

खण्ड-A / Section-A

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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।

Section A: Q.3 To forgive is to set a prisoner free and to discover that the prisoner was you.

The above wisdom tries to convey that when a person let go of things, emotions, regrets and grudges he/she holds on to is when he/she get rid of undesirable things or traits from his life such as overdependency, isolation, negative emotions like anger & frustration. This ultimately leads to positive changes in one's life in form of inner peace, calmness, open mind & accommodation, etc.

Forgiveness set a prisoner free because we start living in the moment rather than in past or future. We start controlling our mind rather than letting mind control us. We do not let our resentment or bitterness toward others impact our day to day functioning.

Forgiveness helps us realise that the prisoner ^{was} no one else but us itself as we realise not letting go of mistakes in past hindered our personal & professional growth. It helps us realise that "what we think we become". It make us realise that the poor outcomes of our decisions in past was not because of our inability but because of subjectiveness of emotions.

To better understand the importance of forgiveness, we should take inspiration

from father of nation Mahatma Gandhi. Gandhiji advocated the tools of Non-violence, Ahimsa & forgiveness in fight against British. After Quit India Movement, Gandhiji declared that people of India are already free in their mind despite continued British rule for few more years. This shows how forgiveness is a potent tool for freedom.

CHANGES AND CONTINUITY PART OF LIFE

"You cannot step on the same river twice". It means like river the life goes on, people change, circumstances changes, society change, our values change thus one should also forgive the past & what is gone behind to move ahead in life.

For Instance, during Pre-Independence time tribals & peasants of eastern India suffered in hand of Zamindars, moneylenders & British

Government due to which we saw origin of Naxalbari movement in West Bengal which spread to other Eastern state leading to widespread violence by Naxals which only further hindered their development & made them prisoner of acute poverty.

But, with change in our idea of development with more focus on Inclusive growth and democratic decentralisation, Naxals in states like Bihar, Odisha & Andhra Pradesh let go of past exploitation & started dropping arms. This led to their true freedom in form of bearing fruits of development in Amrit Kal of India.

FAILURES PART AND PARCEL OF SUCCESS

People in general are fearful of failures due to societal conditioning and lack of understanding of struggles behind achievement stories of others. This fear of failure does not let people forgive themselves

and thus hinder their growth. We become prisoners of failures and our mistakes and get depressed and hopeless.

But, there is a old saying that everyone gets second chance in their life. This second chance should be utilised by letting go of outcome of our efforts and focus on areas of improvement. In Bhagwat Gita too there is a mention of "Niskama Karma". It upholds the idea of sense of duty without caring for outcome.

For example, ISRO recently launched Chandrayan III mission which comes in a backdrop of heartbreaking failure of Chandrayan II mission. Prime Minister recently praised ISRO scientists for their relentless dedication and willingness to forgive the past and learning from its mistakes. This shows forgiveness free us from prison of hopelessness & drive us toward optimistic future.

FORGIVENESS LEADS TO TRUE FREEDOM

Forgiveness free us from prison of isolation. When a person holds on to grudge & think of revenge toward others, he becomes bitter in the process which leads to frustration & isolation. This impact our relationships which leads to isolation within our room, our home, our cubicles, etc. For example, Pakistan's revengeful tendency toward India in form of proxy war has led to its isolation in International arena.

Forgiveness freed us from this isolation by building emotional Intelligence in form of, self awareness, emotional regulation, developing social skills & building empathy in our personality. For example, India despite having tensed relations with Turkey launched "operation Dost" to help it tackling devastating earthquake. This shows India's empathy, leadership qualities & ability to build relationships by facilitating emotions.

Forgiveness also helps in building inner calm & peace which creates confidence in a person. For example, our President Draupdi Murmu suffered from loss of her two children which pushed her into prison of depression but she chose to forgive the nature and act of god which brought her inner peace and gave her resilience & confidence to go on to become President of largest democracy in the world.

