

खण्ड-A / Section-A

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना नया है।
Candidates
must not
write on
this margin

Q.1 Little strokes fell great oaks.

छोटे - छोटे प्रयासों से बड़ी सफलता मिलती है।

Q.2 Judge a man by his questions rather than his answers.

किसी व्यक्ति का मूल्यांकन उसके उत्तरों के स्थान पर उसके प्रश्नों से करें।

Q.3 Great principles, great ideals know no nationality.

महान सिद्धांत, महान आदर्श किसी एक राष्ट्र से संबंधित नहीं है।

Q.4 In struggling with misfortune lies the true proof of virtue.

दुर्भाग्य से संघर्ष करने में ही नैतिकता का सच्चा प्रमाण निहित है।

GREAT PRINCIPLES, GREAT IDEALS KNOW
NO NATIONALITY

"Where the mind is without fear, where the
head is held high - where the knowledge
is free, not confined by national boundaries,
not fragmented by narrow domestic walls";

Rabindra Nath Tagore rightly emphasised that
knowledge transcends any boundaries. Ideas
and ideals have their genesis in mind and
they appeal to human consciousness. A

Consciousness which is innate, similar and characteristic of all mankind. This essay will use multidimensional approach to test the relevance, consequences and relevant substantiations of the proposition.

History is full of such incidents, ~~with~~ with some dating back to ancient Greece. When Socrates said, "A life unexamined is not worth living" or Aristotle asked, "what is good of life?". These questions & propositions affect a modern technocrat as equally as they did to Greek people.

Ideas of peace, humanity and respecting others have permeated through moral fabric of all societies. Ashoka sent emissaries & erected pillars far & wide to spread the message of Dhamma. "National boundaries are modern creation, ideas have been since time immortal".

History shapes society, let's examine the sociological aspect of the topic.

Women subjugation & Patriarchal Attitudes have been universal, so does the movement for Women Emancipation, Women Rights and Gender

Justice. For example - Women Voting Rights granted in India in 1947, inspired older societies like America, Europe etc. to give women equal status.

Education underwent rapid transformation in 17th & 18th Century, where religious dogmatic education was replaced by scientific rational pedagogy. Spirit of enquiry & innovation though had their genesis in Europe, but soon spread world over, for example, Jyotirao Phule & Savitribai Phule opened First Girls school as early as 1870s.

Education shapes legal discourse of any country. When a law leads to equity & justice

for all sections in society, whole world takes notice. For example - Roe vs Wade Judgement, 1973 on female bodily autonomy, inspired global society such as Medical Termination Act of India.

Sociological discourse shapes political arena of any nation. The most prominent political ideas like equality, liberty, fraternity, rule of law, No Taxation without Representation etc. originated in French Revolution, American Revolution etc. But due to their modern humanizing impact, whole world embraced it with open arms as can be seen in Indian Preamble too.

Even the judicial ideas & innovations transcend boundaries. They inspire other judicial systems to uphold constitutionalism & protect rights of people. Examples range from Marbury vs

Marbury Case in America, which gave birth to Judicial Review, but is part of Indian Constitution today as enshrined in Art. (13), (32) and (226).

CJI D.Y. Chandrachud has recently remarked how Basic Structure Doctrine of India has been adopted by judiciaries world over.

Lacunas in governance are common, such as corruption, trust deficit, suboptimal service delivery etc., so it comes as no wonder their solutions will also be common. Digital Public Infrastructure pioneered by India for last mile delivery of service and good governance, is now international agenda of summits like G-20, G-7, UNGA etc. It is correctly said, Great principles, Great ideals - know no nationality. Political system is infrastructure for Economic sphere in any society. It's analysis

the economic relevance of topic. Ills of feudalism gave birth to capitalist production methods, sometimes by innovation (Europe) & 'in others' by foreign imposition like Colonialism in Global South. Nevertheless, all economies today are based on free market economy with equal opportunities, balanced competition and new economic avenues. Though this method has own ill like socio-economic inequalities, monopolistic tendencies etc., but sound economic principles of fair competition & market determination remained global guiding principles.

Even the financial models based on principles of diversification and inclusivity are being adopted every. India pioneered in this field through mechanisms like SVANIDHI for street vendors, MODRA¹² for MSMEs & SHG

Bank Linkage Program for microfinancing. These principles of financial inclusion and bottom-up growth are inspirations for all economies.

Green Revolution is an excellent example.

