

खण्ड-A / Section-A

- 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।

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4.

A man who wants to lead the orchestra must turn his back on the crowd.

It was the event of ICC Men's World Cup 2007 being played in West Indies. Team India led by Rahul Dravid was knocked out of the tournament from group stage after losing from lower-ranked teams. That led to massive disappointment across India. Violent protests, attack on players' houses were found. At this time, BCCI started to prepare for first edition of T20 world cup and created a completely new team of young players led by 26-year old MS Dhoni. The already disappointed crowd were more dissatisfied of such a team. Arising from the environment of such despair and hopelessness, MS Dhoni led the team to consecutive victories and ultimately won the T20 World Cup of 2007.

This was possible because of the determined leadership of Dhoni and his undeterred focus to build such

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a resilient team, ~~is~~ turning ~~a~~ back to the crowd. This example demonstrates how, to lead an orchestra, the leader must turn his back on crowd and focus on guiding the members of orchestra to produce a best-possible music.

In this essay, we will see why the leader of orchestra needs to turn his back on the crowd, how it is manifested in various sphere of life. We will also try to find whether it is must or there is also an important role of crowd's opinion in the success of an orchestra. Then we will summarise and try to find a way forward for right leadership.

In an orchestra, while the members face the crowd to play their music, the leader of orchestra turns his back on crowd and face the members of orchestra to guide them to play the music. This symbolises, how a leader need to focus on the team and



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team members to guide and motivate them. For this, the leader may have to ignore the majestic view of people enjoying to the tune. The leader also has to stay consistent and focused by avoiding such distraction of crowd. He/she needs to show utmost dedication in his/her efforts. In this way, the orchestra reflects several values of leadership such as - perseverance, endurance, consistency, sacrifice, integrity and dedication etc. Here the crowd may symbolise negative criticism, distractions, luxury etc.

For instance, if we look into the history, there were several individuals who demonstrated leadership in similar manner. Raja Rammohan Roy's Brahmo Samaj acted against the practice of Sati despite severe opposition from the orthodox society. When Mahatma Gandhi introduced the path of non-violence



and Satyagraha in stead of extremism, many criticised, ridiculed and protested against this approach. However, Gandhiji turned his back towards such crowd and demonstrated such approach to achieve positive results in Champaran (1917) Satyagraha. Thereon, he led Indian freedom struggle through similar approach.

Similarly, if we look into Political history of modern India, BR Ambedkar's life and leadership exemplifies how a leader of orchestra needs to turn his back on the crowd. Ambedkar fought against Brahminism & caste system, against other social evils within personal laws. While introducing reforms in Hindu Personal laws such as Hindu succession Act 1956, Hindu Marriage Act 1956; he had to face several criticism from orthodox Hindu society. However he turned his back towards them and enacted those acts that has transformed



majority ~~Hindu~~ society in coming decades.

In present day politics, we are witnessing a rising trend of populism, and culture of freebies. This reflects the leadership's focus on crowd and their demands to achieve vote bank. However, a true leader will be known as a statesman, when he will be able to take some unpopular decision, but with a larger benefits of nation. That decision should be beyond populism and must be taken by turning back on such crowd. Such as - upholding fiscal prudence over freebies, investing in capital expenditure than short-term gains like subsidies etc.

Similar actions has been found in the life of TN Seshan and Vinod Rai. While acting as Chief Election Commissioner, TN Seshan (1990-1996) took strong action against political parties involved in corruption. Vinod Rai as CAG (2013)



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went on to expose various corruption cases of UPA government despite being appointed by it. Both of them showed the values of sacrifice and courage by turning their back on any such crowd that expected mediocrity. They ensured a successful play of orchestra that they led i.e. Election Commission & CAG office.

In economic sphere, decisions like changing Repo rates,  LPG reforms, Demonetisation, Digitalisation are taken by the leaders by turning their back on the critics. Similarly, the Space program of ISRO passed through various criticism, mocking by national and foreign crowds. However, ultimately the success of the organisation demonstrates the perseverance & consistent efforts ignoring such negative people.



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However, there is also an opposite view to this. The leader of orchestra needs to look towards crowd in between to gauge their reactions. It is also important that his efforts are in line with people's expectations. Accordingly he can change the tune & rhythm.

Similarly, for a leader, it is sometimes important to get feedback from people. This becomes important ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> achieve good governance. People's participation in decision making and development process has its own benefits. It prevents any wrong decision. For example, farmers bills were withdrawn due to lack of public participation while formulating the laws. Therefore my.gov.in portal, social audit process etc promotes involvement of people along with leadership to achieve a better result.

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Similarly, in a democracy like India, every 5 years, there is elections when the leaders turn into the crowd.

While the opposite of it is seen in autocracies like North Korea where the leader has completely turned his back on the crowd to run the government without any criticism or public opinion.

To summarise the discussion, the leadership must turn their back on negative criticism and on every other aspects that challenges their focus.

However, when required they must take the opinion of the crowd for constructive changes in the orchestra or their teams.

This is also an important lesson for the civil servants, as they act as leaders of various organisations and institutions.





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They must show utmost dedication,  
perseverance, consistency in efforts  
and sacrifice like values in their  
day-to-day life. This will ensure that  
the orchestra-like organisation is run  
with integrity without any hindrances.

