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“I am not your slave”. Friends, don’t get surprised or frightened. I am not saying this to you.

Few days back, Aryan my grandson aged 5 years got perturbed and addressed this remark to his younger brother Neil aged 2 years while playing cricket in my house. Aryan was bowling to his younger brother Neil who was hitting the ball very hard and Aryan had to cover the field with every ball he bowled. Finally Aryan lost his temper with Neil’s one more fine shot and shouted at Neil that “I am not your slave.” I was literally taken aback. I just asked Aryan as to what he means by ‘slave’? Aryan promptly remarked that I am not his ‘servant’. Aryan was just studying in Sr. KG. I pacified both of them but somehow this phrase did trouble my mind for few days. This Article is the outcome of this mental dialogue on this phrase.

Whenever we hear the word ‘slave’, a dumb servant comes before our eyes. In history this word taught us as to how slaves were punished, kept starving etc. by their masters. We always take the literal meaning of this word. **It is a pity that we don’t take macro meaning of the word.**

All of us must accept one basic fact that we all are slaves, by whatever sugar-coated name it is called. Even businessmen or professionals cannot free themselves from this word. They are slaves of their customers consumers or clients.

Since childhood, we acquire a number of habits, good or bad. **We are slaves of these habits.** e.g. getting up early or late in the morning, doing or not doing own chores etc.

Whenever we find it difficult to follow our daily routine, then too we get upset. Everyone is afraid of ‘old age’ and its sufferings. All through the life he is worried about only one thing that he should not become dependent on somebody else when he grows old. If at all it happens, he finds it extremely difficult to adjust with call of the day.

A person becomes victim of bad habits more easily. I am looking at the word Bad habits from 'macro' angle. No doubt that smoking, drinking, chewing tobacco etc. are certainly bad habits but even overspending without considering the income should also be branded as a bad habit.

Dance to the tune of another person (whether it's your boss, spouse etc.) is also intellectual slavery. Every employed person to some extent has to dance before his Boss. Dancing to the tune of your spouse due to extreme love is also slavery.

Slavery of any kind whether it is financial, intellectual, physical is always bad.

Every one should respect the individuality of another person. God is hiding in each person and hence respecting another person is nothing but worship of GOD. Birth is not in our hands but how to live can be influenced by us. We may not get every thing that we want and hence we must love what we get in Life. **A person who has acquired the skill to derive 100% satisfaction with 50% of inputs can be happy in this world.**

If financial planning is done properly, then you need not worry about financial slavery. However, you must consider saving as first charge on your income. **You will have to remember a new formula namely Income less saving should be expenses.**

Even in carrying out business or profession, we should guard ourselves from becoming a slave of our customers or clients. If one has to work according to the wishes of top bosses, then what justice is done to salary, experience and qualifications acquired by you? We should act in the interest of the organization. Please remember that parents, teachers, have all taken efforts on us since childhood for making us good citizens. If we misbehave then it would be an insult to their efforts.

You must acquire the habit of 'Reading' if you want to avoid slavery of any sort in your Life. You must read autobiographies, life philosophy books etc. and digest the advice. You will realize that you have hardly faced any difficulties as compared to those persons.

It is also necessary to remember that your assistants are not your slaves. We should honour their efforts. We should compensate their efforts taken for our personal work. One can remember your own reaction when your Boss expects the same thing from you.

If each one of us makes an effort to end slavery on individual level, we can hope to end 'Slavery' in real sense of the term.

Lets join together to end Slavery.