Pioneered in Mexican labs, but adopted in Indian fields and South East Asian plantations is a telling tale. Nutritional security with food-grain sufficiency are global principles, guiding economic policies everywhere.

One is inevitably drawn to technological dimension. Digital Revolution & Internet Revolution have truly eroded national boundaries & made world a global village where ideas can be shared at click of mouse and connections range to distant geographies. Khan Academy which was among first edtech sites was built on principles of accessible education

and tech enabled delivery. Today ranging from e-UBAB delivering education to African children to Stanford Digiiversity pioneering Open access in education, technology has truly eroded national boundaries.

Recent technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality, Cloud Computing etc. are not confined to Big American multinationals alone. They are empowering millions of entrepreneurs & social activists to develop solutions for common benefit. Indian governments initiative like Partnership for AI, grants for social tech startups are evidences of spread of technology enabled ideas.

Global opportunities and global tech also comes with global concerns. Tripk crisis

of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss are reality world over. But resilience of societies to fight back with global cooperation & collaboration are visible in (Universal Consensus of Rio Declaration, Paris Agreement, Biodiversity Protocols (Nagoya, Kunming etc))

Innovation to tackle threat in one area gain global attention & recognition today especially in ~~poor~~ areas facing same issue. For example,

when Souam Wangchuk came up with idea of Gloobal Stoper to solve freshwater crisis

in Ladakh, same was implemented in Central Asian Countries facing freshwater shortage.

Climate Activism is a reality today world over, right from tribals of Jharkhand against reckless mining, to Greta Thunberg delivering speeches at global forum to 'Lifestyle for Environment'

wanted by Hon'ble PM Modi, 'Conservation' 'biocentrism' and 'common responsibilities' have emerged as global ideals.

But do all ideas transcend national boundaries? Our experience tells a contradictory picture too. For long, technology for industries was monopolised by west creating deep divisions & global inequalities (Global South v/s Global North). Even today, aggressive push for patent laws, thrust for inequitable technology transfer & intellectual protectionism is exacerbating global disparities.

But sharing of all principles may not be desirable also. Internal security tactics, military improvement methods or niche innovations must not be shared as national interest comes primarily in geopolitical arena.

Additionally, different social, political and economic conditions demands unique solutions & newer principles. Innovations are due to new necessities & unique conditions like Indian experiment with mixed economy.

Despite such claims, the solutions can differ but the general principle guiding them remain same. Principle of peace may have different manifestations, but right from Buddha to Gandhi to Martin Luther King Jr. to Mandel to Malala Yousafzai, the central principle has remain constant. For all of our problems are rooted in human conduct, so all the solutions & guiding principle are bound to arise from human ingenuity & consciousness, which is

not bound by parochial nationalised.
Message of Sriam Vivekananda to pursue goals,
Bhagvad Gita of Nishkama Karma etc. guided
Oppenheimer as much as they guide a newly
inducted civil servant in India. Nations are
formed & destroyed, civilizations rise &
fall, Kingdoms flourish & perish; but
the Great Principles, great ideals live,
for they know no nationalities"

खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- Q.5 The whole purpose of Education is to turn mirrors into windows.
शिक्षा का सम्पूर्ण उद्देश्य दर्पण को खिड़कियों में बदलना है।
- Q.6 To dwell is to garden.
निवास करना बगीचे के सामान है।
- Q.7 Reality is the shadow of ideas.
सच्चाई विचारों की छाया मात्र है।
- Q.8 We can not despair of humanity, since we ourselves are human beings.
हम मानवता से निराश नहीं हो सकते, क्योंकि हम स्वयं भी मनुष्य हैं।

REALITY IS THE SHADOW OF IDEAS

Age old saying of "You Become what You Think" or Hegelian idea of "Consciousness Determines Being" or philosophical tenet of "To think is to be" all reflect the same principle of reality is the shadow of ideas. The ideas / thinking capacity / ingenuity of man is the reason of all the progress, right from discovery of fire, invention of wheel to construction of modern cosmopolitans with skyline as a beehive of skyscraper. what human

think, they do is the central proposition. This essay will explore validity & relevance of this at multiple levels, look at possible refutations & draw a syncretic conclusion.

Let us start with individuals. Virtues and ideas of one's duty guides one's conduct.

Right from Kant's ideas to Aristotelian Value Debate, they have emphasized on ideas guiding reality. For example, if a sports person values 'win at any cost', then they may resort to cheating such as ball tampering in cricket.

