

- Q.1 If you look into someone's face long enough, eventually you feel that you are looking into yourself.
यदि आप किसी के चेहरे को काफी देर तक देखते हैं, तो अंततः आपको महसूस होता है कि आप अपने भीतर ही देख रहे हैं।
- Q.2 We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light.
हम उस बच्चे को आसानी से क्षमा कर सकते हैं जो अंधेरे से डरता है; जीवन की वास्तविक त्रासदी तब होती है जब लोग रोशनी से डरते हैं।
- Q.3 It is the province of knowledge to speak and it is the privilege of wisdom to listen.
बोलना ज्ञान का क्षेत्र है और श्रवण करना बुद्धि का विशेषाधिकार है।
- Q.4 Drop the question what tomorrow may bring, and count as profit every day that fate allows you.
यह प्रश्न छोड़ दें कि कल क्या हो सकता है, और हर उस दिन को लाभ के रूप में गिनें जो भाग्य आपको अनुमति देता है।

Drop the question what tomorrow may bring, and count as profit every day that fate allows you

Today is 10 December, 2022, 30 days to go for the JEE exam. Raman, 18 year old, studying in twelfth standard has been preparing for the exam from past 1 year or so. Today he is to attempt a mock test to take hold of how his preparation is going. He sits for mock test at 12:00 clock and when he finishes the exam at 3:00 clock, the score flashed on the screen. It read 105 out of 360. Raman had tear in his eyes. With heavy eyes, he went to the kitchen to fetch a glass of water. His father after seeing him upset, asked him the reason and gets to know of the situation. He puts

his arms around Raman's shoulder and says, "you still have 30 days, buddy."

The whole incident shows that rather than holding on to the question what tomorrow may bring, we should focus & count it as fate profit. The today that fate has allowed you. Raman's father's advice that he should stop worrying about the result of examination rather focus on the 30 days at hand consonates with this idea.

By focussing on what you have in your hand helps you to do away with unnecessary anxiety, gives you an actionable plan and drives your focus to the controllable variables. After all what actions you take today will ultimately shape what tomorrow holds for you.

From here on, we will delve deep into the essay topic by answering questions like - why one should focus on today, rather than tomorrow? should we completely drop the question of what tomorrow may bring? Why do some people focus more on what future has for them rather than acting today? How can we ensure that we make every day that fate allows us profitable? How that we lets answer all these one by one.

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Present is all that we have

practically speaking, it is today that we have in our hands. so focussing on the day at hand helps us to put ourselves to action. Take the case of Winston Churchill during First World War-II. When Hitler was seeming to be invincible, Winston Churchill gave the slogan that 'we shall fight till the end' without him or his soldiers knowing what end holds for them. Because that was the only ~~#~~ best thing they could have done in that situation.

secondly, focussing on the day at hand helps you to avoid unnecessary stress, anxiety and fear of the unknown. The best way to overcome fear is to stop thinking and start doing. For instance, a child learning how to skate can never do so if he keeps on contemplating the future ~~for~~ scenario of him falling & injuring himself. The only way to learn any new activity is to adopt get things done approach ~~rather than~~ and shedding the virtually created scenarios of failure.

Thirdly, dropping the question of what tomorrow may bring is logical enough as it is beyond your control. Your actions today may bring

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success or failure or may not result into either. Nothing could be said about the future in a certain way. Take the case of Gandhiji launching non cooperation movement. He promised people that swaraj would come in a year if ~~he~~^{we} go by this tempo. However, the movement had to be withdrawn prematurely because of Chauri Chaura incident. The apparent failure of movement to attain swaraj was beyond everybody's control. What was in control was the action ~~but~~ struggle ~~but~~ up by masses against the British empire, the faith reposed in Gandhiji's leadership and the everyday challenges that they faced.

Fourthly, focussing on today helps you to appreciate and be grateful of the fact that you got yet another opportunity to work on yourself, improve from ~~what~~ your yesterday's version & strive for a better tomorrow. The very fact that you are surviving today with your mind & body in tact provides you a reason to thank the almighty. The case in point is of Anne Frank who though being forced to hide live a life of fear, oblivion and constant threat to life, puts up a positive perspective in her 'Diary of a young girl' by thanking

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and being grateful for each day she had at hand.

Lastly, it is how you acknowledge and act upon today's opportunities that ultimately decides what tomorrow may bring to you. Despite knowing the fact that we may face international backlash, we took stake of the situation and went for nuclear tests first in 1974 and again in 1998 in the light of a volatile neighbourhood. ~~The future~~ what future had for us is known to all. Not only nuclear power status has proved to be a credible deterrence against our enemies but the responsibility with which we handled this power has gained international respect for India.

