

Moralistic Merit in Literature

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Abstract

Literary work is a form of acknowledgment of moral values in the human civilization. Literature persistent teach about the constitute values of every stage of life. Moral values are values that express ideas about the good life. Aristotle introduced the idea in his Nicomachean ethics, and there is sustain debate in philosophy and social science about which values are important and about what exactly meant by a certain value. Likewise, Robin Sharma emphasis and stressed the effective side of materialistic world. This study will carry to find out the moral values in the novel “*The monk who sold his ferrari*” it tells the extra ordinary story of Julian Mantle, forced to confront the spirituality crisis of his out-of-balance life and the succeeding wisdom that he gain on a life from sage and that empower him to create a life of passion, purpose and peace. The result based on moral values can be concluded in this novel because it fulfilled the noble teachings and helps us re-evaluate our definition of leadership, success and true happiness.

Keywords: Materialistic world, moral values, harmony in nature, success and true happiness.

Introduction

In a sense, moral is the study of what thought to be right and what is generally done by a group, society, or culture. In general, moral corresponds to what actually is done in a society. However, right or wrong is relative to be done. It means that moral is studied as psychology, sociology, or anthropology, so each society has different moral codes. The people view moral, values, beliefs, generally influenced by the way of life of their society. Morals in literary works usually reflect truth values according to the author’s view, and that is what it is delivered to the reader. As for Robin Sharma states that morality in the story is intended as a suggestion relating to certain practical moral teachings and taken or interpreted through the story concerned by the reader. In addition, moral of the story is a “clue” that the author deliberately delivers about various things related to life issues, such as attitude, behaviour, and sociable manners.

The Monk Sold His Ferrari is a self -help book by Robin Sharma, a writer and motivational speaker. The book is business fable derived from Sharma’s personal experiences after leaving his career as a litigation lawyer at the age of 25. This novel about Julian Mantle was one of the country’s most distinguished trial lawyers, who were popular for his three-thousand-

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dollar Italian suits. He was obsessed with work and with his victories. With time, his workload doubled and he aged considerably, looking older than his age. Even when his marriage failed, he buried himself deeper with work. He had suffered a severe heart attack. The doctor gave him an ultimatum either to give up his law or his life. Then, Julian decided to sell all his material possessions including his beloved Ferrari and travelled to India. A few years after, he visited his former office, and no one could recognize him. Julian Mantle's face was lineless, his eyes were bright, and he exuded a youthful vitality and peace. At his former associate's request, he shared the secrets of his new look. During his journey, he encountered the great sages of Sivana who lives in the Himalayas. These sages gave him the ageless techniques required to improve the quality of one's life holistically and to liberate the potential of the mind, body, and soul.

Literature Review

Moral is from the Latin word *mos* and the plurals is *mores* meaning custom or ways of life. Discussions about morals usually refer to ethics and morals are the same meaning, but in the daily life there are some differences. Morals or morality are used to measure values of happening, while ethics to study value system well done. According to Hurlock (1977), moral is an ethical norm, a concept of life upheld by most certain societies. Moral is primarily concerned with the understanding of good and bad. Goodness is regarded as moral, while the badness is considered as immoral behaviour. Barcalow (1994) says that moral can be evaluated with the actions and potential actions of others and may be evaluated as good or bad; right or wrong; and acceptable or unacceptable; required, prohibited, or permitted; praiseworthy or blameworthy. In relation to the values, morals are part of the value, namely moral values. Not all of the values are moral values. Moral values are related with human behaviour about goodness and badness. It is a kind of doctrine accepted by society regarding the actions, attitudes, obligations, morals, manners, and decency. Understanding certain good and bad things is relative. This means that something which is in general considered good for someone or a nation may not be good for the other people or other nations. Someone's opinion about morals and values are usually influenced by the view of life. Furthermore, moral values are the values which are associated with customs, manners, and behaviour. The word 'moral' always refers to the good or the bad people as people, so that fields of human life are seen in terms of kindness as human. Overall, the moral teachings are norms and understandings determining the things which are considered good and bad. Finally, the characteristic standards of morals and ethics are local and temporal. A moral value is the principle of rightness and wrongness that are accepted by an individual and social group. Morals arise from human consciousness to develop personal self and society, developing a means to correct errors and improve what has been good. Morals are the foundation of human life as the regulatory toward the perfection of life. Moral values arise from the human conscience, which will determine behaviour.

Discussion

A wonderfully crafted fable, *The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari* tells the extraordinary story of Julian Mantle, a lawyer forced to confront the spiritual crisis of his out-of-balance life. On a life-changing odyssey to an ancient culture, he discovers powerful, wise and practical lessons that teach us to

- Develop joyful thoughts
- Follow our life's mission and calling
- Cultivate self-discipline and act courageously
- Value time as our most important commodity
- Nourish our relationships and live fully, one day at a time

The Wisdom of Personal Change

Julian immediately started to reveal more about his personal transformation and the ancient techniques he has learned for mind control and for erasing the habit of worry that was consuming so many in our complex society. John disbelief his statement. Julian remained calm and patience in the face of my persistence. Spotting the pot of tea I had left on the table next to him, he stared to pour into my waiting cup. He poured until the cup was full but then he kept on pouring. John yelled that no matter how hard you try, no more will go in.! Just like this cup, you seem to be full of your own ideas. And how can any go in. when our heart and mind was stuffs in full thoughts and questions, no other good things will enter into our soul.

