

TEST CODE 6 2 0 3 0 5

FIAS | MGP 2023 | Open Test - Essay

Time Allowed : 3 Hours
समय : 3 घंटे

ForumIAS

Maximum Marks : 250
अधिकतम अंक : 250

ESSAY / निबंध

Name Of Candidate परीक्षार्थी का नाम	Sharda Gajanan Madyaswar.		
Roll No./अनुक्रमांक	1910102906	Medium/माध्यम	English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> हिंदी <input type="checkbox"/>
Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र	1901	Date/दिनांक	1/09/2023

*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका			INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश	
Q. No. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक	1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet. कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर करें।	
Q.1			2. Write two essays, choosing one topic from each of the following Section A and B in about 1000 - 1200 words each. खण्ड A व B प्रत्येक में से एक विषय चुनकर दो निबंध लिखिए, जो प्रत्येक लगभग 1000 - 1200 शब्दों का हो।	
Q.2			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. एक प्रश्न/भाग द्वारा किए गए अंकों की संख्या इसके सामने इंगित की गई है।	
Total Marks/कुल अंक			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए।	
Remarks/टिप्पणी :			5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाना चाहिए।	
			6. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off. प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा गया कोई भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ का भाग स्पष्ट रूप से काट दिया जाना चाहिए।	
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ECN CODE/ ईसीएन कोड :		EG/ईजी :		Evaluation Date/ मूल्यांकन तिथि :
		① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥		

MARKING SCHEME

Parameter/ criteria	Aspects Considered	Marks Allotted	Essay 1	Essay 2
Basic Format	Introduction	10		
	Body	15		
	Conclusion	10		
Content	Topic interpretation	10		
	Quotations and ideas	10		
	Analytical skills	10		
Organization	Flow of ideas	10		
	Absence of deviation	10		
	Ease of reading	10		
Language skills	Language and sentence construction	10		
	Grammar and spelling	10		
Examiner's discretion	perception/ innovation/ engaging	10		

Parameters	Very Good	Good	Average	Poor
Coherence				
Language				
Handwriting				
Pre-writing				

Very Good	Good	Average
120 and above	100-120	Below 100



SECTION - A

1. Shelving hard decisions is the least ethical course.

कठोर निर्णयों को टालना सबसे कम नैतिक मार्ग है।

2. All things come into being by conflict of opposites.

सभी चीजें असमानताओं के संघर्ष से अस्तित्व में आती हैं।

3. The arc of the moral universe is long but it bends towards justice.

नैतिक ब्रह्मांड का चाप लंबा है लेकिन यह न्याय की ओर झुकता है।

4. Disinterested intellectual curiosity is the lifeblood of civilisation.

अनासक्त बौद्धिक जिज्ञासा सभ्यता की जीवनदायिनी है।

Topic 1: Shelving hard decisions is the least ethical course

Akash Mehera, a 2012 state hockey champion was returning from his family's place when suddenly he met with an accident on the railway track. The accident threw a bucket of challenges to him with the very first being amputation of both of his legs. To an aspiring national level hockey championship one day, life without legs was like a life turned upside down.

He survived many suicidal tendencies & thoughts & decided to fight back. He took up the javelin sports as a para-athlete and went on to become a 2017 Asian Games Champion.

His life threw to him a very hard decision to make, yet he accepted the fact that he took up to his hard decision to adopt a new sport and gain back the charm of his life. It shows hard decisions are like ethical values at display.

The premise of this essay lies at discussing what kinds of hard decisions exist, along with a deliberation around why it is least ethical a course to not take a hard decision. Further the ways to inculcate values for developing decision making ability will be discussed.

Traversing a choppy water

Let us start by understanding what does a hard decision means at first.

There is a lot of subjectivity around this term. The toughness of a decision depends upon the situation and the challenges involved in it.

