

खण्ड-A / Section-A

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इस भाग में
लिखना मना है।
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- Q1 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।
- Q2 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।
- Q3 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।
- Q4 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।

TOPIC 4: DROP THE QUESTION WHAT TOMORROW MAY BRING, AND COUNT AS PROFIT EVERY DAY THAT FATE ALLOWS YOU.

Puppetry a unique art form, where man tries to recreate how he looks, through innocent smiling puppet dolls and then dance and control them through those invisible strings satisfying himself of his power over inanimate dolls. But if man were to put a large mirror to this, 'isn't these invisible string that controls him too? Perhaps, he satisfies this

desire to control events only through a mistaken belief, which in reality is only a part of fate, bringing with it fears of uncertainty.

This fear of uncertainty & the consequent curiosity to know what happens next, made science fiction cartoon series like Doraemon take a time travel - a future cat that lives in the present. The inherent desire being to know what happens next and perhaps change the future for the good.

The pertinent question remains however that Do we control time or does time control us? Science offered a hint by saying that matter is a function of space & time. But then what occupies the space? This further begs ~~one~~ to ask does destiny, or fate ~~or~~ the invisible string that controls puppets of humanity?

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Perhaps living with these questions without acceptance of events being beyond control of humanity could make life miserable. The fear of what happens next would then consume each moment or in other way the desire to control could go beyond limit & more exercise of this control would only prove one wrong.

Solace lies in accepting that what happens in future is uncertain but a optimistic approach to present to prepare and live fully with gratitude. How could this optimistic approach help? Could vagaries of uncertainty be reduced? Is completely forgetting what comes next an ignorant approach? What could be the way of life in an uncertain world? These questions become pertinent to strike a balance

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between control, fate and limited time of humanity in an especially fast paced dynamic life today.

Present : Bank account with money that lapses every day?

This approach becomes critical in a life shaped by added uncertainties unique to today's life of humanity — shaped by digital a new space beyond the physical & metaphysical, which has capacity ~~to~~ of speed that adds complexity to the question what happens next. This is ~~because~~ the time to predict the next now reduces further, when events can happen so quickly.

In this context, acceptance of uncertainty will ~~not~~ itself need a more optimistic

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approach. The key lies in seeing the beauty in uncertainty i.e. its significance. Firstly uncertainty makes the life ~~its~~ an adventure, giving it the shape of a journey unknown with its myriad shades of joy & sorrow, lest life would be stagnated water than a joy ride. Secondly, it gives humanity the reason to live — i.e. to work to one's best potential until possible and in control. Without this utilisation of one's potential would be postponed or perhaps never utilised.

Infact, knowing certainly what happens next would make it impossible to live the present itself. This is because a knowledge of a negative event tomorrow would make one feel useless to live today itself.

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Therefore, realising the beauty of uncertainty in life, its acceptance demands one to ignore the question of "what" next and rather focus on "how" to joyfully embrace the uncertain next. — whether good or bad

This implies the ~~gratefulness~~ gratitude for today should be the focus and its utilisation should be to prepare for the uncertain tomorrow, accepting the outcome. The passion for life hence should come by working today — with an optimism to face the uncertain.

In this approach of life it is implicit that every day is a bank account with zero balance & that we accumulate only to last till the end of the day. This ~~at~~ helps

also desist the unethical accumulation and acquisition of surplus wealth or unauthorised power. This further leads to an approach of living with abundance than accumulation and give away to make other's today better. Hence better social bonds & harmony are a result.

Indeed the approach to focus on today accepting future uncertainty could help solve the myriad socio - economic and environmental issues.

The most relevant issue in this context is of the looming dynamic issues that humanity faces due to nature. The covid-19 pandemic made one realise the limitation of human control in matters of health & environment. The

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focus on today would give way to preventive healthcare and a holistic 'one health' approach realising symbiosis between man and animals.

A related aspect to it is the issue of climate change. While studies like IPCC assessment reports aim to predict and give a "picture of what the future holds", the reality could be much worse. In this sense adaptation & mitigation specially for vulnerable social communities & nations demands focus on today's policies dealing with sustainable development.

Similarly, with new technologies like Artificial Intelligence the "what" of future could be as uncertain as environment & critical policies of today need to

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insure against all possible negative outcomes of the future.

In fact future uncertainty in environment and science, lead to further uncertainty in economic sphere specially in a globalised world with coupling of economies through connected supply chains. In addition to this increased fears of what future looks like is leading nations towards self 'protectionism' further fuelling risk of global mistrust and geopolitical instabilities.

