

## The Value of Character

---

There is a common saying if wealth is lost, nothing is lost. If health is lost something is lost. If character is lost everything is lost.

We can learn about the real value of character from this saying. Character is of utmost importance to every human being. It is more important than health, wealth and even knowledge. Gandhi was weak in studies. He was not a brilliant student. But he took great care to have a high character and he finally rose to be a great leader.

When a person leaves one institution and has to join another, he is asked to produce a character certificate from the previous institution. Similarly, when a person has to join any service, he is required to produce a certificate from the institution last attended or from his previous employer, as the case may be. The importance of character can be judged from such simple instances.

A man of high character is held in high esteem by one and all. On the other hand, a man who lacks in the matter of character, loses his credibility and is hated by one and all.

Character comprises several virtues such as truth, honesty, sincerity, integrity, dutifulness, politeness, etc. It also denotes not casting an evil eye on a member of the opposite sex.

In modern times unfortunately we are surrounded by corrupt ministers, politicians, bureaucrats and businessmen who have no sense of the significance of having high character. They are all blinded by mammon.

Let us try to uphold the high sense of character and try to instill this idea into others also particularly children, youth and students.