If there is a cause of a life at stake then the decision becomes the hard decision. Often such situation is faced by witnesses of crimes especially heinous ones like rape, murder, kidnapping, bombing etc. Yet humanity has witnessed brave hearts like a girl-only witness of 26/11 Mumbai terror attack who identified Nasab (terrorist) in the court. This was indeed the hard decision to make when a life of a girl was at stake, with threat calls, attempts to discourage her.

Similarly there are times when a rational security and integrity is called into question. Incidences like 1971 war was a litmus test for idea of India to survive as a nation to an attempt of dismantling it by Pakistan. India indeed made a decision (hard one) to liberate Bangladesh and establish rule based order.

Complex scenarios not only emerges at individual or national level but also at a global level too. Whole humanity today is called into question with a shift from Global warming to Global boiling. Its upon humanity to decide now, whether to act with speed or succumb to the wrath of nature.

Ethics, the matter and main of life

People often claim the hard decisions shows the personality of an individual. It is their test of time. Mahatma Gandhi observed: the real test of humanity is when the situation is adverse & yet a person is unperturbed, remains balanced in happiness as well as failure and hold on to his Ethics and takes a decision.

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But shelving from hard decision is a reflection of moral escapism. Dante Alighieri argues that the 'darkest places in hell are reserved for those who at the times of moral crisis maintains their neutrality'

This is evident when Bhishma, Proracharya kept quiet during Draupadi's cheekhavan in Mahabharata.

Similarly such attitude reflects a person is reluctant to find/discover the truth of life. Many wise men in history chose to remain indifferent and denied taking hard decisions. ~~The~~ Nation like Pakistan did not adhere to a democratic ideal and what we witness today is a political chaos & economic turmoil with huge atrocities. Had it accepted a hard decision, it would have had an ethical pathway of development like India. Thus it is said:

"Anytime of day & night
with a heart of joy and grief
cutting through the darkness with all its might
Love for always is a light of life!"

Further, the least ethical course also signifies lack of courage and fortitude. Socrates often opined of 'speaking truth to power' as unexamined life is not worth living, hence its better to take any of the hard decision in life. Socrates remained undeterred to pressure to derail him from igniting intellectual curiosity in people and rather consumed poison to adhere to his self wisdom. Had he not taken this hard decision, world would not have been awakened to rich Greek tradition & Socratic dialectism.

Also we can call it a lack/absence of leadership & imagination in a person as a reflection of least ethical course when a person denies to take a hard decision. The great gamble in African continent manifest absence of great vision in people around to emerge as a peaceful society and dwell with fraternity.

Hard decisions, as a light of life

It becomes important now to shed some light on some hard decisions taken so far and the changes it brought in the circumstances.

Rosa Parks on 1st Dec 1955 took up a resolve to not vacate her seat in favour of a white man in a bus in Alabama, USA. Such action led her arrested, denied job for years along with various death threat calls. Yet her inaction in the bus ignited the wave to fight racial segregation in USA ultimately leading to civil rights movements. US Congress awarded her the title of 1st lady of Civil Rights, ending with electing 1st Black President: B. Obama in USA for 2 terms

Here a very small yet a hard decision reinvigorated Kantian essence of human dignity as the categorical imperative.

Similarly even nations take on hard decisions like India's LPG reforms of 1991.

The shift from socialistic outlook to

neo-liberal capitalism was indeed full of disagreements and debates. Yet the circumstances like Balance of Payment crisis, declining economic indicators made India accept the hard decision of opening its economy. Though initial challenges like high competition arose yet eventually India attracted lots of FDI (investments) progressing into economic powerhouse of the world in 21st century.

It is parallely evident at global level too that hard decision had paved the way for the global good. Montreal Protocol of 1985 emerged as the only universally accepted Protocol which aimed to prevent ozone depletion

What we see today is the hard earned efforts to ensure the life on earth survives by protecting ozone. Today the ozone hole is recovering so fast that it aims at early status-quo ante in 10-20 years.

Thus hard the decision is, hard is the path to travel yet it is advisable to

tread the path upholding ethics of wisdom,
good for all at its base.

Testing time : Hard decision or an
indifference for a short-term

We now came to the point where it becomes
essential to discuss, whether always a
person is required to take a hard decision?

