

खण्ड-A / Section-A

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- 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।

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

The story goes back to the times
of 'Mahabharata', 'Karna' who was discarded by
his mother 'Kunti' as he was born before
her marriage. He faced many discriminations throughout
his life by being called as a 'Sut Putra'
(son of a lower caste). Despite all this he ever
remained compassionate towards his mother. He also
gave up his 'Kavach Kundal' (protection shield) on her

request. This short story highlights how virtue got highlighted at the time of misfortune.

Aristotle calls for virtue ethics, as he highlights that virtues play a major role in guiding human actions throughout his or her life. They play a seminal role in different fields, thus ensuring that society remains in order both spatially and temporally as well. This branch/school of ethics he famously referred as 'Nichomachean Ethics' and he ~~a~~ says that "Character is the best judge of a person".

Every human being in his entire life time faces the misfortune. We will dwell into the aspects of misfortune, their reasons and how virtues ensure in dealing with the misfortune and declining virtues in modern world, how they can be strengthened in this essay.

What are misfortune

Definition of misfortune :

Humans live in an era of contrast and thus their misfortune. It is a subjective phenomenon and varies as the frame of reference varies. A small

anecdote represent this as :

In a big city on a sunny morning, some people are running to burn their belly fat at the same time some small children carrying sack on their shoulders have started their journey to make their two ends meet as they are ragpickers. For both these parties misfortune differs, the first one defines misfortune that they are fat & obese and so they are not satisfied with their life while for the second ones misfortune is visible as what they need to do to fill their hungry stomach as Mahatma Gandhi said, "For a poor, the God appears only in the form of bread".

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If we turn our clock backwards, our beautiful planet Earth have witnessed five mass extinctions where everytime there was approximate loss of 70-75 percent of existing biodiversity, but it has restored itself every time, this is an example of our Mother Goddess Earth showing the virtue of giving it back even at the times of misfortune.

Reasons for misfortune:

Though, misfortune etymologically represents something which is out of control but right back from the history we have numerous examples when humans themselves were the one responsible for creating this misfortune for themselves. Be it, its changing mode of subsistence towards commercialisation of agriculture which though have created wonders for many but due to inequality left many tribals in poor condition & starving for food.

Thomas Malthus in his 'An Essay on Population'

have said that the needs and wants of human beings are increasing as the time passes and a day will come when the resources will be finished. On the similar lines, Mahatma Gandhi's famous quote, "There is enough for everyone's need but not for greed". This shows how humans are creating & in future will create the danger of misfortune for them.

In terms of Thomas Hobbes, he says, "Human beings are inherently criminal in nature, they are nasty, brutish and short". This saying can be manifested in human actions of annexing the other kingdoms & countries right from Alexander to World Wars and now Russia-Ukraine conflict. These

actions create the misfortune not for the actors only but for the receivers as well. Taking this forward, we will see how true virtue gets reflected while dealing with misfortune.

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Role of Virtue in dealing with misfortune:

Indian history has shown examples how virtues have a dominant role when misfortune strikes them. Lord Ram's victory over the Lanka after abduction of Goddess Sita signifies virtue of truth, Kauravas got defeated by Pandavs after they shook the dignity of a woman (Draupadi) signifies the role of virtue of righteousness (Dharma).

Jumping to 18th century, when Raja Ram Mohan Roy's efforts led to ban of Sati, represents a virtue of determination, Savitri Bai Phule fighting for the rights of women education and lower class shows her virtue of compassion. and the last but not the least Dr BR Ambedkar, constant fight for the upliftment of Dalits and conversion to Navayana Buddhism represents the role of virtue in dealing with misfortune.

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And in the contemporary times, How many JK Rowling can the Society produce, who can handle 12 failures for her bestselling "Harry Potter" Series represents the virtue of dedication, Yuvraj Singh (Indian cricketer) played during the 2011 World Cup and even won 'Man of the Tournament' and later diagnosed with cancer and found that he was suffering the same during that world cup journey.

The above all examples highlights a big role of virtue in dealing with misfortune.

The Flip Side :

Can the virtues role be limited only in how we deal with misfortune? Probably we can answer this by saying virtue also plays a role during our success, happiness, achievement i.e. when fortune strikes us and helps us to do better. Some examples

to illustrate this argument can be :

When APJ Abdul Kalam became the President of our country, he was asked by a reporter "How does you feel about your this achievement" then he firmly replied, "There were presidents even before me & will come after me, I am just one of them, my job is to hold the right worth of this chair and serve the nation".

Similar is the case when MS Dhoni (former Indian captain) was asked after winning IPL Trophy about his achievement and he said that "My job is to stay humble & keeping the same environment in dressing room to ensure good results in next ~~sex~~ season also".

The above examples represents how values like humility, contentment, compassion which encompass the virtues of great leaders are reflected even at time of success and achievement.

