Akram Youth



May-June 2025



Editorial

Dear Friends,

Profit and loss or benefit and disadvantage. We are all quite familiar with these two opposing terms. Everyone likes profit, and no one likes loss. The entire world seems to be focused on making a profit and doing whatever it takes to avoid a loss. Generally, it is observed that when people make a profit, they become happy and proudly boast about their cleverness. But when they face a loss, they become upset and immediately start blaming others.

In practical life, profit and loss are considered highly important. However, most people only understand profit and loss in a financial sense, and they judge a person's success or failure based on that alone. It's not really their fault, because they don't understand the scientific reason behind why profit or loss happens. They're also unaware of what true profit and loss actually are.

So, in this issue of your beloved Akram Youth, let's gain a clear understanding of what profit and loss truly are. I'm confident that this insight will help you in dealing with both types of situations.

- Dimolebhai Mehta

Gnani with Youth

Questioner: Jai Sat Chit Anand, Pujyashree. I wanted to understand something. We often use the words profit and loss in life. So, from a spiritual perspective, what do profit and loss mean? And what do they mean in routine, everyday life?

Deepakbhai: You're already familiar with what it means in routine life, right? If someone earns twenty lakhs in the stock market, that's considered a profit. If they had put in five lakhs, then they made fifteen lakhs of profit. That is profit from society's perspective, in routine life. But from a spiritual perspective, we don't call that profit. If someone insults you and you remain in equanimity, that's considered a huge **profit.** But if someone insults you and you react by shouting back, that's a huge loss. If you do according to your own will, then you have suffered a huge loss. And if you are facing all kinds of difficulties and are not able to get your way, yet you feel happy thinking, 'It is good that I was spared from getting my way,' then that's considered a profit.



So this is the spiritual perspective. In fact, what the world calls a profit, the Gnani calls a loss. And what the world calls a loss, the Gnani calls a profit.

When you suffer a loss in your business, that is a great opportunity to remain in Gnan, to progress toward the Self. What appears as a loss in the worldly life is considered a profit from the Gnani's perspective,

because the karmic account got settled. If it hadn't, you would've



suffered a beating. Your tuber of greed wouldn't have broken, and you wouldn't have turned towards the Self.

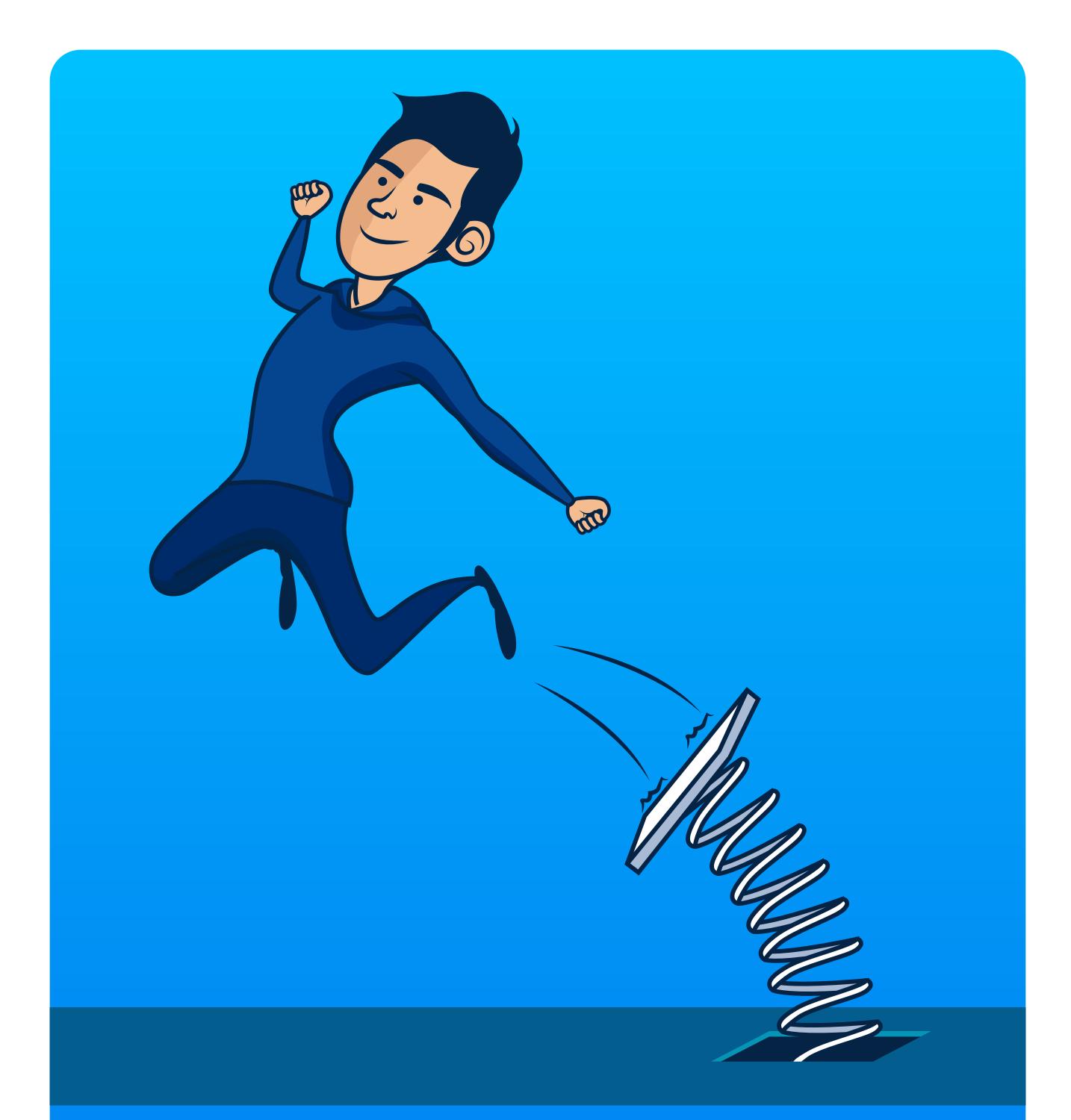
Questioner: So in spirituality, any reduction in kashay (anger, pride, deceit and greed) is considered our profit?