The very simple question appears though,
not the so simple is its answer. Decisions
needs to be taken with consideration of
time, resources available to travel through it.
Had Gandhi immediately reacted to the
racism and discrimination he faced while
he was thrown out of the train to Pretoria
despite having a ticket, would he wouldn't
have realized the power - potential of
non-violent protected national freedom
struggle of India.

There he required to wisely channelize
his thoughts, resources i.e; masses to
fight a non-violent united struggle to
eradicate British colonizers altogether.

Thus the short term of inaction of Gandhi eventually carried out a hard step in future for independence of India.

Companions of Ethics in life

Now to all the curious minds, the question emerges, does only ethics play an important role in life & its decisions? What else is needed to support ethics with?

The very basics need of life is indeed Ethics and morality - not as luxuries but necessities.

But for hard decisions to suffice with the desired goal, there is a need of peoples' participation in the decision. Civic republicanism

is reflected in 73rd amendment bringing Panchayati Raj into action. India today is the living example of successful self governance and participative decision making. We have

≈ 30 lakh active local functionaries ensuring peoples' active voice with bottom-up approach

Similarly the decision needs to consider greatest happiness of greatest number. The

consequentialism sometimes is necessary to ensure decision bears fruit. Despite highly traditional and orthodox societies in Rajasthan, Banwari Devi fights till now to resist the child marriages in her nearby areas. Though the trauma of sexual assault on her by 5 strongmen of her village keeps haunting, yet she resolves for the greater good especially women's good.

Along with it the larger vision of common good should be the basis of the hard decisions. Because not all decisions i.e; hard are good ones, common welfare should be the guiding light.

On one hand we have example of hard decision of Hitler to exterminate jews in gas chambers for idea of Aryan Race's superiority and long life of Germany. On the other hand we have present Ukrainian crisis where Ukrainians of all age group are resisting the aggression against their motherland with common idea of self-determination and not succumbing

authoritarians' wish (of force). Thus unity is needed but with good perception. Hence it is said "Intention behind the decision is more important rather than the action."

So hard decisions must be taken by people to ensure adherence to ethics. Because even the ant survives in the nature but at the cost of decision of fate decided by nature. But humans are blessed enough to apply their wisdom and decide for themselves rather than nature deciding for them. Thus what is needed is the faith and strength on oneself to decide and come on the goal.

"If you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs and blaming it on you..."

If you fill the unforgiving minute with sixty seconds worth of the distance run yours is the Earth and everything in it..."

Hence it is advisable to not shelve hard decisions & also remain on ethical course.

FEEDBACK





SECTION - B

1. Women's freedom is the sign of social freedom.

महिलाओं की स्वतंत्रता सामाजिक स्वतंत्रता की निशानी है।

2. If humankind poisoned nature, nature in turn poison humankind

यदि मानव जाति ने प्रकृति को विषाक्त किया है, तो प्रकृति ने बदले में मानव जाति को विष दे दिया है।

3. History Doesn't Repeat Itself, but it often rhymes.

इतिहास खुद को दोहराता नहीं है, लेकिन यह अक्सर तुकबंदी करता है।

4. The century advances but every individual begins anew.

सदी आगे बढ़ती है लेकिन हर व्यक्ति नए सिरे से शुरुआत करता है।

Topic 2 : If humankind poisoned nature, nature in turn poison humankind

Life of all living beings began from the nature. Man, through his wisdom thought of agriculture and gradually entered into a settled life and hence civilizations began. But eventually this nature lover and nature dwellers developed so strong greed and moved from sustainable life inture to nature towards modern unsustainable practices like logging, exploitation of resources, mindless use and overuse of water and the list goes on & on.

This has reduced mankind into an exploiter and the victim at the same time. Now it is "water water everywhere but no water to drink". Such an essentiality of life is not sufficing man's thirst, shows the wrath of nature. The life is now a full boomerang, what man threw at nature through exploitation, is the same he is receiving now, costing his precious life!

