
bhAryAmahimA Glorification of Married Life

ಭಾರ್ಯಾಮಹಿಮಾ

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ಕುಂಡಲೋವಾಚ -

ಭರ್ತವ್ಯಾ ರಕ್ಷಿತವ್ಯಾ ಚ ಭಾರ್ಯಾ ಹಿ ಪತಿನಾ ಸದಾ .
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From Markandeya Purana Adhyaya 21

68. Verily a husband must ever cherish and protect his wife. A wife is her husband's help-mate unto the complete attainment of religious life, wealth and love (dharma, artha, kAma).

69. When both husband and wife are subject to mutual control, then all the three, viz. moral life, wealth and love combine.

70. How without a wife, does a man attain to moral life,

or wealth, or love, my lord?

In her the triad of dharma, artha, and kAma is established.

71. So also without a husband a wife is powerless to fulfil dharma and the other duties.

This threefold group (trivarga) is established in wedded life (dAmpatyā).

72. Men cannot perform the worship of the gods, ancestors, dependents and of guests, without a wife, O prince.

73. And riches, although acquired by men, although brought to their own home, waste away without a wife, or even where a worthless wife dwells.

74. There is indeed no love for him without a wife,– this is clearly evident. By the wedded pair treading together the path of duty (dharma), men may attain to the ideal of trivarga or the Triple Aims of life.


75. A man satisfies his ancestors by procreating children, and guests with preparations of food; likewise the immortal gods with religious observances: therefore should a man protect his virtuous wife.

76. Moreover, for a woman there is no separate religion, love, wealth or offspring without a husband.


Hence the triple group of dharma, artha and kAma rests upon the wedded life of the home.

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