NON FORGIVENESS LEADS TO LOSS OF HARMONY

Is freedom possible without peace & harmony in society? We become prisoners in our own house when there is fight in family. Similarly when there is communal violence in society, we are forced to stay inside our house or our locality under section 144 & curfew. This is result of not moving on with our differences and sticking to binaries of zero sum games.

Is freedom possible without development? Amartya Sen says that true freedom is achieved when there is development of all the class in society. Is it possible without forgiveness & harmony? We have examples from Europe where Germany under Hitler & Ideology of Fascism & Nazism due to emotion of revenge imposed the great War on the world which ultimately led to destruction of two large cities in Japan, Hiroshima & Nagasaki.

Japan learning from mistake of Germany, forgive the perpetrators of bombing and chose the path of development. Today it is considered one of the most free society in the world. This shows how forgiveness sets a prisoner free and helps in realising that the prisoner was you.

FORGIVENESS IS NOT UNIVERSAL & EVER LASTING

Forgiveness does not mean that we inculcise our mistakes & wrongdoings regularly as life and nature may not reciprocate with the same level of forgiveness. For example, if we forgive developed nations for all the CO₂ emissions they emitted since Industrial revolution then nature will make us its prisoner by through extreme climatic events.

Forgiveness in case of child socialisation process is also can lead to poor moral development of child. For example, forgiving child for smoking can lead to health issues of child in future as he may not be deterred from smoking due to lack of action by Parents.

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But, when it comes to self forgiveness, It is still valid that it frees you from prison & set you free, the only condition how one uses this freedom. One can either learn values like gratitude, harmony, patience, courage & confidence or one can maintain status quo & keep visiting the prison.

Thus, It is of utmost importance for us as a nation & society to not only teach our children the art of forgiveness but also how to reap the benefit of new freedom which one gets by letting go of mistakes, anger & past.

We as a society needs to develop the scientific temper & rationality which is also one of the

fundamental duties under our constitution so that we analyse the situation, circumstances & our feelings more objectively as there is a saying "Real is rational & rational is real" which means what we think is real (our problems, our negative emotions) need to be rational rather than irrational.

At last, as we spoke about Gandhiji's idea in starting, we should remember one of his sayings that an "eye for eye will make whole world blind" which holds very significance in today's world of conflicts, wars, competition for resources & social media culture.

Forgiveness is necessary for freedom from poverty, inequality, mental health challenges, conflicts and bitterness which can help our world to achieve all the sustainable development Goals & thus ensure true freedom for all.

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खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- 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।

Q.8) Nature is neither a servant nor a master, but a necessary partner

Recently, IPCC released its 6th Assessment report which was themed as the "Last Warning". It warned the humanity about the impending climate consequences due to long period of humanity breaking nature as its servant.

IPCC report mentioned the breach of carrying capacity of nature is not very far away & world is already facing some of its consequences in form

of "nine 'climate tipping points' which includes climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, ecosystem degradation, changes in ocean currents among others.

For long before modern times, the nature acted as master of humanity as humanity conformed to the natural laws & were restrained by lack of understanding of how nature works & lack of technological development. Thus, there was great loss of human life due to natural hazards & diseases.

The UN Secretary General recently warned that the present climate crisis is the most dangerous threat to humanity in recent times thus there is need for change in master-servant relationship of Pre-modern & modern times to relationship of Partners in Post modern times for

continued survival of both nature & humanity.

Nature is not Humanity's servant

The capacity of nature to fulfill the wishes and needs of humanity is limited. We all know the concept of carrying capacity of nature where there is finite resources & finite capacity to recycle the pollutants released by humans.

For example, according to Aditya Birla Group, there is only 58-102 years of Iron ore mineral left in the earth's crust which shows finiteness of resources. Further, WWF living planet report mentioned depletion of more than 60% of fish stocks in tropical oceans.