The essay thus discusses on various kinds of poisons humankind has used to exploit the nature. Further it will discuss how the nature is reacting in return to its poisoning. The ways to deal it and develop eco-friendly lifestyle is also provided.

Nature: A ~~glorious~~ guinea pig

Let us begin by understanding how humankind poisoned the nature? The very basic nature of a man is in tune with the environment. Man has now

turned into an individualistic entity. The only concern now is self interest and satisfying the hunger and greed. Humans have now adopted fast paced industrialization urbanization - cutting forests, invading jungles and eventually coming in conflict with the animals too. These are incidences of man-animal conflicts like leopard attacks, Elephants raiding agri fields etc all across the world.

Further the idea of collectivism or collective subsistence has now changed into confinement and sophistication. Man has been forgetting : living together ; progressing together. Thus we see islands of development in the ocean of poverty across the globe. There is no equality and equitable distribution - usage of resources. Developed nations are progressing at the cost of underdeveloped ones. Top 7 nations and large few Multinational Companies today owns more than 50% GDP of the world.

Not just the poisoning is at individual's thought and social existence but also in the idea of new-survival of the fittest.

Darwinism is applied when the inequality is practised amongst genders too. Nature

has made all or everyone equal: children of nature, this is substantiated by many philosophers too like Kant i.e; humans are ends in itself not a means towards the end. But against the law of nature, practices like sex discrimination, atrocities against sexual minorities shows poisoning the command of nature.

This ways of poisoning nature has eventually resulted into the direct conflict between Humanity and Nature. Now we see reflection of exploitation into Environmental

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spheres too earning Gandhian criticism. Gandhi opined: If humankind keeps on the path of development like ^{the} western world, 9 more Earths will be needed to suffice man's needs.

The beautiful explanation of clean environment, clear sky, pure-crystal clear water and fresh air to breathe now changed into a trash of pollution and contamination. This is what environmentalists like Ramchandra Guha writes in "Unquiet Woods".

Thus humans has reduced the nature to a trial and error subject like a guinea pig in a pharma trials. Though there is still a chance of survival post various failures in the later, but if we fail today, Nature's wrath will have no survivors at all.

Nature : A revengeful opponent !

To all the poisoning and exploitation by mankind, Nature : mother Earth so far kept mum and accepted it. But now it has its saturation crossed with various consequences as a throwback to mankind.

Climate a reflection of Nature has now started climate boiling. It is now destroying all the interest of the man. The example is natural hazards with no alarm striking surprisingly. With regions so far dry-receiving rainfall like flashing of heavy rains in Western Rajasthan (India) to wildfires in so far cold humid regions of Siberia.

The IPCC-6 AR shows climate change is aggravating with already 1.07°C temperature rise from pre-industrial levels. The attainment of tipping point shows humanity is being poisoned back by the nature. Now there is a path of no return.

Problems from water Insecurity like Composite Water Management Index (NITI Aayog) shows ~ 21 cities will go ground zero by 2030, in India, there is food Insecurity at acceleration. Regions of Africa are starting with hunger, malnutrition & dying ~~the~~ without actually ruined.

There is also Energy insecurity as nature is not replenishing so fast at the rate of its resource exploitation. There is a growing war, conflicts amongst nations for mineral resources - china-US conflicts over semiconduc-
-tor materials like Germanium, Gallium supplies. Nature is thus disturbing the cordial relations amongst nations in the form of poisoning back.

What the world is witnessing today is the climate refugees running from post to post and searching for places with essential basic needs of life.

Mankind as a preserver of Nature!

Since so far we have discussed the ways in which humankind has poisoned the nature, it becomes essential to shed light on the fact that humans had been the preserver too.

From ancient civilizations like Harappans nature worship / sabianism has been the culture.

This is reflected in the contemporary way of life of indigenous tribals. Tribals in India celebrates Nature like Bihu celebrated in Assam - is the worship of nature for good harvest.