Deepakbhai: Yes, that's our profit, that's correct.

Questioner: I have another question. In routine life, youth often face losses. How can they stop those losses and start making a profit? **Deepakbhai:** Are you asking from a spiritual perspective or a worldly perspective?

Questioner: Both.

Deepakbhai: From the worldly perspective, if your merit karma is unfolding, then no matter where you invest, you'll make a profit. And when your demerit karma is unfolding, what you have will start to leave. So, during those times, you should be cautious and conservative. Think of it as night time. Your demerit karma has started unfolding, you are losing money. So don't take any risks, don't make impulsive investments. From the spiritual perspective, whenever you face suffering, unfavorable circumstances, insult, a loss, or an accusation, then understand that it's breaking your ego and your illusory attachment. That is the greatest earning for liberation.



Questioner: And you mentioned about inner penance; that one should do inner penance. So then what is the difference between doing inner penance and tolerating something?

Deepakbhai: There's a big difference. To tolerate is a reaction; similar to a compressed spring. After being compressed five times, it'll bounce back on the sixth. We should not tolerate things; we should bring about a resolution by thinking, 'Oh! I made a mistake and this is the punishment. The karmic account is being settled. The instrumental doer is beneficial; he is not at fault. I am exhausting my karma. It is beneficial for my liberation.' When you bring about a resolution with this understanding, that is called inner penance. You don't see the other person at fault. Your intellect is causing a commotion within and showing you wrong things, yet you say, 'No, I don't want to see his faults. I don't want to bind karma. I want to become free.'

Questioner: Jai Sat Chit Anand, Pujyashree.

The one who knowingly let's himself be cheated is worthy of liberation!





Reduce the Loss... Increase the Profit



Questioner: At the youth level, what is considered profit and loss from a spiritual perspective?

Aptaputra: From a spiritual perspective, profit for youth means staying away from bad company, avoiding things that ruin the chit, and not using your phone unnecessarily. That's spiritual profit for youth. On top of that, if you stay in touch with satsang or remain connected with a youth center, then that's also spiritual profit. And if you avoid spoiling your chit on useless things, or if you happen to come across someone who may cause your chit to spoil, then only talk to that person as much as needed and move on. Ideally, you should stay away from such people.

Questioner: How can youth increase their spiritual profit?

Aptaputra: Yes, to increase your spiritual profit, you should avoid doing things that spoil your chit like playing games on your phone. Also, at school or college, if one of your friends talks about sexuality, then you should stay away from them. Or you can tell them that you are not interested in such things. And as much as possible, do Dada's seva, and keep your chit connected with that.

Questioner: So, at the youth level, one can only make a spiritual profit by staying away from bad company and sexuality?

Aptaputra: Yes, to remain in bad company is a spiritual loss. And if you are able to understand it, this is certainly a worldly loss, but it is also a huge spiritual loss. Due to this, veils come over the Self. Additionally, if you do something wrong to someone, or even think of doing something wrong to someone, then that too is a spiritual loss for youth.