Relevance of Virtue in modern society:

World Inequality report highlights that 57% of wealth is in hands of 10% of people. UNESCO report claims that 132 million girls are not going to school everyday. UNODC report highlights that globally there are 238 million who are consuming drugs everyday. Recent statement by UN Chairperson that we have entered in an era of global bioling, the recent coup in Niger, one of the politically stable country in Africa. These all examples and statistics highlights the curbing menace of misfortune over the world.

In light of this if we look at virtue (the moral compass) of this world that is dwindling more towards the negative side due to rising consumerism, unsustainable use of resources, decreasing tolerance, rising extremism, enhanced human rights violation, expansion of territories, export of ideology. This all highlights more role of virtue.

is required. To sum up above paragraphs, Martin Luther King said "Today we have guided missiles, and unguided minds". This represents the modern society's problems and declining virtue.

How to ensure Strong Virtues:

Value based education could serve as panacea to ensure virtue ethics among humans. Right from Buddha advocating for middle path to Aristotle's Golden mean, Mahatma Gandhi's Hai Talim to Rabindra Nath Tagore's Viswa Bharti and in modern times Japan "Cho Tokai Tai" (mind - body - heart) [where through meditation a sync is created between the three] to India's New Education Policy 2020 all can serve as a great role to guide human so that they excellence their universal values and become a virtuous personality to deal with misfortune.

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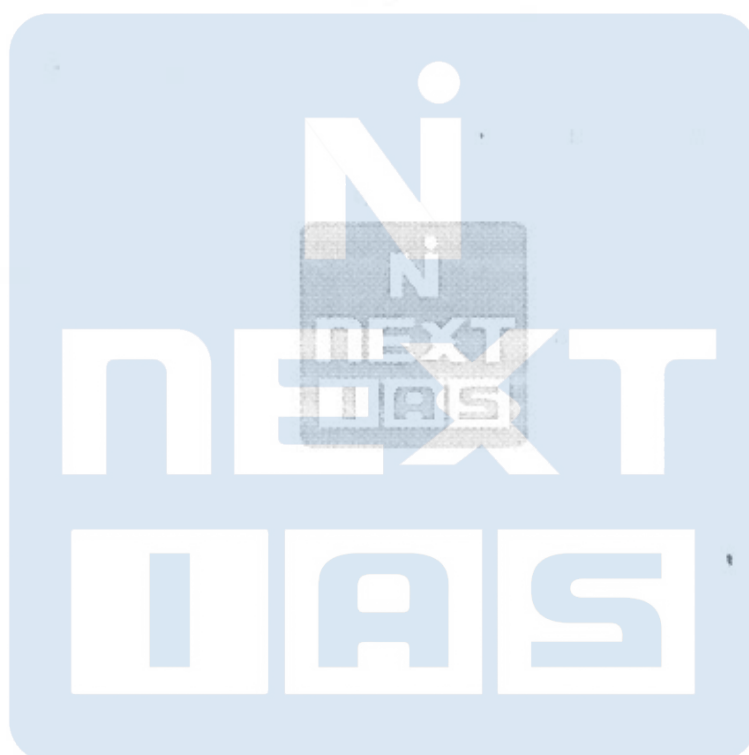
To conclude all this about virtue and how it gets reflected when struggling with misfortune and its contemporary perspective, a quote can be used:

"As more and more Artificial Intelligence is entering the world, more and more Emotional Intelligence must enter in people's mind"

which reflects how virtue of emotionally intelligent person will hold great value in realm of fast changing world, be it then we have to deal with adverse situations or to be humble during our prosperity.

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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।

Q.7 Reality is the shadow of ideas.

Mediterranean Sea located in
between African and Europe Continent. A person
observing the changing hue of water noticed that
the color of water can not be a mere reflection
of sky, which was the existing thought till then
and propounded an idea about how changing frequency
of light received by water determines its colour. This
led to a famous discovery of scientific theory today
called as "Raman effect" and the person was none other
than Dr. C.V Raman also given Noble Prize for this.

The other story is a bit of more contemporary times when a person who was planning to go home during Diwali break along with his three friends, but could not find a bus due to huge crowd travelling due to festival, and then a idea of online ticket booking came to their mind and the reality is today in the form of 'RedBus' an online ticket booking app for buses and hotels.

These two examples highlight how reality is the shadow of ideas. In this essay, we will dwell deeper into getting insights about reality, how ideas reflect reality not only in scientific domain but other aspects of world life as well. How reality changes over the time and space and does ideas alone are responsible for today's reality or other factors do play a role? Let us look one by one.

Reality, from the times of history was represented as shadow of ideas. With the passage of time, the reality has changed. We will look into this by some examples like when bipedalism was developed among Australopithecines (genus which is predecessor of current humans i.e. Homo sapiens), the idea or we can say theory propounded was that as grasslands developed due to climate change, humans wanted to see what is beyond those long grasses, which led to evolution of bipedalism.