Having seen the importance of acting ^{to} day, and not overthinking about tomorrow, there arise a question that should we completely neglect or overlook the future potential outcomes of our action.

WHAT FUTURE HOLDS FOR US

Questioning what tomorrow may bring helps you to manoeuvre, recalibrate and

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and realign your ~~to~~ today's actions to achieve a long term goal. Take the case of Government launching a scheme to achieve a certain goal or outcome. It has to seek constant feedback from all stakeholders and make changes today to achieve the desired outcome tomorrow.

Furthermore, the very aspect of what tomorrow may bring keeps you motivated today. It helps you to keep going, show perseverance and an unfiring attitude towards the long term goal. Freedom struggle of India is a pertinent example in this regard. The dream of breathing in an independent and free India kept the masses motivated, gave them the courage to face the oppression and put up a strong resistance against the foreign power.

We have seen it is more productive, practical, and controllable to work on today than to worry about future. Then why do ~~some~~ people fail to give up their tendency to emphasize ~~the~~ tomorrow over today.

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TENDENCY TO CONTEMPLATE FUTURE THAN TO ACT TODAY

This tendency perhaps arises from the very fact that it's an easy thing to do. It's within one's comfort zone. For instance, not investing in the present technology by tech companies by thinking that technology may soon change tomorrow. This gives the company the escape route from making critical decisions ~~to~~ and investments today and hence stay in a comfortable position.

Not only this, the tendency of focussing more on future arises from the risk associated with failure. In the movie - 3 Idiots - Raju (Sharmar Joshi) despite being a bright student from the very beginning fails to perform in college due to always worrying about the future failures that he may encounter. Protagonist Rancho (Aamir Khan) asks him to remove the ~~at~~ his finger rings (sign of superstition), give up his fears and live in the present. The risk of future failure prevents us from taking action today.

Our next area of discussion should be to how to shed this tendency and ensure that we make the best use of today.

PUTTING YOURSELF TO ACTION TODAY

Geeta's prescription of Nishkama Karma summarises the importance of focussing on your duty (Karma) today, because that is the only thing that you have a right upon. The right over outcomes doesn't belong to you. We shall make such philosophies an important part of our daily life as these are not just moral imperatives rather practical advices.

Apart from this, we there should be a focus on rational and critical thinking approach right from childhood. This helps children and eventually adults to have a gradual, incremental and actionable approach towards their tomorrow. This approach ^{being} shall focus on efforts, not today than unnecessary emphasis on future. Atal Tinkering Labs is a case in point. It helps youth to develop patience as Research and development ~~are~~ projects are generally of long gestation and demand non obsession and detachment from results.

Also encouraging a risk taking attitude works in this regard. Take the case of startups who take calculated risks today despite knowing the fact that it may end up in a

failure. Here the buffer mechanisms like government support ~~at~~ through schemes like startup india which provides assurance against disproportionate risks associated with ~~star~~ certain projects.

similarly in case of individuals, family support acts as a motivation to act today and take risk if necessary.

To put in a nutshell, overemphasis on tomorrow deprives you of the opportunity that you have today. The fate has allowed you a day i.e. today to act upon, to improve upon & to build upon your yesterday and at the same time strive for, dream for and prepare for a better future.

If you miss this opportunity, then practically you will lose the only chance to make a difference in your life as well as in life of others. Will you be able to ~~live~~ live with the regret that despite having time, opportunity and resources to take action, you didn't and just because you were more occupied

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with the results of the action rather than the action itself. Whether Raman would be able to clear the exam or not no one knows. That's the question to which only the future has the answer to. But what he has with him is the 30 days to create the difference between success and failure.

Your action and decisions today will shape your destiny; collective actions of mankind today will shape society's, nation's and ultimately the global communities' destiny. It's not your discretion but your duty to make the best use of the day the fate has allowed you. Because so today Act as if it's your last day; Act as if your action can make a difference; Act as if you have the sole responsibility to shape the mankind's tomorrow.

- Q.5 Truth, like a torch, the more it is shook, it shines.
सत्य, मशाल की तरह है, इसे जितना अधिक हिलाया जाता है, यह उतना ही चमकता है।
- Q.6 Art is I; science is We.
कला मैं है; विज्ञान हम है।
- Q.7 Only the dead have seen the end of the war.
केवल मृतकों ने ही युद्ध का अंत देखा है।
- Q.8 Act as if it were impossible to fail.
कार्य ऐसे करें जैसे कि विफल होना असंभव ही था।