Questioner: So if I do something wrong to someone or hurt someone, then that is a spiritual loss for youth like me?

Aptaputra: Yes, this is certainly a loss for all youth.

Questioner: Then what can one do to prevent such a spiritual loss and to increase profit?

Aptaputra: To prevent this loss and to increase profit, you have two options: **[1]** Stay in touch with satsang, or be around Aptaputras and other youth like you. Because you will learn by observing them, and that will increase your spiritual profit. **[2]** Get involved in seva. If you do seva sincerely, then you will profit from a spiritual perspective.





To Be Knowingly Cheated

In this ever-changing world, we learn something new every day, New discoveries are made, and something fresh is added to the world. Some tools and devices get upgraded, while new ones get added. As the tools evolve, human life revolves around enjoying them and exploring their utility. You could say that a new luxury gets added to daily life every day. Children and youth see these changes and are drawn toward using such things out of curiosity. Their desires grow. 'Wouldn't it be great if I had a modern device like that?'

In this same curious world lived a boy. He was very inquisitive and intelligent, so he always had a lot of questions. This boy, named Hemil, gradually grew up. He went from watching a black-and-white TV to watching a color TV. And before he knew it, that color TV evolved from 4K to 8K. His old telephone box became a mobile phone. And with the internet and Wi-Fi, the world of phones was completely changed. As time went on, Hemil started asking fewer questions. But the constant need for money and the race against time kept his mind spinning with thoughts. Negativity slowly began to take a hold of him.

One day, Hemil and his friend were riding a motorcycle to college when suddenly his friend hit the brakes, told him to get off in the middle of the road, and sped off without saying another word. Hemil was left stunned. He was furious and reached the college in anger.

That evening, when Hemil got home, his mom asked him to bring a few things from the market. When he returned, he realized he had forgotten one or two items, and for something that was available cheaply, he had paid a higher price. When he counted the money, he

realized that the last shopkeeper hadn't returned his change.

That was it. His mind spiralled into a look of negativity. Hours passed in thought without him realizing it. But one question kept bothering him: 'Why has this kind of thing been happening to me lately? Why am I suffering a loss in everything, whether it be a task or a relationship? Why doesn't anything positive happen to me?' He even began wondering, 'Am I just a loser?' That thought started weighing on him. The curiosity that once led to questions, now took him down the road of negativity. Lately, even his friends seemed to be avoiding him. His mind was now spinning out of control.

One day, as Hemil returned from college and got down from the rickshaw, he argued with the rickshaw driver over the fare. Instead of ten rupees, the driver took a twenty-rupee note and drove off. Even the rickshaw driver cheated him. His thoughts went back to the shopkeeper who hadn't returned his change. He had been cheated there too. Then he ran into his friend Pranav, the one with the motorcycle. But Hemil ignored him and kept walking towards college. A moment later, Pranav caught up with him.

Pranav: Hey man, are you still mad about that day? I'm really sorry. That day, my dad had given me something urgent to take care of, and I was racing against time. That's why I had to drop you off in the middle of the road and rush off. I didn't mean to do that. I'm truly sorry.



Hemil: Alright, I forgive you. But man... these days, I feel like everyone I meet ends up cheating me. I don't even know what mistake I'm making. My mom gets mad at me, my dad too... and don't get me started on that shopkeeper! And today, that cunning rickshaw driver took twenty rupees from me instead of ten. I feel like everywhere I turn I face a loss. Can't anything positive ever happen to me?

Pranav: Dude, that is a positive, not a loss! Hey, tell you what. After college today, come over to my place. I'll pick you up. We haven't had a good heart-to-heart talk in a while. It'll be fun.

(The two of them go to Pranav's house. His parents are sitting in front of the TV. They warmly welcome Hemil and ask him to join them. Just then, a Q&A satsang by Pujya Deepakbhai appears on the screen. The title of the session is 'To Be Knowingly Cheated.')



Deepakbhai: Since childhood, I had decided to be knowingly cheated in order to give happiness to others. That's a good path. Later on, I understood from the teachings of the Vitaraag Lords that this pudgal (relative self) is something meant to be discarded. It was never ours to begin with. If someone takes it away, let them. They will take away the pudgal, but in return, we will gain energies of the Self. Our energies of the Self will increase. There is no spiritual loss. The relative was meant to be let go of, to discard. We have brought with us the karmic account for one lifetime. That balance won't increase or decrease. So we knowingly allowed ourselves to be cheated. That's the principle of the Tirthankar Lords. The karmic account of the pudgal is getting finished. When Dada used to go buy a dhoti, the shopkeeper

would charge him 18 rupees instead of 16, but Dada would happily pay it and get cheated.