But if one values fairness and sportsmanship, then spirit of game is upheld. Sachin Tendulkar, Vishwanathan Anand, Roger Federer are great examples of prime sportsmanship.

Innovations and inventions are result of new ideas only. All discoveries which have

altered our lived reality are due to novel ideas. For example - Columbus discovering New world, to Newton discovering gravitational laws to Ramanujan's 26 dimensional equations; all changes in reality originates in ideas.

An individual is shaped by socialisation at familial level. It is the ideas that one learns from family that shapes actions. Stereotypical ideas and attitudes perpetuated by families are reasons of peristence of discrimination in modern world. For example, institution of Caste and Caste discrimination is deeply rooted in familial attitudes shaping reality since generations.

Family also decides the economic goals for individuals. If one will resort to academic excellence, business relations or criminal methods, often is determined in familial settings. For

Example, ~~the concept~~ nepotism is a lived reality in entertainment industry, judiciary, business, sports etc. Ideas of familial partiality and kin obligations are the root of it.

Even at social level, we can see this in effect. If one looks at pre-independence and post-independence Indian society, we'll find huge difference in terms of equality, freedom of individual, social relations, dissolving hierarchies etc. This is due to shift at ideational level where religious dogmatism has been replaced by modernistic rationality. Vanishing of untouchability is a telling tale of this shift.

Regional variations observed across India can be attributed to differential ideational & normative patterns. One could look at

Sex ratios for example. Southern states have positive sex ratio (excess of 1000), whereas North Hindi Belt is still having total sex ratio below 1000 in many states. Patriarchal Attitudes, Gender Violence etc. start at the level of ideas & finish at the level of reality.

How an organization functions is also determined by what it values. On one hand we have elite companies like Apple, Tesla etc. who only concern with profit maximisation. On the other hand, we have Tata Group who value social responsibility, community development and help to weaker sections as their primary goals.

Tata Cancer Hospital providing free of cost treatment of children is evidence of organizational attitudes & ideas shaping reality.

At a national level, we have seen a significant

shift. Pre-1990s we were inward looking economy with greater emphasis on self-sufficiency, import substitution etc. Thus our economy got structured as semi-closed economy.

Post 1981 New Economic Policy, neo-liberal shift, open economy based on market competition, promoting private enterprises & foreign investment. About a shift in ideas of economic organization, ~~shape~~ transformed the complete face of India with us becoming ~~the~~ 5th largest economy today.

Even in political arena, our founding fathers i.e. Constituent assembly imbiked justice, equality, liberty, fraternity as central values of Constitution. Legal reforms like Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act, SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities, land reforms, Affirmative action

like reservation etc. which have shaped our national & social landscape.

The success of startup ecosystem in India has been propelled by ideas like Make in India & Make for India. Positive financial & regulatory support by ~~innovation supporting~~ innovation promoting political regime has made us 2nd largest startup hub of world.

Even at global level we can see such shift. When Capitalistic ideas dominated globe we went on reckless destruction of environment, unstoppable spree of emissions and incessant exploitation. With 'Climate Justice', 'Responsible Anthropocentrism' and 'Rights of Nature' gaining ideological traction, we see shift in global policies towards sustainable development and harmonious living with nature.

With the spread of democratic ideals & responsible governments, orthodox dogmatic regimes like Ban, North Korea, Yemen etc. which were norm of yesterday, are aberrations of today.

But is it true that reality always reflect ideas? Does a painter always paint what he imagine or there exists a gap between ideal & reality.

Cognitive Gap exists between values & conduct at individual level. Despite the values like sharing, Contentment (^{santosh} ~~stosh~~) and non-stealing (Asteya), we often find that human actions are self-fulfilling often at the harm of others.

Normative Reality often diverges from actual lived reality. Persistence of Caste identities, parochial regionalism

and fundamentalist communalism is a testimony to this. For example, a Dalit student Indrajit Meghwal was murdered by his teacher just because he touched his pitcher. This is despite the fact that schools & first pages of our books adorned with inuges of preamble which propagates equality & justice.

Even at national level, neo-liberal shift has resulted in growing socio-economic inequalities and marginalization of vulnerable sections. Despite the ideas of inclusive growth, high inequality score of India in Human Development Index, emphasizes that ideas & reality are often in stark opposition.

At global level, every year lot of conventions & declarations are signed emphasizing on human rights, sovereign autonomy of countries

and ensuring climate justice. But these words and ideas seldom translate into action.

State violence against Uyghurs in China, women subjugation under Taliban's regime etc. are irrefutable evidences of inaction despite high ideals.