In order to take a positive approach to ~~this~~, geopolitical & economic risks of world, a focus on present of what is today demands. the approach taken by India like leading G20 with aim of

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openness, building regional, cultural bonds & additionally being voice of the global south.

These approaches to global upcoming issues hence give solace, hope and optimism for a uncertain tomorrow.

The Control Approach.

Some might argue that a ignorance to know the what of tomorrow can lead to a wasteful today. These people also support the argument that future outcomes are very much in control of humanity, ~~as pro~~ and course corrections can be done by science and fate doesn't hold ground.

The flaw in arguments however is that while future

can be predicted, it cannot be known with certainty. In fact this prediction would be drawn from past experiences and their application in present context. However issues like mass extinctions, climate change etc. point to incomplete prediction of future.

secondly even though science can offer corrections for future, there are limitations to how much control and discovery can be made. This is not to draw a negative comparison between fate and science, rather to give more food for thought to science that knowing the unknown ~~is~~ will always be a work in progress and there is a harmony between science and spirituality to reinforce each other. For instance, discovery

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Of dark matter in space is still a mystery to be known. Nonetheless, even while the picture of future may look different with more scientific discoveries, the present as a blessing can offer solutions to humanity.

It is essential to realise that while desire to control is inherent in human nature, the questions of what awaits next will always remain waiting. The acceptance of good or bad of future with joy can help forge better bonds ~~for~~ ^{amidst} today's vagaries faced by humanity.

This is evident from Longfellow's ~~poem~~ lines who asks to act in today for future tomorrow.

"Lines of all great men remind us, to make our lines sublime and departing leave behind us footprints on sands of time."

खण्ड-B / Section-B

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- 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।

TOPIC 8: ACT AS IF IT WERE
IMPOSSIBLE TO FAIL

Chandrayaan - 3, India's dream launch to her ~~dream~~ goals in space research. Unbridled and unmoned, she dared to dream again after the failure of Chandrayaan - 2. This time the courage was to choose a landing site further south the moon's equator farther from Chandrayaan - 2; and even more daringly, an area of moon unexplored by another country.

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This resilience, perseverance and courage to act again even with a past failure was based on a conviction, one that believed that it is impossible to fail now.

In fact is failure really something that must stop one? It is not the failure or the negative outcome rather the reaction to the failure that determines what the future holds.

It is critical to realise that it is the self-imposed limits that determine one's progress. While progress may be uncertain in future, the certainty is to put together one's act in the present.

It is hence essential

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to see how acting as if it is not possible to fail helps take a positive approach. Secondly, this approach of success has been witnessed across different spheres of human endeavour.

Thirdly it is not to argue that the assumption is true rather that it gives one the required courage. In essence this becomes relevant to fight challenging issues of today.

The Growth approach:

The laws of nature point to how secondary succession in a forest happens from the remnants of a past destruction. The seed though trampled and ignored, finds its way through the

uncertainties, and the conviction to face the future ultimately leads to a forest.

These uncertainties of a future also apply to human endeavours where goals and aspirations are ~~a~~ limited by uncertain events beyond man's control. The pandemic recently proved this "black swan" nature of some events that are rare but may destroy one's belief and faith.

It is here at this point that one needs to reflect back what was it that made one set the goals and ~~the~~ vision in first place. It is the courage to face the outcomes that

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emulates the hope for a good future.

In fact after a negative outcome, the critical question is aren't our goals too less? That is the goals that one sets are a reflection of limits we place on ourselves.

They reflect what we know about ~~or~~ what we can do or are capable of. Perhaps our awareness about self is clouded by lack of exploration or a self belief of failure?

The approach lies to understand that one's potential can be boundless if the fear of failure is removed completely. While awareness of possibility to fail helps prepare in advance; but

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the action towards realising potential ought to be based on assumption that it is impossible to fail at all.

This is because a courage of this nature helps give the hard work a correct direction where challenges can be met next-time with more vigour. This is how ISRO dreamt again for Chandrayaan-3.

The indomitable spirit in Endeavours.

"Arise awake and stop not till the goal is reached"

This clarion call by Swami Vivekanand to the youth was to point that

the art needs to believe in success of outcome and not stop till the ~~to~~ goal sees fruition.

Multiple instances of this approach are visible in fields of sports and arts.