Questioner: Is it possible for youth to knowingly let themselves get cheated?

Deepakbhai: Of course it is. Let's say you're in a rickshaw or taxi, and you feel the fare should be 35 rupees, but the driver asks for 50 rupees. Then what should you do? Just calmly say to yourself, 'Is the rickshaw driver going to build a bungalow with the extra 15 rupees? Or will you lose your dignity over that 15 rupees?' So you should understand and knowingly give 15 rupees extra. There is no need to argue about it. Look, when a shopkeeper sells something for 3,000 rupees, they make a 40% profit, yet we feel good thinking,'I got a good quality product!' So if the rickshaw driver takes 50 rupees instead of 35, let him. Wherever possible, let yourself be cheated. It will break so many of your obstacles.

Questioner: But usually when you get cheated, your friends say things like, "You got cheated? Don't you have any sense?"

Deepakbhai: Yes, and I actually enjoy that. Because by cheating me, it makes the other person happy. Dada once went to buy a dhoti,

which used to cost 16 rupees in those days. When Dada arrived, the shopkeeper greeted him with respect and welcomed him. Then he said that the price was 18 rupees. Dada knew that the shopkeeper was overcharging him by 2 rupees, yet Dada paid the amount. By allowing himself to be cheated, Dada made the shopkeeper so happy! The shopkeeper even offered Dada half a cup of tea and treated him like a VIP. He cheated Dada but gave him so much respect. So there was no loss in giving 2 rupees more. The money you are bound to get based on your karmic account won't go anywhere. Dada thought, 'The shopkeeper was so happy, and I became free for liberation. I progressed on the path of liberation. I was freed from the worldly life by that much' Do people fight over 2 rupees?

Questioner: Yes.

Deepakbhai: But that kashay causes a loss of 200 rupees, while they are fighting over 2 rupees. That's why Dada used to say, "We let the 2 rupees go and earn for the Self."

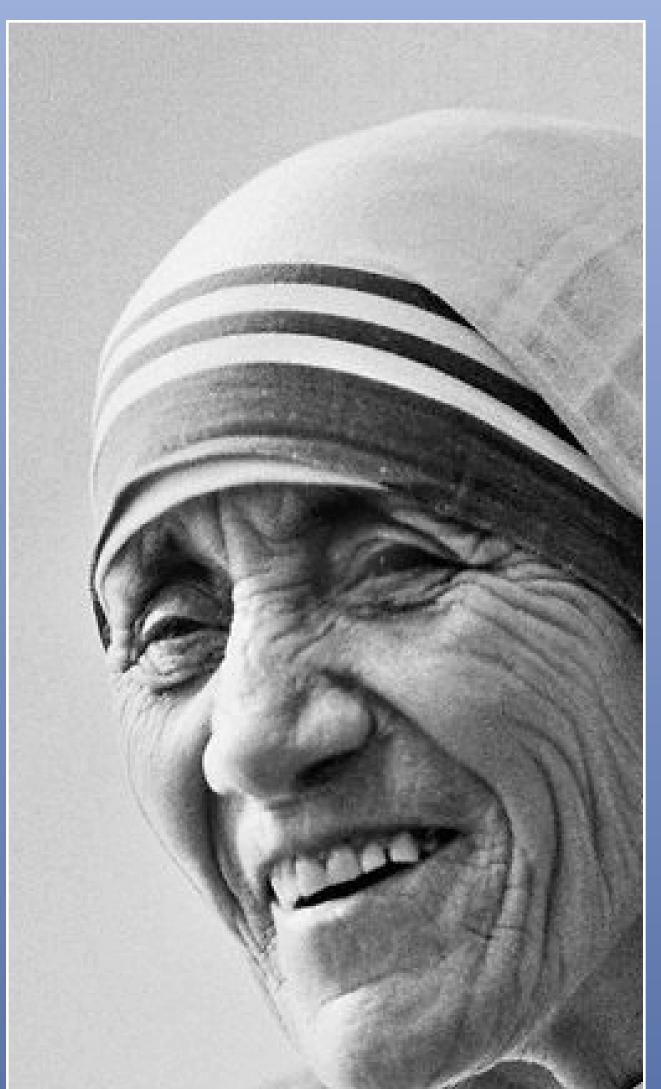
Questioner: So, if no one is hurt by us, is that profit?

Deepakbhai: Yes. If you don't hurt anyone, if you don't see anyone's faults, if you don't see anyone as a doer. If you see others as faultless and as the pure Soul, then you will earn a true profit.

