

2

Excess of everything is poison

We all know the story of a greedy man who asks the wish fulfilling fairy to grant the power to turn everything he touches to gold. He fails to understand the consequence. After a while he realizes that he is unable to cook food, unable to meet his family as everything turned into gold.

The story refutes the idea that "Greediness is dangerous". Man must always look forward to fulfil his "needs" and not greed because greed is a never ending desire ^{of} "more" that will lead you to the path of cliff

destruction.

Excess of everything is poison.
A rational man will demand and
consume only that which is
necessary. Extra consumption, due
to law of diminishing marginal
utility, beyond a point, will only
cause disutility.

However, aspirational persons
consume beyond this limit and
ignite upon themselves the
very destruction. It is a universal
fact that everything has a
limit and must not be broken.
Just like extracting resources
for the sake of profit without
any control will lead to scarcity.

Over exploitation of resources
perpetuates economic inequalities. Greedy persons will

accumulate more and more wealth at the cost of depleting resources.

Humankind has discovered sophisticated and easy ways to increase the extraction of natural resources. It has led to deforestation, burning of fossil fuels, threat to biodiversity and extinction of species.

Over exploitation for the sake of profits have caused global warming. Events like Amazon and Australian wildfires, melting of arctic ice, and unpredictable monsoons are all results of human greed.

Excess consumption as a result of over production has made people obese. Consumption of

Calories without any proper exercise and fitness activities has made people overweight. Once they realise, sugar or calories are poison to them.

Consumerism and a false sense of satisfaction from worldly things, also known as, fetishism has made objects more powerful than human. For example, Gaming on computer is good entertainment. However, playing games for long hours may lead to addiction.

Studies have proven that addiction to gaming is injurious to mental health. It may cause impulsive and anxiety issues.

that might lead to depression.

Addiction towards a particular thing, person or any activity threatens our cognitive abilities.

Excess of love, and affection may lead to obsession and spitefulness. The excess desire of pleasure may turn a person hungry for lust. We know from the "Poem" Padmarat that obsessing desire leads to obsession over padmarat lead to the destruction of a whole Rajput kingdom.

Similarly, Excess of Intelligence, is threat to a person's morality. An overeminent and over intelligent person may cross any limit of morality and ethical.

conduct to achieve thing ends.
In Mahabharat, Shakuni's over
smartness made him cunning and
manipulative, which caused the
destruction of whole Kaurava
clan.

Kings and nobles are
often exploitative. They are hungry
for power and money. The extra
vagant life style of the nobles
in Mughal administration was
one of the reason for its down-
fall as it burdened by Royal
expenditure.

Excess of religious
doctrination is very dangerous.
Aurangzeb was extra orthodox
than any other muslim rulers

His possessiveness over Islamic traditions led to restriction of religious freedom in the empire. His own nobles and governors often plotted against him.

Religion liberates a person from the worldly suffering. However, religious indoctrination is dangerous, as it leads to fanaticism.

Religious fanaticism like ISIS, Al-Qaeda and Hezbollah stand against everything that they view as un-Islamic.

Excess of everything and anything will cause "Moral Myopia" in people. In politics, addiction to more and more power, the desire to reach higher and

high posts, ~~emulate~~ ^{and} desire to
emulate more and more people as
many states as possible always
has led to subordination of public
will.

Most powerful people in
the history have only caused
wars and conflicts. Adolf Hitler
was so powerful that he fueled
morally evil and ordered the
killing of millions of innocent
jews (holocaust).

Similarly, Saddam
Hussein's desire for ~~more~~ money
and profits, his greediness for
oil and energy led to invasion
of Kuwait.

wealthy subcontinent, the East India company's lust for power and money, the immoral motives to colonize as much territory as possible was responsible for the economic, cultural and social decay of India.

The poisonous policies of Britishers like subsidiary alliance and doctrine of lapse reflect the dangers of excessive desires. They used tactics of deception to fuel hatred among Indian rulers. What British did by the Carnatic wars displays their cunning attitude which was because of their greed to achieve extensive control over the territory.

Once we realize the dangers of having anything or everything in excessive, we must find out ways to avoid the same. A rational person will not desire, demand or consume anything in excess.

A society based on rationality will learn to live in substance and will ensure that nothing is beyond a limit while balancing everything perfectly.

A tolerant society is the ideal one. However, excessive tolerance will entertain mischief and will result in acceptance of unethical elements.

Excess of intolerance also
leads to prohibition. Neither of the
both outcomes ^{are} ~~is~~ desirable.

prohibition $\Rightarrow$ tolerance $\equiv$ acceptance

Society as a whole and every
individual in the society must
work to find the "Golden mean"
in every aspect of their life. If
there is anything in excess, they
it must be "reduced to mean".

Just like there must not
be excessive government control
on the market as it will make
marketless competitive and slow
down growth. ^{are} The period of
1960s-1980s is of excessive govern-
ment control.

Golden mean of an economy
is "Mixed or indicative" planning
Similarly,
Golden mean of a person in her
life can ^{be} achieved through Bu-
ddha's eight fold path. His
idea of "middle path" (Asthanga
marg) will prevent individuals
for excessiveness.

hate - [Love] - obsession
dictatorship - [democracy] - Anarchy
(excessive liberty)

↓
The Golden mean.

