

NEXT IAS

खण्ड-A / Section-A

उम्मीदवारों को
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- Q.1 Reason has always existed, but not always in a reasonable form.
तर्क सदैव अस्तित्व में रहा है, परंतु हमेशा युक्तियुक्त रूप में नहीं।
- Q.2 The opposite of poverty is not wealth.
गरीबी की विपरीत स्थिति केवल दौलत होना नहीं है।
- Q.3 To forgive is to set a prisoner free and to discover that the prisoner was you.
क्षमा करने का अर्थ है अपने भीतर के एक कैदी को मुक्त करना और यह पता लगाना कि वो कैदी आप ही थे।
- Q.4 A man who wants to lead the orchestra must turn his back on the crowd.
जो व्यक्ति ऑर्केस्ट्रा का नेतृत्व करना चाहता है उसे भीड़ से मुँह मोड़ लेना चाहिए।

① Reason has always existed, but not always in a reasonable form

Human minds are remarkable ones. They are simply a collection of million nerve cells that are interconnected in a random yet astounding fashion. The minds try to reason out every single observable phenomena. For instance, every society attributes evil spirits to illnesses unanimously. Though, evil spirits are a reason according to them, it didn't have a free reign. When Robert Koch proposed the germ theory based on his experiments, the evil spirit vanished into thin air. It was because the hypothesis was not reasonable at all.

This illustration raises the critical question - How reasonable are our reasons? In this essay we will look deeper to find answer to this question. Additionally, we will derive the reasons for the existence of unjustifiable reasons, how the method of reasoning improved and its role in our sophisticated lives.

Reasons have always existed since the origin of life. Every sentient creature has its own reason to behave in a prejudged way. Humans are not an exception. But reasoning acquired center stage ever since intellectual revolution. It guided individual's thinking, their interaction with society, among others. Civilisations flourished, thanks to ~~the~~ human reasoning, understanding the centrality of a perennial water source. But, not all the reasons were just. ~~It~~ They suffered from various limitations.

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In personal sphere, many norms came into existence, that covered the conduct of personal life.

Marital relationships are tightly regulated than any other aspect of life. civilised ~~socet~~ societies gradually shunned polygamy and adopted monogamous life structure. The

plausible reason could be the stability of and peace at home that resulted in a larger order. But societal norms failed to appraise homosexual relationships. They plainly reject them as immoral.

This immorality stems, not from reason, rather from apathy. The failure to understand the possibility of a romantic relationship between two adults of same sex is a clear failure of reason. This unreasonable norm still guides archaic laws in many countries, and Uganda joined the list very recently. Thus, reasons are always not reasonable.

At times, reasons are purely fabrici derived from fabricated lies. When ~~the~~ fabricated lies become the collective truth of the society, unjust laws emerge irrespective of their unreasonable nature. In the Nazi Germany, Germans were consistently fed with news with a single motto to hate Jews. The fabrications were so sophisticated that ~~collective~~ killed the collective conscience of the society.

When Nuremberg laws were passed with unanimity, no one realised that it was manifestly unjust. Thus, the reason that was built on fabricated lies led to the most ghastly genocide that the humanity had ever witnessed. This shows the dangerous potential of unreasonable reasons. Another notorious ~~structure~~ event in humanity's timeline is the origin of patriarchy.

Undoubtedly, there are variations in the bodily attributes of different sexes. The male Homo sapiens were are known for their agility while the female sapiens are known for their care. But the early humans, until the development of science, had not known the hormonal reasons for the evolutionary binaries.

Rather, they reasoned that strong bodied men were created only to guard the so called weak-hearted women. This is unreasonable as there are no binaries in ⁱⁿ sex or gender, let alone ⁱⁿ their roles and responsibilities. But this unjust reasoning has been defining the power structures of the society.

There is no sane reason behind disallowing women from inheriting the throne or enjoying their parental properties. This shows how unjust reasons continue to shape society simply by stereotyping roles.