The satsang ended and Hemil got the answers to his questions.

While talking about the satsang, Pranav dropped Hemil off at home.

A Glimpse of a Great Personality

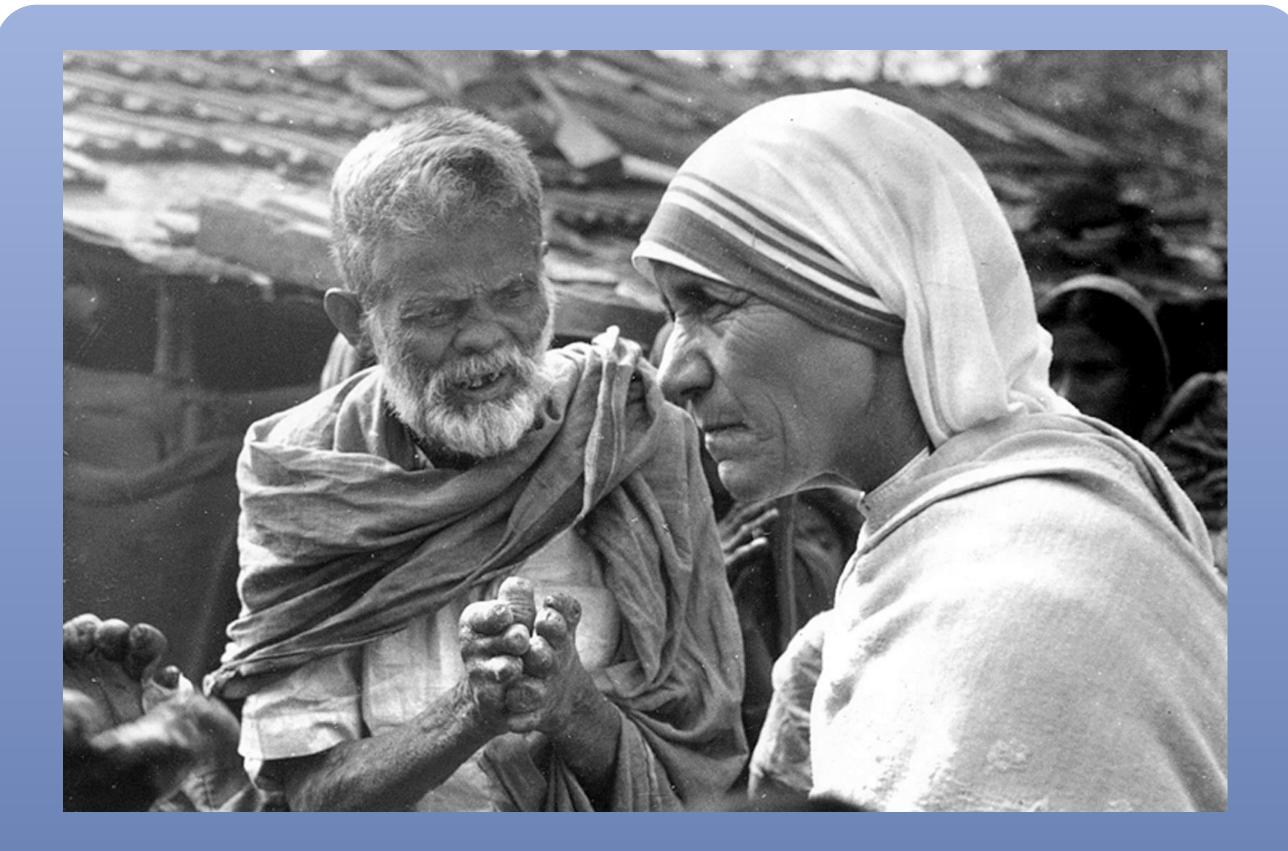


Mother Teresa

Mother Teresa was born on August 26, 1910, in Skopje (Macedonia). It is believed that when she was just twelve years old, she had already decided to dedicate her entire life to serving humanity.

On January 6, 1929, Mother Teresa came to Kolkata from Ireland to join the Loreto Convent. After that, she completed essential nursing training at Holy Family Hospital in Patna and returned to Kolkata in 1948. That same year, she opened a school to teach children, and later in 1950, she founded the Missionaries of Charity, which was officially recognized by the Roman Catholic Church on October 7, 1950. The trust continues to support the poor and orphans





Major Humanitarian Work

1. Service to the Poor:

Mother Teresa believed that God resides in the poor and the suffering.She would bring people living on the streets into her shelter, provide them with free medical treatment, clothing, food, and shelter. She established the Nirmala Shishu Bhavan specifically to help orphaned and homeless children.