As Mahatma Gandhi  
once said,

First they will ignore you,  
Then they will criticise you,  
Then they will laugh at you,  
But ultimately you will succeed.

As we saw the success of a  
~~Team~~ young Indian team in 2007 T20  
cricket world cup, our country can  
also succeed in global stage with  
a strong, focused and undeterred  
leadership to become a developed  
country by 2047.



**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।

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

Brazil is an equatorial country with more than 70% of area covered by Amazon Rainforest. As it is a developing country, the need for land for agriculture, industry and settlement is evident. So, Brazil is clearing the rainforest to achieve the above needs. Till now, more than 30% of original rainforest has been lost, through rampant deforestation.

Another such incident is of North America - particularly USA and Canada. In 2022, the Californian forest fire has destroyed billions of properties, displaced thousands of people and brought life to a standstill over western USA due to extreme air pollution. Even the most advanced nation of the world could not prevent the damage or stop the fire, until nature itself stopped it through rain.

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The above two examples of Americas show the stark difference in how we perceive nature. While in the first example of Brazil, the nature is being treated as a ~~star~~ servant to fulfill the needs and serve the people of Brazil. In the second example of USA, the nature acts as master over the human-beings by destroying the structures made by them and by controlling itself.

In this essay, we will see how man treats nature as servant in various ways and nature acts on man as master in return. We will also see, in reality how the nature is actually a necessary partner of humans and it can't be neglected. Then we will also see how such perceptions of man has led to severe consequences and will find a way forward for it.



Nature is the basis of the survival and evolution of any living forms including human-beings. Nature refers to everything that surrounds us. The rivers, lakes, oceans, land, forest, wildlife, atmosphere - everything is an important component of nature. Our actions are shaped by nature as well as they shape the nature. This is a cyclical relationship of man and nature. Therefore, the question arises, whether nature is supreme or man is supreme? whether nature is a master or a servant?

Nature - a master?

Starting from the Darwin's theory of evolution i.e. Natural selection portrays nature as a master. It determines the path of evolution through survival of the fittest. Similarly, various human races and their features

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are shaped & determined by nature as a master. For instance, the negroids has higher melanin pigments to protect them from harsh sunrays of tropics, resulting in darker skin tone. The small eye-lids of Mongoloids were a result of adaptation to the dust-storms of Gobi desert.

The present day events of rising disasters and man's incapability to tackle them show the masterly nature of environment. Volcanic eruptions of Mt. Etna, Mt. Stromboli leading to deaths and displacement is one such manifestations.

At the same time, the shaping of agriculture patterns, culture (like festivals & lifestyle) of Indian subcontinent by Monsoon explicate the masterly aspects of nature.



## Nature - a servant ?

On contrary to this, nature is being treated as a servant due to scientific & technological advancements of mankind.

With better technology, man has gained significant control over nature.

Recently, UAE has grown wheat in the deserts and became self-sufficient in wheat production. Similarly, man is also treating nature as servant by exploiting natural resources.

Starting from deforestation to exploitation of ground water for agriculture like in Punjab-Haryana region, the nature is being subverted. With rising population, encroachment of wetlands by urbanisation, extraction of minerals ~~by~~ through unsustainable means; man is using every component of nature for its own benefit.





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Building dams by changing natural waterflow, ~~using~~ by extracting coal from mines ; man is fulfilling its energy needs.

### The Impact

By treating nature as servant, man has caused many challenges for itself. The declining ground water level, probable water crisis by 2030, air pollution increasing to fatal level and global warming by more than 2° C by 2050 are few manifestations of it.

As treating nature as servant is suicidal, treating nature as master also limits man's capacity.

For example, by protecting nature and preventing any development that may impact nature will not serve any purpose. Therefore, the need is to follow Aristotle's Golden Mean principle i.e. Nature as a necessary partner.

## Nature - a necessary partner

~~Nature~~ As Mahatma Gandhi once said, 'There is everything on this earth for everyone's need, but not enough for anyone's greed.'

This quote by Gandhi ji reflects the requirement to treat nature as a necessary partner - not as servant or master.

Indian culture has also many examples of this. The medicine system of Ayurveda based on natural solutions, use of cow dung as fertilizer as well as at rural houses as anti-bacterial layer are few examples of treating nature as a partner and finding nature-based solutions.

Similarly, in the regional planning, nature should be treated as integral part of development.



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Like sustainable agriculture practices as per agro-climatic zones, use of bio-fertilizers, scientific cropping pattern etc can address issues in farming.

Similarly, sustainable urbanisation with adequate space for blue-green infrastructure, urban forestry can address the issues of urban floods, air pollution etc.

The energy needs of mankind can be fulfilled by treating nature as partner through green energy like solar & wind that does not create a stress on any resources.

Overall, man resides in nature and an integral part of it.

Therefore treating nature as a complementary component of survival is the need of the hour.



We, therefore, must follow the famous advice of Gandhiji -

“We have not inherited this earth from our ancestors. Rather we have taken this as a loan from our childrens. Therefore, our effort should be to protect it and transfer it to the next generation as we received it.”

This emphasises the value of stewardship towards nature. Based on this principle, the global community should come together to achieve a 'sustainable nature', as per the commitments of 'Paris agreement 2015'. India must lead the world in this regard as per the age-old concept -

'Vasudhava Kutumbakam'

'The World is One Family.'

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