Similarly, there are many other illustrations in various walks of lives. The geocentric theory was a poorly reasoned astronomical theory due to Cognitive bias and observation defects. The over exaggerated food fads in diet and maintaining health is because of lack of critical thinking.

The reality is so grim where any fake fact, fake news, superstitious beliefs are superficially dressed up with shallow reasons. They are instantly received and accepted by the majority without any effort to cross examine the reasons. This is increasingly becoming a threat to scientific policies, data led governance, liberal democracy among others. To stop this from gathering mass, it is vital to understand the ^{importance} ~~act~~ of reasoning and the methods to develop them.

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A 'reasonable' reason, need not be sold by intense marketing. Its power is tough to be contained and will always find its flow, like a river draining into an ocean. The seminal works of Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch, gave the world, the vaccines against infectious diseases. The powerful pens of voltaire, Rousseau gave the trinity of equality, liberty and fraternity. The Keynesian economics found its way to the global economic ~~gover~~ domain owing to its irrefutable reason of equity. The increasing trend of decriminalisation and acceptance of ~~sexu~~ diverse sexual orientation is a victory for love, for love is always reasonable.

Thus, the reasons that are sound and devoid of unreasonable fears, fabricated lies, prejudice, cognitive bias, are destined to immortalisation. The ones that donot fit into the above criteria are on their long march to their graves. Thus the time taken

depends on how swiftly we adopt reasonable values and critical thinking.

It is essential to be emotionally intelligent and critically aware to identify the prejudices, shallow norms around us. There has to be a meticulous effort to re-evaluate those norms against the universal values. The pre-existing reasons need to be approached with doubt. They need to be analysed and later accepted or rejected, as per the outcome.

Additionally, one needs empathy to take up this exercise. Also, the migration of unreasonable norms from one to another generations needs to be curtailed. The pre-existing prejudice can be countered by increasing inter-group contacts. This way, one can ensure an optimum use of their neurons for the betterment of humanity.

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खण्ड-B / Section-B

- Q.5 International Trade is a good indicator of National Security.
अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा का एक अच्छा सूचक है।
- Q.6 It is not that we use technology, we live technology.
ऐसा नहीं है कि हम प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग करते हैं, हम प्रौद्योगिकी को जीते हैं।
- Q.7 There is more to life than simply increasing its speed.
जीवन में केवल अपनी गति बढ़ाने के अलावा और भी बहुत कुछ है।
- Q.8 Nature is neither a servant nor a master, but a necessary partner.
प्रकृति न तो सेवक है और न ही स्वामी, बल्कि एक आवश्यक सहभागी है।

It is not that we use technology, we live technology

The process of evolution gave many attributes to the humankind so that they can sustain. They hunted, so that they could survive; they developed feelings, so that they could procreate; they developed fear, so that they could avoid danger. Thus, basic instincts like hunger, sex and fear are not merely useful ones. They drive life, so much, so that life goes on.

Beyond these traits of evolution, humans developed some attributes means so that as to ease the process of living. They formed communities, to

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beat loneliness; they invented money, so that they could transact; they developed languages, so that they could communicate. These means, though were to achieve something, gradually became a part of their lives. They started living to meet the expectations of their common communities; making amassing money became their lifetime goal; gossiping, poetry became entrenched with their daily lives.

The latest addition to these long list of means is technology. It could be regarded as the great growing engine of change. Technology changed many aspects of human life - food ~~that~~ we eat, means of our travel, our vocation for a living and our very own ^{own} sustenance ~~is~~ shaped by technology. Thus, it is more apt to say that it is not that we use technology, we Pre technology.

Technology - newest elixir of life:

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Historically, water is regarded as the elixir of life. But technology has overpowered that. The tiny state of Israel, has mastered various agrarian techniques and water desalination technologies so much, so that they could convert their arid lands to blooming orchards.