Similarly even the developed, modernized nations are "pro-Nature." Scandinavian countries like Sweden, Norway reflects high level of development index along with human capital development too. This is possible because of eco-friendly model adopted by nations focussing on optimum utilization of resources, cyclical economy

and clean energy like renewables - solar, wind, tidal etc.

Miles to go, before the humankind sleeps!

Now it is imperative to discuss the ways to ensure the path tread by humankind becomes eco-friendly and we travel miles & miles future with the nature.

The fundamental guiding light here becomes the Brunland Report 1987 which focussed on sustainable model of development. The UN-SDGs

inline are indeed the right step forward with emphasis on life below water (SDG14), life on ground (SDG15). All nations needs

to take cumulative & collaborative efforts to ensure the nature doesn't get poisoned.

UN conferences like UNFCCC, UNCBD, UNCCD ensures that world comes inline with the sustenance of nature. Conserving,

protecting environment becomes priority here. Common but Differentiated responsibilities as per respective capabilities has made India voluntarily provide Panchamita with aim of going carbon neutral by 2070.

Similarly development is aimed but not at par / as per Western model rather Inclusive and sustainable. LIFE approach at COP 26 ensures even the individual participates in not poisoning the nature anymore along with the national-governments.

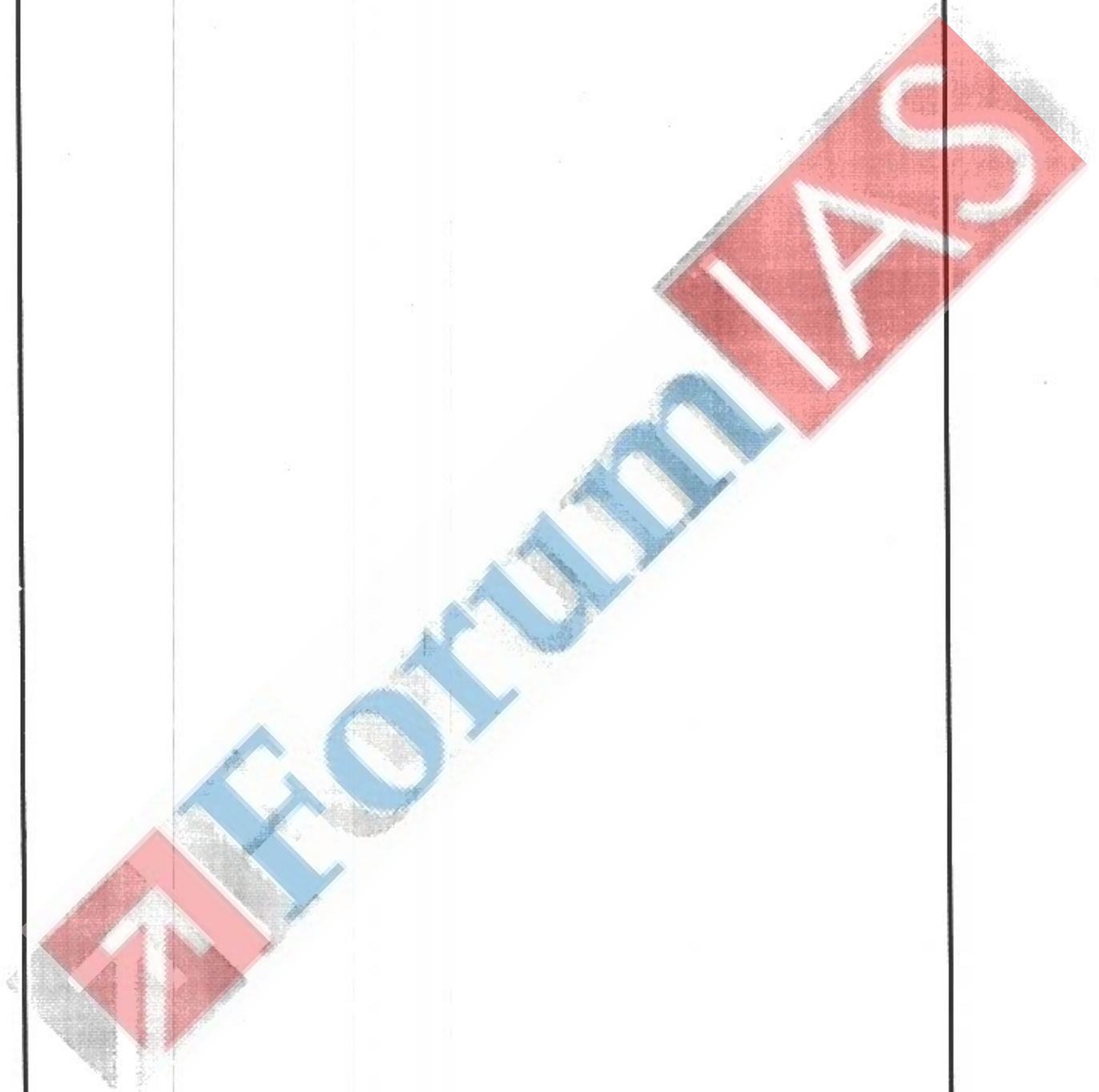
Time is not far when we will again tread the path of Nature. UN Women and women at high tables everywhere brings Ethics of care aligned with nature in governance (~~with~~ eco-feminism). Thus the humankind is to live according to the nature, is the basic imperative.