Learn to Guard Your Mind with The Heart of the Rose Exercise

The fable Yogi Raman, Julian's teacher, tells, takes place in a garden. It's full of beautiful flowers that smell great. Think of it as a calm, serene place where you can refuel your energy whenever you need to. Imagine if your mind was a garden like that. What a powerful brain! But for most of us, our mind looks like a dumpster, much more than a garden. It's littered with mental clutter, unnecessary information, ungrounded worries and anxious thoughts. What you're trying to do here is to control what even comes into your garden in the first place. Think of yourself like a guardian, standing at the gate of your brain, choosing who and what gets in. One exercise Julian learned to achieve this is The Heart of the Rose.

“To practice it you need an actual rose and a quiet space to yourself. Then, you simply stare at the center of the rose and try to fill your mind with thoughts about how beautiful it is.”

Think of it as a form of basic meditation. At first, you'll have lots of distracting thoughts, but you'll get better at keeping those out of your head over time. That's the goal. The more disciplined you become in which thoughts you accept into your mind, the easier it'll be to turn it into the beautiful, energizing garden you need.

Selflessly Serve Others and You'll be Better Off Yourself

Later in the story, the sumo collapses but then reawakens to the smell of beautiful, yellow roses. These roses represent another virtue, the idea of selflessly serving others. It's beautifully summarized in this ancient, Chinese proverb:

“A trace of fragrance always remains on the hands that present you with roses”

Which says whenever you help someone else, you get benefits for your service but you don't know when and how, but karma always comes around. This doesn't mean you have to join the Salvation Army small, simple acts of kindness and compassion go a long way. Every morning, take a few seconds to think about what good you can do today. Whether it's calling your grandma or praising a coworker, it'll bring you one step closer to what the Yogi would call an enlightened life.

Cultivate Your Mind

Some people believe that making mistakes is like making irreparable dents. It's hard to let go of negative thoughts, especially criticism. Ironically, under the grand laws of nature, our mind can only hold one thought at a time. By making negative thoughts your focus, you'll embody it, or worst, manifest it. This mentality will only hinder your personal growth. The biggest lesson from the book is how the quality of your life is determined by the quality of your thoughts. Julian Mantle transformed himself from a depressed, obese lawyer into a youthful, optimistic man all by conquering his mind. Mastering your mind means seeing setbacks as opportunities. By envisioning your dreams, you give your mind the power to cultivate it and make it a reality. So occupies your mind with uplifting thoughts. You'll come to realize, the power of cultivating a rich mentality will help you manifest the energy you'll need to attain the success you desire. Julian exclaim learn over time to not judge events as either positive or negative but to just experience them and soak in the learning. The lessons that come from these learning are what fuel your goal. The mind has two gears; imagination and memory. Focusing on memory will ensure you live in the past while spending time imagining will see you have a more positive outlook on what your world could be like in the future. Imagination allows you to design the life you want, instead of being given the life you don't want that is shaped by external forces.

Respect Your Time

Time is the most precious commodity given to humans; however, we do a good job of wasting it. According to the sages, only 20 percent of all the activities that you give your time to, will actually have an influence on the quality of your life. With this in mind, it is important to focus on priorities and learn to say NO to those that don't matter. Setting your priorities help you to maintain the much-needed balance and improve your life.

Embrace the Present

We are all here for some special reason. Stop being a prisoner of your past. Become the architect of your future.

We live in a fast-paced world, where we all wear the busy badge. However, it's important to live like a child and embrace the joys of the moment. While you have dreams and ambitions, celebrate the journey that will take you there. Love the tiny successes and the failures along the way. Practice gratitude and stop putting off your happiness for the sake of achievement.

Conclusion

In the novel, there are moral values conveyed by author where the most dominant is the values that are being conveyed explicitly, can be easily seen by the readers. Based on the analysis, the results reveal that there are moral values in *The Monk Who Sold His Ferrari* written by Robin Sharma which are presented through the actions and statements of characters as well as the depiction of the atmosphere in the novel. These moral values are about the issues of human being connected with materialistic world, the unfaith relationship between humans. Moral values presented in the novel troops can be used as a guide to live a life meaningfully. This novel describes how we establish a good relationship with ourselves, fellow humans, and God. Living their lives, people deal with their own conscience so that the author delivers that tenacity is something to be realized and implemented in every occasion. People are also social creatures where they cannot possibly dwell in a place without the existence of others. The author emphasizes the point of obedience as it is mostly portrayed in the characters activities when performing prayer on time. The values found in the lives of the characters teach us to be better human beings.

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