Another example on similar lines could be of Charles Darwin, on the Galapagos island (west to coast of South America) when he observed the beak patterns of finches (kind of sparrow) and noticed that all beaks perform different function such as eating moths or feeding on grains which is reality for their survival and thus a result of idea of different beak patterns.

Nature also provides us variety of example just like theory of Industrial melanism, which states that moths changed colour from white to grey as the industrial revolution ~~and~~ caused pollution and it was difficult to recognise grey moths, thus ensuring their idea of survival.

From humans perspective, world history has shown many times the link between the two things ie ideas and reality. As the human shadow follows humans, the same way reality is followed by the shadow of ideas.

American civil war of independence which was fought on the idea of abolishing slavery gave their result in form of first written constitution of a country and today the democratic form of setup have become a reality for the most of countries.

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French revolution which was solely based on ideas of equality, liberty ensured a change in form of government from a monarchy to democracy. Similarly, a wrong idea of Britishers feeling themselves to be superior race and on a civilising mission led to Colonisation & imperialism of many countries & it existed as reality for many years like for India it took 150+ years to free herself from their shackles.

Indian history, also have led to many such examples be it getting Independence from British which was based on the idea of 'Swarajya'. to abolition of sati based on idea of rationality to post Independence times idea of Green revolution ensuring agricultural growth & nutritional security for the country.

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Even in contemporary times, the ideas of strategic interest for India enables India to buy cheap Russian oil, even at times when countries like USA are trying to avoid us doing from this. and the idea of India engaging with Taliban and Junta regime because of reality of territorial integrity of India and its security as we share a land border with both of them.

Sometimes, the ideas reflection in ~~reflecting~~ reality takes time because of numerous factors such as condition of society, economy and religious notions existing at that time. Taking this insight with the help of an example of Aryabhatta the great mathematician of India who have discovered that sun is stationary & planets (earth) revolve around it in religious texts.

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But the reality was established only after the heliocentric model got developed later on.

Similarly the Pythagoreas theorem, a reality in Mathematical world during contemporary times got established only after Greek mathematician Pythagoreas wrote it, but it was existing from the ancient time back when Baudhayan propounded it in one of the texts.

The other way around is that of when ideas become reality. For eg: the idea of Common but Differentiated Responsibility

(CBDR) is due to reality of LDC's suffered the havoc of climate change must even at times when they have not been responsible for much of the cause.

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The idea of inequality rooted in the idea of reservation.

Thus to conclude we can say that reality and ideas have ~~co~~coexisted at same time.

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Space for Rough Work

In struggling with misfortune lies the true proof of virtue.

- Story (Karan)

- Aristotle

- Why misfortune happens

Human needs & greeds. (Matthew)

Loss of human values

Inherent nature of humans. (Hobbes)

Irrationality

Due to inequality

changing values (ML King)

- How virtues ensure in dealing with misfortune

→ M Gandhi - Chauri Chaura

→ JK Rowling.

→ Nelson Mandela (Inimitable)

BR Ambedkar, SB Phule

- Relevance of virtues in modern society

Climate change

AI

Poverty & Hunger

Why virtue sometimes

Virtues proof also lies when fortunate things happen

Deciding the path ahead.
- calmness & humility.
eg: APJ, Armstrong.

→ Bharat

- Declining virtues in today's world

→ Rising consumerism

→ changing values

- How to ensure strong virtues

→ Gandhi's Nai Talim

→ RBT's Vishwa Bharti

→ Japan's Chu Toku Tai

Space for Rough Work

* Reality is the shadow of ideas

① Intro - story ✓
Shadow
 — CU Raman ✓
What is reality?

② Reality - changes

Idea

③ Scientific discoveries ✓

Every Invention X
Reality:
 ↓
 Bipedalism
 Evolution
 Language

Takes time → Ayaznatta ✓
 → Bhadrayaan (Bhaudayan)
 → Einstein ✓
 → Women condition?

feudal
Irrationality

Time Space

↓
Slavery
Sati

↓
Indiadeal
with Taliban,
Junta
opposed by west

— Territorial integrity ✓

— Buying oil from Russia → Strategic interest ✓
 — Using coal → populⁿ ✓

Ideas develop due to reality

↓
Paris deal — reality: suffered more
 ↓
Idea: CBRD

Reality is disaster deaths
 idea is dr tech

Reality is inequality
 idea is reservⁿ

World history

↓
Ideas of PR → Reality: Democracy.

India
Idea of Swaraj → Indepen.

Ideas of abolishing slavery → Reality: 1st Constitut.

British idea of English superiority → TB Macaulay

Idea of annexⁿ → World wars