

# TO BE A STUDENT

Generally speaking, those who attend educational institutions ( Here I confine my attention to school alone ) for the purpose of receiving academic qualifications are regarded as students. But mere going to and returning home daily from school with books, khatas and in some fixed uniforms do not make a student of a boy or a girl in true sense of the term. This is because we know that the first and foremost duty of a student is to learn his lessons daily and then to attend school. But now-a-days I find, rather shockingly, that most school students, very close to 100%, attend their classes at school without preparing their lessons, though, in fact, most of them are attending the classes doubly—the school classes as well as the tutorial classes. If they do so, then there remains a little difference or no difference at all between them and the other people working in offices, factories fields, etc: for earning their livelihood. So, in order to become a student, worthy of its name, a student must have some special marks or virtue that will

distinguish him from other people. And we have come to know from a Sanskrit sloka what are the real marks of a student. According to the Sloka there are Five signs of a student as under :—

First, a student must be as trying as a crow as we find in the story of "Kathamala" that how a crow with tremendous effort quenched its thirst in the scorching heat of summer by drinking water, which being low down in the pitcher, was beyond its reach. Second, a student must be with all concentration of mind to his studies as a heron while catches fish in water. Third, a student must be a light sleeper as a dog. Fourth, a student must be temperate in eating. And Fifth, a student must be pleasant in talking to other people.

Apart from having all the above qualities a student must also cultivate the habit of reading and writing every morning and evening at home and that with punctuality.

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