



# Arthasastra of Chanakya : Sustainable Development methods of Emperors

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## Abstract

Chanakya's Arthashastra - Sustainable Development Methods of Emperors. What Chanakya told the kings, these ethical rules apply to all rulers in democratic countries in the present era. This is called a "Still point" in English. That is, if something said simultaneously or in any country applies to all countries at this time, it is called a still point. Moreover, if a great man says something in one country and another great man says the same thing in another country, or if what he said in one period is said in another period, it is also called a still point, Acharya Tummapudi Koteswara Rao told PG English students in a meeting. It is noteworthy that what the Chanakya rulers should have now, what he told the kings then, applies to the rulers of today as well. Let us discuss some of such ethical rules in this article. Only if any person or any state develops morally, it is called sustainable development. Sustainable development is possible only when any individual, organization, or country stands morally.

## Introduction

Chanakya's Arthashastra - Sustainable Development Methods of Emperors. What Chanakya told the kings, these ethical rules apply to all rulers in democratic countries in the present era. This is called a "Still point" in English. That is, if something said simultaneously or in any country applies to all countries at this time, it is called a still point. Moreover, if a great man says something in one country and another great man says the same thing in another country, or if what he said in one period is said in another period, it is also called a still point, Acharya Tummapudi Koteswara Rao told PG English students in a meeting. It is noteworthy that what the Chanakya rulers should have now, what he told the kings then, applies to the rulers of today as well. Let us discuss some of such ethical rules in this article. Only if any person or any state develops morally, it is called sustainable development. Sustainable development is possible only when any individual, organization, or country stands morally

Financial Self-reliance - Education: The prince who assumes the burden of state power should adopt strict celibacy until the age of 16. He should study well. While learning to read and write, he should also learn mathematics and economics. The science of state administration, the essential principles of income and expenditure, ethics, justice and morality should be studied only by teachers who are proficient in the respective sciences. In ancient times, the king's treasury was filled with the wealth found in cattle and forests, and valuable metals such as grain and gold through the agricultural sector. The more wealth the king had in the treasury, the stronger he was, and he would also help the people when there was a famine. It is through this treasury that the king could subdue or control his enemies. Good economists should be appointed in key high positions in the government to increase the income of the state. The ways of increasing economic strength should be fully understood through high-level employees who have acquired such special skills.

Financial self-reliance with expert advice: A king who is a devotee of ethics, rules and justice should associate with the elderly, learned men and scientists who live a disciplined life. Their advice should not be ignored under any circumstances. The advice they suggest should be carefully implemented in his administration. In the morning, he should learn the secrets related to the army. In those days, they used to learn nuclear science to know how to develop the strength of the army, chariot force, cavalry force, infantry force, etc. He should develop the skill of protecting the borders and the skills of using various modern weapons. If possible, spies should be appointed. At night, he should learn lessons on new problems related to

the administration of the kingdom. In addition, he should discuss with the scholars many times on matters about which he is not completely aware and develop perfect knowledge. During this period, however, the rulers should know who is an expert in which subject and take the knowledge of those experts and their advice. Knowledge develops when they discuss with the gurus many times. When one has perfect knowledge, self-confidence and self-strength increase, and rulers are able to use their intellect freely. A ruler who acquires perfect knowledge and becomes an expert, and who adheres to the laws and regulations, that ruler will be dedicated to the welfare of the people and build a strong government. He who rules by devoting all his energy to the happiness and well-being of all the people, his rule and authority will be unchallenged.

**Rulers - Moral Virtues:** Those rulers who do not succumb to the forces of lust, anger, greed, delusion, and jealousy... they rule the earth for a long time. Whoever succumbs to material desires through the five senses, the Arishadvargas will not reach him. Chanakya repeatedly warned that rulers should be above the forces of lust and anger. That principle applies well to those of this era as well. There is no doubt that those who do not resist these forces and act in submission will soon be completely destroyed, no matter how big the kingdom is. We see that situation even today. For example, Boja and Ravana, who were slaves to lust, not only lost their kingdoms but were also destroyed. People like Janamejaya, who abandoned everything and persecuted the great sages, fell. Some emperors conquered lust and anger, kept the five senses under their control, and ruled the kingdom with fame and public approval for a long time. There is no doubt that even in this era, if you follow these ethical rules mentioned by Chanakya and treat everyone equally without nepotism, you will become good rulers. Chanakya said that various professions should be encouraged. Keeping this in mind, some of the rulers of today are also providing some financial assistance to encourage those who do various professions.

**Ways to develop wealth:** If those who commit crimes are not punished by royal punishment, justice and morality will be violated in the kingdom. Whoever, instead of imposing strict discipline on the criminal, gives a light punishment, will cause the people to be indifferent to the power of the state. Those rulers who give a punishment befitting the crime to the guilty are respected by the people. When the guilty is tried with an impartial eye and a fair punishment is given to the crime, then the people in that kingdom will bow to justice and be virtuous, fulfill their duties properly for the development of the country's wealth and enjoy happiness. That is why punishments should be imposed according to the crime. It is on this occasion that the statesman Machiavelli says.... It is better for the king to fear the terrible punishment for the crimes they have committed than to have devotion to the people.

**Allocating time for people to voice their grievances:** When the king is in court, he should give an opportunity to the people who come to make complaints and express their problems in his presence. A special time should be allocated for this. Earlier, people used to give an opportunity in the name of "Dharma Ghanta". In later times, some Chief Ministers also allocated sometime in the name of Dharma Ghanta for people to express their problems. For example, Nandamuri Taraka Rama Rao. And some Chief Ministers provided an opportunity in the name of Praja Darbar. So, we can proudly say that this method is from Chanakya's Arthashastra.

**Economic development with the welfare of various sections:** The king himself should look into the affairs of the gods, the affairs of the highly educated, the care of livestock which is the basis of the people's livelihood, the protection of sacred pilgrimage sites in his kingdom, the welfare of children, the elderly, the helpless and vulnerable men and women, and issue necessary orders for their welfare. These should be recognized and fulfilled by the king or the rulers of today, only then will sustainable economic development be possible.

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