2. Work for Leprosy Patients:

At a time when society wouldn't even accept being near those suffering from leprosy, she started shelters for them. She treated them with love and care, giving them hope to live again. For patients suffering from severe diseases and poor children, she opened the Nirmal Hriday (Pure Heart) shelter.

3. Shelter for Orphaned Children:

Mother Teresa gave many children a new lease on life. She took in children found on the streets, raised them, and provided them with education. For those who had no one, she gave them a sense of family and belonging.

4. Shelter for the Elderly:

She also provided care for elderly individuals who had been abandoned by their children or families. In these old age homes, they lived with dignity and respect.

The values behind Mother Teresa's work were compassion, nonviolence, humility, and selflessness. She used to say:

"Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love."



Honors and Awards

Mother Teresa received significant international recognition and numerous awards for her humanitarian service.

In 1962, the Government of India honored her with the Padma Shri Award for her service to society and public welfare.

♦ In 1980, she was awarded the country's highest civilian honor, the Bharat Ratna.

◆ In 1979, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her missionary work around the world and her efforts to help the poor and helpless.



When she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979, she declined to attend the formal banquet and requested that the prize money be donated to the poor and orphaned people of India.



Achievements

• By 1996, Mother Teresa's Missionaries Association had opened approximately 755 homes for the destitute across 125 countries, where food was provided to nearly 500,000 poor people. She began her service work through centers named 'Nirmal Hriday' and 'Nirmala Shishu Bhavan'.

• By the time of her death, the Missionaries of Charity had 4,000 sisters and 300 other associates actively serving in 123 countries around the world.

• On October 19, 2003, Pope John Paul II declared Mother Teresa as "Blessed" in a ceremony held in Rome. Though Mother Teresa is no longer among us, her missionaries remain actively engaged in social work.

 According to a 2013 report, the Missionaries of Charity branches had opened 700 missions in 130 countries.

Mother Teresa passed away on September 5,1997. A major lesson from her life is that bringing change to society doesn't require a large beginning. Even small acts done with great love can lead to great transformation.

A Glimpse of Dadashri's Book

Dadashri: I used to find joy in being cheated. What did I believe?

> **Questioner:** You believed there was happiness in being cheated.

Dadashri: There's a lot of happiness in being cheated. I used to think, "Where can I get the chance to be cheated?" If one has great merit karma, he will come across someone who cheats him! So if someone cheats us, we should recognize that we are truly fortunate! I only met people who cheated me in the current times. Back in the day, when I used to look for people to cheat me, I couldn't find anyone. That's why I would go stand in a shop and not even ask the price. I'd know full well that the person would overcharge me by two rupees. But I'd think, 'Why should I question his foolishness? The poor fellow is getting satisfaction!' He'd think, 'Ambalalbhai came, so I was able to earn two rupees!' But I'd think, 'Let him earn. I'm not going to become poor because of that.' A person is considered poor if their nature is poor. But I never once told him that, "You're charging too much." There's no point in saying that. That poor man is welcoming me with so much love! He believes that he will gain something from my visit! And if he doesn't gain anything from me, he'll feel let down. He'll even show his frustration. I wouldn't let it come to that point. I'd rather be cheated and walk away making a good impression.

