

NEXT IAS

खण्ड-A / Section-A

उम्मीदवारों को
इस भाग में
लिखना मना है।
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must not
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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।

UPSC

Next IAS ID: FTTP220996, TC2653, 03-08-2023 11:37 PM

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.
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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

Q4.

In struggling with misfortune lies the true proof of virtue.

This is a story of a poor old woman from Tamilnadu. In her youth, she lost her husband and had no children of her own. There was no other family member to support her for the remaining life. She lived alone - with despair and hopelessness. However, what made her famous today, was her path of virtue despite of the misfortune.

She started to contribute towards the society through planting trees, One by one. Till she reached her 80s, she had already planted more than 10,000 trees. This gave her the popular name of 'Mother of the trees'.

This story is of PadmaShree awardee Saalamarada Thimmakka, who showed utmost virtue of selflessness,

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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

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Next IAS ID: PTP220996, TC063, 03-06-2023 11:37 PM

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Altruism and Righteousness in her action, while struggling with misfortune of helplessness, hopelessness and poverty.

Similarly, there are several examples of people who showed true proof of virtue while struggling with misfortune. And there are also many, who pretend to be virtuous in comfort, but can't live upto it during misfortune.

In this essay, we will see, what is virtue and why true proof of virtue can only be tested while struggling with misfortune. Then we will go through various spheres of life to analyse its manifestation.

At the same time, we will also examine the anti-thesis, where many philosophers gave a anti-perspective of the topic. Finally we will try to find a way-forward for future.

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Next IAS ID: P TTP210996, TC053, 03-08-2023 11:37 PM

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हिसाब में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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So, the question is What is virtue? Well, virtue refers to the act of upholding right values and following the ideals of these values in every step of our life. Plato and Socrates are the ~~not~~ pioneer philosophers who talked about virtue. Plato held that there are four cardinal virtues - Justice, Prudence, Courage and Temperance - that makes a person virtuous in life. However, there are many types of virtue like - honesty, truthfulness, benevolence, altruism, integrity etc.

Now, the question arises, why true proof of virtue lies in struggling with misfortune. Because, it is always easy to follow the path of virtue, when in comfort or wealth or good fortune. For example, many wealthy people offers charity,

donations etc . But it becomes difficult to follow the same path , when in misfortune like financial crisis , economic losses etc . They tend to do corrupt practices , compromising with their long-standing values or virtue .

For example , the stories of Vijay Malya , Nirav Modi exemplifies it.

However, a virtuous person never compromises with the path of virtue . There are many such manifestations , where true proof of virtue has been established in the struggle with misfortune starting from ancient times to modern-day .

In the ancient India , leaders like Maharana Pratap and Chhatrapati Shivaji never compromised with virtue of 'Swaraj' and 'Dharma' .

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Next IAS ID: P11P220996, TC003, 03-08-2023 11:37 PM

उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Even when Maharana Pratap was struggling inside forest after the defeat in war with Akbar, he did not compromise with his ideals to fight for his people until death.

Similarly, Shivaji continued his fight against Aurangzeb without compromising in return of his offers and even when he lost most of the occupied forts

This showed their true proof of virtue i.e. of independence, self-rule and righteous leadership. Similarly, in ~~pre~~ modern history, Mahatma Gandhi held onto his virtue of non-violence despite oppression of British. BR Ambedkar

was struggling with misfortune of discrimination, untouchability in his childhood; but exemplified virtues like temperance & perseverance to become one of the best lawyers and father of constitution of India.

In a similar manner, if we look into a broader perspective of International affairs, India has consistently showed true proof of its virtue that it believes in, despite struggling with misfortune of food crisis, war etc.

In 1960, when USA denied food grain supply to India under PL-480 agreement, India suffered with a major misfortune. However, with showing virtues like dedication and perseverance, India invested in Green Revolution. And today it is a net-exporter of food grains.

In 1999, when India faced Kargil war, Atal Bihari Vajpeyi - then PM ensured that India follow the Shimla agreement and does not cross LoC to win the war. Even in

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Next IAS ID: PTP220596, TCS03, 03-08-2023 11:37 PM

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the misfortune of war, India showed the virtue of mutual respect and internationalism.

