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12 Important Quotes from Valmiki Ramayan

Compiled and Recited

By

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1. दुर्लभम् हि सदा सुखम् Durlabham hi sadaa sukham

To be happy always is something which is difficult to achieve. That is to say, happiness and sorrow alternate in one's life and there cannot be uninterrupted happiness alone. (2-18-13)

[Context: Rama's words to Kaikeyi when he saw his father deep in sorrow and in tears at the prospect of Rama going into the forest for 14 years.]

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2. सत्यम् एव ईश्वरो लोके सत्यम् पद्मा समाश्रिता ।
सत्य मूलानि सर्वाणि सत्यान् न अस्ति परम् पदम् ॥

Satyameveshwaro loke satyam padma samashrita.
Satya moolani sarvaani satyaan na asti paramapadam.

*Truth is God and all virtues follow truth.
All are rooted in truth there is nothing higher
than truth. [2.109.13]*

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3. कुलीनम् अकुलीनम् वा वीरम् पुरुष मानिनम् ।
चारित्रम् एव व्याख्याति शुचिम् वा यदि वा अशुचिम् ॥

Kuleenam akuleenam vaa veeram purushamaaninam
Charitrameva vyaakhyaati shuchim vaa yadi vaashuchim

*One's conduct explains whether one belongs
to a good family or a bad family, valiant or
arrogant and chaste or unchaste. [2.109.4]*

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4. न सुप्रतिकरम् तत् तु मात्रा पित्रा च यत् कृतम् ॥

Na supratikaram tat tu maatraa pitraa cha yatkrutam

It is difficult for the children to repay the debt of what the mother and the father have done to bring them up [2.111.9]

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5. उत्साहो बलवान् आर्य नास्ति उत्साहात् परम् बलम् ।
सः उत्साहस्य हि लोकेषु न किञ्चित् अपि दुर्लभम् ॥

Utsaaho balavaan aarya naasti utsaahaat param balam
Sotsaahasya hi lokeshu na kinchid api durlabham.

*Vehemence (ferwor; enthusiasm) is might,
oh, noble one, there is no superior might than
vehemence, and to him with vehemence,
nothing is impossible in this world, even the
slightest. [4.1.121]*

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6. अनिर्वेदम् च दाक्ष्यम् च मनसः च अपराजयम् ।
कार्यं सिद्धिं कराणि आहुः तस्मात् एतत् ब्रवीमि अहम् ॥
Anirvedam cha daakshyam cha manasashchaaparaajayam
Karyasiddhikaraanyaahuh tasmaat ethat bravimi aham.

*Insistency, ingenuity and indomitability of
heart are said to be the causes for achieving
results, therefore I am speaking all this.*

[4.49.6]

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7. न विषादे मनः कार्यम् विषादो दोषवत्तरः ।
विषादो हन्ति पुरुषम् बालम् क्रुद्ध इव उरगः ॥

Na vishaade manah kaaryam vishaado doshavattarah
Vishaado hanti purusham baalam kruddhah ivoragah

*One should not let one's mind to be overcome
by melancholy (grim state of mind).
Melancholy is a very bad thing. It kills
(destroys) a man just as an angered serpent
kills a child. [4.64.9]*

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8. अशास्त्रविदुषाम् तेषाम् कार्यम् नाभिहितं वचः ।
अर्थशास्त्रानभिज्ञानाम् विपुलाम् श्रियमिच्छताम् ॥

Ashastravidusham Tesham Kaaryam Naabhihitam Vachah
Arthashastranabhijnaanam Vipulaam Shriyamichhataam

*The words spoken by those who do not know
the scriptures, who do not recollect the books
dealing with practical life and who covet for
only abundant wealth are not to be
implemented. [6.63.14]*

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9. धर्मादर्थः प्रभवति धर्मात् प्रभवते सुखं।
धर्मेण लभते सर्वं धर्मसारमिदं जगत् ॥

Dharmadarthah Prabhavati Dharmat Prabhavate Sukham
Dharmena Labhate Sarvam Dharmasaaramidam Jagat

*Wealth springs from dharma, from dharma
comes happiness and one gets everything
from dharma. Dharma is the essence of this
world. [6.63.14]*

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10. क्रोधः प्राणहरो शत्रुः क्रोधो मित्रमुखो रिपुः।
क्रोधोऽह्यसिर्महातीक्ष्णः सर्वम् क्रोधोऽपैकर्षति॥

Krodhah praanaharo shatruh krodho mitramukho ripuh
Krodhohyasirmahaateekshnah sarvam krodhopakarshati

*Anger is the enemy which takes one's life.
Anger is enemy with the face of a friend.
Anger is like a very sharp sword. Anger
destroys everything. [7.59 prakshipta 2/21]*

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**11. न हि प्रतिज्ञां कुर्वन्ति वितथां सत्यवादिनः/
लक्षणं हि महत्त्वस्य प्रतिज्ञा परिपालनम्**

Nahi pratijnaam kurvanti vithathhaam satyavaadinah
Lakshanam hi mahattwasya pratijnaaparipaalanam

*Those who always adhere to truth do not
make false promises. Keeping one's promises
is, surely, the mark of one's greatness.*

[6.101.52]

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12. मन्त्रमूलं च विजयं प्रवदन्ति मनस्विनः
Mantramoolam cha vijayam pravadanti manaswinah

*Wise men say that the root of Success is
consultation and discussion with learned and
wise men. [6.6.5]*

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THE END