Orchards brings us to food, the fuel that sustains human lives. Famines are now a thing of past, occupying the darkest pages of history. Thanks to agrarian technologies like Green revolution powered by Norman Borlaugh, Earth produces enough for everyone. It has boosted income of farmers too, thus generating more demand for newer machines. Thus, technology is not merely useful, it sustains life.

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The longevity att. achieved by overflowing growth is sustained by advancements in medical technology. It has improved life expectancy alone with quality, so that, health could be realised in its holistic way. A once-in-a-century pandemic, that usually engulfs crores of population, was tamed only because of the rapid advancements in bio and biomedical sciences.

Technology has not only prolonged the lives, but also eased the way of living. The whole world has become a global village. ~~that~~ Any remotest part can be reached in 24 hours physically while it takes less than a minute to connect virtually. The rapid advances in telecom and information technology has accentuated the velocity and volume of communications. The ICT has its spread tentacles spread in every domain.

ICT has accelerated ~~the~~ our way of remittances, such that, transactions could be made faster than what it takes to mint coins. The emerging fintech and digital currencies are poised to usher in a new era of globalisation. ICT has also affected the way we interact.

The modern townhalls of Twitter, Meta and YouTube ~~have~~ have altered our ways of gossiping, information dissemination and socialising. Millennials are wanting to go on tour, so that they could flaunt on their insta handle. On a positive note, these digital squares came handy during disasters so as to mount a su coordinated response.

Technology is not limited to socio economic domain, but has breached into political domain, that ~~do~~ too on a global scale. Political systems are rapidly shaped by technology — aiding or weakening

democracies. Tech-diplomacy is the new buzz word in the global diplomatic circles. Major groupings are happening around tabble-nousing technologies like Artificial intelligence and weapons.

Also, technology influences many aspects of our personal lives. The daily feeds on our social media determines our mood for the day. Our education systems are busy moulding 'future techies'. Such that the value enriching part of education is underemphasized. The new money minting work places. are focused on improvising technologies. The startups, as they are called, chiefly focus on innovating new technologies.

Even the vices, like theft and corruption are either aided by or happening for technology. Thus, it is apt to say that we not merely use but live technology.

The issues of 'Living' technology:

Overemphasis of technology and its over dominance has profoundly impacted the purpose of human lives. We proceed to live for something, but in the process, we end up living for something else. And this is aided by technology.

The 'omnipotent' ChatGPT has answers for every question, that obviates the need for learning. Also, the role of values have been lost for the race to master technology. As technology analyses on behalf, many of us have forgotten how to analyse.

Also, the impact of tech townhalls have exposed our vulnerabilities to strangers, who are waiting to capitalise on it. The urge to live better than someone has profoundly impacted our well-being.

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wellbeing.

At the global level, being driven by capitalism and nationalism, technology has drawn an iron curtain over suffering of masses. Countries like North Korea prioritise missiles over food production and ironically use same technology to convince the starving masses to rejoice.

"Technology is a useful servant but a dangerous master"

The greater urge to live technology has brought in potentially dangerous technologies like artificial intelligence. AI may not just allow us not just overpower us, but outlive us. Thus, living with technology has its own personal, societal, international and ethical implications. This signals the need for a balance in our quest for technologies.

Technology - Double edged sword:-

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Though technology may look dangerous and alien at the outset, our trust with even deadliest ones like nuclear technology holds valuable lessons.. The need of the hour is not whether ~~we~~ technology is needed, but what are going to do with it.

IPCC has unambiguously explained the catastrophic events that are waiting to happen. Without revolutionary technologies like carbon capture and utilisation and storage, room temperature superconductivity among others may prove to be ^{our} lifelines. Thus, it's imperative on us, in using the salvage potential of technology.

Concurrently, ~~some~~ potentially dangerous ones like AI needs global coordination, so that

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their constructive, complementary powers are channelled towards prosperity; while their possibly destructive potential are regulated promptly. Thus, it is fine to 'live technology' as long as we ensure that systems are in place to safeguard. History is saturated with lessons and the need of the hour is our willingness to learn. Will we learn?

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