

IMPACT OF INCIDENCES FROM MAHABHARAT ON DECISION MAKING IN YOUTH

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ABSTRACT

The Mahabharata is one amongst the two major epics of India, the other is Ramayana. Mahabharata is an eternal learning of ethics, righteousness, virtue and goals for human race. It is essentially the struggle between two groups for the throne. Kaurvas and the Pandavas, both fight for their right on successorship of Hastinapur. It also narrates philosophical material such as the four goals of life i.e. Purushartha. It has often been the guiding principle of management students as well. The incidences in Mahabharat have management lessons hidden in it. There are instances which can be related to the contemporary period as well. There are also lessons related to the ethics and morality which are still given as examples for any situation with duality involved in it. The research paper aims at understanding the instances in Mahabharat and their impact on youth. The research is aimed at throwing light on the effect of decision making for youth. This will then help everybody to analyze their actions in the light of benchmark of Mahabharata. Research Methodology adopted for the paper is Stratified Random Sampling which gave 125 samples. The forms were distributed and data collected was analyzed with the help of Data Tabulation. The inference is then drawn with the help of series of questions falling in various criteria like, Likert scale, dichotomous and descriptive.

Keywords: Mahabharata, Purushartha, Ethics.

Introduction

Mahabharat and its Impact

Mahabharat is one of the greatest epics in India. It has many learning lessons for youth and for everyone. It entails the fight between right and wrong portrayed from the fight between "Kauravas and Pandavas". In the Mahabharata, two families fight for the throne of Hastinapura. These families, the Kauravas and the Pandavas, disagree about the proper royal family, or line of succession. Most of the epic tale concerns the war between them, which climaxes in the great battle of Kurukshetra. In the end, the Pandavas are victorious. The epic is one of the oldest ever written. It is approximately 200,000 lines long. It has always been a guiding principle for people to lead their lives. When learnt about Mahabharat in childhood, it has an impact on decision making thus developed. The incidences in Mahabharat teach various skills like Time Management, Decision Making, Crisis Management and most importantly mindfulness. In order to add it further, it gives you a guide to humanity and builds a rationale towards decision making. It is important to understand Mahabharat in its entirety, then it will definitely act as a solution giver to all the issues and problems of life.

Objective of the Research

The objective of the research is to understand the impact of incidences in Mahabharata on youth. The research primarily aims at the youth as they are going to develop a strategy for themselves towards solving issue and Epics can thus help them form it better. It is also to understand the drivers for decision making so that measures can be taken and the psychological development of the decision making can be understood amongst youth. The research only deals with certain instances of Mahabharata as covering the entire epic is time consuming and also will face scarcity of other valuable resources.

Research Methodology

Methodology adopted for the research includes sampling, preparation of questionnaire, data collection and tabulation to analyze the data. Researcher prepared a questionnaire (with a Likert Scale, Semantic Differential, Dichotomous) comprising of close ended questions on major note and a subjective question to understand what efforts the respondents can take to ensure no effect on them. The method of sampling was stratified random sampling for 125 respondents.

Data Analysis

Out of 150 respondents, 125 surveys were valid. Remaining 25 surveys were not properly filled and cannot be considered for analysis. The analysis is done on the following main categories:

- Awareness of Mahabharata
- Instances impact in Mahabharata
- Role of Mahabharata in decision making

Inference

Age of the Respondents		Awareness of Mahabharat		Source of Information on Mahabharat			
Less than 15	9	Yes	125		Yes	No	Total
15-18	18	No	0	Heard Stores from Family	107	18	125
19-22	75	Total	125	Read Books	30	95	125
22-26	8			Seen on Television / multimedia screen	110	15	125
above 26	15						
Total	125						

Sr. No.	Statements	SA	A	NAND	D	SD	Total
1	Incidences from Mahabharata have real time reference to current era as well.	45	55	10	15	0	125
2	It helps to think rationally and access in all impartial condition.	67	43	8	7	0	125
3	Leadership skills can be best explained by various incidences in Mahabharata.	80	17	14	9	5	125
4	Team building is seen during preparation of the war in Mahabharata.	20	13	8	27	57	125
5	Power and authenticity of spoken word is seen during Bhishma's celibacy oath.	90	20	15	0	0	125
6	Instances from Mahabharata are often used as guiding principles by youth for decision making.	56	45	7	8	9	125
7	Revenge never reaps good can be learnt from incidence of Shakuni.	108	17	0	0	0	125
8	Every gender has its role to play in the universe can be learnt from Shikandi.	85	18	7	5	10	125
9	The law of Karma can be well explained by instances in Mahabharat.	98	10	17	0	0	125
10	Victory is always with the righteous people.	79	21	12	5	8	125

Frequency of Influence of instances in the life of characters in decision making						
Characters	Very Frequently	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Never	Total
Krishna	80	20	5	5	0	110
Arjun	75	28	5	7	10	125
Bhishma	90	10	15	6	4	125
Draupadi	70	25	26	2	2	125
Yudhishtir	67	37	7	8	6	125
Kunti	80	30	12	3	0	125
Duryodhan	90	22	8	5	0	125
Gandhari	10	20	14	69	12	125
Dhritrashtra	78	14	9	20	4	125
Shakuni	80	20	8	10	7	125
Shikhandi	92	22	8	2	1	125
Bhim	89	23	5	5	3	125
Dushasan	88	21	7	9	0	125
Vidur	77	34	5	5	4	125
Karna	94	14	8	9	0	125

Conclusion

The research paper can sum up to following conclusionary remarks:

- Involvement in Mahabharat: Kids need to be involved in Mahabharat at an early age. It is necessary to get them with facts and figures.
- Animations to make it connect: The story must be presented in an animation format which will help create more interest towards the story.
- School Subject: Mahabharat must be introduced as a school subject in order to help young minds frame their opinions better.
- Lesson's imprint: The younger generation needs this Epic to be learnt as the lessons are true to this day. It will reduce other issues also in the millennials.
- Brand Rejuvenation: The epic needs to be retold in a new style and has to hold small episodes based on instances and focusing on lessons learnt from the instances.

Limitation and Future Directions

The paper is intended to study the impact of Mahabharat on Decision making. It falls short to highlight the impact of other epics and their contribution towards development of an individual. Due to time limit and the brief limit of topic

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