
queen who was
seated near the king

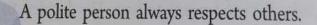


also wanted to drink the water. The King said to her, "It is a gift to the King and only the King shall drink it".

When the man left the court, the King told the queen, "The water the man had brought in a goatskin was putrid. If you had drank it, you would perhaps show the distaste on your face and thus hurt the poor man. Therefore, please excuse me for not sharing it with you."

The King drank the water because he knew that the poor man loved him. His love and devotion for the King had made him carry the water all the way to the King's court. The poor man had hoped that the King would be pleased. The pleasure on the face of the King was his reward. The King rewarded him by showing love and politeness.

Now recall some incidents where someone showed impolite behaviour in public. Suppose, there is a queue in front of a counter. If someone suddenly appears, breaks the queue and goes directly to the counter, this is disregard for people who are in the queue before him.



People always respect a polite person. So, give respect, you will get respect.

'Please', 'Thank you',
'Sorry', 'Excuse me' are
the frequently used
words by a polite
person. Always be
polite in your

words, thoughts and actions. This is

gentlemanly behaviour that will be appreciated by all.

