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Vishalika

XI - "B"

Essay Writing

## Our Cultural Value and its present Applications As per Mahabharata.

The Mahabharata is not only one of the greatest epics of India but also a Guidebook for life. It teaches us how to live with values, how to face challenges, and how to make the right decisions. Even though it was written thousands of years ago, the cultural values shown in the Mahabharata are still useful today. They help us understand our duties, responsibilities, and difference between right and wrong. Though its characters, events, and teachings. The Mahabharat shows value like truth, dharma, respect, loyalty, equality and compassion. These values are still important in our modern society. In today's life people live fast lives, deal with many pressure. because of this cultural value become more important. The Mahabharata guides us to remain moral, disciplined, and emotionally strong. This essay explains our cultural values and their present-day applications according to the Mahabharata.

## 1. VALUE OF DHARMA (RIGHTEOUSNESS)

One of the strongest values in the Mahabharata is 'dharma', which means doing the right thing. Yudhishtira is known as Dharmaraja because he always tried to follow the path of truth and justice. Krishna also constantly advises Arjuna to stand for dharma.

### Present Application:

Today, following dharma means being honest, fair and responsible. In school, it means not cheating in exams. At home, it means respecting our parents and fulfilling our duties. In society, dharma means obeying the law, being truthful, and not harming others. The Mahabharata teaches us that even when the path of dharma is difficult, it is always the correct path.

## 2. VALUE OF TRUTH

Truth is considered the highest value in Indian culture. Yudhishtira's commitment to truth is one of the key lessons of the Mahabharata. Even when he lost everything in the dice game, he did not lie or escape his responsibility.

### Present Application:

In today's world, people often prefer shortcuts. But the Mahabharata shows that truth

builds trust and respect. Students can apply this value by speaking honestly. Leaders can apply it by being transparent. Families can apply it by communicating truthfully. When truth becomes a habit, relationships become stronger and life becomes peaceful.

### 3. VALUE OF LOYALTY AND DUTY:

The loyalty shown by characters like Arjuna, Bhishma, Karna, and Draupadi highlights how important duty is. Arjuna listens to Krishna even when he is confused. Karna remains loyal to Duryodhana out of gratitude. Bhishma takes a vow to protect the kingdom and keeps it until his last breath.

#### Present Application:

Today, loyalty means standing by our values, friends, and family. Duty means completing our responsibilities - studying well, helping parents, respecting teachers, and being sincere at work. When people fulfill their duties, society functions smoothly.

The Mahabharata teaches that loyalty must be combined with righteousness. We must be loyal to what is right, not blindly loyal to what is wrong.

#### 4. VALUE OF RESPECT AND FAMILY BONDS:

The Mahabharata shows different relationships - between brothers, teachers, children, and elders. Respect is a central value. Arjuna respects his teacher, Dronacharya. The pandavas never disrespect their mother Kunti. Even in war, Arjuna bows to elders like Bhishma and Drona.

#### Present Application:

In modern families, misunderstandings often occur because respect is missing. Respecting parents, elders, teachers, and even younger people creates harmony. In school and workplace, treating everyone politely leads to co-operation. Respecting cultural traditions, festivals and rituals helps preserve our identity. The Mahabharata reminds us that respect is the foundation of strong relationships.

#### 5. VALUE OF EQUALITY AND JUSTICE

Krishna's action always focus on Justice. He supports the pandavas not because they are his relatives but because their cause is just. Draupadi's humiliation in the court is shown as a major moment where Justice was denied, and this becomes one of the reasons for the war.

## Present Applications:

Today, Justice means treating everyone equally - regardless of gender, caste, religion, or class. Students must treat all classmates with equality. Society must protect women's rights, support weaker sections, and stand against discrimination. The Mahabharata teaches that when injustice is allowed, society collapses therefore, justice must be defended at all times.

## CONCLUSION:

The Mahabharata is not just a story of war, it is a treasure of cultural values that teach us how to live a meaningful life. Values like Dharma, truth, loyalty, respect, justice ... etc. continue to guide people even today. In a modern world filled with challenges and distractions, these values help us stay grounded and balanced. They teach us to be responsible citizens, better students, loving family members, and compassionate human beings. This epic reminds us that real success is not just about victory but about character, morality and humanity. Therefore, the teachings of the Mahabharata remain relevant and important in the present world, and will continue to guide future generations as well.