Individual endeavours of sportsmen like Ashwin Binda who realised his dream of gold medal even after multiple failures — required acting as if it was impossible to fail another time.

Similarly dancers like Indira Chandran, who dreamt again to dance by a prosthetic limb did not consider failure as an option.

This similar belief system operated when

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Indian businessmen struggled against British capitalists before independence. On a similar conviction, Gandhiji believed in power of masses and his unique satyagraha approach. A belief in success in his approach was the reason that Indian freedom struggle could become a people's struggle. Hence this approach also helps innovate and reach beyond self imposed limits.

These innovations needed in field of administration require the same approach for solving socio-economic issues of India that seem to have a chronic nature.

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For instance the approach by officers like Prashant Nair and Smriti Sabarnal that tapped in citizen participation for their issues. The courage of officers like Durga Shakti Nagpal helped her face the issues of sand mining and its chronic nature.

In fact in the face of environmental & economic challenges, policies require the approach of acting as if it is impossible to fail. For instance India's dream of \$5 trillion economy, Atmanirbhar Bharat & ensuring a v-shaped recovery after pandemic all point to this approach.

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In fact India also applied the approach of acting as if it is impossible to fail in leading the world order in post pandemic global uncertainties. Endeavours like 'Voice of South', 'Reformed multilateralism', 'Vaccine maïtri' point to India's role as a torchbearer of hope and making ~~one~~ the world realise, its not the time to give up but to assume that it is impossible to fail.

This approach of acting as if impossible to fail requires a positive attitude and emotional

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अथवा
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Intelligence to accept that
while outcome may be
uncertain. It is the fear
that must be tamed
and the courage that must
guide the action. This
automatically leads the
action to be based on
resilience, perseverance and
optimism.

This is not to
argue that acting in
present ~~is~~ assuming imposs-
ibility to fail should be
based on over-confidence
rather a careful approach
of understanding one's
aptitude and building
the potential to face any
negative outcome without

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fear is the approach required.

In this approach lies the solution to the myriad challenges that face the humanity after the pandemic has thrown global issues. The individual, society and nations all require a collaborative approach with mutual trust and courage that ~~spe~~ failure is not an option and rather success lies in believing that ~~there~~ "Aham Brahmasmi".

Drop questⁿ as what tom may bring, control as you profit every day that fact

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- Puppetry / Deceamon
- time defn - arg
- thesis -

Tom, every, impⁿ
across expand
super optim (anti) Past Day Tom
concrete.

Space for Rough Work

Time significance ;

Fate

maximizing today
Accept of good/bad
optim, hope
[Hope] [uncertainty]

Do we control
time or time
controls us.

who controls
us?

[puppets?]

→ value? - drop or
whole ocean?

life as a time scale.

- each passing moment-

essence

Humanity

→ ∞ of time space time graph
→ ∞ of control - destiny or control?

Implication

Tomorrow

[future]

fate -

Every day

[Present]

control:

• prep
• insure
• pessimism?
• optimism?

• does it exist -?
• uncertainty
• beauty of uncertain
• insure/secure
• predict?

also not granted

- fate / destiny

↳ blessing / gratitude

- bank account filled with money
every day

→ art
Hist Pupp
Bumbetta

India

• British
rule
(Mughal type)

Geog hist:

phenom &
civilization

enviro:

- climate
change -
disaster (pandem)

Sci Tech: AI &

humans.

Research aspects
Policy & admin:
science today

control

profit

now we
in control

↳ how?

• line fully

• prep for tomorrow

• believe / trust

- goals -

start today

- leave footprint for tom.

Implication

not to make merry &

went but to

grateful, prepare.

• wealth accum

• power acquisⁿ

• aimless

propose

IR

Secur

Eco

• inner

• Global

- pandemic
etc.

Attics Society

Adam
Prahman
- Amare

• insurance

Space for Rough Work

possibility of negative

fail

Act in present

Indira chavala

Freedom struggle

- Gandhi

- ~~extremism~~ extremists

Misc
Society

Policy Admin.
governance

Science

Bhadr
Business
Sports
Entertainment

politics

Kalam

IR

India

- pandemic
vaccine main
leading world
econ

V shaped
region,
5 million
atmanirbhar

Environment

disast,
urban cities

attitude
aptitude

ethics

of courage

society chronic issues
health, education

Possible to fail

courage v. fear

possible v. impossible

fail & success

① Limits → Do we have
we are our
own
boundaries

⑧

②