

பால்: அறத்துப்பால்

அதிகாரம்/Chapter: ஒழுக்கமுடைமை / The Possession of Decorum

English Couplet 131:

'Decorum' gives especial excellence; with
greater care

'Decorum' should men guard than life, which all
men share

Couplet Explanation:

Propriety of conduct leads to eminence, it
should therefore be preserved more carefully
than life

English Couplet 132:

Searching, duly watching, learning, 'decorum' still
we find;
Man's only aid; toiling, guard thou this with
watchful mind

Couplet Explanation:

Let propriety of conduct be laboriously
preserved and guarded; though one know and
practise and excel in many virtues, that will be
an eminent aid

English Couplet 133:

'Decorum's' true nobility on earth;
'Indecorum's' issue is ignoble birth

Couplet Explanation:

Propriety of conduct is true greatness of birth,
and impropriety will sink into a mean birth

English Couplet 134:

Though he forget, the Brahman may regain his
Vedic lore;
Failing in 'decorum due,' birthright's gone for
evermore

Couplet Explanation:

A Brahman though he should forget the Vedas
may recover it by reading; but, if he fail in
propriety of conduct even his high birth will be
destroyed

English Couplet 135:

The envious soul in life no rich increase of
blessing gains,
So man of 'due decorum' void no dignity obtains

Couplet Explanation:

Just as the envious man will be without wealth,
so will the man of destitute of propriety of
conduct be without greatness

English Couplet 136:

The strong of soul no jot abate of 'strict
decorum's' laws,
Knowing that 'due decorum's' breach foulest
disgrace will cause

Couplet Explanation:

Those firm in mind will not slacken in their observance of the proprieties of life, knowing, as they do, the misery that flows from the transgression from them

English Couplet 137:

'Tis source of dignity when 'true decorum' is preserved;
Who break 'decorum's' rules endure e'en censures undeserved

Couplet Explanation:

From propriety of conduct men obtain greatness; from impropriety comes insufferable disgrace

English Couplet 138:

'Decorum true' observed a seed of good will be;
'Decorum's breach' will sorrow yield eternally

Couplet Explanation:

Propriety of conduct is the seed of virtue;
impropriety will ever cause sorrow

English Couplet 139:

It cannot be that they who 'strict decorum's' law
fulfil,
E'en in forgetful mood, should utter words of ill

Couplet Explanation:

Those who study propriety of conduct will not
speak evil, even forgetfully

English Couplet 140:

Who know not with the world in harmony to
dwell,
May many things have learned, but nothing well

Couplet Explanation:

Those who know not how to act agreeably to the world, though they have learnt many things, are still ignorant