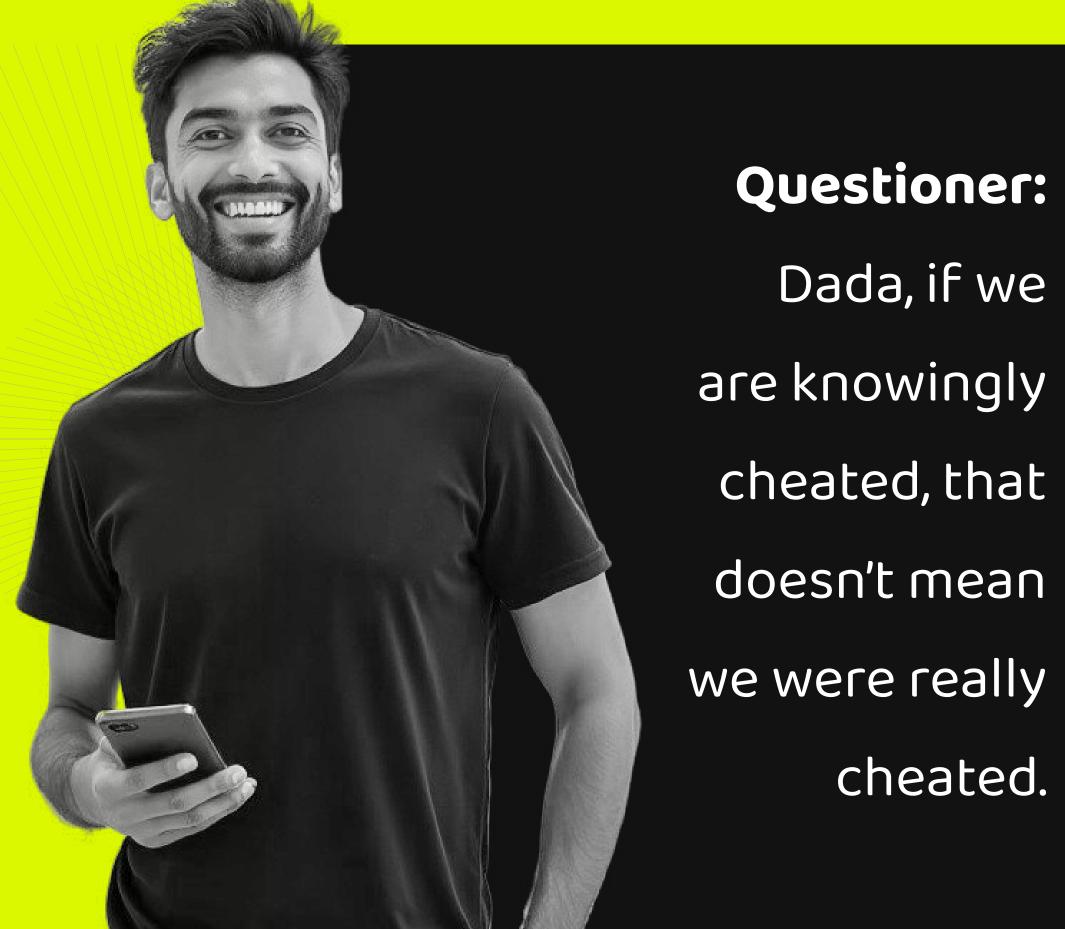
Questioner: To be cheated knowingly. That's quite an amazing thing!

Dadashri: I used to feel a lot of joy in being cheated. I've been

cheated by every kind of cheater. I wouldn't let a single day go by

without being cheated. And whenever I sensed that someone

wanted to cheat me, I would act naive and let him cheat me. And when I'd leave, that person would say, "Please come again! This shop is yours." That rascal. Just for this, he is referring to it as my shop! When I didn't have this Gnan, people would say, "He got cheated for two rupees while buying a dhoti." But the seller would be delighted, saying "This shop is yours!" He said this just for two extra rupees! And then he'd even serve me a cup of tea, as a bonus. Now, maybe he overcharged me by a rupee or two, but think how peacefully he will sleep at night. He'll even say to me, "Just seeing your face made me happy today." And to others, he'll say, "Why did you come to my shop? My whole day will go to waste."



Dadashri: That's why I've been knowingly cheated my entire life! The cheater thinks,'Ambalal is like a king, such a simple-hearted man!'I've been knowingly cheated since childhood. I actually started enjoying it, because I saw how happy the other person felt after cheating me! Otherwise, I'd seen how sour their faces used to get. That's why I changed my approach. I thought to myself, 'The poor guy's face gets all sour when he doesn't get what he wants. He won't even say "Please come again." On the contrary, he'll think, 'What bad luck I had today that I met this person!' Hey! It's not like I'm cursed or something.

OUTZFriends, are you earning or losing in
real life? Let's find out...

1. You find money lying on the road.

a. You keep it thinking "It belongs to whoever found it."

b. You try to find the owner and return it.

c. You donate it to a temple.

d. You give it to someone else.

2. You had an argument with a friend.

a. You try to win the argument.

b. You create divisiveness with him.

c. You don't resolve the argument.

d. You adjust to avoid the argument.

- 3. Your mom didn't cook food that you like.
 - a. You get up from the table and leave.
 - b. You argue with your mom.

c. You eat and then order food that you like from online.

d. You understand that this happens rarely so you eat it peacefully.