Similarly, despite being surrounded by two nuclear-powered rogue nations, India follows a No-First Use policy as nuclear doctrine.

All these events show us that those who are truly virtuous, never fails to uphold virtue even in the dire misfortune. However, there has been a view anti-thetical to the above statement. Sometimes following virtue while struggling may not be a best option. As Chanakya in his Arthashastra explained, sometimes we need to tackle misfortune as ~~or~~ injustice by going beyond path of virtue. He suggested the use of 'Sama - Dam - Dand - Ved doctrine. That is, if required, we

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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

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Next IAS ID: PTP220996, TC063, 03-09-2023 11:37 PM

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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should not hesitate to use ~~un~~
unethical or immoral ways of deceit,
violence to win over our misfortune.

For instance, in case of war,
international relations, a nation must
do 'anything' to achieve its national
interest. Therefore, he suggested
to follow 'Realism' over 'idealism'
for greater interest.

~~Therefore~~ Though both
the perspectives are right in their
own place, it is the person who
needs to take the right decision
in the case of misfortune. [In]

[summary], it can be said that,
the ability to follow virtue even
in the struggle of misfortune,
makes one truly virtuous. But,
when needed, for larger societal
interest, one can bypass this path.

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Next IAS ID: PTP230996, TC067, 03-08-2023 11:37 PM

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
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As a way forward, the ability to gather the necessary courage, temperance etc to be able to follow the right path comes from practice. Since school days, a child must be provided opportunity to learn to walk on the virtuous path. By giving value education, exposing one to various stories from texts like Ramayana, Mahabharat, Jataka, Panchatantra; it will be possible to impart the attitude to be virtuous throughout one's life. It will ensure right thought process and right perspective to fight with the misfortune to get over it in a virtuous way.

- In conclusion, it is evident that the world and

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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human life faces with struggles with misfortune. But to be able to win over misfortune by following virtuous path is the need of the society. At last, the lines from Bhagvad Gita can be the motto to achieve true virtue →

“
Karmena Vyadhikaraste
Ma Phalesu Kadachana”

That is, we have to believe in 'Nishkama Karma' — following ~~the~~ 'righteousness' without worrying about results. That will ensure us to be virtuous, even in the struggle with misfortune.

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NEXT IAS

खण्ड-B / Section-B

- 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।

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

8.

We can not despair of humanity , since we ourselves are human-beings .

In last few months , whenever I opened social media or any newspaper , there was one or more events that has questioned my belief on humanity . Be it the naked parade of women during ethnic clashes in Manipur or the communal violence of Mewat in Haryana resulting innocent people's death . Be it the urination incident of Madhya Pradesh , where an upper caste man urinated on a helpless tribal or the gang-rape of a minor girl in Rajasthan . Be it the massacre in Ukraine by Russian army or the mass shooting in America . All these shows the situation of despair on humanity .

However , at the same time , few incidents show that humanity is

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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

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Next IAS ID: PTT220996, TC061, 09-08-2023, 11:37 PM

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
Candidates must not write on this margin

not dead. There are few ~~am~~ human-beings among ourselves, who has shown the light of hope on humanity. This trust is restored, when I came across the videos of few individuals risking their lives to save a helpless animal in Himachal floods. Also when I saw few people providing shelters and ~~refor~~ running refugee camps to help the displaced persons, ~~be~~ it in floods or the Manipur violence.

These two contrasting stories show that we can not despair of humanity, since we ourselves are human-beings. In this essay, we will understand humanity and how/why it is in a state of despair. Also, we will go through history and present time to see how few people arose out of the grim situation to restore trust on humanity. Then we will try to

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Next IAS ID: PTP220996, TC003, 03-08-2023 11:37 PM

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए।
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find a solution and way forward to tackle the despair by finding solutions within ourselves as human-beings.

So, the question arises what is humanity? Humanity is those values that differentiates a human-being from an animal. The values of tolerance, forgiveness, care, altruism, collectivism, & sense of justice etc that define humanity. For example, a lion or tiger can kill other animals for food without any mercy; but humanity makes a person thinks twice before taking any step that may harm others.

But, as we see today there is hardly any difference between animals and human-beings in terms of their behavior and attitude towards others. So, why the despair of humanity did arise? and what are

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its manifestations around the world ?