Truth, like a torch, the more it
is shook, it shines

On an unfortunate day, Iqbal Qasim, who was encountered on the banks of river Gomti in Lucknow. It happened next day of his marriage. He was wrongfully arrested in place of Iqbal Qadri. This was a deliberate act on part of Singh Sahab, the police officer responsible for the encounter was and was in hand in gloves with Iqbal Qadri. Jolly (Akshay Kumar), a naïve lawyer takes up the case in against the wrongful encounter. The other side is represented by Pramod Mathur, a well known and powerful lawyer of Lucknow High Court. The movie Jolly LLB-2 further unfolds showing

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How the powerful administrative system, corrupt officials, unethical lawyer use all means to suppress the truth and how at the end with the unwavering commitment of Akshay Kumar, honesty of Inspector Badauria (also killed in encounter) and the courage of conviction shown by Fahem Bhutt (witness) led to the truth coming to surface and shining even more brightly.

The essence here is though for the short term truth could be suppressed below the surface ~~as~~ and the lie seems to be invincible but the very nature of truth combined with factors like ~~sum~~ grit and courage of certain individuals brings it to the observable reality.

To shed more light on the topic, we will henceforth discuss the aspects of - what brings truth to the surface sooner or later? What factors lead to suppression of truth in short run? What is the silver lining in this whole scenario? What are the prescriptions for the timely reveal of truth? Let's answer these questions

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THE MORE YOU SUPPRESS, THE MORE IT SHINES

It is the beauty as well as the inherent nature of truth that sooner or later it comes out to the surface. The powerful and, the wrong and the unjust tries to suppress the truth through hook or crook but it finds its way out. Me too movement is a case in point. Though it took considerable time for the victims of sexual harassment to gather the courage and the expose the ~~to~~ real face of otherwise seemingly "good people", but the truth could not be suppressed for eternally

not only this, the inherent nature of lie is ~~somewhat~~, ~~rather completely~~ contradictory similar to that of truth in the sense that lies have a short life. A lie has to be followed by another lie to cover up for the previous one. This goes on until the person, or the organisation fails to cover up for the false reality it has built. ~~at~~ ultimately the ~~man~~

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fragile structure created by lies falls down within seconds like house of cards. Human Relationships are the best Examples. If you build your Relationships on a false foundation, it will not be sustainable & truth will ultimately shatter all your lies.

Furthermore the more one tries to suppress the truth, the more others grow suspicious of the intentions, hence the more motivated to bring out the truth. Take the case of Right to information (RTI) applicants. If their demand for information is refused sighting unsatisfactory reasons, they grow more curious to know the truth.

Moreover, the actions and words of person, society or nation speaking lie is not in congruence. For instance, Britain through Montagu Chelmsford Reforms wanted to provide greater share of ^{to} Indians in administration but at the same time brought Roulat's act to suppress political freedom. nationalist leaders were quick in pointing it and the truth of British intentions came to fore.

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likewise, not everybody involved in the lie will stay true to the you till the end. Humans do have a conscience and ~~the~~ speaking lie creates crisis of conscience which ultimately leads to acceptance of truth. one such instance from daily life is a duo of elder brother and younger sister cornering some sweets for themselves without the knowledge of their mother. When ~~at~~ the mother enquires, after initial resistance, the younger one may reveal the truth because keeping the lie puts a burden on your heart, head and soul.

Having discussed the reasons because of which truth shines more when it is shook, it is pertinent to look into the reasons which leads to suppression of truth in the first instance itself

one major reason for this could be lack of fear for any subsequent action. This can be evidently seen when a mob lynches an innocent person without any true cause and takes law into its hand. The mob is emboldened

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due to ambiguity of law, tacit approval by the political class and the safeguard provided by the anonymous face of mob.

The Another reason could be the absence of immediate punitive action. Delay in putting the unjust and wrong people to behind the bars emboldens the wrongdoer, scars the victim and silences the society. Take the case of criminal justice system in India with 5 crore pending cases. Politicians do scams, celebrities involve in hit and run case, corporates neglect consumer rights and still lives a normal life due to delay in ~~deliv~~ delivering justice and low conviction rates.

Also, ~~an~~ one major reason for this could be bystander apathy. ~~the~~ This itself emanates from lack of courage of conviction, neglect of duty as a human and narrow conception of life based on personal safety and ²⁴ prosperity only.

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A case in point is of all those mute spectators who see a helpless girl being a victim of sexual abuse or harassment in public transport. The perpetrator do not face social stigma, and hence feels free to do whatever he wants.

Despite this grim scenario of truth being suppressed, there is a silver lining in cloud.

It is the altruistic value system of certain individuals that give them the power to withstand all adversities and bring out truth. Take the case of Anna Hazare in India against corruption movement. It was his steadfast resolution and commitment to truth, honesty and integrity that compelled the government to pass Anti corruption Lokpal Bill.

