

LESSON 14) VOW OF LIMITED PURPOSELESS VIOLENCE (ANARTHA-DANDA-VRATA)

The purposeless activities serve no useful purpose, but, spend our time wastefully and provoke our subtle attachment or hatred. For general purpose those activities are grouped into five categories. They are

- 1) Unnecessary and mean thoughts
- 2) Careless mischief
- 3) Facilitation of destruction
- 4) Sinful counsel
- 5) Rubbish reading

- 1) Unnecessary and mean thoughts; for example say there is possibility of some company going on public trading then thinking about it; when it will be coming, how many shares they be selling, what will be a price, how many stocks someone should buy and how long they should hold before selling, etc.

What should be done in Afghanistan war or should have been done in Iraq war? Why India did not joined the war? USA should have bombarded heavily and destroyed everything to win war, etc.

Mr. Jones won 120 million in Texas lottery he should buy a bigger house, he should take a grand vacation, he should not work anymore, etc.

And, similar thoughts.....

- 2) Careless talks or viewing or activities, etc; for example gossiping, inflating situations, watching vulgar dancing, gambling, reading exotic books, seeing exotic movies, watching combat movies or wrestling, unnecessary travelling or get-togethers, playing cards, etc,
- 3) Facilitation of destruction; for examples supplying or guiding or suggesting or trading to buy knives, swords, axes, and guns, destruction weapons, fire material, or poison to anybody, etc., keeping, supplying guiding or suggesting or trading of dangerous animals
- 4) Sinful counsel for example; guiding or suggesting to buy knives, swords, axes, and guns, destruction weapons, fire material, or poison to anybody, etc., guiding or suggesting to buy of dangerous animals, or to carry out abortions, talking, guiding or suggesting that can lead to hinsa, lying, stealing, cheating, over collection, etc.
- 5) Rubbish reading; for example; listening to, reciting, or expounding evil stories, reading pornographic books, or reading books which incite violence, hatred, or false belief, passion, worldly attachments, pride, and lust, greed, etc.

Some common examples of such activities;

- 1) Indulging in thoughts, words, and deeds in which there is no benefit to society, to our friends, or to ourselves
- 2) Avoid the unnecessary pursuits and activities, such as thinking about, speaking about, or otherwise busying with matters that do not concern or of no benefit to us
- 3) Fearing the loss of wealth, friends, health
- 4) Fearing bad things like pain, poverty, disease
- 5) Undue anxiety to get rid off disease, poverty, etc
- 6) Undue anxiety for the future to come
- 7) Craving for the enjoyment of happiness
- 8) Being glad at having killed somebody
- 9) Being glad at having or approving killing of someone
- 10) Speaking ill of or misrepresenting others, and boasting about it.
- 11) Desiring the death of some one
- 12) Cheating people and boasting about it
- 13) Distrusting others
- 14) Wishing the death of others
- 15) Giving uncalled for advice about matters that are no concern of ours
- 16) Lending dangerous weapons
- 17) Lending fishing tackle
- 18) Lending garden tools
- 19) Carelessness activities such as drinking or excessive sensuous indulgence
- 20) Excessive sleep
- 21) Talk about matters which do not concern us, such as wars between other countries
- 22) Talk about a woman's bodily charms
- 23) Talk about dinners or parties or wedding ceremonies, etc.
- 24) Talk about people, etc.

For whatever reasons, lapses may happen to observe this vow. The following are common examples:

- 1) Uttering words that would arouse passion,
- 2) Performing bad gestures,
- 3) Carelessly speaking meaningless jargons,
- 4) Collecting deadly weapons, or
- 5) Excessive attachment towards consumer items.

Purposeless activities break practically all vows and can brings us very sever bondage of karmas depending upon attitude at that time. By taking eighth vow we guard ourselves against purposeless violence and bad karmas can be avoided and should be avoided.