Regression to mean must
be the motto of every person.
They must learn to perceive things
interests with Peace, Patience and
Perseverance and stay within the
sphere of golden mean.

④

75 years ago, the first prime minister of India, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru gave the famous speech called "India's Birth with dignity". He declared the nation was successful in its fight for freedom. After over 150 years of struggle against the British rule, the nation is finally independent.

However, the real independence was never understood. If the idea of independence is just restricted to "political freedom", and principle of sovereignty, then otherwise we are completely independent.

Unfortunately, this narrow conception will only undermine the struggle and sacrifice of India's freedom fighters. Because to them, political freedom was necessary but not sufficient for gaining independence.

Gandhi in his book "hind swaraj" explains the multi-dimensionality of true independence. For him, independence was to ^{something be} cultured from within the nation. A nation not free from the curbs of its own evil-will never be independent.

This multidimensionality is reflected in the Preamble to our constitution. It envisages liberty of thought, expression, faith, belief and worship. The preamble also seeks justice in social, economic and political spheres.

How can we still not seek independence if we have not yet fulfilled the promise of our preamble. Complete independence will provide conditions to citizens for the fullest development of their potentials. ^{Here,} Independence without constitutional morality is void

According to Jendulkar commi-
sion report 22% of population was
under poverty. There has not
been any considerable improvement.

The Global Hunger Index ranks
India at 101st position among
116 countries.

India still is suffering from
the problem of malnutrition.

Despite being the fourth largest
economy in the world we are
to fulfil the nutritional needs of
our children. 22% of Global
burden of child undernutrition
is on India.

Inequality has risen
considerably, specially after the

1991 economic surveys. Today
top 10% of the richest population
of India amounts ^{for} more than
60% of its wealth. Concentration
of income in few hands and
to certain areas have caused
regional imbalances. This is
sustaining the rural-urban
divide.

The rising unemployment
and unrest among youth is a
hindrance in leveraging the
advantages of demographic
dividend. 75 years have been
passed and yet "the conscience
of preamble of economic justice"
remains unsatisfied.

Casteism is still a defining future of our society. Discrimination against Dalits still continues in various parts. Inter-caste marriage is still considered as dogma on the family reputation. One honor killing in Hyderabad for inter-caste & cross religion marriage is prime evidence.

Attrocities against SC/ST are happening till today. Mob lynching of minorities based on rumours and mis-information are increasing. This reflects the degree of intolerance in our society and a society that is not inclusive and intolerant cannot be called independent.

We are still being ruled by the age old social practices which are not conducive to modern environment. "Our bodies are free, but hearts and minds are still controlled"

Child marriages though have decreased but still prevail in certain regions. Girls are illegally married off before 18⁺ forcing them to bear children at a very young age. Child marriage destroys education & employment opportunities of the girl. She has to remain dependent on her husband and in claim for livelihood all the time.

Parents of poor families are being harassed by demands of dowry. Even the educated men and their families are involved in obtaining dowry from the bride's family.

Dowry restricts the economic freedom of the family to spend money on other necessities. This cultural conception is now so deeply entrenched in the society that it has become natural everywhere.

Women in India are still not free. They are scared to go out alone to work, school or even visit a public place. One instance of sexual harassment

of women at work place have increased exponentially in recent years.

Every hour atleast one woman is raped in India. Rape is most severe form of violence a person can do against another. Prevalence of rape in India reflects the "degree of independence" in society.

Justice is always delayed. Supreme court alone is burdened with 69,000 cases. Excessive burden delays hearing and results in injustice to victims. On other hand criminals are being freed on the name of rehabilitation. All the courts

in the case of Bilkis banu were
reached recently. A certain group
of people welcomed the rapists by
galaouncing them. This represents
the ill mentality of society and
the kind of view we have
of women.

Religion and associated violence
are dominant features of the society.
We are tolerating immoral
practices in the name of religion,
like Female genital mutilation (FGM),
atalaq-e-siddat, puerach and
the practice of chiyab and poly
gamy. These practices are ~~dego-~~
derogatory to the dignity
of women. They must not find
a place in a free society.

Religion is opium for fools!
as said by Karl Marx. Violence
in the name of religion has
increased in the last 10 years.
Riots in Kashmir,
Ayitany in the valley and
cross border organised crime
are serious threat to the
nation.

The beheading of a person
in Rajasthan, the revival of
gyanwapi mosque case in
supreme court, and the killing
of Kashmiri pandit last month
are instances that create
tension in the society. We
are witnessing such cases even

after 75 years of Independence
reflects the failure as a nation to
free the minds of Indians
from evil such as Misogyny,
religious fanaticism, patriarchy,
greed for wealth and crime.

India will be independent
completely we are free from
censorship, defections in politics.
Why ~~are~~ everyone is free to eat,
wear, speak, move and protest
without any fear. Why laws
such as Section 124A of IPC, AFSPA,
UAPA are not used to silence the
dissent. Why institutions,
regulatory bodies and universities
are free from ideological influence.
We need a radical reconstruction of our
society based on the ideals of preamble.