The answer of why lies in the value system that is in place in today's human society. The rise of individualism, materialism, selfishness, narrow perspective towards life are the reasons that has eroded a sense of humanity among huma beings.

The manifestations are in front of all of us. For instance, in economic sphere, there are lots of incident of child labour, exploitation of labour, human trafficking - all because of someone's profit motive or economic interest.

Similarly, in the environment issues of today, we find a direct ~~erro~~ relation with erosion of humanity

The rampant deforestation, destroying

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Next IAS ID: PTP220996, TCS03, 03-08-2023 11:37 PM

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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wildlife habitats , illegal wildlife trade ,
excessive use of plastic product choking
marine and aquatic animals, ~~are~~ all
shows despair of humanity .

In society , as we already
saw , there are events of communal
violence , sexual offences on women ,
transgender & LGBTQIA+ facing severe
discriminations , caste violence etc
shows a basic lack of humanity .

In a similar manner , if
we see a broader aspect of
International events , humanity is
conspicuously absent . Starting from the
use of nuclear bombs over Hiroshima
& Nagasaki to modern day
Russia - Ukraine war have caused
millions of innocent people's death .

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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

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Next IAS ID: PTP220996, TC068, 03-08-2023 11:37 PM

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उम्मीदवारों को इस हाशिए में नहीं लिखना चाहिए
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Similarly, from Hitler's use of toxic chemical gases for ethnic cleansing of Jews to USA's Iraq invasion — in every case humanity became the first victim.

~~Then~~ All these events have periodically eroded our trust on humanity. But at the same time, the onus lies on the same human-beings to bring the change. In history, if we see, there are people who are not blinded by power or selfish motive, who have restored trust & hope on humanity.

For instance, Raja Rammohan Roy's efforts against inhuman practice of Sati or BM Malbari's efforts against social evil like Child Marriage restored 19th century India's faith on humanity.

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कृपया इस स्थान
में प्रश्न संख्या के
अतिरिक्त कुछ
न लिखें।

Similarly, in 21st century, Kailash Satyarthi's life-long struggle to ~~ban~~ end child labour through Bachpan Bachao Andolan made him achieve Noble Peace Prize. When we look at the Padma Awardees and their stories today, it also restores faith on humanity, where people like D. Prakash Rao gave their whole life-long earnings towards free education of underprivileged children.

At the same time, in the international arena, India - as a nation keeping humanity at the centre of its foreign policy - have shown the light of hope for the world. Be it Vaccine Maitri program to distribute vaccine with LDCs, when no western countries provided any vaccine to them or

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कृपया इस स्थान
में प्रश्न संख्या के
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चाहिए
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free supply of wheat to the Afghans
facing with famine conditions after
Taliban take-over.

Now, as we saw, there
is hope, there is light in the
houses of darkness. And the light comes
from within the same human-beings.

So the question is what should we
do to tackle the despair of humanity
by making more human-beings
manifest it in their lives ?

The solution lies in
Mahatma Gandhi's words -

"Be the change you want to
see in the world."

If every person starts to act in
this way, it will be easier to
re-establish humanity across world.

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Next IAS ID: PTP220996, TCS63, 13-08-2023 11:37 PM

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नहीं लिखना
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कृपया इस स्थान
में प्रश्न संख्या के
अतिरिक्त कुछ
न लिखें।

Similarly, our ancient texts show us
the way forward through this quote
of "Atmana Pratikulani Pareham
Na Samacharet"

That means, do not do unto others
what you don't want yourself to be
done by. That should be the basic
motto of our every action.

This can be inculcated
within human-beings through right
education since childhood. Here both
the roles of parents and teachers
become important. At the same time,
the Government should facilitate
the same by providing enabling
environment. We can learn a
lot of things from countries like
Japan, where ~~st~~ children learn
the values of humanity since very
young age.

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कृपया इस स्थान में प्रश्न संख्या के अतिरिक्त कुछ न लिखें।

At the end, we must follow Immanuel Kant's categorical imperative, where he told human-beings should be seen as ends in themselves and not as means to achieve any other objectives.

Therefore, we all must strive to follow the path of humanity in all spheres of life, because ultimately -

Life is a journey from human-being to being humane.

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