Ideal shape reality, similarly reality also shape ideal. For example, all acts of deviance are ~~also~~ learnt by looking at real life events only. For example, studies have shown that violent videogames like PUBG, Call of Duty etc. often incite violent tendencies in children and adolescents.

The kind of reality one lives determines what one thinks. 'Culture of Poverty' is a result of material deprivations like inaccessibility

to education, hunger, healthcare facilities etc. When one is deprived of such basic needs, his ideas are inevitably shaped for self gratification even through non-legal means.

Honesty breeds honesty & Corruption breeds Corruption. When we look at inspiring acts of our role models & leaders we are also disposed to act in same ways. Thus, there is a "dialectical relationship" and not unilinear relationship between ideas & Reality.

Ideas are both shaped by Reality and they also shape Reality. Progress of human material Reality has always been preceded by shift towards progressive ideas. The gap which remains between ideas & Reality is often

a breeding space of conflict, chaos, disorg-
anization & violence . To bridge this
gap, we must actively align own actions
with ideas , check ideas on the testbed
of rationality and continuously strive to
improve . Gandhiji's "experiment with
truth" are nothing but an active
effort to transform ideas to lived reality .

"Reality is the shadow of ideas" →
Hegelian idea is "Consciousness shapes reality" "To think is to be". We will follow argumentative approach, examine the supporting argument, opposing arguments and then a synthesis.

Individual level → Diffuses & Ethics guide conduct → Criminals without any cost
Ex - A competitive sports person → sportsmanship & fair play
A balanced ethical person →

② To discriminate or not to discriminate → ideal govern reality

Familial level → Does it give primacy to monetary success or individual conduct.

→ Means adhering family v/s innovation producing family.
Democratic relations of patriarchy within family

Society : Ideal impact conduct. (Ex) → Abrogation, Raj → Female Feticus still common.

→ Pre & post ~~independence~~ society → Shift in norms like UT abolished equality, justice earlier hierarchy, caste reality, religious dogmas

National level → Change in economic pattern pre 1980s & post 1980s
Recent change in educational approach. Ex - or

Ideas determine SSA, Value driven NEP etc.
entrepreneurial spirit → India is 8th largest economy in India.

Global level → ~~Climate~~ Planet Destruction (Capitalism) to Responsible Anthropocentrism

↓
→ SDG guiding global policies.
Spread of democracy & liberal ideals → Conservative regimes are seen as aberrations.

But is it true that reality is reflection of ideas? That we draw a picture exactly what we think → ① Cognitive Dissonance between what we think & what happens. ② Normative reality is different from actual reality → UT exist. Casteist, Communalist violence.

Great

"Where the mind is without fear, where the head is held high.
where the knowledge is free & not restricted by the narrow national
boundaries or fragmented by domestic walls". R.N Tagore - ideal ^{of peace} ^{& ideal} ^{of peace}

Space for Rough Work

Boundaries - Connect & appeal to human Consciousness. ~~that~~ In this essay
we'll use multidimensional approach look at consequences & incidences where
the given proposition stood tall. ^{→ A life unexamined is not worth living}
→ Start with Trinity of Socrates, Plato & Aristotle ^{→ virtue ideal}

Historical Example → Ashoka's Dhamma Code → No national boundaries
Humanistic principles

Enlightenment period → Ideas of rationality, ~~the~~ humanism
liberal polity & scientific thinking

Sociological Example → 1) Women → liberation, Emancipation, Rights, End to violence
2) ~~Religion~~ Education → Use social reforms example. RFR, SV
3) Laws for protection
Transcend Boundaries → Connect with NEP 20.

Political ^{Dimension} ~~world~~ → 1) Political Equality, Inalienable Rights (B.O.R to FR)
2) Judiciary → Cross ideas & nexus
3) ~~Empathy~~ Empathy deficit in Governance → JP picked from America
→ BSD is a model for world
→ Right from Thatcher to Obama to Modi all reverberate

Economic Dimension → 1) Rise of Capitalism → free market its → Idea of welfare state → genesis in USSR but spread worldwide
2) ~~Finance~~ Model of India → Decentralized micro financing
Ex: ECLWS, MUDRA, SUANIRMI, SHRI

Now Organic Revolution → ZBNF → spreading worldwide
→ Accelerated focus of sharing knowledge. Ex: IIT education

Technological Dimension → Most easy course of connecting
→ Global forum so global coop. Ex: AI, Internet, etc.