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Vidura neeti & Chanakya neeti – It is a comprehensive book of advice to one & all though it's taken as a dialogue between the Vidura & King Dhritarashtra. As the story in the epic goes, Pandavas claimed their rightful land from their cousins Kauravas on completion of their exile.



King Dhritarashtra sought Vidura's direction. This collection called as Vidura neethi contains profound insights which he shares with the king while admonishing him to return the kingdom to the Pandavas. 1/11

This would be just and fair. The message and instructions are very useful and meaningful even today. Since it is part of the famous epic Mahabharatha, the text dates back to three thousand years BC.

Much of the stories, narrations, teachings and lessons from this epic though not well documented yet have survived to the test of time. 2 /11

The questions that rose in the mind of the king then are not different today which rises in any ordinary mortal. Strangely the answers given by Mahatma Vidur continue to enlighten us albeit centuries have passed.

The King is curious to get the right answers for his problematic questions. 3/11

We shall dwell on few themes and revisit the wisdom of Vidura neeti. On simple themes like 'sleeplessness' the wise Vidura says People who suffer from sleeplessness are the lovers , those with no moral values ,

people with skills but lacking resources, people who seize the wealth of strong through deceit. 4 /11

This holds good even today undoubtedly. Vidura opines that there are essential qualities for wise rulers such as self-awareness and self-control, have lofty ideals accompanied by clarity of goals.

Being Industriousness is mandating as well as to have sound ethical conduct. In this conversation he says to the king Nishevathe prashasthani ninditani na sevate Anaasthi kashshradhadhaan yetath panditha lakshanam 5/11

He is said to be wise who is unaffected by anger, joy, arrogance, shame, opposition, approbation or riches. He continues to say the wise is one whose acts are not inhabited by cold or heat, fear or love, lack or abundance. Wonder where is such wise men today?

Chanakya while referring to wise king says –a proud king should shed his pride and arrogance during difficulty. 6 /11

He must find out the solution and clarification adhering to unbiased ideas. Similarly, about ministers he says “A person who is capable of listening and thinking highly should be made a minister by the king.

The need to reiterate these advises to present rulers and ministers is to bring about a change in their attitude and to make one accountable for actions and responsibilities. 7/11

How do we understand happiness and success? The wise Brahmin says success of a person is judged by others while happiness is felt you. Only peace of mind can give Happiness. People can be classified into three categories

-Exceptionally competent who are above average, ordinarily competent may be bit above average and just ordinary. 8 /11

He advises work must be allocated accordingly. First category involves work of strategic importance while second category implies work of moderate complexity and the third for others who are engaged in Routine work. 9/11

Chanakya with his sharp intellect also suggests the way these people must be handled He says manage the first category by Sama the second category by Dana and others by Bheda and Danda Wise are those who are active listeners,

have quick grasping ability of what others are trying to convey, not interfering in other domain and not longing for results. 10 /11

Their attitude reflects no false pride. If these attitudes are consciously imbibed even today, they shall bring enormous peace to oneself and to others. 11 /11