Furthermore, it's important to speak ~~power to truth~~ truth to power to bring out the hidden reality. Vinod Rai, the 11th CAG is a case in point. Despite being appointed by their regime, he unearthed the truth by highlighting the mal practices

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going on in the system.

Having seen the bright spot in the whole scenario, it's pertinent to provide certain mechanisms which ensure timely revelation of truth.

The first and foremost step should be the establishment of a strong value system right from the childhood itself. so that the person grows into a human with integrity, strong moral principles and unwavering resolution to uphold truth. For instance - Mahatma Gandhi's commitment towards truth and non violence was not superficial rather built from a very early stage. It is evident from an event in his life when he refused to cheat in an exam even though the teacher asked him to do so.

The second step is to build strong institutions like independent judiciary, effective criminal justice system, that helps individuals to repose faith in truth when

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Fast track courts deliver timely justice, individuals are deterred from taking unlawful course of action like mob lynching.

The third step is to provide protection, support and encouragement to those who stand by truth, who fight for truth. For instance whistle blower's Act providing legal mechanism to extend support to those who help reveal the truth. But at the same time murder of honest people like Satyadendra Dubey (unearthed scam in NHAI) creates fear among the truthful and honest people. So it's the duty of society as well as government to protect those who risk their life for truth.

Lastly, it's important that we move from a culture of secrecy to that of transparency in every walk of life. Be it government through RTI or the relationship at individual level through regular and open discussions, its importance is always better to bring things in open than keeping them in under covers. It builds

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trust among stakeholders, becomes easier to extract their partnership and makes them an active participant in the whole process rather than a mere passive recipient of the outcomes of the process.

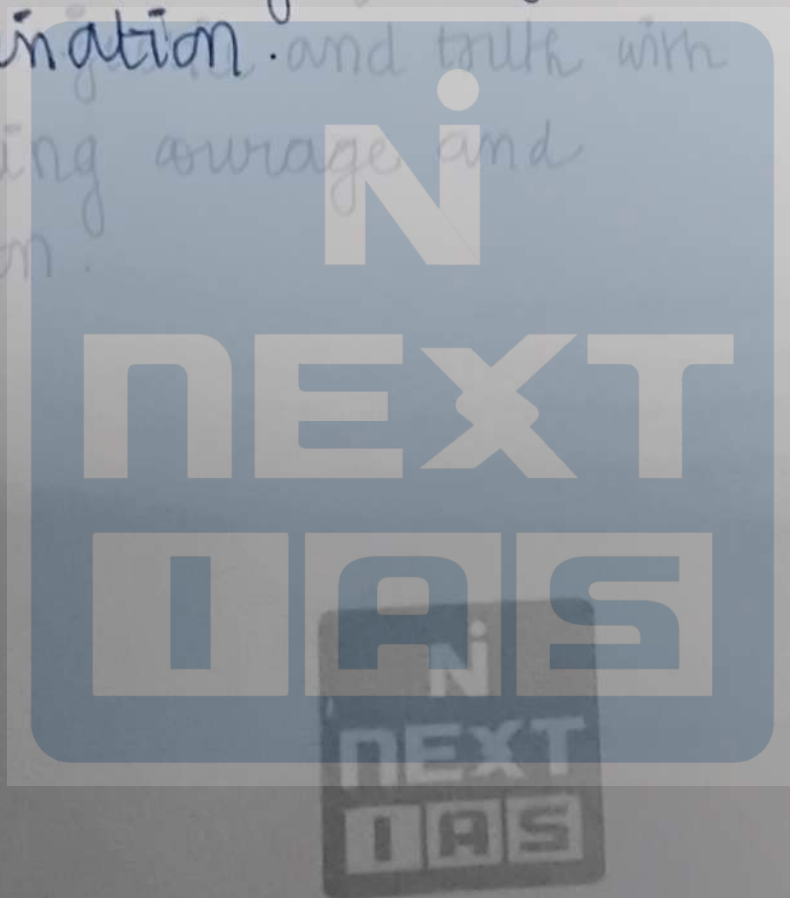
To put it all in a nutshell, though in certain instances truth seems to be getting defeated due to the wrong being powerful or due to the apathy of the larger society, but in the long run it finds its way to the surface.

The onus here lies on the individual who is capable enough to defend the truth to consider it his utmost responsibility to fight for its victory. Had Jolly, inspector Badauria, Fahem Bhatt not fought for the truth, the unjust forces ~~may~~ would have got an upper hand on criminal justice system. As Mahatma Gandhi said 'Be the change you want to see in the world'. ~~so~~ The duty first belongs to every individual to uphold

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truth in everyday life, condemn
injustice in all its forms and
fight for the justice and truth with
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