It is the time now, to ensure water
water though everywhere but no water
to drink 'becomes' :

"Water as a life's matter and matter,
mother and medium" — A. Senz



FEEDBACK



T.1: Shelving hard decisions is the least ethical concern

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Intro: Akash Mehra

- 2012-St. Hockey champion

- 2017 Asian Games champion (Javelin) - Train acc - (2012) - legs ampt

Body: Q: Hard decisions?

- interest of indi. at stake (life) — (eg)
- societal interest
- national sec & integrity
- international cause

Q: why least ethical?

- moral escapism — (eg)
- lack of courage — (eg) Idiots
- lacks leadership, imagination — (eg) Mandela - Apartheid free S. Africa → Idea of Pakistan - democ?
- sacrifice of self interest for common good — (eg) Vijay Mallya

Q: case studies of hard decisions

- indi. — Rosa Parks — justice
- soc. — mangamma Jogathi (truth is the light of life) — in heart of J4 &... Anytime of D & NT
- national — LPG in India (despite socialistic orientation)
- global — Ozone protection (Montreal Protocol)

Q: ^{is} Does always hard decisions needed? No

- time (eg) Gandhi - train to protest didn't react
- situation (eg)
- resources available (eg)

Q: what else that ethics needs to be seen?

- civic repub. — people's part — 73rd PRI — success
- common good - brotherhood - Ukrainians' zeal to protect Ukraine
- deontology consequentialism - GHGN - (but) no tribal eviction

Intro

SPACE FOR ROUGH WORK

Water water everywhere...

Life every living - nature

man - dev wisdom

settled life - ages -

unsustainable dev. - logging, explot, water = ...

Q: way forward

- Brundtland Report - in letter & spirit
- Dev - mod - not west? X
- LIFE, c/c conferences
- successes - Montreal, Vienna - O₃

Body: Q: How HK poisoned nature?

1. ind. level - ind individualism (negative greed, hedonism) against collectivism
2. no social good but only self good
3. no Env concern - "3 more Earths needed..."
4. no equality - amongst nations (top 7 nations = 50% GDP) MNCs
5. no eq. in genders

Conclusion

Q: How nature is poisoning HK?

1. c/c - destroying self interests
 2. destroying civilizⁿ
 3. env² hazards
 4. tipping pt. reached (1.07°C > preindush.) → resources
- world - melting - boiling pot
- climate refugees
- war, conflicts

"Unquiet woods" (R. Guha)



Q: Has HK only poisoned nature? NO

- 1. ancient civ - nature worship (Sabianism)
- now tribals - (ind. tribes)
- 2. sustainable dev - Scandinavian
- 3.

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gi. guinea
guinea
guinae

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