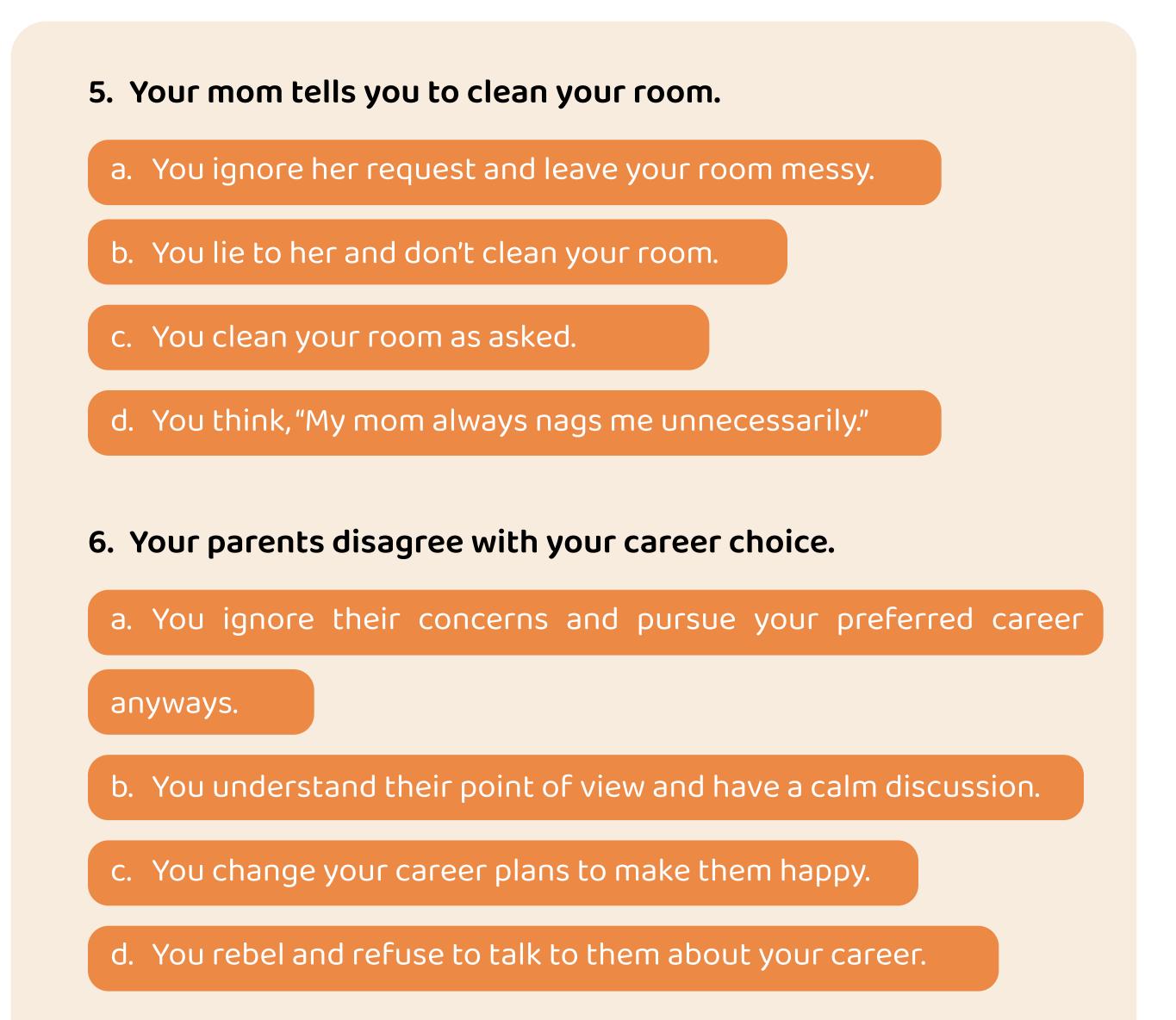
4. Your teacher scolded you for not doing your homework.

a. You make excuses and blame others.

b. You accept the responsibility and promise to do better next time.

c. You ignore the teacher and continue not doing your homework.

d. You feel that, 'It's no big deal.'



7. Your parents catch you lying about where you were last night.

a. You accept your mistake and sincerely apologize.

b. You blame your friend to stay out of trouble.

c. You cover it up with a bigger lie.

d. You avoid their questions and ignore the conversation.



Correct Answers :1-b, 2-d, 3-d, 4-b, 5-c, 6-b, 7-a

Poem

Khoto deetho nafo ane khoti deethi khot... E khari khot, je adhyatmama kare chont...

Yauvane kusangthi chetaa, ne Gnanine paas... Ethhi moto nafo nathi, raakh vishvaas...

Man nathi melu, chitt nathi kaajal kaalun... Potaanu jeevan karyu chhe, ene kharu rupaalu...

Jage pad-paisa, n'hoy khara nafana aankh... Ketlivaar raaja, ketlivaar thaya raank...

Pratikultana sanjog, je Gnane pachaave... Gnani Purush tene, kharekhara nafo samjaave...

Baharni khotma, jo shodhi le nafo mahin... Ene kyaarey pachi, khari khot jaay nahi...