We call our nature as Mother i.e. mother nature or mother earth but unlike mothers nature love for humanity

is not unconditional as can be seen in form of climate extremes. According to WMO, the frequency & intensity of cyclones, droughts, floods, etc have already increased with 1.17° rise in global temperatures.

Griffith Taylor, the proponent of stop & go determinism claimed that humanity can control the nature to a certain extent beyond which nature does not listen to any prayer of mercy as it is forced to refine & rejuvenate itself in form of extreme events.

Humans have transformed natural landscape into cultural landscapes in form of agriculture, dense built-up areas in form of urbanisation, large network of highways & rail, etc which is causing undesirable outcomes in form

of urban heat island effects, human-wildlife conflicts, etc.

NATURE IS NOT A MASTER

It is true that nature is not a servant but does that mean nature is master? and human possibilities are subordinate to environmental factors? Agreeing to this would be going back to paradigm of environmental determinism. For example Aristotle believed that tropical regions are underdeveloped due to lazy nature of people as a consequence of abundance of food.

Similarly, it would imply that there is no possibility of development in difficult terrains, climate & ecosystems such as hilly areas, forest areas, desert regions, etc. For example, linking lack of development of North East India to Eastern Himalayas

These notions were challenged with advancement in technology & with better understanding of human & nature relationship. For example, tropical regions are underdeveloped not because of nature alone but due to historical factors like colonialism, technological factors like lack of diffusion, Demographic factors like large population, etc.

Similarly, technological advancement like Green revolution, Irrigation technologies, cloud seeding, GM crops, etc have even led to development in semi-arid & arid regions. For example, Indira Gandhi Canal in Rajasthan, discovery of oil & gas in Middle East, Israel despite desert conditions is one of the developed countries.

These illustrations show that nature is neither master nor

servant of humanity. Then what is the relationship between man & nature? The answer is partnership of mutual benefits. Man is a product of nature & nature has imprints of man thus there is a need for necessary partnership between the two.

MAN AND NATURE: A NECESSARY PARTNERSHIP

We have already established why man & nature has a necessary partnership but the main question is how will it benefit the both? How humanity can respect the nature & develop beneficial partnership? What if we fail to develop this partnership? and finally how India can become Vishwaguru when it comes to teaching the world the benefits of partnership with nature?

The partnership between humanity & nature can take many forms. One, it is driven by idea of sustainable development, Another form is of exploring & knowing more about nature to develop cleaner alternatives provided by nature.

For example, Sustainable development promotes the idea of adhering to carrying capacity along with economic development & social development. SDG11 i.e Sustainable Urbanisation focuses on green-blue-gray Infrastructure, elimination of urban inequality, Urban forestry, etc thus both humanity & nature benefits.

Similarly, Humanity compromising on use of crude oil, ~~as~~ coal & other fossil fuel to save nature is reciprocated by nature in form of new

alternatives like wind energy, solar energy, ocean thermal conversion, etc that are possible when nature functioning is stable.

if Humanity does not respect the relationship of mutual benefit, nature also reciprocates in form of events like Great Drought in East Africa, Bomb cyclones in Gulf of Mexico, Desertification of sub Saharian Africa, etc that are threat to human life, developmental gains, food security, democracy, etc.

Thus partnership with nature is necessary for continued survival of humanity. The main question is how can we maintain this going forward? Here Indian values can play a major role. In India the nature is considered sacred. For example, praying of peepal tree, Ganga Aarti, animals considered sacred, which has led to popular

demand for environmental conservation.

In India, the forests are conserved in form of sacred groves, joint forest management, community reserve, etc. Similarly the government has launched Namami Gange Program for rivers, there is Biological diversity Act, Forest right Act 2006 which Institutionalise the relationship between man & nature.

At last, to sustain this necessary relationship there has to be increased focus on environmental awareness & environmental education which includes developing positive perception, Attitude, Values & expertise toward nature conservation. This will complement the paradigm of sustainable development & ensure sustained & relationship of mutual ^{***} benefits.